

## Mountain Man 211

### Chapter 211: 211

“Second brother, you should go.”

Xiao Yishan had learned a lesson, “Third brother, you’re right, honest people suffer. I carried that load of water just now, now it’s your turn.” Both he and his third brother were industrious, it didn’t matter who did more work at home as long as someone was free. If he could get his third brother away, he could spend some time alone with his wife.

Xiao Yuchuan also saw through his second brother’s calculations, somewhat regretting speaking out. But since his second brother had spoken, and to avoid his wife thinking he was lazy, he picked up the empty water bucket and left the house reluctantly.

The stove fire burned in the kitchen, popping and crackling. No one spoke, and it was very quiet.

Xiao Yishan wanted to talk more to his wife when they were alone, but he didn’t know what to say. He wanted to be close to her, to hold her tightly and cling to her like his third brother did. He had thought about it countless times, but his body just didn’t dare to make a move, “Yue’er....”

Su Qingyue nodded lightly, seeing Xiao Yishan hesitating, his passionate gaze. She was afraid he would confess his feelings for her, so she said, “I’ll go get some firewood.”

Xiao Yishan glanced at the pile of firewood next to the stove. It was enough for breakfast, his wife just wanted to avoid being alone with him.

He felt dejected in his heart.

He went out the door and instructed, “Yue’er, I am going to Aunt Zhang’s home to buy two taels of vegetables.”

Seeing that her back was to him, he thought she was still deaf. He walked over and tugged at her sleeve. When he saw she was looking at him, he repeated his statement.

She knew the second brother thought she couldn't hear, and she didn't want to hide it anymore, "Second brother, my ears are fine now."

He was taken aback, not understanding, or rather, he was afraid of misunderstanding her. Was she saying she could hear now?

Seeing him in a daze, she thought he didn't hear clearly and repeated, "Second brother, I am no longer deaf."

"Yue'er, you're not deaf anymore?" He looked surprised, yet delighted.

"Yes." She nodded.

He was so happy that he hugged her tightly, "That's great, Yue'er, you can hear now! It's fantastic, it's fantastic!"

The audio thrills in his deep and mature male voice was so strong that Su Qingyue found it difficult to breathe.

The second brother is a mature and stable man. She was surprised to find that he was so happy that she was no longer deaf. It showed that he really cared about her.

Xiao Qinghe in the secondary bedroom heard what his wife had said. Her ears were cured, and he was delighted for her. But seeing the second brother holding her, his heart felt a little sour.

He also wanted to hold his wife, to tell her how happy he was for her, but...he couldn't even walk up to her.

Su Qingyue noticed the gaze from Xiao Qinghe through the open window of the secondary bedroom.

There was joy in his peaceful eyes.

She could feel that he was genuinely pleased, presumably because he had heard that she was no longer deaf. But his loneliness...

Why?

She looked at him carefully. His eyes were already as calm as water, as if there was never any loneliness—could she have seen it wrongly?

Having been seen by her fourth brother while she was being held by the second brother, she felt quite embarrassed, “Second brother, can you let me go first?”

Xiao Yishan saw her somewhat reddening face and realized he had held her too tightly, “Yue’er, I’m sorry, I exerted too much force...”.

“It’s nothing.” She said in a detached manner. “I know that the second brother is just happy for me.”

“Yue’er, how did you suddenly recover from deafness?” He asked, then thought his words might not be appropriate, “What I mean to say is...”

Chapter 212: 212 She has medical skills.

“I’m glad you can hear. Who cured your ears?”

She didn’t want to lie to him, “Second brother, I cured myself.”

Surprise crossed Xiao Yishan’s profound eyes. It should be impossible for his wife to know medical skills. Even Dr. Chen, who previously served as an imperial doctor in the palace, could not cure her. How could she?

“Second Brother doesn’t believe me?” She shrugged indifferently.

Looking at her serene expression, Xiao Yishan inexplicably trusted her, “I believe.”

She stared at his resolute, rugged face. His stern face was brimming with sincerity, not feigned deception. It was a genuine, baseless belief that moved her, “Second Brother...”

“Yue’er, how do you know medical skills?” Xiao Yishan remembered the silver needles she wanted to buy in town. “Did you buy the silver needles to cure your deafness?”

