

Peasant 461

Chapter 461: Medicinal Wine

Chu Heng heard her voice and quickly turned to look at her. "What's wrong?"

"No, I'm fine." Ye Muyu blushed. Luckily, it was night, and he could not see clearly. She felt relieved and lowered her voice. "Go to sleep. I'm going to sleep too. I'll wake up early tomorrow."

Chu Heng hummed in a low voice, but his eyes were wide open, unable to fall asleep.

Slowly, he did not know how much time had passed. He heard the sound of even breathing beside him. Chu Heng tilted his head to look at Ye Muyu beside him. Under the moonlight, he saw that she had indeed fallen asleep.

A faint smile appeared in his eyes. He felt that even if she was just lying on the side, it was still really comfortable. Chu Heng soon fell asleep.

The next morning...

Chu Heng woke up very early. The sun had just risen. He fetched water from the well, washed up, and left the courtyard.

Ye Muyu woke up at the same time as usual.

The sky would brighten early in summer. If it was winter, it would probably not be bright yet.

Ye Muyu was not surprised that Chu Heng was not there. She put on her clothes, washed up, and did not forget to wipe her face with lipstick.

After sleeping for a night, the wound on the back of her hand had turned a faint dark purple. She pressed it gently and it still hurt slightly, but it was no longer swollen.

According to her past experience, there was no big problem as long as it did not hurt.

Ye Muyu went straight into the kitchen.

Madam Hu was making breakfast in the kitchen.

“Madam, you’re up? Breakfast has already been prepared. This servant plans to make cold bitter gourd slices, steamed egg soup, bean bacon buns, and stir-fried vegetables.”

“There is still some meat left at home. I bought it yesterday. This servant was thinking of asking you whether I should keep the meat to make smoked meat and preserve it for a longer time, or cook it today?” Madam Hu asked as she wrapped the buns, “Because Xingshui Village is close to the county, and there are often traveling merchants who come over, they passed down the preservation method of smoked meat and cured meat.”

“Speaking of which, smoked meat and cured meat are a little salty, so you don’t have to add salt when cooking. It’s also convenient.”

Hearing her question, Ye Muyu rubbed her forehead. She remembered that the village chief said that slaughtering would be banned for 49 days, which was about one and a half months.

In other words, for the next month and a half, there would be no more freshly slaughtered meat to eat at home.

Chu Heng had said that the provincial examination would not be affected. He would continue to take the examination. She had already thought about it before. She would bring him some cured meat so that he would not have to worry about it spoiling on the way. No matter what she cooked, she would put some in it. There was no need to put salt in it. Even soup could be made this way, so it would be much more convenient.

Of course, she could also prepare some meat sauce and eat it for a few days.

She had never thought of not using the meat.

Now, it had affected Chu Heng's travel.

"Don't cook it for me, and keep it for smoking. Chu Heng will need it when he leaves home." Ye Muyu immediately made a decision.

As she spoke, she found Zhang Shu and gave him some money. She asked him to go to the village to ask if there was any fresh meat.

Zhang Shu took the money and went out.

"Madam, you don't have to be busy. I'll do it. You're still injured." Madam Hu turned around and saw Ye Muyu washing her hands and preparing to cut the bitter gourd.

Ye Muyu said, "It's fine. My hand doesn't hurt anymore. But Madam Hu, if your hand still hurts, you must apply medicine immediately. If there's no medicine, we'll make it ourselves."

"You can make it yourself?" Madam Hu was a little surprised. The family was now using the ointment bought from the medicine shop.

Ye Muyu thought of the medicinal wine from her previous life, which was specially used to treat bruises..

Chapter 462: Pheasant?

Her family could always prepare them.

"Yes, I can. I'll look for a medical book later." Ye Muyu was someone who would do whatever she wanted. She would feel a little uncomfortable if she did not do it when she thought of it.

Madam Hu was somewhat expectant. Ever since she knew that Ye Muyu could read, it was not strange to make more useful objects. In this world, scholars were precious and knew everything.

She was a little envious, but more than that, she was happy because her son, daughter, and even her husband, Zhang Shu, were learning how to read.

The two of them were old, so they just had to learn the basics and not be scammed in the future.

However, the two children could learn a lot of things. This was something that would never happen in other families. As she thought about it, Madam Hu's eyes turned red.

