

Peasant 211

Chapter 211: Reward

Ye Muyu had been making clothes for the past few days.

The clothes that he had promised to make for Chu Heng were only half done.

Chu Heng went to school every day. With Madam Hu's help at home, Ye Muyu was much more relaxed and did not have to do any manual labor.

Ye Muyu had just picked up the needle and thread and had only started sewing a few times before Madam Hu came over.

"Madam, someone from the old residence is looking for you."

Madam Hu turned to the side, and Ye Muyu saw Old Woman Wang standing behind her. She was the servant that Chu Heng had brought to the old mansion. Old Madam Wang was quick with her hands and feet. For the past few days, Madam Liu and Madam Zhang had basically been making pickled cabbages at home. All the heavy work at home such as feeding the pigs was done by Old

Madam Wang.

Now, it was normal to ask Old Madam Wang to run errands.

However, looking at Old Madam Wang's slightly cracked hand, she subconsciously frowned.

He said to Madam Hu, "Go and get the hand ointment."

“Yes, Madam.” Madam Hu responded and walked to Ye Muyu’s dressing table. She opened a wooden box with two boxes of hand ointment inside.

“Old Madam Wang, keep it,” Ye Muyu said. “Although it’s hard to work in our house, as long as you work hard, we won’t treat you badly.”

Madam Hu handed the hand ointment to Old Woman Wang, who was a little surprised.

However, she reacted quickly and took it with trembling hands. “Thank you,

Madam.”

“Madam, this old servant’s hand was like this before coming. I have always been doing laundry, so it will be like this when I get old. This old servant thanks Madam for the reward.” Old Madam Wang was so moved that she knelt down and kowtowed.

Ye Muyu was not used to this, so she asked Madam Hu to help her up.

“Yes, I understand.” Ye Muyu nodded in satisfaction when she saw that Old Madam Wang did not hate the old residence because of this and did not look down on her. Her attitude was correct and she was also a sincere person.

“Why did Mother call you over?”

“Madam, the Old Madam wants to go to the clan leader’s house to discuss matters. She asked this old servant to invite you over.”

“Alright, I understand.” Ye Muyu thought about it carefully. The only thing the clan could do now was to compete in female arts.

It was less than a month away from the Dragon Boat Festival.

Although the members of the Chu family knew about this in advance, even the girls could not help but come out to help when they were busy picking herbs and harvesting wheat.

Therefore, many girls did not have much confidence. As mothers, it would be strange if they were not anxious.

Besides, according to what Ye Muyu knew, in addition to the invisible reputation reward, the county magistrate also gave the top ten women a piece of barren land as a dowry.

If it was the wasteland before, very few people would take a fancy to it. However, ever since the people of Xingshui Village found medicinal herbs from the mountains and the wasteland, they did not despise the wasteland at all.

Just the Kudzu roots alone could be sold as a medicinal herb. Who would not be happy to get medicinal herbs for free?

There was no need to open up wasteland. Just the medicinal herbs on it were worth a lot of money.

Moreover, even if it was a wasteland, it would still cost three taels of silver to buy.

Therefore, everyone in the village was very concerned about this female arts competition.

Even the villagers in all the villages in Nanchang County did not care.

Ye Muyu changed into dark blue clothes and asked Madam Hu to take care of the things at home. She followed Old Madam Wang to the old residence.

When they arrived at the old mansion, they saw that Madam Liu and Madam

Zhang were still busy making pickled vegetables.

Seeing her coming, Madam Liu raised her head and greeted, "Third

Daughter-in-law, sit first. There's no hurry."

Ye Muyu knew what was going on. It seemed like the clan leader had a favor to ask of Chu Heng's family..

Chapter 212: Envy Ye Muyu

Ye Muyu did not ask any further and just walked over. She found a stool and sat down. Then, she helped to make some pickled cabbages.

Madam Cao's third daughter-in-law came over and called out to Madam Liu again.

Madam Liu finished her work before standing up.

"Madam Zhang, go change your clothes." Madam Liu said as she washed her hands. It seemed like she had no intention of changing her clothes.

Ye Muyu saw it clearly and did not say anything.

Madam Zhang quickly responded and said to Old Madam Wang, "Move these pickled cabbage jars in later. Be careful and put them in a shady place under the chopping board in the kitchen."

"Yes, First Madam," Old Madam Wang replied and went to work.

Chu Qingxiang was also at home, but she had been in the house the whole time. She came out to greet Ye Muyu and continued to learn embroidery in the house. She was so serious that it seemed like she would not stop until she won a place.

