

Rebirth to a Military Marriage: Good Morning Chief

Chapter 6: Deficiency

“Then we will use the drip!” Qiao Dongliang said without hesitation. He noticed that the doctor was looking strange. “What’s the matter, does my daughter have other problems?”

The doctor thought for a while and asked, “How’s your family doing?”

“Still alright.” Qiao Dongliang was stunned and his face was full of anxiety. “Has my daughter contracted a serious illness that will incur high medical costs? It does not matter. If my daughter is sick, I must cure her regardless of how much money it takes. Doctor, please don’t give up!”

Qiao Nan, who was seated to one side, was also stunned. During her previous life, she suffered a lot and had many minor ailments but not major ones.

The doctor’s frown softened. “Don’t worry, your daughter is not sick, it’s just that... ”

“What is it?” This doctor’s speech was accompanied with heavy breathing. It made people anxious.

“Your daughter does not have any major illness. She is just a little malnourished, and had been in hunger. If this continues, her health will eventually suffer.”

The doctor’s words made Qiao Dongliang’s face blush red. It was not as if they were in the 1960s and 1970s, when they were dealing with famine.

His younger daughter was actually malnourished.

As it was not convenient for the male doctor to pose certain questions, they shouted for a female doctor to come in.

After the female doctor came, she was direct in asking the questions. “How old are you?”

“15.”

“Have you started menstruating yet? Have you taken a biology class, and know that the young ladies menstruate once a month?”

Qiao Nan did not respond, Qiao Dongliang's face was red with embarrassment. "Nan Nan?"

Qiao Nan looked dazed and she shook her head. "I don't think so."

In fact, Qiao Nan was clearly aware that, to date, she had not had her first period.

As per the doctor's account, she was malnourished. She often went hungry as she was growing up, and frequently had cramps when she was sleeping at night. Because of this, her menstruation only started when she was 18 years old.

Qiao Zijin was two years older than her but had already had her first period three years ago. Qiao Nan had helped her wash the stained pants. In other words, Qiao Zijin started menstruating when she was 14 years old.

Qiao Dongliang did not know his younger daughter's condition, although he knew about his elder daughter's condition due to his wife as she often mentioned matters regarding Qiao Zijin.

Each time Qiao Zijin was having her period, his wife would wait on Qiao Zijin with hot water bottles and brown sugar soup.

Qiao Dongliang calculated that when the eldest daughter "grew up," she was one year younger than the younger daughter now.

Upon comparing, Qiao Dongliang was a little nervous. "Is this too late for my daughter?"

The female doctor said in an orderly manner, "Not really, typically a young girl's first period will occur between the ages of 12 and 16. But your daughter is too skinny, she hasn't been getting enough to eat!"

If this continued, her period may not come even when she has reached 16 years old.

Qiao Dongliang was dumbfounded by the questions. Food, of course food was given. He could not possibly have given his younger daughter one less mouthful of food.

However, both doctors said that the younger daughter was malnourished which delayed her puberty. Qiao Dongliang's face was full of shame.

Although his family did not often feast on delicacies, there were always protein dishes on the table from time to time. Qiao Dongliang was puzzled as to how his younger daughter had become malnourished.

Qiao Dongliang did not know how she had become malnourished, but Qiao Nan knew in her heart how it had come about.

Since she was a child, her mother did not allow her to have her fill – she was only 50 to 70 percent full for each meal.

She also had to attend school, which unfortunately was during the same time as her puberty.

Qiao Nan clearly remembered that her tummy often started to rumble like thunder when the second lesson began in class.

In the previous life, one of the reasons that she was cajoled by her mother to quit school and work is that she figured with money, she would at least be able to feed herself with proper meals.

Oblivious to the awkward situation of the father and daughter, the female doctor said responsibly, “You don’t need to supplement too much, however, you must at least prepare some protein dishes. The child is at the stage of puberty, no proteins, does your family favor boys more?”

“No, I have two daughters!” Qiao Dongliang shook his head. There were no grounds for such favoritism. Both daughters should be equally well.

At this moment, a very loud rumble came from Qiao Nan’s tummy.

As soon as she heard this, the female doctor knew that the child had been hungry for a long time. “Did you eat today?”

Qiao Nan’s little face drooped, she looked listless.

The female doctor was angry. “What kind of parents are you? The child is sick and you did not give her food?”

Qiao Nan was weak, her voice was as soft as that of a mosquito. “Doctor, don’t blame my dad, my dad goes to work and he doesn’t know.”