“Yes.” She nodded. As for how she came to know the medical skills... She couldn’t possibly tell her Second Brother that the original Su Qingyue was dead, and her body was now occupied by a different soul, could she?

Better not, people in ancient times were highly superstitious. If word got out, those with mal intent might stir trouble, burn her as a demon.

Nor does it mean she doesn’t trust Second Brother...

She looked at her Fourth Brother in the secondary bedroom.

She also trusted both of them, but everyone has a past. Since the day she time-traveled, the modern Su Qingyue has also died. She just wanted to live a calm and peaceful life in this feudal society on behalf of the original owner.

Best not to mention the past.

After a brief thought, she vaguely said, “I accidentally learned some medical skills from someone else before. Although the doctors in the village and town had given up on my deafness and the risks associated with acupuncture were immense, I did not want to live a life of deafness. So, I took the risk and did it myself.”

“Yue’er...” Xiao Yishan looked at her worriedly.

She gave a soft smile, “Second Brother, you don’t have to worry. I got lucky and

cured my deafness, and the risk has passed.” She attributed her exceptional medical skills to luck to avoid appearing too extraordinary.

Xiao Qinghe in the secondary room heard all this. Initially, he found his wife’s behavior a bit strange. She sneaked into the kitchen in the dead of night while Second and Third Brother were asleep. He assumed the water bowl was to soak her silver needles, now he understood she was doing acupuncture.

Unable to resist, Xiao Yishan pulled Su Qingyue into his arms. His robust body trembled slightly, “Yue’er, why didn’t you let Second Brother know about such a major thing? At least I could have been with you...”

Encircled by his strong arms, she felt dwarfed by his size and strength. She smelled the male scent from his body and tried to push him away, “Second Brother, I’m fine, aren’t I? Let me go.” She did the acupuncture naked, she couldn’t let Second Brother stay with her.

Holding her soft body, he was reluctant to let go but didn’t want to defy her either. As he loosened his grip, she stepped back.

Facing her evasion, he told himself that his wife was still young and not mentally prepared.

“1...1’11 go check on the stove fire.” With that, she hurried into the kitchen.

Xiao Yishan watched her slender figure, feeling a mix of love and helplessness. But more than anything, he was happy, happy for her recovery.

His wife, Xiao Yishan’s wife, was no longer deaf or mute!

Turning his head, he saw a similar look of joy on his Fourth Brother's face, no doubt sharing his current emotions..

Chapter 213: 213 He doesn't know

Xiao Yishan went out for a short while and returned with two bundles of vegetables and about two jin of beef.

Xiao Yuchuan also came back carrying a load of water. As he poured the water into the tub, he asked, "Second brother, where did you get the beef from?"

"I bought two bundles of vegetables from Aunt Zhang's home, paying four cents. Aunt Zhang bought six jin of beef from the town yesterday, intending to eat it herself. I wanted to buy some, so Aunt Zhang sold me two jin at the original price of 13 cents per jin. I wanted to add two cents, since it's quite a distance from the town. Aunt Zhang insisted on taking only the original price, so it was 26 cents for two jin."

"Aunt Zhang has always been a good person. Besides, wife is weak. It's time to nourish her." Xiao Yuchuan nodded, "Let's fry a jin in the morning."

Actually, Xiao Yishan wanted to celebrate his wife's recovery, so he said, "Let's fry all two jin of beef."

Su Qingyue saw the look on the second brother's face and understood that he wanted to add some dishes for her recovery, "I appreciate your kindness, but our family isn't well-off. Let's save a jin for tonight."

As his wife said so, Xiao Yishan naturally wouldn't say anything more.

Su Qingyue cut the two-jin beef into two pieces. She rubbed some salt on one piece and placed it in a bowl on the stove cabinet. The other piece was washed and carefully cut on the cutting board.

Xiao Yuchuan was standing behind her, staring at her butt, 'Wife, your butt is so perky!'

Su Qingyue didn't react. Instead, Xiao Yishan sternly scolded with a straight face, "Third brother, watch your mouth! Don't you know Yue'er gets shy?"

Yuchuan didn't take it seriously, "Second brother, what's the problem? After all, wife can't hear."

Xiao Yishan saw that his wife didn't deny it, and only then did he realize that third brother was not aware that his wife was no longer deaf. Since his wife didn't tell him, he didn't say anything more.

