

## Peasant 411

### Chapter 411: The Thoughts of Each Family

Chu Xueqin thought of Chu Xing's admiration for Chu Heng. He replied, "Alright. I'll buy some for Third Brother later."

The three of them had just exchanged a few words when Madam Qian came over with a money bag.

She stuffed the purse into Chu Xueqin's hands. "There's one tael of silver and a hundred copper coins in here. If it's not enough, you can come back and get more from me. Go now."

"Alright." Chu Xueqin did not waste any time. He went back to his room and took some money before leaving.

He wore a straw hat on his head and walked straight to the mountain.

There was a small river in front of the mountain. The river was not deep in summer. He did not take off his shoes and wade across the river like those young men. Instead, he went around the mountain.

From afar, he could see that at the location of Chu Heng's mountain, many men were distributing hoes and working at the construction site.

The saplings were all taken down from the mule cart and placed at the foot of the firewood mountain.

Chu Xueqin was shocked when he saw the men digging the ground and planting the trees.

He originally thought that these people were invited by Chu Heng to deliver the saplings. Who knew that they would actually help dig the ground? Could it be that all the part-time workers in the town were doing their best?

Chu Xueqin walked closer to Lu Chuan, who had just finished instructing everyone to get to work.

When he saw Chu Xueqin coming over, he recognized him at a glance. After all, Chu Xueqin had helped Chu Xing build his house for more than a month, so he was next door to Chu Heng's house every day.

In addition, he deliberately remembered everyone in the village.

Lu Chuan went up to him. "Ninth Master, are you here to buy mountain pepper trees?"

Lu Chuan was happy to give face to him because he had a good relationship with Chu Heng and Ye Muyu. He spoke more politely, which made Wu San

could not help but take a few more glances at Chu Xueqin.

Chu Xueqin was only twenty-five years old and ranked ninth in the clan. He was not used to being called Master by anyone.

"You can just call me Brother Xueqin. I'm indeed here to buy mountain pepper saplings." Chu Xueqin glanced at the pepper saplings beside him, as well as Wu San and the others who were quickly digging holes and planting trees. He hesitated for a moment and did not ask about the details.

"How many mountain pepper saplings are left?"

He had just finished asking, and before Lu Chuan could answer, people approached one after another.

"Xueqin, you came so quickly." The one who spoke was Madam Kong from the fourth branch.

Chu Xueqin turned around and called out to Fourth Aunt.

Madam Kong did not come alone. Beside her was the daughter-in-law of the second branch, Madam Wang and Madam Sun.

Chu An from the first branch and Chu Lin from the third branch came one after another.

Each branch had sent one person over. This was better than Chu Xueqin had imagined. He called for people one after another.

“How do I plant this mountain pepper tree?” Madam Kong asked Lu Chuan directly. “Will it bear fruit this year?”

“These mountain pepper saplings have been growing for two to three years,” Lu Chuan answered patiently. “They will bear fruit this time next year. They won’t bear fruit this year.”

He did not hide anything and even said it very clearly. Sure enough, Madam Sun frowned slightly.

Chu Xueqin took it and said, “Speaking of which, my family also planted some. It was planted by Ah Xing when he was young. Every summer, he can also sell it in the county’s medicine shop. The price is not bad. Sister-in-law is very thoughtful. These mountain pepper seedlings are not newly grown seedlings.

Otherwise, it would take three to four years to bear fruit.”

He was also reminding Madam Sun that it was very precious to be able to buy a sapling that would bear fruit next year. It was not something that could be bought at will.

Madam Sun understood..

Chapter 412: Getting Out of Trouble

She still smiled. “Then I’ll go take a look. Speaking of which, my mountain is also a little empty. I should plant something.”

After Madam Sun finished speaking, she really went to look at the mountain pepper sapling. After she went over, she pulled off the leaves from the sapling and put them into her mouth to chew. She wanted to try eating them. Was this thing that valuable? It cost a 100 copper coins.

Madam Sun went to find the people who came to work to inquire about the news.

Lu Chuan pretended not to see it. Ye Muyu had a casual attitude and did not force the clansmen to buy them,

He had also reminded the other men who were working earlier, so there was naturally nothing to worry about.

Chu Xueqin saw Madam Sun's attitude. It was obvious that she was unwilling to give money if she could not see the benefits. He sighed in his heart, thinking that it was fortunate that his family was willing to buy it. He was not afraid

that his sister-in-law would have extra saplings.

