

## **Fat Wife 521**

### Chapter 522 Taking Advantage Of Everyone's Absence

Qiao Mei had already been back for two days. During this period of time, no matter how Li Gui tried to talk to her, she did not respond.

Li Gui also felt down. She did not know how she managed to anger Qiao Mei and what she had done wrong. In her impression, she did not seem to have done anything.

The relationship between the two of them remained in a stalemate. Even so, life still went on.

Early in the morning, Qiao Mei realized that many of the blankets at home were very old and there were even big holes in them.

Some of these blankets were even made when Li Gui got married. Qiao Mei felt annoyed when she saw them now.

"Grandfather, Xia Zhe and I are going to the county city to buy some cotton and fabric. The blankets at home are all old and the cotton is no longer usable," Qiao Mei shouted towards the courtyard.

"Go, go. I'll go to your Grandpa Zhang's place in the neighboring village later. He wants to play chess with me!" Qiao Qiang said happily.

There were not many elderly people in this village and he did not get along with them.

Grandpa Zhang from the neighboring village was a retired soldier. His wife had died young and he did not have any children. He and Qiao Qiang hit it off very well and the two of them often got together to play chess. Sometimes, they would even meet up to go shopping in the county city.

"Got it. Then remember to come back early. If it's too late, there won't be any transport to send you back!" Qiao Mei said.

"Yes, yes, yes. I'll remember what you say," Qiao Qiang said.

Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe packed up and set off.

Today was Thursday, the day when the village focused on farm work. It was now the autumn harvest season and every family was focused on working in the fields. Whoever worked the hardest would get high work points and receive more food at the end of the year. During this period of time, no one idled at home.

Li Gui went out to work while Zhang Wei looked after his younger siblings at home. They washed and dried the wild vegetables they had picked so that they could help out more.

This way, they could reduce the burden on Li Gui by a lot. They all knew how much Li Gui had suffered for them.

"The four of you are really capable."

When they heard this familiar voice, the four children froze. To them, this was the voice of a demon.

Zhang Qian and Zhang Cong stood at the door of the courtyard with smug expressions. During the past two months, they already knew when Li Gui would be away from home.

Zhang Wei hurriedly sent his younger siblings to hide in the shed and said nervously, "My mother... my mother isn't back yet. She's working in the fields. Recently, she's been busy working in the fields and hasn't gone out to sell vegetables. There's only wild vegetables hanging out to dry at home now. There's nothing else."

Zhang Cong did not even look at the pile of wild vegetables. Who would want to eat such lousy wild vegetables?

"I'm not here to look for Li Gui. I'm here to look for Zhang Chao and... Zhang... Zhang... What's your name?" Zhang Qian pointed at Zhang Qin and asked.

"Zhang Qin," Zhang Wei said softly.

He really did not expect a father not to remember the names of his children.

However, it was not something unexpected. He had not taken care of the children since they were born. He only came up with the names for the boys and he did not even look at the girls.

The girls would have to get married eventually. It would be a waste of food if they stayed at home. If not for Li Gui risking her life to protect Zhang Qin and Zhang Miao, the two of them would probably have been thrown away by Zhang Qian long ago.

"Yes! Zhang Qin! The two of you, come with me." Zhang Qian waved at the two children.

Zhang Qin and Zhang Chao hid behind Zhang Wei. They were unwilling to return to that place, especially Zhang Qin. To her, that place was a nightmare.

"What... what do you want them to do?" Zhang Wei asked cautiously.

Zhang Qian looked at Zhang Wei impatiently and scolded, "You little brat, are you questioning your father now? Aren't you getting bold! I can do whatever I want with my own children! If I ask you to die now, you have to die! How dare you question me! You don't even greet me when you see me? The longer you stay with Li Gui, the worse your upbringing!"

Zhang Cong stood at the side and felt embarrassed when he heard the word "upbringing".

What could someone like Zhang Qian teach? How to make friends with all kinds of widows?

The more Zhang Cong thought about it, the more amused he felt. He could not help but laugh out loud, angering Zhang Qian.

"You're also my son! What are you laughing at! I haven't even said anything and you still dare to laugh!" Zhang Qian went up and gave Zhang Cong a kick.

522 Taking Advantage of Everyone's Absence

Qiao Mei had already been back for two days. During this period of time, no matter how Li Gui tried to talk to her, she did not respond.

Li Gui also felt down. She did not know how she managed to anger Qiao Mei and what she had done wrong. In her impression, she did not seem to have done anything.

The relationship between the two of them remained in a stalemate. Even so, life still went on.

Early in the morning, Qiao Mei realized that many of the blankets at home were very old and there were even big holes in them.

Some of these blankets were even made when Li Gui got married. Qiao Mei felt annoyed when she saw them now.

“Grandfather, Xia Zhe and I are going to the county city to buy some cotton and fabric. The blankets at home are all old and the cotton is no longer usable,” Qiao Mei shouted towards the courtyard.

“Go, go. I’ll go to your Grandpa Zhang’s place in the neighboring village later. He wants to play chess with me!” Qiao Qiang said happily.

There were not many elderly people in this village and he did not get along with them.

Grandpa Zhang from the neighboring village was a retired soldier. His wife had died young and he did not have any children. He and Qiao Qiang hit it off very well and the two of them often got together to play chess. Sometimes, they would even meet up to go shopping in the county city.