Su Qingyue picked up the kitchen knife and began cutting the beef, muttering to herself as she cut, "How come this beef looks so much like Xiao Yuchuan?"

Chuan, who had sharp ears, heard her and came over with a sad face, looking at her and then staring at the beef on the cutting board that had been cut into strips, 'Wife, how does this beef look like me? No matter how I look at it, it doesn't resemble me at all...'

She waved the knife at his face, "Both are so in need of a good slicing."

He immediately jumped back five steps, "Wife, that's a knife! Knives have no eyes, be careful not to accidentally cut your husband's face."

'What does it matter? Even if there's a scar, it won't be as ugly as me. Being uglier means we're a better match.'

Xiao Yishan stood in a corner of the kitchen and touched his disfigured left face. Then he looked at his wife's pustule covered face, wondering whether he and his wife were a good match.

His wife was still good-looking. Although there were some pustules on her face, she looked delicate, and that he found pleasing to the eye.

Xiao Yuchuan smiled happily, "Wife, don't worry. Even if I'm handsome and you're ugly, we're still a great match." He walked over and took the knife from her hand, "Dear, let me cook the dishes later, your husband can cook delicious food. "

"That's because you haven't tasted the dishes I cook." She said with pride, her cooking tasted much better than his.

"Oh, wife, you can cook delicious dishes?" He finished cutting the remaining beef on the cutting board, 'Why don't you cook then?"

When he turned around, his wife had already left the kitchen.

Su Qingyue walked into the secondary bedroom, nodded at Xiao Qinghe who was on the bed, and picked up the water pot from the table.. As expected, there was just a little bit of water left in the pot,

Chapter 214: 214 White Explanation

She went to the kitchen and scooped some well water drawn this morning into the water pot with a wooden ladle.

Xiao Yishan and Yuchuan saw this and exchanged glances.

Their wife was actually helping Fourth Brother with his water, but wasn't she the one who disliked him the most?

The two of them only felt that their wife had changed a lot, making them like her more and more.

Su Qingyue returned to the secondary bedroom and placed the water pot on the table beside the bed. As she was about to turn around and leave, Xiao Qinghe called out to her, "Qingyue... "



She turned back, "Hm?"

"The night before last, you asked not to be disturbed because it was a crucial time for needle therapy for deafness, right?"

She nodded.

Xiao Qinghe was silent for a moment. Thinking about how Third Brother had climbed through the window even after she had told everyone not to disturb her, he couldn't help but feel shocked.

If only he had tried harder to stop Third Brother at that time...

Looking down at his leg, he realized that even if he had told Third Brother, he

wouldn't have been able to stop him.

"I didn't know the seriousness of the situation and didn't explain it better to

Third Brother, so he entered the room and disturbed you. I just said it simply..."

"It's fine." She smiled faintly, remembering what had happened, "It's all in the past, isn't it? And I'm all right."

"But..." He clearly remembered her yelling at Third Brother that night, accusing him of attempted murder.

"It's really okay. You can see that I'm fine now." She walked to the bedside and patted his shoulder like a good friend, "Qinghe, don't dwell on the past. Look forward."

It was better to treat him as a friend than as a young uncle.

Seeing her gesture, though she was being friendly, he couldn't feel happy about it as it wasn't how a wife should act towards her husband. She withdrew her hand, "Um... there's something I want to tell you."

"Feel free to say it."

She looked at his pale and handsome face, "Are you really illiterate?"

"Yes." The Xiao Family was so poor that they couldn't afford education. Seeing her expression, he wondered if she preferred scholars? Thinking of Li Gui who had studied for a few years, he couldn't help but feel down.

Su Qingyue felt embarrassed and said, "Oh, I was just asking casually. I think you have a refined demeanor, more gentlemanly and handsome than scholars, without the pretentiousness that comes with being educated. You're a fine young man."

A look of surprise flashed through his clear eyes, and his handsome face, against his will, turned red. Was his wife complimenting him?

Seeing his blushing cheek, so tender and good-looking, Su Qingyue wanted to pinch it a few times, but only thought about it in her heart. After all, she was Third Brother's wife and couldn't reach out her poison hand to her brother-in-law, "There's something I want to explain..."

