

## PAW 1361

Chapter 1361: How are you so skilled in surgery?

In the ambulance.

The atmosphere changed all of a sudden.

"Not good."

"What are you doing?"

"Don't remove the forceps!"

"Oh no! It's over it's over."

Major blood vessel bleeding is very lethal. Zeng Jinhua could not hold on for so long because the steel bar pierced into her abdomen was not removed. It helped to ligate the blood vessels to some extent. Many TV dramas and movies depict that after being stabbed, the object should not be removed scientifically based. If it's removed, the person is over. The blood vessels will bleed massively after the steel bars have been removed. Hemostatic forceps to clamp and close the blood vessels can only slow the bleeding and the patient's condition. However, Mayor Dong had unexpectedly removed the hemostatic forceps.

Mayor Dong has gone crazy.

How is the patient going to survive if the hemostatic forceps were removed?

"Hurry and clamp it back!" Dr. Qian felt he should not listen to a layman like Mayor Dong. A human life is at stake! Moreover, she is a Committee Member's wife.

Dr. Wang also panicked and went to get the hemostatic forceps.

However, Mayor Dong stopped them, "What's the blood pressure?"

"Blood pressure?" The nurse thought to herself. The patient was dying, and he still wanted to check her blood pressure.

Another nurse turned to look at the vital monitoring instrument and was stunned, "Ah!"

"I said, what's the blood pressure?" Dong Xuebing asked again.

"The blood pressure is forty-five. How how did it rise? It's impossible. The hemostatic forceps have been removed!" The nurse exclaimed, "It's rising again."

"It's rising?" Dr. Qian was surprised.

Dr. Wang and the other nurse also looked over, and sure enough, the blood pressure had risen a bit, and the heart rate seemed to be stabilized.

They couldn't believe it. This exceeded their understanding.

When blood vessels bleed, blood pressure will drop.

But when they looked at the blood vessels again, there seemed to be no bleeding.

What's going on? This is baffling.

Why didn't the blood flow out after the hemostatic forceps were removed? Why did the blood pressure rise again?

Suddenly, Dr. Qian remembered something and exclaimed, "Could it be Quickly give me the magnifying glass!"

The nurse handed it to him in a daze. Dr. Qian lowered his head and used the magnifying glass to examine the bleeding blood vessels. Dr. Wang and the nurses crowded over to look. The magnifying glass was positioned before Dong Xuebing earlier, and the blood vessels were too thin. They couldn't see clearly.

All of them were shocked after looking at the blood vessels.

"This is"

"How did the blood vessels"

"They were sutured."

"My God, how did they suture?"

The doctors and nurses couldn't believe their eyes.

They looked at the other two blood vessels. Sure enough, they were all sutured.

Although they could not see clearly with the magnifying glass, they could still see the threads.

The stitches were irregular and not uniform, but they were stitched.

Dong Xuebing glanced at them, "What do you think I was doing just now?" He ignored them as there was not much time. He picked up another type of suture needle and suture thread, looked at Zeng Jinhua's slightly damaged organs, and started stitching.

The doctors and nurses looked at Mayor Dong like he was a monster. They were speechless.

He had only lowered and raised his head.

It was not even two seconds!

You you were suturing the blood vessels?

Damn! That's too fast.

The doctors and nurses had helped with other surgeons at the hospital this afternoon. Many doctors operated on some patients together because it involved cardiology and other diseases. Dr. Wang and Dr. Qian had witnessed several surgeons from the county hospital performing surgery. The suturing of blood vessels and other suturing by the surgeons took several minutes for a single blood vessel, and they were the best surgical experts in their hospital.

A few minutes for one? But Mayor Dong sutured three bleeding blood vessels within ten seconds!

An average of one blood vessel every three seconds, or an average of two stitches per second. All this was done without a microscope to carefully examine the condition of the blood vessels.

What kind of medical skills do you have?

Dr. Qian looked at Mayor Dong in astonishment, "Mayor Dong, what kind of suturing surgery"

Seeing that Mayor Dong ignored him with his head down, Dr. Wang also called him, "Mayor Dong, you"

Dong Xuebing straightened up and threw something into the tray before reaching out his hand, "Hemostatic cotton."

"Ah?"

"Hemostatic cotton."

"Ah, here it is."

The nurse immediately handed it to him.

Dong Xuebing clamped it with forceps and wiped Zeng Jinhua's wound.

Another nurse suddenly exclaimed, "The blood pressure has risen! Fifty, fifty-two."

They lowered their heads and discovered a previously bleeding organ rupture had been stitched together with a suture thread.

Damn, another one has been sutured.

They were dumbfounded. Everything happened within seconds.

Everyone looked at each other in shock. All of them felt a bit dizzy.

How long is a few seconds?

It was just a few blinks of an eye.

Mayor Dong sutured another bleeding point of an organ within this time, and none of them noticed it.

They saw surgeons suturing fast, but not this fast.

What kind of hands do you have?

Dong Xuebing was too focused and tense. His forehead was wet with sweat, dripping down his nose and eyes.

The nurse immediately wiped his sweat with a towel.

Dr. Qian and Dr. Wang regained their composure. They had no time to be astonished anymore and began cooperating fully with Dong Xuebing. They must save the patient.

Dong Xuebing said, "Disinfect and clean the wound."

Dr. Wang immediately worked on it.

Dong Xuebing closed his eyes to rest for a while and said, "How many more suture points are left?"

"I'll do the ligation work. There are still three points to be sutured." Dr. Qian quickly concluded. Three. There's still a lot to do.

Dong Xuebing took a deep breath and opened his eyes. He reached out, "Suture needle and thread. Report the patient's blood pressure every five seconds."

Dr. Qian handed the needle and thread to him, and the nurse on the other side also looked at the instrument, "Blood pressure forty-eight. It dropped."

"Hurry up." Dong Xuebing's eyes became focused. He looked more like a seasoned surgeon now. He was calm and could place the needle accurately with steady hands. He did not look like an amateur who had only performed surgery once. Instead, he looked more like a surgeon who had practiced for many years.

One stitch

Three stitches

Five stitches

The more Dong Xuebing sutured, the more skilled he became. Practical experience, whether in Chinese or Western medicine, is more important than theoretical knowledge. He was learning slowly through practice.

Zeng Jinhua's vital signs became more and more stable.

The doctors said she could last at most seven or eight minutes earlier.

Now, with the blood vessels and one of the organs sutured, she could hold on for at least half an hour.

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Chapter 1362: Scolding

After 10 pm.

Under the night sky.

All attention inside and outside the Public Security Family Quarters Courtyard was focused on the ambulance parked on the roadside. The doors were closed, making it impossible to see what was happening inside.

People were discussing.

"Mayor Dong has been inside for quite a while."

"Is it going well?"

"Who knows? Mayor Dong seems to be skilled in surgery."

"What if he's run out of options? The doctors have not arrived yet."

One minute

Two minutes

Three minutes

Meng Rui checked his watch, "It's been about five minutes."

"More than that," Jiang Fangfang says, "It's been eight minutes."

Zhang Wanshui's face darkens, "Didn't they say that Old Chu's wife could only hold on for eight minutes at most?"

Cheng Fuguang and his wife stood together, "We don't know what's happening inside. Should we ask the nurse?"

Jiang Fangfang said, "Mayor Dong is still in the surgery. He said to leave it to him, so let's trust him."

Because of his son's wedding, Deputy Secretary Zhang Wanshui had a grudge against Dong Xuebing. He said, "Mayor Dong alone is insufficient. Are the surgeons here?"

The nurse looked outside, and the car had not arrived.

Jiang Fangfang called her secretary, "Xiaona, did you pick up the surgeon?"

Li Xiaona quickly replied, "I ran into them on the way. The doctors were already in the car, and we were about to head back. We should take around fifteen minutes."

Jiang Fangfang says, "Hurry up."

"Understood," Li Xiaona says.

After hanging up the phone, Jiang Fangfang turned to Chu Peng, "They will be here in fifteen minutes."

Land Rover has powerful horsepower. Its off-road performance is excellent and will shorten the time significantly.

Chu Peng and Zeng Jinhua's parents brightened up when they heard that. No one believes that Mayor Dong, a layman, could perform the surgeries. They had no choice but to hope he could hold on for fifteen minutes more. She may be saved if Zeng Jinhua can hold on until the hospital's surgical doctors arrive.

Hold on.

Please hold on.

Hopefully, she can last until the surgeons arrive.

Chu Peng paces around the ambulance anxiously. He tried to see inside through the glass but could not see anything.

Five minutes passed

Ten minutes passed



Zeng Jinhua's parents could not stand it anymore.

"It's been more than twenty minutes. Jinhua" the old lady says anxiously.

The old man, leaning on his walking stick, says, "Wait a bit longer. Our child will be fine."

Suddenly, the distant street echoes the roar of an engine. It was a deep and powerful motor sound. It's Mayor Dong's Land Rover.

"They are here."

"They are back."

"The surgeon is here. The surgeon is here."

Everyone looked over, and the Land Rover was almost there. The civilians realized it was an emergency and made way for the Land Rover. The Land Rover stops in front of everybody with a screech, and Chu Peng and the elderly couple rush forward. Other County leaders and officials also go over.

The car door opened, and Li Xiaona exited the car, panting, "I've brought the surgeon here."

It was faster by several minutes. It showed how fast Li Xiaona drove.

The rear passenger door opened, and two doctors and a medical staff exited. The medical staff was carrying something that looked like a medical microscope.