“Got it. Then remember to come back early. If it’s too late, there won’t be any transport to send you back!” Qiao Mei said.

“Yes, yes, yes. I’ll remember what you say,” Qiao Qiang said.

Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe packed up and set off.

Today was Thursday, the day when the village focused on farm work. It was now the autumn harvest season and every family was focused on working in the fields. Whoever worked the hardest would get high work points and receive more food at the end of the year. During this period of time, no one idled at home.

Li Gui went out to work while Zhang Wei looked after his younger siblings at home. They washed and dried the wild vegetables they had picked so that they could help out more.

This way, they could reduce the burden on Li Gui by a lot. They all knew how much Li Gui had suffered for them.

“The four of you are really capable.”

When they heard this familiar voice, the four children froze. To them, this was the voice of a demon.

Zhang Qian and Zhang Cong stood at the door of the courtyard with smug expressions. During the past two months, they already knew when Li Gui would be away from home.

Zhang Wei hurriedly sent his younger siblings to hide in the shed and said nervously, “My mother... my mother isn’t back yet. She’s working in the fields. Recently, she’s been busy working in the fields and hasn’t gone out to sell vegetables. There’s only wild vegetables hanging out to dry at home now. There’s nothing else.”

Zhang Cong did not even look at the pile of wild vegetables. Who would want to eat such lousy wild vegetables?

“I’m not here to look for Li Gui. I’m here to look for Zhang Chao and... Zhang... Zhang... What’s your name?” Zhang Qian pointed at Zhang Qin and asked.

“Zhang Qin,” Zhang Wei said softly.

He really did not expect a father not to remember the names of his children.

However, it was not something unexpected. He had not taken care of the children since they were born. He only came up with the names for the boys and he did not even look at the girls.

The girls would have to get married eventually. It would be a waste of food if they stayed at home. If not for Li Gui risking her life to protect Zhang Qin and Zhang Miao, the two of them would probably have been thrown away by Zhang Qian long ago.

“Yes! Zhang Qin! The two of you, come with me.” Zhang Qian waved at the two children.

Zhang Qin and Zhang Chao hid behind Zhang Wei. They were unwilling to return to that place, especially Zhang Qin. To her, that place was a nightmare.

“What... what do you want them to do?” Zhang Wei asked cautiously.

Zhang Qian looked at Zhang Wei impatiently and scolded, “You little brat, are you questioning your father now? Aren’t you getting bold! I can do whatever I want with my own children! If I ask you to die now, you have to die! How dare you question me! You don’t even greet me when you see me? The longer you stay with Li Gui, the worse your upbringing!”

Zhang Cong stood at the side and felt embarrassed when he heard the word “upbringing”.

What could someone like Zhang Qian teach? How to make friends with all kinds of widows?

The more Zhang Cong thought about it, the more amused he felt. He could not help but laugh out loud, angering Zhang Qian.

“You’re also my son! What are you laughing at! I haven’t even said anything and you still dare to laugh!” Zhang Qian went up and gave Zhang Cong a kick.

Chapter 523 Severely Injured

Zhang Cong wanted to retaliate, but he thought about how he needed to rely on Zhang Qian to settle this matter and how they would split the money after that and go their separate ways! No one would interfere with each other's families anymore!

"They can't go with you! There's still so much work to do at home! Besides, they still have to sell the vegetables once it's ready! This way... this way, they can earn more money!" Zhang Wei mustered his courage and retorted.

Zhang Qian walked forward angrily and gave Zhang Wei a slap, causing him to fall to the ground.

"Is there a need for so many people to do just these few things! Even if you get four more people to help, you'll only make that few dollars! What's the use! You can't even buy a pack of cigarettes with that! Besides, I'm bringing them to the city to enjoy life! Don't hinder me from getting rich!" Zhang Qian scolded.

Zhang Wei looked at Zhang Qian suspiciously. Did he say something about earning money? His younger siblings were going to earn money?

His younger siblings were aged ten and eight respectively. They were still children, so how could they earn money?

Zhang Qian did not waste his breath on Zhang Wei. The more people knew about this matter, the more dangerous it would be for them. He called Zhang Cong to come over and they forcefully picked up Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin. Zhang Miao grabbed onto Zhang Qin's hand tightly and refused to let go.

"Sister! Sister, don't go! I want my sister! Let go of my sister!" Zhang Miao shouted at the top of her lungs.

Zhang Qin was flung over Zhang Cong's shoulder and she cried as she reached out to grab Zhang Miao's hand and kept kicking and struggling.

Zhang Cong found it so noisy that he shook Zhang Qin. Zhang Qin's stomach got knocked against his shoulder forcefully and she instantly fell silent from the pain.

“What are you shouting for! It’s not like you’re going to a funeral! Stop shouting! Remember, I’m bringing your siblings to live a good life! You should give them your blessings!” Zhang Qian pointed at Zhang Miao and scolded her.

Zhang Wei hugged Zhang Miao tightly and covered her mouth as he looked at Zhang Qian timidly. He had been beaten up the previous few times when he tried to resist Zhang Qian. He was already covered in injuries and there was no way he could defeat two adult men on his own.

From what Zhang Qian had said just now, Zhang Qian did not intend to take him and Zhang Miao away. He would try his best to protect at least one of them.

“Kid, at least you’re still quite sensible. Take good care of your youngest sister. We’ll take these two children with us and raise them. Tell Li Gui not to worry.” After saying that, Zhang Qian swaggered out of the courtyard with Zhang Cong.

