

Peasant 421

Chapter 421 Angry?

Normally, the two children would not come back so late. They seemed to be in a good mood today. Ye Muyu asked gently, "Did you have fun in school?"

"Mother, I'm happy. I'm learning Buddhist scriptures from Brother Zhongjin in school. Sister is helping Teacher Lin make vegetarian food." Chu Jin ran over and hugged Ye Muyu's leg.

He turned around and saw his father at the door of the study.

He was shocked, and a guilty expression appeared on his face. He was afraid that his father would scold him for not focusing on his studies.

"Mother, I also drew on Zhuge Locks with Brother Zhongjin."

"Brother Zhongjin heard that Zhuge Lock was researched by me and even praised me."

When he said this, he was very happy. However, when he saw his father standing at the door of the study, he subconsciously restrained the smile on his face, afraid that his father would catch him and scold him.

"Ah Yu," Chu Heng said, his gaze falling on Ye Muyu.

Behind him, Madam Hu walked out of the study.

She winked at Ye Muyu.

Ye Muyu was stunned for a moment. She let go of her son's hand and walked slowly to Chu Heng. She looked up at him. "Is there anything?"

“Come into the room with me.”

“Alright.” Ye Muyu tilted her head and looked at Madam Hu. She said softly, “Madam Hu, let the two children wash their hands first. Bring the food to the table. I’ll come out after I’m done talking.”

“Alright, Madam. Master might be talking about the ink.” Madam Hu saw that Chu Heng had already entered the study and quickly reminded Ye Muyu in a low voice.

Ye Muyu nodded lightly. She did not think there was anything wrong, so she did not feel guilty and went straight into the study.

The windows in the study were all open, so the air was good. After taking a closer sniff, she could smell the special smell of Oil Smoke Ink.

Ye Muyu hesitated. Could it be that the smell was affecting Chu Heng’s reading?

Chapter 422: So Many?

How could Chu Heng not understand her meaning?

He sighed helplessly and grabbed Ye Muyu’s hand.

Ye Muyu struggled for a while, but when she saw that she could not pull it out, she stopped. Chu Heng rarely touched her, but when he really wanted to hold her hand, he would not let her get away easily.

Since that was the case, she was too lazy to pull him anymore to avoid making him sad.

“Are you doing ink because you lack silver?” Chu Heng was in a good mood. Because of her reaction, the joy in his eyes flashed and disappeared. His slightly rough hand gently rubbed the back of her hand.

Ye Muyu did not expect him to ask directly. Since he had been asked, it was not good to hide it. If she did not answer now, she would really be hiding it from him. Then, she was afraid that there would be conflicts.

“Yes, I need quite a lot for the bookstore. I didn’t expect the cost of printing books to be so high.” Ye Muyu was a little embarrassed. She did not ask about the cost clearly at first, but she never told anyone about it because she lacked money.

Although Chu Heng’s expression did not change, she felt that the way he looked at her was different.

“And about the money for the mountain pepper trees, I’m afraid I’ll have to wait until the bookstore opens and recoups the money before I can give it to you.”

“No need.” Chu Heng’s eyes were like torches.

“Hmm?” Ye Muyu had yet to react.

Chu Heng had already let go of her and strode towards the bookshelf.

Not long after, he brought over a wooden box. When he opened it, there was a stack of banknotes and some silver scraps inside.

“This should be enough. Take it.” Chu Heng took out 400 taels and placed them in her hands.

Ye Muyu was already short of silver, especially since she needed to pay off the remaining 320 taels in two days. If she did not accept this silver, she was afraid that it would cause an awkward situation and embarrass Chu Heng.

Her face was slightly red. Then, she said frankly, “I’ll return it to you when I have enough money. Without you, I can’t open my bookstore.”

“I’ll give you a bonus when the time comes.” Ye Muyu felt that she owed him for taking advantage of him.

“Ah Yu, are you missing something?” Chu Heng frowned when he heard her answer. He reprimanded her seriously.