“Your dad doesn’t know. How about your mom? Or your mum doesn’t care?”

When asked about her mother, Qiao Nan started to act dumb.

At this juncture, Qiao Dongliang understood all that was happening. Qiao Dongliang had never felt this ashamed in his entire life, he wished that he could dig a hole in the ground and disappear into it.

Putting aside the matter of the medicine, the younger daughter was not even given a meal?

This...

Qiao Dongliang rubbed his face. "Doctor, my child still has a fever, could you administer the drip while I get some food for her?"

"Something light. She has been hungry for a long time and should not eat too much at once." The doctor gave the prescription and stopped talking.

Qiao Nan, whose head was still dizzy, was held and brought for the drip. Not long after, she smelt the aroma of porridge.

Qiao Dongliang was full of sweat. "This bowl was borrowed from the hotel next door. Eat, I will return the bowl later."

"Okay." After Qiao Nan responded, she started eating the porridge in small mouthfuls.

Seeing the younger daughter eating the porridge quietly, and thinking of what the doctor said, Qiao Dongliang did not feel good at all. "Nan Nan, is it because of your poor appetite?"

Qiao Nan, who was drinking porridge, was stunned for a while. "My appetite is very good, but mom won't let me have more, saying that there isn't much rice in the house, and that it's better for girls to be thinner."

Her father could not seem to believe that her mother would starve her to the extent of causing malnourishment, and therefore tried to find an excuse for the mother.

"I love to eat." Qiao Nan continued with a similar answer. "But Mom said you have to eat more as you work every day, it's hard, and my sister also has to eat more as she needs to study and work her brains out. Mom too as she worked hard for the family."

As for her, she made no contribution to the family and was considered an unimportant person leeching on the family, and was thus not fit to touch the better dishes.

Qiao Dongliang took a deep breath and could not believe that his wife had said that to the younger daughter. "When I'm at home, each time there were protein dishes, I saw your mom giving you some."

Qiao Nan did not say a word. She finished drinking the bowl of porridge, then said. "Mom has said, even if she gave me the food I should be too ashamed to eat it. So she each time she passed me the food with her chopsticks, she would hint at me to go to the kitchen to put back the meat."

Chapter 7: Drumsticks

Therefore, every time, the meat that her dad saw in her bowl just went through her bowl once and returned to where it came from.

After that, Qiao Nan and Qiao Dongliang did the same thing, that is, they rubbed their eyes to wipe away the wetness at the corner of their eyes.

“Dad, am I yours and mom’s biological daughter?” After wiping the corner of her eyes, Qiao Nan could not help but ask. If she was adopted, she would feel better; after all, it was natural that the adopted child may be treated differently from the biological one.

Just as she said this, Qiao Nan did not really need an answer.

She still recalled that before she traveled back in time, Qiao Zijin told her mother clearly that her compatibility level of her internal organs would be better.

Therefore, she must be the biological child of her parents, and she and Qiao Zijin were real sisters. Qiao Zijin would not make such a joke.

Since she was their biological child, why was her mother so heartless to her?

“Don’t think otherwise, your mom was just confused.” Qiao Dongliang was forcing a smile that looked uglier than a cry.

If Nan Nan had been three years old, she might have believed him. But she was already in junior high school. Even Qiao Dongliang did not believe his own words!

For the first time, he knew that the kind of life his younger daughter had been living this at home. Even now, whenever he thought of the conversation with the doctors and the look in their eyes, Qiao Dongliang felt so ashamed that he could not lift his head.

Qiao Dongliang looked up at Qiao Nan. “Nan Nan, in future, when at home, just eat whatever you want. I will tell Mom when we are back.

Qiao Nan nodded. “Dad, what if Mom doesn’t let me study anymore?”

“Why not?” Qiao Dongliang shook his head. “Your mother will not... in this age, education is important and your grades are so good, why would your mom not let you study?”

Seeing that Qiao Dongliang did not have any idea of what was happening at home, or of the motives of Mom and Qiao Zijin, Qiao Nan sighed. No wonder she had been so miserable in her previous life.

Her dad only took care of matters outside the household. All the other matters at home were left to her mother to manage. Of course, her mother would have a say in this.

“Dad, I want to study, I want to go to college!”

“Well, study, as long as your results are fine. I am still young, I will ensure that you go to college.” Qiao Dongliang’s eyes lit up, he looked very pleased.