Zhang Miao bit down on Zhang Wei’s hand. She must bring her sister back!

Zhang Wei pushed away Zhang Miao due to the pain and checked his wound. This little girl was so ruthless, he was already bleeding.

Before the two men could walk far, they heard Zhang Miao following behind them, crying and shouting, “Put my sister down! I want my sister! Return my second brother to me!”

Although there was no one around at the moment, the entire village would be alerted if Zhang Miao continued shouting like this.

Zhang Qian turned around and kicked Zhang Miao in the stomach. Zhang Miao was sent flying more than a meter away and fell heavily to the ground.

“Ah!” Zhang Miao cried out in pain.

When Zhang Wei heard the sound, he immediately ran out of the courtyard and saw Zhang Miao lying on the ground, while Zhang Qian and Zhang Cong left with his two younger siblings.



Zhang Wei immediately went forward to hold Zhang Miao and asked, "Miao Miao, look at me! I'm your eldest brother! What's wrong with you!"

Zhang Miao was in so much pain that she could not speak. Gradually, she could not see clearly and her consciousness began to blur.

"Miao Miao, don't scare me! Wake up! Zhang Miao! Zhang Miao, look at me!" Zhang Wei desperately hit Zhang Miao's face to keep her awake.

"Eldest brother... it hurts..." Zhang Miao whispered.

Zhang Wei immediately ran to Qiao Mei's house and knocked on the door madly.

"Elder sister! Elder sister! Something happened to Zhang Miao! Is anyone home! Grandfather! Elder sister! Are you home! Save us! Is anyone there!"

After knocking on the door for a long time, no one came out. Zhang Wei immediately ran next door to look for Grandma Dong, but it was the same thing.

Zhang Wei returned to Zhang Miao disappointedly. At this moment, Zhang Miao's face was already pale from the pain and her forehead was covered in sweat.

He used all his strength to pick Zhang Miao up from the ground and onto his back. However, he was not strong enough to support her. Before he even took two steps, he fell and knelt on the ground heavily. Zhang Wei ignored the pain in his knees and quickly reached out to stabilize Zhang Miao so that she would not fall to the ground.

"Miao Miao, hang in there! I'll bring you to the clinic! Miao Miao, talk to me!" Zhang Wei gritted his teeth and carried Zhang Miao on his back, walking to the clinic step by step.

Chapter 524 Saved

"Brother... sister..." Zhang Miao leaned on Zhang Wei's back and said things that made no sense. She was still thinking about Zhang Qin even at this moment.

"Miao Miao, say more things to me!" Zhang Wei sped up as he walked towards the clinic.

Zhang Miao gradually stopped talking and her voice became softer and softer. Zhang Wei could no longer hear what Zhang Miao was saying.

Zhang Wei was a little afraid and slowly put Zhang Miao down by the roadside.

"Miao Miao, open your eyes and look at your eldest brother. Look at me!" Zhang Wei's hand trembled as he stroked Zhang Miao's cheek.

He had never seen any of his younger siblings suffer such serious injuries. They did not look so bad even when they had flu or fever.

"I'm sleepy... Eldest brother..." Zhang Miao said softly.

When he heard Zhang Miao say she wanted to sleep, Zhang Wei completely panicked. He no longer had the strength to carry Zhang Miao on his back. They were still about one kilometer away from the clinic, so he needed to get the adults to come and help.

"Miao Miao, don't sleep. Wait for me here. I'll be back soon." Zhang Wei mustered all his strength to run to the clinic, afraid that he would delay saving Zhang Miao.

By the time Zhang Wei reached the entrance of the clinic, he was totally exhausted and did not even have the strength to stand. He held onto the pillar beside the door and shouted desperately, "Help! Save my younger sister! Someone!"

Someone quickly came out of the clinic, saw Zhang Wei and hurriedly went forward to help him up while asking, "You're Li Gui's eldest son, right? What's wrong with you? What's the emergency?"

Zhang Wei held the doctor's hand tightly and said, "Auntie! You... you have to save my sister! My sister is unconscious more than a kilometer away from here... I beg you!"

"Alright! I'll go and look for her now. Go in quickly. I'll bring some people to go look for her." The doctor asked her colleagues to come out and led them down the road to look for Zhang Miao.

When Zhang Wei saw that someone had gone to save her, his tense nerves relaxed and he collapsed to the ground.

"Hey! What's wrong with you! Help him!" Another doctor quickly carried Zhang Wei in for emergency treatment.

The doctors who went out also managed to find Zhang Miao and brought her back to the clinic for emergency treatment as quickly as they could.

Zhang Qian and Zhang Cong walked back to the county city in a relaxed manner. With these two children, they would not have to worry about their happiness for the rest of their lives!

For Zhang Cong, as long as he helped Zhang Qian get the two children, he would get 200 dollars. This meant that he made 200 dollars just by taking a trip with Zhang Qian!

It was really easy money!

"Dad, my 200 dollars..." Zhang Cong asked softly.

Zhang Qian gave Zhang Cong a kick and said, "Don't mention this in front of the children! We'll talk about it when we get home!"

This matter concerned whether he could successfully marry Chu Xin and live a happy life with her without any worries! He could not be careless at all!

"Will that kid Zhang Miao be alright?" Zhang Cong asked worriedly.