Ye Muyu looked at it and felt ashamed. She did not ask Ziluo to study so hard. It was all based on her interest. As for whether Ziluo could get a place, she did not care.

As Ye Muyu was thinking, Madam Liu and Madam Zhang were done getting ready.

Madam Liu was dressed in simple dark brown clothes. Madam Zhang was dressed in a younger style, but the material was better than ordinary cotton.

"Let's go." After Madam Liu gave the order, Ye Muyu and Madam Zhang followed behind and headed to the first branch.

Madam Zhang saw Ye Muyu and asked with concern, "Third Sister-in-law, I see that you look better."

"I've been recuperating well during this period of time. If I don't look good again, I'll be sorry for the medicine I took." Ye Muyu smiled.

Madam Zhang saw that although she was not particularly beautiful, there was always a charm that the village women did not have. She could not help but ponder in her heart. She did not know why this Third Sister-in-law's temperament suddenly changed so much. However, compared to before, she was always much easier to get along with. It was just that if she wanted to play tricks with her, she needed to think twice.

Madam Zhang thought about it and revealed the news to Ye Muyu, "Third sister-in-law, the news that your cooking skills are very good has spread."

"Do you know who spread it? It's First Aunt." Madam Zhang did not hesitate at all and directly revealed that it was Madam Cao.

"Because of this, Mother is very angry."

Madam Zhang was smart enough to find out what had happened on the day of the banquet. Madam Liu wanted to hide the fact that Chu Yun had been reprimanded by Chu Heng, but Chu Yun had been so

angry that he had spoken without restraint. Even if they were in the room, she had heard everything while she was serving tea.

Although she was shocked by the rumor of divorce, Madam Zhang was not stupid. The way Chu Heng looked at Madam Ye had changed a long time ago. It was completely different from before.

Although she did not know why, she did not want to offend Madam Ye. She just wanted to help Ye Muyu.

Ye Muyu's expression did not change when she heard that. She said gently, "There are many elders in the clan who are good at cooking. I shouldn't be teaching them. Besides, my health is not good."

Madam Zhang knew that Ye Muyu had a plan, so she was not too worried. However, that was also true. No matter what, the clan had to give Chu Heng face.

Besides, Ye Muyu had only been recuperating for seven or eight days. The clan leader might not really ask Ye Muyu to help teach the girls.

Madam Zhang looked at Ye Muyu with admiration. She was envious of her third sister-in-law's confidence.

Unfortunately, when she wanted to scheme, she had to consider whether she would offend anyone from time to time. She was not as confident as her third sister-in-law.

However, as long as Ah Sheng and Ah Ming could pass the examination and become an Elementary Scholar, all of this would be worth it..

Chapter 213: The Gathering of the Chu Family's Women

As they spoke, Madam Wang also came over.

When they met on the way, Madam Liu saw that Madam Wang was still wearing ordinary work clothes. She took a few glances and wanted to say a few words to her, but then she thought about it and let it go.

In any case, everyone in the village knew that the second son and his wife worked the hardest and were simple and thrifty.

She had never seen them spend money to buy expensive Madam clothes. Madam Liu saw that Madam Zhang and Madam Ye were dressed well, but after seeing that Madam Wang did not mind, she didn't say anything.

It was the worst thing to compare randomly.

When the four of them arrived at the first branch's house.

They saw that many people from the other houses had come.

There were many people who were interested in the female arts competition.

Madam Liu walked in and greeted Madam Cao and the other sisters-in-law with a smile.

There were quite a few people sitting in the room. After Madam Liu greeted them, she sat to the side.

The three daughters-in-law naturally followed suit.

However, when Ye Muyu walked in and was about to find a place to sit down, Madam Zheng called out to her as she had saved a seat for Ye Muyu.

Madam Zheng was the wife of Chu An. Chu An had helped her a lot when they were repairing the wall. Ye Muyu knew his personality and knew that he was not bad. Seeing that Madam Zheng had arranged a seat for her, it was enough to show that she valued Chu Heng and acknowledged Ye Muyu as the wife of a scholar.

Ye Muyu did not intend to decline. She did not need to retreat. As for Madam Cao's plan, she wanted to hear it.

"Thank you, Madam Zheng, I won't stand on ceremony then." Ye Muyu's seat was also suitable as it was right next to Madam Liu.

Other than a few elders, her position was considered the highest. The only one on the same level as her was Madam Zheng herself.