To him, it was a good thing that his own daughter had ambition.

Qiao Dongliang always knew that no matter how many good words his wife put in, and the younger daughter obviously had less years of education than the elder one, Qiao Nan’s exam results were always better no matter which way he compared.

The elder daughter’s exam results were inconsistent and average. The younger daughter was different. She was always top in her class, and even in the entire school.

After they were done with the drip, Qiao Dongliang had spent almost 20 yuan. He then took the medicine and rode the bicycle home with his younger daughter.

As soon as Qiao Dongliang and Qiao Nan alighted from the bicycle, Ding Jiayi, who knew that they were back, immediately rushed out, tugged at Qiao Dongliang’s hand and asked, “How much did it cost?”

Qiao Dongliang’s face was long, and the tone was not too good. “Does it matter how much was spent? The important thing is that Nan Nan’s sickness can be cured! It doesn’t matter that the fever medicine had expired, the hospital has plenty of them. Look, with just a bottle of drip, Nan Nan’s fever subsided.”

Although Qiao Dongliang did not care much about the domestic affairs, he was not a fool.

His wife was all about the money. It was clear that she was reluctant to spend money on their younger daughter.

The more the wife behaved this way, the more Qiao Dongliang wanted to spend money for the younger daughter. How could they save the money needed for seeking medical treatment?!

Qiao Dongliang thoughts were stirred as he recalled the questions that Qiao Nan asked while they were at the hospital. His wife had even wanted to scrimp on expenses for the daughter’s treatment. It would be worse when it came to her college fees.

True enough, when she heard Qiao Dongliang words, Ding Jiayi’s face turned pale and she deeply regretted her actions.

A trip to the hospital and the drip, Ding Jiayi pinched her fingers and counted. It would have cost at least 10 yuan. These two wastrels.

If she knew this would happen, she would not have thrown away the fever medicine. She might as well have saved money by letting the wretched girl take it. That girl did not know how to earn money, yet she had a talent for spending!

“I already said that there is no need to visit the hospital. The fever medicine did not expire right, you can just let her continue to take it.”

Having said that, Ding Jiayi could not bear to hit the man. She directly lifted her hand towards Qiao Nan, who was standing by the side, and gave her a few hard slaps on the back, causing a harsh sound.

Qiao Dongliang’s eyes were furious. He threw the bicycle away and pulled the younger daughter behind him. “What are you doing!”

Qiao Zijin was shocked. She quickly stood up and said, “Mom, Nan Nan is still sick. Nan Nan, I will help you back to the room to rest.”

Money was already spent. There was no recourse even if her mother continued to make a fuss. Her dad could not possibly ask the hospital for the money back.

Furthermore, the amount that Qiao Nan spent today, she would be able to pay them back 10 or 100 times when she went to work. Her mother’s anxiousness was uncalled for.

Qiao Nan gave Ding Jiayi a glance, and allowed Qiao Zijin to help her back to the room to rest. She knew that, in her whole life, it was scarce for her to receive Qiao Zijin’s help. She was always the one who assisted Qiao Zijin.

The heat had subsided. After the turmoil today, Qiao Nan was really exhausted. Furthermore, she had only had half a meal. She fell straight into a slumber.

Qiao Nan did not care about the things that followed. She went back to her room and fell asleep shortly after she covered herself with a blanket. In her blurry state, she seemed to have heard the sound of her parents quarreling.

In the moment of deep sleep, Qiao Nan secretly recited in her heart. Go ahead, fight. Go ahead, fight.

In her previous life, in order to let her parents get along with each other, she helped to persuade them each time her parents quarreled. As a result, she had to sacrifice herself all the time in exchange for peace in the family.

In this life, she would never make the same mistake again!

The next day, Qiao Nan got up and was in good spirits. After the fever subsided, she did not even have a cough or runny nose. Her whole body was alive and kicking.

“Nan Nan, are you awake?”

“Awake.”

“May I come in?”

“Come in if you wish to.”

Qiao Nan did not say whether she would allow or not allow Qiao Zijin come in. She let Qiao Zijin make her own decision.

Qiao Zijin, who was standing at the door, was stunned. Qiao Nan was acting strange since yesterday and was not her usual self.

Qiao Zijin pushed the door, and of course, she came in. “Nan Nan, I have been tolerating this in my heart. Can I talk to you?”

There was no expression on Qiao Nan’s face. “Speak if you feel like it, or don’t if you feel otherwise.”