Just as he was sighing, Chu An asked Lu Chuan the same question. "How do I pick the sapling? Is there anything I need to pay attention to?"

"Old Master, you only need to take out the saplings with the soil and plant them into a hole. For the first month, remember to water the saplings every day to keep the soil moist. When you transplant them, pay attention to the roots to make sure they're not damaged and cover them appropriately. If the branches and leaves are too lush, cut some."

"Alright, I'll buy ten first." Chu An smiled as he took out a money bag from his clothes. He took out a string of money and handed it to Lu Chuan.

His movements were so fast that Chu Lin and the others immediately looked at him.

Seeing everyone looking over, Chu An smiled. "Speaking of which, I was worried about what kind of trees to plant after clearing the weeds on the mountain. Now, sister-in-law has helped me solve a problem. I have to thank sister-in-law."

"If you guys don't buy much, leave the rest to me."

Although Chu An said it very naturally, no one believed that it was the truth. After all, the Chu family's first branch had the largest area of mountain. There were large oak trees growing on it. They used this wood to repair the house and did not have to spend money to buy it.

This time, Chu Xing had even spent money to add some wood to the house.

Therefore, there really were not many empty spots on the mountain.

Chu Lin looked at Chu An in surprise. He did not say anything more and retracted his gaze. He thought of the number his wife had told him. He thought for a while and said, "I'll take fifteen for my family."

Actually, he wanted to buy more. Five of it was for his daughter, Qingxiang, to plant some trees on the barren land she had obtained from the female arts competition. Even if she did not take care of them much, she would still have a harvest every year.

The other five were bought for his second brother.

He had bought five of them himself, and it was enough to plant them at his doorstep. He could have planted more at the mountain.

"Alright, Eldest Master, please wait a moment." Lu Chuan used the words 'Eldest Master' and 'Eldest Young Master' to differentiate Chu Lin from Chu An.

He quickly received the money.

He called two men over to help them choose the saplings.

Chu Xueqin saw that his two cousins had asked for 25 stalks. The amount he had wanted before was not enough. He felt a little helpless.

Both the first and third branches had bought some saplings.

The fourth aunt of the fourth family was obviously not very willing to buy it.

Chu Xueqin looked at the second branch's eldest daughter-in-law, Madam

Wang, and asked, "Sister-in-law, do you have a number you want to buy?"

"Ninth brother, what about you?" Madam Wang was a little hesitant. She subconsciously touched the spot where the money was placed on her waist. She gently pursed her lips and looked a little embarrassed.

When Chu Xueqin saw this, he knew that the Madam Wang was probably short of money. She did not bring any money with her when she came. This meant that her family had called her over to inquire about the situation. If she could not buy it, she would not buy it. If she had to buy it, she would just buy a little..

Chapter 413: Good Face

After thinking about this, he naturally did not expose the other party to avoid awkwardness. "Speaking of which, before my mother came, she asked me to help my two younger brothers buy a total of 40 stalks. However, the quantity now seems to be insufficient."

"Sister-in-law, can you let me have more saplings?"

Madam Wang did not expect Chu Xueqin to say this, and was even more surprised by the forty stalks he said. That was a total of four strings of money.

Although the other party's words helped her out of the predicament, four strings of money made her eyes flash with disappointment. With so much money, it could be seen that the fifth branch had earned a lot from Ah Heng. On the other hand, her family's relationship with Chu Heng's family was average.

After working for half a month, she only earned one or two taels. How could she compare to the fifth branch?

"Ninth Brother, you're welcome. If you need it urgently, you can buy it first." Madam Wang forced a smile.

Chu Xueqin was not an ignorant person. Seeing Madam Wang's reaction, he knew that he seemed to have unintentionally flaunted his wealth. However, when he thought about how his family earned money because of Lil' Jin, he did not hold back. Even if what he said just now made Madam Wang understand the elements of flaunting, it also protected the face of the second branch.

At least the people from the second branch would not gossip in front of him.

He did not care.

"Thank you, Sister-in-law."

"I'll go ask Fourth Aunt if she's willing to let me buy more," Chu Xueqin said.

"Brother Xing loves planting trees."

After he finished speaking, he went straight to talk to Madam Kong.

Lu Chuan nodded silently. He knew that the Ninth Master was helping the second and fourth branches out of their predicament, so he did not say anything more.

Madam Wang did not stay any longer. Once Chu Xueqin left, she forced a smile, greeted Lu Chuan, and turned to go home.