Seeing Ye Muyu cutting vegetables with her back to her, she quickly wiped her tears and smiled.

After cutting the bitter gourd, Ye Muyu marinated it with salt for a while before pouring out the water and starting the salad.

The two children could not eat too much bitterness. After being salted, the bitterness was almost gone.

"Madam, the buns are ready. I'll take care of the rest." Madam Hu waited for her to put down the kitchen knife and quickly fetched water for her to wash her hands.

Ye Muyu did not insist.

She nodded and left the kitchen.

She turned around and went into the study. She found a lot of medical books and confirmed the ingredients of some medicinal wine. In her previous life, she had read a lot of things. It was only a business cooperation, so she did not know the real secret recipe. However, she understood some of the general principles.

She first wrote down the herbs she needed.

She wanted to find a doctor to confirm the specific dosage and formula before making it.

“Master, you’re back?”

As soon as she finished writing, she heard voices outside. Ye Muyu stood up and put the paper away at her waist.

She walked toward the door.

When she opened the door, she saw Chu Heng standing in the courtyard surrounded by onlookers.

He was carrying two pheasants in his hands!

If it was not for the fact that the two pheasants were so quiet, Ye Muyu would have thought that they were alive.

“How did this come about?” Ye Muyu walked out quickly and looked at the pheasant. She was a little surprised. Then she thought of something and asked Chu Heng anxiously, “Why did you go hunting pheasants? Yesterday, there was a ban on slaughtering. You have a reputation. If someone were to leak it, your reputation would be tarnished and it would even affect your imperial examination!”

“Did you meet anyone on the way?” Ye Muyu asked Lu Chuan, who was following Chu Heng out of the house.

“Who are they? I’ll go out and get some information from them later.” Ye Muyu frowned slightly. She knew that the matter had already happened, so she could only think of a way to resolve it. It was useless to complain.

However, she still had to remind Chu Heng. Otherwise, this person would boldly continue to hunt pheasants.

“Madam, no one saw us. It’s still early. Most villagers haven’t woken up yet, let alone gone out.” Lu Chuan explained in a low voice.

Ye Muyu looked at him disapprovingly. “It’s better to be safe than sorry. As long as one person sees it, it won’t be a secret.”

“You, come in with me.” Ye Muyu looked at Chu Heng helplessly.

At the same time, she instructed Lu Chuan and Zhang Shu to be more alert and listen to the gossip in the village.

There was no need to ask anything, but they had to be cautious and listen.

Lu Chuan lowered his head, not daring to say anything.

Chu Heng handed the pheasants to Madam Hu and washed his hands before following Ye Muyu into the study..

Chapter 463: Persuasion

Madam Hu held the two pheasants in her hands and felt that they were hot. “My goodness, although I know that Master cares about Madam, it’s not good to catch pheasants at this time.”

“You should persuade Master in the future.”

“The imperial examinations are a big deal.”

“Master has plenty of talent. If he doesn’t take the imperial examination because of this reason, how aggrieved would he be? You also know that people in this world, especially officials, are surrounded by enemies. They can’t be caught by others,” Madam Hu reminded Lu Chuan in a low voice.

“Actually, we didn’t kill those two pheasants,” said Lu Chuan.

“If you didn’t, then how did they die?” Madam Hu’s eyes widened. She did not believe him and wanted to scold him.

“The pheasants were bitten to death by a weasel. We just picked it up,” Lu Chuan said as he rubbed his nose gloomily.

“Your idea is also very dangerous!” Madam Hu looked at him seriously and warned.

Lu Chuan knew that Madam Hu was close to Ye Muyu. It must have been Ye Muyu’s intention for him to be reprimanded. Thinking that Ye Muyu was doing this for Chu Heng’s sake, he felt a little guilty even though he originally thought that Chu Heng’s idea was good

Nonetheless, they really handled it very well and could guarantee that no one saw it.

In the study room...

Ye Muyu also heard about the origin of the pheasants from Chu Heng.

She was speechless for a moment. She looked at Chu Heng, who did not think he was wrong at all. She felt helpless. “Even if that’s the case, don’t do it again.

Otherwise, even if you bring back pheasants, I won’t eat them.”