Although he always bullied these children and had never been nice to them, Zhang Miao was still a small child after all. Getting injured was a small matter, but what if she got seriously injured and could not survive?

Although he did not know anything about Zhang Qian's plan, if someone got killed, the rest of his life would be ruined!

"Zhang Miao? Who's Zhang Miao? Oh! You mean that little girl just now! Who knows? I'm her father! Is it wrong for me to educate her?" Zhang Qian said self-righteously.

Zhang Cong thought about it carefully and felt that it made sense. He had also been beaten up by Zhang Qian often since he was young, but he was still living well now.

"Where are you taking us..." Zhang Chao asked fearfully.

"Oh! You know how to talk. I thought you had become mute after coming to the countryside," Zhang Qian said teasingly.

"We're bringing you home. Don't you want to go back to the city to study?" Zhang Cong asked.

If Zhang Chao was asked this question when they first went to the countryside, he would definitely say yes without any hesitation. However, he felt that there was nothing bad about studying in the countryside now. He had his brother and sisters, as well as his elder sister Qiao Mei who took good care of him. Grandfather Qiao Qiang also treated him very well and all the children in school admired him. He did not want to return to the city to be bullied.

"I don't want to go back! I want to be in the countryside!" Zhang Chao said.

Zhang Qian gave Zhang Chao a slap and said fiercely, "Little brat, you're not allowed to say that you lived in the countryside before, do you hear that?"

Chapter 525 Making A Successful Sale

Zhang Chao covered his face and nodded in fear. In comparison, Zhang Qin, who was on the other side, was much more obedient. Ever since she left with them, she had not spoken a single word and just followed them obediently.

Zhang Qian looked at Zhang Qin in satisfaction. A child who behaved like this was considered a good child and they would be happy when the time came.

After walking for more than two hours, they finally reached their neighborhood. Zhang Cong was about to walk into the apartment building when Zhang Qian stopped him.

"Come and do one more thing with me," Zhang Qian said mysteriously.

"Then let's send these two children back first. What if they cause trouble later?" Zhang Cong looked at the two children in disdain.

Zhang Qian whispered, "It's related to these two children. Just come with me."

Zhang Qian walked in front with the two children while Zhang Cong followed behind.

When they reached Chu Xin's house, he could hear many people chatting inside. Only then did Zhang Cong realize that this was where his father's lover lived. No wonder he had been unwilling to go home recently.

"Open up." Zhang Qian knocked on the door.

Chu Xin opened the door with a smile on her face. The first thing she looked at was not Zhang Qian, but the two children beside him.

"Oh my, you're finally here! Come in quickly!" Chu Xin said with a smile.

The two children stood at the door and did not dare to go in. They did not know this place, this house or this auntie.

"Go in and follow auntie's instructions," Zhang Qian said in a threatening tone.

Zhang Chao held Zhang Qin and walked into the house slowly. It was not only Chu Xin inside, but there were also four unfamiliar uncles and aunts.

After closing the door, Zhang Qian and Zhang Chao stood at the doorway and observed quietly. Chu Xin warmly pulled Zhang Chao to one of the couples.

"Look, this is the little boy I told you about. He's so cute. Look at how handsome he is!" Chu Xin said as she hugged Zhang Chao affectionately.

From the looks on the couple's faces, Chu Xin could clearly tell that they liked Zhang Chao. This deal was hopeful!

"How are his results in school? Is he usually good-tempered?" the woman asked.

Chu Xin did not know much about Zhang Chao, but she was about to close the deal. If she hesitated now, this deal would definitely fly away!

"He's a good boy! His results in school are not bad and he's a very caring boy. He picked up many of the little pets at home," Chu Xin said with a smile.

Even Zhang Cong, who was at the door, felt that this woman was really too amazing. She could lie without batting an eyelid and still managed to convince others.

"Not bad, we're very satisfied. Can he come with us tonight?" the man asked.

Chu Xin clapped her hands excitedly and said, "No problem! Of course! But you all know how this is. As for the money..."

The man simply placed a bag at Chu Xin's feet and said, "This is what you want, but let's agree that you won't ever come looking for him in the future, right?"

Chu Xin smiled and hugged the bag as she said, "Of course that's not a problem. Don't you trust me? But the child is still young and might fuss. Please be understanding."

The couple nodded and stood up to take Zhang Chao's hand to bring him away.

Zhang Chao lay face down on the ground and grabbed the leg of the table tightly, refusing to let go. Zhang Qian went up and pried open the child's hand with brute force before helping him up.

"Behave yourself, or your eldest brother and younger sister will suffer," Zhang Qian lowered his head and whispered to Zhang Chao.

Seeing that Zhang Chao obeyed Zhang Qian so well, the woman smiled and said, "Are you his biological father? This child really listens to you. Perhaps he can't bear to part with you."

Chu Xin held the woman's hand hypocritically and said, "There's no choice. The child is still not used to it yet. Bring him away quickly. The head of the family will send brother and sister-in-law off."

The couple understood what Chu Xin meant and left with the child.

Zhang Qian sent them off to the entrance of the complex with a big smile on his face before returning.

Only then did Zhang Cong realize that Zhang Qian was selling these two children off. This was against the law! It was better to let these two children do manual labor than to sell them!

Zhang Cong stopped Zhang Qian at the door and said, "Are you really selling these two children? It's illegal!"

