

Fat Wife 821

Chapter 821 Beat A Retreat In The Face Of Difficulties

"I'm negotiating with you right now. You can also choose not to stay in my house. Otherwise, what are my options if you owe me rent for more than 10 years in the future? So if you want to rent my house, you have to use something as collateral. Otherwise, I won't let you stay," Qiao Mei said.

The Tan family members were completely stunned on the spot. They had thought that everything would be fine as long as they went to look for Qiao Mei themselves. How could so many of them not be able to convince a country bumpkin who had never gone to school?

Xia He looked at them with a smile on her face. Back then, He Ning did not even manage to take advantage of Qiao Mei. There was nothing scary about the Tan family.

"We... we'll go back and think about it." After Tan Bai finished speaking, the whole Tan family left in a sorry state.

Xia He watched them leave the alley before she felt at ease to return. All along, the Tan family had bullied the Xia family. They relied on their status as the Xia family's in-laws to ask for various benefits. Xia Mao and Xia Wen did not say anything out of respect for them. As long as that family did not go overboard, they just silently tolerated their behavior.

"Qiao Mei! You should see the way they looked when they left! Hahahaha! It was really too satisfying!" Xia He said happily.

"Has the Tan family always been like this?" Qiao Mei asked.

Xia He also did not know the details. She only knew that the Tan family members were all very greedy. Xu Lan had occasionally told her what they did, but she did not know anything else. The only one with all the details was Xia Wen.

"Should we tell eldest brother about this? After all, it's considered eldest brother's family matter. I don't think it's good for us to make any decision in private," Xia He said hesitantly.

"Let's not tell eldest brother first. If the Tan family is willing to stop what they're doing, let's just pretend that nothing happened. Eldest brother doesn't seem to be doing well recently, so it's better not to cause trouble for him," Qiao Mei said as she rubbed her temples.

She had been sleeping a lot recently and could sleep for a long time every day. The energy that the bangle gave her had also decreased a lot. It no longer looked as lustrous as before.

It was very likely that the energy was about to be exhausted. She must continue to look for new jade and find new "portable air-conditioners".

Qiao Mei took out a small green bottle from her pocket and put a drop into the tea bowl. The entire house was instantly filled with the fragrance of pine trees, making one feel refreshed.

Qiao Mei had previously sent 500 pounds of seeds to the capital. The postal rules set a limit on the package size and each package could not exceed 50 pounds. At the time of delivery, Xu Lan was the only one at home. When she saw so many packages, she was stunned and thought that Qiao Mei had brought everything from her house in the village.

She quickly called the guards at the gate and asked them to help carry the packages into the house.

Although it was not a lot of seeds, Qiao Mei intended to let Li Gui try to sell them first and see if she could succeed. When spring came, she would buy a piece of land in the capital and they could grow the crops on a bigger scale.

By the night, Xia He could not hold back. She secretly went to the public phone booth at the entrance of the alley to call Xia Wen.

"Hello? Eldest brother, is there anyone beside you?" Xia He covered the phone receiver and asked softly.

"What's wrong? What happened to you?" Xia Wen asked nervously.

Xia He seldom made calls to Xia Wen throughout her entire life. She would usually contact Xia Fang if something happened.

"Qiao Mei won't let me tell you, but I still think you should know that the Tan family came to look for Qiao Mei today and said that they wanted to rent her house," Xia He said.

Xia Wen sighed resignedly. He had thought that the Tan family would beat a retreat in the face of difficulties and he did not expect them to go straight to Qiao Mei. He had promised Xu Lan earlier that he would not let Qiao Mei be hurt because of the issues in their family, but now it seemed that he had broken his promise.

"What did Qiao Mei say?" Xia Wen asked.

"She asked the Tan Family to sign an agreement. If they can't fork out the money for rent, they will need to use their assets as collateral. The Tan family has beaten a retreat for now," Xia He said.

"I'll handle this matter. Make sure Qiao Mei stays at home in peace first. Let me know if the Tan family comes again," Xia Wen said.

παντα ἔσται ἔνδοξον Xia He briefly explained the results of today's physical examination and what she had encountered before hanging up. The moment she turned around, she saw Qiao Mei standing behind her and looking at her with a grin on her face. It seemed like she had been waiting there for a long time.

"Erm... the weather is quite good... I just came out for a walk. Yes! Just taking a walk!" Xia He looked around awkwardly.

Chapter 822 - 822 Let's Go to Watch a Movie Together

822 Let's Go to Watch a Movie Together

Qiao Mei looked up at the dark sky without a single star. What kind of nice scenery was this?

To think that Xia He was still a professional dancer. Her acting skills still needed some improvements.

"Let's go home quickly. If you don't come back, I'll lock you out." Qiao Mei pouted and pretended to be angry.

Xia He followed behind Qiao Mei dejectedly. She was clearly more than 10 years older than Qiao Mei, but why did she feel that Qiao Mei seemed more like the older sister at the moment?

The next day, Xia He returned to work in the art troupe early in the morning. At noon, Qiao Mei hired a driver from the alley to go to Xu Lan's place and carry all the seeds back. She then went to shop for a big wok from the capital mall.

Li Gui's family began to stir-fry sunflower seeds in the house. The fragrance quickly wafted through the streets and alleys. People passing by could not help but look into the courtyard.