He sat quietly, wearing a calm and gentle expression.

Given his serious demeanor, she didn't know how to begin, but in order to avoid him thinking she was a pervert, she gritted her teeth and said, "About the time I accidentally pinched your butt... it was an accident."

Seeing her awkward behavior, he felt like laughing, "Oh, that incident? I've forgotten about it." In fact, he remembered it all too clearly, but he didn't want her to feel uncomfortable.

“You’ve forgotten?” For her to even bring it up was humiliating. Her face instantly turned red, thinking he remembered the incident, so she wanted to clarify just in case he got the wrong idea, “It’s good that you’ve forgotten. Don’t remember it, okay?”

She left the secondary bedroom as if her butt was on fire.

Xiao Qinghe’s pleasant expression turned sad. He knew all too well that his wife was trying to clarify their relationship..

Chapter 215: 215 Care for Second Brother

Since they got up very early, when breakfast was ready, it was only around 7 in the morning.

There weren’t many seasonings in the house, so the vegetables and beef that Xiao Yuchuan stir-fried only had some oil and salt, and it was not bad to eat.

When the dishes were served, Xiao Yuchuan took Fourth Brother’s meal to the secondary bedroom. Su Qingyue saw that Second Brother and Third Brother were going to help her with the vegetables again, so she divided the bowl of beef among the three of them first, “Second Brother, Third Brother, you all need to work, you need some nourishment too. Eat something good and don’t just take care of me.”

Xiao Yishan looked touched but his unshaved beard hid his facial expression.

Xiao Yuchuan’s eyes were tearful, “Wife, you’ve never helped me or Second

Brother with the dishes before, have you?”

Qingyue actually didn’t want Second Brother to keep helping her with the vegetables. She’s a married woman, it’s embarrassing. But she didn’t explain that and just said, “Eat your meal!”

“Ah,” Xiao Yuchuan devoured the brown rice in his bowl, “Having a wife makes all the difference. The same brown rice tastes so much better.”

“Eating in silence, sleeping without talking,” she threw him a sharp look.

He swallowed his food and laughed, “Wife, don’t pretend to be a scholar. You can’t even read. Don’t mix eating with sleeping and all that. Even an illiterate person knows the meaning of these words.”

“I’m too lazy to talk to you. I’m educated.”

“Fine, my wife is the most knowledgeable person, even more knowledgeable than the village teacher.” Xiao Yuchuan didn’t believe it but went along with it.

Xiao Yishan glanced at his wife and thought that maybe she could actually read. He hoped that she couldn’t, as a literate wife would be too good for the

Xiao family and they couldn’t afford it.

The meal was enjoyable.

After breakfast, Xiao Yishan took his bow and arrow and spear, preparing to go hunting in the mountains. Su Qingyue walked to the fence and called out, “Second Brother, wait a minute.”

“Yue’er?” Xiao Yishan who just stepped outside the courtyard door looked at her puzzled.

She hesitated and said, “I know that sometimes when Second Brother enters the mountains, it takes a few days. I want to know when you will come back?” She actually thought it was dangerous in the mountains so she was worried about him. In case he had an accident in the mountains and his family didn’t know about it... If they knew his expected return time and he didn’t come back, they could go looking for him.

Xiao Yishan looked at her serious face and suddenly understood her concern.

She was worried about him! He felt a warmth in his heart, "I'll be back tonight." He had planned to be gone for three to five days, but decided to come back tonight just to see her.

She wanted to say 'I'll wait for you', but thought it would be too intimate. She had already promised to give Xiao Yuchuan a chance, so even if Second Brother was great, she couldn't be indecisive. So she just nodded her head.

When Xiao Yuchuan came out of the storage room carrying a merchandise load, he glanced outside, and saw Second Brother had already walked far away. He said to Su Qingyue who was standing in the yard, "Wife, Second Brother is gone. I'm also going to sell goods. I will go farther today so I can make more money. I won't be back at noon. I left you a big bowl of rice, and you can heat it up and stir-fry the remaining one jin of beef."

Why didn't he tell her to cut only some of it to stir-fry? Telling her to stir-fry a whole jin, he was really generous. She wanted to snap at him but decided against it since he was so generous, "I know."

"Wife, I'm about to leave, and you don't even say you'll miss me.."