“I can control what I eat.” Ye Muyu expressed her attitude. Chu Heng was obviously a person who would not be easily changed by others once he made a decision. Especially when he believed in his own self-confidence. Since he said that he had handled it well, it was very likely that nobody saw him.

However, Ye Muyu was more worried about the possibility.

If she had to risk her career just to catch pheasants to support her body, she would definitely not do it. After all, it would only be a little more than a month.

Chu Heng looked at her and explained, "I've thought about it. Today is the easiest day. After a few days, I'm afraid that you won't be able to touch any meat. People will notice. Your health is more important."

Ye Muyu pursed her lips and did not say anything.

It was precisely because Chu Heng was doing this for her that she disapproved of him doing so.

"Alright, there won't be a next time." Chu Heng sighed when he saw Ye Muyu's stubborn expression.

"I know that you are a man of your word. Since you said it, I will believe you." Ye Muyu's words seemed to flatter him, but in reality, she was provoking Chu Heng to ensure that Chu Heng would not do it again.

How could Chu Heng not know that she had said that on purpose? According to his personality, he would definitely not go back on his word after hearing it.

This was her goal.

Was she worried about him?

When Chu Heng thought of this, his mood improved. "Okay, I promise you."

Ye Muyu saw that he answered seriously and nodded slightly. "I'll keep these pheasants in the well."

Since Chu Heng had specially brought it back for her to nourish her body, according to his personality, if she did not eat it, he would probably think of other ways to get chicken meat for her to nourish her body. Ye Muyu thought to herself, 'If I go along with him, this matter will be over.' The two of them had a rather harmonious conversation.

After a while, she came out of the study and was ready to eat breakfast.

Lu Chuan was in the yard helping with the hay. Seeing that Ye Muyu and Chu Heng did not quarrel, he heaved a sigh of relief. He thought that if Chu Heng did anything risky in the future, he would secretly tell Ye Muyu..

Chapter 464: Suggestion

After all, a harmonious family would prosper. If Ye Muyu and Chu Heng had a good relationship, servants like them would not have to worry about accidents happening.

Just as Lu Chuan was lost in his thoughts.

He heard Ye Muyu calling him.

Lu Chuan snapped back to his senses and quickly walked over. "Madam, what's the matter?"

"This is a list of medicinal herbs for treating bruises. Take it to some doctors and ask them how they should be mixed."

"Give it to some older doctors. The older doctors in the county will do. I think the medicine at home is not bad. I bought it from Hefeng Medicine Store, so can go directly to the doctor in Hefeng Medicine Store." Ye Muyu thought for a

moment and ordered.

"Madam, do you not know the amount of herbs in the prescription?" Lu Chuan was puzzled.

"Yes." There was no need to hide this. After all, she was not a medical student.

No matter what, medical prescriptions were highly confidential. The doctors of Great Chu valued prescriptions even more.

She had also considered researching it herself, but it would waste a lot of time. She planned to ask Chu Heng to bring it along when he would go to the prefecture to take the exam.

As for the leaking of the formula...

Ye Muyu hesitated for a moment before hearing Lu Chuan say, "Madam, if we directly go for the doctor from Hefeng Medicine Hall to see the prescription, I'm afraid the prescription won't be confidential anymore, and the other party might not give us the exact amount we need."

"Then what do you suggest?" Ye Muyu was not familiar with this era. Although she tried to read more books and familiarize herself with the era, it was inevitable that her thoughts would be different.

Lu Chuan said, "I've heard from the Master that he wants to raise a doctor. That way, with the contract, the doctor can be used by us. Naturally, we won't have to worry about the prescription being leaked."

Ye Muyu nodded slightly. She realized that besides the clan, the most important thing was taking care of the servants.

She still had to change her way of thinking.

"Alright, I understand." Ye Muyu took back the prescription and turned around to enter the study to discuss this matter with Chu Heng.

Chu Heng took the prescription and glanced at it. He saw some value in it, but it was mostly due to his trust in Ye Muyu.

"Give it to me," he nodded. "I'll find a chance to get someone to concoct it."

"Alright." With Chu Heng taking over, Ye Muyu was relieved.

At this moment, Chu Ziluo's voice came from outside.

Ye Muyu called Chu Heng and the two of them went into the main room to have breakfast.

The whole family was dressed in plain clothes, so they were very used to it.