"Mei Mei, why do you still have so many seeds? Didn't we sell everything we have?" Li Gui asked curiously.

"These are the ones I sent to the capital. I wanted to save them for our family to eat during the new year, but now I have other ideas, so I brought them here to use them," Qiao Mei said as she lay leisurely on the rocking chair.

Li Gui was someone who was used to doing chores in the village. Building a stove was not a problem at all. They were used to doing all these things themselves.

"Where are we going to sell these after we fry them?" Li Gui asked.

Qiao Mei had been thinking about this for many days. At the moment, the most suitable places were the cinema and the entrance of the train station. It was mainly well-to-do people or young couples who frequented the cinema. As for the train station, the key thing was the high human traffic. When people were bored while waiting for the train, they would buy some seeds to munch on.

"We should try the cinema and the train station. On the day we arrived, I saw people selling these things right next to the train station," Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui said impatiently, "Then I'll go take a look after I'm done frying this batch!"

At the moment, she was very proactive about anything that was related to making money. She could not just rely on the little bit of money in her hands to make ends meet. Although Qiao Mei said that she had already paid off her debt the last time, Qiao Mei had spent all that money on them later. She had to earn more money to buy some stuff for Qiao Mei.

Even if she could not afford to buy anything, she should at least reduce the load on Qiao Mei's shoulder and not become a burden to her.

"Where are you going? I want to go too!" Zhang Qin asked as she ran into the backyard.

By now, Zhang Qin could already put her feet on the ground and take a few steps. She could make her way around with a walking stick and would recover after another half a month or so.

"You little imp, why do you stick your nose in everything! I'm talking to your sister about serious matters!" Li Gui said.

During this period of time, the children could only stay in the courtyard. Li Gui did not allow them to walk outside at all. Even if they were going to Qiao Mei's house, which was very close by, they had to inform Li Gui before they could go out.

If she lost the children in the huge capital, she would not be able to find them at all. The safest way was to let the children stay close to her.

"How about I bring all of you to watch a movie tonight?" Qiao Mei said with a smile.

"Qiao Mei! I'll bring them there! It's not easy to walk around at night. You should stay at home," Li Gui said worriedly.

Qiao Mei lowered her head and said, "I'm fine. Besides, I've never watched a movie before. Just let me go and have some fun."

Qiao Mei knew that Li Gui wanted to check out the standard of the seeds sold near the cinema and do some market research. However, if she was too obvious, it would arouse suspicion. She still needed to take a more relaxed approach when it came to doing business.

Li Gui instantly felt that she had not treated Qiao Mei well for so many years. There was actually an open-air cinema in the county city. She had even been there when she first married Zhang Qian.

"Alright, then let's all go. We'll go tonight and eat whatever you want!" Li Gui said.

"Xiao Qin, go and tell Zhang Wei and the others that Mom will bring us out to have fun tonight!" Qiao Mei said with a smile.

At night, the children got all dressed up. Zhang Miao even put on her winter scarf. She put on every item she owed and made sure she did not miss out on anything.

"Miao Miao, don't you find it hot?" Qiao Mei said while suppressing her laughter.

How was it not hot? Beads of sweat rolled down Zhang Miao's face uncontrollably. Her back was all wet, but she still looked very happy.

"I'm not hot! Elder sister, do you think I look nice today!" Zhang Miao asked as she sat in the wheelchair and spread her arms out.

Chapter 823 Not Tasty

"Of course our Miao Miao looks good, but if you wear so many pieces of clothing to the movies, you'll fall sick," Qiao Mei said patiently.

Currently, the children had their own room and they could decide what they wanted to wear. Qiao Mei was nurturing their independent personalities and aesthetics so that they would have their own views and opinions on things and not be influenced by the thoughts of adults.

What the adults should do now was just to guide and restrain their actions.

"But I like all these clothes very much..." Zhang Miao said as she looked at her clothes reluctantly.

"I know you like them very much, but you can wear them anytime, right? These belong to Miao Miao and no one can snatch them away. Of course, you can wear them if you really want to, but what if you fall sick?" Qiao Mei said.

Zhang Miao thought about it and felt that what Qiao Mei said made sense. Things were completely different now and they could decide what they wanted to do.

Zhang Miao took off her extra scarf, ribbon and thick cotton-padded jacket. After she was done, they set off together.

Qiao Qiang did not like such occasions, so they did not bring him along. Recently, he would go for walks every morning and got along very well with the old men in the park. He was even very close to Zhou Sheng.

As soon as they arrived at the entrance of the cinema, Li Gui began to look around to see what the peddlers were selling.

There were two peddlers selling popcorn by the roadside. They sold them in bags and there was nothing special about them. There were also quite a number of peddlers selling seeds. She could count three in total.

The competition was tough so she did not feel confident at all.

"Mei Mei, this place won't do. Look, there are so many people selling the same things. If I also sell seeds here, there won't be much business. Moreover, these people have been selling here for a long time and might even have many old customers," Li Gui said worriedly.

Back in the black market, everyone sold similar agricultural products, but everyone did not bring much and they set up stalls at a distance from one another. At that time, Li Gui was never worried that someone would snatch her business or no one would buy her things.