"Director Feng," Chu Peng shouts.

Director Feng was the most famous surgeon in the county hospital. He worked in Zhen Shui County for more than twenty years. Almost all county leaders know him.

Director Feng quickly asked, "Where is she?"

Chu Peng grabbed him and pointed in the distance, "My wife is in the ambulance."

The old lady started crying again when she saw Dr. Feng, "Dr. Feng, you must save my daughter."

"Don't worry, Auntie. I'll do my best," Dr. Feng replied and was dragged away by Chu Peng towards the ambulance. He asked, "What's the situation with Madam Zeng?"

Chu Peng replied anxiously, "I don't know."

A nurse nearby adds, "They are performing the surgery inside."

Dr. Feng is taken aback, "Who is performing surgery? Xiao Qian and Xiao Wang? Are joking? One is an orthopedic surgeon, and the other is a cardiologist. How can they do surgical stitching?"

The nurse wiped her sweat, "Mayor Dong might perform the surgery."

Dr. Feng was puzzled, "Mayor Dong? Who is Mayor Dong?"

The nurse explains, "It's its Mayor Dong Xuebing."

Li Xiaona had left earlier and was unaware of this. She was bewildered when she heard Mayor Dong Xuebing was in the ambulance, performing surgery. Why was County Mayor Dong performing the surgery?

The young doctor behind said, "Mayor Dong is a trained surgeon?"

Chu Peng replied, "Mayor Dong says he knows and volunteered as there was no other option."

Dr. Feng was alarmed, "This is nonsense." He turned and pointed at the medical staff's equipment, "There's no equipment in the ambulance. They don't even have a medical microscope. How can you do a vascular stitching surgery without a microscope?"

"What?"

"No microscope?"

Everyone gasped. Even if they are not doctors, they know about these things.

No proper equipment

No microscope

Madam Zeng's situation seemed grim.

Chu Peng and Zeng Jinhua's parents were visibly worried.

"What do we do now, Dr. Feng?" The old lady cried, "What do we do now?"

Dr. Feng quickly decided, "Ask them to open the door now. I will take over the surgery. Hopefully, it's not too late."

The young doctor behind rushed forward and pulled the door. However, the ambulance door was locked. He knocked and shouted, "Dr. Feng is here. Open the door, quick."

No response.

He knocked on the door again, "Open the door now!"

Still no response. It was as if no one was inside. But they saw some flickering lights through the windows. Someone was moving inside.

Dr. Feng was annoyed, "The door is open. Can't you hear?"

Yao Cui can't stand it and says, "Lower down. The surgery might be in a critical stage now."

Dr. Feng is not pleased, "I had been a doctor for many years and had never heard of vascular stitching surgery without a medical microscope. How can you perform surgery without a microscope?"

Everyone was restless, and Yao Cui got mad, too.

Before Yao Cui could say anything, the ambulance's back door suddenly opened.

Dong Xuebin, in a white coat and mask, got out of the ambulance. His gloves were still stained with blood. He took them off slowly and glanced at Dr. Feng. "Why are you yelling like that? You think you got a loud voice?"

Dr. Feng was dumbfounded. Who are you to scold me?

Zhenshui County was relatively small and had a poor medical environment. Dr. Feng was the top surgeon in the county hospital and was usually treated with respect, even by County officials. It's rare, if not unseen, for someone to scold him. The status of a doctor was still relatively high, and people usually gave him respect. He had never been scolded like this.

However, those who know Dong Xuebin were not surprised.

It might be news if other county leaders scolded people like this. It was rare or even unheard of. When have you seen Secretary Meng or Mayor Jiang scolding people? But everyone finds it quite normal for Mayor Dong. This was not the first time he scolded someone. Dong Xuebing scolded away more than ten Leaders who came to ask for money from the County Party Committee. The scolding was earth-shattering, and the entire Party Committee building heard it. Everyone knows about Dong Xuebing's work style. He was somewhat bold.

"Mayor Dong," A leader called.

Dr. Feng finally figured out who this person was. But it does not change the fact that he was scolded. Why are you scolding me? Step aside. Don't delay me performing the surgery.

Dong Xuebing ignored him and threw his gloves on the ground. He stared at Dr. Feng, "The hospital does not know there's a patient with an external injury here? Why isn't there a surgeon among the doctors accompanying the ambulance? I understand the hospital is busy today, and you just arrived. Yet, you have the nerve to order me? Who the f\*\*k is delaying the surgery?" The onlookers and TV reporters were left dumbfounded. This guy didn't care about anything. If he felt like scolding someone, he would do it. Pointing at Dr. Feng, he continued, "The patient just finished surgery and needs to rest. You are not supposed to be shouting and screaming here. You're over half an hour late and still act like you're some big shot? Who the hell is delaying the surgery?"

The onlookers, including many citizens, were almost on the verge of fainting.

The young doctor was speechless, and Dr. Feng was on the verge of bursting a blood vessel. Dong Xuebing was scolding with such intensity that his voice could rival anyone's.

Dr. Feng was scolded until he turned red-eyed. "You"

But he didn't dare to retort or scold back a County Leader.

Seeing this, Pu An quickly intervened to mediate, "Mayor Dong, let's forget about it."

Jian Xiangrong also approached. Everyone knew that Dong Xuebing had a bad temper. If they did not restrain him, there might be trouble. They didn't want any accidents with so many people around. "Dr. Feng is also worried about the patient."

Dong Xuebing was about to continue, but Jiang Fangfang looked at him.

Seeing her expression, Dong Xuebing swallowed his words. After all, he had to show his respect to Mayor Jiang. He stopped pointing his finger at Dr. Feng and said nothing.

Dr. Qian and Dr. Wang also got out of the car.

"Director Feng."

"Director Feng, you're here."

The two greeted Dr. Feng.

The nurses, still in shock, got out of the ambulance. They saw Dong Xuebing sweating, and one of them quickly picked up a towel and wiped his sweat delicately.

Dr. Qian stepped forward and helped Chief Dong remove the white coat.

The crowd observed all these actions and was puzzled. The strange change in the attitudes of the doctors and nurses towards Mayor Dong left them wondering what happened inside. How was Madam Zeng doing?

Chapter 1363: Why are you good at everything?

Scolding was just a side note.

Jinhua's injury is more important.

"Where's Jinhua? How's the surgery?" Chu Peng walked up to Dong Xuebing in a couple of steps.

Madam Zeng's mother also hurried over, "Mayor Dong, did my daughter make it? Tell me she did."

Dong Xuebing smiled, "Don't worry. She's fine."

Chu Peng's expression brightened, "She's okay now? She is not in danger anymore?"

Dr. Qian sighed, "The surgery was very successful, and the patient is temporarily out of life-threatening danger."

Dr. Wang added, "Quickly transport her to the hospital for further treatment and observation. Ah fortunately, Mayor Dong performed the surgery. Otherwise, it might have been too late."

The old man cried joyfully, "Are you telling the truth?"

Dr. Wang nodded, "Mayor Dong sutured all the wounds."

Dr. Qian chuckled, "I've witnessed numerous surgeries, but it's the first time I've seen someone move so fast. Mayor Dong's skills are remarkable. Even a slight delay could have made the surgery impossible. It's truly a miracle. I still cannot believe it."

Dr. Wang also expressed his amazement.

They broadened their horizons today.

The onlookers were stunned by their reactions.

"How is this possible?" Dr. Feng couldn't believe it, "Without a medical microscope, how can you perform vascular sutures? Did you even suture them? How can you call this successful if you had not sutured them?"

The nurse said, "We used a magnifying glass."

A magnifying glass for vascular sutures?

The young doctor who came along almost tripped.

Dr. Feng slapped his forehead, "You all are jeopardizing the patient's life!" He went straight inside the ambulance to check the patient's condition.

Dr. Feng was an expert and an authoritative figure in surgery, especially in general surgery. His words naturally carried more weight even in the city. When Chu Peng and Madam Zeng's parents heard this, their hearts tightened. They were not sure if Jinhua was out of danger.

Silence. Everyone was waiting for Dr. Feng's final diagnosis.

Dong Xuebing, on the other hand, paid no attention to him. He lit a cigarette and started smoking. Dealing with the situation had drained him physically and mentally.

Dr. Feng went inside.

A minute later, he came out.

The first thing Dr. Feng did when he got out of the ambulance was look at Dong Xuebing. He had a hint of shock in his eyes. He stayed silent for a long time without uttering a word.

"Dr. Feng."

"How's Jinhua?"

"Is my daughter okay?"

Dr. Feng paused briefly before saying, "The patient is out of danger now, and the surgery was very successful."

"Ah!"

"That's great!"

"Jinhua is fine, she's fine!"

"Thank you, Dr. Feng, thank you so much."

The old lady was so happy that she grabbed Dr. Feng and thanked him. Seeing Dr. Feng looking embarrassed, the old lady suddenly realized he hadn't performed the surgery. The old man and the lady turned around and thanked Dong Xuebing, "Mayor Dong, thank you."

Dong Xuebing quickly said, "You two, don't be so polite. It was just a small effort. It's also because Sister Zeng has good physical health that she pulled through."

The old lady teared up, "You saved my daughter's life."

"It's two lives," Chu Peng added, "Jinhua was just rescued from under the collapsed building by Mayor Dong. He was also seriously injured."

The old couple finally noticed the bloodstains on Dong Xuebing's clothes and realized he might still be bleeding. Their gratitude deepened.