Although some of the wives were unhappy, they did not dare to say anything after looking at Ye Muyu.

When everyone arrived, Madam Zheng smiled and said, "We are all mothers. There are four categories in this competition. Cooking, needlework, tea art, and paper-cutting."

"Other families will definitely find opportunities to teach these four things to girls of the right age."

"Therefore, Mother and I plan to discuss with you whether these girls plan to find someone to learn these skills from, or we choose those that the clan is good at and teach them together. As for how they do it in the end, it will depend on themselves."

Madam Zheng finished speaking in one breath and looked at everyone's reaction.

Although she was inclined to build a girls' school like the boys' school, this was the most suitable for the clan and could take care of every family.

However, she could not make the decision herself.

Thus, after saying this, she sat down and did not speak anymore.

The women were discussing animatedly.

“Third Sister-in-law, what do you think?” Madam Zhang asked Ye Muyu subconsciously.

Ye Muyu did not say anything. She asked Madam Liu, “Mother, what do you think? My Ziluo is still young and is only good at cooking, so I won’t force her. I heard that the county will hold the female art competition in the future too. We can talk about it in two years.”

She did not have high expectations for her daughter.

Madam Zhang was surprised and subconsciously reminded, “It will be held next year as well, but the rewards will be different each time. I’m afraid it will be difficult for next year’s reward to compare to this year’s reward of a piece of land. Third Sister-in-law, your cooking skills are good, so I’m sure Ziluo’s cooking skills will get a good ranking.”

In fact, the top ten would get 60 sq meters of land. There were other rewards for those who ranked higher.

As for those ranked after the tenth place, there were only some women’s headwear and other small things.

Ye Muyu shook her head gently. “Ziluo’s cooking skills are average. There are many girls in the clan who are better than Ziluo. I don’t mind whether she gets a ranking or not..”

Chapter 214: Don ‘t Mind the Ranking

“However, Qingxiang is very good at all kinds of things.” Ye Muyu expressed his attitude and changed the topic to Chu Qingxiang.

Madam Zhang was a smart person and naturally could tell that she did not care about this female art competition.

Why did she not care? It was because she had a good background, right?

Madam Zhang was envious again, but at the mention of her daughter, she instantly smiled. She knew that although Qingxiang was outstanding in everything, she could also win glory if she was in the top ten. At that time, Song Lu would definitely be more satisfied with Qingxiang.

Once Qingxiang married into the Song family, she would be like Madam Ye, a scholar's wife.

Thinking of this, Madam Zhang was no longer envious. Instead, she exerted all her strength, planning to let Chu Qingxiang obtain a good ranking.

She had to marry into the Song family.

Madam Liu was not surprised at all when she heard Ye Muyu's words. She knew Ye Muyu's personality quite well. Just her confidence from the beginning to the end made Madam Liu think highly of her.

Everyone else was fighting for a small profit, but Madam Ye earned more than the reward.

Seeing that Madam Cao did not take the initiative to speak, Madam Liu naturally did not speak either.

As for Madam Wang, she was interested in the wasteland, but she was not confident that her daughter could get a good ranking. Therefore, she habitually thought about when it would end. She would go back to make pickled cabbages. When she sold them for money, it would be enough to prepare a dowry for her daughter.

Very soon, there were results of the discussion.

"It's better to open a school. Whoever has good culinary skills can be a teacher."

"If any girl wants to go to school, she needs to pay some tuition. How about that?" Madam Qian took the initiative to speak.

This was also what her family thought.

As for her sister-in-law, Madam Cao's thoughts, it was not that she did not know. However, as long as it was beneficial to her, it was fine. Moreover, others might not think the same.

Since everyone had the same idea, someone had to say it.

She still had to go back and help cook. Ah Xing was very busy repairing the house.

When Madam Cao heard this, she pretended to smile, "What about the rest of you? Do you have the same thoughts as Fifth Sister-in-law?"

"That's right, we all have the same idea. First Sister-in-law, you can arrange it. It's too hard to build a school." The second branch's Madam Sun directly pushed the problem of choosing people as teachers to Madam Cao.

Madam Cao was the wife of the clan leader. Naturally, she should be the one to open a women's school.

If someone else took over the job, it was inevitable that Madam Cao would be unhappy. Since that was the case, there was no one more suitable than Madam Cao.

Madam Cao was originally very happy, but Madam Sun's words instantly made her eyes flash with anger. She did not want to solve this matter the most.

However, the others clearly had the same intention.