"Illegal? These are my children. I can deal with them however I want. Besides, you're involved in this matter. As long as both you and I don't tell anyone, who will know?" Zhang Qian said nonchalantly.

Only then did Zhang Cong realize that he had fallen into Zhang Qian's trap. Moreover, he was going to be dismissed with only 200 dollars.

Chapter 526 In Collusion

How could one only make 200 dollars from selling children! It should be at least 2,000 dollars, right?

If he backed out now, not only would he lose 200 dollars, but Zhang Qian would also push all the blame to him and put him in jail.

Given the current situation, it would be a better move to ask Zhang Qian for more money. As long as they did not tell anyone about this matter, no one would know where the children had gone. That cowardly Li Gui would not dare to say anything.

"If you want me to keep it a secret, I can do that. But I'm afraid 200 dollars isn't enough. You have to split half of the sale proceeds with me!" Zhang Cong said.

Half? If this kid was given half, how was he going to marry Chu Xin?

He was still counting on using this money as his retirement fund!

"Half is impossible. I'll give you 500 dollars at most! Not a single cent more!" Zhang Qian said impatiently.

Zhang Cong was still not satisfied. The two children would at least be sold for 5,000 dollars in total, but he was only given 500 dollars? That was too little.

Did he think he was dismissing a beggar by giving 500 dollars!

"1,000 dollars! Otherwise, I'll go to the police! It can be considered that I've been tricked by you. If I go to the police now, I might even be able to atone for my mistakes. The police won't arrest me then! Think about it!" Zhang Cong said threateningly.



Zhang Qian gave it some thought. This amount of 1,000 dollars would not mean much to him in the coming days, just some small change. Giving it to Zhang Cong was no different from giving money to a beggar. It was not a loss if he could use this bit of money to shut Zhang Cong up.

Zhang Cong would never have dreamed that the amount of 1,000 dollars was considered a small sum to dismiss him.

"Alright, but the money is all with Chu Xin. You have to wait until this whole matter is over before I can give it to you. I don't even know if the other family will take a fancy to that girl," Zhang Qian said.

Zhang Chao's price was much higher than Zhang Qin's. He heard that the first couple was infertile, so they wanted to find a child to inherit the family's shop business.

At the end of the day, boys were still different from girls. Boys were still more valuable!

Chu Xin used the same method to recommend Zhang Qin to the other couple. However, this couple did not like Zhang Qin's looks. She was thin and small, and it was obvious that she had never eaten her fill in her life so far. What if such a miserable-looking kid made them go bankrupt in the future?

"Sister, this child of yours is too skinny. Will she grow up well if she goes with us?" the woman said with a frown.

"Sister Jiang, I understand you want to find a wife for your son? This child is especially diligent, and even the word 'Qin' in her name means hardworking. The child will definitely get better once she eats more good food and takes good care of herself. Besides, she's capable and that will save you a lot of effort in the future. Sister, what do you think?" Chu Xin looked at Sister Jiang expectantly.

Sister Jiang also felt that what Chu Xin said made sense. With good food and drinks, the child would definitely look better in the future. She wanted to choose a child bride for her son so that she could have a better life ahead and need not worry too much. She definitely wanted to choose a capable girl.

This way, the girl would be able to take good care of their son and deal with all the family matters.

"You know that we're here only because of your reputation. Since you say that this child is fine, then we'll take her," Sister Jiang said impatiently.

Ever since they entered the house, her husband had not taken his eyes off Chu Xin. If not for the fact that there were many people around, she would have already taught her husband a lesson.

Chu Xin did not care about how the customers treated her. As long as she could get the money, everything else was a small matter!

Even if she had to sit on a customer's lap to introduce the child, she would willingly accept such a request with a smile.

"Sister-in-law is really a straightforward person. This child is not that young, so please bear with it and educate her slowly." Chu Xin said.

"Alright, you don't have to worry about this child after we give you the money. We'll decide how to deal with her. Don't worry about anything else. I definitely have my own ways," said Sister Jiang.

Sister Jiang's husband hurriedly passed the bag in his arms to Chu Xin and he took the chance to stroke Chu Xin's hand when he let go. Sister Jiang witnessed everything that happened.

"Alright, let's go." Sister Jiang glared at her husband and left Chu Xin's house, carrying her own bag.

When she got home, she would settle the score with her husband!

Sister Jiang ignored Zhang Qin, who was standing at the side. She pointed to her husband and said, "You, bring her along."

With that, she strode off.

#### Chapter 527 The Child Is Severely Injured

Sister Jiang's husband stood uneasily in the living room. He was always bullied by Sister Jiang at home and now, he still had to be wary of her mood when they were outside.

If not for the fact that Sister Jiang was good at doing business and made a lot of money, he would have left her long ago!

"Big brother? Sister Jiang has already left. You should also leave together with the child," Chu Xin said with a smile.

She wanted to send the customers away quickly so that she could count the money in the bags. These two children had made her a lot of money because of their good looks and age!

The boy was sold for 25,000 dollars and the girl was sold for 20,000 dollars. These two children had made her 45,000 dollars, but the amount she told Zhang Qian earlier was 20,000 dollars less.

Sister Jiang's husband took one last reluctant look at Chu Xin before leaving with the child.

Chu Xin hurriedly carried the two bags of money into the room and quickly took out 10,000 dollars from each bag. She could not let Zhang Qian know about this amount of money!

