

Peasant 471

Chapter 471: I'm So Embarrassed

"Let me see those pearls," Madam Qian said.

Chu Xing casually handed the wooden box to Madam Qian.

Madam Qian opened it and took a look. Although she liked it, there was no greed in her eyes.

"Not bad. There are six left. It's enough for everyone in the family."

"Mother, I just gave the best pearl to Sister-in-law. You won't be angry, right?" Chu Xing asked bluntly.

"If you don't give the best to Muyu, I'll give it all to her." Madam Qian glanced at him.

"The rest are just right. They're all the same. When you go back, give it to your Eldest Sister-in-law and Second Sister-in-law. Only then will the two families not feel uncomfortable. After all, they're the same."

"If there's one more good one, it's inevitable that we'll have to share it." "Can't I still give it to you?" Chu Xing teased.

"Although I love to earn money, I still have to earn them honestly. Besides, I'll keep this thing for future generations to use as jewelry. I'm already so old, and I don't even wear it. Why would I want such a good one?"

"Besides, if it weren't for Ah Heng and Muyu, you'd have to marry those poor girls who don't have money to buy furniture. You'd have to live in a new house and use old furniture."

"Besides, your mother isn't stupid. We can all earn money. With Muyu's ability, how can she not be able to afford pearls? They helped us, so we're also grateful."

“Mother, I know. That’s what I was thinking. I was just afraid that you would misunderstand. Stop nagging. My ears are about to get calluses.” Chu Xing’s laughter caused the villagers who were doing farm work to ask with concern what had happened.

Madam Qian glared at Chu Xing. She turned around and smiled at the villagers. “It’s my kid who’s naughty. He thinks I talk too much.”

“I thought that only by finding a daughter-in-law can I control this naughty boy.”

He watched as his mother talked about his marriage with the villagers as if no one else was around.

Chu Xing’s face was thin to begin with. He was so embarrassed that his face turned red. He straightened his neck and quickly drove the mule cart home.

Madam Qian almost staggered. She slapped him on the shoulder. “You brat, don’t hide. The house has been built. It’s time to arrange a marriage for you.”

“Mother, I know, but don’t say this in front of me. I’m so embarrassed.” Chu Xing argued humbly.

Madam Qian glanced at him. “If I don’t tell you this news, how can I find a girl for you to marry?”

“Mother, are you going to arrange a marriage for me now? The Empress in the Palace has passed away. It is not good to talk about such a happy occasion in this month.” Although Chu Xing was shy, he slowly calmed down after he was alone.

“Naturally, I won’t be doing it within this month. However, you can take a look first. In short, if you want to choose, follow me. If you want Mother to help you choose a suitable one, you don’t have to worry about it.” When Madam Qian said this, the mule cart had already arrived at the door of the house.

As soon as the mule cart stopped, she carried two bundles and quickly entered the courtyard.

“Go and call your father back first. The house is almost done. You can clean it up yourself in the future.”

Chu Xing knew that this was a family meeting.

He did not delay and went to get his father.

Meanwhile, Ziluo and Nanya were sitting in the study, playing with their fans.

Ye Muyu sat in the east wing, writing down the accounts. The accounts were filled with the expenses she had just heard from Chu Xing. Her memory was now very strong. Although she could not remember everything, she could still describe everything she heard and saw in a day without missing a word..

Chapter 472: Going to the Old Residence

With the hammering sound in the background, Ye Muyu finished writing very quickly.

After that, the steps of making ink were also recorded without a word missing.

By the time she was done, Zhang Shu had already finished hammering the ink paste. He had just packed it into a box and pressed it into shape.

Seeing Ye Muyu come out, he was sweating profusely from the heat and did not react in time. It was not until Madam Hu reminded him that he quickly wiped the sweat off his forehead, turned around, and bowed respectfully.

“Zhang Shu, go and rest for a while. You’ve been busy enough today,” Ye Muyu ordered.

“Thank you, Madam.” Zhang Shu smiled honestly.

As he said that, he quickly left. As he got closer to the Madam, he could smell the light fragrance of flowers. Unlike him, who was covered in sweat after hammering the ink paste.

Zhang Shu, who had always lived a rough life, suddenly felt ashamed of himself.

He hurriedly went to wash himself.

“Madam, I just heard from Old Madam Liu that there are grapefruit again. Do you want to buy them?” Madam Hu asked as she cleaned up the dried vegetables in the courtyard.

