

## **RTAMM 1161**

### Chapter 1161 Nourish the Pregnancy

“Did Tian Dong find out whether Qiao Zijin had done anything to anger my mom? It cannot be. Given Qiao Zijin’s personality, if my mom were to be angry with her, she would have done so a long time ago and Qiao Zijin would not have any say in the Qiao family.”

What made her mother change her attitude all of a sudden and refuse to spend any more money on Qiao Zijin?

Even though she had been through rebirth, she was not invincible. Qiao Nan was not able to understand what Ding Jiayi was thinking about.

“No matter what, now that the two troublemakers are gone, you can have a good night’s rest today. You must not overtire my nephews or nieces. You are carrying twins. The doctor said that you will have premature labor. This is not even your seventh month, but your tummy is already so large. I have already made arrangements with the hospital. I don’t think you will be able to go to school when school reopens in September.”

Zhai Hua sighed with relief. Qiao Nan was indeed lucky.

It was likely that Qiao Nan was pregnant in January. In normal cases, she would be due for delivery after ten months of pregnancy. After one month of confinement, she would be able to go back to school earliest by the end of this semester.

However, Qiao Nan was carrying twins, and she would have premature labor.

Perhaps Qiao Nan would have been done with her confinement and she would be able to go back to school before November. If that was the case, she would have only missed half of the semester.

“Yes, Mom has discussed it with me. She will help me apply for at least two months of leave at school in September.” Qiao Nan touched her round tummy.

She had been mentally prepared. “Sister Zhai Hua, it is summer break now. Do Zhu Baoguo and Shi Qing have a summer break? I haven’t seen Uncle Zhu and the two of them. Could they have returned to Ping Cheng?”

They did not have any family or relatives in Ping Cheng. What would they be doing in Ping Cheng?

“They are in a different school. They must have received a special task. For them, going to school is similar to going to the army. Zhu Baoguo and Shi Qing would not be able to come home frequently. Their situation is similar to that of Zhai Sheng, except that Zhai Sheng is busier than them. They might not be able to make it back to see your babies after your delivery.”

Zhai Hua had no wish to talk about Zhai Sheng, the father of the children.

She knew that it was even more impossible for Zhai Sheng to make it back in time. She had no wish to bring him up lest she upset Qiao Nan.

“Are the two of them still very active?” Zhai Hua was immersed in doing two tasks recently.

Firstly, it was to lift Qiao Nan’s clothes, placing her hands on her tummy and talking to the babies.

Secondly, it would be to accompany Qiao Nan to go for walks, ensuring that she had been exercising so that she would have a smooth labor.

“...” Qiao Nan had yet to reply when Zhai Hua felt a bulge at the part of Qiao Nan’s tummy where she rested her hands on. “Are they saying ‘hello’ to me?”

Qiao Nan knitted her eyebrows. As time passed by, her babies seemed to be more active and would exert more force when they moved about in her tummy.

When she first experienced the fetus movement, she was startled. She did not feel any discomfort.

However, whenever the babies threw punches or kicks in her tummy now, she would feel a piercing pain. “I don’t think they are saying their greetings. They are doing the military drill instead. They want to learn from you. It is still alright if my babies are boys. It will be troublesome if they are girls.”

If they were sons, they would grow up to be outstanding like Brother Zhai, and they would become real men with an indomitable spirit.

However, things would be different if they were daughters.

The Zhai family would have Zhai Hua juniors then.

At the thought of Zhai Hua's behavior and temperament, Qiao Nan felt giddy and helpless.

If she had daughters, she hoped that they would be well-behaved and adorable.

“Military drill? That's great. The two of you must behave yourself while in your mom's tummy. After you come to the world, I will show you the military drill and train you, okay?”

Zhai Hua's eyes lit up. She spoke in a gentle tone, unlike her tough lady image.

In order to show that they liked their auntie, the babies gave a fierce kick to Qiao Nan again. Qiao Nan could not help but suck in her breath in pain. “Sister Zhai Hua, stop teasing them. If this goes on, I will be moaning in pain. The two brats exert a lot of force in their kicks. I don't know how long they will be able to stay in my tummy.”

Babies would be able to receive double the nourishment when in the mother's womb than when they were born.

Therefore, premature babies would be weaker than full-term babies.

If the babies were born more than one month earlier than the due date, they might take more than ten years to make up for the deficit in nourishment.

It was challenging to have twins, particularly when they were so naughty and mischievous.

Qiao Nan was worried at how active her babies were. She feared that they might be born prematurely.

“How can a mother say this of their babies? Don't worry. They will be well-behaved and they will make it easy for you. Hopefully, they will not be born prematurely. There are so many of us. We will be able to take good care of them. The doctor already said that a pregnant lady would think too much. I will not take issue with you.”