Compared to staying here and watching other brothers spend money without hesitation, she would rather go back and make more Zhuge Locks to earn some money. Yesterday, Ah Xing had said that a carpenter in Lin County, which was further away, had already developed the Zhuge Lock. She was afraid that business would slowly be snatched away in the future.

She only hoped that business could last a little longer and earn a few hundred copper coins.

On the other side, Chu Xueqin went to Madam Kong and explained his intentions. Madam Kong heard that the second branch did not buy any. She originally thought of only buying a few to show support, but now that she had someone to accompany her, even if she did not buy it, she would not offend anyone. Naturally, she followed Chu Xueqin's words and agreed not to buy it.

"Ah Xing, this child, has loved to plant trees since he was young. The peaches last time tasted very good. As an elder, how could I snatch what the younger generation wants? Naturally, I'll satisfy Ah Xing." Madam Kong put it nicely.

Chu Xueqin knew that she just wanted to save some face. He did not expose her. Instead, he smiled. "I'll tell Ah Xing tonight to come and thank Fourth

Aunt."

"Then I won't stand on ceremony." Madam Kong said a few more words and did not stay any longer as she caught up with Madam Wang.

They went to the second branch together.

After she went, she said to Madam Sun, "Second Sister-in-law, since your family doesn't want to grow it, I didn't buy it too. We can be considered companions."

"Thank you, Fourth Sister-in-law." Madam Sun smiled.



“No need to thank me. It’s good that you know my intentions.” Madam Kong laughed loudly and did not stay any longer. She turned around and went home. Before she left, she had a smug expression on her face.

Madam Kong did not want to buy a sapling at all. If it was a medicinal herb, she would be willing to plant some. Now, it was just an ordinary seasoning for eating. Although it could be considered a medicinal herb, it was not expensive. She really did not want to spend so much money to plant an ordinary tree..

Chapter 414: Peace Asking

Although Madam Kong knew that Ye Muyu had used the mountain pepper to make new food, what about it?

Madam Ye had made a lot of new food, but there were not many that were actually sold.

It was inevitable that the new food they made this time would be eaten by their own family and would not be sold. In this case, even if the mountain pepper tree were planted. Other than the trunk being worth some money years later. There was really no profit.

Therefore, she treated Ye Muyu planting the pepper tree as a joke and was not willing to spend money to buy it.

Madam Sun did not have much money at all.

The second branch’s usual harvest was from farming. This year, they had earned some from selling medicinal herbs. Now, they were all saved up to send their children to school. In this way, the family did not have much spare money.

Even if Madam Wang wanted to buy it, she was short of money.

After Madam Kong left, Madam Sun frowned and asked Madam Wang, “What did you say just now? Tell me.”

Madam Wang then told her what Chu Xueqin had said, as well as Chu An's attitude.

"Sigh, you've worked hard. This matter is over. Our family doesn't have much money. On normal days, it's enough for food and clothing."

"But when it comes to doing business, it's never easy."

"Since I can't do business, I should just farm. I can earn some money from making Zhuge Locks."

"You should get going too. Don't worry about your fourth aunt."

Madam Kong wanted face, how could Madam Sun not know? Since the other party said so confidently, his family must have earned money.

Unfortunately, other than the dowry of her second daughter-in-law, the family had always farmed for food and money. How could they save much money?

However, this was only compared to the Chu family.

In fact, in the village, the second branch had quite a lot of land.

At least they did not have to worry about food and clothing.

They just wanted to raise a scholar, so the cost was really quite high.

Only then would the second branch live a tight life.

Speaking of which...

In the end, Chu Xueqin bought the remaining twenty-five mountain pepper saplings.

Lu Chuan thought for a moment and said, "Madam said that if you still need to buy saplings, you can tell me during this period. If you need more, you can get someone to transport them again."

The three of them nodded and agreed, but they did not say anything else. If they wanted to plant more, they would definitely have to discuss it with the whole family.

"Masters, Madam asked these short-term workers to help you plant your trees as well. Choose a piece of land as soon as possible and plant it as soon as possible to prevent the saplings from dying."

"No need," Chu An rejected immediately. "I can't bring myself to trouble Sister-in-law."

Chu An could not be blamed for refusing so quickly. When he saw the surprise in Chu Lin and Chu Xueqin's eyes, he knew that he had been too polite. He felt a little helpless.