Qiao Zijin was stopped by this attitude of Qiao Nan. “Nan Nan, what’s wrong with you, are you angry with me?”

In the past, Qiao Nan had not talked to her in this manner. Usually, Qiao Nan would be concerned about her troubles and then helped her to resolve them.

Although she was older than Qiao Nan, the fact is, Qiao Nan took care of Qiao Zijin more in their daily lives.

Qiao Zijin disliked her sister but she was used to Qiao Nan being nice to her. When faced with Qiao Nan’s indifferent attitude towards her, she was not able to adapt immediately.

Qiao Nan laughed and looked at Qiao Zi. “Why do you think I am angry with you?”

“Sister, what have you done wrong, that I should be angry with you?”

Qiao Zijin was stunned and her face turned red. She could not respond to Qiao Nan.

Seeing Qiao Zijin’s reaction, Qiao Nan sneered. It seemed that Qiao Zijin was aware that she had done Qiao Nan much wrong, and this made Qiao Nan angry!

At a loss for what to say, Qiao Zijin steered away from this topic. Her face was down and her eyes tearful. “Yesterday, Dad quarreled with Mom. It was fierce, and Mom cried. My heart aches. If there is a way to make them stop fighting, I am willing to do it regardless of what it takes.”

Qiao Nan looked down and she pursed her mouth. She did not say a word.

Qiao Zijin stole a glance at Qiao Nan and tried again. "Actually, I know a little about what happened. Since our parents lost their cradle-to-grave jobs, Mom takes care of the family funds while dad brings in the money. But dad's income is so miserly and barely enough for the whole family's expenses. Moreover, both of us are studying. Sigh, our family do not have enough money, and our parents are definitely troubled by this."

Qiao Nan remained silent and did not speak.

Qiao Zijin pursed her lips unhappily. "Nan Nan, how about this. I will quit school and find a job? If one of us is working, the burden on our parents will be lessened, then they won't quarrel. As long as our parents are fine, no matter what sacrifice I make, it will be worth it. Nan Nan, I believe that you think so too, right?"

Qiao Nan smirked, her smile full of sarcasm. "Sister, it's great that you think that way. Since a young age, I have never objected to what you say. This time, I will definitely support you too. Your latest school results are average and not so good, it would be difficult for you to pick a school. My results are better than yours, and I will definitely continue to do better than you in the future. You can rest assured that I will study hard and find a good job in future to repay your sacrifice today. Sister, these years, Mom really didn't pamper you for nothing. You are willing to sacrifice so much for her. "

Qiao Nan did not take the bait, Qiao Zijin was mad and almost driven to her grave. After she heard these words from Qiao Nan, she rolled her eyes with fury.

Qiao Zijin has been narrow-minded since she was a child and liked to compete in everything. In particular, she was not willing to lose to her sister, Qiao Nan.

Unfortunately, besides gaining the favor of Ding Jiayi, she was not comparable to Qiao Nan in any other way. Particularly, after they attended school, the results of the two were often compared.

For many years, Qiao Zijin had not once performed better than Qiao Nan in her studies.

Qiao Nan's earlier words about their academic performance were like a needle pierced straight into Qiao Zijin's heart.

Ding Jiayi, who had been eavesdropping behind the door, could not help but rush in. She pointed at Qiao Nan's nose and started scolding her.

"You are a brat with no conscience. For the sake of me and this family, your sister would rather quit school than to see your dad arguing with me. And you? Aren't you ashamed to let your sister quit school and sacrifice so much for this family? I have given birth to you for nothing, all these years spent raising you were in vain."

For a moment, Qiao Nan was stunned. She then looked at Qiao Zijin.

She had long known that Qiao Zijin was playing her tactics. What she did not expect was that her mother actually hiding behind the door and eavesdropping!

Ignoring Qiao Nan's astonishment, Ding Jiayi continued and said, "Let me tell you. If you still regard me as your mom, tell your dad tonight that you are stupid, that you have no ability, and you don't wish to attend school. You want to go out to work. Did you hear me?"

Qiao Zijin had already stood up and walked to Ding Jiayi's side, without saying a word.

"Wretched girl! I have said so much. Whether you heard it or not, make some noise. You are a jinx, you have neither heart or ears!".

Ding Jiayi rushed forward in a step and gripped Qiao Nan's hair, shouting in Qiao Nan's ears.

In the previous life, Ding Jiayi scolded Qiao Nan a lot but did not hit her much.