Ye Muyu thought that since she had nothing to do now, she could make more honey pomelo tea to sell.

There were not many dried vegetables in the courtyard. After collecting them, there was only a cloth bag.

Madam Hu took the copper coins and quickly went to the villagers’ houses to collect the pomelos.

Zhang Shu cleaned up, changed his clothes, and went to water the mountain pepper tree.

Everyone was busy with their work. Ye Muyu brewed three pots of honey grapefruit tea, and the sky gradually darkened.

When Chu Jin returned home, she began to prepare dinner with Madam Hu.

“Mother, Uncle Xing has given me my salary,” Chu Jin said softly as he ran into the kitchen.

“All this money is mine, right?”

“Yes.” Ye Muyu nodded gently. “It’s yours. If you want me to keep it for you, I can.”

She was deliberately teasing him with the last sentence.

As expected, Chu Jin took a step back and waved his hands frantically. "There's no need, mother. It's very tiring for you to manage too much silver. As your son, I should help you share the burden."

"Alright, I'm just teasing you. Go to the study and read. Your father will come back for a check-up at night. It's almost time for dinner after you finish your homework."

"Mother, I understand." Chu Jin quickly ran back to his room and put all the copper coins into his small vault.

Looking at the wooden box that was filled with more than half of the copper coins, Chu Jin felt more and more satisfied.

When he was satisfied, he hid the wooden box again.

Even when she went to do her homework, the smile on her face never disappeared. She would occasionally laugh foolishly.

Ye Muyu had seen his little actions, but she did not interfere.

Today, Chu Heng came back early. He had reached home before the sky had completely darkened.

Ye Muyu did not see any fatigue on his face. It was obvious that the death of the empress did not affect the provincial examination.

"I just finished cooking. Go wash your hands and eat." Ye Muyu came out of the kitchen with a plate of stir-fried green beans.

Although slaughtering was forbidden, there was pork fat at home, and stir-frying vegetables with it was also very delicious.

She then changed the way she prepared food for the two children and Chu

Heng.

There was no fresh meat and vegetables at night.

There was only the leftover pheasant meat for lunch.

Ye Muyu directly tore the chicken meat into shreds and made it into chicken salad.

She had successfully received the satisfaction of his entire family.

After dinner, Chu Heng turned to Ye Muyu and said, "I'll go to the old mansion later. "

"Let's talk about ink making. I was busy the last time I opened the business, so I didn't have time to tell Eldest Brother and Second Brother," Chu Heng explained.

Ye Muyu knew that in this era, individuals and families would always help each

other..

Chapter 473: Nonsense, I'm Clearly Protecting You

It was extremely difficult for an individual to shake a clan. However, if a clan wanted to shake another clan, the outcome would be different.

"Go ahead. Ask Lu Chuan to accompany you." Ye Muyu did not know how long it would take for him to go there, so he could go earlier and come back earlier.

Chu Heng nodded. Suddenly, he thought of something and took out a silver hairpin from his waist.

Seeing Ye Muyu's bright eyes looking over, Chu Heng, who had always been unmoved, paused for a moment.

"This is a gift for you." Chu Heng reached out and grabbed Ye Muyu's hand, placing the hairpin in her palm before letting go.

Ye Muyu lowered her head. Under the dim yellow light, she saw a beaded silver hairpin lying on her palm. It was exquisitely carved and was worth a lot of money.

"How much did this cost?" Ye Muyu could not help but ask. She also said, "Ah Xing came back this afternoon. He gave me 117-5 taels of silver. He said it's the profits earned from selling Zhuge Locks."

"I thought I promised Xiao Jin before that I would save this silver for him. When he grows up, I'll slowly give it to him. After all, it's the money that the child earned through his own hard work." "Ah Xing also gave Zi Luo and me a pearl. I think it's worth a lot."

"What gift do you think we should return?"

Ye Muyu expressed her thoughts gently.

When Chu Heng heard the word 'pearl', his eyes flashed. He quickly regained his composure and nodded. "It's just a few taels of silver. It's not worth much. If you're willing to save it for Lilt Jin, then save it. I trust you anyway."

"As for Ah Xing's return gift, when Ah Xing holds a banquet or gets married, you can give him a generous gift to make up for it."