It could not be helped. His mother had offended Ye Muyu.

He just wanted to mend their relationship. He did not want Ye Muyu to have a

bad impression of him, so he did not want to take advantage of her. Speaking of which, he was afraid that he would offend Ye Muyu again.

Chu Lin and Chu Xueqin were much more natural.

Chu Lin said, "No need. I think Third Brother needs to plant a lot of them on this mountain. Ours is just a dozen. It'll be done in an hour."

"My family bought five stalks. I was planning to plant them in front of my house. Since they're edible, it'll be convenient to pick the fruits next year."

“Then I’ll get someone to send it back for you with a mule cart.” Lu Chuan took a step back and said.

Chu Lin did not refuse this time. The one at home had been taken out to graze. By the time he would bring it back, he was afraid that it would be the hottest time, and the sapling would really be tormented to death..

Chapter 415: Heart-warming Details

Chu Xueqin also wanted to refuse.

“Ninth Master, your mountain is just next door, right?” Lu Chuan asked.

Chu Xueqin could not refuse. He smiled. “Thank you. I wonder if you have any more hoes.”

“Yes, it’s right here. Madam went to borrow a lot.” With Chu Heng’s reputation in the village, many villagers were willing to borrow hoes.

On Chu An’s side, after Lu Chuan asked where his mountain was, he saw that it was not far away and helped to plant trees.

Chu Lin pulled the ten pepper trees back. The remaining five belonged to Chu Cai’s family. the mountain was not far away. It was even right next to the three brothers’ mountain.

Thus, he helped them.

When he was done, only one hour passed

There were many people, and Wu Sian and the others were used to doing heavy work. Even if they were tired, they just wanted to finish early and go back to rest.

Halfway through, Zhang Shu came over to deliver some tea.

Seeing that there were no issues, he did not ask any more questions and quickly went home to get the vegetables and dry them.

Lu Chuan sent the Wu San and the others away, while Chu Xueqin also went back home.

When Lu Chuan entered the courtyard, his back was covered in sweat. At this moment, Chu Jin had already left school.

“Lu Chuan is back?” Madam Hu was drying the cooked vegetables in the courtyard. When she saw Lu Chuan, she subconsciously raised her voice and called out to Ye Muyu, who was in the room writing down Mo’s experiment records

Ye Muyu walked to the door.

“You’re back?”

Lu Chuan quickly walked over and bowed. “Madam, everything is settled.”

As he bent down slightly, Ye Muyu saw the soaked clothes on his back. “Go wash up first,” she said. “Change your clothes and come back. There’s no hurry.”

“Thank you, Madam.” Lu Chuan did not see the slightest look of disdain on Ye Muyu’s face and knew that she was being considerate of him. He did not say much and obediently followed her orders.

In his heart, he became even more loyal to the two of them.

It was not that he had never been a servant before, but how could there be such a considerate master? The more wealthy the family was, the stricter the rules were. The worse the conditions of the family were, the less they treated the servants as humans.

Lu Chuan quickly took a wooden bucket and went to the well to get water.

When Madam Hu saw this, she quickly pulled him back. "There's hot water in the kitchen. Madam asked me to prepare it. There's plenty of it. Add some hot water to it so that you don't catch a cold. Even if it's summer, you have to be careful."

Alright." Lu Chuan looked up at the east wing.

Through the half-opened window, he saw a lady sitting in front of the window.

She was wearing an elegant green dress and an ordinary jade hairpin. She was sitting by the desk in front of the window and writing something with a brush.

His eyelashes fluttered and drooped slightly, casting a shadow in his eyes. A touch of warmth flashed in his eyes.

Madam Hu pushed him into the kitchen.

As expected, seeing that the water had already been boiled, he did not stand on ceremony and directly started to use it.

Lu Chuan stood at the door after he was done washing up.

It was only a matter of fifteen minutes.

Ye Muyu nodded slightly at the clean look on the other party's face. She finished writing the last word and put down the brush and ink. "Are you done planting?"

"Madam, I have planted fifty trees on the Mountain. You only need to water them."

"Master Chu An bought ten stalks. I've arranged for Wu San and the others to help plant them."

“Eldest Master bought 15, and the remaining 25 were all bought by Ninth Master. The second and fourth branches did not buy them.” Lu Chuan did not forget to repeat what Chu Xueqin said to Ye Muyu..