“We are husband and wife. Shouldn’t I give you money?”

“Keep this wooden box in the future. When there’s money, I’ll give it to you.

Just keep enough on you.”

“These are all earned from some business trips. There are also some land deeds and estates, but they are all in the Luozhou Prefecture in the north, outside of Yanjing. We are far away and can’t see them. We will talk about it when we go to Yanjing in the future. We don’t have to worry about them now.”

Chu Heng gave all his assets to Ye Muyu in a few words.

Ye Muyu was shocked by his carefree actions, but she could not deny that she was touched. She was touched that Chu Heng trusted her.

Chu Heng was the one who earned all this money, so there was no need to give it to her. Even if he only gave her money for the family every month, she would not blame him for anything.

Although in a rich family, the female was in charge of the household, and the male was in charge of the household, it was difficult to say who was in charge of the household.

“Are you asking me to be totally in charge of the house?” Ye Muyu asked with a smile.

“No, this is my money. I’ll give it to you. If you want to earn money, then earn it. If you don’t want to, then don’t do it. Don’t think too much. It’s just money.

The income now is enough to feed our family.”

Ye Muyu's face was full of surprise. She wanted to confirm if Chu Heng was lying..

Chapter 423: Respecting Each Other

Although Ye Muyu did not count it herself, she knew that there were at least a thousand taels in the box.

In Chu Heng's eyes, it was as if she did not like it.

Was this man deliberately saying this to make her feel at ease, or was he really talented in earning money? Was earning money was too easy that he did not put this little bit of money in his heart?

Although Ye Muyu was curious, she did not ask further. After all, if he asked further, it would probably involve Chu Heng's private affairs.

Rather than being thick-skinned and forcing him to answer, it was better to just do it this way. As they trusted each other enough and were willing to confess, they would confess to each other.

Human feelings always needed to be cultivated slowly.

Ye Muyu slowly calmed down and smiled.

"Then I won't stand on ceremony. If you need money, just look for me."

"I have an account book. I'll put it here. If you want to see it, you can come and get it."

Seeing that Chu Heng was about to speak, Ye Muyu raised her head and said, "You don't have give me everything. I know what you mean. Since you don't want me to care about the money, I want you to know how I spend it. Can we agree to each other's terms?"

Chu Heng did not care about the money at first. He just wanted Ye Muyu to slowly get used to him and even get used to him spending money on her.

To put it bluntly, Chu Heng even hoped that Ye Muyu could rely on him for a living. This way, Ye Muyu would get used to this kind of life and would not have any thoughts of leaving.

Unexpectedly, Ah Yu's reaction was more sincere than he had imagined. She had never been tempted by the silver he had given her, nor had she developed any greed. In fact, she had always maintained this respect for him.

They respected him as a person and also respected the feelings and relationship between them.

He sighed helplessly. It seemed that it was impossible to win Ah Yu's heart with this method.

Although this idea was shattered, Chu Heng was still in a good mood.

What else could make him happier?

However, he still needed to work hard to develop a more intimate relationship.

Ye Muyu saw Chu Heng's expression change. It took him a while to calm down, and in the end, he even smiled.

Ye Muyu thought to herself with a faint smile.

"Okay, I understand. I'll come and get the account book if I want to look at it in the future." Chu Heng nodded.

"I'll work with you in that bookstore. I'll give you 30% of the profits. How about that?" Ye Muyu asked.

Chu Heng thought that he had already said it. In the future, he would not take back the silver. It would be used on Ah Yu anyway. There was no need to emphasize it to her now in case she was unhappy. He nodded and considered it a response.

“I brought back some notes and the usual policy discussion.” Chu Heng turned around and went to the desk. He opened the book box and took out a few books and some test papers.

Ye Muyu accepted it decisively.

