

Fat Wife 841

Chapter 841 - 841 Living Together

841 Living Together

“What’s wrong, you can’t stay at home anymore?” Qiao Mei asked teasingly.

She had also lived at home for a period of time. Most young people were unwilling to live with their parents mainly because their freedom would get restricted. It was not so bad to have to wake up early, but they had to watch their behavior all the time. Otherwise, they would get scolded.

During that time, she could not even take an afternoon nap comfortably. She would be woken up to do housework, especially when Liu Fen was at home.

“Sigh... I feel so stifled now that I want to buy a house quickly,” Xia He said.

“Just buy it. Houses are so cheap now. It won’t be worth it when the price increases in the future,” Qiao Mei persuaded.

Xia He poked Qiao Mei’s arm angrily. If Qiao Mei did not have the special ability to dig for ginseng, how could she have so much money to buy a house? Moreover, Xia He had already spent all the money that Kong Lu returned to her.

“I can lend you the money and I won’t charge you interest. How about that?” Qiao Mei asked.

She had long wanted Xia He and Xia Wen to quickly buy a house for themselves. They were both children of the Xia family. If everyone progressed at different speeds, there would probably be animosity in the future. It would be best if everyone made progress together.

“Forget it! I’ll have to spend more than 10 years to repay the debt! I’ll think about it again,” Xia He said.

If Qiao Mei had a lot of money, Xia He would have liked to accept her offer. However, Qiao Mei was going to give birth soon and then she would need to bring up her children. There would be huge expenses coming up.

Qiao Mei had just bought a few houses and probably did not have much money left. Xia He found it embarrassing to have to borrow money from Qiao Mei to buy a house.

Qiao Mei understood Xia He's concerns, so she did not say anything else. When she received the one million dollars from He Ning, Xia He would definitely come looking for her.

After all, it would be obvious by then that she did not lack money.

At that time, she would also try to persuade Xia Wen.

"I have no issues with you coming to my place, but how are you going to convince Mother?" Qiao Mei asked.

"This matter is not difficult. I'll just say that I'm coming over to take care of you! It's just that I can't be the one saying this. You have to help me put in the request," Xia He said pleadingly.

Qiao Mei agreed to this matter and went to the public phone booth at the entrance of the alley to call Xu Lan. Initially, Xu Lan was firmly against it, but Qiao Mei used her trump card, i.e. Xu Lan's grandchildren, to threaten her.

She said that she could not sleep well every day and that if Xia He did not come to accompany her, no one would find out if something went wrong, then the babies would be in trouble. She directly targeted Xu Lan's weakness.

Xia He successfully received the green light to move into Qiao Mei's house.

After hanging up, Xu Lan heaved a sigh of relief. She finally did not need to arrange blind dates for Xia He at home. Those men were all introduced by her friends on their own accord and they called her every day to urge her to quickly arrange a time for Xia He to meet the men.

Those who did not know better would think that she was the one being introduced to them!

Xu Lan only obliged to do these old friends a favor. She actually felt that it was too soon for Xia He to get married now. There was not enough time for Xia He to understand the other party's character and personality at all. After having suffered once, she must not suffer again.

Xia He could get married whenever she wanted to. She would not force Xia He anymore.

"It's done~" Qiao Mei said happily as she returned to the courtyard.

Xia He gave her a thumbs up and said, "As expected! As long as you take action, there's nothing that can't be done! Did you give my mom some magical potion? Why does she agree to everything you say now?"

Qiao Mei touched her stomach proudly and said, "I have an immunity medallion!"

Xia He was no longer envious. She did not want to experience the hardships of being pregnant. She really did not know how Qiao Mei had managed to make it so far.

"But you have to help me with something if you want to stay here," Qiao Mei said.

"What is it?" Xia He asked.

Qiao Mei pointed to the north and said, "I bought another house that I saw previously. I want to renovate it during this period of time and make good use of that place."

That spot was hidden and undisturbed. It was just the right place to stockpile corn. Moreover, it was not far from Li Gui's place and the location was very convenient.

In the future, she would not have to worry about anything when they produced popcorn inside.

“Alright, I can still handle this small issue. I won’t be able to do it if you want me to cook,” Xia He said.

“Two days ago, you told me that you want to learn how to cook! Now you’re going back on your word! Sigh! Women sure change their minds quickly!” Qiao Mei teased.

Xia He was so riled up that she pretended to hit Qiao Mei and then said shyly, “Aren’t you a woman too!”

Chapter 842 - 842 The Poor Has More Say

842 The Poor Has More Say

This house looked different from the other ones she bought. Back then, Qiao Mei did not even take a closer look because she felt that it was too rundown and dirty. After buying it, she asked the owner to clean out all the trash and now it looked much better.

Qiao Mei and Xia He saw a suspicious looking man sneaking around not far from the main door of the house. He kept loitering around outside and would lean against the door from time to time to try and look inside. His behavior was very strange.

“What’s that person doing?” Xia He grabbed Qiao Mei and pointed at the man.

Qiao Mei grabbed Xia He and made a move to turn around, but they were still spotted by that man.

The man shouted at Qiao Mei and Xia He, “Stop! Are you the people who bought this house!”

He heard from the neighbors nearby that this house had been bought by a young and beautiful pregnant woman. The physical characteristics of these two women were the same as described. It must be them!

Whatever needed to happen would happen. Trouble was brewing.