However, it was a different situation now. There were so many stalls here selling the same things. Her seeds had no other advantages except for being tasty.

"Our seeds are so delicious, what's there to be worried about? Let's go and ask first. Don't be discouraged." Qiao Mei brought the children in front of a peddler. please visit

At the stall near the door of the cinema, the seeds were sold in cups. All the peddlers sold it the same way.

"How much for one cup?" Qiao Mei asked.

At first, when the peddler saw the children, he did not pay them any attention. One look and he could tell that they were country bumpkins. The children in the city did not wear clothes meant for all four seasons at the same time. These children obviously had not been out much.

However, Qiao Mei was different. Although she was dressed simply, her elegance simply shone through. It was obvious that these children had come to seek refuge with her.

"It's 30 cents per cup! Do you want to buy a few cups to try?" the vendor said with a grin.

Qiao Mei did not hesitate at all. She took out a dollar and 80 cents and said, "Give me six cups!"

The sensible Zhang Qin immediately grabbed Qiao Mei's clothes and said, "Elder sister, we just need to buy three cups. The four of us can share one."

Zhang Qin had been through the process of selling seeds in the village. In the beginning, they could only sell one pound for 30 cents. Even when the seeds planted later were exceptionally delicious, it was still sold at one dollar per pound. This small cup of seeds in front of her only weighed about two taels but it was so expensive. She really could not bear to spend the money.

"It's fine. You can eat whatever you want today," Qiao Mei said as she patted Zhang Qin's head.

The vendor quickly handed six cups of seeds to the children, worried that Qiao Mei would go back on her word and decided not to buy them.

Zhang Miao spat it out as soon as she took a bite. She frowned and looked at the seeds in her hand in dissatisfaction. She whispered, "This tastes really bad..."

The peddler's expression instantly turned very unhappy. He had been selling seeds at the entrance of the cinema for so many years, but this was the first time someone had said that the seeds he sold were not tasty!

"Erm... children don't think before they speak. A child's words carry no harm. Big brother, please don't take it to heart." Qiao Mei quickly pushed Zhang Miao's wheelchair away.

If she had been any slower, the peddler would probably start asking why the seeds he sold were not tasty.

Chapter 824 Educating The Children

It was not the children's fault. They had stayed by her side for so long and ate fruits and vegetables infused with energy every day. Their taste buds had long been pampered too much. They did not care for ordinary foodstuffs at all.

It could be considered a good thing. Did people not say that daughters should be brought up in abundance?

"Miao Miao, even if it tastes bad, you can't say it out so directly. If someone buys our seeds and says that it tastes really bad in front of you, will you be angry?" Qiao Mei asked.

Zhang Miao immediately said angrily, "Our seeds are the best! How can anyone say that they taste bad!"

"Look, I'm just making an analogy and you're already so angry. That person also thinks that his seeds are the best. Don't you think that he's angry when you pass that comment?" Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Zhang Miao realized her mistake and looked at the seeds in her hand in silence. Not long after, she raised her head and asked nervously, "Should I apologize to that uncle..."

"Let's forget about it today. There shouldn't be a next time, do you understand? It's fine as long as you realize your mistake," Qiao Mei said in satisfaction.

Li Gui stood at the side and watched Qiao Mei educate the children. There was an indescribable feeling in her heart. The little baby whom she held in her arms back then was going to be a mother soon.

She did not set a good example as a mother, but Qiao Mei had grown up to be very outstanding. It was all thanks to Qiao Qiang.

"Let's go in. The movie is about to start," Li Gui said.

The children were curious about everything and had thousands of doubts in their hearts. However, Zhang Chao was not interested in the movie at all, but was wondering how the images were being projected on the screen.

He had not read about this in the books that Xia Wen gave him. He could only make his own observations and think through it himself.

Qiao Mei could not help but sigh. If computers were available in this era, Zhang Chao would definitely become a very capable engineer in the future.

After the movie, they waited for a car by the roadside. Li Gui stood beside Qiao Mei and said smugly, "If we sell our seeds for 30 cents a cup, it would definitely outsell theirs! The taste of their seeds is far inferior to ours."

"Let's sell it for 50 cents," Qiao Mei said.

"50 cents! That's too much. How about we sell ours in a bigger cup?" Li Gui said hesitantly.

"Just use the same type of cup and we'll sell it for 50 cents a cup," Qiao Mei said confidently. please visit

If they sold their wares in a bigger cup, it would affect the business environment. It did not matter if they sold it at a higher price as long as someone was willing to buy it.

Qiao Mei saw that Li Gui was still a little hesitant and turned to ask the children, "Do you think our seeds are delicious?"

"Yes! It's so much better than what those people sell!" Zhang Miao said agitatedly.

"It's a fact that our seeds are delicious. Even if we sell it at a higher price, people will still buy it. So it's alright," Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui nodded. She decided to go to the train station to take a look tomorrow. Perhaps she could sell them at the train station during the day and at the cinema at night. Then she could earn a lot of money in a day.

"Alright! I'll listen to you!" Li Gui said with a smile.

Everyone had a good night's sleep. The next morning, they were woken up by weeping sounds outside the main door. Qiao Mei covered her head with the blanket and went back to sleep.

Unexpectedly, the cries outside the door became louder and louder, disturbing her sleep. Qiao Mei sat up from the bed impatiently and frowned as she looked in the direction of the main door.