“Three days later, the bookstore will open for business. When the time comes, can I invite Third Young Master Xie and Young Master Du to have a meal at Fragrance Restaurant?” Ye Muyu gently put away the exam papers and books. The silver notes were also temporarily placed back into the money box. They could be used when they were needed.

“Alright, I’ll go and invite the two of them tomorrow,” Chu Heng replied. “Can you show me the ink you made?”

When Ye Muyu heard that, she did not refuse. She quickly took out the Oil Smoke Ink from a small wooden box on the bookshelf and placed it on his desk.

She explained, “This is Oil Smoke Ink is made from tung oil, pig oil, and so on. It was also inspired by Lord Xu. I was thinking that after confirming the production steps of the Oil Smoke Ink, I would add spices to it..”

Chapter 424: The Silver Is Yours, The Reputation Is Mine

“This is the first batch. The quality is average. Lilt Jin and Ziluo can use it normally. It’s enough. The cost is only 300 copper coins, much cheaper than the ink bought in the county.” In the county, even the lowest grade ink cost more than one tael of silver.

Otherwise, why would studying be expensive? Brush, ink, paper, and inkstone were all expensive. Ink and paper were short-term consumables that needed to be purchased many times after a period of time.

Now that Chu Heng could make brushes and Ye Muyu could make ink, the two children could save a lot of money on their studies.

If a family wanted to develop, they had to cut down on expenses as well as increase their income.

The current situation was very good.

“Let me see.” Chu Heng held the ink block and looked at it for a while before slowly grinding it. When the ink was out, he used a new brush and dipped it in ink. He raised the brush and wrote the words ‘Be careful with your words and actions’ on the paper.

After drying the ink on the paper, Chu Heng looked at the bright black words, and a hint of interest flashed in his eyes.

“Ah Yu, you’re so skilful.”

Hearing this praise, Ye Muyu quickly humbled herself. She did not think of this. She was just taking advantage of the ancient people.

“It’s also Lord Xu’s good idea. If no one has made this Oil Smoke Ink before, I wouldn’t know how to do it.”

“Maybe it’s because I didn’t do it well, so it isn’t very fine, and the smell is a little stronger. I’ll continue trying my best to make ink that won’t have a smell even if I don’t add spices.”

Chu Heng nodded. He kept the paper and encouraged him. “I believe you can make it. If we tell Lord Xu about this ink block, he probably won’t believe that you made it.”

“I’ve already thought about it. I’ll just tell the public that you did it and that I learned it from you.” Ye Muyu did not want to be famous. She was a married woman. No matter how famous she was, she still needed to rely on Chu Heng.

If Chu Heng was not outstanding enough, others would look down on her. In fact, if they knew that she knew how to make ink, they would be greedy.

Having such a reputation would not bring much benefit to her life. Instead, it would bring trouble. She naturally did not want to bear it.

On the other hand, Chu Heng was already a scholar. If he could make ink, his name would be remembered for hundreds of years with the development of Oil Smoke Ink. Moreover, because of his reputation, if he was chosen by a high official, his official path would be smoother.

Ye Muyu knew that Chu Heng treated her very well, so she was naturally willing to treat him well.

“How about this?” Ye Muyu asked for his opinion seriously.

Chu Heng was stunned for a moment. Then, he understood what Ye Muyu meant. He said, “The silver is yours, but the reputation is mine.”

“Alright.” Ye Muyu’s smile was very beautiful. Her eyes were curved like fireworks.

Chu Heng’s lips curled into a faint smile. Seeing her happy, his mood was also relaxed.

Thinking of the news he received this afternoon, his fingers curled up slightly. He was obviously thinking about something.

Outside...

Madam Hu waited for a while. Seeing that the dishes were a little cold, she could only brace herself and knock on the door to remind the two of them.

Ye Muyu turned around and didn’t notice Chu Heng’s fleeting change in mood.

“Let’s go and eat. We can talk after we’re done eating.” Ye Muyu said.

Chu Heng grunted and followed Ye Muyu into the hall.