Qiao Mei did not feel like hiding. She turned to look at the man and said, “What’s the matter?”

When the man saw that Qiao Mei had admitted it, he immediately put on a different expression and said arrogantly, “You’re just exploiting us commoners! You use the hard-earned money of us commoners to buy such a big house! I hear that you have three or four houses! You don’t even intend to live in such a big house! Why are you taking away our house!”

If these words were spoken 15 years ago, it would definitely cause an uproar. At that time, rich landlords would withhold money from the commoners but build big houses for themselves. That was why later on, the country made these rich people offer their houses to the poor commoners so that they had a place to live.

By now, this policy had already been abolished. The ownership of all these houses had returned to the hands of the original owners. A few people chose to move in while others chose to sell their houses.

As for the people who used to live in the houses, they had no say at all. After all, they had lived there for free for so long and sufficiently enjoyed the benefits.

The neighbors around the area all opened their doors and windows to watch the commotion, but no one was willing to come out to protect Qiao Mei and speak up for her.

“This house belongs to the Liu family! Who are you?” Xia He asked.

“Me! I’m the one who lives in this house!” Su Liang said.

Xia He laughed mockingly. To put it bluntly, he was just a scoundrel who wanted to continue living in the house for free.

“What are you laughing at! I don’t care! You have to open the door! Let us move back in!” Su Liang shouted as he pointed at the locked door.

The main door was broken and dilapidated. It would not be an exaggeration to say that it was just made up of two wooden planks. It was surprising that Su Liang did not simply use force to break in and still waited for Qiao Mei to open the door.

At the very least, he was aware of the need to obey the law. With this, he was already much better than any of Qiao Zhuang's family members.

"You still want to live here for free? No way! We've already bought this house! So it's already our house and we can do whatever we want with it. You should go find another place to live in," Xia He advised kindly.

Qiao Mei grabbed Xia He and wanted to leave. She really did not have the energy to stand here and argue with such a scoundrel. If she could not take a look at the house today, it was fine with her. She could come back tomorrow or the day after.

Su Liang could tell that Qiao Mei wanted to leave and quickly walked forward to block her way. He pointed at Qiao Mei and said, "You can't leave! Hurry up and take out the key!"

"Move aside. If anything happens to me, can you bear the responsibility?" Qiao Mei said as she stroked her stomach slowly.

Su Liang was not afraid at all. Who knew if this pregnancy was real or fake. Besides, it was nothing special for a woman to be pregnant. Back when his mother was pregnant with him, she even rolled down the stairs and yet he was still alive and well. Qiao Mei was just trying to scare him.

"Don't try to scare me! This is just a big belly! I'm not afraid of you! Hurry up and take out the key so that we can continue living here!" Su Liang said.

Qiao Mei's worldview had been completely refreshed. So these people did not want to work hard and did not have a place to live, but they were blaming her for buying this house?

Fortunately, Qiao Mei did not transmigrate to an earlier period of time. Otherwise, she might have completely gone crazy. It was really scary and unreasonable to see what it was like when the poor had more say.

Qiao Mei dodged to one side and continued walking forward. Seeing this, Su Liang reached out and gave Qiao Mei a push.

Chapter 843 - 843 Broken Bones

843 Broken Bones

“Qiao Mei!” Xia He shouted at Qiao Mei out of fear.

Qiao Mei instinctively defended herself. The next second, Su Liang had hit the opposite wall. Everything happened so quickly that Xia He did not even see how Qiao Mei did it even though she was right next to Qiao Mei.

“Qiao Mei! Are you alright! Let me take a look at you!” Xia He looked at Qiao Mei in a panic and checked her from head to toe, afraid that something had happened to her.

She should not have brought Qiao Mei out today! The reason why she was staying by Qiao Mei’s side was to protect and help Qiao Mei. However, she had almost let Qiao Mei get hurt. This was already the second time something similar had happened in front of her.

Probably only the two parties involved knew how Su Liang flew up against the wall.

“I’m fine...” Qiao Mei said gently.

The more Qiao Mei behaved like this, the angrier Xia He became. This person actually dared to launch an attack on the streets in broad daylight. Xia He quickly walked up to Su Liang, grabbed his collar and said fiercely, “Let me tell you! We have bought this house and we can use it however we want! I’m calling the police now. If you have anything to say, say it to the police!”

As soon as Su Liang heard that she was going to call the police, he immediately became afraid. He lay on the ground and rolled around as he shouted, “Boohoo, just you wait. My mother won’t let you off! Mom!”

Xia He took a few steps back in disdain. She did not expect this person to be a mummy’s boy. It was really unexpected.

“What are you looking at! Don’t you hear Doggo calling out for his mother! Close the door now!” a man said as he grabbed a woman.

The neighbors had all lived in this alley for a long time and known one another since they were young. Su Liang’s nickname was Doggo. As Su Liang fell sick often since he was young, his mother gave him this name and said that a lousy name would lead to a better life.

His mother, Old Madam Fan, was quite a character. No one in the entire alley dared to provoke her. Whoever provoked her would not have any peaceful days!

She was a very unreasonable person. Even if you were in the right, you would not be able to fight back in front of her. Even the police officers in this area were helpless against Old Madam Fan.

“I’ll just take another look! Don’t pull me!” the woman said.

She really wanted to see if this newcomer young lady could defeat Old Madam Fan.

“You’re still calling out for your mother! It’s useless even if you ask your ancestors to come!” Xia He shouted in exasperation.

