

Fat Wife 861

Chapter 861 Treat My Son First

The two of them even got into a fight. Sun Juan beat up Old Madam Fan more harshly, which made it harder for her to explain herself at the police station. She even had to compensate Old Madam Fan with a large sum of money. Every time Old Madam Fan ran into Sun Juan, she would behave arrogantly, as if she was afraid that no one knew that she had won the fight.

From then on, everyone avoided arguing with Old Madam Fan. They were all afraid that Old Madam Fan would make things difficult for them, so they held back from fighting with Old Madam Fan even if they got into an argument with her.

According to Old Madam Fan, whoever made the first move would need to fork out the money and whoever hit harder would have to bear full responsibility.

The police brought Li Gui, Old Madam Fan and the rest to a nearby clinic. This clinic was known to the Xia family and Xia Jun was acquainted with the older owners of this clinic.

"Quickly check what's wrong with them," the police officer said to the doctor.

The doctor first examined Zhang Wei, who was in Xia He's arms. Other than the wound on his head, there was nothing else on his body. The doctor closed the wound up with four stitches.

It looked like there would be a scar in the future. Xia He was worried that the anesthesia would cause problems to the child's brain in the future. She used to hear Old Madam Kong saying that some children became fools after being anesthetized. Although she did not know if it was true, she was still a little afraid, so she asked the doctor to use local anesthesia on Zhang Wei and proceed with the stitches once the anesthesia took effect.

Fortunately, Zhang Wei was manly enough to tolerate it. He did not make a sound when the doctor was stitching up.

"When are you going to be done! My son's face is still waiting for treatment! Move on once you're done!" Old Madam Fan shouted rudely at the doctor.

The doctor rolled his eyes at Old Madam Fan. He had never seen such a noisy person. She had been chattering non-stop since she entered the hospital and she was still talking even now.

Is it not tiring! Are you not thirsty!

"Wait for your turn! Can't you see that I'm dealing with a patient here! This is the hospital, don't make a fuss," the doctor said unhappily.

"Hey! Who do you think you are! You're a doctor. It's your job to treat illnesses and save lives! If you don't treat my son now, I'm going to ask the police to arrest you! I'm going to close down your small clinic!" Old Madam Fan shouted.

The police officers stood at the side and looked at Old Madam Fan quietly. If Old Madam Fan called the police now, they would break the record and be at the scene within the shortest period of time.

"If you want to save your son, then don't talk. Otherwise, you can go somewhere else," the doctor said.

He was not an immortal and could not multitask. He must prioritize and deal with the most serious injuries first. The wounds on her son's face would form scabs and heal in no time.

Although he was a doctor, he was not a dog that could be ordered around at will. If she was not satisfied with the way he worked, she could go elsewhere to see a doctor! He would not serve her!

In order to make Xia He pay the medical fees, Old Madam Fan was unwilling to go to another clinic. If she had to pay first and then Xia He refused to reimburse her, then she would have wasted her money.

They would see the doctor here! She was not going anywhere!

After the doctor finished treating Zhang Wei, he went to examine Su Yang. Other than the flesh wounds on his face, there was nothing else. They just had to disinfect the wounds on his face.

He did not need to do such things himself. The young nurse next to him could do it.

"Wait! Why do you ignore my son! Why is this nurse the one treating my son's wounds!" Old Madam Fan grabbed the young nurse and questioned the doctor.

The young nurse's wrist was held tightly in Old Madam Fan's hand. It was so painful that her tears were about to fall.

"This patient's family member! Please let go!" the young nurse said with tears in her eyes.

What Old Madam Fan detested the most was a woman behaving delicately, like what the young nurse was doing now. She felt that this behavior was all an act to seduce men.

If not for the fact that there were always such sweet young things hanging around her two sons, her sons would not have been deceived and be unable to control themselves!

It was all the fault of these young women! It had absolutely nothing to do with her sons!

"Stop being so hypocritical! Why are you crying! A slut like you should be shut into a wicker basket and drowned! Are you trying to seduce my son with such behavior! Let me tell you, people in our family don't fall for this! Get lost!" Old Madam Fan gave the young nurse a hard shove. The young nurse lost her balance and took a few steps back. Seeing this, Li Gui kindly went forward to help her, preventing her from falling to the ground.

Chapter 862 - 862 Becoming a Fool

862 Becoming a Fool

"If you want treatment, then let us do our job. If not, go somewhere else! Don't cause trouble here!" the doctor roared as he pointed at Old Madam Fan.

"Treat my son!" Old Madam Fan shouted at the top of her lungs.

The police officer could not do anything about Old Madam Fan and could only say to the doctor, "Please just treat this patient."

The doctor shook the dust off his clothes impatiently and took the things from the nurse, telling her to go back to the ward and take care of the other patients first.

He slowly wiped the dust off the wounds on Su Yang's face and disinfected them properly before applying medicine. As these were just superficial injuries, there was no need for bandages.

If the wounds were bandaged, it would not be conducive to the healing. As long as the medicine was applied on time every day, the wounds would recover.

It was certain that there would be scars on the face. In any case, Su Yang was not very good-looking, so it did not matter if there were scars or not.

Xia He did not intend to pursue the matter of compensation with Old Madam Fan. She just wanted Old Madam Fan to stop disrupting their lives in the future. They all lived in the same area, only two streets apart. When Li Gui went to set up a stall at the train station during the day, Old Madam Fan even brought people along with her to look for Li Gui.