After dinner, the sky turned completely dark.

Ye Muyu carried the wooden box with the money back to the east wing room and recorded the money.

After sorting it out, there was a total of 1,152 taels, and more than 300 copper coins.

This sum of silver instantly made Ye Muyu understand that Chu Heng’s business was indeed very profitable..

Chapter 425: 60,000 Square Meters

These were all pure profits. It seemed that Chu Heng had already paid the monthly payment for the business team.

Apart from that, there were also 60,000 sq meters of fertile farmland.

Ye Muyu was stunned for a long time when she saw how big it was. In Xingshui Village, the land under Chu Heng’s name was less than 6,000 sq meters.

This was already considered the money they had bought after the incident, plus the money they had earned from the family.

He was considered rich in the village.

60,000 sq meters was the size of a few nearby villages combined.

Ye Muyu was stunned for a moment before she reacted. There were many plains in the north, and the land was wider. Naturally, there were more fields than in Jiangnan.

Even so, it could be seen how hard Chu Heng had worked.

For the time being, he did not need to care about these fields and villages.

Since it was far away, Chu Heng must have already arranged for people to be there.

Ye Muyu sighed at Chu Heng's extraordinary ability.

After writing the account book...

Ye Muyu heaved a sigh of relief and put the account book into the wooden box, which was then placed in the big wooden box beside the bed.

For the next two days, Ye Muyu stayed at home to make ink.

Time passed quickly, and the old residence became lively because of the approaching marriage. Chu Lin was often seen shopping in town.

Meanwhile, Chu Jin and Chu Ziluo continued to interact with Lin Zhongjin.

Sometimes he came to the Chu family, while sometimes they went to Teacher Lin's house.

Ye Muyu saw that the two children knew their limits and did not stop them.

Instead, they played happily every day and were much more cheerful.

Time flew by.

Soon, it was the opening day of the bookstore.

Early in the morning, Ye Muyu was wearing a light purple dress and sitting in the house eating breakfast.

Outside the courtyard, clansmen came to visit one after another.

Madam Liu was the first to arrive. She was carrying a basket of eggs and a bag of brown sugar.

“Ah Heng, Ah Yu, it’s good that you’re here. Is the county’s bookstore opening today?” Madam Liu did not come alone. She also brought Chu Zhiwen and Chu cai.

Chu Cai was also holding a chicken in his hand.

It was still alive and jumping around in his hands.

Ye Muyu and Chu Heng quickly stood up to welcome them.

Madam Hu and Zhang Shu helped to carry stools for them to sit on.

As soon as they came in, they saw that Chu Heng’s were still eating breakfast. Chu Zhiwen walked to the bench with his hands behind his back and sat down. Seeing that the two children also stood up and did not even eat, he quickly raised his hand and waved. “You guys continue to eat. Don’t worry about us.”

“Xiao Jin, Ziluo, you guys continue eating.” Ye Muyu smiled and called the two children to sit back down.

Chu Ziluo blinked her eyes and a sly glint flashed across her eyes.

He took the potato cake on the table and gestured to Chu Jin.

Chu Jin nodded. He held a potato pancake in each hand and quickly walked to

Chu Zhiwen and Madam Liu. "Grandpa, Grandma, have some potato pancakes."

As he spoke, he placed it by their mouths. He even blew on it as it was a little hot." Grandpa, Grandma, the potato pancake is very delicious. Mother made it.

It's very delicious. Try it."

Being coaxed by a five-year-old child, Chu Zhiwen and Madam Liu felt warm in their hearts.

A smile instantly appeared on their face. "Thank you, Lil' Jin. I won't stand on ceremony then. You won't have anything after you finish eating."

"Grandma, this is to show respect to you. Eat as much as you want. I will work hard to earn money to show respect to you when I grow up."

Chu Jin waited for the two of them to accept it before he quickly let go of his hand and grinned.