Chu Jin ate two big buns. Although he did not like bitter gourd, he did not dare to resist Chu Heng's request and tried to eat a few mouthfuls.

After getting used to it, he did not hate the taste of bitter gourd anymore. At least, her face would not twitch and he would not protest when he ate it.

Ye Muyu smiled when she saw him slowly accept the bitter gourd.

It was normal for children not to like bitter dishes, but after removing some of the bitterness, they would gradually accept it.

Chu Ziluo was well-behaved. Like Ye Muyu, she liked to eat bitter gourds.

After breakfast, Chu Heng left early for the county school.

Chu Jin still went to school. He even brought two meat buns in the morning, saying that they were for Zhongjin.

Ye Muyu reminded him to prepare something else for Zhongjin. If Lin Zhongjin's followed his plan to return to the temple, he would have probably started to abstain from meat and fish today.

Chu Ziluo had also heard that Lin Zhongjin was leaving.

For a moment, she was a little reluctant.

“Mother, can I go and send Brother Zhongjin off?” Chu Ziluo leaned against Ye

Muyu and said dejectedly..

Chapter 465: Decisiveness

“What’s wrong?” Ye Muyu looked at her and rubbed Ziluo’s face. “Are you sad that your friend is leaving?”

“Yes, Brother Zhongjin is very smart. Previously, I wanted to take care of him. I didn’t expect Brother Zhongjin to teach me a lot of knowledge that I didn’t know in school.”

“So I want to ask Brother Zhongjin when he’s leaving. I don’t know when we’ll meet again. I want to give him a gift.” Chu Ziluo said as she counted her fingers, “Mother, Do you think I should give him the ink that I made myself? Or the grapefruit tea that I made myself? Or a Zhuge Lock?”

“As long as you sincerely prepare it, as a friend, Zhongjin will feel your sincerity. He won’t care what it is.” Ye Muyu’s expression was calm as she taught her daughter seriously.

Chu Ziluo was smart and thoughtful. She immediately understood what she meant. “Mother, I know. I’ll give the stamp I carved last time to Brother

Zhongjin.”

“Stamp?” Ye Muyu didn’t have any recollection of it, so she looked confused.

“Mother, wait a moment. I’ll go to the room and get it for you,” Chu Ziluo said.

As she said that, she subconsciously reached out to lift her skirt. Only then did she realize that she was wearing plain trousers today. She paused for a moment before running toward the west wing room.

Ye Muyu noticed her subconscious action and smiled.

It seemed that his daughter's playfulness had slowly been nurtured. She was much better than her previous cautious appearance.

After a while, Chu Ziluo returned with a stamp carved from ordinary wood.

Although it was a stamp, what was carved on it was not a name, but a tiger and a rabbit.

The two animals were completely different, and the style was also different. Ye Muyu could tell at a glance that the tiger was drawn by Chu Jin. Recently, he had been drawing tigers for the Zhuge Locks, and there was already a hint of charm in them.

As for the little white rabbit drawn by Ziluo, it was as gentle and kind as her, much more reserved.

It was unlike the tiger that Chu Jin drew, which was very fierce and unyielding.

"Mother, I made this when I learned how to make Zhuge Lock from Uncle Xing. Uncle Xing said that stamps can't just be made casually, especially the ones with names. So, I drew it with my brother before carving it."

"Mother, do you think little brother will dislike me if I give this ugly tiger seal to him?"

Ye Muyu knew that her daughter was kind. Otherwise, the child would not have suffered so much before she transmigrated. However, it was precisely because of this that her heart ached for the child.

"Ziluo, I'm telling you, if they're real friends, they'll never despise the cheap gifts you give. If you meet a friend who doesn't cherish your kindness in the future, you don't have to continue befriending them."

“You have to be decisive. Even if you lose a friend, you have to stop your losses in time. You can’t put yourself in danger for others.”

“Only when you are strong can you truly protect your loved ones, friends, and even strangers.”

“A true friend is someone who is genuinely good to you, and not someone who wants to take advantage of you.”

Chu Ziluo seemed to have come to her senses after hearing this. After a while, she said, “Mother, I understand. I won’t be too kind.”

“That’s good.” Ye Muyu was worried that she was too young to understand, but she had underestimated Ziluo’s understanding.