Madam Cao took a deep breath. She knew that she could not escape. She subconsciously looked at Madam Liu and Ye Muyu.

Madam Zheng saw her gaze and quickly smiled. "Mother, since this girls' school has to have teachers, I wonder if there are any sisters-in-law or aunts who want to recommend themselves."

"I'm afraid this teacher can only come from our own family. After all, other families will definitely only help their own family."

"Eldest Sister-in-law's words are true. The others definitely don't want to teach outsiders." Speaking of which, if one wanted to learn these skills, they would need to pay a lot of money. There was no difference if they went to school.

After all, in this dynasty, those who did not have any skills could only depend on farming to live.. Who would not be envious of those who had skills?

Chapter 215: Set the Fee

"Have you decided on how much this fee is?" Madam Qian was used to doing business, so she did not delay and just asked. Everyone else wanted to know this question.

Thus, everyone fell silent.

Seeing that Madam Liu and Ye Muyu did not express their stance from the beginning to the end, Madam Cao felt a little uncomfortable. She felt that Madam Liu did not support her, and Ye Muyu did not take the initiative to stand up. Everyone knew that she was good at cooking.

Although she was complaining in her heart, she did not want to take on this troublesome task.

Therefore, she looked at Madam Zheng and asked her to speak.

How could Madam Zheng not know her mother-in-law's personality? She wanted face and benefits, but she did not want to be involved in any disadvantages.

No matter how much she pushed this matter away, it was still her family's business. She could not ignore it even if she wanted to.

Madam Zheng thought for a moment and asked for everyone's opinion with a smile, "Each girl has to pay four copper coins a day, so thirteen girls would be

53 copper coins. Each female teacher would earn 13 copper coins a day."

"How about this?" Madam Zheng had already asked her son to calculate things. Otherwise, she would not have been able to settle it on the spot, so she said it with ease. Seeing that many sisters-in-law had expressions of interest, she was relieved and smiled more sincerely. "As for the location of the girls' school, we will discuss it again. The kitchen utensils, ingredients, cloth, tea leaves, and so on that we need will be brought by the girls from each family."

"What do you all think? If there's anything inappropriate, you have to bring it up as soon as possible. After today's discussion, we can start classes tomorrow. It's getting late. Just our clan alone has 13 girls of suitable age. There are probably more than 50 in the entire village. There are seven or eight villages under Nanchang County. There would be more than 300 people. If we want to compete for the top ten, we can't delay this matter."

Madam Zheng had no choice but to remind them. She was afraid that this money would cause conflict between the sisters-in-law. If the girls did not learn their skills and performed poorly, it would be embarrassing. Her husband would probably be angry that she did not do a good job.

As expected, the other women nodded in agreement.

Although four copper coins a day for a girl was not a small amount, as long as one could enter the top 100, there would be rewards. The lowest prize was worth 100 copper coins, so it was not a loss.

Of course, how could the cost of 80 copper coins compare to the benefits of reputation?

In short, the fee was soon set.

According to everyone's explanation, the teachers of the four arts would be the person who was the best at them. If they were unwilling, they would ask the person who was the second best.

“Regarding needlework, I’ve heard that Sister Yue’er’s needlework is the best. I wonder if you’re willing to teach the girls needlework?” Madam Zheng did not try to be tactful. She started from the best.

Madam Shen was the eldest daughter-in-law of Madam Qian. There were three girls in her family, but only the eldest daughter was of the right age to participate in this female art competition. She was usually soft and did not like to go out, but her needlework skills were known by the entire Chu family.

When Madam Shen was asked about this, she looked at Madam Qian timidly,

“Mother, can I really teach the children needlework?”

Madam Qian knew that Madam Shen was like this. She thought that she usually only liked to do needlework, and she was prone to overthinking and crying. She was troubled by this, so she might as well find something for Madam Shen to do.

“I think it’s fine. Your needlework is indeed not bad.” Madam Qian nodded in agreement.

Madam Shen’s eyes widened in surprise. “Mother, thank you.”

Madam Qian was speechless.

When Madam Zheng heard that Madam Shen had agreed, she smiled and looked at the others, “Sisters-in-laws and aunties, what do you think? If it’s fine, we’ll choose Madam Shen..”

Chapter 216: Madam Liu

“Alright, this needlework will be taught by Xueqin’s wife.” The second branch’s Madam Sun was also decisive.

Since she had spoken, the others nodded in agreement.

The teacher for the needlework teaching was decided.

“Then the next step is paper-cutting...”