This was the first time Chu Zhiwen had a junior feed him personally. This new experience made him smile lovingly. "You've become much more obedient recently. Grandpa will eat it then.."

Chapter 426: Gift

"Is it delicious?" Chu Jin asked expectantly.

Chu Zhiwen and Madam Liu nodded happily. "It's delicious. Go back and eat quickly. Grandpa and Grandma came after breakfast."

"Alright." Chu Jin obediently returned to the table to eat after being filial.

Madam Liu and Chu Zhiwen's faces were full of smiles after that.

Ye Muyu instructed Madam Hu to bring the gifts down. Chu Heng had told the clan members about the bookshop yesterday. They had also told the clan leader about the fruit trees and mountain pepper trees.

Therefore, basically, everyone in the clan knew about this news.

That was why Madam Liu and the others came over early in the morning to give gifts.

Chu Heng had already said that there was no need for gifts. However, as his mother, Madam Liu would definitely not refuse. No matter how much she gave, it was still a token of her appreciation.

"Ah Heng, is there anything else that this bookstore needs our help with? You and your wife hid such a big matter well." Originally, Madam Liu felt somewhat uncomfortable in her heart. This was a big matter, but Chu Heng and Ye Muyu actually did not reveal any information.

Naturally, she did not intend to meddle in anything. She just felt that she should be informed of such a big matter.

However, Chu Jin's filial behavior just now had already dissipated the knot in her heart. In the end, if Chu Heng and Ye Muyu did not have her in their hearts, how could they have filial children.

Moreover, Lil Jin's personality was not like this two months ago.

It could be seen that the Madam Ye had taught the children well during this period of time.

Ye Muyu heard this. Although she knew that Madam Liu was joking, she was still a little vigilant. She was afraid that there would be a rift between the two parties. She explained gently, "My husband said that Qingxiang's marriage is approaching. You two must be very busy, so I didn't tell you about it." "There's nothing much we need to do to open the bookshop."

"The books were directly taken to the workshop to be printed. The bookshelves in the shop were given by Young Master Du. Even the horizontal board was written by Third Young Master Xie's uncle." "Wife only found out about this later."

"It's also because my husband has a wide network. Otherwise, I'm afraid that I would really need to be thick-skinned to disturb Father and Mother," Ye Muyu said gently.

Chu Heng said, "Mother, it's just a small matter. You don't have to worry too much about it. I was thinking of informing you when it opens. We can also have a drink at the same time."

"Third Young Master Xie's uncle? Is it that lord?" Madam Liu was startled. "Yes, so I've already booked a banquet at the Fragrance Restaurant for lunch."

"I should." At this moment, Madam Liu still felt that it was a little unreal.

Although her son was already an elementary scholar, the second master of the Xie family was an advanced scholar.

He was a real official. Usually, country women like them would not be able to see him.

"Is the banquet ready?" Chu Zhiwen also reacted. Although he looked calm on the surface, his heart was pounding and he was a little nervous.

His hands were drenched in sweat after a while. He did not hear what Chu Heng said clearly. He could not help but ask, "Isn't this too much trouble for

Lord Xie?"

“That’s right, Ah Heng. Did Third Young Master Xie bring up this matter himself? Or did you ask the Third Young Master Xie?” Madam Liu also thought of this and could not help but ask.

Chu Heng was calm from the beginning to the end. “Mother, don’t worry. This is a gift from Third Young Master Xie.. Are you still worried about me?”

Chapter 427 Inappropriate

“That’s true. Ah Heng, you’re very knowledgeable. Although I know a few words from your father, I’m still a little inexperienced. I’m just asking.”

When Chu Heng heard the usually confident Madam Liu’s overly modest words, he frowned slightly. In an instant, his brows relaxed and he said softly, “Father, Mother, if you have any doubts in the future, just ask me. There’s no need to worry too much.”

“Alright.” Madam Liu heaved a sigh of relief.

Ye Muyu saw their reactions and somehow understood why Chu Heng would say that.