It was very noisy outside and she could not hear what was going on. She could only hear the sounds of many women crying.

Qiao Mei put on a fluffy shawl and prepared to go to the door to take a look. The closer she got to the door, the louder the sounds became and she could hear a few words clearly.

"My poor daughter! She doesn't have a good life after marrying into the Xia family!"

"The Xia family is too cruel to us! Not only are they not helping us, but they're also taking our house away! We really have no choice!"

"Everyone, come and judge! After this woman married into the Xia family, she started to bully my daughter!"

Qiao Mei pushed open the door and saw that the alley was already filled with people. They were all here to have a laugh, but most of them were here to see the Tan family make a fool of themselves.

When Qiao Mei first moved in, she went from door to door to greet all the neighbors. As the saying went, to receive a favor was to sell one's liberty. After they received gifts from Qiao Mei, these people definitely tended to side with Qiao Mei and thought of her as a good person.

Chapter 825 - 825 Slander

825 Slander

"What are you doing?" Qiao Mei asked impatiently.

"You're finally out! It's this woman! She's going to take over our house!" Jiang Yi's hair was in a mess as she knelt on the ground and cried.

The corners of Qiao Mei's mouth could not help but twitch a few times. She seemed to have seen this situation before. Old Madam Li had also cried outside their house at the village with the two children.

Could it be that all shrews used the same trick? Other people would cry and throw tantrums, but they would pretend to be pitiful and lie and ask everyone to be the judge.

!!

"Make yourself clear. How did I take over your house?" Qiao Mei said resignedly.

“It’s you, you vicious woman! Ever since you married into the family, my daughter has been bullied because of you! You’re really too scheming!” Jiang Yi did not mention any details at all and just simply slandered Qiao Mei.

She wanted those people who did not know the truth to think that Qiao Mei was a heinous sinner, so that everyone would side with her.

“I’ve been staying in my own house ever since I married into the family. The neighbors around here know that I’ve only returned from my maternal home in the past two to three days. How did I bully your daughter from thousands of miles away?” Qiao Mei asked.

It was only then that Jiang Yi realized Qiao Mei had just returned a few days ago. That wretched girl, Tan Jing, did not tell her about Qiao Mei going back to her maternal home!

“My family is so miserable! My daughter’s life is so tough! She married into your family at such a young age and worked like a slave! Not only are you not grateful to her, but you also keep hurting her! I don’t want to live anymore!” Jiang Yi shouted.

“My sister-in-law was already 24 years old when she married into the Xia family. That’s not very young. All these years, my eldest brother also doted on my sister-in-law very much. You can go and ask around. Everyone knows about it,” Qiao Mei said.

Jiang Yi lowered her head and pretended to cry, but she was already panicking. How could a newlywed daughter-in-law know so much about the Xia family? Who told her all this?

“That son-in-law of mine always comes to help you! He even helps you build a house and buy furniture for you! He helps you with everything! Even if your husband isn’t at home, you can’t behave like this!” Jiang Yi shouted as she pointed at Qiao Mei.

This time, the way everyone looked at Qiao Mei changed. What Jiang Yi said was true. They had not seen Qiao Mei in this house for a long time, but Xia Wen had been in and out a lot. They had all seen him spend a lot of money and effort to repair the house.

Could it really be as Jiang Yi had said... between Xia Wen and Qiao Mei...

Qiao Mei could have held back her temper and treated Jiang Yi nicely on account that she was Tan Jing's mother. However, this woman had now done a terrible thing and slandered both her and Xia Wen, and her marriage with Xia Zhe. She could not tolerate it any longer.

"You're doing all this to get to my new house. Yesterday, you came to tell me that you wanted to stay there for free, and now you're slandering me? My eldest brother came to help because my husband asked him to. Besides, I wasn't in the capital when he was helping us. What's wrong with brothers helping each other out? Besides, I paid for this house and it has nothing to do with the Xia family," Qiao Mei said forcefully.

Qiao Mei looked at the onlookers and continued, "Although I haven't stayed here for very long, everyone here knows that I don't leave the house often. Other than my grandfather and two younger brothers, no one else comes to the house. Is this also a problem?"

"You'd better think carefully before you speak. You're slandering me and my husband, slandering a soldier's family and destroying a soldier's marriage. If you're so sure about what you said just now, then I'm going to make a police report. What you're doing is called slander, so you have to bear legal responsibility." Qiao Mei narrowed her eyes and looked at Jiang Yi.

Jiang Yi was so scared that she did not dare to look Qiao Mei in the eyes. She had just said it casually and did not expect there to be such serious consequences.

It would be a big thing if Qiao Mei had behaved indecently. It was a serious crime for a military wife to have an affair. There would be a poster put up on the notice board in the alley and she would even be arrested and thrown into jail!

At that time, Qiao Mei's reputation would be completely ruined. There were past cases of people who could not withstand the gossip and committed suicide.

"Say something! Weren't you so confident just now?!" A voice came from the crowd.

"That's right! If you have evidence, then take it out! Otherwise, don't spout nonsense here! Show us quickly!" the neighbor shouted.

More and more people around spoke up for Qiao Mei. In the end, Jiang Yi shrank to the side in fear and did not dare to speak.