“I recommend myself for this paper-cutting. How about I do it?” Madam Zheng asked directly.

The women and girls of the Chu family knew each other well.

Madam Zheng had already recommended herself. In addition, her family was in the paper-cutting business, so she was good at the skill. Naturally, no one would reject her.

“Next is the tea art..

“There are quite a few candidates for this tea ceremony.”

“Sister-in-law Yun, Third Aunt, you both have some skill in the art of tea. I don’t even know who to choose.” Madam Zheng did not want to offend anyone, so she probably mentioned Madam Yun from the second branch because she

did not want to offend Madam Liu.

She had a good idea, and the others did not mind. After all, Madam Yun and Madam Liu’s tea art skills were similar. It did not matter who taught it. Their own daughters would also take advantage of other families, so it was naturally best not to reject the person who was mentioned.

“Sister-in-law, you flatter me. I also like to drink tea with Third Aunt.”

However, she did not say if she wanted to teach or not. Instead, she supported Madam Liu. However, this was too normal. It was not good for a junior to be too eye-catching.

Madam Yun was from a distant branch of a tea-tasting family, and they were indeed outstanding in the art of tea.

Ye Muyu looked at Madam Liu and thought that her mother-in-law probably would not agree. After all, she still had to make pickled cabbages.

In any case, each family would send out one person, and there would only be four skills. There would be one family that would not need to send someone out to be a teacher. Ye Muyu did not care much about the female arts competition, so it was best if she did not get involved.

Ye Muyu was drinking tea slowly.

“Madam Ye, do you want to teach cooking?” Madam Liu turned her head and asked her.

“Mother?” Ye Muyu was surprised by her question. She thought about it and shook her head honestly.

Madam Liu nodded and did not say anything else. After hearing Madam Zheng’s question, she said, “If you don’t mind my tea art, I should naturally come and teach the girls. Getting good results is a great thing for the clan.”

Ye Muyu looked at Madam Liu in surprise and quickly understood. Madam Liu wanted to help her. Looking at the current situation, they could not possibly send two people from the third branch.

Therefore, even if everyone envied her cooking skills, they would not be embarrassed to ask her to teach cooking again.

Everyone probably realized it.

As a result, many sisters-in-law’s eyes flashed with regret.

Among them, Madam Cao’s emotional fluctuations were the most obvious.

Ye Muyu understood. It seemed that Madam Cao had not spoken before, not only because she did not want to offend anyone, but also because she wanted to use her trump card later.

Even though she knew this, Ye Muyu did not dare to ask for protection.

Moreover, in terms of tea arts, Madam Yun definitely had more knowledge.

Madam Liu only had the opportunity to learn how to read and how to taste tea because she had a good life in her maiden family.

In terms of tea arts alone, she could not compare to Madam Yun.

Therefore, it was obvious that someone had other thoughts.

Although Ye Muyu did not care about what these people thought, she did not want Madam Liu to be criticised because of her.

However, before she could say anything...

The others followed suit. "Third Aunt, we are all very envious of your tea-making skills. How could these children dislike you? You are too humble.."

Chapter 217: Madam Liu Against Madam Cao

"That's right, Third Aunt. You can't hide anything from me. Whether or not my

daughter can get a good ranking depends on you."

"You little girl." Madam Liu smiled.

Most people were kind.

However, Madam Cao already knew some of Ye Muyu's recipes.

Perhaps it was because she was tricked by Ye Muyu before, but she felt that Ye Muyu's ability was not simple.

Cao Juan of the Cao family wanted Ye Muyu to divorce Chu Heng. In order to appease her daughter, the Eldest Madam of the Cao family asked someone to inquire about Ye Muyu and Chu Heng.

After asking around, she did hear some news.

She found out the recipe for Ye Muyu's fish with pickled cabbages.

In fact, this news was very easy to find out. The most popular dish in the county's Fragrance Restaurant was fish with pickled cabbages.

Because there was a limited number of pickled cabbages, there was also a limited number of the dish.

However, the high price of one tael of silver per serving left people speechless.

The people from other villages did not know about the situation of the fish with pickled cabbages, but the people of Xingshui Village knew.

Madam Cao also knew that Madam Liu did not hide whatever gifts from Ye Muyu every time she received them. In addition, Madam Zhang deliberately fawned over her, so everyone in the village knew about Ye Muyu's filial piety and superb cooking skills.

The Cao family asked around and guessed that Ye Muyu was the one who sold the recipe.