In this life, yesterday's event was like the activation of a switch in Ding Jiayi's body. As long as she was not satisfied with Qiao Nan's reaction, she would hit Qiao Nan with her hands.

Qiao Nan's ears hurt badly and her eyes were red. She grabbed Ding Jiayi's other hand and bit her hard.

Ding Jiayi screamed and let go of Qiao Nan's hair. Without a word, Qiao Nan rushed out of the house.

Her father was not there. Qiao Nan dared not stay in this home. In this life, Qiao Nan refused to quit school and her mother hated her till death.

"You are a wretched girl!" Qiao Nan, who ran outside the house, faintly heard her mother's curse. She had the wind at her back and she ran as fast as she could – like a rabbit.

Qiao Zijin, whom she bumped into while leaving, frowned. She seemed to have seen blood on Qiao Nan's clothes again. Was she wrong?

Today, her mother had not slapped Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan could not possibly have a nosebleed again.

Qiao Nan, who was running with her head down, was halted by someone's shoulders. Her whole body almost fell backwards.

She fell in a posterior position and just as she thought that her bum would hit the floor, her waist felt an arm that was tough, familiar yet strange, that exuded irresistible warmth, help her up.

“You’re hurt again?”

Zhai Sheng saw that Qiao Nan’s neck, which was as fair and slender as a white swan, was covered in patches of blood again. There seemed to be wrath in his tone.

Qiao Nan reached out and wanted to touch her ears. A while ago, when she was gripped by her mother, she felt pain but the pain had worsened now.

Zhai Sheng grabbed Qiao Nan’s hand. “Don’t move.”

Zhai Sheng took a look and asked Qiao Nan to turn sideways. True enough, he saw a gash on Qiao Nan’s ear.

“Who did this? Is there a child abuser in the quad?”

Qiao Nan’s face dimmed. “My mom.”

Zhai Sheng’s eyebrows moved. He heard that Aunt Ding favoured the elder daughter and did not treat the younger daughter well. But this was worse. This was abuse. “Why did she do that?”

“My mother asked me to quit school and find a job, but I refused to.” As Qiao Nan opened her mouth, her tears started to roll.

When she was at home, she could still hold her tears. Somehow, before Zhai Sheng, Qiao Nan could not help but cry. Perhaps Zhai Sheng’s voice was too calm. As her sense of security increased, the more wronged she felt.

“Alright, wipe your tears away. I will take you to your dad.” Zhai Sheng reached out and wanted to wipe away the tears on Qiao Nan’s face, but stopped before he could do so.

Zhai Sheng took Qiao Nan to the entrance of the factory where Qiao Dongliang worked. “The tears that you were holding back just now, please let it all out later. You don’t have to say anything. Just cry hard. Whatever is the matter, your dad will ask your mom when he goes back. Understand?”

Qiao Nan nodded obediently.

Seeing that Qiao Nan had understood his words, Zhai Sheng told the factory’s security guard that he was looking for Qiao Dongliang. After a while, Qiao Dongliang came out.

Following what Zhai Sheng had taught her, Qiao Nan began to cry as soon as she saw Qiao Dongliang.

Having accumulated the grievances for two lifetimes, how bad could Qiao Nan's crying get?

Chapter 9: Guilty Conscience

The younger daughter's fever had just subsided yesterday. Today, the sight of the neck full of blood was stinging to Qiao Dongliang's eyes. "What happened to you, Nan Nan? Don't cry, tell Dad, what is this blood?"

Qiao Nan did not speak. She cried so hard. Her crying made Qiao Dongliang feel extremely bad.

The security guards at the door were already staring at them. The blood on the neck of Qiao Nan had not only gained the attention of Qiao Dongliang but also the others.

"Uncle Qiao, it's better that you take Qiao Nan to the hospital to treat the wound." Zhai Sheng reminded him that even though the wound was not bleeding now, it had to be treated.

Qiao Dongliang nodded many times. "Yes, Nan Nan, don't cry. Dad will take you to the hospital. You..."

At this time, Qiao Dongliang remembered the young man that came. When he saw his daughter's misery earlier, he simply forgot about the man.

There was no doubt that the young man must have brought Nan Nan here.

Qiao Dongliang wanted to thank him but he was stunned when he saw his face.

Zhai Sheng, of course. Qiao Dongliang knew who he was.

What made Qiao Dongliang particularly stunned was the reputation of the Zhai family. Even if everyone lived in the same quad, Qiao Dongliang never once thought that his family would have anything to do with the Zhai's. "Zhai, Zhai Sheng, thank you for bringing Nan Nan here."