Chapter 826 - 826 Too Hasty

826 Too Hasty

Qiao Mei had no intention of going to the police station to confront Jiang Yi, so she decided to stop at this point.

“If you can’t produce any evidence, don’t come here to spout nonsense in the future. Get lost as far away as you can,” Qiao Mei said to Jiang Yi.

Jiang Yi covered her head and ran out of the alley dejectedly. Once there was nothing more to watch, everyone dispersed one after another. Qiao Mei rubbed her temples tiredly. She did not expect to have to run into such a shrew in the capital.

“Why? Are there still moments when you cannot cope?” Suddenly, a voice came from outside the door.

!!

It had been a few months since Qiao Mei last saw Qian’e but she seemed to have changed into a different person. Not only was she dressed very fashionably, but she also looked much better. If not for the fact that her voice remained the same, Qiao Mei would not have dared to call out to her.

“Why are you here?” Qiao Mei asked in surprise.

“I’m just here to see if you’re doing well. I’m happy to see that you have so much trouble to deal with,” Qian’e said as she stood outside the door.

Qiao Mei knew that Qian’e was joking. After that incident, the misunderstanding between them had long been resolved. Qian’e did not have many close friends for many years and her only friend, He Mei, had even betrayed her ruthlessly.

In her mind, Qiao Mei was her good friend. When she heard that Qiao Mei had returned, she immediately came to pay a visit.

“You saw everything that happened just now?” Qiao Mei asked.

“No, that woman had already run away when I arrived. If I was here just now, she wouldn’t have been able to do anything at all. As if she can still bully you? But who is this person? Who else did you become enemies with?” Qian’e asked worriedly.

Qiao Mei also did not know how she had offended the Tan family, but they had come knocking on her door all of a sudden. This might be what people meant when they said that the winds would howl around the highest peaks. However, she would still have bought those houses no matter what. If she had to blame someone, she could only blame herself for being too ostentatious and doing things too fast.

“This matter can’t be explained with a few words. By the way, how are you now? You look much better,” Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Ever since He Mei was punished, Qian’e lived a completely different life from before. Not only did she learn to dress up, but she also bought a lot of tonics and supplements for herself.

As what people said, a woman’s face was her asset. Qian’e was originally born beautiful, but she had given up on herself and looked like an old hag. However, she had now regained her self-worth and did not live with hatred in her heart anymore.

“I’m a piano teacher now. I guess I’ve found the joy I had when I was young. I was working in an assembly line in a factory but it was boring and mind-numbing. I plan to further my piano studies and regain my dream,” Qian’e said expectantly.

Confidence would make a person look different. Qian’e looked radiant now, but her infertility had always been her sore spot. She was unwilling to be in a relationship and be a burden to someone else.

“Are you still in contact with that person from the village?” Qiao Mei asked.

Qian'e lowered her head slowly. Back then, in order to avoid detection from the He family, she had moved in with a relative of the Xia family who lived in the countryside. She did not expect to meet a nice man by a freak combination of factors.

She knew very well what kind of woman she was. As one of their neighbors had said, trash was trash. Even if she had turned over a new leaf, she was still trash.

How could such a woman stay by his side? He should find a better woman, or at least an ordinary woman, and live a peaceful life with a child of his own.

"We didn't keep in contact. He sent me many letters, but I don't want to be a burden. Let's leave this matter to fate. My heart is in a mess," Qian'e said gloomily.

"There's still a long way to go. It's good to put him through a test. He's a good man," Qiao Mei said.

"You have never met him. How do you know that he's a good man?" Qian'e asked.

In Qiao Mei's heart, any relatives of the Xia family would not be too bad. Moreover, Xia Wen was the one who arranged for Qian'e to stay with this family, so these people must surely be upright and trustworthy.

"I... It's just my guess! By the way, are you free to come to my house to teach?" Qiao Mei asked.

Qian'e stared at Qiao Mei's stomach and said in disdain, "Aren't you a little too anxious? The babies are still inside and you already want them to learn the piano. Are you planning for your children to be able to do handstands at the age of one, memorize poems at the age of two, and become a pianist in the capital at the age of three?"

Chapter 827 Selling Goods Outside

Qiao Mei was so amused that she laughed out loudly. She did not even start prenatal education for the children, so why would she intend to let them learn things at such a young age? She actually wanted to see if her younger siblings had the talent for the piano.

In her other life, her family was not very rich and she was not able to learn everything she had interest in. In this life, she wanted to learn everything she liked!

"I want you to teach my young siblings, not the little fellows inside!" Qiao Mei said.

"Then sure of course, but it depends on your offer. My rates are not cheap." Qian'e smiled smugly.

She knew that Qiao Mei was not short of money and naturally did not care about these things, but ordinary families definitely considered her fees to be very expensive.

No matter how badly Qian'e lived her life, she was still the champion of the National Piano Competition back then. This trophy was real. In addition, she was not teaching in a classroom setting, but a one-on-one private class. Each session cost five dollars an hour.

"Money is not a problem. As long as my younger siblings like it, money is no concern," Qiao Mei said generously.

"Then let me take a look," Qian'e said.