"Mayor Dong," Chu Peng shook his hand excitedly.

Dong Xuebing smiled, "Chief Chu, accompany Sister Zeng to the hospital. The surgery is done, but she still needs medication. We cannot stay here."

"Right, right." Chu Peng just remembered.

Meanwhile, Dr. Feng and the young doctor, with looks of disbelief, found Dr. Qian, Dr. Wang, and the nurses who participated in the surgery. The group huddled together. The young doctor observed the patient's vital signs. Her vitals, including blood pressure and heart rate, were stable. This indicated a successful surgery, but Dr. Feng and the young doctor couldn't understand what had happened. In their view, such surgery couldn't possibly succeed.

Don't talk about a layman.

Even if Dr. Feng didn't have a microscope, he could not have performed this surgery.

The young doctor asked urgently, "Dr. Qian, Dr. Wang, what happened exactly?"

Dr. Wang gave a bitter smile, "Actually, Dr. Qian and I aren't quite sure."

"How could you not be sure? Weren't you both in the surgery together?" Dr. Feng immediately asked.

Dr. Qian sighed, "We did not do much. Mayor Dong's movements were too fast. We couldn't even see clearly, and the blood vessels were miraculously sutured."

Dr. Feng asked, "How long did it take?"

Dr. Wang replied, "He took about ten seconds to suture three blood vessels."

The young doctor was stunned, "Ten seconds?"

Dr. Feng took a deep breath, "And without a microscope?"

"There was no microscope, just a small magnifying glass, and the magnification wasn't even high," Dr. Wang explained helplessly. "Don't say you find it unbelievable. We were dumbfounded at the time, too."

The young nurse exclaimed, "Unbelievable!"

Dr. Qian added, "Later, if it weren't for the sudden drop in the patient's vital signs during the organ suturing, prompting us to intervene, given Mayor Dong's speed, this surgery probably wouldn't take more than three minutes. It's too fast. When he was suturing the organs, it seemed like he could complete six or seven stitches in a second and without any mistakes. It was incredible; I don't know how Mayor Dong developed such skills."

Dr. Feng remained silent.

Upon hearing that County Chief Dong, an outsider, had successfully performed surgery without complete equipment, others were also dumbfounded.

They initially thought Dong Xuebing could at least delay some time, but unexpectedly, he completed the surgery directly.

Even the authoritative expert in the county, a surgery specialist, was left speechless.

As they watched the ambulance carrying Zeng Jinhua drive towards the hospital, their gazes returned and fixed on Dong Xuebin. Meng Rui, Zhang Wanshui, Pu An, and others were also at a loss for words. It turned out he could perform surgery.

What was he doing in the past?

The strength to lift a one-ton stone wall.

The perseverance to remain calm and cheerful even when covered in blood.

The vitality to withstand the impact of so many heavy objects without falling and the medical skill to perform surgery in a situation without even a microscope left the county leaders, the general public, journalists, and medical staff present at a loss for words.

They were all unsure of how to evaluate County Chief Dong. It seemed like there was nothing he couldn't handle.

Chapter 1364: Hospitalize

Night.

Around 11 pm.

County People's Hospital.

Dong Xuebin was pushed around the hospital for various examinations and had his wounds stitched up. After a needle was injected, he was also given an IV.

"Don't administer the IV. I am fine."

"This is medicine, and it must be administered."

"I can't sleep with this needle."

"With such a severe injury, you must get the IV."

Dong Xuebing felt uncomfortable and bantered with the young nurse for a while.

The door opened, and Jiang Fangfang entered alone. It was late, and many County leaders had gone home to rest. However, the County Party Secretary and the Mayor were still at the hospital inspecting the situation. They had probably just visited Zeng Jinhua and the other family members of the Public Security Bureau who were rescued at noon.

Dong Xuebing looked over, "Mayor Jiang, you haven't gone back yet?"

Jiang Fangfang had overheard Dong Xuebing and the nurse talking. She asked the young nurse, "How is Mayor Dong? Are his wounds all treated?"

The young nurse nodded and complained, "Everything is fine, but Mayor Dong is not cooperating with us."

Dong Xuebing was speechless. "I am also a doctor, and I know my physical condition. I don't need the IV."

"Mayor Jiang, look at him." The young nurse pouted. She was dedicated to her job and was not afraid of Dong Xuebing.

Jiang Fangfang glanced at Dong Xuebing and said calmly, "No matter how good your medical skills are, you must listen to the doctors and nurses in the hospital. If they ask you to get an IV, then get it."

Dong Xuebing smiled wryly, "Alright, I'll listen to you."

Jiang Fangfang nodded and said to the nurse, "Carry on with your work."

"Okay. Then I'll leave. If you need anything, call me." The young nurse closed the door and left.

Jiang Fangfang sat down by the bedside, looked at the bandages on Dong Xuebing's body, and asked, "Does it hurt?"

Dong Xuebing smiled and said, "It's nothing, just a minor injury. I'll be fine after a couple of days of rest."

"This cannot be healed in a day or two." Jiang Fangfang pulled up his blanket. "I just had a chat with Secretary Meng and asked the doctors. They plan to give you another half month of leave

based on your injuries. Don't think about anything else. Just focus on recovering. You've made a great contribution this time and saved a lot of people. The county will report to the city tomorrow. When you are discharged after recovery, and when everyone else is also mostly recovered, the county plans to hold a commendation meeting, mainly for you and a few outstanding firefighters."

"I can be discharged tomorrow. I'm fine."

"Save it. Recover well. You will be busy with the family quarters rebuilding. You have work to do, so you need to be in good health."

Oh, they will not be taking the position of deputy in charge of the project from me.

Dong Xuebing finally breathed a sigh of relief when he heard this.

This guy didn't want to stay in the hospital because he feared someone else would take credit for his achievements. Although this incident could earn Dong Xuebing some points, saving lives and receiving commendations would undoubtedly enhance his reputation and political achievements, leaving a profound mark on his record and impressing the leaders above. However, what he valued the most was his achievements in his field of work. He saved numerous lives and left more than one mark on his record. Still, he wanted others to recognize his professional capabilities. Therefore, he cared more about achievements in his field of work.

"Are you fine alone tonight?" Jiang Fangfang looked at him and asked, "Otherwise, I can stay and accompany you."

Dong Xuebing knew she was being polite and quickly said, "No, no. You've had a tiring day. I'm fine alone, and my wounds were treated."

Jiang Fangfang thought about it and said, "I will ask Xiaona to stay."

Dong Xuebing said, "Really, there's no need. Let Secretary Li go home. I'm fine alone, and there's a nurse here. The main concern now is Sister Zeng's injuries. I'm okay."

Jiang Fangfang said, "I haven't asked you. When did you learn medical skills?"

Dong Xuebing cleared his throat and said, "I learned it long ago. I know a bit about both Chinese and Western medicine."

Jiang Fangfang smiled, "Then I won't come to the hospital when I'm sick. I'll find you."

"Sure." Dong Xuebing laughed, "You can trust me with your medical needs. But let's be clear. My medical skills are just so-so."

Jiang Fangfang glanced at him, "Even the best surgeon in our county was impressed when he checked Mrs. Chu's injuries just now. You call that so-so?"

"It's not like that. It was luck. It happened that I had learned this kind of surgery before. Actually, I wasn't confident when I was performing the surgery. I was taking a risk as I had no other choice." Dong Xuebing had to make up an excuse. He didn't want to be too high-profile.

"Regardless, you've worked hard this time."

"It's okay, it's what I should do."

"I will peel an orange for you. Can you eat?"



"Oh, don't bother. Please go home and rest."

Jiang Fangfang didn't move. She opened a fruit basket on the bedside table, peeled an orange, and handed it to him.

Dong Xuebing reached out to take it, saying, "Thank you."

"Don't move. Just open your mouth," Jiang Fangfang said, holding the orange.

Dong Xuebing felt a bit embarrassed, but he still opened his mouth. Jiang Fangfang's small hand immediately entered his mouth. After the orange went in, he felt his lips touching Jiang Fangfang's fingertips. He blushed slightly as he chewed the orange and swallowed. Then, the second slice came.

One slice

Three slices

Five slices

One orange was gone.

"Have another one."

"No, I can't eat anymore."

"Okay." Jiang Fangfang looked at her watch. "I should go back now. I'll come to see you again tomorrow. By the way, your clothes were torn. Give me your keys."

Dong Xuebing blinked, "Keys?"

Jiang Fangfang said, "I'll bring you some clothes when I come over tomorrow. The ones you wore before are all stained with blood. I asked the nurses to throw them away. The stains cannot be removed."

Dong Xuebing apologized, "Sorry to trouble you."

Jiang Fangfang stood up, saying, "Dont mention it."

"Err thank you." Dong Xuebing reached out for a drawer with his slightly painful arm. He found his keys in the drawer and handed them to her. "Thanks."

"What kind of clothes do you want me to bring?"

"Any will do."

"Are they all in the wardrobe? Got it."

"Take care on your way, and be safe."

Jiang Fangfang nodded and said, "Old Chu's wife's condition is relatively stable. You should talk to them more these few days."

"I understand." Dong Xuebing's expression became serious after Jiang Fangfang left. He closed his eyes and lay on the bed, thinking about Mayor Jiang's intentions.

The Jiang's faction was weak in the Party Committee, and winning once was just a fluke. To compete with the Meng faction, they needed to expand their camp. Chu Peng had always been Jiang

Fangfang's man. Although he switched sides, he was the easiest to win over. The timing was right as Dong Xuebing saved Zeng Jinhua's life.