Ye Muyu nodded. "You're right. If we give him a gift alone, I'm afraid Ah Xing will find an excuse to send it back. It's better to prepare more gifts on such a

joyous occasion so that outsiders will think highly of Ah Xing."

"I know that you are protecting him." Ye Muyu could not help but smile as she spoke. Her eyes seemed to spit out stars.

Chu Heng felt as if he had been bewitched. He wanted to place her like a star and place her where he could see her when he raised his head for the rest of his life.

He thought that that place might be his heart.

“Nonsense, I’m just protecting you.”

Chu Heng’s serious attitude concealed the joy in his heart.

Ye Muyu blinked her eyes. She avoided his gaze and her ears turned slightly red. Chu Heng smiled when he saw her like this and leaned over to her cheek.

Shocked, Ye Muyu subconsciously stepped back. Under her long eyelashes, her dark and bright eyes were even more eye-catching.

“Don’t worry. If you don’t agree, I won’t touch you.”

As he spoke, he placed his large palm on her head and gently stroked it twice.

She turned around and quickly walked out of the living room. Lu Chuan immediately took a lantern and followed her.

Ye Muyu and the others had walked far away before she finally reacted. She let out a sigh of relief and pursed her lips slightly as if the heat on her face had not dissipated. Her ears suddenly turned red.

“Liar,” she muttered softly.

Madam Hu only knew that Ye Muyu and Chu Heng had spoken. She waited for Chu Heng to leave before knocking on the door and coming in to clean up the dishes.

Ye Muyu reached out to hold her hand and looked at the back of her hand to make sure that the injury was not serious.

“Madam, this servant’s hand is rough, so you shouldn’t touch it.” Madam Hu subconsciously wanted to pull back her hand. She knew that Ye Muyu was concerned about her, so she was gratified in her heart and her hand movements were much slower.

“Remember to ask Uncle Zhang to apply more ointment on his hands,” Ye

Muyu said. “I’m afraid his hand’s injury will be more serious..”

Chapter 474: Give and Take

“Many thanks for your concern, Madam. This servant understands.” Ye Muyu nodded and said nothing more.

She knew that Chu Heng would be back later, so she did not wait for him.

In the old residence

When Chu Heng arrived, Madam Zhang was cooking dinner. The dinner was simple and consisted of multi-grain noodles.

Chu Cai also came with Chu Heng.

Chu Heng first went to call his second brother Chu Cai over. Coincidentally, the other party had just eaten, so Chu Heng called him over.

“Chu Heng, Chu Cai? You guys are here?” Chu Zhiwen carried his head and came in from outside the house, followed by Chu Lin.

Chu Zhiwen had seen the two figures from afar and thought that he had seen them wrongly.

“Chu Cai, Chu Heng, have you guys had dinner yet?” Chu Lin noticed that their wives and their mother were not in the courtyard. Obviously, these two

younger brothers had just arrived.

“Yes. Big Brother, Father, go wash your hands and eat first. We’ll talk later.” Chu Heng obviously wanted to discuss things after dinner.

Chu Zhiwen understood his son. He nodded without thinking and put the hoe in the corner. He then got some water and washed his hands.

Chu Lin wanted to say something but hesitated. He did not know what his third brother was here for.

He still remembered that his third brother was going to participate in the provincial examination. It seemed that there was less than half a month before his third brother had to leave.

“Big Brother, if you have anything to say, wait until dinner. There’s no hurry.” Chu Heng always had the power to calm people down. Chu Lin was a little restless. After looking at him and hearing his words, his mood relaxed.

“Third Brother is right. I was too busy to think straight.” Chu Lin smiled in relief.

Chu Heng noticed that Chu Lin looked exhausted and his brows were furrowed from time to time. It was obvious that something was bothering him.

Although he had guessed that it was related to Chu Qingxiang, Life was filled with gains and losses. If he kept worrying about this, it was better to give up and take advantage of the fact that he was not married.

While Chu Heng was thinking about this, he was still expressionless and was about to walk into the main room.

Chu Heng had only taken two steps when Chu Cai pulled him back. "Third Brother, did something happen at Eldest Brother's house? I don't quite understand what you just said."

Chu Heng looked at his second brother, who had always been honest and reliable. He was used to the fact that the other party was not that smart.

"Since it's a vexing matter, it should be Eldest Brother who gets up and says it himself. Isn't Second Brother most afraid of trouble?"