A serving of fish with pickled cabbages cost one tael of silver. One had to know that a string of money was only 1,000 copper coins, so one tael of silver could be exchanged for 1,500 copper coins.

Naturally, silver was much more valuable than copper.

Then how much was the recipe for this pickled fish? It should be at least a few strings of money.

If they could find out the recipes of Ye Muyu's other dishes and sell them, they would earn a lot of money, right?

Although the Cao family's idea was a little shameless, they could not help but feel envious after seeing Ye Muyu earning so much. Naturally, they also thought of selling her recipes.

Ye Muyu would not lose anything.

They could exchange for a lot of money to buy jewelry and silk.

When there was enough temptation, a person's bottom line would drop again and again.

Unfortunately, doing business was not that simple.

"Madam Yun, do you want to come and teach tea arts? I think your and Third Sister-in-law's tea arts are similar. Third Sister-in-law is very busy and hasn't gone out these days. I don't know what she's doing. Why don't we leave this job to the younger generation? Us old women are getting old and it's easy for our eyes to become blurry. We can't compare to when we were young." The moment Madam Cao opened her mouth, she had two plans.

She wanted Madam Liu to not block her way, but she also wanted the recipe for pickled vegetables.

The corners of Chu Liushi's mouth twitched. She wasn't surprised by Cao Shi's righteous and greedy words, but she was very unhappy in her heart.

“Sister-in-law, you’re right. When people are old, they can’t compare to when they were young. However, I’m still fine. I’m still considered young. Otherwise, I’m afraid I can’t do anything at home.” Madam Liu retorted with a smile. She even had an expression that was as if she was saying, “So, you know your place.”

“Third Sister-in-law, how can you say that? Everyone works hard at home. How would there be an age where one can’t do anything?” Madam Cao’s face darkened when Madam Liu implied that she was old. She did not know what was wrong with Madam Liu. She had never seen her protect Madam Ye before.

It was because Madam Ye was really capable!

As expected, she was never a good person!

Madam Liu smiled faintly. ‘Well, my Ah Heng was worried that we would suffer, so he specially bought a servant for us. I told him that there was no need, but the child was too filial, so there was nothing we could do. Since I don’t have to worry about the children, I’m more free now..”

Chapter 218: Don’t Blame Me

Madam Liu was not a person who liked to be ostentatious, but Madam Cao loved to show off her superiority in front of her. Speaking of which, if it was not for Madam Cao’s short-sighted view, Chu An would have become an

Elementary Scholar long ago. It was just that he had to spend more money.

However, Madam Cao was unwilling.

When Chu Heng became an Elementary Scholar, she was envious. She wanted to force her son, who had put down his studies for three to four years, to study again.

Chu An knew that he could not pass the examination, so she was naturally unwilling. He was more willing to do things slowly. Madam Cao could not compare to Madam Liu, whose son was a scholar, so she usually used her identity as the wife of the clan leader to pressure her.

Previously, Madam Liu was angry because Madam Cao had already called her third daughter-in-law to look for her once. She wanted to ask Madam Liu about the recipe for pickled cabbages. She even said righteously that this was for the development of the clan and she should not be so selfish.

When Madam Liu heard this, she immediately laughed and said that Madam Cao was greedy and chased Madam Cao's third daughter-in-law away.

Now, she and Madam Cao were at loggerheads.

Madam Cao's expression darkened after hearing this.

Madam Zheng knew that something was wrong when she saw her mother-in-law speak.

Sure enough, Madam Cao's words were refuted by Madam Liu in just a few words.

Looking at her mother-in-law who was holding back her anger for the sake of her face, Madam Zheng could not help but curse in her heart.

"Third Aunt, you're so lucky. We'll also benefit from Ah Heng's light," Madam Zheng reminded with a smile.

When the others heard this, they agreed. Chu Heng was a scholar and might even be able to get into the imperial examinations. How could they offend him?

They all echoed Madam Zheng's words and complimented Madam Liu.

Madam Liu looked at Madam Cao's sullen expression. She did not hide her happiness at all, which made Madam Cao furious.

In the end, Madam Yun was chosen as the tea art instructor.

When it came to cooking, although everyone envied Ye Muyu's cooking skills, no one mentioned her.

Madam Zheng did not even mention Ye Muyu from the start.

The others did not want to offend Chu Heng, so they decided on the fourth branch's eldest daughter-in-law, Madam Xiao Kong.

Madam Xiao Kong's culinary skills were not bad, and she was also a chef in the village.