Zhang Qian sent off these "gods of fortune" downstairs with a smile. At this moment, he no longer had to worry about his daily expenses. In such a small county city, once he had more than 20,000 dollars, he would not even have to work for the rest of his life if he wished!

"Alright, you can go home. I'll give you the money you ask for after I discuss it with Chu Xin. I won't be going back tonight," Zhang Qian said as he patted Zhang Cong's shoulder.

Zhang Cong looked at Zhang Qian in disdain. He was not divorced from Li Gui yet and he was blatantly having an affair outside. If news of this got out, how could Zhang Cong and Sun Yan be able to hold their heads up in the future?

"Father... Why don't you divorce Li Gui first before staying at this woman's place? It's not appropriate if others see this," Zhang Cong said.

Zhang Qian gave Zhang Cong a hard kick and scolded him angrily, "Aren't you so grown up now! How dare you talk bad about your father! Do I need to ask your permission to do whatever I want? Don't forget who's giving you that 1,000 dollars! It's Chu Xin!"

Zhang Cong remained silent. As long as he took that money, Sun Yan and him would have enough money for their child's birth and other expenses. Getting money from Old Madam Zhang would be way too difficult.

"Alright, you can go back." Zhang Qian waved his hand and walked towards Chu Xin's house.

Zhang Cong held his backside and limped back to his own home.

After the village clinic staff took in the unconscious Zhang Wei and the injured Zhang Miao, one of them ran to the fields to look for Li Gui.

Li Gui kept feeling like her work day was not going well today. First, she broke the hoe and then, she made a mistake with the grains. Her eyelids also kept twitching.

"Sister Li! Li Gui! Something happened! Something terrible happened!" the older woman from the clinic said as she hurriedly ran into the fields.

Li Gui quickly put down the hoe in her hand and ran over to grab onto the woman. She asked, "What's wrong, sister? What happened?"

"Your... your Zhang Miao is injured and is now being treated at the clinic! Zhang Wei fainted from exhaustion after he carried Zhang Miao there on his back!" the woman said while panting.

"What!" Li Gui hurriedly ran in the direction of the clinic and shouted to Zhao Liang as she ran off, "Brother Zhao! I can't work today! Something has happened to my children!"

Zhao Liang shouted in the direction that Li Gui had left in, "Go quickly!"

"Brother Zhao, what do you think happened to Li Gui's children? How did they end up in the clinic?" a villager asked curiously.

Zhao Liang did not know the answer. Village clinics usually treated minor illnesses like headaches and colds. If any family had any issue that was more serious, they would go to the hospital in the county city. These were still not considered emergencies.

What could have happened to these two children? They were fine when everyone left for work, so how did they end up being sent to the clinic for treatment?

"Help Li Gui pack up her things! I have to go over there to take a look too in case it's something major." After saying that, Zhao Liang handed the tools in his hand to the others and ran to the clinic.

He had a say in everything that happened in the village. Even if it was a family going through some difficulties, he had to think of a way to solve the problems. Even if Li Gui was not a Foshan Village local and there were always people coming to cause trouble for her, given that she had moved in, she was considered a local villager and he had to help out with her issues.

"How is it! How are my children!" Li Gui grabbed a doctor and asked as soon as she entered.

"I'm guessing you're the mother of Zhang Wei and Zhang Miao. Your Zhang Wei is fine, he's just exhausted. However, your Zhang Miao's situation is more dangerous. The child is very young and she has suffered a serious blow to her abdomen. It will take a while to get the detailed diagnosis. We're doing our best to save her," the doctor said.

Chapter 528 Kowtow And Plead

After Li Gui heard what the doctor said, she immediately knelt on the ground and kowtowed repeatedly while pleading with the doctor.

"Please, doctor! You must save my daughter! Please!" Li Gui wept and shouted.

The doctor quickly helped Li Gui up and said, "We're all neighbors, so we'll definitely do our best. We'll take good care of them here. The most important thing now is for you to go home and get some money. I'm just worried that if Zhang Miao's injuries are too severe, we need to send her to the hospital in the county city for treatment."

When Li Gui heard this, her heart sank. When she left in the morning, Zhang Miao was with the other children. They usually stayed at home obediently, so how could she be so seriously injured?

Oh right, where were Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin? Why was it only Zhang Wei who sent Zhang Miao to the clinic?

"Then I'll leave them to you. I'll go home to get the money now. You must save my daughter!" Li Gui said as she held the doctor's hand tightly.

"Don't worry." After saying that, the doctor went into the room to take care of the patients.

There were not many staff in the clinic and all of them were attending to the two children at the moment. If she wanted to find her other two children, she had no choice but to go home.

As soon as she walked out of the door, she ran into Zhao Liang who had rushed over on his bicycle.

"How is it? What happened? I'm here to see if there's anything I can help with," Zhao Liang said.

"Brother Zhao, can you send me home? They say that my child is still undergoing emergency treatment. If they can't manage the situation, the child would have to go to the bigger hospital in the county city. I don't know where my other two children are. I have to go home quickly to get money and see if the other two children are around," Li Gui said as she cried.

Zhao Liang quickly turned the bicycle around and patted the back seat. "Come on up, I'll take you back on my bicycle!"

Li Gui sat down and the two of them rushed to her house.

At the same moment, Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe had also returned. When they reached the county city, they saw some nice-looking school bags and bought one for each of the four children, as well as pencils with the latest designs.

"I wonder if they'll like these?" Xia Zhe asked worriedly.