Chapter 216: 216 collect medicinal herbs

She waved her hand, "Get lost quickly, you're annoying just to look at!"

Xiao Yuchuan looked at her aggrievedly, "Wife, if you don't say you can't bear to part with me, I won't leave."

"I can't bear to part with you, okay." She was helpless, "Hurry up."

"Alright." Xiao Yuchuan grinned with a mouthful of bright white teeth, picked up the carrying pole, and walked away.

Once they all left, Su Qingyue went into the secondary bedroom without asking Xiao Qinghe, skillfully took the toilet bucket from his room to the latrine in the backyard, fetched water to clean the bucket, and finally put it back to its original position in the bedroom.

Xiao Qinghe watched her movements silently, with a faint trace of tears in his eyes.

He had wronged his wife.

Being a useless disabled man, he couldn't take care of her, let alone ask her to do this kind of work.

Su Qingyue didn't say anything, leaving the room and going to the low storage room next to the master bedroom. She rummaged through it, hoping to find a back basket or something. There wasn't one, but she found a bamboo basket instead.

The bamboo basket was used for picking vegetables and was covered in dust, showing it hadn't been used in a long time.

She walked to the fence and shook the dust from the basket, fetched some water and rinsed it, then used a rag to wipe it dry. The basket was now clean, "Qinghe, I'm going to the mountain to see if I can pick anything useful."

She then went back to the kitchen, picked up the big bowl of rice Xiao Yuchuan had left, and brought it to the secondary bedroom with chopsticks, "I might not come back for lunch, so help me eat this. It will be too hot in the evening, and I'm afraid it will taste bad. Don't waste it."

' He shook his head, "This was meant for you to eat."

"Eating it, whether you or me, doesn't it all end up the same?"

"It's not the same." His voice was light, "Second brother and third brother don't eat lunch. Qingyue, this rice is meant for you, you don't have to worry about me."

"I didn't know you were so stubborn." She feigned a troubled expression, "I don't like eating rotten rice..." Pointing to the rotten rice still drying on the corner stones of the yard, "Look, that's a waste."

"You can take it with you and eat at noon."

Seeing he insisted on not helping her eat, she put the rice bowl into the basket to avoid wasting it, "Then I'm leaving."

"Qingyue..." He became anxious when he heard her mention leaving but didn't dare to ask further.

Understanding the young man's thoughts, she didn't turn back, only leaving one sentence, "Xiao Qinghe, I've decided to stay in the Xiao Family."

She wasn't leaving! His heart, which had been hanging, finally settled. His joy was indescribable. But when he thought of her entering the mountains, he became worried again. He didn't tell her to be careful in the mountains or not to go too far since it could be dangerous...

His heart, which he had just let go of, rose again.

Looking at the gradually warming sun outside, he began to hope the sun would set quickly so she would return. But the sun had just risen...

Su Qingyue didn't go far from the house, looked around in four directions, and chose a nearby mountain to walk to.

She planned to collect medicinal herbs to treat the pus sores on her face. It would have been more convenient to follow second brother, but he would go hunting deep into the mountains. Although her health had recovered, her body was still weak and it wasn't suitable for her to get too tired. So she decided to look around closer places first...

She reached the foot of the mountain after a short walk and followed the winding mountain road uphill. The trees on the mountain were lush and dense, with occasionally neat bamboo poles mixed among them.

Chapter 217: 217 oyster mushrooms

She didn't follow the small path trodden by people, because this village, like any other, had doctors who had likely already foraged for medicine in the nearby mountains. So, it was difficult to find anything valuable there.

Standing on the mountain top, she looked around at the lush green peaks connected to one another, with streams occasionally flowing through the valleys.

Mountains were like treasures, with wild animals, flowers, and herbs... as well as dangers.

If she ventured into the deeper mountains, there would undoubtedly be rewards...

But that should wait for a while.

She observed the level of greenery in the woods, noting that the mountain peak on the left was even more lush, with abundant grass and weeds. The lack of footprints indicated that it was unexplored, so there might be some discoveries to be made there.

She estimated the terrain and, parting the weeds with her basket in hand, she entered the left mountain peak where there was no path.