They really did not have the time to handle all these. The children at home still had to go about their lives.

As usual, they handed this matter over to the police. It was already late and they had to go back early. Zhang Qin and Zhang Miao were still at home alone!

"You want to leave! No way!" Old Madam Fan quickly blocked Xia He's path.

She clearly saw that Xia He did not pay the clinic a single cent. Could it be that Xia He wanted to simply go off and leave her to fork out the money herself!

She did not care much about most things, but when it came to money, she would not lose a single cent!

"Let's talk at the police station tomorrow. We're going back now," Xia He said with a frown.

The people at the clinic knew her family. At the end of each month, they would go to the Xia family's house to settle the medical costs. Xia Jun would visit this clinic if he had any illnesses like headaches or fever.

Old Madam Fan still refused to give up. She stopped Xia He and said, "My son was beaten up by you just like that. Don't you need to bear any responsibility at all? Give me money quickly!"

"Didn't you beat up my younger brother first? Shouldn't you be the one to give us money?" Before Old Madam Fan could react, Xia He continued, "Isn't the rule supposed to be whoever makes the first move needs to fork out the money?"

She had heard about this argument from Xia Wen. At that time, Xia Wen had treated it as a joke and came back to tell Xia He about it.

Old Madam Fan was stunned on the spot. Why did this sentence sound so familiar? The two police officers were also snickering at the side. They did not expect anyone to be able to subdue Old Madam Fan. They had been mediating among the neighbors for so many years and Old Madam Fan had always been a problematic source of trouble for them.

"Then you have to pay for my son! You hit my son! You have to pay!" Old Madam Fan said.

Xia He pointed at Zhang Wei's head and asked, "Then how do you plan to settle the issue of my younger brother's wound? You should compensate us as well. So should we compensate each other?"

Old Madam Fan had yet to realize the severity of the matter. How much would it cost for a child to get stitches? It was probably about 10 dollars.

"Alright!" Old Madam Fan said.

Xia He turned around and asked the doctor, "Did you just say that there will be aftereffects from the injuries on my brother's head?"

The doctor stammered, "Ah... yes! There's such a possibility!"

Old Madam Fan pointed at the doctor in exasperation and said, "You're in cahoots! This child looks so lively, how can there be anything wrong with him!"

Zhang Wei and Xia He looked at each other and quickly understood what each other was thinking. Zhang Wei held his head like he was in discomfort and slowly leaned against Xia He, whimpering from time to time.

"Look! My younger brother is already in so much pain! What if it affects his intelligence in the future! My younger brother is only 12 years old! Is he going to be a fool for the rest of his life!" Xia He said tearfully.

Zhang Wei echoed, "Oh my~ It hurts~ My head is so dizzy~ I'm going to die~"

In the past, Old Madam Fan had often used this method to deal with others. Now that someone else was using it on her, she finally knew how discomforting it was.

"Then my son's face is also ruined! You have to compensate us too!" Old Madam Fan said as she held onto Su Yang.

Chapter 863 - 863 Having Dreams

863 Having Dreams

Xia He agreed readily. She turned to the doctor and asked, "Doctor, how much does his treatment cost?"

He would recover after applying medicine. The treatment on his entire face would need only around 10 dollars. If they added some ointment and anti-inflammatory medicine, it would cost about 15 dollars.

"Not much, just about 15 to 20 dollars," the doctor said.

"What about the cost of my brother's treatment?" Xia He asked.

Under normal circumstances, it was very difficult to discover a head injury immediately. They would need to do a brain CT scan and a blood test to know if there was anything wrong. Otherwise, the doctor would not be able to tell with the naked eye.

In a big hospital, a brain CT scan would cost 200 dollars each time. Moreover, one would need to make an appointment to get a queue number. Only a few hospitals had such large equipment. A small clinic like his did not have it.

“We still have to continue to check on the brain issue. It’s a very long process. The early stage treatment will probably cost about 1,000 dollars, and the special medicine for the brain is very expensive. It’s hard to say. The main thing is to look at the results. Also, it might not even be curable,” the doctor said seriously.

If Xia He did not know that the doctor was just putting on an act together with her, she would really have collapsed to the ground in fear from what he said. If Zhang Wei really turned into a fool after getting beaten up, she did not know how to go home and explain it to Qiao Mei.

“You heard that, right? We don’t want much from you. We’ll just take 1,000 dollars. Let’s consider your medical fees to be 20 dollars. Just deduct the amount off when you pay us,” Xia He said.

Old Madam Fan was unhappy. Her son’s injuries were also on the head! Why was it that the doctor did not give her son a checkup!

“What about my son’s loss of income! Nutrition fees! And compensation for emotional damage! Pay me for all of these!” Old Madam Fan said.

“Auntie, you want nutrition fees? My brother is so young, can you imagine how much nutrition he needs? Will your son live longer or will my brother live longer? You can go and think about it. It’s only 1,000 dollars. We won’t fuss about anything else.” After saying that, Xia He left with Li Gui and Zhang Wei.

A chauffeur from the Xia family had specially come to pick them up. When Xia He arrived at this clinic, she had already asked them to inform the Xia family to send a car to pick them up.

In the car, Xia He could not help but praise Zhang Wei. His acting skills were top-notch even at such a young age! It would be a pity if he did not become an actor.