“Nenya, accompany Ziluo to school. Remember to come back on time for lunch.”

Ye Muyu did not worry about Zi Luo, so she did not restrain her..

Chapter 466: Returning to Deming Temple

“Thank you, Mother!” Chu Ziluo happily planted a kiss on Ye Muyu’s cheek. “I’ll be back soon.”

“I’ll wash the dishes when I come back in the afternoon. Mother, you’re the best.” Chu Ziluo pestered Ye Muyu for a while before leaving for school with the sprout.

Madam Hu smiled faintly. “Madam is blessed. The Young Miss is sensible and obedient.”

“It’s indeed my blessing for this child to become my daughter.” Ye Muyu was happy from the bottom of her heart. She was happier than others praising her. It was obvious that this child was precious to her.

“By the way, is Zhang Shu back?” Ye Muyu suddenly asked. She was still a little worried about Chu Heng’s actions of bringing back pheasants for her.

Although she was touched by the other party's intentions, she felt that Chu Heng was deliberately doing this, and it was no different from deceiving her.

"Not yet. He said that he's going out to mow the grass and ask around for information. He'll probably be back in an hour."

"Alright then. We won't delay any longer. Let's make the ink block first. We'll make a big ink block today. Just one block will do." After Ye Muyu finished speaking, she began the extremely complicated ink-making process.

Madam Hu was carefully learning at the side. Ye Muyu was also very serious about teaching. Ever since Madam Hu knew that Ye Muyu would expand the ink business in the future, Madam Hu no longer hid her talents. She was determined to learn and do well as soon as possible.

In the future, when she really needed to do business, she could not let Ye Muyu teach others about it.

Before Ye Muyu and Madam Hu could cook the ink paste, Zhang Shu came back.

Other than carrying a basket full of fodder, he also brought back a piece of news.

"Madam, it's a little lively at the old residence. It seems that the Song family has come." Because Zhang Shu was more honest, it was a little difficult for him to get information. However, perhaps it was because of his honest personality that no one chased him away when he gathered together to listen to the villagers gossip.

"The Song family..." Ye Muyu muttered, suddenly thinking of Chu Qingxiang and Song Lu's marriage.

She wanted to ask more, but Zhang Shu could not answer her. "Madam, not only am I unable to enter the courtyard, even the other members of the Chu family are unable to enter."

"When I came back, many villagers were standing outside the wall of the old residence wanting to watch the show. However, because there was no sound from the courtyard, they dispersed."

“Yes, I understand.” Ye Muyu was not curious about this matter. It was the first branch’s matter after all. Since they did not come to her, she naturally would not get involved.

Soon, it was noon. Lunch was simple. There were stir-fried vegetables and pheasant soup. There was some firewood in the meat, but the soup was delicious.

“Mother, Brother Zhongjin has already returned to Deming Temple.”

“But I have already agreed with him to meet in the prefecture.” Chu Jin’s tender face had a serious expression.

Chu Ziluo was in a good mood. Her relationship with Lin Zhongjin was just that of a playmate at most. She was not too upset when she gave him the gift. Moreover, he said that they would meet again in the future. Her last bit of reluctance dissipated.

“Mother, will we have the chance to go to the capital city in the future?” Chu Ziluo’s attention was drawn to the capital city. For a child who had only been to the county town, the two children had only read about the prosperity of the capital city in books. For a moment, all their attention was drawn to it.

“Mother,” Chu Jin looked up at Ye Muyu and asked, “Brother Zhongjin said that the capital city is very big. There are even more beautiful lanterns and toys. Even the floor is paved with a whole piece of bluestone.”

“Is the capital city that amazing?” Chu Ziluo’s eyes were filled with anticipation..

Chapter 467: Not Greedy nor Pride

“I don’t know if it’s that amazing, but I know that the more prosperous a place is, the more intelligent people there are. Don’t underestimate anyone. Be more careful. Don’t have the intention of harming others, but you must be wary of others. Understand?”

“Mother, I understand. I heard from Uncle Xing that a merchant from the capital city bought a Zhuge Lock and made a new one when he went back.” Chu Xing had a deep impression of this matter, and the Zhuge Lock was getting harder and harder to sell.

Now, it was already considered good to be able to sell ten of them a day.

He only needed to draw one Zhuge Lock every day, which caused the speed of saving money to drop drastically.