"The matter is not related to me, right?" Hearing Chu Heng's words, Chu Cai felt relieved.

"Not really," Chu Heng said.

After all, Chu Qingxiang was Chu Cai's biological niece. They were related, but not that much.

"What's going on?" Chu Cai asked again.

However, Chu Heng had no intention of answering his doubts. Since he wanted to develop his family, he had to understand his family members more in the future. Only then could he embark on a smooth road.

"Second Brother, watch more. You should also care more about other people's family matters. After all, our surname is Chu. We're a family, and we're always connected at critical moments."

"Only by seeing clearly can you live clearly."

Chu Cai could tell that Chu Heng was reminding him. However, if he could understand it, he would have taken the imperial examination directly.

Nonetheless, for some reason, Chu Cai felt that what his third brother said was right. He pondered as he walked.

The main hall of the old residence was very large because this house had been built at a high price.

The central room could fit three tables.

Chu Heng brought Chu Cai along and sat at the table beside them to have tea, while Madam Liu and the others were having dinner.

Perhaps it was because Chu Lin's family had something on their minds, they were very quiet during the meal..

Chapter 475: The Beginning of the Family

Chu Cai felt a little awkward because of the atmosphere. He could not help but touch the tip of his nose. From time to time, he looked at his eldest brother and the others. He also noticed that his niece, Qingxiang, had only drunk a mouthful of soup and eaten a mouthful of rice before saying that she was full.

His heart skipped a beat as he suddenly thought it through. Could it be related to his niece's marriage?

He usually liked to bury his head in work and not meddle in other people's business, but it seemed that his wife had said something about it during the day.

Chu Cai faintly felt that he had guessed correctly, and he did not want to overthink it.

It was better for him not to interrupt this kind of thing. As for whether his parents needed his help, they had to tell him. He would help with the physical labor obediently.

When Chu Heng finished drinking a cup of tea, Madam Liu and the others had finished their meal.

The two kids, Chu Sheng and Chu Ming stayed behind and sat down on a stool.

Madam Liu wiped her hands on her apron. She sat down and looked at Chu

Heng. "Ah Heng, do you have something important to say today?"

"I mentioned it last time. It's a business that I've decided to do after some consideration."

"I don't know if it will work, but I'll tell everyone first."

"After all, it hasn't worked out yet. It wouldn't be glorious if word got out." Chu Heng said slowly. In fact, he was hinting to Madam Liu to let the children go out first. It was not suitable for the children to listen to the adults' discussion for the time being.

In case it was accidentally spread.

Madam Liu instantly understood and looked at Madam Zhang.

Madam Zhang had also heard Chu Lin vaguely mention this matter, but she did not hear it clearly last time, so she was a little curious now.

She patted her two sons' shoulders. "Don't you want to study in the county school when you go back to do your homework? If you can't pass the seasonal examination, you'll be sent back."

Chu Sheng and Chu Ming became nervous when they heard that. Without waiting for Madam Zhang's urging, they got up and went back to their rooms to read.

Actually, Madam Zhang had said this on purpose to reveal this information to

Chu Heng.

When Chu Heng heard this, he looked over at her.

She knew that her brother-in-law was smart. Because of her eldest daughter's marriage, Madam Zhang finally understood the benefits of her third brother-in-law's scholar rank. If it was not for Chu Heng the Song family would probably bully them even more!

"Third Brother, isn't Teacher Lin leaving? I was thinking of sending the two children to your current school in the county. In the future, when it comes to sending pickled vegetables, just let your eldest brother send them directly." Madam Zhang then mentioned this matter. She had always wanted to say it but had not found the opportunity. She was busy from time to time. Chu Heng was not surprised at all. "Alright."

Seeing Chu Heng agree, Madam Zhang heaved a sigh of relief.

Chu Lin also felt relieved. Seeing that his third brother did not say anything, it was obvious that he agreed with their idea.

In terms of studies, he was not as good as his third brother. He also wanted his two sons to be successful, so he naturally valued Chu Heng's opinion.

"Alright, let's get down to business." As soon as Madam Liu spoke, everyone turned to look at Chu Heng.

Chu Heng said, "It's the ink-making we talked about last time. I plan to discuss this matter with Father and Mother. Ink-making requires an extremely long process. At least half a year, at most a year or two."