There was a small shop next to the house with a landline phone at the door. Xia He threw a dollar to the shopkeeper and asked him to call the police station to ask them to come and take Su Liang away.

In the end, Xia He asked Qiao Mei to go home and she would go personally to the police station to deal with this matter. Su Liang looked at Qiao Mei in fear. He would much prefer that Xia He went along instead of Qiao Mei. This woman was really too terrifying. He had never seen such strength.

The police officers first brought Su Liang to the hospital for a simple treatment. The result of the examination was beyond Xia He’s expectations. Su Liang had many bone fractures, and both his arms and legs were all broken.

Qiao Mei was really ruthless... No wonder Xia Zhe had previously said that she was very strong.

Even if Qiao Mei attacked too ruthlessly, it was still considered a defensive action. Otherwise, Su Liang would have hurt Qiao Mei and her babies! Thinking about it this way, she felt that Qiao Mei did not hit him hard at all.

After Su Liang had the casts put on, they returned to the police station. Xia He must see Su Liang being punished with her own eyes today, otherwise she would not leave!

If he was lucky, this would be called picking a fight and causing trouble on the streets. Otherwise, it would be considered attempted murder and extortion!

If he managed to escape today, then what if he went looking for trouble with them another day! She could not let this matter rest just like that! If anyone hurt Qiao Mei, she would return the favor a hundredfold! Did he really think that the Xia family was just an empty shell!

Xia He borrowed the phone at the Public Security Bureau to call Xia Wen.

“Eldest brother, I’m at the police station now,” Xia He said self-righteously.

Xia Wen looked at the phone in his hand in shock and hesitated for a long time before saying, “Xia He? Is that you?”

“That’s right! Eldest brother, it’s me! I’m at the police station!” Xia He said.

“What did you do to get sent to the police station?” Xia Wen asked.

This was way too unusual. Xia He was at the police station and yet she could still talk to him so self-righteously. Could it be there to uphold justice for someone?

Chapter 844 - 844 Taking a Fancy to My Son

844 Taking a Fancy to My Son

“Someone bullied Qiao Mei! Come over quickly! People from their side will be coming soon!” Xia He said.

The moment Xia Wen heard that something had happened to Qiao Mei, he quickly hung up the phone, picked up his coat and ran out. This was a person who was as important as their ancestors. If anything happened to her, Xu Lan would skin him alive anytime.

“Where’s my mother! I want to call my mother too! I want to look for my mother! Mom!” Su Liang shouted at the police.

“Sit down obediently! You have already made so many calls!” the police officer said as he pointed at Su Liang.

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The more Xia He looked at Su Liang, the more she found it funny. How could there be such a person? He was already a grown man and yet he only knew how to look for his mother. He was even worse than a kindergarten kid.

“Comrade Xia He, it’s better that you go back first. His mother is not someone to be trifled with. I’m worried that...” the police officer said softly.

Although they were from different units, they were all members of the military and it was only right for them to take care of one another.

Before Xia He could say anything, Old Madam Fan had already arrived at the police station.

“My son! Where did you take my son!” Old Madam Fan roared as she entered the police station hall with heavy footsteps.

When Su Liang heard Old Madam Fan’s voice, he kept yelling out like a little bird asking for food.

“Mom! I’m here! Help!” Su Liang shouted towards the door.

Xia He and the police officers tacitly covered their ears. Such ear-piercing sounds could cost them their lives.

Old Madam Fan did not even look at the police when she entered the room. She did not care about their presence at all but walked up to Su Liang and hugged him tightly.

Xia He almost laughed out loud when she saw this comical scene.

Old Madam Fan weighed about 300 pounds. When she walked, her stomach wobbled. With this hug, she pressed Su Liang against her chest and almost suffocated him to death.

“Which of you beat up my son like this?” Old Madam Fan looked fiercely at the people around her.

Xia He raised her hand fearlessly and said, “He fell down himself.”

“Do you think I’m blind! How can a fall cause such injuries! You must have hit him! Vicious woman, how can you be so ruthless! Even if my son doesn’t want to date you, you can’t be so ruthless!” Old Madam Fan accused.

At this point, everyone present was stunned. Xia He was even more confused. What was going on? What did she mean by dating her son? Who would want such a person?

“What nonsense are you talking about! Who wants to date your son!” Xia He said.

Old Madam Fan curled her lips in disdain. She had seen many young ladies who behaved like this. Her son was so handsome, so how could no one want to woo him? If it was not because this young lady wanted to woo her son, then what else could have happened?

The police officer whispered into Xia He’s ear, “This man is a repeat offender and he often harasses women. Yet his mother always thinks that it’s the girls who have taken a fancy to her son and that the girls are the ones harassing him.”

When Xia He heard that, she wanted to teach Su Liang a lesson even more. She should have kicked him a few more times before coming here to vent the hatred in her heart.

What a scumbag! How dare such a person still have the cheek to live in this world!

“Quick, give me money. My son is beaten up by you to this extent, so you have to give me money! You have to give me... give me 10,000 dollars!” Old Madam Fan said.

“You don’t even know what your son has done, yet you’re asking me for money. I haven’t even asked you for money yet!” Xia He said.

“What else can it be? Isn’t it because you took a fancy to my son? Then when he rejected you, you became so angry that you hit him,” Old Madam Fan said.