"You're already so nice to them, why will they still not like you? Their current school bags are sewed by me and the two girls maintained their bags quite well. The boys' school bags are simply too unsightly. There are already holes in them," Qiao Mei said resignedly.

When any of the children's school bags tore, Li Gui would just patch it up. Zhang Chao was the most mischievous kid in the family. He often climbed trees to pick birds' eggs or went into the river to catch fish. By now, it was impossible to tell that his school bag was actually a school bag. It looked just like a tattered cloth bag.

"It's all because you tell them that I'm more terrifying than a wild boar. That's why I have to do well in front of them," Xia Zhe said.

Qiao Mei quickly changed the topic and said, "Grandfather isn't at home yet. Let's go and deliver the school bags and stationery to the children."

The two of them had just arrived at Li Gui's house when they saw Zhao Liang and Li Gui rushing back in a hurry.

"Do the two of you know where Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin went!" Zhao Liang asked.

"We just came back too. What's wrong?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

Li Gui could not be bothered and hurriedly rushed into the house to look for the two children.

"Zhang Chao! Zhang Qin! Where are you! Come out quickly!" Li Gui shouted as she searched through the various rooms, but there was still no sign of the children.

Qiao Mei asked Xia Zhe to go in and help with the search while she waited at the door for news.

"Uncle Zhao, why the hurry? Did Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin get into trouble?" Qiao Mei asked.

She would definitely believe it if Zhang Chao had gotten into trouble. However, Zhang Qin was such a sensible and well-behaved child, so there was no way she would mess around together with her second brother.

"No! I don't know what happened to Zhang Wei and Zhang Miao, but they're both receiving emergency treatment at the village clinic! They're both still unconscious! I don't know where the other two children at home have gone! The doctor asks your mother to go home and get some money in case Zhang Miao needs to be transferred to the bigger hospital in the county city for treatment. Our clinic may not be able to help her!" Zhao Liang said.

Emergency treatment? Unconscious? Children missing?

How could so many things happen during the morning when she was not around!

Qiao Mei's bad memories from her other life suddenly surged into her brain. In her other life, she kept seeing her relatives pass away and she was left all alone in the end. What she was most afraid of was to part ways in life and be separated by death. Those children were all still so young and they were not supposed to go anywhere today. How could something have happened!

Chapter 529 A Token From Everyone

"Uncle Zhao, can you go to the old mister who lived at the village entrance to borrow his three-wheeled vehicle? Look at us, we're a group of elderly people and a pregnant woman. It's more convenient to have the vehicle around. I'm going home to get the money now. Do you think you can help?" Qiao Mei said embarrassedly.

"No problem! I'll go and ask now! Don't be too anxious! I'll get him to come and pick you up!" Zhao Liang quickly rode his bicycle to go and borrow the vehicle.

Xia Zhe came out of the courtyard and gave Qiao Mei a serious look. "Mei Mei, Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin are not in the house. They might have been abducted."

Abducted? In the village, who would dare to snatch someone else's children in broad daylight!



"How do you know that they were abducted?" Qiao Mei asked.

Xia Zhe pulled Qiao Mei into the courtyard. During this era, everyone had yellow soil in their courtyard and people would leave behind faint footprints when they walked around.

"There are two sets of footprints here and there are also some drag marks on that side. I'm guessing that the children were dragged away by someone. There are also signs of struggle here," Xia Zhe said sternly.

Xia Zhe was speaking in his professional capacity, so what he said was probably what happened.

If the children had been kidnapped, the nature of this matter was now different. It seemed that she needed to look for Chen Hu to help with this.

"Mom, come with us later. Let's go and save Zhang Wei and Zhang Miao first. I'll get someone else to help look for Zhang Chao and Zhang Qin," Qiao Mei said calmly.

Being the only person who understood the nature of the messy interpersonal relationships that Li Gui and the children had, she had to calm down and deal with this matter properly.

"Mei Mei, where can these two children go? They were still fine when I left this morning. I even instructed Zhang Wei to make sure they stay at home obediently," Li Gui said anxiously.

"Don't be anxious. I suspect that the two children have been taken away by someone, but I don't know who. I'll get someone from the county city to help look for the children first. The most important thing now is to save Zhang Wei and Zhang Miao," Qiao Mei said.

At the mention of saving the two children, Li Gui felt even more ashamed to face Qiao Mei. She had heard from the doctor that this treatment would cost a lot of money. She only had three dollars left, not a single cent more.

"Mei Mei... Can you lend me some money to save your younger siblings... I'll go to the county city to ask the Zhang family for money later. These children are also part of their family, so they won't turn away!" Li Gui said as she held Qiao Mei's hand.

This was her last hope. If Qiao Mei rejected her, she did not know who else to borrow money from.

Qiao Mei wanted to ignore Li Gui. At this point, Li Gui still foolishly believed that Zhang Qian would give her money for these children. If Zhang Qian really cared about the lives of these children, he would not still come to ask for money after he sent them to the countryside.

"They're also my younger siblings and they address me as elder sister. I won't leave them in the lurch. I'll handle the family matters. If you still feel hopeful about Zhang Qian, you can give it a try. If you can get the money, you can chip in the medical fees for Zhang Wei and Zhang Miao," Qiao Mei said expressionlessly.

Li Gui said agitatedly, "Good, good, good! Thank you, Mei Mei, thank you so much!"