Obviously, Zhai Sheng was his junior but Qiao Dongliang was not used to calling him by his name.

"No worries." Zhai Sheng did not have much reaction. "Uncle Qiao, I'll leave now."

Uncle Qiao would deal with everything else properly.

As soon as he left, Qiao Dongliang went straight to apply for half a day leave from the factory and took Qiao Nan to the hospital.

News about the blood on Qiao Nan's neck quickly spread in the factory, so Qiao Dongliang's team leader also knew that his daughter had been bullied and was bleeding. He graciously agreed to let Qiao Dongliang take the time off.

However, no-one would expect that the person who hurt Qiao Nan was none other than Qiao Dongliang's wife – Ding Jiayi.

"Why are you here again?" The doctor could still recognize the patient who came yesterday.

Most importantly, the case of malnutrition despite having the means to visit the hospital was very rare, so the father and daughter pair left a deep impression with the doctor. "What is this?!"

As soon as he saw the blood of Qiao Nan's neck, the doctor frowned and held Qiao Nan's shoulder to let Qiao Nan turn to her side.

When he touched her ear, Qiao Nan shouted in pain.

"It takes a great deal of strength to be able to slit open the ears. You guys are really..."

Having taken a clearer look at the wound in the ear, the doctor's eyes were full of blame and disapproval. Yesterday was fever and malnutrition. Today was a bleeding wound.

The doctor's suspicion now was not whether the family favors male over female, but whether this daughter was their biological one.

Qiao Nan rubbed her eyes. "Doctor, don't blame my dad, my dad doesn't know anything."

"... Young lady, don't practise filial piety foolishly, your dad doesn't know, what about your mother? To allow the child to be bullied to this extent, don't tell me the mother is already dead?"

The doctor noticed that, since yesterday, each time he mentioned her mother, this lady would not speak. What was happening?

Qiao Dongliang was so furious that both his hands were clenched into fists. If the younger daughter was not bullied by the children in the quad, then there was only one person who could have done this to her – his wife!

The nurse was quick to attend to her. First, she helped Qiao Nan clean the blood on her neck, then dealt with the wound by applying a red colored medicine and bandaging the wound.

Nevertheless, when the nurse was bandaging, Qiao Dongliang specifically asked the nurse to cover Qiao Nan's entire ear so that it would look more serious.

The nurse looked at Qiao Dongliang strangely but acted according to his wish. In her heart, she felt bad about wasting the bandages.

After leaving the hospital, Qiao Nan awkwardly touched her ear which had become so heavy. She tilted her head and looked at Qiao Dongliang.

Qiao Dongliang peered at his younger daughter who looked so clean, her black and bright eyes prettier than shining black pearls. His heart softened. "Nan Nan, don't be afraid. Dad will protect you."

Rubbed on the head by Qiao Dongliang, Qiao Nan felt a little awkward.

In her life, her relationship with her father was not good at all. Her dad didn't even want to look at her.

In the previous life, she did not have a good relationship with her father. Her father was not even willing to take one more glance at her.

Qiao Nan knew every well that her father's attitude towards her was not his fault. She only had herself to blame.

Every time her mother made her suffer because of Qiao Zijin, her father always disapproved and dissuaded.

But at that time, she was totally brainwashed and she thought that as long as she cared for the family, and her parents did not quarrel, it would be worth her sacrifice.

Every time her dad helped her, she stood on her mother's side and beg for mercy. This resulted in him losing face and feeling heartbroken. Over time, her dad was not willing to bother about her anymore.

Saddened by the misfortune but angered by the lack of resistance. This quote portrayed her father's feelings exactly.

Qiao Nan stood over and leaned close to Qiao Dongliang. In this life, she would not let her dad be disappointed and sad anymore. She must first stand on her own two feet!

When Qiao Nan ran out of the house and disappeared for half a day, Ding Jiayi was initially indifferent. She expected Qiao Nan to have nowhere to go, and would then obediently return home.

She would then ask Qiao Nan to accede to her wants again. She did not believe that Qiao Nan would still refuse to agree, unless Qiao Nan did not want to come back to this home forever.

But an hour and two have passed and the sun was setting. It was almost time for Qiao Dongliang to be off-work, Ding Jiayi still did not see any signs of Qiao Nan. She began to feel uneasy.