Now that she was asked to teach the girls cooking, naturally, no one objected.

Other than Ye Muyu, Madam Xiao Kong's food would naturally be the best in

the clan. However, now that everyone knew about Ye Muyu's cooking skills, everyone felt that it was a pity that Ye Muyu did not want to become an instructor.

However, they did not dare to force anything.

Even Madam Cao could not defeat Madam Liu, so how could she still hope that she could defeat Ye Muyu?

After the discussion, some details were discussed.

Once they were done, they got up and went home. She had already set the date for the class to tomorrow morning.

Each of the four classes lasted for two hours. The morning and afternoon classes added up to eight hours in total.

Other than at night, there was no free time.

Ye Muyu could not help but exclaim that the girls in ancient times had learned a lot and worked even harder.

On the way home, Madam Liu instructed, "Go back and ask the children to study hard. We can't waste the money we spend."

"Although I don't teach tea, I can still give some special treatment to the girls in my own family."

"Alright, go back. There's nothing else to do here."

"Alright, Mother. I'll go back then." Madam Wang did not want to waste any time. She had recently planned to buy a piece of barren land and wanted to reclaim it.

Seeing this, Madam Liu waved her hand and did not say anything.

Ye Muyu also said goodbye, "Mother, you've worked hard today."

"Humph, it's not just for your sake. It's that Madam Cao who was greedy and wanted to ask me for the recipe for pickled cabbages. It's one thing for me to voluntarily contribute to the clan, but it's another thing if she forces me to tell her the recipe.."

Chapter 219: Kudzu Root Powder

"Just you wait and see. After today's matter, Madam Cao will not be able to gain any benefits." Madam Liu was so happy that she did not even try to hide her emotions.

Madam Zhang also nodded. "Isn't that so? Eldest Uncle and Big Brother aren't so blind."

"Mother, I'll go back first. Since we already know that pickled cabbages can be sold for money, why don't you buy more cabbages and pickle them?" "We should seize the initiative."

"You're right. I'll go buy cabbage now." Madam Liu still trusted Ye Muyu.

It could be seen from the medicinal herbs that she had earned money from previously that even if they could not sell it, they could still eat it at home.

If they could earn money, it would definitely be a lot.

Madam Liu brought Madam Zhang home quickly.

Ever since the female arts curriculum was confirmed.

Chu Ziluo would wake up early every morning to practice her calligraphy for an hour before going to school. She would not be idle when she came back every day, saying that she had to complete the assigned homework or consolidate what she had learned in class.

The other families in the village had heard of the Chu clan's methods, so they also followed suit.

For a moment, the girls were extremely busy. There were fewer children looking for wild vegetables on the roadside.

Apart from that...

After the busy farming season in the village, the people of the Chu family began to build their fences. They had personally experienced the benefits of Ye Muyu's fence. In addition, they had saved some money from selling medicinal herbs, so they had people to help them.

A gust of wind blew in the village.

The old bowl pieces and tiles that Chu Xing had stockpiled previously came in handy and even allowed him to earn two strings of money.

Time slowly moved towards the Dragon Boat Festival.

Ye Muyu sat under the eaves, grinding Kudzu roots into powder together with

Madam Hu.

Now, not only did the villagers know the medicinal value of the Kudzu roots, but the other villages also gradually knew about it.

In an instant, there was a craze to sell the Kudzu roots in the county.

This caused the price of the Kudzu root to drop again and again. Now, it was stable at two copper coins per catty. It did not continue dropping, but medicine shops did not accept them anymore.

In a county, each household sold dozens of catties or even hundreds of catties.

In just half a month, it had already exceeded ten thousand catties.

Even the largest herb shop in the county, Hefeng Medicine Shop, could not take so much. It was already the limit. As for the other herb shops, as long as they were in the area where the Kudzu root grew, there was no shortage.

Since the price was cheap, it was not worth it to transport it again. Therefore, the county did not accept them anymore.

Of course, when the county collected them, they could still be sold.

“Madam, is this okay?” Madam hu was responsible for placing the Kudzu root into the millstone.

Zhang Shu was strong, so he was responsible for pushing the mill.

White powder flowed out.

He only needed to filter it before drying it.

“It’s fine. It’s fine enough.” Ye Muyu reached out to touch it and licked it.

These roots were all wild and were bought from the villagers who could not sell them.

When Madam Hu saw this water, she could not help but say, “Madam, the

Kudzu root powder is really white, whiter than flour.”