Chapter 416: Not Right

Ye Muyu was not surprised by Chu Lin and Chu Xueqin’s actions. As for the second and fourth branch, she frowned slightly. The reactions of the two families made her realize that it was inappropriate for her to inform her clansmen to buy saplings.

Initially, she had good intentions. She thought that when she told the Xie family the recipe for the spicy fish fillet, she would only agree that her family would provide the exact amount of mountain peppers in the future. With this agreement, it was equivalent to cooperating with the Xie family and providing the ingredients.

This was also a good business.

It was like selling pickled cabbages.

The supply of pickled cabbages was considered saturated. She did not give the recipe to the others in the clan from the beginning, so it was naturally not good to divide the income of the first and second branches.

Now, this mountain pepper was a way for the entire clan to have more business.

It seemed that most people were unwilling to invest in advance. It was her who had not thought it through.

Ye Muyu threw this matter to the back of her mind. She quickly understood Chu An’s attitude. Chu An probably wanted to make peace.

In fact, the first branch was still the clan leader’s family, and Chu An would be the next clan leader.

It was not a bad thing to be on good terms with the other party.

However, Madam Cao had crossed her bottom line, so she did not change her mind about not wanting to get along with her anymore.

Nonetheless, it was not appropriate to maintain a stiff relationship with the clan leader's family.

Now, Chu A was using this matter to take initiative to make peace.

Ye Muyu could not pretend that she did not notice him. When Chu Heng returned, he would probably have to go to first branch's house at night.

"You can leave. It's okay now."

Lu Chuan went to find something to do.

Ye Muyu went into the kitchen to prepare lunch.

After Chu Jin returned, he went straight to the study.

He flipped through a few books and kept reading.

Chu Ziluo heard the noise and followed him into the study curiously. She saw Chu Jin sitting cross-legged on the couch with a few miscellaneous notes on his lap.

She walked over and picked up a book. "Brother, what are you doing?" she asked curiously.

"Brother Zhongjin is too amazing. He asked me a few questions today, but I could not answer them." Chu Jin was an impatient person. When he encountered something he did not understand, he would immediately find the answer.



“Really? Brother Zhongjin is also attending classes?”

Chu Jin shook his head. “No, Brother Zhongjin has to recite Buddhist scriptures every day and complete the homework assigned by the abbot. He’s always reading alone in the room.”

“I just went to talk to him after class.”

“Why does he still need to chant Buddhist scriptures?” Chu Ziluo muttered softly, feeling curious.

Chu Jin replied, “Brother Zhongjin said that until he reaches adulthood, he will be a secular disciple. Even at home, he cannot look down on Buddhism. This is what he is used to doing.”

“Oh.”

After Chu Ziluo understood, she stopped focusing on it and started to help Chu Jin find the answer in the book.

Ye Muyu and Madam Hu prepared lunch together.

They had potato and rice for lunch.

She steamed some bitter gourds, cut them into sections, and poured minced meat into the hole in the middle.

A dish of stir-fried beans. This season was just the right time to eat beans, so it was very tender. The beans were stir-fried with pork fat, so it had some flavor.

The next dish was a cold dish with garlic and cucumber.

Ye Muyu usually could not finish the stewed chicken, but Chu Heng bought a chicken every day.

She could only scoop out all the chicken and make a braised chicken dish. The soup was poured over the rice and it was very appetizing.

After lunch...

Chu Jin and Chu Ziluo did not leave. They looked at Ye Muyu, obviously wanting to say something.

“What’s wrong?” Ye Muyu rinsed her mouth with tea before asking the two children..

Chapter 417: Reminder

Chu Jin tugged at Chu Ziluo’s sleeve and did not say anything immediately.

Chu Ziluo raised her head and asked softly, “Mother, I want to go to the school to talk to Brother Zhongjin. Xiao Jin came back and said that Brother Zhongjin is very knowledgeable. Can I go and listen?”

Chu Jin also said, “Mother, Brother Zhongjin is really knowledgeable. He can actually study as a monk in a temple. If Ah Hu and the others in the village can’t study, why don’t they go to the temple?”

Ye Muyu did not know whether to laugh or cry when she saw her son asking so seriously. She smiled and glanced at him. “You child, Ah Hu has parents. Is he going to abandon them and go to the temple?”

“Besides, if they really want to learn how to read, they can play with you or even your classmates in school. They can learn some words by writing on the ground with a wooden stick. One would only go to the temple because their family’s conditions are not good. But if one really wants to learn, this method is not impossible.”