One needed talent to play the piano. Although people who were not talented could still make it through putting in a lot of hard work, they had to really put in a lot of effort. If one's fingers were long and slender and one had a good sense of pitch, then one was really gifted. If one was willing to put in effort, one would definitely be able to reach the top.

"They've all gone out with my mother to sell things," Qiao Mei said.

"How old are they? They need to go out to sell things? Don't they need to go to school?" Qian'e asked curiously.

"Those children are used to having a hard life. During this period of time, I haven't decided on where to send them to school, so I let them study at home. When my eldest brother has time, he will come by and check their homework," Qiao Mei said helplessly.

Today, Li Gui had specially woken up early to pack seeds at home and was all ready to try her luck at the train station. She realized that the authorities in the capital were not very strict. As long as the peddlers did not sell too aggressively, they would simply turn a blind eye to it.

At this moment, the government was supportive of the people doing their own businesses and in turn driving economic development.

Zhang Qin and Zhang Wei accompanied Li Gui to the train station. It was densely packed with people for as far as the eye could see. They had never seen so many people at the train station in the county city.

"Wow... there's so many people..." Zhang Qin looked at the crowd in a daze. please visit

Li Gui held on tightly to Zhang Qin and Zhang Wei and said, "Let's go to the corner over there to take a look. You have to hold my hands tightly, understand?"

The capital was so big and there were so many people. If the children got lost, she really would not be able to find them. She must be very careful.

It took them a while to make it through the crowd to the corner of the train station. There were many stalls selling things here. There were tea eggs, cooked corn, cigarettes and fruits, among other things.

Li Gui found an empty place and started to set up the stall. There was an older woman selling tea eggs next to the spot. When she saw a new face, she greeted Li Gui warmly.

"Are you new here?!" the older woman said excitedly.

Li Gui was shocked by the woman's enthusiasm. She nodded gently and said, "Yes, I'm new here. Do we have to pay a fee or can we set up our stall anywhere?"

"There's no rule in this place. Whoever comes first can choose a spot. No one cares." said the older woman.

Li Gui finally felt at ease. She was a woman with two children. If she fought with others because of the stall, she definitely did not have the upper hand.

The older woman looked at the seeds that Li Gui was going to sell and asked, "Sister, how much do you charge for each portion?"

"50 cents," Li Gui said.

The older woman's jaw almost dropped. She pointed at Li Gui's seeds with a trembling finger and said, "50 cents! It's too expensive! I think someone is selling seeds for only 30 cents over there."

Li Gui did not know what to say either. After all, this was the price that Qiao Mei decided. Zhang Qin smiled and said, "The seeds we sell are delicious! They're different from what others sell. Auntie, look, these seeds are big!"

Zhang Qin took out a small handful of seeds from her bag and handed them to the older woman. "Auntie, try some. They're really delicious!"

Qiao Mei had asked her to put these seeds into her bag last night. Qiao Mei also knew that people would be hesitant about buying the seeds at 50 cents per portion, so she asked Zhang Qin to give away the seeds as samples.

Chapter 828 - 828 Different

828 Different

The older woman took the seeds from Zhang Qin's hand with a doubtful look. The seeds were indeed very fragrant. After she ate some, her eyes lit up.

"It's so delicious! What you're selling is really too delicious!" the older woman said excitedly.

When Li Gui saw the older woman's reaction, she felt more and more confident. Soon, someone came by to ask about the price.

“How much do these seeds cost?” a young man asked.

!!

Li Gui said, “50 cents per cup!”

When the young man heard this, his reaction was exactly the same as the older woman. He turned around and was about to leave when the older woman suddenly said excitedly, “Young man, come and take a look at the seeds! These are delicious! I guarantee you! They’re definitely delicious!”

Zhang Qin immediately took out some seeds from her bag and handed them over. The young man tasted a few and pointed at the seeds. “Not bad! Give me two cups.”

Li Gui handed the seeds to the young man excitedly. This could be considered her first sale.

After her first sale, the seeds became more and more popular. Before the morning ended, Li Gui had sold out 40 pounds of seeds. Zhang Wei grabbed the empty bag and ran happily in the alley.

At night, they used the same method to sell outside the cinema, but they did not have as smooth an experience as when they were at the train station.

As usual, that peddler stood at his original spot to sell seeds. His location was the best in the area near the cinema. As long as one wanted to go in to watch a movie, one must walk past him.

Li Gui did not know where she could stand, so she hawked her goods at the spot opposite the cinema door.

“Seeds! Does anyone want to buy seeds? Fragrant seeds!” Zhang Qin and Zhang Wei shouted with all their might.

When the peddler heard this, he immediately walked over and said, “Who says you can set up a stall here!”

Li Gui looked around and saw that everyone simply set up their stalls at random spots. She did not block cars or people at this spot, so was it that she could not set up a stall here?

“We’re not allowed to set up a stall here?” Li Gui asked.

“It’s not that you can’t set it up, but you can’t shout. How can the rest of us do business if you shout like this? If everyone is like you, won’t it be a mess?” The peddler simply gave nonsensical reasons.

Zhang Qin pointed at an old man selling popcorn in the distance and said, “But that grandpa is also shouting. Why can’t we do it if he can?”

The peddler glared at Zhang Qin fiercely. Zhang Qin was so frightened that she hurriedly hid behind Zhang Wei. She was only telling the truth. She was not in the wrong.