Xia He gritted her teeth in anger. How could there be such a narcissistic person! She would sooner fall for a dog more than this woman’s son!

Xia He looked at Su Liang even more fiercely. Su Liang was so frightened that he quickly hid behind Old Madam Fan and said, “Mom, I’m scared. She bullied me! You have to stand up for me!”

“Don’t worry, my son! I’ll definitely get an explanation for you!” Old Madam Fan said indignantly.

Xia He only wished that Xia Wen would arrive quickly. She really could not stand this situation anymore. If Xia Wen did not come soon, it was very likely that she would start a fight at the police station. If that happened, Xia Wen would really reach here in time to bail her out.

“Auntie, this matter is really your son’s fault. Everyone saw your son attacking someone on the streets,” the police officer said.

Chapter 845 - 845 The Stall Is Smashed Up

845 The Stall Is Smashed Up

“Impossible! My son is even afraid of killing chickens! How can he attack someone on the streets! You must be lying to me!” Old Madam Fan said.

Xia He kept her eyes fixed on the door. This was the first time she looked forward to seeing Xia Wen so much. Only Xia Wen could handle such matters. She really could not hold it in anymore.

Just as Old Madam Fan was getting tired of making her one-sided arguments, Xia Wen finally arrived.

Xia He looked at him with a great deal of gratitude in her eyes. She quickly patted Xia Wen’s shoulder and said to the police officer, “My eldest brother is here. I’m leaving. Talk to my brother about the rest.”

Xia He had already told Xia Wen the whole story over the phone. Furthermore, during this period of time, the Xia family’s spies had also already reported this matter to Xia Wen. Therefore, she did not need to stay here anymore.

“Hey, hey, hey! What right do you have to leave!” Old Madam Fan asked as she pointed at Xia He.

Xia Wen blocked Old Madam Fan’s line of sight and said, “I’m her eldest brother. You can talk to me.”

Old Madam Fan looked at Xia Wen’s refined appearance and thought that he was someone easy to bully. She sat on the stool and thought about how to trick him. In reality though, their good days were over.

Li Gui packed up some popcorn at home together with the remaining seeds. Tonight, she still went to the cinema to set up a stall. As soon as she arrived, many people gathered around to buy things from her. The popcorn also sold very well.

“What is this? Is it a new product?” a customer asked.

Li Gui said warmly, “This popcorn is our family’s new product! It’s sweet and delicious! It’s also 50 cents a bag. Everyone, come and try it!”

At this moment, a group of people walked over with their hands in their pockets. They pushed through the crowd and came in front of Li Gui.

“Get out of the way! Get the hell out of the way!”

“Can’t you see that we’re here! Move aside quickly!”

Li Gui hurriedly shielded the two children behind her and looked nervously at the men in front of her.

“Um... big brothers, what do you... want to buy?” Li Gui said in a trembling voice.

The person leading the group was a peddler in the vicinity, though it was not the person who had a stall at the entrance of the cinema. All the peddlers had seen their business getting worse by the day. It was all because of the seeds and popcorn that Li Gui sold that made it difficult for everyone to do business.

The man in the lead stepped on Li Gui’s stall and said disdainfully, “Who says you can set up a stall here?”

“I... anyone can use any random place nearby...” Li Gui whispered.

The man kicked the stall over, causing popcorn and seeds to fall all over the ground. Zhang Qin angrily broke free from Li Gui’s arms and pointed at the man as she shouted, “Why did you kick over our stall! Apologize!”

“Come back!” Li Gui was so frightened that she hurriedly pulled Zhang Qin into her arms and apologized to the man, “I’m sorry, big brother! That... the child is insensible and she didn’t do it on purpose! I’m sorry! We’ll leave now! We won’t set up a stall here anymore!”

These people’s goal was not to stop Li Gui from setting up the stall today, but to get her to tell them where she got the seeds from. They wanted to know where she had bought them and how she got them so that they could also make money. They did not like the fact that she was the only one making money.

“As for us, we’re not here to cause trouble for you on purpose. We really can’t survive anymore. By doing this, you’ve left us brothers without any income. We haven’t had any sales for three to four days. Just tell us where you got these seeds,” the man asked patiently.

“My daughter brought this from the village! It’s not available locally! We don’t have any more left!” Li Gui said truthfully.

However, the man did not believe what Li Gui said at all. How could such a good thing be all gone? She must be lying to them.

“Really nothing left?” the man asked.

Li Gui quickly nodded and said, “It’s true! These are my last batch of seeds! There’s really no more!”

“It’s alright if you don’t want to talk. Brothers! Smash all these things!” With that, the man walked away coolly.

The people he brought along smashed Li Gui’s stall to pieces and even removed the wooden planks. The small three-wheeled vehicle that Li Gui bought some time ago was also smashed up and had all its wheels removed. Now, it was just a pile of scrap metal.

This was the first time Li Gui had encountered such a thing. She did not expect these people to be even worse than the nasty people in the village. The people standing around did not dare to go up to help, afraid that they would get implicated.

Chapter 846 A Good Mindset

The two children hid behind Li Gui and watched helplessly as these people destroyed their stall, or perhaps more accurately, destroyed their hopes.

The popcorn was all trampled underfoot and the bags were all tore. Gradually, the men got tired but by that time, almost everything was already destroyed.

"Either you quickly tell us about the supply channel for the seeds or don't set up a stall here again. If you don't believe us, you can give it a try. Remember, if you want to do business in this area, you have to listen to me." The man smiled mockingly.