"If we want to do this business, we must invest a lot of money."

"I have two ideas. Please listen to them."

"Firstly, I will build an ink workshop under my name. I can only start operating it officially after I gain some fame. Without fame, I can't keep my skills. I want us to become a family famous for our ink, just not an ordinary ink merchant.."

Chapter 476: The Decision

"I hope that Father, Mother, Eldest Brother, Eldest Sister-in-law, Second Brother, you can understand this."

"Secondly, I can teach you how to make ink. It depends on whether you plan to make your own ink and sell it or cooperate with me. I will arrange for you to do whatever you are good at. You will receive a monthly salary." Chu Heng did not elaborate further.

When he finished speaking, the entire place fell silent.

Madam Liu was shocked by Chu Heng's words.

Madam Zhang was somewhat hesitant, not knowing what to choose.

On the other hand, Chu Cai said without thinking, "Third Brother, I'll work for you. I'll do whatever you want me to do. As for the monthly salary, you're my third brother after all. You definitely won't starve me to death."

His thoughts were in line with his honest personality. After all, the money earned from selling pickled cabbages at home was enough for his son to study.

He only needed a fixed job and earn extra money when he was idle. That would be enough for him to live.

"Third Brother, ink making is very expensive. Do you have enough money?" Chu Lin asked.

"Enough." At this moment, Chu Heng did not conceal his aura.

Chu Lin's eyes flashed with surprise. He recalled that his family had more than fifty taels of silver now. To him, it could almost be described as a sudden wealth.

However, to Chu Heng, that was only enough to make a little ink. It was like how they treated making pickled vegetables.

Chu Lin suddenly thought it through. Yes, even if he and his second brother combined, they would definitely not be as smart as his third brother, let alone his ability to earn money.

Although he was the eldest son and had to inherit his parents' property and provide for his parents, the three brothers had been living separate lives. Even if they lived together, they could not control their third brother's matters.

In other words, if Third Brother became rich, it would not have much to do with them, and others would not comment anything either.

However, it was clear that his third brother had the intention to help them.

Moreover, his third brother's family had just opened a bookstore, and it was said that it would cost a few hundred taels of silver. To him, this was simply a huge sum of money.

Now, his third brother was planning to open an ink workshop and even become a family famous for ink-making.

At this moment, Chu Lin felt that even if he tried his best, he would still be able to catch up to Chu Heng. This year was especially so. If his third brother passed the imperial examination, he might even become a scholar.

He instantly understood that Chu Heng would reach a height that he could not see sooner or later.

It was said that if someone was around the same level as one, one would only be jealous. If someone stood at a height that one could not see, there would be no jealousy at all. There would only be admiration.

This was Chu Lin's thought.

“Third Brother, I have the same thoughts as second brother. I will have to rely on you in the future.” Chu Lin took a deep breath and made a decision.

After more than ten years, Chu Lin recalled what happened today and realized how much his decision had affected his life and even affected the younger generations.

Chu Heng’s deep eyes fell on their faces as if he were confirming something.

Chu Lin was a little confused, but he subconsciously straightened his back to make himself look more confident.

Chu Cai was a little confused. He reached out and touched his face.

When Chu Zhiwen heard about becoming an aristocratic family, he could only be happy. After all, it was his son. His third son walked the path of being an official. It was only safe for his other two sons to be helped by his third son and do things they were good at.

As for the choice of his two sons, he would not interfere. His sons had grown up and had to take responsibility for their own choices.

Madam Liu thought about the same thing as Chu Zhiwen. She even thought more and could tell that Chu Heng was asking seriously. He also had the intention to helping the eldest and the second..

Chapter 477: Pushing Their Luck

Otherwise, Chu Heng would have opened his own ink workshop long ago. Why would he choose or even discuss it with them?

Seeing that Chu Lin had agreed, Madam Liu heaved a sigh of relief.

Although she did not know where Chu Heng’s confidence came from, she had an inexplicable intuition that they believed him.

"Third Brother, what do you need us to do? Just tell us directly." Madam Zhang could not wait to do something, and if she did not work, she would not have the face to ask for money.

"Soon. I'll inform you when the time is right." Chu Heng nodded.

He did not have any intention of going into the details.

Chu Lin and Chu Cai were too shy to ask, so the topic passed.