“Little girl, you’re quite bold. I don’t care. In any case, you have to listen to me if you want to be here. You can’t shout!” the peddler said rudely.

“Big brother, look at this spot. It’s really not a very strategic location. If we don’t shout, no one will know we’re here. Or can we move forward?” Li Gui said nicely.

The peddler did not care about what she said at all. If Li Gui had a capable husband, he would not need her to bring the children out to work. She was definitely a person who was easy to bully.

“No! Don’t say anything else! You can’t shout and you can’t come forward!” After saying that, the peddler returned to the entrance of the cinema and continued selling his things.

Zhang Wei suddenly ran into the alley at the side and only reappeared after a long time. Li Gui looked at Zhang Wei listlessly and asked, “Where did you run off to again?”

“Mom, let’s go and sell in the alley! I went to check out the surroundings. If people want to go to the cinema, they have to walk through that alley!” Zhang Wei said with a grin.

Li Gui's hope was ignited again. She hurriedly moved the stall over. The human traffic here was busier than at the entrance of the cinema, but the location was also very dangerous. If she was caught, she would not be able to escape.

A young couple came to Li Gui's stall. The woman smiled at Zhang Qin and said, "How much are the seeds?"

"Sister~ It costs 50 cents a cup~" Zhang Qin put on her cute smile. Her innocent appearance instantly attracted the woman's attention.

"It's so expensive... Can't it be cheaper?" the woman said awkwardly.

She really wanted to buy it, but it was too expensive. She had only just started dating this man. If she bought a cup of seeds for 50 cents without a second thought, she would probably leave a bad impression on him.

Zhang Qin used her old trick again. She grabbed a handful of seeds from her bag and stretched out her hand. "Please try some! Our seeds are definitely different!"

Chapter 829 - 829 Need to Think of a New Plan

829 Need to Think of a New Plan

The couple tasted the seeds doubtfully. After they tried, they could not stop eating. The man also felt that it was very expensive, but in order to appear generous and not embarrass himself in front of the girl he liked, he decided not to be too concerned about the additional few cents.

"Give me two cups," the man said.

Gradually, Zhang Qin realized that the people who came to the cinema were all young couples. Very few people would come to watch the movie alone. If it was a couple who came to buy seeds together, Zhang Qin would take the initiative to take out some seeds from her bag and give them to the man to try.

She realized that it was usually the man who paid for the purchase, so giving the man a taste was the fastest way to make a sale.

!!

When they had almost sold everything, the three of them packed up and went home.

“We’re back!” Zhang Wei and Zhang Qin ran into Qiao Mei’s courtyard happily.

Qiao Mei walked into the courtyard while supporting her stomach and asked, “How was the sales today?”

“We sold 70 pounds! We sold everything today!” Zhang Qin shook the bag excitedly.

“It’s all thanks to these two children today. Otherwise, we wouldn’t be able to sell all the seeds!” Li Gui said as she wiped the sweat off her temples.

Li Gui gave all the money to the two children and asked them to go into the house to count their earnings for the day. Although they had a good time selling the seeds, she had some new concerns now.

“Qiao Mei, we don’t have much seeds left. Once we sell everything, we don’t have anything else to do,” Li Gui said with a sigh.

Qiao Mei had also thought about this. She had only sent 500 pounds from the village. If Li Gui continued to sell at the same speed, it would be sold out in a week.

It was time to think of a new plan.

“Let me think about it. There’s no hurry,” Qiao Mei said with a smile.

The next morning, Qian'e arrived at Qiao Mei's house punctually. The night before, Qiao Mei had told the children to stay at home because she had something important to tell them.

"Say, missy. You ask me to come to your house to teach them how to play the piano so why aren't you up yet?" Qian'e stood at the door of Qiao Mei's bedroom with a helpless expression.

Once it was winter, Qiao Mei started to like to curl up under the covers and could stay in bed for a long time every day. If she did not have something to do, she could lie in bed the whole day without moving.

"I'll get up now," Qiao Mei said as she stretched.

This was the first time Qian'e had waited so patiently for someone. If it was in the past, she would have lost her temper and walked out long ago.

After Qiao Mei washed up and dressed up, she brought Qian'e to look for the children. The children were helping Li Gui with the housework in the courtyard. There was a huge maple tree outside their door and it was currently the season of falling leaves. Every day, many leaves would fall at the entrance of the courtyard. If they did not tidy up, there would be a smell of decay in the entire courtyard.

"These children are so sensible..." Qian'e had a tender look on her face when she looked at the four children.

Zhang Miao was the first to notice Qiao Mei. She rolled the wheels of the wheelchair excitedly and headed towards Qiao Mei anxiously. For a moment, she did not notice that there was an uneven floor tile on the stone brick road. The wheelchair lost its balance and Zhang Miao was sent flying out.

Qian'e instinctively ran forward to catch Zhang Miao. In her hastiness, she even sprained her own ankle.

"Miao Miao!" Qiao Mei shouted nervously.

Zhang Miao was so shocked that she wailed as she crouched on Qian'e. Not only did Qian'e not find Zhang Miao noisy, but she hugged her gently and stroked her head. "Be good~ You're fine now~"

Zhang Wei pulled up the wheelchair. Qian'e only dared to put Zhang Miao back in the wheelchair after confirming that the wheelchair was not damaged.