As long as Qiao Nan did not give birth right away, it was alright if the babies were born slightly before their due date.

Notwithstanding twins, some babies were born one month, two months, or even three months before their due date.

But it was true that babies born three months before their due date would be weaker and smaller.

“Let’s go. It’s time for your walk. Given your condition, you cannot have too many exercises, but you can’t sit at home every day either. Let’s do some exercise.” Zhai Hua acted like the clock. Once it was time, she would get Qiao Nan to do simple exercises like taking a walk.

Zhai Hua was the only person who took care of Qiao Nan for the past few months.

Zhai Yaohui was busy with work. Although Miao Jing did not need to accompany him on his business trips like how she did back then, she would still have to attend and accompany him to certain events from time to time.

Furthermore, Miao Jing was not familiar with the practices of pregnant ladies nowadays as well as the nourishment needed for babies. It was vastly different from what she had in the past.

Zhai Hua had learned a lot about how to take care of pregnant ladies from the female doctor.

#### Chapter 1162 Pregnant Lady Had the Final Say

At times, what Zhai Hua said made more sense than Miao Jing, and she knew more than Miao Jing.

As such, the Zhai family handed the task of taking care of Qiao Nan to Zhai Hua. They also hoped that she would be more ladylike, detailed, and patient while taking care of Qiao Nan.

Fortunately, Zhai Hua seemed to be doing a good job. It had been more than three months and she had been taking good care of Qiao Nan. She never behaved recklessly or caused harm to Qiao Nan and the babies.

“It’s so warm.” Zhai Hua had postponed their walk to seven o’clock in the evening to avoid the hot and stuffy afternoons in July and August.

Qiao Nan would feel unwell in the summer. Particularly now that she, a pregnant lady, had a higher body temperature, the evening stroll was a torture to Qiao Nan.

Whenever she was back from her stroll, her blouse would be drenched with perspiration.

Thankfully, after strolling for a few months, Qiao Nan noticed that she was physically stronger.

“Nan Nan, I have applied for leave for you. You can rest well at home.” As her elder and mother-in-law, Miao Jing made a phone call to the principal of Peking University at the end of August to help Qiao Nan apply for leave, hoping that he would approve of her leave.

Since Madam Zhai made the phone call personally, the principal had no way to reject her request.

Although Miao Jing did not state clearly Qiao Nan’s reasons for applying for leave or when she would return to school, the principal had no other choice but to approve the leave.

“Thank you, Mom.” Qiao Nan sat on the sofa, touching her tummy. She did not look well.

She was in her eighth month of pregnancy. Qiao Nan knew that her tummy was especially large.

The weight of her tummy was almost unbearable for her. Qiao Nan did not feel comfortable sitting, standing, or even lying down on the bed. She felt unwell and exhausted.

Her fair and slender legs were swollen due to pregnancy.

Her lower limbs were swollen and her upper body felt bloated as well.

Qiao Nan could not fit into all the clothes that she bought in the past and she had to buy new clothes.

Qiao Nan could only wear slippers and she had to buy large sizes in order to fit into them.

Qiao Nan went through a lot of suffering for the babies. Outsiders would not be able to know the tortures that mothers went through.

Zhai Hua was startled at how swollen Qiao Nan was. She moved into Zhai Sheng's and Qiao Nan's room so that she could share a room with her and take care of Qiao Nan when she woke up feeling unwell in the middle of the night.

Zhai Hua, the auntie, had done everything that Zhai Sheng, as a father, should have done. Zhai Hua would wake up in the middle of the night to massage Qiao Nan's legs when she woke up crying due to leg cramps.

"Mom, Nan Nan doesn't look well. The doctor reminded us that Nan Nan will have premature labor. Nan Nan's tummy is very large and she is in her eighth month. I am worried..."

Zhai Hua's heart ached seeing how Qiao Nan suffered due to the pregnancy. Giving birth was a torture to women.

It was no wonder that people used to say that giving birth was akin to making a trip to hell.

Apart from her tummy, Qiao Nan's figure looked like that of a young lady when she was in her sixth month of her pregnancy. But once she was in her seventh month, she started to become swollen and went out of shape. She had the figure of a middle-aged auntie, doing her groceries in the market.

There was once when Qiao Nan had terrible leg cramps and she cried in pain until her eyes were swollen. Zhai Hua made a phone call to the army and gave Zhai Sheng a lashing. "You are a brat. You had happy times fooling around with Qiao Nan, but do you know the pain that she is in now that she is pregnant with your babies? You can't even stay by her side to take care of her and she has to face everything by herself. Zhai Sheng, although you are my brother, I can't stand it anymore. If you do not treat Nan Nan well in the future, I will take your children away and we will despise and ostracize you for being such a bad father!"