With that, he left with the other men. One of them even gave the three-wheeled vehicle another kick out of anger while leaving. The already broken three-wheeled vehicle completely fell apart.

Those people disappeared as they laughed loudly and mockingly.

It was only after the men had left did the people around dare to go forward to take a look at Li Gui and the two children, and help them with the cleaning up.

"Sister... you should ask your family members to come and help. Otherwise, how are you going to go back?" a kind-hearted person said while holding Li Gui.

Li Gui sighed deeply. She had also felt like contacting Qiao Mei to come and help her, but Qiao Mei was a pregnant woman herself. It would not be good if it affected her pregnancy.

After all, she had only lost a stall. Once she had money, she could buy another one. These items that they lost were just items that she could produce again anytime. They could always make more as long as they were uninjured.

"It's fine. I'll make my way back slowly. Thank you," Li Gui said with a gentle smile.

Seeing that Li Gui remained strong, everyone did not say anything else. They helped her pack up her things and then left one after another.

Zhang Qin and Zhang Wei were sensible enough not to cry and quietly packed up the pieces of the three-wheeled vehicle. Zhang Wei even went to ask the shopkeeper at the road intersection for help and borrowed his vehicle.

The two children did not fall apart because of this sudden incident. It was already rare for such young children not to cry when something like this happened, but they even knew how to help her out.

Tears slowly flowed down Li Gui's face. If not for the fact that these children had to follow her around, they would not have needed to go through so much.

"Mom! We managed to borrow a vehicle! That kind-hearted grandpa lent it to us! We can just return it to him tomorrow! Grandpa even gave me and my sister a piece of crystal candy!" Zhang Wei said excitedly as he struggled to pull the three-wheeled vehicle.

"I found an intact bag of popcorn! Mom, look!" Zhang Qin struggled to dig it out from the corner and turned around to see Li Gui crying silently. She ran over worriedly and asked, "Mom... why are you crying?"

Li Gui quickly wiped the tears off her face and smiled at the children. "It's nothing. Mom just has sand in my eyes. It's not a big deal."

Zhang Qin stood on tiptoe and gently blew at Li Gui's eyes as she said, "The last time the same thing happened to me, elder sister blew on my eyes for me like this. She said that it would be fine after she blew on them. So mom, you should feel better too!"

Looking at Zhang Qin's innocent and expectant expression, Li Gui relaxed. She patted the two children's heads and said, "Yes, it doesn't hurt anymore. You're all so amazing. Let's go home."

After getting on the three-wheeled vehicle, the three of them sang their favorite song as they traveled along the small alley. They chatted and laughed along the way and did not look like they had just been bullied at all.

Qiao Mei had nothing to do at night so she went to Li Gui's house to take a look. It was getting very late, but Li Gui and the children had not returned yet. She stood at the door and looked around.

By right, they should have returned long ago. Their family's products had always been the most popular and would definitely be sold out in less than an hour. Why were they not back yet?

Not long after, Qiao Mei heard their singing and quickly stood at the door to welcome them.

"Why are you so late today? I'm waiting for you to come back!" Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui let the two children go in first while she pushed the vehicle into the courtyard. Qiao Mei could tell at a glance that this was not their family's vehicle.

"What's with this? Where's ours? Do we already have enough money to buy a new one?" Qiao Mei asked with a laugh.

Li Gui scratched her head in embarrassment and said, "Our... our stall was smashed up by some people and our vehicle is gone too. However, the children and I are fine. We borrowed this vehicle from someone else and will return it tomorrow."

Chapter 847 - 847 Begging Eldest Brother for Help

847 Begging Eldest Brother for Help

Qiao Mei frowned when she heard that. She had long guessed that there would definitely be people who would be unhappy with Li Gui's products selling so well, but she did not expect these people to be so daring.

"Did you make a police report?" Qiao Mei asked, suppressing the anger in her heart.

"No..." Li Gui whispered.

She was already used to such things. In the past, when she set up a stall in the county city, the stall would also get smashed and she would get scolded. Sometimes, those people would even snatch all her money and even beat her up.

Setting up a stall was already doing something that was against the rules. If she resisted, it would be considered a light punishment if they only reported her and got her arrested. Otherwise, it could be as serious as getting fined or going to jail!

"It's fine. Let's just rest at home for the next two days and treat it as a vacation. The children have to go for lessons during the next two days anyway," Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui was worried that Qiao Mei would think that she was weak and could not protect the children well. She whispered, "I... I..."

"I understand. It's fine," Qiao Mei said gently.

Any person who had just arrived and encountered such a thing would be afraid. It was already good enough that she knew how to protect herself and their children immediately.

Qiao Mei did not intend to reprimand Li Gui. Instead, she felt sorry for Li Gui. She had thought she was bringing Li Gui here to enjoy a good life, but she did not expect Li Gui to be bullied instead.

After consoling Li Gui, Qiao Mei slowly made her way to her own house and bumped into Xia He who had just returned. During the entire afternoon, Xia He was at the Public Security Bureau dealing with Su Liang and Old Madam Fan. When Xia Wen finally arrived, she went to her workplace to settle some matters and had just finished her work.

"It's already so late. Why aren't you asleep yet?" Xia He asked.

"Not yet. I went to see my mother just now. Something happened," Qiao Mei said.