"Ah Heng, have you heard about the Song family?" Under Madam Zhang's anxious signal, Madam Liu sighed and said.

After all, Qingxiang was her granddaughter. She had to be considerate. She would not feel at ease if she allowed her to be bullied. She would help if she could, but she could not make decisions for Chu Heng.

Thus, after Madam Liu finished speaking, she sat up straight and did not intend to say anything more.

Madam Zhang did not expect too much. After all, her mother-in-law had always liked fairness. If she insisted more, it would only make the elders angry. The gains would not make up for the losses.

"The Song family? What's the matter?" Chu Heng glanced at Chu Lin and his wife, asking.

Chu Lin deliberated for a moment. "It's an old problem. Didn't the empress pass away? If marriage is prohibited, then the previously set date will not work."

"I don't know if something happened to the Song family, but they strongly requested to hold a banquet with the son of the second branch of the Song family. Because in a month, the closest date that can be chosen is also when the wedding of the son of the second branch of the Song family will be held."

"This time, the Song family is very firm. They even said that they would only give six strings of silver as stated previously, not six taels." Chu Lin frowned slightly. He could not understand why the Song family's attitude had changed so drastically.

Previously, when they came to discuss, they were forbearing. Why did it seem like they would be firm with their decision even if they argued?

When Madam Zhang heard this, she could not control her temper at all. She slammed her palm on the table and said angrily, "That Song family is bullying my Chu family!"

"We clearly agreed on it before, but they're going back on their word now." "In my opinion, they think that my daughter must marry Song Lu!"

"There's also Qingxiang. Why did she meet Song Lu alone and get caught by Madam Huang? At that time, she didn't say a word, so I thought she was as happy as I was that my daughter and her son had a good relationship."

"So she deliberately grabbed hold of the evidence and used it to ask us to relent and give in on the marriage!"

"We can't let this matter go just like that. Does he really think that my daughter has to marry him? If we give in this time, they will think that our Chu family is easy to bully. After Qingxiang gets married, won't she be bullied too?"

"Mother, no matter what you say, I will not back down this time." Madam Zhang threw caution to the wind. She had been suppressing the anger in her heart for a long time. Otherwise, she would not have such a big reaction.

"Even if I give up on this marriage, I can't be bullied by the Song family for no reason. I only like Song Lu because he has a calm and responsible personality and a good temper. That's why I tolerated the Song family. Besides, there's also the fact that they still have many young children in the family."

"But they're pushing their luck now.."

Chapter 478: Don 't Worry

As Madam Zhang was speaking, the door was suddenly pushed open. Qingxiang pushed the door open and came in from outside. Her eyes were red and she looked stubbornly at the elders. She did not bow and said in a stern voice, 'Mother, I want to marry Song Lu. I won't marry anyone else.'

"You child!" Madam Zhang was so angry that she raised her hand and wanted to slap her, but she could not bear to. She could only hug her and pat her lightly, saying that her life was bitter.

"Alright, let's see what Ah Heng has to say." Madam Liu frowned as she looked at the mess in front of her.

Madam Liu had long expected Chu Qingxiang's choice.

She did not exactly feel disappointed. It could only be said that it was the result of a rational analysis based on Qingxiang's personality.

However, Qingxiang barged in so forcefully, which showed that her personality was too demanding. If she was like this toward everything, it might not be a good thing.

After all, she had not married yet and could still be taught. Madam Liu could only think in the right direction.

"Have you ever wondered why the Song family's attitude changed so drastically?" Chu Heng asked after everyone had quietened down. "Since Song Lu was the one who backed down before, is he not backing down now, or is there something else?"

"Aren't they threatening us with Qingxiang's reputation?" Madam Zhang was slightly startled. Even Chu Qingxiang felt the same way. Hearing Chu Heng's words, she was slightly surprised.

Madam Liu frowned.

She had an ominous feeling.

Chu Heng crossed his index fingers and tapped them lightly. "Did anyone witness it?" he asked.

"Do me and Madam Huang count?" Madam Zhang was a little nervous. At this moment, she was full of regret for letting her daughter meet Song Lu alone. Because she was worried, she could not help but think too much. She did not know if the Song family had deliberately arranged a witness.

"Not really."

"Do they have any physical evidence?" Chu Heng was very calm from the beginning to the end.

Madam Zhang was affected by him, and her somewhat flustered heart finally calmed down a little. She quickly tilted her head to look at Chu Qingxiang at the side.