Chapter 1365: The Jiang faction got stronger

The next day.

Morning. The County hospital,

A needle prick awakened Dong Xuebing. He gasped in pain, and in his half-asleep state, he instinctively reached out and twisted. He knocked down the almost 80kg nurse who was giving him an injection. There was a muffled thud, followed by the nurse's screams.

In the hospital room.

Several doctors and nurses were dumbfounded.

"Oh, my back!"

"Sister Chen, are you okay?"

"What are you doing, Mayor Dong?"

"Quick, help Xiao Chen up. This is getting out of hand."

The nurse was too heavy and took three people to help her. She sat on a chair, grimacing in pain. The fall was painful.

Dong Xuebing finally saw that it was a nurse. He looked at the half-filled syringe in his arm and, with a wry smile, sat up in bed, leaning against the headboard. "Why didn't you say anything before giving me the injection? Wake me up first. I thought someone was attacking me. Sorry, nurse."

The nurse, weighing almost 80kg, needed three people to help her get up.

You're supposed to be a patient, but you twisted her wrist and knocked her down just like that. You don't look like a patient at all.

The nurse assigned to Dong Xuebing smiled bitterly. "Last night, you managed to secretly pull out the IV needle in the middle of the night. We worried you wouldn't listen to the doctor, so we wanted to give you the injection while you were still asleep. Who knew you'd react so strongly even in your sleep."

Dong Xuebin chuckled, "You could have told me. I just got a shot without realizing what was going on. How was I supposed to know?"

That nurse was unfortunate.

Are you all right, Nurse? Dong Xuebing looked at her.

The unfortunate nurse groaned, "I'm fine."

Several doctors and nurses began to examine his wounds, completed the injection, reminded him to take medicine, and then closed the door and left.

Ring, ring, ring, the phone rang.

Checking the number, it was Jiang Fangfang calling.

"Hello," Dong Xuebing answered, "Sister Jiang."

Jiang Fangfang replied, "I'm at your house and have taken your clothes."

Dong Xuebing sighed, "Alright, thank you. Sorry for the trouble."

Jiang Fangfang said indifferently, "But I couldn't find your underwear and socks. Where did you put them?"

"Ah?" Dong Xuebing's face reddened, "Cough, cough. They should be in the cabinet. I'm not sure."

"There's nothing in the cabinet. I found some unwashed socks in the washing machine. I just washed them for you, but they haven't dried yet. I can't bring them to you right now."

"Oh no, you're troubling yourself again. I can wash them myself."

"I've already washed them. Think about where you put your underwear."

"Right, I remember now. They're probably in my suitcase. I forgot to take them out after I got back."

"I'll take a look." There was a clatter on the other side. Half a minute later, Jiang Fangfang said casually, "Hmm, found them. I'm coming to the hospital. I am hanging up."

The call ended.

Twenty minutes later.

The hospital room door opened, and Jiang Fangfang walked in, closing the door behind her.

Dong Xuebing quickly flipped open the blanket to get out of bed to greet her. "Mayor Jiang."

"Stay down and don't move." Jiang Fangfang walked up and reached out, pressing his shoulders to make him lie down. She handed him a plastic bag, "Here."

Dong Xuebing took it. "Thank you."

Jiang Fangfang looked at him. "Can you change by yourself?"

"I can. It's just some external injuries, no fractures," Dong Xuebing said.

Jiang Fangfang stood up. "Hmm, I'll use the restroom. You change into your clothes." With a rhythmic sound of high heels, she entered the bathroom, closing the door behind her.

Dong Xuebing thought for a moment. Considering that he would probably need to undergo check-ups and treatments during the day, and various leaders would visit him one after another, there were quite a few things to deal with. He was wearing nothing under his patient gown. If he had to get an injection, it would be awkward if they found him bare. He is the Executive County Deputy Mayor and must care for his public image. He listened to the sounds from the bathroom for a while and took off his gown. He rummaged through the bag and found a pair of underwear. He put it on before donning his trousers.

The socks were taken out.

The sound of the toilet flushing came from the bathroom.

A moment later, someone knocked on the door, "Are you done?"

"Yeah, I'm done," Dong Xuebing tried to wear his socks while sitting on the bed. However, despite feeling fine yesterday, he felt pain all over today. The wound was even more painful than yesterday. He reached down with a bit of difficulty.

Jiang Fangfang wiped her hands with tissue and came out. Dong Xuebing hadn't finished putting on the first sock.

Jiang Fangfang took a look and casually sat at the foot of the bed. She picked up the other sock and skillfully put it on Dong Xuebing's barefoot.

Dong Xuebing was startled. "Dont dont"

"Don't move," Jiang Fangfang's expression was very casual.

"This won't do," Dong Xuebing said nervously, "I can do it myself. Let me do it myself."

"Hold still," Jiang Fangfang didn't listen, and with a gentle push, she had already put the sock on his right foot. Then, she helped him put on the left one.

Letting the County Mayor cook for oneself was already something.

Letting the County Mayor wash one's clothes and underwear was also quite something.

Now, having the County Mayor help put on socks. This was a surprise. Dong Xuebing felt both honored and touched. Besides his mother, who would go to such lengths for him? Jiang Fangfang had been exceptionally kind to him.

After putting on the socks, Dong Xuebing said, "Sister Jiang, go and wash your hands quickly."

"No problem." Jiang Fangfang covered his feet with a blanket.

At that moment, someone tried to open the door from outside. The person could not open it, and that person knocked. A nurse said, "Mayor Dong, you asked me to update you on Madam Zeng's condition. She woke up around ten minutes ago. The doctor just checked, and everything is stable. She's out of danger now."

"Okay, I got it."

"Have a good rest. You have another examination in the morning."

Madam Zeng was safe. This was undoubtedly good news.

Dong Xuebing looked at Jiang Fangfang and said, "Sister Jiang, shall we go and visit her?"

"Let me get a wheelchair. Can you get off the bed like this?"

"No need for a wheelchair. I'm fine."

Dong Xuebing lifted the blanket and stepped into his slippers. Jiang Fangfang gave him a hand. She saw that he could walk and didn't say anything more.

At the end of the corridor.

Outside another single-patient room.

Zeng Jinhua's parents spotted Jiang Fangfang and Dong Xuebing before they reached the door. They immediately stood up to welcome them excitedly.

"Mayor Dong!"

"Thank you, Mayor Dong. Thank you!"

The elderly couple looked tired and had dark circles under their eyes. It was evident that they had stayed up all night in the hospital room without sleeping. Now that their daughter had awakened, they finally breathed a sigh of relief. They didn't know how to express their gratitude to Dong Xuebing. The old man, leaning on his walking stick, shook Dong Xuebing's hand vigorously with one hand.

Chu Peng, who was by the hospital bed, also stood up.

Dong Xuebing quickly said, "Please, don't do this. It's what I should do. You already thanked me yesterday. Let's not talk about it today."

The old lady said, "There is no such thing as what you should do. We have no relation to each other, yet you risked your life to save Jinhua. We will remember this favor for a lifetime."

Dong Xuebing smiled and said, "It's not that serious. It's good that Sister Zeng has awakened."

Chu Peng immediately asked, "What about you, Mayor Dong?"

"The wounds have been stitched up. I'm fine now," Dong Xuebing replied.

Lying in the hospital bed, Zeng Jinhua suddenly spoke softly, "Mayor Dong, are you here? Old Chu, help me get up."

Chu Peng immediately said, "How can you get up now?"

Dong Xuebing said, "Sister Zeng, you can't. You just had surgery, and your recovery will take several months." Knowing she couldn't get up, he walked over and sat on the edge of the hospital bed. "How do you feel? Do you feel anywhere uncomfortable?"

After yesterday's events, the old lady had a lot of confidence in Dong Xuebing's medical skills. She said, "Jinhua mentioned she felt dizzy and nauseous."

Dong Xuebing smiled, "That's okay. It's normal to have these symptoms after anesthesia." He checked the blood pressure and electrocardiogram on the nearby instruments. "Alright, everything looks stable for now. It seems fine, but don't let your guard down. The first half month after surgery is crucial. Make sure the patient avoids getting chilled and infected. If there are any signs of fever, inform the doctor immediately. Well, I might need to stay a few more days. You can tell me also."

The elderly couple kept expressing their gratitude.

Zeng Jinhua turned her head with difficulty to look at Dong Xuebing and managed to muster a gentle smile, "Mayor Dong, thank you. I heard about what happened when I was unconscious from Old Chu."

Dong Xuebing said, "Don't mention it. Just focus on recovering and avoid talking too much."

Zeng Jinhua weakly said, "You also need to rest. I'm sorry for getting you injured because of me." She said, and tears flowed down her cheeks.

Dong Xuebing said, "Don't worry, and rest well."

Chu Peng wiped away his wife's tears with a handkerchief. He was feeling a bit emotional, too.

The elderly couple do not know much about official matters. They pulled Dong Xuebing aside to express gratitude and asked about his injuries.

Chu Peng didn't say much. Some things were kept in his heart. Seeing Dong Xuebin chatting with his in-laws, he walked to Jiang Fangfang.

"Mayor Jiang."

"You haven't slept all night. You must be tired."

"I'm holding up."

"Let your wife rest. She cannot rest well with so many people around. The doctors will watch her. Let's go have breakfast together," Jiang Fangfang suggested, glancing at him.

Chu Peng nodded without hesitation. "Sure."