Although the Great Chu Dynasty had good weather and the people lived and worked in peace and contentment, they definitely did not have modern planting techniques, so the yield of wheat and rice was not high.

Ye Muyu did not have the ability to develop hybrid rice or high-yield wheat, so she let nature take its course and accepted the food here.

Naturally, although the natural Kudzu roots were not too thick, it was the same as the wild Kudzu roots of later generations. Its natural color was also very white.

“Not only is it white, but it’s also delicious.” Ye Muyu smiled.

"I never thought that Kudzu root could be ground into powder to eat." Madam Hu praised.

Ye Muyu shook her head. "I just read about it in a book. I just wanted to give it a try. If it works, we'll have another kind of food in the future. If it doesn't work, it won't cost much.."

Chapter 220: Kudzu Root Powder Mixed with Shredded Cucumber

"It looks like it will work." Madam Hu was very confident and her heart was filled with joy. If it could really be turned into food, it would be a life-saving thing for the poorer families.

"Alright, stop praising me. Let's go. Let's get it out and dry it."

"Yes, Madam."

Zhang Shu followed by setting up tools at the side. Together with Madam Hu, they put the Kudzu root powder on the sieve to dry.

Ye Muyu took some and placed them in the kitchen. She planned to dry them over the fire to see the finished product.

At the same time, she took out a pot of Kudzu root powder and planned to make Kudzu root mixed with cucumber shreds for lunch.

Madam Hu followed him in to help light the fire. "Madam, do you want to eat the Kudzu root powder for lunch?"

"Yes, let's make a cold dish first." Ye Muyu nodded and asked Madam Hu to start the fire. When the water boiled, she scooped out the water and let it cool for a while before pouring it into the bowl and stirring it slowly.

The fire in the stove had not been extinguished. Madam Hu looked at the fire and was drying the root of the vine.

Because there was not much to dry this time, it was done in less than an hour.

“Madam, the Kuzu root powder is done drying. It looks pretty good. Should we put it away now?” Madam Hu stood up and asked respectfully. At the same time, she walked to Ye Muyu’s side and saw that she had already made a transparent food that looked like bean jelly in front of her.

“Madam, is this how you eat the Kudzu Root Powder? It’s truly amazing.” After that, she said, “Madam, I’ll cut it for you. Be careful with your hands.”

“No need. Take this dried Kudzu root powder and bring it to Doctor Lu. Ask him if there are any conditions where one can’t eat the Kudzu root powder. Take this Kudzu root powder as a thank-you gift for him,” Ye Muyu ordered.

Although Doctor Lu wanted to go home, he needed to find a mule cart team to help send the medicinal herbs back. Moreover, the land here had not been dealt with yet.

He had just returned from the capital city two days ago, so he would not be staying for long.

“Yes, Madam.” Madam Hu took the powder and went out to look for Doctor Lu.

Ye Muyu made a mixture of cucumber shreds and Kudzu root powder.

She naturally knew that people with cold bodies could not eat much of the Kudzu root powder. She was the one with a cold body, so she did not eat much at noon.

“Mother, why aren’t you eating?” Chu Jin hugged his bowl and started eating, not forgetting to show concern for Ye Muyu.

Brother,” Chu Ziluo quickly said, “Mother is not in good health. She can’t eat this. People with a cold body can’t eat it.”

She remembered her mother’s reminder that people with cold bodies should not eat it.

In this way, the news would spread to the villagers, so that they would remember this point.

When Chu Jin heard this, he quickly placed the dish of cucumber shreds mixed with Kudzu root powder in front of him and Chu Ziluo. “Mother, don’t be gluttonous. Sister and I will finish it quickly.”

“That’s right. You won’t crave it if you don’t look at it.” Chu Ziluo was reminded and ate faster.

Ye Muyu felt the filial piety of the two children and her heart softened. She reached out her chopsticks and picked up some food for them. “Eat slowly.

Mother is not hungry.”

“Mother, you’re so nice,” Chu Ziluo said coquettishly.

“Child, you can go to school after the lunch break. Don’t tire yourself out,” Ye Muyu said gently.

Chu Ziluo shook her head. “No, Mother. You don’t know, but Cousin and the others are all very good, especially Sister Qingxiang. She’s the best in all four female arts.”

“I’m only good at cooking. I’m not good at the other three, especially tea art and paper-cutting.” Chu Ziluo felt a little discouraged as she spoke. She could not help but glance at Ye Muyu.. “Mother, if I don’t get a good ranking, will you be angry?