Chu Jin scratched his head. He was still young, so his thoughts were not too complicated. There were limitations to his scattered thoughts, so he was convinced by Ye Muyu. “That’s true. I don’t want to leave my parents, and neither do Ah Hu and the others.”

“Then in the future, if Ah Hu asks me to teach him read, I’ll teach him.” Chu Jin felt pity for Ah Hu. After all, he had seen Ah Hu standing outside the classroom with a basket on his back. He had even thrown stones at Tiger with his classmates.

After that, Tiger stopped coming.

At that time, he had thought that throwing the stone was just a joke. Now, it seemed that he had done something wrong.

“If you are willing to teach him, mother will naturally support you.” Ye Muyu gently rubbed his head with a faint smile on her face.

Chu Jin was used to his mother’s gentleness, so he also felt a sense of accomplishment. He grinned in satisfaction for a while.

“Mother, then I’ll go to school with sister.” He did not even want to take a nap.

Ye Muyu was afraid that since he get gotten used to napping, if he did not rest, he would doze off in class in the afternoon. ‘When you go to the teacher’s house later, remember to sleep for a while, okay?’

“I know, Mother.”

Chu Jin pulled Chu Ziluo away.

Ye Muyu stopped him. “You two go to the study room and pack your books. I’ll talk to Zhang Cong and Nanya.”

“Okay, Mom. Hurry up.” Chu Jin did not forget to urge her and quickly followed Chu Ziluo to the study room next door.

Zhang Cong and Nanya were called in. The two of them quickly bowed politely. They did not know what Madam wanted to instruct them, so the two of them did not dare to say anything. They even felt a little restrained.

“Zhang Cong,” Ye Muyu said gently. “Bring a small cloak over later. Tell the Chu

Jin to sleep a little so that he doesn’t fall asleep in class.”

“Nanya, follow Ziluo later. She can’t be alone with men.”

Ye Muyu also wanted her daughter to have some freedom. However, in this era, women still needed to be on guard. At least, they had to have a reason on the surface. Last time, someone wanted to propose marriage to Ziluo.

The village was not that particular. If they went to the county or even the prefecture, there would probably be more taboos.

In order to be safe, Ye Muyu tried her best to take care of the children at home. Because of her intuition, Chu Heng might really become a high scholar this time, or even an advanced scholar.

At that time...

She was afraid that everything in her life would change.

Ye Muyu muttered to herself. The Zhang siblings saw that their madam was only instructing them to take care of the young master and young miss. They could not help but secretly heave a sigh of relief and quickly responded obediently.

Previously, as soon as they finished speaking, they saw Madam’s serious expression. Their hearts skipped a beat, not knowing if they had done something wrong..

Chapter 418: Fruit Trees Must Be Planted

Ye Muyu was immersed in her own matters. She only reacted when Chu Jin's voice came from outside the door.

She looked up and saw Zhang Cong and his sister's nervous expressions. She suddenly reacted and smiled. "You guys go down and follow Ziluo and Lil' Jin."

"Alright, Madam, this servant understands."

The two of them retreated one after another.

After a while, Chu Jin's voice could no longer be heard.

Ye Muyu smiled helplessly. Madam Hu had already cleaned up the dishes in the kitchen and came in.

She saw Ye Muyu sitting in the main room silently. She walked to the door and quickly left. She did not want to disturb the Madam and was about to turn around and leave.

"Madam Hu, wait a minute. Let's go check out the firewood mountain," Ye Muyu called out to her.

She was still a little worried. If she did not go and take a look personally, she would not know the situation on the firewood mountain.

Madam Hu looked at the sky and said, "Madam, the weather is very hot now.

Why don't we go and see it later? We'll go after you rest."

"It's okay. Just put on the curtain hat and come back after taking a look.

Otherwise, I won't be able to sleep well."

Ye Muyu said as he walked toward the east wing.

"Alright, I'll accompany you." Madam Hu nodded lightly.

She could see that Madam actually had a worried temperament, so Madam Hu naturally did not interfere and just listened to her with peace of mind.

After a while, Madam Hu put on her straw hat and Ye Muyu put on her curtain hat. The two of them left the courtyard and walked toward the firewood mountain.

The weather was hot at the moment, and there were almost no people working in the fields. They were all resting at home and would only come out to work after noon when it was the hottest.

The two of them basically did not stop along the way. They arrived at the location of the firewood mountain.