“Xiao Wei, tell me the truth. Do you really not feel uncomfortable?” Xia He was still a little worried.

“Elder sister Xia He, I’m really fine. It’s just that my wound hurts a little. Everything else is fine. I feel great!” Zhang Wei said with a smile.

Li Gui felt relieved. She was glad that the child was fine, but she did not expect to encounter such an issue. If Xia He had not rushed over in time, they would probably be finished.

“Xiao He, thank you so much. If you hadn’t come today, we don’t know what would have happened to us,” Li Gui said fearfully.

“Auntie, don’t worry. Nothing bad will happen,” Xia He said.

She would get Xia Wen to transfer a few of Xia Mao’s guards over tomorrow and get them to keep an eye on Qiao Mei and Li Gui. She did not want any more such incidents.

Xia He suddenly recalled that Zhang Wei had once used a small wooden stick to spar with Zhang Chao in the courtyard. From the way he moved, it looked like someone had previously given him pointers and it did not look like he was playing around.

If one did not want to be bullied, one must know how to protect oneself. This was something that Xia Xiu had taught her when she was young! Ever since she was young, she had been the little tyrant of the military compound and had bullied all the boys in the compound together with Zheng Yuan.

“Xiao Wei, do you want to become a soldier like your brother-in-law?” Xia He asked.

At the mention of this, Zhang Wei immediately perked up. He widened his eyes and looked at Xia He and asked, “Elder sister Xia He! I do! I even dream about it!”

If he had stayed in the village, Chen Hu would bring him to the unit for training once he reached a suitable age. When the time came and he could pass the physical fitness requirements, he would go and take the exams.

However, after coming to the capital, he did not dare to cause trouble for Qiao Mei. He knew that the Xia family was a military family and that Qiao Mei just needed to say the word to make his dream come true. However, Li Gui had said that he could not ask the Xia family for help even if he ran into any difficulties. Otherwise, the Xia family would look down on Qiao Mei.

“Then can you endure hardships? If you go to the army, you won’t get to go home easily,” Xia He asked.

Chapter 864 - 864 Study Hard in the Future

864 Study Hard in the Future

This made Zhang Wei a little hesitant. His younger siblings were still so young. Zhang Chao was an introvert and his two sisters were also still very young. No matter how sensible Zhang Qin was, she was still a child.

He had to help out with many things. If he was not at home, what would happen to Li Gui and his younger siblings?

Li Gui could also tell that Zhang Wei was troubled. She smiled and hugged him as she said, “Silly boy, we don’t need you to be at home. Didn’t I use to take good care of all of you? Moreover, we’re living with your elder sister Qiao Mei and grandfather Qiao Qiang now. Our family also has some money now and our days are getting better.”

Zhang Wei was still a little worried. He looked up at Li Gui and asked, “Really? But Zhang Chao, he...”

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What if Zhang Chao had a relapse because of what happened tonight? Previously, Qiao Mei had brought him to see a psychiatrist. The doctor said that he was better now, but the psychological trauma could relapse at any time. No one could say when it would flare up.

“He’s your younger brother! You have to believe in him, understand?” Li Gui said.

“Yes!” Zhang Wei said with a smile.

Seeing that Zhang Wei had let go of the heavy burden in his heart, Xia He felt like helping him. Xia Wen, Xia Zhe and her had all gone to a boarding school when they were young. That school specialized in nurturing talents to join the army.

The conditions were much more arduous than in ordinary schools. The military way of management was very strict and the students could only go home during the new year. They had to go through training in school for the rest of the time.

Moreover, the academic progression was by way of a selection process. Only one out of 100 students could go to the military academy in the capital. The rest could only go to other schools to continue with cultural studies and would not be able to join the army.

“Let me think about what we can do. I’ll talk to my aunt and check on when that school will be taking in new students. When the time comes, Xiao Wei can also go to school. However, you have to study hard. They speed through the lessons there. Although I don’t know what grade you’re at now, we can get my eldest brother to come take a look,” Xia He said.

Zhang Wei whispered, “Mom... have I just caused trouble for elder sister...”

Li Gui was also a little conflicted. She did not know whether it would be difficult for Xia He to get someone to arrange this matter.

“Xiao He, is it very difficult to make arrangements? If so, let’s forget about it. Perhaps I can bring Xiao Wei to the school to take a look when it is recruiting students,” Li Gui said.

Only children from reputable families in the capital could enter that school. The campuses were segregated by zones and the one in the northern suburbs was for ordinary children. The selection process for the school was extremely strict and in actual fact, Zhang Wei could not meet the standards at all.

She could only go to Xia Xiu and ask her about the admission rules for the campus in the western suburbs. It would still be possible for a kid to enroll there if there was a recommendation. The only difference was that the enrolment criteria and academic progress of the western campus were several times stricter than that of the northern campus.

The western campus was simply a hellish existence. When she first started school, she would secretly cry in bed many times. There was really too much pressure and she could not take it.

“It’s fine. I will just ask my aunt about when the school starts and also the criteria. For everything else, it will depend on Xiao Wei’s efforts. Xiao Wei, you have to work hard. If you don’t do well in the exams, you’ll be asked to leave. At that time, we won’t be able to help you,” Xia He said.

“Don’t worry! I’ll definitely study hard!” Zhang Wei said firmly.