With Chu Heng’s talent, as long as there were no accidents, he would definitely be able to become an official.

In the future, he would have to face even more officials, and even their wives. If his parents, Madam Liu and Chu Zhiwen, were to maintain their respect for officials, it would not be appropriate.

However, he could not be blindly arrogant.

Plus, that was the aftermath. Chu Heng had the two of them develop the instinct to ask more questions. It was a good solution.

Things like one’s horizons could slowly change under a subtle influence.

“Father, Mother, Second Brother, have some tea,” Chu Heng said. Coincidentally, Madam Hu brought a teapot over.

Ye Muyu quickly poured tea for them.

Madam Liu had already passed the period of fear. Thinking that even a county magistrate was willing to give her son face, she felt honored and her face also brightened.

“Alright, go eat. Your father and I just came over to say a few words.” Madam Liu waved her hand.

Ye Muyu saw that she was not just being polite, so she did not stand on ceremony and returned to the table to eat.

She took a sip of the chicken soup and waved at Madam Hu, asking her to go down and finish her breakfast quickly. She estimated that there would be many relatives coming to visit, so she would be busy.

Madam Hu nodded to show that she understood and quickly went down to eat.

Ye Muyu quickly drank the chicken soup.

Chapter 428: Ink Making

Chu Cai’s eyes lit up. “Third Brother, what business? Can I do it?” As long as I can do it, I will not complain. I also want to buy a shop or a courtyard in the county. In the future, when the children study, they will need it. I’m not smart, but as a father, I can’t drag the children down.”

“Second Brother, this business is simple. It’s ink making.” After some consideration, Chu Heng felt that this was the only way for the clan to develop.

“Ink making?” The smile on Chu Cai’s face instantly froze. He was a little hesitant. “Third Brother, is that the ink you use to write?”

One could not blame Chu Cai for being surprised. In the eyes of ordinary people, writing brush, ink, paper, and inkstone were things that they had never thought they could make themselves.

If he could do it himself, he would have made a fortune long ago, right?

“Yes.” Chu Heng nodded.

“Ah Heng, you know how to make ink?” Chu Zhiwen hesitated for a moment before asking.

He knew that his son knew how to make brushes, but his impression of his son’s brushes was still that they were of poor quality.

He did not find it strange. After all, if all scholars could make brushes, how would there be poor scholars?

Chu Heng’s words made him even more suspicious. He said earnestly, “Ah Heng, don’t scare your father with such big words. Although your father is ignorant, I still have common sense.”

After saying that, he coughed awkwardly. After all, it was embarrassing to say that he was ignorant in front of his daughter-in-law, his son, daughter-in-law, grandson, granddaughter, and other juniors.

“Father, you’ll know when you see the ink I made.” Chu Heng did not want to say more.

“We’ll discuss this matter in two days.”

Just as they were talking, someone came from outside.

This time, it was Madam Qian from the fifth branch who came with her sons and a daughter-in-law.

The clan leader, Chu Yonghua, and his eldest son, Chu An, had also come personally.

Chu An was carrying two chickens, a box of pastries, and a piece of meat that weighed two to three catties.

This was not a light gift for a country bumpkin.

Ye Muyu had just finished eating.

She brought Madam Hu along to entertain everyone.

Ye Muyu rejected many gifts, but Chu Yonghua insisted on giving them, so Ye Muyu accepted them.

More and more people came.

Ye Muyu urged the two children to finish eating quickly.

She quickly cleared the bowls and chopsticks on the table.

She then brought stools and poured tea to everyone. The room was instantly filled with people.

Chu Heng sat among the men and explained the matter of opening a bookstore to everyone. At the same time, he invited everyone to the county's Fragrance Restaurant for dinner.

Meanwhile, Ye Muyu was chatting with the women.

Madam Qian patted the back of her hand lightly. She was all smiles. "Muyu, you're really lucky. Once this bookstore opens, money will roll in."