As they approached, Ye Muyu saw a patch of mountain pepper trees on the east side of the mountain.

Madam Hu walked in front to open the way.

Looking at the neat and tidy firewood mountain, there was only a little new soil on the ground. The excess weeds had even been taken away.

Madam Hu said, "Madam, you can rest assured now. Lu Chuan has indeed followed Master's teachings. Not only are the mountain pepper trees living well, but the weeds around it have also been cleaned up."

Ye Muyu walked around the mountain pepper trees and observed some details of the leaves. After making sure that there were no signs of wilting on the mountain pepper trees, he was relieved.

"We need to get some oilpaper cloth over in the afternoon to make a shelter. The weather is hot now. I'm afraid that watering alone won't be enough to keep these mountain pepper trees alive. I think we'll be able to harvest a lot of mountain peppers next year," Ye Muyu said as she looked at the mountain pepper trees.

"Madam is thoughtful. Usually, we can only plant some wood and peanuts to withstand the drought. The harvest is not high. If we plant pepper trees, we can increase our income," Madam Hu said.

"There are five to six pieces of mountainous land next to it. We can plant more fruit trees. When summer comes, we can also taste the fruits. It's just that we need to take care of it regularly. I'm afraid we'll need some manpower."

Ye Muyu heaved a sigh of relief. It was no wonder that the rich families had so many servants. If they wanted to earn more money and food, they would definitely need manpower.

When Madam Hu heard this, she saw Ye Muyu's face turn dark. She thought for a while but did not say anything. After all, this matter would definitely be decided after discussion between Ye Muyu and Chu Heng. As a servant, she could not do much other than helping out with some work.

"Madam, are we going back now?" Madam Hu asked softly as she watched the scorching sun grow hotter and hotter.

"Let's go."

Ye Muyu did not stay for long. The scorching sun at noon was the strongest, and her skin hurt from the sun, so she decided to wear thicker clothes..

#### Chapter 419: The Effect

In the past, Ye Muyu felt that it was just right, but now, her fingers were cold and her back was covered in cold sweat.

Madam Hu let out a sigh of relief. She had already seen sweat flowing down from Madam's forehead. She was afraid that Madam was not feeling well, so she spoke up.

Ye Muyu agreed.

The two of them returned home very quickly.

Ye Muyu went straight into the east wing.

Madam Hu hurriedly went into the kitchen and brought a basin of warm water over. She stood at the door and gently knocked on the door. Then, she respectfully said, "Madam, this servant has brought you some water." After a while, the door was pulled open.

Ye Muvu could not help but smile when she saw how considerate she was.

"Thank you, Madam Hu. Put it on the stool and go rest."

"Alright." Madam Hu never spoke much. After putting down the basin, she returned to her room.

Usually, Ye Muyu would be taking a nap at this time. She would either take a nap or sit in the house to make clothes for the family. After all, she would have something to do.

In the east wing, Ye Muyu took off her coat.

After wiping her body with a cloth and changing into a set of inner clothes, she felt much more comfortable.

Feeling sleepy, Ye Muyu did not pack up anymore. She lay on the bed, covered herself with a thin blanket, and fell asleep.

Ye Muyu slept soundly.



The scorching sun in the sky was toward the west. It was obvious that it was getting late.

Ye Muyu rubbed her eyebrows. Her cold hands from the morning were finally warm after a good night's sleep.

She frowned slightly. It seemed that she was still cold. After getting up, she put on her clothes and changed her socks. She did not expose any part of her body to avoid the cold.

"Madam, are you up?" Madam Hu was flipping dried vegetables in the courtyard.

"I don't know how to tidy up the ink that Madam has made," she hurriedly went up to Ye Muyu. "I didn't dare to touch it."

"It should be fine. I'll go take a look." Ye Muyu quickly walked to the ink that was being dried. There were many procedures to make ink, but the most difficult one was to make smoke.

And tung oil was the most suitable material for making oil smoke ink, so it was easy to get smoke.

Ye Muyu's ink was made with tung oil as the main ingredient, adding oil fat, raw lacquer, and so on.

It was her first time making it, so she did not add any precious spices, so the ink smelled ordinary.

She was not sure if she could succeed, so she naturally did not care about the fragrance.

"Madam, can this ink really be used?" Madam Hu was somewhat curious.

Ye Muyu shook her head. "I don't know either. Let's give it a try. I don't know if I can control the temperature this time."

Ye Muyu entered the study with a piece of ink in his hand.