Xia Wen did not have free time every day, but Zhang Wei also found it unrealistic for them to hire a teacher just to teach him. Zhang Wei had secretly asked around and found out about the fees that Qian’e charged per piano lesson. It was probably the kind of rates for other subjects. His family was not that rich yet. Besides, he could not be the only one enjoying such benefits. He still had younger siblings!

He decided to take out all his books and study hard once he went home. Some time ago, he would always accompany Qiao Qiang for walks in the park. There, he had met an old grandpa and his wife, who were both long-time teachers. When the time came, if there was anything he did not know, he would ask the old grandpa and grandma!

“Xiao He, sorry to trouble you,” Li Gui said embarrassedly.

Xia He waved her hands and said, “Auntie, you’re too polite. Qiao Mei’s family is my family. If you have any problems in the future, just tell me! I’ll definitely do what I can. Don’t worry.”

Chapter 865 - 865 No Mood to Work

865 No Mood to Work

Before Li Gui came to the capital, she thought that the Xia family would be the kind of family that had money and power and looked down on people like her. She did not expect the Xia family members to be

so easy to get along with. Everyone was very friendly, especially Xu Lan's three children. Each of them was better than the other.

When they reached home, Qiao Mei, Zhang Qin and Zhang Miao were still waiting in the house. The youngest Zhang Miao was too sleepy and had already fallen asleep on the small table. Qiao Mei, on the other hand, sat calmly in the courtyard and was reading a book. Qian'e had already returned to Qiao Mei's house to rest. She still had many classes to teach tomorrow.

"Why aren't you asleep yet?" Xia He asked with a frown.

Qiao Mei had not been sleeping well during this period of time, yet she even stayed up late to wait for them. Xia He did not recall Xu Lan being so tired when she gave birth to Xia Zhe. It could be because Qiao Mei was having twins.

"Xiao Qin can't fall asleep either. She's worried about Zhang Wei and Zhang Chao and has been waiting for you to come back." Qiao Mei deliberately redirected their attention to Zhang Qin so that Xia He would not keep nagging her.

As Zhang Qin looked at the wound on Zhang Wei's head, tears flowed down her face uncontrollably. It was all her fault that Zhang Wei was beaten up. If she had not been careless and allowed herself to be captured by Su Yang, Zhang Wei would not have been so seriously injured.

Zhang Wei hugged Zhang Qin and said with heartache, "Why are you crying! I'm fine!"

"Boohoo... It's all my fault for letting eldest brother get hurt..." Zhang Qin whimpered.

"It's not your fault. It was a bad person who hit me. It has nothing to do with you. It's only right for me to protect you," Zhang Wei said.

As Zhang Wei consoled her, Zhang Qin finally stopped crying. Zhang Miao, who was crouching at one side, did not wake up no matter how anyone called out to her. Zhang Chao ran to Li Gui and pointed at Zhang Miao. "Mom, what's wrong with my sister?"

Li Gui was used to it. Among these children, Zhang Miao had the best sleep. She would not wake up even if there was thunder outside. Zhang Miao would not react even if she was carried up and thrown out.

“Your sister is fast asleep. She’s fine. You should all go back to sleep. We’ll talk again tomorrow,” Li Gui said.

Xia He brought Qiao Mei back to the courtyard house to rest. After Li Gui settled the children down, she also went in to rest.

At Old Madam Fan’s house, no one could get any rest. Su Yang’s minor injury did not require him to be hospitalized. Initially, she thought that Xia He and Qiao Mei were two young girls who could be easily hoodwinked with a few words, but she did not expect to encounter a couple of tough nuts to crack.

Now, not only did she have to give Qiao Mei’s family a big amount of compensation, she also had to cover the treatment fees for her two sons’ injuries herself.

The more Old Madam Fan looked at her two sons who were lying on the bed, the angrier she became. Ever since they moved out, their lives had not been smooth-sailing. Not long ago, there were even people who went around saying that Old Madam Fan and her two sons were shameless and had occupied someone else’s house for so long and that they deserved to be chased out.

Nowadays, there were people who paid attention to her family’s affairs every day, as if they were worried that her family would have too peaceful a life.

“You two good-for-nothings! How did I give birth to cowards like you! You can’t even defeat young women and children. Are you still my sons! Are you even men!” Old Madam Fan roared as she pointed at Su Liang and Su Yang.

“Mom... I really can’t beat her. That woman is really strong. I really have no choice,” Su Liang said aggrievedly.

Old Madam Fan did not actually expect her two sons to achieve anything, but she would not give up just like that. She had to think of a way to bully those people back!

Otherwise, how could she maintain her reputation on this street in the future!

The next morning, Old Madam Fan woke up early to cook as usual, but Su Yang had no intention of getting up to go to work. Old Madam Fan entered the room out of exasperation and shouted, “Why aren’t you up yet! Do you want to be late and have your salary deducted!”

Su Yang opened his eyes in a daze. He did not want to go to work at all today. He would only go when his face looked better. In these past two months, after he was chased out of the previous house, everyone on the street snickered at him. There were even people who badmouthed him right in front of him.

Now that his face was ruined, he was even more reluctant to go to work at the factory. If Qiao Yu saw him, he would not know how to explain himself. It was better to rest at home for a couple of days.

“I’m not going! If you want to go, you can!” Su Yang said as he lay under the blanket.

Chapter 866 - 866 So What If You Have Connections

866 So What If You Have Connections

Old Madam Fan really could not win Su Yang, so she let him be. She could still afford to support these two useless people with her pension.