“Mother, I know that too. I saw that Mother’s attitude toward the people in the village is different from the people in the county.”

“How is it different?” Ye Muyu praised Chu Jin before asking Ziluo gently.

She was slightly surprised by this child’s thoughtfulness.

“In the village, Mother, you speak with confidence and do things more casually.”

“But to Father’s classmates in the county, Mother will be more distant. Your words are also very clever and you never offend anyone.” Chu Ziluo scratched her head. She felt that this kind of mother was perfect. She liked her too, but she felt that something was off.

Ye Muyu was no longer worried about the child. She smiled and patted her head. ‘Ziluo, stay by my side from now on. Watch more and talk less. Do you understand?’

“Alright.” When Chu Ziluo heard that she would be able to stay by her mother’s side often, she smiled foolishly.

“Hurry up and eat. Lil’ Jin is almost done eating,” Ye Muyu picked up some food for the two of them.

She slowly drank the chicken soup.

As Lin Zhongjin had already left the school, Chu Jin did not go to school early in the afternoon. Instead, he stayed at home and finished drawing on a Zhuge Lock before doing other things.

As usual, he got up after lunch break and hammered the ink paste with Zhang

Shu and Madam Hu

Zhang Shu was a man after all, so he had more strength. The effect of his hammering was better than Ye Muyu's and Madam Hu.

Madam Hu was originally worried that her man would not be used to this job, because he had also smashed his hands yesterday.

However, she did not expect that the number of times he hit his hand was much lesser today. He would move his hand away when the hammer was close to the ink paste. Although the hammering effect was not as good enough, Ye Muyu naturally valued people. The ink in the early stage was just a test product. Once he made the best and most distinctive Oil Smoke Ink, she could sell it in large quantities.

"Be careful. Madam said that you'll get better the more you do it. If you keep going, you won't hurt your hands anymore. I know that you're an honest person and just want to live a peaceful life. This is just only a physical job. Isn't it in line with your personality?" Madam Hu encouraged Zhang Shu in a low voice.

Zhang Shu smiled foolishly. "That's what I thought too. I'm not good with words, but I have some strength. This job suits me very well. I'll get used to it for a few more days and I'll be able to slowly find the feeling." "Madam has helped us settle down. We should repay her." "I see that Madam and Master both value ink-making very much."

"The better I do, the easier it will be for them."

Madam Hu reached out and took a handkerchief to wipe his sweat. "It's good that you understand. Our current life is all thanks to them. We can't be greedy or arrogant."

"Knock, knock--"

Someone knocked on the door of the courtyard as Ye Muyu was flipping the ink block.

Hearing the sound, she looked toward the door.

Chu Ziluo was in the yard learning how to make ink. When she heard the noise, she was the first to run to the door.

She opened the door and saw Chu Xing standing outside..

Chapter 468: Pearl

“Uncle Xing, you’re here!” Chu Ziluo happily reached out to pull Chu Xing in.

Chu Xing was smiling brightly. He took out a round fan from an ordinary cloth bag on the mule cart behind him and gave it to Chu Ziluo.

“Ziluo, take a look. Do you like it? I’m giving you this delicate fan. There’s a pearl embedded in the handle. I heard that women like white stones the most. This fan is also famous for its double-sided embroidery.” Chu Xing explained excitedly to Chu Ziluo.

Chu Ziluo’s curiosity was piqued. “Uncle Xing, you’re amazing. Pearls! They’re so pretty. I like them very much.”

“I was lucky. I went to a county town further away and met a merchant from overseas. I exchanged seven or eight pearls from him at a low price. If I bought them from a shop, the price would have been several times higher.”

Speaking of this, Chu Xing was obviously very happy. This time, he got a big advantage. It was also because the foreigner had taken a fancy to the tea leaves he brought over. Otherwise, he would not have been able to exchange them.

“Mother, come and see.”

Ye Muyu heard the sound and walked over slowly. She saw the mule cart parked behind Chu Xing with a few packages on it. Only then did she realize that he had come straight to her house after returning and had not had the time to go home yet.

“Ah Xing, come in and rest for a while. If you have anything to say, say it slowly. As for Fifth Aunt, I’ll call Nanya to tell her that you’re safe.”