Xia He quickly asked, "What's the matter? Has it been resolved?"

Qiao Mei shook her head and pulled Xia He into her bedroom. She still needed the Xia family's help in this matter.

"My mother's stall was smashed by someone. She's fine, but she was so scared that she didn't call the police. I'm thinking about asking eldest brother if he can help..." Qiao Mei said.

"These scumbags have really gone overboard! They still dare to cause trouble for our Xia family in the capital! They really don't want to live anymore! Just you wait, I'll talk to eldest brother tomorrow!" Xia He said angrily as she smacked the table.

“I think I should be the one to talk to him about this. After all, it’s related to my mother. I’m quite embarrassed...” Qiao Mei said.

Xia He held Qiao Mei’s hand and said, “Don’t worry, your mother’s business is the Xia family’s business. Will your mother stay away if something happens to the Xia family? Besides, I like your mother very much. We can ask eldest brother to settle everything in one shot, including what happened today. This way, he won’t have to run around.”

“What? You also told eldest brother about what happened today?” Qiao Mei said in surprise.

Initially, Xia He wanted to handle it herself, but she was really too angry. Although she was part of the army, she was only in the military art troupe and only knew how to sing and dance. She did not have any relevant connections. She could still help with things like recommending Zhang Qin and Zhang Miao to enter the art troupe, but she could not handle these kinds of family matters.

Xia He was really too angry, so she asked Xia Wen to come and handle the matter. Although the culprit did not cause any harm to Qiao Mei and her, who knew what could happen next time!

“That’s right. Eldest brother is really good at dealing with these things. He handles all the family matters. There’s no need to stand on ceremony! We’re all family!” Xia He said with a smile.

Qiao Mei’s heart warmed when she saw Xia He’s smile. So this was how it felt to be loved by her family.

“Then I won’t stand on ceremony!” Qiao Mei said.

The Xia family showed completely different attitudes towards Qiao Mei’s maternal family and Tan Jing’s maternal family. If what happened today had happened to the Tan family, the Xia family definitely would not have helped them like this.

Back when the Xia family was in trouble, Qiao Mei did not hesitate to use the ginseng to help the Xia family tide over the difficulties. On the other hand, not only did Tan Jing simply hang up the phone, she did not even manage to raise a single cent when Xia Wen returned home.

All their money had gone to the Tan family. Although Xia Wen did not say anything for so many years, it did not mean that he did not know anything or that the Xia family had no idea of what was going on.

It was just that Xu Lan and Xia Mao were unwilling to pass any comments about the young couple's family matters.

Moreover, Qiao Qiang had saved Xia Jun's life back then and Qiao Qiang did not ask for anything in return. He did not even tell the Xia family that he was coming to the capital this time. Even when his own family prepared a house for him, it ended up helping to make the Xia family's dream come true as well.

Now that Li Gui was in trouble, they would help her in any way they could.

Chapter 848 - 848 Whose Birthday Is It

848 Whose Birthday Is It

The next day, everyone still went over to Li Gui's house for a meal. However, Li Gui did not have to cook this time round. Xia He and Qiao Mei went to the state-owned restaurant located outside the alley early in the day to order a whole table of dishes and arranged for the food to be delivered.

It was too difficult for the two of them to carry so many things, so they might as well spend an extra two dollars and have the restaurant send it over.

Not everyone could enjoy such treatment. There were guidelines to follow when ordering food at a state-owned restaurant. People who could order food at these restaurants were either rich or from prominent families. There were rules on the types of fish, meat and vegetables that one could order. The private rooms were also not places that ordinary people could go to.

This meal might help to settle everyone's nerves after the traumatic event yesterday.

"Xiao Wei, Xiao Qin! Go and wake the other two!" Qiao Mei shouted as she entered the courtyard.

Zhang Miao had recovered quite well during this period of time. In the afternoon, Qiao Qiang would always bring Zhang Chao and Zhang Miao along when he went for his walk. The two children could now run and jump, but Zhang Miao still limped a little when she ran. After all, she had to lie down for such a long time and was still not used to running all of a sudden.

After coming to the capital, Zhang Chao's personality gradually became more cheerful and he could talk and laugh with everyone. Although he was still a little afraid to see strangers, there were already a lot of improvements.

"These two children still like to laze in bed as usual," Xia He said with a laugh.

Zhang Wei and Xia He cleaned the table and set up the cutlery. Soon, the people from the state-owned restaurant delivered the food. The 12 dishes filled the table to the brim. Anyone who did not know better would think that they were celebrating the new year!

Zhang Miao came out of the room in a hurry and almost fell down when she walked out.

"Slow down, slow down! This child is really..." Li Gui smiled helplessly.

"Wow! There's so much delicious food! Is it someone's birthday today?" Zhang Miao said happily.

Qiao Mei sat on the stool and said, "Your elder sister Xia He paid for everything today. You have to thank her properly."

Zhang Miao walked up to Xia He obediently and held her hands together as she said, "Best wishes! Happy birthday to elder sister Xia He! I hope you'll be as beautiful every day in the future as you are now~"

Xia He laughed out loud when she heard what Zhang Miao said. This was the first time she had seen such a sweet-talking child! She liked it very much!

"You're such a sweet-talker, but it's not my birthday today. I just feel like eating this today," Xia He said with a smile.

“Can you eat it whenever you feel like it! Then if I want to eat it in the future, can I eat it too!” Zhang Miao asked curiously.