Ever since Qiao Yu saw Li Gui, she had been acting a little crazy. She did not even wake up on time this morning and only got up when everyone else had packed up and left the room.

By the time Qiao Yu finished washing up and went to the canteen, there were only a few steamed buns left. The rest of the dishes and the porridge were all gone. Qiao Yu had no choice but to return to the workshop to get a few small buns to eat.

In her eyes, unpalatable small buns were still better than steamed buns. Steamed buns cost money, but the small buns were free.

During the entire morning, the machine in front of her stopped operating several times. The team leader of the workshop came over to look for her many times. If not for the fact that she found out Qiao Yu had a backer last night, she would have deducted Qiao Yu's salary by now. If the mistake was serious enough, Qiao Yu might even be fired!

The team leader of the workshop even came over to ask Qiao Yu if she was sick and if she needed to go back to the dormitory to rest. The people around were also very curious about what Qiao Yu had experienced.

They recalled that Qiao Yu said she was going to a relative's house last night. Could it be that she had a fight with her relative?

"Qiao Yu, did something happen to your relative? We've seen you go into a daze a few times," asked the older woman sitting beside her.

Qiao Yu shook her head and said with jealousy, "They are a prominent family and run a big business. Even if something happens, it's not something I can solve. I want to help, but they don't need it!"

What Qiao Yu said made sense. They stopped asking about it and changed the topic to talk about Su Yang. The speed at which gossip spread in this place was no slower than back in the village. News spread very quickly!

"Su Liang and Su Yang are both resting at home now. Do you all know that they both seem to be quite seriously injured?" Sister Li said.

"Really? Are you lying to us?" Sister Wang questioned in disbelief.

Among the people in the factory, Sister Li loved to gossip and was probably on par with Auntie Dong from Foshan Village. However, what Auntie Dong said was all based on evidence, but what Sister Li said was usually a mixture of truth and lies. She liked to exaggerate and distort the truth so that everyone would gather around her to listen to her.

“Why would I lie to you! It’s absolutely true! Don’t I live next to Old Madam Fan’s house? I saw everything last night. She got out of the police car with her son! Her son’s face was bandaged up! He looked so scary!” As Sister Li spoke, the expression on her face gradually became twisted.

Everyone gradually believed that what Sister Li said was true. They slowed down their work and listened intently to her.

“Previously, I also saw her eldest son after he got his bones broken! I heard that he made the first move and then got beaten up by a pregnant young woman. This young woman is the person who bought the house that their family used to live in,” Sister Li said.

Sister Wang asked curiously, “Young woman? How old is she? How can a pregnant woman afford to buy such a big house?”

“She looks so young! She’s probably around 20 years old. My father-in-law has a good relationship with this young woman’s grandfather. I heard that they’re from the countryside and are from a place called... Fo or something. The woman and her family have come to the city to stay with her husband,” Sister Li said enviously.

A place called Fo something? In the countryside? About 20 years old... That sounded like Qiao Mei!

Qiao Yu immediately perked up and hurriedly patted Sister Li’s shoulder as she asked, “Elder sister! Where do you live?”

Sister Li rubbed her shoulder in pain and said, “Oh my! Qiao Yu, you hit me so hard! My shoulder is almost dislocated!”

Qiao Yu did not care about that. She just wanted to know if that person was Qiao Mei. She held Sister Li’s shoulder tightly and stared at her intently as she asked, “Where! Where do you live! Where is that place!”

The people around were all frightened by Qiao Yu’s crazy behavior. Sister Li cried out in pain, “Someone! Help! Qiao Yu is going to kill me!”

The team leader of the workshop hurriedly ran over to separate the two women. Sister Li pointed at Qiao Yu and scolded angrily, "Don't think that you're so great just because you have a backer! I'm going to ask the factory director to be the judge of this! Is there no one in charge of this factory! How can you bully people just because you have connections!"

Chapter 867 Searching

One was a "loudmouth" in the factory, and the other was someone in the factory who had connections. She could not afford to offend either of them!

"Sister Li! I'll handle this matter. Go back and rest today!" After saying that, the team leader of the workshop leaned over and whispered into Sister Li's ear, "Your salary won't be deducted. Go back and rest."

Sister Li looked at the team leader of the workshop and then at Qiao Yu before leaving the workshop angrily. She was showing respect to the team leader right now, otherwise she would definitely fight it out with Qiao Yu.

Who did this girl think she was! This girl got in through the back door just because of her family connections. Sister Li had been working in this factory since she was 18 years old and had spent most of her life here. Even if she had no achievements, she should still be rewarded for her efforts. How dare a little girl act so pompous in front of her!

After the team leader of the workshop coaxed Sister Li, she came over to coax Qiao Yu while speaking gently, "Why did you have a conflict with Sister Li? Come to my office and tell me what's going on. I'll help you resolve it."

Qiao Yu lowered her head aggrievedly and said, "I just heard something and wanted to ask Sister Li more about it, but I used too much strength and hurt her. I didn't do it on purpose..."

If a man saw the delicate way that Qiao Yu behaved now, his heart would definitely soften and he would let her off. However, their entire workshop was filled with women and everyone already knew what kind of person Qiao Yu was.