Madam Hu finished the work on her hand and followed in.

Ye Muyu grinded the ink slowly. When she was done grinding the ink, Madam Hu came in. She moved gently and stood at the side, not disturbing her.

She picked up a piece of white paper and slowly wrote on it.

Madam Hu was illiterate and could barely remember her name, money, and other numbers.

Although she did not know what Ye Muyu was writing, she could tell that the words were very beautiful.

“Madam, your handwriting seems to be better.” Madam Hu could not help but exclaim.

Ye Muyu finished the last stroke and put down the pen. She looked at the words on the paper. They were firm and shiny, dark and moist. The pen did not glue when licked, and the paper did not smudge. It was indeed the characteristic of oily ink.

Naturally, it was different from the Pine Smoke Ink she had used before.

Oil Smoke ink was suitable for painting and calligraphy. It would only look better if the strokes were smooth.

This was the reason Madam Hu was surprised.

Ye Muyu looked at it for a while and gently blew on the handwriting. After the ink dried, she reached out and touched it..

Chapter 420: Selling Honey Grapefruit Tea

Seeing that the ink would not fade after drying, Ye Muyu smiled faintly. "It seems that I succeeded time. However, there are still some flaws. I can pay more attention to some details."

"Congratulations, Madam." Madam Hu said with a smile. Although she did not know much, she knew that if she could make her own ink, not to mention making money, they would have less money to spend on their studies in the future.

Ye Muyu was also in a good mood. She had a good memory, so she could remember some of the things she had seen in her previous life. However, what she had seen was theoretical knowledge. When she really did it, there would always be errors due to operational errors.

Who knew that she would actually succeed this time? It seemed that her luck was not bad.

Although there were still some flaws, it was still a good start.

In the afternoon, Ye Muyu brought Madam Hu to make Oil Smoke Ink.

Every time she did it, she recorded the data.

The ones that she had made earlier were placed in a small wooden box and were well preserved.

In the afternoon, Chu Heng came back with Lu Chuan.

As soon as Lu Chuan returned, he went straight to Ye Muyu to report the situation.

Chu Heng entered the courtyard and swept his gaze across the courtyard. He then saw the ink block. A look of understanding flashed across his eyes as he looked at Madam Hu who was walking out of the kitchen.

"Come in with me."

“Yes, Master.” Madam Hu looked at Chu Heng’s calm appearance and could not figure out what he was going to ask. Her heart was racing, but she did not dare to show it on her face. In the end, whatever Chu Heng asked, she would answer.

On Ye Muyu’s side...

Sitting in the central room, Lu Chuan walked in and bowed before taking out the money pouch from his waist.

“Madam, this is the money for selling the honey grapefruit tea.” After Ye Muyu took the money, Lu Chuan began to report in detail.

“I’ll take ten jars of honey grapefruit tea to the county. I’ll give one jar each to

Third Young Master Xie, Young Master Du, and Dean Zhang.”

“As for the rest, I’ll sell them directly in the market. I’m lucky. Coincidentally, there were merchant ships coming to the county today. Many merchants came to the market to buy rare goods.”

“I took out the honey grapefruit tea and it was bought by two rich merchants. According to Madam’s request, each jar was sold for two taels of silver, a total of fourteen taels.”

“You did well. Are the merchants still in the county?” Ye Muyu thought of Zhuge Locks. As long as there was money to be made, these merchants were willing to buy these rare things.

“I heard that they’ll be staying for three days,” Lu Chuan nodded.

“Alright then, go and discuss with Chu Xing later and see if we can sell Zhuge

Locks to these traveling merchants.” Lu Chuan instantly understood. “I think it’s feasible.”

“Then you can go back to your work.”

Ye Muyu did not delay his work. The honey grapefruit tea cost about four taels of silver, mainly because honey was expensive. Now, it was considered a profit.

Ten taels profit was not bad.

Ye Muyu was quite satisfied. This kind of food was most suitable for a long-term business. It was actually quite difficult to make a lot of money in one go, and she was not greedy.

Ye Muyu did not pay attention to the fact that she did not see Madam Hu when she left the central room.

She returned to the east wing and placed the silver back into the wooden box.

“Mother, we’re back.” At this moment, Chu Jin and Ziluo’s joyful voices sounded from outside.

Ye Muyu heard the sound and bent down to put the wooden box away. After locking it, she tidied her clothes and walked out.

It was getting late and the sky was starting to darken..