“Then...Then I won’t stand on ceremony. Actually, Sister-in-law, I have something to discuss with you and Brother Heng.” Chu Xing scratched his head and felt a little embarrassed. However, when he thought of the business opportunity he had discovered this time, he was more excited than hesitant. When Nanya heard Ye Muyu’s words, she ran towards the fifth branch. She was very clever.

The mule cart was not brought in. Chu Xing directly brought a few bags into the central room.

Madam Hu went to make tea first, then carried some grass to feed the mule.

“Sit down, have some tea, and talk slowly.” Ye Muyu also took a sip of tea. It was the hottest time of summer. Even though Ye Muyu’s body was not as strong, she would sweat even if she worked a little.

Not to mention a young man like Chu Xing, he was definitely feeling the heat even more.

Chu Xing did not stand on ceremony. He picked up the tea and took a sip. Realizing that it was winter melon tea, he quickly finished the cup and wiped his mouth in satisfaction.

“Sister-in-law, I’m sorry to trouble you again.” Chu Xing put down his teacup and saw Ye Muyu sitting patiently beside him.

He did not delay any longer and slowly told them about the journey that took him three days to complete.

Chu Ziluo sat on the stool at the bottom of the hall, resting her chin on her hand as she listened.

"This time, I drove the mule cart straight past the two neighboring counties and arrived at Lushui County, which has the largest dock."

"The water transport in Lushui County is much more than ours. The dock alone is as big as our Nanchang County. Foreign businessmen disembark from the ships all the time. I've even seen many foreigners."

"Here, sister-in-law, these are the pearls I exchanged for tea leaves from that foreigner. Look, they're so beautiful."

Chu Xing reached out from a bundle and took out a wooden box. There was a rough carving of a magpie on the wooden box, and when it was opened, there were seven eye-catching pearls.

Each pearl was round and smooth, sparkling and translucent. Ye Muyu had seen many jewelry in her previous life. She could tell at a glance that although these pearls were not very big, they were of good quality. "How many tea leaves did you exchange for this?" Ye Muyu asked..

Chapter 469: Dividing the Silver

"Uncle Xing," Chu Ziluo asked curiously. "Is it a catty of tea leaves?"

"Not bad." Chu Xing could not help but rejoice. "A catty of tea leaves costs at most 500 copper coins. However, these pearls can't be bought even if you have money. Basically, every time a foreign businessman comes, they will be dragged away by the butlers of those rich families for business."

"In other words, you snatched food from the tiger's mouth?" Ye Muyu was a little worried, but she did not show it on her face.

Chu Xing quickly shook his head. "I wouldn't dare. I was thinking that there were many people at the dock and they had never seen Zhuge Locks before, so they would sell."

"So I waited at the side. It was the foreigner who took the initiative to find me and make a deal with me."

“And I think he has quite a lot of pearls. The ones I got were considered the worst. Otherwise, even a catty of tea leaves wouldn’t be able to exchange for a single pearl.”

“The foreigner then left on his own. I couldn’t even find him, let alone others noticing me.”

“It’s also because I’m lucky. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have been able to get it.”

“You have to be careful when doing business in the future. Don’t offend people and suffer. Money is not as important as your life.” Ye Muyu was relieved to hear him say it so casually, but she did not forget to remind him.

Chu Xing rubbed his head. This feeling was a little strange. Although he had always called Ye Muyu sister-in-law, he always felt that he was about the same age as her.

Now that he was being taken care of, he felt a little embarrassed, but his heart felt warm.

“Sister-in-law, don’t worry. I only dared to do this because I saw someone else do it.”

“I went to ask around after that. Every time, these inferior pearls would end up in the hands of some traveling merchants.”

“Not all merchants are wealthy.”

“Take me for example. I just started a business and have a little wealth. In the eyes of those big shots, I’m not enough.”

“However, I will work hard to make my business bigger!” Chu Xing’s voice was very low, but his attitude was very firm.

His serious expression only lasted for a few moments. Hearing the pounding sounds outside, he could not help but ask, “Sister-in-law, what is Uncle Zhang doing?”

"Ink making," Ye Muyu said concisely.

Chu Xing almost choked on the water he had just drank. His eyes widened in shock. "Ink? The ink used by scholars?"

"Yes, you didn't mishear it." Ye Muyu smiled and filled his cup with tea.