“Thank you for your blessings, Fifth Aunt. Then I’ll be thick-skinned and accept your blessings.”

“This bookstore is my husband’s idea. I’m also working with the teachers in the school. You know, my husband has many classmates who are knowledgeable. It would not be as profitable to work with others, so I thought of starting one myself.”

Madam Qian knew that she had gone too far with her words after hearing Ye Muyu’s explanation. Hence, when she saw a relative coming, she helped to speak up for her.

It also saved Ye Muyu a lot of trouble.

“I didn’t expect Ah Heng to open a shop.”

“Yeah, it was already good enough that he passed the elementary scholar examination. It’s a pity that he failed the later exams twice. Otherwise, he would have passed the high scholar examination a long time ago, right?”

“Exactly. That’s why I say it’s better to study. If I don’t study, how can I open a bookstore?” Madam Kong of the fourth branch emphasized the word ‘bookshop’.

Chapter 429: Opening the Shop

“A book costs at least a few taels of silver. How many books does a bookstore sell? Wouldn’t a hundred books cost a few hundred taels of silver?”

“Oh my god, I’ve never seen so much silver in my life.” Madam Kong was speechless. Not to mention a few hundred taels, she had only seen ten taels of silver at most, but she had never seen a banknote.

When Madam Sun from the second branch and Madam Yun, the third daughter-in-law who came with them, heard this, they were also shocked.

This was especially true for Madam Yun. When her maiden family was still doing well, she had seen a hundred taels of silver notes. Therefore, she knew how much it cost to open a book shop. Not to mention the shop in town, it would cost at least fifty to sixty taels. Even those books cost more than 300 taels.

So much silver.

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Even at the peak of her family's prosperity, her family's savings were only about 200 taels.

Later on, when she married into the second branch of the Chu family with twenty taels of dowry, her status was the highest among the three sisters-in-law. If her family did not fall, she would definitely not marry into the countryside.

Reality proved that her choice was ultimately correct. At least, someone from the Chu family was doing well.

As long as Chu Heng continued to take the examination and passed the advanced scholar examination, the entire Chu family would be able to turn the tables.

A trace of relief flashed in her eyes. Even the unwillingness hidden in the depths of her heart in the past disappeared along with it. What followed was her plan for the future.

"Fourth Aunt, you're right. However, the more promising Brother Heng is, the more reputable we'll be." Madam Yun said with a faint smile. Her words were full of praise for Chu Heng.

Madam Sun looked at her third daughter-in-law in surprise. She had never seen her say such flattering words before.

However, when she thought about how her family had not been bullied all these years because of Chu Heng's reputation as a scholar, she naturally admired her nephew. Nonetheless, she did not have any thoughts of taking advantage of him.

They had to live their own lives to survive. If they relied on others, their lives would not last long.

When Madam Kong heard this, she found it rather rare. "Shanlin, your family used to live quite well. Do you know how much it costs to open a bookstore? It's probably quite a lot, right?"

Madam Kong deliberately asked this question, her voice carrying a hint of flaunting.

Madam Yun looked at her in surprise.

She had always known that Madam Kong was a typical country bumpkin. When she saw her just now, she must have been envious and jealous. When it was her turn, it became showing off?

Madam Yun did not like this person's personality, but she would not embarrass her elders in front of the Chu family.

If they really made a fuss, she would be the one to blame. She was not that stupid.

Hearing this, she smiled lightly. "Fourth Aunt, you're asking the wrong person. My family is a tea seller. I don't know much about reading. Those who know about bookstores are probably from rich families."

She did not belittle her family in a single sentence, but she also praised Chu Heng.

Madam Kong was in a good mood, so she did not hold on to her and went to talk to others. She was just a country woman after all. Although she was talkative, she did not have any bad intentions.

Ye Muyu watched as three rounds of tea were served.