“This wretched girl, she was too spoilt. This wild girl, half the day is gone and she is still not back. I’ll see how to deal with her when she is back!”

“Mom, don’t you think something will happen?” Qiao Zijin’s face was one of doubt. Since yesterday, Qiao Nan had been acting strangely.

She kept having this feeling that Qiao Nan was not the same as before. Though it was just a fever, her feverish head seemed to have been enlightened. It was not so easy to lie to and cajole her anymore.

“What could happen? After she comes back, I will give her a good discipline!” When the elder daughter softened, Ding Jiayi sat up straight, displaying her protective behavior towards Qiao Zijin.

Soon, came the voice of Qiao Dongliang. Both mother and daughter’s face could not help but change, and they rushed outside.

But when the two of them saw that Qiao Nan actually came back by riding on Qiao Dongliang’s bicycle, their faces, in particular Ding Jiayi’s, turned black instantly.

Ding Jiayi rushed forward a few steps and tried to pull Qiao Nan down from the bicycle. At this time, when Qiao Nan turned sideways and revealed her fully bandaged ears – now white, fat and without a single sight of flesh, she felt guilty all of a sudden.

Ding Jiayi remembered that before Qiao Nan ran out, she had grabbed Qiao Nan’s ears. At that point, Qiao Nan looked like she was in a lot of pain and had even retorted by biting her. Could it be that, with that grip, she had broken Qian Nan’s ears in her anger?”

She, she did not think she had used that much strength.

Qiao Zijin was also shocked. She grabbed Ding Jiayi, “Mom, when Nan Nan ran out, I saw blood on her clothes.”

Chapter 10

Mom had hurt Qiao Nan. Dad must be angry.

If Mom quarreled with Dad again because of Qiao Nan, would Dad still forgive Mom?

At the sight of Qiao Nan's injury, Ding Jiayi quietened instantly.

On the contrary, when Qiao Dongliang glared, the murderous look in his eyes simply scared Ding Jiayi and her face became as white as a sheet.

Qiao Dongliang was considered an old good guy. He does not lose his temper easily. But when the person who does not lose his temper had a slightest tinge of anger, it was even more frightening.

Therefore, when Qiao Dongliang displayed the first sign of anger, Ding Jiayi hid her arrogance and forced herself to go along.

Qiao Dongliang parked the bicycle and did not argue with Ding Jiayi in the quad "You come with me to the room, I have something to tell you."

Having said that, he headed towards Ding Jiayi and his bedroom. Ding Jiayi held her breath and followed behind him.

Qiao Zijin was so scared that she ran to Qiao Nan, pulling Qiao Nan's hand. "Nan Nan, Dad's expression is not quite right, what's wrong with him? Do you think he will quarrel with Mom? Should we go and mitigate?"

Qiao Nan pulled away Qiao Zijin's hand. "You may go and mitigate if you wish to. I can't help to do so. I'm afraid of getting bashed."

The moment before she died, Qiao Nan's heart had already been broken by Ding Jiayi – her own mother. She was driven to her grave by Ding Jiayi's words.

The time of rebirth in this life was also too coincidental; it was when she found out that her fever was deliberately engineered. The worse thing was that her mother would rather discard the fever medicine than to let her have it. Was she really Ding Jiayi's daughter?!

"Nan Nan, don't you want to see Dad and Mom get along well?" Qiao Zijin started talking and tried to cajole Nan Nan like she had in the past. "If a few blows and a little suffering could let Dad and Mom mend their differences, I am definitely willing to do it."

When she heard these words from Qiao Zijin, Qiao Nan was on fire.

In the previous life, under Qiao Zijin's constant use of this type of heart stirring tactics and brainwashing, Qiao Nan had become obedient and withdrawn.

Qiao Zijin was all beautiful talk and no action. Qiao Nan was always the one left alone to carry out the silly tasks!

Qiao Nan sneered. "Sister, since you said so, then quickly go to the room and persuade them. Mom loves you so much, even if you are beaten, it's for the sake of Mom. Hurry, after you are beaten, Dad and Mom will mend their differences."

Anyway, the one who got physical would not be Dad; only Mom would use physical ways to vent her emotions.

In the face of her most precious elder daughter, Mom would definitely not do it.

Seeing that Qiao Zijin was in a daze and there was no movement, Qiao Nan even nudged Qiao Zijin. "Sister, hurry up and go. If it's too late, Dad and Mom will start quarreling.