Chu Xing was stunned for a moment, then he said in embarrassment, "I wanted to tell you, sister-in-law and Brother Heng, that those foreigners are also very interested in Zhuge Lock. We can do a big business and prepare a few hundred Zhuge Locks in exchange for the pearls they brought."

"I didn't expect that after not seeing you for a few days, Brother Heng and you almost gave me a fright."

Compared to selling ink, reselling Zhuge Locks could only be considered a small business that could be done in a short period. Chu Xing's excitement had almost been extinguished. The two were not on the same level.

He felt gratified and happy.

Then, he opened another bag. Inside was a money bag.

"Sister-in-law, other than that, I'm also here to give you money."

"During this period, I sold a total of 706 Zhuge Lock, earning 294 taels of silver and a few hundred copper coins."

"The cost was about 59 taels."

"We'll split the profit equally. Each of us will get 117 taels and a half.."

Chapter 470: Not Enough Talent, Working Hard

"The silver is all here. There's also the account book. I've written it down, but the handwriting is a little ugly." Chu Xing was a little embarrassed at the end of his sentence.

Ye Muyu thought he was just being humble.

"It's fine as long as it can be recognized. You don't have time to practice anyway..."

When Ye Muyu saw the crooked words on the huge account book, her words of comfort were instantly stuck in his throat. She wanted to laugh, but he was too embarrassed to do so. However, the handwriting was really ugly.

"Coincidentally, a few days ago, my husband made a few brushes. I also made some useless ink here. If you don't mind..." Ye Muyu had not finished speaking.

Chu Xing quickly waved his hand. "No, no, I don't want it. Sister-in-law is too kind."

"I... I... Sister-in-law, you gave me a brush last time. I bought ink later, but I haven't used it yet." The more he spoke, the lower his voice became. In the end, he blushed in embarrassment.

At this moment, Madam Qian's laughter rang out in the courtyard.

She then entered the central room and explained to Ye Muyu. "This child runs outside every day. At night, he hides in his room and counts the silver. He sleeps with the silver every day as if the silver can grow."

"As for his ability to read, it's already good enough that he can write." As his biological mother, Madam Qian did not hesitate to expose his background. Chu Xing was already a little embarrassed, but his mother directly exposed his lack of talent in writing. He instantly felt even more embarrassed.

"Mother, you're exaggerating. I've also learned how to read and practice calligraphy, but my handwriting always goes astray. When I hold a brush, I feel like my hand doesn't belong to me anymore."

It doesn't listen to me." Chu Xing felt a little wronged as he spoke. When he was free outside, he would also use the bamboo stick to draw, but the effect did not seem to be very good.

"It's okay. Beginners are all like this. Xing, you just need to practice more." Ye Muyu encouraged him with a smile.

Seeing that she did not make fun of him, Chu Xing secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

"Mother, why are you here?"

"I just came over to help you see if there's anything you need help with."

"Looks like there's no need for that. You didn't say anything about buying some big crabs from Lushui County." Madam Qian scolded Chu Xing in disdain.

Chu Xing opened his mouth to explain.

Madam Qian had already gone to talk to Ye Muyu enthusiastically.

"Muyu, I heard that the Song family went to Third Sister-in-law's place twice today. Have you heard about it?"

Chu Xing inexplicably felt that his mother talked badly about him because he had taken up her time to talk to Ye Muyu. Seeing that the two of them were on good terms, he suddenly broke into a silly smile.

Ye Muyu heard Madam Qian's words and asked, "Fifth Aunt, I've heard about it.

But I don't think it's anything. Maybe it's just about discussing the wedding."

"You're right. Your second sister-in-law didn't go either. It probably isn't a big deal." Madam Qian was just casually asking, so she naturally would not dwell on this matter.

Then she asked about the money and asked Chu Xing to take his own account book and read out the expenses for Ye Muyu.

By the time they finished speaking, it was getting late.

Chu Xing gave Ye Muyu and Ziluo a pearl each.

Ziluo's pearl was inlaid on the fan, adding a touch of luster to the plain and unadorned painted fan.

Ye Muyu's was not decorated and was placed in her palm. She could use the pearl to decorate suitable jewelry in the future.

Madam Qian got on the mule cart first, and Chu Xing steadily drove the mule cart home..