Zhai Sheng wanted very much to stay by Qiao Nan's side, but he could not do that.

He was not angry that Zhai Hua lashed out at him. In fact, he felt heartbroken.

Even though he did not see it for himself, he could tell from Zhai Hua's tone and anger that Qiao Nan, who was carrying twins, must be going through a lot.

Zhai Sheng worked extra hard to complete his missions and the orders from his higher-ups in order to go back as soon as possible to accompany Qiao Nan and to be by her side when their babies were delivered.

"Stop saying nonsense." Miao Jing gave Zhai Hua a light smack. "Nan Nan will panic at your words."

Miao Jing had seen a lot of cases whereby the pregnant ladies would go into premature labor after being affected by the people around her.

"Nan Nan, you are in your eighth month. It will be harder on you. If you can't take it, let's go to the hospital in advance. We can ask the doctor if we can deliver the babies earlier than the due date."

Since Nan Nan had such a large tummy, her babies must be well-nourished.

If she carried the babies for a few more months, the babies would be fine but the mother might not be able to take it. "The babies should be well-developed in the eighth month. It will not be a problem to deliver them."

Qiao Nan took a deep breath, forcing a smile on her face. "Mom, I understand your intentions. There is no need to expedite the delivery. I can still take it. Perhaps I am too dainty. Other ladies feel especially well despite carrying twins or triplets. They will not feel as tired as me." It was better not to have premature labor.

After reading many books on pregnancy, Qiao Nan knew that it would be better for the babies to stay in the mother's womb for as long as possible.

They were Brother Zhai's and her babies. They were very precious to them.

If other mothers could do it, so could she. She believed that she would do a better job.

Since Qiao Nan was insistent, Miao Jing had no other choice but to go with her decision.

Miao Jing was worried for Qiao Nan. It was not that she was dainty, but it was because she was too young.

Qiao Nan did not lead a good life when she stayed with the Qiao family. Miao Jing knew that there was a period of time where she was undernourished.

Miao Jing was unhappy with Ding Jiayi. It must be due to Ding Jiayi that Qiao Nan had such a difficult time carrying the twins.

If Ding Jiayi was not so biased and had taken better care of Qiao Nan, she would have a stronger constitution, and she would not have such a difficult time now.

Miao Jing had never seen such a vicious mother.

The Zhai family was concerned for Qiao Nan and her babies. Miao Jing and Zhai Hua spent all their time taking care of her.

#### Chapter 1163 Prepare Gifts

Zhai Yaohui was too busy to take care of his daughter-in-law. He had done his best by leaving Miao Jing at home to take care of Qiao Nan.

As for Old Master Zhai, as an old man, he could do nothing to help his granddaughter-in-law.

What he could do was to share interesting anecdotes that he heard from his friends with his granddaughter-in-law, making her happy.

Apart from that, one other thing that he could do was to take good care of himself.

It was only then could his daughter-in-law and granddaughter put all their attention on taking care of his granddaughter-in-law. He was being helpful by not creating any trouble for them.

Now that Qiao Nan was already eight months pregnant, the Zhai family became increasingly worried for the babies as the days passed.



Aside from the Zhai family who was worried for Qiao Nan, Qiao Dongliang, who was at the Qiao family's residence in Ping Cheng, was worried for Qiao Nan as well.

When Qiao Dongliang first learned that he was going to be a grandfather, Qiao Nan was already more than four months pregnant and she knew that she was carrying twins.

Now that Qiao Zijin went back to school after the summer break, Qiao Dongliang suddenly remembered that Qiao Nan was heavily pregnant. "Nan Nan is eight months pregnant. She will probably deliver in more than a month."

Since his daughter was about to give birth, as the maternal grandfather, he should make time to visit her.

Someone from the parental family had to visit her after she had her babies.

He wondered how Nan Nan was doing now. Did the babies make life difficult for her?

To Qiao Dongliang, his responsibility to Qiao Nan had been completed now that she was married. He could focus all his attention on helping his elder daughter, Qiao Zijin, search for her happiness.

He knew that Qiao Nan was unhappy with his decision, but he could not leave the elder daughter in the lurch. He could only distance himself from the younger daughter so that she would not be upset or affected by the matters in her parental family.

When Qiao Nan studied in the capital last year, she made a phone call to Qiao Dongliang every week in the four months that she was there.

This year, apart from telling him that she was pregnant and calling him on Tomb-Sweeping Day, she did not contact him or chat with him.