Before Qiao Zijin could say word, her body gave a honest reaction. She twisted. How could she be willing to enter the couple's room?

Qiao Zijin smiled embarrassedly. "Dad and Mom are in the heat of an argument now. If I go in at this juncture, it will be definitely be awkward for them. I, I will wait until they have finished quarreling before persuading them." With that, she ran straight back to her own room.

Qiao Nan sneered, she had long known about Qiao Zijin's self-centered personality. Only her mother would treat Qiao Zijin like a treasure.

She did not know what Qiao Dongliang told Ding Jiayi. Since that faithful day, Ding Jiayi never lifted a finger to Qiao Nan. But whenever she cast her eyes on Qiao Nan, it was very unfriendly, as if she was looking at her enemy.

Moreover, from this day onwards, Ding Jiayi began to ignore Qiao Nan. It was as if Qiao Nan did not belong to the family.

Qiao Nan smiled. She understood this tactic – it is called psychological abuse.

In her previous life, whenever she did not satisfy her mother's desires, her mother would either make a huge fuss or use this tactic.

At that time, she also deserved it. She was unhappy as she often felt that her mother was ignoring her. So she would keep all the suffering to herself and think of ways to please her mother.

In this life, with her mother ignoring her, she would also have one less person to scold her. Even better!

Sitting in her own room, Qiao Nan was thinking about how she could live this lifetime to the fullest. She must definitely continue her studies but she could not recollect much of the knowledge gained during the days in junior high school.

Although at this time, those who went to vocational secondary school were more promising than those in the high school, Qiao Nan knew best that, in future, the college students would be in demand as they valued the diploma in higher education.

Qiao Nan rummaged through her entire room. She did not find a single piece of homework, not to mention the junior high school textbooks. In this way, how was she going to revise the studies for junior high school to advance to high school?

Qiao Nan thought about it and went straight to look for Qiao Zijin. "Sister, why have my secondary one and two textbooks gone missing?"

Qiao Zijin, who was eating a milk popsicle, said coldly. "They're your books. How would I know where they are?"

Qiao Nan stared at Qiao Zijin's milk popsicle a few times. "Then are your books still around? Can you lend me your secondary three textbook?"

Qiao Zijin still thought that Qiao Nan was greedy and eyeing her popsicle. Pettily, she bit her popsicle and finished it in two or three mouthfuls. Her teeth were so frozen in pain that her words became incoherent. "I have completed my exams so Mom sold my books. It's good to get some money back too."

Of course, during that time, Mom had also conveniently sold Qiao Nan's secondary one and two textbooks.

Mom was not prepared to let Qiao Nan continue her studies, so there was no point in keeping the secondary one and two textbooks.

Even if Qiao Zijin was not explicit about it. Qiao Nan, who had crossed paths with Ding Jiayi for the second time in her life, knew her mother's character best. "Did Mom sell my textbooks too?"

Qiao Zijin's face turned stiff. She did not know if she was frozen by the ice or stunned by Qiao Nan's reaction. "How would I know? Anyway, my textbooks are gone."

Qiao Nan pursed her lips and sneered. She did not believe that Qiao Zijin did not know anything about this matter.

“What are you going to do?” Seeing that Qiao Nan was leaving, Qiao Zijin quickly stopped her. “Because of you, our parents have already quarreled twice in three days. Can you stop ruining their relationship?”

“Move away!” Qiao Nan rudely pushed Qiao Zijin away and returned to her room.

There was still a half a week before school starts. Not only must she learn the knowledge of secondary three, she must also pick up secondary one and two.

Without the textbooks, it would certainly not work. If she could not rely on others, she would have to rely on herself.

Qiao Nan’s room was very small. It was so tiny that it could only fit one bed. But Qiao Nan dug a hole in her room.

The houses in the 1980s and 1990s were not like the 21st century. All of them were built on cemented land. Qiao Nan’s house was paved with neither cement nor bricks; it was paved with mud.

Usually, Ding Jiayi would never give Qiao Nan any money. The red packet that was given to her during Lunar New Year, she would always retrieve it behind Qiao Dongliang’s back.

For the sake of putting up an act in front of Qiao Dongliang, a person like Ding Jiayi could even pretend to give Qiao Nan some meat with her chopsticks and asked Qiao Nan to put it back. How would she be willing to give Qiao Nan any money?

Ding Jiayi would not, but Dongliang would occasionally gave a little. Qiao Nan would save up everything as she could not bear to use it. It came in handy at this time.