The mountain was vast, and without a trail, she used the roots of trees and wild grass as stepping points for each step. With one arm carrying the basket, she used the other two hands to grab tree branches and weeds for leverage, making her climb a little easier.



After a short walk, she saw many colorful mushrooms growing under the trees. They were quite beautiful, but unfortunately, the more vibrant the mushroom, the more poisonous and inedible it was.

Not much further, she found a cluster of white oyster mushrooms on the ground. These were the most common type of mushrooms. In the Xiao Family, they either ate meat or vegetables, and there were no other dishes.

She knew that the Xiao Family used to not buy even vegetables, and only started doing so for her sake, squeezing money out from their meager finances for the greens. According to the third brother, they used to pull wild vegetables to eat whenever they craved some.

Since second brother was a hunter, there was always free meat at home. This probably explained why the men in the Xiao Family were taller and stronger than the other villagers.

Looking at the cluster of oyster mushrooms, she couldn't help but salivate at the thought of eating something other than meat and vegetables after so long.

However, she didn't pick them right away. She planned to return the same way she came, so she'd rather pick them later to avoid carrying unnecessary weight for now.

Not far ahead, the soil was moist with plenty of rotten wood on the ground, each pile covered in white oyster mushrooms. There were over a dozen different types of mushrooms on the ground and the rotten wood. After examining them, she determined only three were edible: a yellow wild mushroom, white oyster mushroom, and a small number of shiitake mushrooms.

Speaking of shiitake mushrooms... it was time to make braised chicken.

She'd ask second brother to hunt a wild chicken, then cook it together with the shiitake mushrooms. Just thinking about the delicious dish made her mouth water.

Wiping away her non-existent saliva, she continued towards the depths of the mountain forest.

In the weed cluster, some green plants with heart-shaped or ovate leaves and delicate, erect stems grew. They looked a bit like a bunch of vegetables.

These were asarum, which had medicinal properties, such as dispelling cold, relieving wind and pain, warming the lungs, and eliminating dampness. They could be used to treat colds, headaches, and toothaches.

She picked all the asarum she could find nearby. If she had put them loosely in the basket, it would have taken up the entire space. Baskets were indeed inconvenient for carrying lots of items, especially when climbing a mountain. If only she had a back basket.

She needed to get a couple of back baskets for her family soon.

She bundled all the asarum neatly, using a long piece of grass to tie up three large bundles, which she then placed in the basket to save space.

To prevent her rice from getting dirty, she first found a big tree leaf to cover it before placing the asarum on top..

Chapter 218: 218 Drink water with mouth

Every time she thought of Xiao Yuchuan's bright white teeth, she wanted to help him pull them out. After all, her own teeth were still not white enough despite brushing them for so many days,

Not only did she have to treat her face, but there was also no toothpaste in ancient times. She had to make her own herbal toothpaste.

Willow branches, locust branches, and mulberry branches were common. Boiling them in water and adding ginger juice and asarum could make a simple medicinal mud toothpaste.

With the asarum, she had an idea for her toothpaste.

After wandering around the mountain for half a day, she picked several commonly seen herbal medicines. To treat the pus sores on her face, she needed a medicine that could treat such sores, and also a supplementary herb that the poison spider juice could be used as a drug inducer.

Unable to find the required medicine for treating sores, she decided not to search blindly anymore. She would just buy it from the pharmacy in town once she had enough money.

She also saw a lot of wild vegetables on the mountain. She picked some, tied them with long grass, and stuffed them into the basket.

It was two or three o'clock in the afternoon, and the sun was scorching and poisonous.

She carried a large bundle of common medicinal herbs in her hands, and the basket was also full of wild vegetables and medicine.

There were still many mushrooms that she didn't pick.

She couldn't carry them back even if she picked them.

This trip had yielded a bountiful harvest.

She chose to walk in shady places covered by trees so as to avoid her already dark skin from getting even more tanned.

She hadn't had any water since the morning, and she was incredibly thirsty.

Unable to bear the heat, she decided to find a place to drink some water.

Not far ahead, there was a mountain body with water dripping through the cracks in the rocks. Although it was not a stream, it was pure mountain spring water. She walked over, put down her basket and bundle of herbs, and bent down to drink the spring water dripping from the rocks. The mountain spring water was sweet and a bit refreshing, even better than well water.