Jiang Fangfang asked Dong Xuebin and the elderly couple.

The elderly couple had just eaten, and Dong Xuebin had to go for tests shortly, so they were not joining.

"Then, let's go," Jiang Fangfang said. She and Chu Peng left the ward together.

Watching them leave, Dong Xuebing nodded slightly. He knew the Political and Legal Affairs Commission would join the Jiang Faction again. The Jiang faction would likely gain another influential member soon.

Chapter 1366: Commendation Ceremony

One day

Two days

Three days

Dong Xuebing was discharged from the hospital this morning.

Most of his injuries had healed, and he decided not to stay in the hospital any longer. There was a commendation meeting in the county today, and he must attend.

County Hospital.

Outside of the main building.

Dong Xuebing did not notify anyone, which might have attracted unnecessary attention during working hours. He completed the discharge procedures, picked up his belongings, and came downstairs. He waited at the entrance for a cab and received a phone call, which surprised him.

Ring, ring, ring.

It was Xie Huilan's number.

Dong Xuebing put his things on the ground and leaned against the hospital wall to answer the call.

"Hello, Huilan. Why did you suddenly think of calling me early in the morning? Usually, you call at night."

A chuckle came from the other side. "I missed you, kid."

Dong Xuebing laughed, "Hey, I wonder if that's true."

Xie Huilan chuckled, "Your background is noisy. Where are you?"

"Oh, I'm about to go to work. I am on the way." Dong Xuebing didn't dare to tell her about his injury as Xie Huilan would scold him again.

"Hehe, how's the work going?"

"It's okay. I took on the role of Deputy Project Director a few days ago. It's considered my first achievement since coming to Zhen Shui County. I'm still planning it, and things are going smoothly."

"How are your interpersonal relationships?"

"They're fine. I've already integrated into the circle."

"That's good. I was worried you might offend people again. Hehe."

"I worry more about you. I will try to transfer back before you give birth. By the way, how's the baby? All the check-ups went well?"

"I just checked yesterday. Everything is fine."

"Did you do an ultrasound to determine if it's a boy or a girl?"

"The doctor said it should be a boy. Hehe. I told you back then, but you didn't believe me. How about now?"

"It's a boy?"

"We can see it pretty clearly now. It should be accurate."

"Haha, look at how happy you are. A boy is good. A boy is good." Dong Xuebing was also happy. Boy or girl were the same to him.

"I wanted a boy. Your mother, too. Yesterday, they were so happy after my call to them. It was late, but Uncle Yang's secretary drove her from Fenzhou City to find me. She cared and cooked for me. I felt a bit embarrassed. When you come, let your mom know her health isn't good. I am fine."

"Look at how caring my mom is for you." Dong Xuebing enviously said, "I haven't received this kind of treatment. I've been here for over two months, and my mom hasn't come to see me once."

"How far is your place?"

"Only a three-hour flight."

"Hehe, then I will go and see you."

"Save it. You are just saying." Dong Xuebin snorted, "You have more going on there than I do. How can you come?"

"What if I can go?"

"You still should not come. You are pregnant and should not be running around."

"Hehe, considerate as always, kid. I decided to surprise you, but you have to kiss me first."

"What surprise?"

"You have to give me a kiss first."

"Hey, I'm outside."

"Don't worry about it. Just give me a quiet kiss. Let me hear it."

Dong Xuebing was helpless, so he quietly made a kissing sound on the phone. "Okay, what's the surprise? Are you getting a promotion? It can't be this fast."

"You'll know when the time comes. Bye."

"Hey, you said you'd tell me after a kiss."

"Hehe, I arrived at work. I have to go. Goodbye."

The call was abruptly ended, leaving Dong Xuebing speechless. It was like this every time. He might have scolded her if Xie Huilan had been standing before him. But he knew he didn't dare to be too audacious in front of his wife. After all, she held a higher position, was older, and was pregnant. She is his precious treasure now.

Putting away his phone, Dong Xuebing hailed a taxi.

9 am.

County Party Committee Compound.

The taxi stopped at the gate. Dong Xuebing paid the fare, exited the car, and entered the compound. It was the start of the working hours, and many people were in the compound.

"Eh?"

"Mayor Dong?"

"Why did you get discharged?"

"Good morning, Mayor Dong."

"How's your injuries?"

Many people were surprised to see Dong Xuebing, and they greeted him one after another.

They had heard that Mayor Dong had received over fifty stitches for his injuries a few days ago, and they didn't expect him to be discharged so soon.

Dong Xuebing greeted everyone, "I'm much better now. Thank you for your concern."

Mayor Jiang's car also arrived. She seemed to notice him, and the car stopped before Dong Xuebing. The door opened, and Jiang Fangfang got out.

"You are discharged?" Jiang Fangfang said indifferently.

Dong Xuebing nodded, "The injuries are almost healed."

Jiang Fangfang looked him up and down, seeing that he was fine and did not say much. "There's a commendation ceremony later. Since you're here, prepare a speech."

Dong Xuebing said, "I'll pass. I am not going on stage."

Jiang Fangfang walked ahead, "It is mainly your commendation. If you don't speak, who will? Prepare a speech. If you can't, let the Secretariat prepare one for you."



Dong Xuebing pretended to hesitate before saying, "Okay."

They entered the building and went up the stairs. No one was around, and Jiang Fangfang turned to him, saying, "Your body has suffered, and there's no one to take care of you here. After I finish cooking in the evening, you can come to my place to eat. Bring your clothes and socks, and I'll wash them for you when I have time."

Dong Xuebing awkwardly said, "I really can't trouble you."

Jiang Fangfang said, "It's a small matter, not a trouble."

"I cannot do this. I've already troubled you enough, Sister Jiang." Dong Xuebing smiled and joked, "Letting you take care of me like this, I might not be able to live independently in the future."

Jiang Fangfang smiled slightly.

Dong Xuebing changed the topic in a low voice, "Regarding Director Chu"

Jiang Fangfang nodded, "It's almost settled. Old Chu and his family appreciate your kindness."

Dong Xuebing knew that after the recent interactions between Mayor Jiang and Chu Peng, it seemed Chu Peng was leaning toward the Jiang faction. He was in a good mood despite he believed it was his duty to save Zeng Jinhua. He would have rushed to rescue and performed the surgery without hesitation, even if it was someone else. However, Dong Xuebing was happy to see Chu Peng realigning himself with the Jiang faction. It was a result he welcomed.

The two had already reached the upstairs.

In front was Dong Xuebing's office. He was about to bid farewell when Jiang Fangfang suddenly stopped and looked at him, "You've always said that I take care of you, but in fact, I should thank you. Since you came to Zhenshui County, you've helped me a lot. I've seen it all and understand. My work wouldn't have progressed so smoothly if you hadn't come. This is an indisputable fact."

Dong Xuebing shook his head, "You're exaggerating."

Jiang Fangfang said, "You've worked hard these two months."

Dong Xuebing immediately said, "It's all for the people. It's not hard at all."

After returning to his office, Dong Xuebing called Yao Cui, asking her to have the Secretariat prepare a speech for him as soon as possible.

A while later, the speech arrived.

Some officials who learned about Dong Xuebin's discharge visited his office.

"Mayor Dong."

"How are you feeling?"

"Why didn't you stay in the hospital for a few more days?"

Dong Xuebing engaged in polite conversation and expressed gratitude to everyone. Unlike when he first took office, he now had considerable influence in Zhenshui County after going through so much.

10 am.

The commendation ceremony began.

Leaders from the entire county were seated in the small auditorium.

The meeting was presided over by a Deputy Director from the County Party Committee Office. He began with a brief explanation of the family quarter's building collapse incident a few days ago. Then, a firefighter representative, who fearlessly fought on the front lines during the incident, gave a speech. Following that were representatives of the spontaneously organized rescue teams from the masses and a representative from the family members of the collapsed building, expressing their gratitude.

The last to speak was Dong Xuebing.

The deputy director of the County Party Committee Office loudly announced, "Finally, I have a statistic here. When the building collapsed, a person rescued twenty-one people from the building within half an hour. This is more than all the firefighters and members of the spontaneously organized rescue teams combined. Later, when the dormitory building collapsed, this person disregarded their own life, rushed into the building, despite sustaining serious injuries, persisted in rescuing the wounded." Pausing momentarily, he continued, "Now, let's invite Dong Xuebing, Mayor Dong."

The applause thundered from below.

Other departments controlled by the Meng faction were relatively calm. Still, the leaders and officers of the Public Security Bureau were applauding enthusiastically. Dong Xuebing's decisive actions and unwavering spirit had truly moved many people.

Dong Xuebing took the stage.

Everyone looked at him with various thoughts.

Lifting a ton-weight stone wall with his hands

Suffering heavy injuries without blinking an eye

Performing a complicated surgery

Dong Xuebing's deeds that day had long been spread, and many people had learned about them from the county TV news. After hearing the story, many found it hard to believe. There were rumors that Chu Peng, the Political and Legal Affairs Committee Secretary and the Public Security Bureau Chief, had recently become very close to the Jiang faction. People couldn't help but be silent.

Who could have imagined that the Jiang faction, suppressed for so long, could turn the tables?

But Dong Xuebing had only been in the county for two months. The overwhelming advantage of the Meng faction had completely disappeared, and there was even a sign of being suppressed by the Jiang faction.

What a remarkable Mayor Dong!

Where did this person come from?

Chapter 1367: Xie Huilan is coming?