Qiao Mei called Zhang Miao to her side and said, “Aren’t you all earning money with mom now? All of you have money that you earned yourself.”

“Yes,” Zhang Miao replied.

“So as long as you have enough money to buy what you like, you can just buy it. If you don’t have enough money, you can save up for it. If you like something and you think it’s a necessity which you need every day, then you can come back and look for elder sister. Elder sister will help you think of a way,” Qiao Mei said.

Zhang Miao nodded, not fully understanding what she heard. There were indeed things that she liked and things that she did not like, but when she was in the Zhang family in the past, they would scold her for that.

They would say that she was daydreaming and that everything good had to be given to Zhang Qian and Zhang Cong first. The girls could not monopolize anything, nor could they have anything they liked. Otherwise, they would get beaten up.

Things were so much better now! She could buy whatever she liked!

“Alright! I understand!” Zhang Miao said happily.

The family gathered together and ate happily. After the meal, Qiao Mei found a reason for Qiao Qiang to bring the four children out to play. The rest of them wanted to discuss something at home and she also did not want Qiao Qiang to worry about what happened yesterday.

As she watched Qiao Qiang leave, Qiao Mei suddenly had the urge to buy two walnut palm massagers for Qiao Qiang to play with. Qiao Qiang did not want to have pets. Grandpa Zhou from next door mentioned that he wanted to give Qiao Qiang one of his pet birds. Qiao Qiang was so scared by the idea that he did not go to look for Grandpa Zhou for two days.

He was a careless man and could not take good care of these little animals. Every time, he would use this as an excuse to reject the idea of having pets. However, he had raised Qiao Mei on his own and she was brought up so well and beautiful.

Actually, this old man was just afraid of trouble!

It was best to just buy two walnut palm massagers for him to play with. Not only could it relieve his boredom, but they looked nice as well. It was like killing two birds with one stone.

After clearing up, Xia He told Li Gui about what happened to Qiao Mei at the new house yesterday. She did not go into too much detail, worried that Li Gui would be afraid.

Chapter 849 The Su Family

"Why didn't you tell me immediately after you encountered such a thing! It's so dangerous! When I saw you last night, why didn't you say anything!" Li Gui said fearfully.

"Nothing happened to me. These are all small matters and I don't take them seriously," Qiao Mei said indifferently.

As if this could be considered a small matter! She could have lost Qiao Mei! If anything went wrong, what would she do! Although she could now support herself and the children in the capital, Qiao Mei was still her greatest source of support. If she did not have Qiao Mei, her life would completely collapse.

When Xia Zhe returned, how would she explain it to her son-in-law!

"No! I won't set up the stall anymore. I'll stay at home and watch over you!" Li Gui said firmly.

Qiao Mei quickly knocked on the table and said, "Get real! Nothing happened to me! Look at all of you. How are you going to support these children if you don't set up the stall? Didn't you say that you want to be self-reliant and buy this house from me?"

By now, Li Gui had enough money to cover the expenses of these children for two months in the capital. In two months, Qiao Mei would have given birth and then she would be able to go out and work again. She could set up a stall anywhere.

"But..." Li Gui was about to say something when Qiao Mei interrupted her.

"Just concentrate on your work. I still have elder sister with me!" Qiao Mei said as she patted Xia He.

Xia He immediately understood what it meant. She raised three fingers to the sky and said, "Auntie! I swear to you! I will definitely take good care of Qiao Mei! I won't leave her side!"

Seeing that Qiao Mei and Xia He were so insistent, Li Gui did not say anything else. She still intended to be more mindful and would go and see Qiao Mei whenever she was free.

After they spoke about what happened yesterday, Xia He went to look for Xia Wen to ask him about the situation. Today, Li Gui would rest at home and not go out to set up the stall. She would wait for Xia Wen to bring those troublemakers to justice before going back.

"I've already asked around. During this period of time, the government is supportive of the common people doing business on their own. Eldest brother is in charge of this area. Don't worry and just do it," Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui was completely relieved to hear this. She had always been worried about this matter. If she continued to set up her stall but Xia Wen could not catch those troublemakers and she caused trouble for the Xia family instead, then they might as well not investigate this matter.

There was happiness and laughter at Qiao Mei's house, but the Su family was about to have a hard time.

Old Madam Fan, Su Liang and his younger brother, Su Yang, originally lived in the house which Qiao Mei had bought over. At that time, each of them had a very spacious room. Now, they had to live in a small house allocated by Old Madam Fan's workplace unit. There was only one bedroom and one living room. Old Madam Fan's two sons slept in the living room and she slept in the room. The three of them were squeezed together and there was no space to move about.

Now that Su Liang had his arms and legs broken, it was inconvenient for him to move around and Old Madam Fan had to let him sleep in the room. She felt uncomfortable and very frustrated.

"Your elder brother was bullied so badly! Yet you're still playing at home! Hurry up and get lost and go to work!" Old Madam Fan gave Su Yang a hard kick.

Su Yang was famous for his nickname on this street and he was even very proud of it.

His brother, Su Liang, was called "Doggo" and he was called "Flower Thief". In comparison, his nickname indeed sounded better.

People had a reason for giving him this nickname. Almost every girl on this street had been bullied by these two brothers before. There were even girls who jumped into the well after being bullied!

Su Liang did not really dare to do anything drastic. He would steal one girl's underwear today and another girl's underclothes tomorrow. Sometimes, he would even secretly peep at girls when they were in the shower.