Given that everyone had interacted with Sister Li for such a long time, they knew that even though she usually spoke a little exaggeratedly, she was still a very direct person. As for Qiao Yu, whenever she

encountered trouble, she would pretend to be weak. It was as if the person causing trouble just now was not her.

If not for the fact that Qiao Yu had a very powerful backer, they would not let her get her way!

"It's fine, it's fine! Sister Li is just very outspoken. She won't take it to heart. It'll be fine after today. Don't feel too bad," the team leader of the workshop said.

Qiao Yu looked at the team leader of the workshop with tears in her eyes and said, "Really? Thank you, team leader."

The corners of the team leader's mouth could not help but twitch twice. If not for the fact that a voice in her head kept telling her that she should not touch Qiao Yu or beat her up, she would probably have already taken some action.

"Go ahead and do your work. Call me if you need anything." After saying that, the team leader of the workshop returned to her office.

Other than the sound of machines, there was no other sound in the entire workshop. Everyone was busy with their own work and no one spoke, afraid that it would hurt Qiao Yu's "fragile heart" if they said anything. Then, she would cry again and go to complain to the team leader of the workshop.

What if she went to talk to the factory director about these things? Then all their benefits would be gone.

It was better not to offend anyone.

At noon, Qiao Yu habitually took a few glances at the door with the mess tin in her hand. Then, she remembered what Sister Li had said. Su Yang was injured and was currently lying at home.

Feeling disappointed, Qiao Yu took the mess tin to get some dishes. She only scooped one serving of vegetables and stopped. Then she sat in the corner and quickly finished her meal before returning to the workshop.

After finishing her work in the afternoon, she took a few small buns and left. She searched for the location of Li Gui's house based on her memories. As long as Sister Li was not lying, it was very likely that Li Gui and Qiao Mei lived in the same area as Su Yang's family.

Qiao Yu asked around along the way and finally found where Su Yang's house was. His family was famous in this area and everyone knew where they stayed. Along the way, everyone looked at Qiao Yu with a teasing gaze.

This was the first time a girl had come to look for Su Yang! Ordinary girls would avoid Su Liang and Su Yang. No one knew which family this girl came from, but she must have been deceived by Su Yang.

Qiao Yu wanted to say that she was not here specifically to see Su Yang! She was here to find out where Li Gui and the others lived, and to visit Su Yang on the way! It was just on the way!

Before Qiao Yu entered, she could hear Old Madam Fan scolding Su Yang in a deafeningly loud voice.

Qiao Yu was so frightened that she quickly ran away and did not even dare to look back, afraid that Su Yang would come out and spot her. After walking around the alley for a long time, she still did not manage to find Qiao Mei and Li Gui at all. She did not even see any of the children.

Could it be that she had really heard wrongly? There might be many villages that started with the word "Fo". It was not a word exclusive to their village and could be used by other villages. Perhaps she was too sensitive.

Qiao Yu thought that since she was already here, she would try her luck at the cinema again. This time, she would definitely follow closely and not lose track of them!

Chapter 868 - 868 Throwing a Sandbag

868 Throwing a Sandbag

It was rare for it to snow so early in the capital. The weather was not good and the roads were much harder to walk on than usual. Li Gui felt sorry for the children and she decided to rest at home today.

Qiao Mei joined her in the living room to modify the small baskets. When she went to the market today, she realized that someone was selling very tall and deep baskets that could be used to store popcorn. Qiao Mei also brought over the remaining wooden planks from the house renovation and installed a few wheels on them so that Li Gui would be able to carry more popcorn to sell.

“Mom, why don’t you stop going for now? You can go after the snow melts,” Qiao Mei said as she looked at the heavy snow outside.

Li Gui knew that Qiao Mei was worried about her, but this bit of snow was nothing to her. She had experienced even heavier snowfall than this and would just go about her business as usual.

Moreover, Xia He had even given Li Gui an old down jacket that she did not wear anymore. This coat was much warmer and lighter than the cotton coat which she usually wore.

“I’m fine. I can go by myself. I don’t need to sell much. I’ll only do one trip,” Li Gui said with a smile.

Qiao Mei knew that she could not dissuade Li Gui, so she just let her be. People who had just started doing business would find it addictive to earn so much money. After all, her goods were sold out every day.

“Sure,” Qiao Mei said.

Li Gui told Qiao Mei what Xia He had said in the car yesterday and Qiao Mei fully agreed. This matter had indeed reminded her of the need to pay more attention to the children’s homework.

Ever since they all came to the capital, other than Zhang Chao who still insisted on reading every day, the other children had been helping out with the work to earn money and did not have time for themselves at all.

They would need to put aside work for the moment. She should find a home tutor for the children. The cost was not an issue for her.

Qiao Mei hurriedly went out to the public phone booth to call Xia Wen. Only he would know best about such matters.

“Eldest brother, are you free tonight? I want to talk to you about something!” Qiao Mei asked.

“Sure, you can just wait for me at home. Do you need anything? I can bring it over for you,” Xia Wen asked considerately.

Qiao Mei thought carefully. There was actually one thing that she really wanted to eat. She did not see anyone selling it in the vicinity and she wondered if Xia Wen could get it.

“Eldest brother, isn’t it snowing now? Do you think you can find candied hawthorns on your way here? If you do, bring back a few sticks,” Qiao Mei said happily.

Xia Wen noted down this matter. After hanging up the phone, he asked his secretary to buy eight sticks of candied hawthorns. He instructed that they must be fresh and the largest and best candied hawthorns.