"Grandfather has rode our bicycle out. In a while, Uncle Zhao will drive the three-wheeled vehicle to pick us up and bring us to the clinic. Later on, you can catch the last train to the county city," Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui packed the two children's clothes, drinking cups and wash basins and brought everything with her.

Xia Zhe very naturally took these items from Li Gui. Qiao Mei also went home and put 5,000 dollars in her bag. She was not afraid of bringing such a big amount of money, and was more worried that this amount of money would turn out to be not enough later.

Not long after, Zhao Liang came to pick them up in the three-wheeled vehicle. There were some clothes, thermos and other useful items from the villagers in the back of the vehicle.

"Everything here is a small token from the other villagers. Also, here's some money. Not much, just 21 dollars. This is what everyone has pooled for the two children. Everyone knows about your difficulties. It's more important to save the children now. We can talk about other things later." Zhao Liang took out a small cloth bag from his pocket. It was all filled with loose change

Li Gui quickly said, "This won't do! It's not easy for everyone to earn money!"

Zhao Liang still stuffed the money into Li Gui's hands.

"This is from everyone. Just take it and get in quickly. It's more important to save the children," Zhao Liang said.

Chapter 530 The Child Is Innocent

Under Zhao Liang's lead, the three of them quickly arrived at the clinic. Zhang Wei was already in the ward and Zhang Miao was still undergoing emergency treatment.

"How are the children?" Li Gui asked as she ran forward agitatedly.

"The boy is alright now. He's resting and will probably wake up in a while. The girl is still in danger and might need to go to the hospital in the county city," the doctor said.

"Is it very serious? What's the problem?" Qiao Mei asked.

"We don't have the more advanced technology and medical equipment here, so we can only make a preliminary judgment. We suspect that the ribs on both sides might be broken," the doctor said solemnly.

When Li Gui heard this, she fell to the ground. She did not understand how the child could be injured so badly after she went out for only half a day.

Li Gui sat there and gave herself two hard slaps. It was all her fault. As a mother, she did not take good care of them. It was all her fault!

"Goodness, sister! What are you doing!" Zhao Liang said in shock.

"It's all my fault! If I'm not so busy with work, the child won't have suffered such serious injuries!" Li Gui sat on the ground and sobbed.

At the side, Qiao Mei also could not bear to see Li Gui hurt herself. She reached out to help her mother up and said, "Don't cry. It's more important to save the child first. I'll go and pay the fees. Go and take a look at Zhang Wei."

"Yes, yes, yes! Where's Zhang Wei?" Li Gui asked.

Zhao Liang brought Li Gui to the ward to look for Zhang Wei. Zhao Liang was the one who had requested for this clinic to be built back then and he was very familiar with this place.

Qiao Mei sighed. Her heart tightened when she heard about Zhang Miao's broken ribs. What exactly happened to make those animals do such a thing to such a young child?

"I'll go and pay the fees. Looks like we'll have to do the paperwork for the hospital transfer now. Let me go and ask if the troops nearby can send a car," Xia Zhe said.

Qiao Mei shook her head. She did not want Xia Zhe to call on his own people for this matter. After all, this village was so remote and the people he knew were all in the capital. It would take a lot of time for the news to be transmitted to and fro.

It would be much faster to ask Chen Hu for help regarding this matter.

"Go and pay the fees at the clinic cashier. I'll contact Chen Hu from the county city. He knows my grandfather and he has some authority in the local area," Qiao Mei said.

Xia Zhe agreed with Qiao Mei's idea. He picked up the bag and went off to pay the bill. Qiao Mei walked into the room to make a telephone call to Chen Hu.

"Oh my, isn't this my eldest niece! Are you missing Uncle?" Chen Hu said happily.

"Uncle Hu, something had happened on my end. Can I ask you for a favor?" Qiao Mei said.

Chen Hu immediately stood up from the chair and asked nervously, "What happened! Is it your grandfather! Or is it your health! I'll come immediately!"

"No, no! It's something to do with my mother, Li Gui. I wonder if Uncle Hu is willing to help me?" Qiao Mei asked.

Back when Li Gui remarried after Qiao Yue passed away, she left a very bad impression on Chen Hu. His brother had only died a few years ago, and he wondered why she was in such a hurry to leave Qiao Mei behind and go off with another man.

If Qiao Mei had not been lucky enough to hang on until Qiao Qiang returned, she would have died in the pigsty long ago!

"Tell me what happened first," Chen Hu said unhappily.

"It's about my four younger siblings, the children Li Gui had with Zhang Qian. Two of them have been kidnapped by someone. One of them is seriously injured and needs to go to the county city hospital for treatment. The other one is still unconscious, but alright for now," Qiao Mei said.

Chen Hu angrily threw the glass of water in his hand at the table, giving the soldier beside him a fright.

There was actually someone who dared to snatch children in his territory? They were really courting death!

"Then this matter is considered official business. I'll send someone to look for the two missing children. As for the seriously ill child you mentioned, what do you want to do?" Chen Hu asked.

"This child needs to be sent to the county city now. The doctor says that someone kicked her and her ribs are broken. I'm wondering if Uncle Hu can send a car here to drive her there. The three-wheeled vehicle we have here won't be able to get us to the county city," Qiao Mei said.

"It's alright, the child is innocent. On account of you and your grandfather, I'll help you with this matter. But I still won't forgive Li Gui!" Chen Hu said.