He was always doing such sneaky stuff. Sometimes, he would even steal eggs, white flour and noodles from other families. These things could not be bought even with coupons. Every household had a quota every year and ordinary families could not even get their hands on them!

Every time the victims went to argue with Old Madam Fan, she would scold them back and chase them out. She had scolded everyone on the street and no one was her match.

Su Yang dawdled for a long time before getting up to go to work. His job was actually Old Madam Fan's old job. Old Madam Fan had retired this year, so she had given her spot to Su Yang.

She had intended to pass it to Su Liang, but he felt that the work at the textile factory was tiring and the pay was too low. He might as well go out and play with his scoundrel friends! Those people could still give him some benefits sometimes.

Chapter 850 - 850 Ambiguous Relationship

850 Ambiguous Relationship

“Alright, alright! I know!” Su Yang said impatiently and pushed his bicycle out to go to work.

When he arrived at the main door of the factory, he saw the guard standing at the door to record the names of the late arrivals. Su Yang suddenly sped up and entered the factory with a whoosh, not giving the guard a chance to stop him.

“Xiao Yu! Why are you here! Let me send you there!” Su Yang stopped the bicycle and shouted at Qiao Yu.

The entire factory occupied a very large area and the individual workshops were very far from one another so everyone had bicycles, except for Qiao Yu.

!!

The people around all stared at Su Yang and Qiao Yu. It was no longer a secret that Su Yang was wooing Qiao Yu. This had been going on for almost half a month.

All the good-looking young ladies in the factory had been targeted by Su Yang before. He had set his eyes on Qiao Yu not long after she came.

Qiao Yu looked at the people around her shyly, but if she did not take up Su Yang’s offer of a ride, she would not be able to reach the workshop on time. The time one arrived at one’s post in the workshop and the time one entered the main door were two different timings. Each post was at a different location so people would reach their posts at different times.

The guard at the door only checked the arrival time of people who did not stay within the factory. Qiao Yu lived in the dormitory for singles in the factory, so she did not need to be checked by the guard.

“Alright...” Qiao Yu lowered her head and quickly ran over to sit on Su Yang’s backseat.

Su Yang hummed a tune and rode leisurely to the door of Qiao Yu’s workshop, as if he was afraid that no one could see them.

“Qiao Yu! I’ll treat you to lunch! Remember to wait for me in the canteen!” After yelling out at Qiao Yu, Su Yang rode back to his own post.

Qiao Yu stood at the door, not knowing what to do. She shouted in the direction where Su Yang had left, “Who wants you to treat me!”

Everyone looked at Qiao Yu a little expectantly and she quickly explained, “There’s nothing between us!”

“Oh my, Qiao Yu, we’re not such close-minded people. Don’t be so worried!” an older woman in the factory said with a laugh.

In their eyes, Qiao Yu and Su Yang were a perfect match! They could not be more suitable!

Qiao Yu was an unregistered resident, and they did not know where her household register was! Moreover, she was from the countryside. It was simply a blessing for her to be able to reach the capital and enter a state-owned factory like theirs. If they could do the same with only Qiao Yu’s qualifications, they would be so happy that they would wake up from laughing too hard in their dreams.

However, Qiao Yu was still not satisfied. Su Yang was already wooing her so intensely, but Qiao Yu still did not want to accept him. She neither accepted or rejected him and just kept him in suspense.

Qiao Yu did not like Su Yang at all. In fact, she had already quietly asked around about Su Yang’s family. The rest of the workers used to be colleagues with Old Madam Fan, so there was nothing much they could tell her. They could only pick some nice things to say.

Su Yang was capable and hardworking. His family had a household register in the city and his family background was not bad. His family consisted of his mother and four other siblings. Su Yang was the fifth child.

His two older brothers and one older sister had already gotten married and started their own families. Their children were all quite grown up now, and only Su Liang and Su Yang were not married yet. His mother used to work in this factory.

He had a household register in the capital, a house, a good job and a good family background. All these qualities were more than enough for Qiao Yu, but she still felt unsatisfied.

Why was Qiao Mei able to find a rich and powerful family to marry into and live like a rich wife who did not have to do anything while she had to suffer in this factory?

At the moment, she only earned 35 dollars a month. Even if she lived in the factory, this amount of money was barely enough for her to eat. She did not have a household register and could not get any meat coupons, so she could only eat vegetables.

Although her life was much better than before, she was still not satisfied.

“Sigh, let’s get to work,” Qiao Yu said with her head lowered.

The work at the textile factory was very tough and tiring. Once it got busy, everyone lost track of time and the morning passed very quickly. When it was lunch break, they all went to the canteen to eat. Everyone brought their mess tins and queued up to get food, including Qiao Yu.

However, Qiao Yu did not seem to be in a hurry to eat. She kept letting the people behind her cut the queue and go in front of her. People who did not know better would think that she was being so nice!

“Hey! Look, Qiao Yu is queuing up over there!” an older woman said as she pointed at Qiao Yu.

Another older woman did not even look up. She kept eating with her head lowered and said, “What else can she be doing? She’s waiting for Su Yang there. She looks as if she’s addicted to queuing. Anyone can cut the queue and get food before her.”

“Hahahaha, didn’t she say that she has nothing to do with Su Yang? Why is she still helping him to queue up for food?” the first woman said as she snickered.