Noon.

County Government building.

Deputy County Mayor Office.

After the commendation ceremony, Dong Xuebing reviewed the documents that had piled up during his hospitalization in his office. Many of the documents were planning reports for the family quarters' renovation and rebuilding, prepared by the County Government Office at his request. After flipping through it, he felt somewhat dissatisfied. Their funds were limited, only thirty million RMB, and the estimated cost for this plan was thirty million RMB. If there were any unforeseen expenses, there would be no way to cover the shortfall. Moreover, such a large project was not just about building and repairing buildings. It also involved personnel placement and the emotions of the families. Construction couldn't start all at once. There had to be a certain order, deciding which unit's family quarter building to construct first and which unit's building to repair. This required careful planning and was not easy to handle.

Knock, knock.

Someone knocked on the door.

"Come in." Dong Xuebing looked up.

Yao Cui entered, holding a meal that she placed on Dong Xuebing's desk. "I knew you'd be too busy to eat, so I brought this up."

Dong Xuebing smiled. "Thank you."

Yao Cui sat down. "Eat while it's hot, don't let it get cold."

Dong Xuebing asked, "Sure, have you eaten? Let's eat together."

Yao Cui smiled, "I've already eaten at the cafeteria."

Dong Xuebing nodded, put down the files without looking at them, and began to eat. The cafeteria's food was average, and one could only fill their stomach.

After the meal, Dong Xuebing remembered something and pointed to the planning document on the table. "I've looked at the plan made by the office. It's not ideal. Ask them to revise it."

Yao Cui blinked, "What's the issue?"

Dong Xuebin said, "We need to lower the budget a bit more."

Yao Cui noted it down with a pen. "Alright, I'll talk to them."

"And there's a problem with the order of construction. The aging conditions of the family quarters are not the same, and everyone wants to start with their own. It will create many problems, and this plan won't work."

"Okay, I'll have them revise it later."

"Prepare a few more proposals. We'll discuss them together later."

Yao Cui asked about Dong Xuebing's injuries before leaving.

Dong Xuebing attached great importance to this project. It was his first significant task since taking office. He valued the achievements and wanted outstanding results. However, he was adept at political maneuvering and unconventional methods. When it came to formal and straightforward

work, he was somewhat clueless. It was amusing to think about it. He had been in the system for many years but hadn't done any serious work. So, when real work came along, he was at a loss.

Ring, ring, ring.

The phone on the desk rang.

Dong Xuebing answered, "Hello, who is this?"

"It's Jiang Fangfang," came Mayor Jiang's voice.

Dong Xuebing's expression brightened, "Mayor Jiang, how can I help you?"

"Just checking in, how are you handling the work on hand? I gave you half a month off. Don't rush with work. You should focus on recovering your health first."

"My health is fine now. It's just that the planning for the family quarters project hasn't been finalized."

"No need to rush on that. Provide a rough plan within this month, and we can work on the details later."

"But the rough plan hasn't been determined yet. I had my subordinates outline it. However, there are significant issues. If you have a moment, can you take a look?"

"I don't have time right now. You go ahead and finalize it. Report to me when it's ready. I have to go to the city this afternoon. I just finished handling county matters and must report the collapsed family quarters situation to the city. It'll take me until tomorrow to return. You decide on the plan."

"Alright," Dong Xuebing rubbed his temples, realizing this achievement was not as easy to obtain as he thought.

Jiang Fangfang suddenly said, "I called you for something else."

"Yes, what is it?" Dong Xuebing asked.

"Are you sure you're completely recovered?"

"I'm fine now. The wounds have healed."

"Okay, this afternoon or evening, according to the schedule we set yesterday, I'll be visiting the families of the injured and those relocated from the Public Security Bureau. We might also need to survey the aging conditions of other family quarters and residential areas. It's a politically significant visit that TV and newspaper reporters will record. Secretary Meng and other relevant leaders will attend. However, I have to go to the city. If you're physically well, represent the County government at the event."

"Sure," Dong Xuebing thought for a moment. It was just a formality, explaining to the public. He understood.

Jiang Fangfang continued, "Secretary Meng and others will be accompanied by their spouses to enhance the sense of warmth. What about your side? Can your spouse make it?"

Bringing his Wife

He did want to, but how was he going to bring her?

Dong Xuebing sighed, "She's busier than me and won't be able to make it this afternoon. It takes three to four hours for her to fly over."

"No problem, you can go alone."

"Alright, I'll change my clothes in a bit."

Shortly after hanging up, Secretary Meng's secretary, Zhang Feng, called. He mentioned the same matter, and Dong Xuebing naturally agreed. He would not have been too keen on going if it weren't for Jiang Fangfang's call. He didn't like this kind of political show, finding it somewhat fake. However, since Mayor Jiang had to go to the city for something, the County Government had to send someone, and Dong Xuebing, the Deputy County Mayor, had to go.

He checked the time. It was almost time.

Dong Xuebing didn't hurry back to change his clothes. Instead, he opened his computer and read the news, reviewing the events during his hospital stay.

One page

Five pages

Ten pages

Suddenly, a piece of news caught Dong Xuebing's eye.

It was about a city conducting educational research in their city. The news had just been posted a few minutes ago. Although Mei He City was economically and infrastructurally underdeveloped, its education sector was doing well. Every year, many students from Mei He City enter top national universities. Perhaps it was due to poverty that the students were more diligent. Because of this, the Central Government allocated a considerable amount of special funds for education to Mei He City. This was the only aspect that Mei He City could be proud of.

It wasn't surprising for another city to come for educational research.

However, what stunned Dong Xuebing was that the visiting city was Fen Zhou City.

Due to the unimportance of the news, there wasn't much detail, but Dong Xuebing knew that Huilan was in charge of the education in Fenzhou City.

Damn!

Could it be that his wife was leading the delegation?

Thinking of the surprise mentioned by Huilan in the phone call, Dong Xuebing couldn't help but smile.

Chapter 1368: How can there be someone so beautiful?

Afternoon.

County Party Family Quarters compound.

Dong Xuebing drove back home. He tried calling Xie Huilan's phone, but it rang for a while with no one answering.

Upon entering the house, he took a shower and changed his clothes. After drying his hair, Dong Xuebing called again, but no one answered. He wondered if Xie Huilan was leading the delegation after all.

Deciding not to dwell on it, Dong Xuebing leaned back on the sofa, lit a cigarette, and, with plenty of time on his hands, continued to study the stack of plans for the project.

Ring, ring, ring.

The phone rang.

Dong Xuebing answered, "Hello, Cui'er."

"Xuebing." It was Yao Cui calling. "Are you at home?"

Dong Xuebing replied, "Just got back a while ago. What's up?"

Yao Cui said, "If it's convenient for you, could you come back?"

Checking the time, Dong Xuebing said, "Isn't it still early for the condolence visits? Is it brought forward?"

Yao Cui explained, "Not really, but we received a sudden notice from the city. An inspection team from an external city is coming to our city for research. Their first stop is our Zhen Shui County. It seems to be related to the education sector. The city initially arranged for someone to receive them. Still, the leaders from the visiting city seemed reluctant to trouble the city and wanted to come down themselves. They will probably stay in our Zhen Shui County tonight. The city has already informed us to arrange accommodation for the visiting municipal cadres. However, it's not a significant matter. Secretary Meng suggests assigning someone from the education sector to receive them. When they want to go down to see something, let someone accompany them. The evening condolence work will proceed as usual."

Dong Xuebing was taken aback, "When will they arrive?"

"Any moment now. They should be coming directly to the County Party Committee Building."

"Are they from Fen Zhou City?"

"Um, I'm not sure. I didn't ask."

"Alright, I'll be right over."

After hanging up the phone, Dong Xuebing can confirm. It was undoubtedly Huilan who came. Otherwise, why would they choose Zhen Shui County for research with so many brother cities near Fenzhou City doing well in education? The schedule also seemed to be arranged by Xie Huilan, as the research was just a formality. She came to see him as the primary purpose.

Why the sudden surprise attack?

See how I will teach you a lesson tonight.

With his belongings in hand, Dong Xuebing went downstairs and drove over. He missed her badly. The last time he returned to Fen Zhou City, he didn't stay for more than a day before leaving for something else. He only briefly met with Xie Huilan, and they barely spoke. With Xie Huilan taking the initiative to visit him this time, they could have a proper reunion. He was pretty happy about it.

4 pm.

County Party Committee building.

Staff from the Party Committee Office and Government Office were already standing in the compound, ready to welcome the visitors from the external city. This research visit was sudden, and Zhen Shui County received no prior notice. Even many people in the county were unaware of this visit. However, it didn't matter much. This kind of visit was just an exchange and discussion of their work. It was not a significant event; welcoming them was just a formality. The research was sudden this time, and Zhen Shui County didn't receive any prior notice. Many people in the county didn't even know much about this visit. However, it didn't matter much. This kind of visit was just an exchange and discussion in their work, not a significant event. Welcoming them was just a formality.

In the County Party Secretary's office.

Secretary Zhang Feng knocked on the door. Secretary Meng, they are almost here.

Secretary Meng Rui nodded at his desk. "Is everything arranged?"

Secretary Zhang Feng, his secretary, said, "The guesthouse has been prepared. However, I'm afraid the conditions are a bit simple. People from the external city may find it unsatisfactory. Shouldn't we arrange them in a hotel instead?"

Meng Rui shook his head. "Let's stick with the guesthouse. Find the cleanest rooms available."