"Qingxiang, you didn't give Song Lu any personal items that he shouldn't have, right?" Madam Zhang did not care that there were people around and directly asked. It could be seen that she was also anxious.

Chu Qingxiang's voice was very soft. "No, we only said three sentences before we parted. He did give me a few pastries."

"There's no witness, and there's no physical evidence. It won't be effective to use the girl's reputation. With your family background, it's not impossible for you to arrange another marriage for Qingxiang."

"Moreover, if it's really for two taels of silver and the money for the banquet, it doesn't seem to be in line with the Song family's character."

"I suggest that you go and ask what happened to the Song family recently before you consider other things."

"At the very least, we have to understand why the Song family suddenly changed their mind. Only by knowing the root cause can we have a strategy to deal with it."

"There's still a month left, so there's no hurry."

After Chu Heng finished speaking, he stood up. Chu Cai, who was drinking tea halfway, also hurriedly put down his teacup. He choked and stood up.

“Father, Mother, I’ll go back first. Lil’ Jin still needs tutoring at home,” Chu Heng said.

Madam Liu also understood that Chu Heng’s words made sense. It was because they had been confused by the sudden visit of the Song family today that they had forgotten this crucial point.

After all, it was something that could not be rushed, and it would not delay Chu Heng’s studies.

Madam Liu nodded. “Then you should go back quickly. You need to go to the capital city for the examination. You have to deal with it properly.”

In other words, they could not affect Chu Heng’s studies..

Chapter 479: Lotus Root Soup

Madam Zhang also realized this and slowly calmed down.

It was only about his daughter’s marriage and the Song family’s shameless actions, so she had indeed lost her temper.

She had to make sure she would not affect Chu Heng’s and her two son’s future.

“No need to be so formal.” Chu Heng nodded.

The Song family’s matter would not affect her.

During this period, he had made a lot of preparations. Other than earning money, he was more prepared for the future exam.

In his previous life, not only did he fail to take the exam, but he also injured his leg and had no choice but to join the army to earn military merits.

He always felt that it was pure bad luck instead of being deliberately schemed against.

Chu Heng naturally would not tell his elders about this, lest his parents worry. After all, even if he told them, it would not help him much.

Madam Liu nodded, indicating that she understood.

Madam Zhang heaved a sigh of relief. Chu Heng was confident, so she was not afraid of implicating him.

Madam Zhang was not stupid. Most of the good days they had today were brought by their third brother. If their third brother was good, their family could be protected and developed steadily.

Chu Heng did not stay any longer and walked out of the hall.

Chu Cai quickly informed his parents and followed Chu Heng home.

When they walked out of the courtyard, Chu Cai obediently followed behind Chu Heng without saying a word.

Chu Heng was not a talkative person, and the two of them kept quiet in harmony.

Lu Chuan led the way with a lantern in his hand.

Chu Heng only stopped when they reached the intersection. "Second Brother, your house is over there," he reminded Chu Cai.

“Ah? Oh, then be careful on the road, Third Brother. I’ll go back first.” Chu Cai still remembered that he was the older brother. He reminded Chu Heng and turned around to go home.

Lu Chuan looked at Chu Cai’s back and felt that his Second Master’s personality was quite interesting.

If he was not mistaken, he seemed to see trust and dependence in the other party’s eyes.

“What’s wrong?”

Chu Heng’s voice instantly woke him up from his trance.

Lu Chuan quickly shook his head. He did not dare to say that he was just guessing. After all, he knew that Chu Cai would not drag Chu Heng down. As for how complicated their relationship was, it did not matter!

“It’s fine, Master.”

“Let’s go then.”

Chu Heng walked at a steady pace. Lu Chuan, who was holding the lantern beside him, looked more natural. The two of them walked home in the dark, amidst the croaking of a group of frogs.

Halfway there, Chu Heng suddenly looked at the empty pond and said, “Find some time to dig some lotus roots and bring them to the kitchen to make soup for Madam. Tell Madam Hu not to eat them raw. Don’t let the lotus seeds appear on the dining table.”

“This subordinate understands.” Lu Chuan had been with Chu Heng for a long time and had learned some knowledge.

After listening to the old master’s advice, he quickly thought of the fact that lotus seeds were not good for Ye Muyu’s situation, so she definitely could not eat them.