"I'll get someone to repair the floor tiles later. How are you? Are you injured?" Qiao Mei asked as she looked at Qian'e nervously.

Qian'e gently rotated her wrists and ankles and said in pain, "I think I twisted my ankle. I'll be fine after resting for a while."

Qiao Mei helped her to sit on a chair at the side. She took out the small medicine bottle she had with her and poured out two drops on her hand.

"Take off your socks and shoes. I'll massage it for you," Qiao Mei said as she raised her hands.

Qian'e did not stand on ceremony with her and placed her feet on the stone table to support herself. She was worried that if Qiao Mei exerted too much strength, she would instinctively kick Qiao Mei out of pain.

Qian'e felt Qiao Mei's warm hands on her ankle and felt the pain easing a lot instantly. She had never seen this type of medicine before.

Chapter 830 - 830 What Is a Piano

830 What Is a Piano

"Where did you buy this medicine? I've never seen it before! The medicine I have at home for sprains and injuries has a very strong smell. I don't feel like applying the medicine whenever I injure myself. Your medicine smells quite good," Qian'e asked curiously.

"This is my exclusive secret recipe. I won't tell anyone else! Don't think about it anymore," Qiao Mei said playfully.

Qian'e looked at Qiao Mei in disdain. Although she had reconciled with Qiao Mei, she still could not stand seeing Qiao Mei's smug expression.

“All of you, come over and let this older sister take a look at you! This older sister teaches piano. You can learn from her if you want,” Qiao Mei called out to the children.

Qian’e first asked the children to stand in a line and extend their hands out one by one. She checked the length of their fingers as well as the flexibility.

“All of you seem to have some innate talent. If you want to learn the piano, I can teach you. However, I have a requirement. I don’t accept lazy students. You can be stupid, but you can’t be lazy,” Qian’e said sternly.

Zhang Miao raised her hand timidly and asked, “What’s a piano...”

The other children also did not know what a piano was either. This question really stumped Qiao Mei and Qian’e. All this while, Qiao Mei only made sure that the children learn a few more skills, but she had forgotten to bring them to experience other things in life.

Qian’e looked at Qiao Mei helplessly. How could they learn to play the piano if they did not even know what it was?

“Qiao Mei!!! Do you know how much I charge for an hour?! You’ve wasted the time I could be earning money!” Qian’e shouted angrily at Qiao Mei.

“Well... I didn’t expect this to happen either... When I have time, I’ll bring them to the piano shop to take a look. If they’re interested, I’ll contact you again,” Qiao Mei said with a sheepish smile.

“I don’t care. Qiao Mei, you have to make it up to me!” Qian’e said with a pout.

Qiao Mei patted Qian’e on the ankle and said, “I know, I know. How about I cook a full banquet for you?”

This solution was indeed attractive. She had always wanted to taste Qiao Mei’s cooking. Every time Qiao Mei cooked when she was at Xia Fang’s house, the entire neighborhood could smell the fragrance of the food.

However, Qiao Mei was still pregnant. If Qiao Mei was to cook a table full of dishes for her, Xia Zhe would probably skin her alive when he came back. Just thinking about that gloomy face of his was terrifying enough.

Qian'e shivered in fear. She quickly stopped thinking and said, "No need. You can cook for me when you have the chance next time. I have to say that your medicine is really effective. It doesn't hurt anymore."

After putting on her shoes and socks, Qian'e left in a hurry. She still had many classes to teach and she was very busy every day.

The children also went about their own business. Qiao Mei lay back on the rocking chair in the courtyard and sighed. This was the first time she felt that raising a child was a very tiring thing.

Just thinking about what these children should learn already made her worried for two days. She also had to think about what to do about these children's homework. Later, she had to think about which school to send them to and whether they could keep up with the progress. There were a lot of things waiting for her to do.

Qiao Mei poked her stomach and muttered to herself, "The two of you must grow up to be good kids! If you're two little naughty monkeys, I won't be able to handle you!"

The babies seemed to understand Qiao Mei and gently kicked her stomach. The checkup results for Qiao Qiang and the rest were also out. Qiao Qiang was very healthy and his physique was much better than people of his age!

However, Li Gui's health was not so good. As she did not recuperate well after giving birth, she had many lingering health issues. Whenever it rained, Li Gui's knee would hurt unbearably. Sometimes, she could not even get out of bed.

Qiao Mei looked at Li Gui's health report thoughtfully. It seemed like she had to get some supplements for Li Gui to drink.

Zhang Miao and Zhang Qin had almost fully recovered. Children were usually able to recover quickly. As long as Zhang Miao exercised hard, she would definitely be able to go to school next spring.

“Sigh...” Qiao Mei sighed deeply.

Qiao Qiang chuckled and appeared beside Qiao Mei. “Why are you sighing now? This doesn’t seem like our Mei Mei’s personality.”

“Grandfather! Aren’t you playing chess with Grandpa Zhou?” Qiao Mei said happily.

During this period of time, Qiao Mei did not even get to see Qiao Qiang at all. After breakfast in the morning, he would go to the park to practice Tai Chi with his pals. In the afternoon, he would play chess with Zhou Sheng and at night, he would go for a walk in the park.