Their county was in such a situation, and it wasn't a leader from a higher level coming for inspection. It was just a research visit. There was no need to show off too much. Welcoming them was a courtesy because they had heard that the visiting city had a Deputy Mayor leading the delegation. With their official status, they couldn't refuse. It was just a formality.

Zhang Feng asked, "Alright. For this afternoon, when you go down for the condolence visit, do you want to inform Deputy County Mayor Lui to accompany them for dinner?"

Lui Zhi was the deputy county mayor in charge of the education sector.

Meng Rui nodded, "Let Lui handle it and have some County Party Committee Office staff go as well."

"Are you going down later? I heard that a Deputy Mayor is leading the delegation, and it seems quite important," Zhang Feng asked.

"Notify me when they arrive," Meng Rui affirmed. He would certainly go down. Even if it wasn't something significant, the Deputy Mayor had a much higher rank than him. It was necessary to give a face to someone who came for research and study. As the County Party Secretary, he couldn't neglect this. After thinking for a moment, Meng Rui suddenly said, "By the way, notify the staff from the County TV station and County newspaper to come over as soon as possible." If a more advanced city was coming to Zhen Shui County to learn and inspect their education work, it was an opportunity to enhance the image of Zhen Shui County and himself. There should be some media coverage.

"Alright, I'll contact them immediately," Zhang Feng said.

After going out, Zhang Feng quickly made several phone calls to arrange. For some aspects that weren't properly arranged, he also called and urged them multiple times. Unfortunately, they were disconcerted since they only received the notification briefly ago.

Five minutes

Ten minutes

Twenty minutes

The staff from the TV station and newspaper arrived.

Leaders and officials from the Education Bureau also rushed over.

Unlike others who were indifferent, Deputy County Mayor Lui Zhi and the Education Bureau officials attached great importance to this external city research. It was an affirmation of their work, and the fact that the external city chose Zhen Shui County as the first stop indicated that their county was at the forefront of education work. This could earn them some points, so the Education Bureau officials were naturally very welcoming.

Lui Zhi looked to the side. "Old Han, is everything arranged at the school?"

Han Dazhong, the Education Bureau Director, was a man in his forties with a graying hairline and glasses with gold rims. "Everything is arranged. However, they might not conduct research today. It's too late."

Lui Zhi pondered, "It's not certain. Prepare just in case."

Han Dazhong nodded. "Alright, I'll remind them again."

Lui Zhi said, "If they go down for research, the TV station will follow. Don't make any mistakes."

"I know." Han Dazhong also attached great importance to it. He immediately asked the Deputy Director of the Education Bureau, Zheng Xiuhao, to contact the schools.

Zhen Shui County's economic situation was not good, and there were few areas where they could achieve political accomplishments. Therefore, everyone valued such political performances.

The courtyard was bustling with activity. The people from the TV station knew that this was a political task. Although they were in a hurry, many devices were installed on-site, and many people didn't even know the report's content.

"What are we covering this time?"

"It seems to be about education research."

"Don't just assume, hurry up and find out."

The cameras were already set up, and preparations were almost complete. The TV station staff had to inquire before understanding today's task. Although rushed, they managed to catch up, and everything was ready.

"Hey."

"The cars are here."

"They've arrived, they've arrived."



Cheng Fuguang, the Propaganda Department Minister, Liao Haiwei, the Organization Department Minister, Pu An, and Jianxiang were looking down from upstairs. Many County leaders hadn't come out yet, as the research from the external city wasn't directly related to them. Only Deputy Secretary Zhang Wanshui and Deputy County Mayor Ci Boyang, who had entered the Party Committee, were present, along with Lui Zhi. They were waiting with the County Party Committee Office and the Education Bureau personnel.

Several cars drove in.

The cars all had city license plates, which Mei He City arranged for the research team.

After receiving the news, Secretary Meng left the office with his secretary. Yao Cui and Ma Bin, the director of the County Party Committee Office, also walked into the courtyard.

The car doors opened.

About six or seven people got out of the car.

Meng Rui and Zhang Wanshui walked ahead, greeting them with smiles. Behind them were more than twenty County leaders and staff members who followed suit, creating a grand scene.

"Old Zhang," Meng Rui whispered as they walked, "Which city are they from?"

Zhang Wanshui said, "It seems to be from Fen Zhou City, a prefecture-level city in Hebei Province."

Considering how far Hebei Province was, Meng Rui was puzzled about why they would come to their city for research. However, Fenzhou City sounded somewhat familiar to him.

Well, let's just welcome them.

In any case, it's good for Zhen Shui County to enhance its image.

Reporters and TV personnel were already busy taking photos and filming.

Meng Rui looked at a middle-aged person who had just come down, thinking he should be the group leader. So, he smiled and extended a welcoming gesture to them. Zhen Shui County had only received the news half an hour ago, and Secretary Meng didn't even know which city Leader was visiting, let alone who was leading the delegation. He assumed that this person might be the Deputy Mayor.

However, the middle-aged man didn't speak. Instead, he quickly reached into the car to assist a woman.

The woman appeared in her thirties, dressed in a neat suit. After being respectfully helped out of the car, everyone was surprised to discover that this young woman was pregnant, with a noticeable belly that seemed to be four or five months pregnant. Many were startled when they looked at her smiling face, with beautiful crescent-shaped eyes that seemed capable of captivating souls.

Oh my, she's too beautiful!

Many people were taken aback by her charm. The temperament, the stunning face even Lui Zhi and Yao Cui, not to mention Zhang Wanshui and many County Leaders, couldn't help but steal a few more glances.

It wasn't that they lacked experience. It was just that this woman was gorgeous.

Eyebrows, eyes, eyelashes, nose, mouth everything was flawless.

Many couldn't help but sigh. How could there be such a beautiful woman in the world?

Chapter 1369: I will stay at your Mayor Dong's place tonight

Inside the courtyard

The scene fell silent for a moment.

Even many people near the office building's windows were stunned by the beauty of the pregnant woman who had just exited the car. She was not just ordinarily beautiful.

"Who is this?"

"I don't know."

"Mayor Jiang is probably not as good-looking as her."

"Is she a leader? How can there be such a beautiful leader?"

Whispers and murmurs spread among the people upstairs, expressing their astonishment.

The desire for beauty is universal, and now, the woman has become the focus of everyone's attention.

But what surprised them even more was the introduction that followed. A middle-aged man looked at Meng Rui, Zhang Wanshui, and others, then gestured to the pregnant woman and said, "This is Mayor Xie, in charge of education, culture, and health in Fenzhou City."

What?

Mayor Xie?

This was the Deputy Mayor leading the delegation!

After seeing the pregnant woman, Meng Rui knew she was exceptionally beautiful. Still, he did not waver due to her beauty. He had a certain level of cultivation. However, when he heard that this woman, who looked to be in her early thirties, was the Deputy Mayor, Secretary Meng was momentarily shocked. She was a Deputy Bureau Director level official at the age of thirty-one or thirty-two, and she had even become a full member of the Party Committee. He was almost fifty years old and only held the position of a Division Chief. The difference was too significant.

Many people were left speechless.

A Deputy Bureau Director official in her early thirties. It was too exaggerated.

Only their County's youngest Deputy Division Chief, Dong Xuebing. Who was in his mid-twenties could match her promotion speed.

A piece of news recently gained traction on the internet, discussing the appointment of a woman around thirty as a Deputy City Mayor. There were constant doubts and disbelief, considering her young age. Eventually, her resume was dug out. However, compared to the pregnant woman who had just come down from the car, that woman, Mayor, was nothing. Fen Zhou City was a proper prefecture-level city. In contrast, the city where the Deputy Mayor was from was just a county-level city. The Deputy Mayor of the county-level city was only a Deputy Division Chief level and was not a Party Committee member.

A county-level city. A prefecture-level city. A Deputy Division Chief Deputy Mayor, and a Deputy Bureau Chief Deputy Mayor. One was in the sky, and the other was on the ground. There was simply no way to compare. The difference was too significant.

Back then, even the woman Mayor had caused such a big shock. It could be imagined how everyone in the County Party Committee's courtyard felt now.

How did she get promoted so quickly? How could it be so fast?

What kind of background did she have?

Everyone looked at the pregnant woman in a bit of a daze.

As the car door closed, Xie Huilan walked over, smiling and extending her hand in front of Meng Rui. "Are you Secretary Meng of the Zhen Shui County Party Committee?"

Meng Rui had adjusted his mindset, smiling and shaking hands with her. "Yes, it's me. Welcome, Mayor Xie, to Zhen Shui County for research and inspection."

Xie Hulan gently waved her hand. "Your County's achievements in education in recent years are obvious to all. We are not here for inspection but for learning."

Meng Rui smiled. "Let's learn from each other."

Xie Hulan said, "Our visit may have troubled you."

"Not at all. We also want to make progress through mutual exchange. We originally wanted to pick you up, but we only received the news at the last minute, and there was no time to prepare." Meng Rui said.

Click click the reporters captured this scene.

Afterward, Xie Hulan introduced the leaders from Fenzhou City, "This is our city's Education Bureau Director, Liao Yimin."

Meng Rui also introduced the leaders from Zhen Shui County, "This is Secretary Zhang from the County Party Committee, as well as County Mayor Ci and County Mayor Lui from the County Government."

Everyone shook hands and got to know each other.

After the introductions were done, Meng Rui instructed his secretary.