It was getting late, so Chu Heng had already arranged for Lu Chuan to go to the county in advance. He would first go to the bookstore to pull all the books into the bookstore, then prepare the firecrackers and red cloth.

Otherwise, they would miss the auspicious time.

“Uncles and Aunties, let’s go to the Fragrance Restaurant in the county for lunch later. It’s almost the auspicious time now. Let’s go to the county together and see the shop open for business.” Chu Heng said.

The relatives in the house congratulated him.

“Heng, you go first. We’ll come later.” Madam Qian said with a smile.

“Alright.” Chu Heng nodded..

Chapter 430: Banquet

The other relatives did not stay any longer. Since Chu Heng had invited them to the banquet, they naturally did not want to miss such a happy occasion.

All the families were prepared.

After the other families went home to change their clothes and prepare to go to the county, Ye Muyu and Madam Hu cleaned up the tea cups and the house.

She quickly changed her clothes and went out to take a carriage to the county.

Madam Liu stopped Ye Muyu. “You guys go to the county first. Clean up the shop. I’ll go back with your father and take this ox cart.”

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“Mother, do you need to use the mule cart at home?” Ye Muyu asked gently.

Madam Liu waved her hand. "No need. There aren't many people coming. Your elder brother-in-law and sister-in-law have to stay at home to prepare for Qingxiang's wedding. It's just me, your father, and your second brother-in-law's family with a child. The ox-cart is enough for us."

Ye Muyu could tell that Madam Liu was telling her the number of people that her family was going to attend. The other families did the same. Knowing the number would be good for arranging the banquet.

Chu Heng had already gone to the Fragrance Restaurant yesterday to book a banquet. This time, there would probably be many people coming.

Just by inviting Third Young Master Xie, many students would probably come.

However, Ye Muyu did not feel bad at all when she thought about the books and test papers that she would sell. The more people there were, the more the reputation of the bookstore would spread. If the books were sold, it would be a

large sum of money.

However, she also knew that in the future, when Chu Heng entered the officialdom, there would be many such banquets.

It was not a bad thing to get familiar with it first.

"Father, Mother, we'll wait for you in the county." Chu Heng lifted the curtain

of the carriage.

"Alright, go ahead." Chu Zhiwen said with a smile. When Chu Heng explained the matter of the bookstore to him, he felt a sense of pride in him as he basked in the glory of his son.

When he was in a good mood, he would naturally do everything smoothly and would not be calculative.

Madam Liu nodded her head and watched Chu Heng's carriage leave. She quickly looked at Chu Cai and said, "Ah Heng, bring Brother Zhang with you later. Come to the old residence and change into our new clothes. I reckon that we will meet many scholars today. Let Brother Zhang go and broaden his horizons."

"Hurry up. We'll go and help earlier. Even if it's a banquet, someone has to help arrange it."

"Alright, Mother." When Chu Cai heard this, he quickly went home.

Chu Zhiwen was a little surprised when he heard his wife's words. "Didn't Ah Heng just say that the banquet in the restaurant has been arranged? Why do we need to greet the guests?"

"The guests are here, so don't we need to toast? You can go with Heng. There are male and female seats. Do you think it's the same as in the countryside?" Madam Liu rolled her eyes at him helplessly. "I think you're too happy." She mumbled.

"Oh, I see." Chu Zhiwen was not angry at his wife's disdain. He was happy in his heart. With his hands behind his back, he happily went home.

She changed into a new set of clothes and even took out the leather shoes that she had not taken out to wear. She used a small brush to brush them until they shone.

Over here.

Ye Muyu and Chu Heng were already halfway there.

"Have you already informed my mother?" Ye Muyu was doing the accounts while Chu Ziluo was learning from her.

She suddenly remembered and asked.

Chu Heng noticed that she did not need to use an abacus to keep accounts. She always did mental calculations. He was a little surprised. When he heard the question, he nodded. 'Yes, I've already informed my relatives, including my mother-in-law. She said that she's coming to the county. I think she's already on her way.."