After quenching her thirst, she still felt hungry.

It was already past lunchtime, she needed to eat something.

She took out the rice bowl from the bottom of her basket, lifted the lid, and discovered that the bowl of rice was full of ants, which made her scalp tingle.

She had forgotten how many insects and ants there were on the mountain. Next time when she had the chance, she would definitely make some insect-repelling medicine powder.

The bowl of rice was a waste. She emptied the bowl and washed it with the dripping water from the rocks.

She couldn't just discard the bowl, as the Xiao Family had very few bowls, just barely enough to use. She put the cleaned bowl back into her basket full of items.

When she thought of Xiao Qinghe's insistence on her having lunch and his concerned expression, she felt as if not eating would be letting Qinghe down.

She sat in the shade behind the dripping rocks, thinking that she should find something to eat to fill her stomach.

Looking around, she spotted a large bayberry tree with red berries dotting the branches between a cluster of trees. It was the season for ripe bayberries. The tree was full of ripe red bayberries.

She happily rushed over to pick a few bayberries and put them in her mouth. The color was red enough, but as they were wild bayberries, they tasted quite sour.

After eating more than ten, she decided not to eat anymore to save her teeth from the acidity.

However, bayberries had many uses.

At the same time, deep in another distant mountain, Xiao Yishan's harvest for the day wasn't very good. He caught only one wild rabbit that fell into a pre-dug trap.

Thinking about Fourth Brother's medicine that was about to be consumed entirely, it would cost three taels of silver to buy medicine for another month. Third Brother's fainting problem could occur at any time, and medical treatment would require a lot of money.

The family only had two hundred copper coins in total.

There was no solution to Fourth Brother's imminent medicine money problem.. His wife, being a woman, still

Chapter 219: Origin Chinese text: 219 Second brother was bitten by a snake

There wasn't even a single bronze mirror, he saw his wife using the water jar as a mirror and wanted to buy her a bronze one, but the delicate craftsmanship required high-quality copper, costing at least one tael of silver for one mirror...

He needed to hunt more prey.

Carrying a wild rabbit, he went deeper into the mountain forest and suddenly noticed a wild goat.

Stealthily, he took out an arrow from the bamboo tube behind him, drew his bow, and aimed...

Before he could shoot, the wild goat seemed to sense danger and fled deeper into the forest at high speed.

No matter how fast a human can run, they cannot keep up with wild animals in the forest.

Xiao Yishan didn't immediately chase after the goat but followed its hoof prints. The wild goat ran into an area covered with weeds as tall as a man.

He quietly pushed aside the grass and saw the wild goat. Just as he was about to draw his bow, he felt a pain in his ankle, and when he looked down, he saw it was bitten by a poisonous snake the size of a wrist!

The snake raised its head and hissed, ready to attack again.

Xiao Yishan frowned, and the arrow he was aiming at the wild goat was immediately shot at the snake's jugular. The arrow hit with precision.

The snake wriggled violently on the ground after being pierced by the arrow, thrashing about in its death throes.

Xiao Yishan simply grabbed the snake's head and slammed it against a stone on the ground, smashing the snakehead to bits, while the snake's body gradually weakened its wriggling movement.

He tossed the snake aside and quickly squatted down to check his bitten ankle. Rolling up his pants, he saw two fang holes on his ankle and the skin turned black around them.

The snake venom was spreading fast, and he felt his entire calf go numb.

He quickly tore a long strip from his clothes and bound his thigh tightly with it, slowing down the spread of the venom.

He normally wouldn't bear to tear his clothes, but now facing life and death, he didn't care anymore.

After binding his thigh, he held the bitten spot at his ankle and squeezed, releasing some black blood. No matter how hard he squeezed the wound, the blood color seemed wrong and soon, his entire calf turned bluish.

The venom had begun to spread, and he needed immediate treatment.

Having hunted for many years, although he didn't know much about medicine, he recognized one or two types of herbs that could treat snakebites. He searched around but found no familiar herbs nearby, so he needed to return to the village and find a doctor quickly!

Picking up the dead snake, he couldn't waste its meat, especially since there were hundreds of poisonous snakes and having the snake's corpse would help the doctor prescribe a more accurate treatment. Not forgetting to take today's only catch, the rabbit, he set off quickly towards the village.