This was only the first snowfall in the capital. Usually, candied hawthorns would only be sold on the market after three to four snowfalls. He would probably have to find someone who sold candied hawthorn to specifically make it. Anyway, there was still enough time.

In his current position, it was very convenient for him to do anything. He could have whatever he wanted and there were people who helped him arrange many things.

After Xia Wen got off work, he brought eight big and red candied hawthorns to Qiao Mei’s house. The children were throwing sandbags in the courtyard! As soon as Xia Wen entered, he was hit in the face by the sandbags.

The children pointed at Xia Wen and laughed loudly. Zhang Wei even said mockingly to Xia Wen, “Eldest brother! Your skills are not as good as my brother-in-law’s!”

These words successfully brought out Xia Wen's desire to win. He put his bag and the candied hawthorns aside and focused on the game of throwing sandbags with Zhang Wei and the others.

"Kid, stand there and don't move! See how I'm going to hit you!" Xia Wen looked at Zhang Wei as he held a sandbag and said ruthlessly.

Zhang Wei did not take Xia Wen seriously at all. He was the best at throwing sandbags in Foshan Village! No one could beat him! He had never met an opponent before! He did not even lose when Xia Zhe played with him.

"Hehehe! Hit me if you can!" Zhang Wei said as he made a face at Xia Wen.

Qiao Mei and Xia He looked out through the living room window and saw them playing happily in the courtyard. Xia He mocked Xia Wen mercilessly and said, "Look at how clumsy eldest brother is. No matter what, he used to be a top army warrior. Why can't he even win against a child now... Look, look! Hahahaha! Zhang Wei even hit him! He's really too stupid!"

Xia He had not seen Xia Wen laugh so happily for a long time, nor had she seen him play with children with such abandon. The last time this happened was probably 20 years ago. At that time, she and Xia Wen were still young and the three Xia siblings had played with Zheng Yuan and the others.

Chapter 869 - 869 Looking for a Home Tutor

869 Looking for a Home Tutor

Time passed really quickly. They had all already aged.

Xia He and Qiao Mei chatted inside the house. Not long after, Xia Wen came in panting while holding his bag and the candied hawthorns. The candied hawthorns had melted and almost became stuck together.

"I'm old, I'm old... I can't even win a few children..." Xia Wen said resignedly.

Xia He walked over to help him with the bag and said mockingly, "You should go to the park to train with Grandpa Qiao. Your health isn't even as good as Grandpa Qiao's! When Grandpa Qiao plays the game of sandbags with these children, he can hit accurately even when he is sitting down."

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Xia Wen said stubbornly, "Grandpa Qiao was a sniper back then! Of course he can throw accurately! I'm not a sniper, so I naturally can't compare to him."

Qiao Mei did not care about the siblings' bickering at all and focused on eating the candied hawthorns. Even though they had already melted, Qiao Mei still ate them happily.

When she first got pregnant, she did not have cravings. At that time, the women in the village all said that her babies were blessed because they did not kick up any fuss at all. She did not even have morning sickness, her body was not sore and she did not even have swollen legs.

Now that she was about to give birth, she suddenly had a lot of cravings. She felt like eating everything, but she only wanted a bite because she only wanted to taste it.

If only Xia Zhe was at home, then she would be able to buy a lot of food and just have a taste of everything. She could then leave it to Xia Zhe to finish the rest.

For now, on a daily basis, she had to limit herself to only buying the foodstuff she craved the most. After giving birth, she would try to raise a puppy. Not only could it guard the house, but it could also share the food with her.

"Qiao Mei, why are you looking for me?" Xia Wen asked.

"Oh right! Eldest brother, do you know of any home tutor? The fees and everything else is negotiable as long as the teacher is a professional," Qiao Mei said.

Xia Wen knew of many, but the teachers in the school were not allowed to teach lessons in private. It was better for him to ask his friends for help.

"I have a friend called Zheng Peng. He came back from studying overseas but I'm not sure it's acceptable for you," Xia Wen asked softly.

Of course Qiao Mei found it acceptable! An overseas graduate could even teach her younger siblings to speak and write English! It would be even better to have bilingual education!

Zheng Peng was Zheng Yuan's elder brother. Xia Wen and him could be considered childhood friends. Zheng Peng was a free spirit and his great love was painting. Zheng Peng was also the most outstanding student among them. Back then, Uncle Zheng had forced him to study in the same military school they studied in.

Every year, Zheng Peng's results were always among the top three. Of course, the most outstanding person in their batch was still Xia Wen, who firmly took the top spot every year.

When Zheng Peng needed to make a decision on whether he would enter the military school, he resolutely chose to go overseas to further his studies in art as he was passionate about painting. Uncle Zheng was so angry that he refused to provide any living allowances. No one knew how Zheng Peng managed to persevere overseas. Now that he was back, he did not do anything and just went around looking for inspiration.

"Are you sure you want Zheng Peng to come?" Xia He asked hesitantly.

Qiao Mei looked at Xia He in confusion and asked, "Is there a problem with him?"

"He... he's Zheng Yuan's brother..." Xia He said.

Qiao Mei had thought that there was something wrong with this person's character. She did not expect it to be about this. In fact, she actually had a good impression of Zheng Yuan. Although Zheng Yuan had liked Xia Zhe before, she was a very upfront person. She took the initiative to admit to her mistakes and took responsibility for it.