Zhang Feng immediately walked toward the direction of the TV station and the newspaper reporters, asking them to withdraw. There would be a visit to express condolences later, and they needed to go there to prepare.

Many people dispersed.

Zhang Feng said, "Secretary Meng, for the upcoming visit"

Meng Rui nodded and said to Xie Hulan, "Mayor Xie, I have something to attend to. I apologize for leaving early. Mayor Lui will accompany you."

Xie Hulan said, "You go ahead with your work. Don't let us delay you."

Meng Rui replied, "There were some matters in the past few days. The condolence visit that was scheduled in advance couldn't be postponed. Otherwise, we would have come to welcome you."

Xie Hulan smiled and said, "No need to be so polite. It makes us feel embarrassed."

As the time approached, the Political and Legal Affairs Commission Secretary, Chu Peng, and the Party Committee's Office Director, Jiang Hai, came out.

Jiang Hai approached and said, "Secretary Meng, it's time to depart."

"Are all the people here, and is everything prepared?" Meng Rui asked.

Jiang Hai replied, "Everyone is ready, but it seems Mayor Dong hasn't arrived yet."

Yao Cui hurriedly stepped forward and said, "I called Mayor Dong. He should be on his way. Perhaps he got delayed in traffic."

Everyone had arrived except for Dong Xuebing. This was a bit awkward.

But in front of everyone, Secretary Meng still maintained his composure. "Let's wait for Mayor Dong. He hasn't fully recovered, and his movements are inconvenient."

Zhang Wanshui frowned and said to Yao Cui, "Call him again."

Yao Cui took out her phone and called Dong Xuebing again but couldn't get through.

Seeing that the comrades from Fenzhou City had no intention of leaving, Lui Zhi said to them, "Why don't we go have dinner first? Everything is arranged."

Liao Yimin said, "We just had a meal after getting off the plane, so there's no need to trouble you."

Lui Zhi said, "Are your luggage still in the car? How about we go to the guesthouse first to put things down? It's not early today. What do you think about conducting the research tomorrow?"

Liao Yimin looked at Xie Huilan.

Xie Huilan nodded slightly, "Tomorrow is fine."

Lui Zhi said, "Our County has relatively poor conditions. The environment at the guesthouse is also I'm afraid it might not be up to standard." He worried others might think their hospitality was terrible and wanted to inform them beforehand.

"It's okay. It doesn't matter where we stay. By the way, there's no need to trouble about my accommodation." Xie Huilan said.

Lui Zhi blinked his eyes, wondering if she found their accommodation conditions poor and wanted to stay in a hotel.

Xie Huilan smiled and glanced at him, "Tonight, I'll stay at your Mayor Dong's place."

Lui Zhi didn't react. "Mayor Dong? Which Mayor Dong?"

Meng Rui and Zhang Wanshui also heard it and were both stunned.

Many cadres and staff present didn't understand either.

Mayor Dong?

Why would you stay at Mayor Dongs place?

This was a completely nonsensical statement.

It seems that Mayor Dong was transferred from Fen Zhou City. Even if you know him, it's not appropriate to stay together.

Oh my!

You're a female Deputy Mayor, and you can't stay at Mayor Dong's place even if you have a good relationship with him.

Everyone was bewildered and couldn't understand why this young female deputy mayor had made such a statement.

Chapter 1370: You two are a couple?

In the courtyard.

Many people started discussing.

"What did she say?"

"Did we hear it wrong?"

"No, she said she will stay at Mayor Dong's house."

"Huh, maybe the Deputy Mayor misspoke."

Everyone looked at the female Mayor from Fen Zhou City, wondering why she would say she wanted to stay at Mayor Dong's house in front of so many people. It seemed unusual, and although people might make mistakes, someone in such a position would usually be careful about their words and actions. However, the Fen Zhou City officials showed no change in expression, looking quite natural, leaving the people from Zhen Shui County more puzzled.

Lui Zhi cleared his throat, "At Mayor Dong's place"

Xie Huilan said, "Yes, he won't be home tonight."

"Not that." Lui Zhi blinked, "But at Mayor Dong's house"

County Government Office Director Ma Bin quickly interjected, "I'll arrange a hotel immediately. The environment there is decent. Mayor Xie, what do you think?"

Hotel?

Why should Mayor Xie go to a hotel?

Officials from Fen Zhou City knew there was a misunderstanding.

An Education Department official from Fen Zhou City clarified, "Mayor Xie and Mayor Dong are family." But this explanation was a bit ambiguous.

The people from Zhenshui County suddenly realized.

No wonder she wanted to stay at Mayor Dong's place. They were relatives.

They must be close relatives. Mayor Xie should be Mayor Dong's sister.

But everyone was still puzzled. How come two people with different surnames were siblings?

At this moment, the roar of an engine came from the entrance, and a black Land Rover drove in. Mayor Dong had arrived.

The car stopped.

Dong Xuebing got out of the car. Seeing that Secretary Meng and others were ready and the car was here. It was evident that they were ready to go for the condolence visit. He was a bit embarrassed, knowing they were waiting for him. Without looking towards Xie Huilan and the others, he quickly approached Secretary Meng and said, "Sorry, Secretary Meng. I kept you waiting. I just left the hospital, went home to change clothes, and showered." He had made significant contributions to the rescue efforts. The city had even praised him verbally. Today, he had just left the hospital and returned to work immediately. It was understandable, and Secretary Meng and Zhang Wanshui didn't want to make an issue out of it. Besides, since Mayor Xie had mentioned that she was Mayor Dong's family, they had to consider this aspect of face-saving.

Zhang Wanshui remained silent.

Meng Rui smiled, "No problem."

Some of the accompanying officials had already boarded the car.

"Go say hi to your family," Meng Rui said. "We're getting ready to depart."

"Sure." Dong Xuebin looked towards Xie Huilan and the officials from Fenzhou City and then walked over.

"Mayor Dong," Liao Yimin quickly greeted with a smile. "Why were you just discharged from the hospital?" He thought it was about your injury from the fall a while ago.

Dong Xuebing didn't say much. "I recovered fully a while ago. How are you, Chief Liao? How about your health?"

"It's still the same headaches and fever. Just minor issues." Liao Yimin said.

"You must take care of your health. Don't take it lightly. You should get a checkup later." Dong Xuebing was associated with Xie Huilan, and he must show concern for her subordinates.

"Mayor Dong."

"Mayor Dong."

The other officials from Fen Zhou City also greeted him respectfully.

Dong Xuebing smiled in response and then turned his gaze to Xie Huilan, saying helplessly, "Why didn't you answer my calls?"

Xie Huilan laughed, "Did you call?"

"I called several times," Dong Xuebing said.

"Hehe, I was in the car. Maybe I didn't hear it."

Seeing this, Lui Zhi said, "Mayor Dong, Mayor Xie said she's going to your place tonight. So, we won't arrange accommodation for your sister at the guesthouse."

Dong Xuebing was puzzled, "My sister? Who is my sister?"

People from Fen Zhou City were a bit confused. Okay, these people still didn't get it.

Meng Rui and Zhang Wanshui, along with other officials from Zhen Shui County, blinked and looked over. Didn't that person say you two are family? Isn't she your sister?

Lui Zhi also said awkwardly, "Mayor Xie isn't your"

Dong Xuebing sweated a bit, looking at Xie Huilan, "You didn't tell them?"

"I thought you did." Xie Huilan smiled, "Let's clear things up. They were confused."

Dong Xuebing thought it was indeed confusing. What was going on? Why did she become my sister? So, under the bewildered gaze of everyone, Dong Xuebing pointed at Xie Huilan and introduced, "This is my wife, Xie Huilan."

Stunning revelation.

Everyone was dumbfounded.

What? Such a beautiful woman is your wife?

Moreover, she's a Deputy City Mayor and looks noticeably older than you.

Everyone was shocked beyond belief. This was unexpected for everyone. Suppose Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan were of similar ages when the officials from Fen Zhou City mentioned them as family. In that case, people might have thought about a marital relationship. However, the age difference was evident; she was a stunningly beautiful Deputy Mayor. So, nobody expected that Mayor Dong would have the fortune of marrying such a high-ranking and beautiful wife.

No way. Is this for real?

But everyone knew that a Deputy City Mayor and a Deputy County Mayor wouldn't joke about such matters.

Meng Rui, Zhang Wanshui, and other County leaders were slightly surprised. No one could easily access Dong Xuebing's file, but Meng Rui had seen it. He vaguely remembered that Dong Xuebing's wife was indeed surnamed Xie and worked in Fen Zhou City. However, Meng Rui didn't remember the details clearly. So, when he heard them say they were family, he thought Mayor Xie was Dong Xuebing's sister.

They are a couple.

Why does it seem a bit off?

Yao Cui and Ma Bin were also stunned for a moment.

Upstairs, Pu An and Jian Xiangrong heard about it and exchanged looks.

Mayor Dong always managed to surprise people time and time again, and this time was no exception.

A man with a limited background and an ordinary appearance managed to marry a woman much older than him and even several ranks higher in position. This seemed almost unbelievable to many. However, it also indirectly demonstrated Mayor Dong's capabilities.

Many people admired him.

Lui Zhi felt embarrassed, "Sorry, Mayor Xie, Mayor Dong, I misunderstood. My apologies."

Xie Huilan smiled with her crescent-like beautiful eyes, "No problem. We don't have the typical husband-wife resemblance, hehe."

"It doesn't look like it at all," Lui Zhi added. "Hey, congratulations to both of you on expecting a child. Let me extend my early congratulations."