He knew that walking now would speed up the spread of venom, but if he didn't move in this desolate landscape, he would only wait for death and might not be discovered for days.

If he could hurry back to the village...

The image of Su Qingyue's slim figure appeared in his mind...

Even if he were to die from poisoning, he would perhaps get a chance to see his wife one last time.

At first, his steps were agile, but gradually, they became heavier, and his whole body seemed numb from the poison. As he walked, he felt as though he were drifting.

After walking a great distance and climbing over another hill, he could see the village, but he could no longer walk. His tall body fell to the ground with force. He crawled up and staggered on...

He couldn't die on the road, he had to see his wife!

After staggering for a while, he missed a step on the steep slope, and his whole body rolled down the hillside..

Chapter 220: A big problem occurred at 220.

Rolling all the way down to the mid-hillside, he finally stopped when a huge stone blocked his path.

He didn't know if it was the blow to his head that knocked him out or if the snake venom had reached its peak, as his consciousness was scattered and he felt dizzy. He thought about going home and seeing his wife again, but his limbs wouldn't listen to his commands anymore...

It's getting dark, and Su Qingyue is happily walking back to the Xiao family home... no, it should be called her home now, with one hand carrying two bundles of herbs and the other carrying a basket.

After finding a wild bayberry tree, she also found the herbs needed to treat her pus sores on her face, as well as some ordinary healing medicines. One could say that this trip was quite fruitful.

However, she didn't pick any bayberries or mushrooms, as she couldn't carry that much. She planned to ask second brother and third brother to go with her tomorrow to help pick and bring them back.

She picked four bunches of wild vegetables, which would save her a few coins on buying them tonight.

Humming an out-of-tune melody all the way down the mountain, she was approached by Auntie Hua from the village when she was near the crossroad close to home. "Wife of the Xiao Family, I finally found you. The villagers have been looking for you for half an hour, and we thought you ran away again. Hurry back, there's been a terrible accident at your home!"

Su Qingyue paused, "What happened to my family?"



Dashan was bitten by a poisonous snake and fainted on the mid-hillside. He was found by Zhou Fuquan and Li Gui from the village, who carried him back. Yuchuan came back from selling goods and was about to go to ask for Doctor Sun from the village, but before he even left the house, he also fainted. Yuchuan usually passes out easily, but why did he have to fall ill at this critical moment? Fuquan is going to ask Doctor Sun in place of Yuchuan, but unfortunately, Doctor Sun has gone to another village for consultation. Both Dashan and Yuchuan are lying in bed while the villagers are talking. Yuchuan is just suffering from his usual illness, but I'm afraid Dashan might not make it..." Upon hearing this, Su Qingyue ran home as fast as she could.

The Xiao family's yard was filled with people watching the commotion. Su

Qingyue squeezed through the crowd, shouting, "Make way."

When the villagers saw her, they sighed, "The wife of the Xiao family still hasn't left, we all thought that when their family was in trouble, she would run away again!"

"Look at what she's carrying and what she's picking... what is that stuff?" someone asked, puzzled.

"Just a pile of grass, wild vegetables, and weeds. Wild vegetables are of course for eating. The Xiao family's house is so old, I wouldn't be surprised if she picked those wild grasses to use as thatch for the roof..."

"That little thatch wouldn't be of much use. I think it wouldn't even be enough to make a fence. Look at her; the Xiao family's brothers are so miserable, and she still has the leisure to pick wild grass..."

The villagers' gazes at Su Qingyue were quite dissatisfied.

Su Qingyue didn't care what the others were saying, she squeezed into the room through the crowd, threw the herbs and the basket on the floor, and looked at the two men lying side by side on the long bed.

Xiao Yuchuan was unconscious, but his breathing seemed to be steady. Xiao Yishan, however, looked like a corpse, his body covered in a purplish hue.

Wang Cuihua stood by helplessly, “Wife of the Xiao Family, you’re finally here. Second Brother Xiao passed out, and we don’t know if he will wake up. His name was on his lips before. My husband Fuquan has gone to find Doctor Sun, but Doctor Sun doesn’t know which family in another village he is visiting, so it’s difficult to find him...”

Su Qingyue sat on the edge of the bed and reached out to feel Xiao Yishan’s pulse, which was extremely weak,