Who had never done something wrong before!

"It's fine! If he has the time, then he can come to our house. He just needs to name his fees," Qiao Mei said happily.

Xia Wen nodded. He would ask Zheng Peng about this when he had time. He had not seen Zheng Peng for a long time as well.

As usual, Li Gui prepared a table full of delicious dishes today and even took out a bottle of good liquor! It was rare for Xia Wen to have time to pay a visit to her house, so she had to take out all her best stuff and treat him well.

“Xia Wen, come over and eat! Look! It’s all your favorite food tonight!” Li Gui said with a smile.

Xia He glanced at the dishes on the table and pursed her lips as she said, “Auntie, why aren’t there so many dishes when I come over? You’re so biased!”

“Then who ate the chicken and mushroom stew I made this morning? Who ate the guinea fowl I cooked the day before yesterday?” Li Gui asked as she looked at Xia He.

Chapter 870 - 870 Causing Trouble

870 Causing Trouble

Xia He blushed and said, “It’s me...”

“Then how can you say that I don’t like you? I will choose to cook what you like to eat every day! My culinary skills have improved a lot and I’ve learned many new dishes!” Li Gui said.

Nowadays, it could be said that she was running a successful business and her family was thriving. Every day, she had to push a small cart to buy groceries. Otherwise, she would not be able to carry everything back.

Qiao Mei also felt that it was too tiring for Li Gui to both take care of them and sell goods, so she wanted to find a helper to come and cook for the family. She did not expect Li Gui to strongly object to this idea.

Li Gui’s purpose in coming to the capital was to take care of Qiao Mei so that she could give birth to the children in peace. She was sure that she could take care of Qiao Mei and her two grandchildren.

If they hired a helper now, people might gossiped about it. What if Xu Lan became unhappy with them then? Although it was Qiao Mei's house now, Xu Lan still felt a little uncomfortable about this fact.

Xia He also started to wake up early to go grocery shopping with Li Gui. She went along as Li Gui's assistant and sometimes, she would even help to fry one or two vegetable dishes! She had also improved a lot.

After dinner, everyone went back to rest. At Xia Wen's current position, he had a chauffeur to pick him up and it was already midnight when he got home.

As soon as Xia Wen entered, he saw Tan Jing sitting on the sofa unhappily, waiting for him to come home. They had agreed to have dinner at home today, and she had made three to four nice dishes!

"Why are you back so late? Where did you go?" Tan Jing pouted as she said unhappily.

"I was held up because of something. What's wrong?" Xia Wen tried to hide the truth.

Nowadays, Tan Jing would quarrel with him whenever she heard anything about Qiao Mei's family. He really did not have the energy to explain these things to Tan Jing, so he might as well not let her know.

After being married for so many years, how could she not know Xia Wen well? He must have gone to Qiao Mei's house!

When Tan Jing approached Xia Wen, she could smell some alcohol on him and asked, "Did you drink?"

"A little, not too much," Xia Wen said.

Tan Jing still pulled a long face. When Xia Wen saw this, he did not say anything. After changing into his pajamas, he went to bed and prepared to go to sleep. Tan Jing looked at Xia Wen in shock. Usually, when she was unhappy, he would think of ways to coax her, but there was no such reaction from him now.

“Where exactly did you go!” Tan Jing asked unhappily.

Xia Wen lay under the blanket and still did not speak. Tan Jing actually did not want to hear the answer anymore. She was more afraid of hearing the truth.

“I want to tell you that my parents came to rush me again. What exactly is Qiao Mei going to do with her house? I heard that she bought another courtyard house and the floor area is exactly the same as the courtyard house she’s living in now. What’s the use of having so many houses!” Tan Jing said as she pushed Xia Wen.

Xia Wen already knew that this issue was definitely not over yet. He lay on the bed with his eyes closed and said, “If your parents want to move out and live on their own, I can find a house for them. If everyone wants to live separately, then each family can find a separate house to live in. It’ll be more peaceful if everyone lives a distance from one another.”

Tan Jing gently kicked Xia Wen and said, “My parents call me every day and say that it’s too crowded at home. The children are making a fuss and it’s so noisy. Can’t you go to Qiao Mei’s place and put in a good word for them? It’s not as if she can live in three big houses alone! She might as well let my parents stay there.”

“Then are your parents going to pay?” Xia Wen questioned.

Tan Jing behaved as if a fishbone was stuck in her throat and said guiltily, “About that! Of course they’ll pay! It’s considered a lease.”

“Since they’re going to pay to rent a house, why is it a must to stay in Qiao Mei’s house? Why can’t they stay in someone else’s house?” Xia Wen asked.

“How are you going to find someone else’s house now! Doesn’t Qiao Mei already have a vacant house!” Tan Jing said.

“As long as we’re willing to pay, we’ll be able to find one. Don’t worry about whether I can manage to find it. If your parents really want to move out, let me know the timeline. I can make the arrangements now,” Xia Wen said sternly.

Tan Jing did not know what to say for a moment. The current Xia Wen was different from before. He was now a government official and could do many things. He was no longer that unknown university professor.

“Why can’t you just speak to Qiao Mei?” Tan Jing asked angrily.

“You’re her sister-in-law, why don’t you go and talk to her? Besides, we’re willing to pay her money to live there. It’s not like we’re not paying. Why do you need me to go,” Xia Wen said.