The lotus root was the same when eaten raw, but after it was cooked, it was good for warming the body. Ye Muyu often ate cooked lotus roots to regulate her blood and complexion.

It could be said to be a good tonic.

After thinking about this, he could not help but sigh at the fact that Chu Heng's heart was indeed filled with Ye Muyu.

He could even think of so many things when he saw a lotus leaf outside.

He also repeated the things to take note of in his heart, not daring to make any mistakes.

Very quickly, they reached home.

Chu Xing's house next to him had also been built. Even the walls were done. The only thing missing was the floor in the courtyard. He had paved it with stones, crushed stones, and even flattened the soil.

These were all small matters. It did not take much time. Chu Xing could handle it alone..

Chapter 480: Mission

With Chu Xing's house next to him, Chu Heng felt slightly more at ease.

Being close to his family was indeed better.

As for the thief who came to the village last time, he had never found him, but he had a feeling that this person would appear again.

Therefore, he was a little worried.

Lu Chuan walked to the side and knocked on the courtyard door. After a while, Zhang Shu came to open the door.

When Chu Heng came in, he quickly said, "Master, the milk that Madam prepared for you is heating on the stove. There's also hot water. Madam wants you to remember to drink the milk before you go to bed."

"Where is she?" He had neglected to drink milk once, making Ye Muyu think that he did not like it, so she reminded him from time to time.

Chu Heng's heart warmed slightly. He could feel this kind of intention. "Oh, I understand."

"Lil' Jin is still reading in the study?" Chu Heng looked at the light coming from the study and asked.

"Yes, Young Master said he was copying Buddhist scriptures." Zhang Shu replied.

"I understand. You guys can go and rest."

Lu Chuan and Zhang Shu stopped in their tracks and went to fetch water to wash up.

Madam Hu waited for the two to get the water and did not forget to refill their water storage. When they needed to use it, there would not be any worry.

Chu Heng strode into the study.

In the study, Chu Jin was writing very seriously. Zhang Cong was accompanying him. From time to time, he would cut the wick and turn on the light.

Seeing Chu Heng enter, Zhang Cong hurriedly bowed.

Chu Heng raised his hand to stop him. He walked behind Chu Heng in two steps and silently looked at the Buddhist scriptures he had copied for a while.

His handwriting still seemed like a child's, but it had gradually become well-written. Although it was still not beautiful, let alone strong, for a five-and-a-half-year-old child to have such patience was very good.

"Why copy Buddhist scriptures?" Chu Heng suddenly asked.

Only then did Chu Jin realize that Chu Heng had come in. He looked at his stern father, and his hands trembled a little. Instantly, he smeared the paper. He felt vexed, but he did not dare to show it in front of Chu Heng. He was afraid that his father would despise what he had written. "I wanted to give Brother Zhongjin a gift."

"Sister gave me her own handmade items, so I asked Brother Zhongjin what kind of gift he liked. Brother Zhongjin said that he liked Buddhist scriptures, so I picked a book with fewer words...Ah, no, it's the Buddhist scriptures that Brother Zhongjin often reads. When the time comes, I'll give it to the teacher and give it to Brother Zhongjin as a gift." Chu Jin was a little annoyed after saying that. Why did he speak so quickly and accidentally say what he really thought?

He wondered if her father would hit him.

Just as Chu Jin was feeling vexed and uneasy.

"Not bad, you've put in a lot of effort." Chu Heng's voice was very calm.

"Father, are you complimenting me?" Chu Jin was in disbelief.

Chu Heng did not expect him to be so calm. After hesitating for a moment, he nodded.

"Continue copying. If you're tired, go to sleep. As long as you plan well and finish copying, it'll be fine."

"Alright, Father, I will finish copying!" Chu Jin was instantly motivated.

Chu Heng turned around and left the study.

After a while, he brought in a glass of hot milk and placed it beside the desk.

His actions were silent. After he left, he slowed down the closing of the door so that he would not make any noise to disturb Chu Jin.

His actions were noticed by the nervous Zhang Cong.

He noticed that Chu Heng had high expectations of Chu Jin on the surface, but he was also very concerned about Chu Jin behind his back. He could not help but reveal an envious gaze.

However, when he thought about how his parents had given him good food and drinks, he felt at ease. After all, staying by his young master's side and protecting him was his mission..