Qiao Dongliang had a guilty conscience. Since Qiao Nan did not call him, he dared not call her as well.

He finally gave a phone call at the end of June, but it was because Qiao Zijin wanted to go on a holiday in the capital and he wanted Qiao Nan to take care of Qiao Zijin.

The call ended in a rush and Ding Jiayi kept disturbing his conversation with Qiao Nan.

Two months had passed. The person who was the cause of the awkwardness, Qiao Zijin, was not around. Qiao Dongliang did not feel as guilty and he felt that he should give Qiao Nan a call to ask about her.

He was the maternal grandfather. He should be notified of the delivery date of his grandchildren.

Qiao Dongliang forgot to prepare a dowry for his daughter half a year ago as it was his first time marrying off a daughter.

This time, Qiao Dongliang remembered that this was his first time being a maternal grandfather and he had to prepare red packets and presents for his grandchildren.

“Where are you heading to?” Ding Jiayi had been staring at Qiao Dongliang for a long time. She noticed that he sat down by himself, frowning at one moment and smiling to himself in the next instant. He was behaving abnormally.

If not for the fact that Qiao Dongliang went home to the Qiao family’s residence every night and he did not stay out late or have other woman’s belongings with him, given his suspicious behavior, she would have suspected that he had a woman outside.

The two of them had not remarried. Even though they stayed in the same house, they did not share the same room or bed.

Ding Jiayi would try to sneak into Qiao Dongliang’s room in the middle of the night to be intimate with him or just to share a bed with him.

However, Qiao Dongliang would wake up when she laid down beside him.

Seeing that Ding Jiayi was next to him, Qiao Dongliang would get up without another word, put on his jacket, and slept in another room, not forgetting to lock his room this time.

It was as if Qiao Dongliang was a single young lady while Ding Jiayi was the lecher who was dying to lay her hands on Qiao Dongliang.

They had been divorced for several years. Ding Jiayi had learned her lesson and dared not kick up a fuss. She was able to stifle her anger and keep silent.

However, she would not be able to tolerate seeing Qiao Dongliang behaving oddly.

Ding Jiayi stopped Qiao Dongliang in his tracks. “You don’t have to go to work today. Where are you going with your bicycle? I will go with you!” She had found out in the past half a year that after Old Qiao divorced her, he did not have any other woman.

Even though his friends would introduce eligible women to him and asked him to go on blind dates, Old Qiao would reject their kind intentions.

Old Qiao did not have another woman when she was not by his side.

She would not allow other women to snatch Old Qiao from her now that they were staying together.

“Stop your nonsense. Stay at home.” Qiao Dongliang was unhappy. Although they lived together, he would not allow her to interfere with his life. Unless it was to do with Qiao Zijin, Ding Jiayi had no right to stop him from doing what he wanted.

“Why can’t I go with you? Are you up to no good? Also, don’t forget that Zijin’s and Chen Jun’s relationship are still not confirmed yet. Don’t stir up any troubles at this time.” Her elder daughter refused to listen to her a month ago. Instead of staying in the capital, asking for some money from Qiao Nan, and getting to know other good men, she came back to Ping Cheng in defeat. Ding Jiayi was furious at Qiao Zijin for not listening to her.

Qiao Dongliang parked his bicycle and stared at Ding Jiayi.

True enough, Ding Jiayi dared not make up a fuss at Qiao Dongliang’s attitude.

After the divorce, Qiao Dongliang had finally mastered the way to deal with Ding Jiayi. “Do you want to pick a fight with me?”

“No, I don’t wish to quarrel with you.” She wanted to lead a good life with him, but he was not willing to do that!

“If so, stand aside. If you want to quarrel, I can do so as well.” But he would never allow Ding Jiayi to tag along with him.

Ding Jiayi did not need to take care of Qiao Zijin, and there was no need for Qiao Dongliang to provide for Qiao Nan as well.

Since that was the case, the couple had each saved up their money diligently. Ding Jiayi was hoping that she could save up the money for her retirement, whereas Qiao Dongliang was saving the money for his two daughters as well as his grandchildren.

#### Chapter 1164 Depend on Her Own Efforts

He might not have lots of money, but he still had to spend the small amount of money that he had on the necessary items.

He would get to see his grandchildren in less than two months. As the maternal grandfather, he had to prepare gifts for them.

Qiao Dongliang understood that it was customary nowadays to give babies golden and silver jewelry to keep them safe.

He had more than one grandchild. He had to shop around to buy two bracelets for them.

Qiao Dongliang did not tell Ding Jiayi what was on his mind. But Ding Jiayi could not do anything about Qiao Dongliang. She would not behave like what she used to do in the past—being shameless and creating a din.

Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi were not on good terms when she reported back to school.

As soon as Chen Jun reached Ping Cheng, he had told Qiao Zijin clearly that they could no longer be with each other and he wanted to break up. But Qiao Zijin refused to break up with him.

A divorce was different from a breakup. Both parties had to sign the divorce agreement in order to divorce.

As for a breakup, as long as one party had made up the mind, one could break up with the other party no matter how unwilling the other party was.

Since Chen Jun wanted to break up with Qiao Zijin, the Chen family would not continue to pay for Qiao Zijin's school fees.

If the Chen family supported a poor student through school, they would at least earn a good reputation for doing good deeds. But they would not have any returns by spending money on Qiao Zijin.

They could do nothing about the previous losses. The Chen family needed to cut losses right now.

Now that the Chen family would no longer provide for her, Qiao Zijin had no way to finish her diploma studies. The only way was for Qiao Dongliang and Ding Jiayi to take up the responsibility again as her parents to pay for her school fees.

The Qiao family almost made a phone call to Qiao Nan in the middle of August to ask her for money.

Fortunately, Qiao Dongliang still had a conscience and he snatched the phone from Ding Jiayi.

Qiao Dongliang warned Ding Jiayi not to make the call. Otherwise, he would smash the phone.

He would make sure that Ding Jiayi coughed up all the money that she took from Qiao Nan and he would send them back to Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was married to Zhai Sheng and she was still a student. The Zhai family would have to provide for her daily expenses. It would be shameless to ask Qiao Nan to take money from her in-laws in order to support her parental family. Qiao Dongliang refused to take any money from her.

Seeing that Qiao Dongliang was so insistent, Ding Jiayi had no other choice but to give up on that thought.

Ding Jiayi knew that she might dislike Qiao Nan and Qiao Nan had no feelings for her, but Qiao Dongliang was the only person who was able to get any money from Qiao Nan.

If Qiao Dongliang was unwilling to do that, even if Ding Jiayi had good plans, they would be useless.

Therefore, Ding Jiayi had to part with her hard-earned savings reluctantly. She and Qiao Dongliang pooled their money together to pay for Qiao Zijin's school fees.

But Ding Jiayi also told Qiao Zijin that she would only provide her with enough money to cover her daily expenses for a month.

Thereafter, Qiao Zijin had to work part-time to earn money to cover her daily expenses. Ding Jiayi could not earn much to provide for Qiao Zijin. She had grown up and should be able to work to support herself. She could not rely on her parents.

In short, Qiao Zijin was an adult and she already started a relationship. She had to provide for herself instead of adding to her parents' burden. Her parents could not help it that they were not capable and did not earn lots of money.

Qiao Zijin left with her school fees as well as the money to cover her daily expenses for a month. Ding Jiayi had no idea what was on her mind when she left.

Qiao Dongliang kept silent throughout, but he had his own thoughts about this.

He did not stop Ding Jiayi as he hoped that Qiao Zijin would learn to depend on her own efforts.

He could tell that Qiao Zijin tended to rely too much on other people. She felt that she had to rely on other people, including her parents, her sister, or even the man that she would marry in the future in order to lead a good life.

Qiao Zijin was unwilling to listen to his advice because she felt that Chen Jun's family was well-to-do and she would be able to lead a good life after she married him in the future.

It was too dangerous to harbor such thoughts.

Perhaps it was only when Qiao Zijin earned money to support herself would she understand that as long as she was willing to work hard, she had the ability to support herself and she did not need to rely on others.

In that case, Qiao Zijin would reconsider her relationship with Chen Jun. He hoped that when she looked for another boyfriend in the future, it would be based on his temperament and character instead of his family background as well as whether he was rich or not.

That was why although Qiao Dongliang could tell that Qiao Zijin bore a grudge toward Ding Jiayi, he did not stop Ding Jiayi.

Upon reaching school, as she was still angry, Qiao Zijin could not be bothered to make a phone call to tell her parents that she had reached safely.

Ding Jiayi had made it clear that she would not give her a single cent apart from the money that she had with her.

If she did not make a phone call, she could save the money and spend it on herself.

Qiao Zijin did not call her parents. Instead, Qiao Dongliang made a call to her dormitory. It was Qiao Zijin's roommate who answered the call and passed the phone to her. "Zijin, I can tell that you are unhappy that your mom only gave you a small amount of money and wanted you to work to support yourself. Zijin, you have grown up. You are an adult. I don't expect that you will be very outstanding in the future. My only hope is for you to be a useful person. Don't bear grudges against your mom. We have your best interests."

"Zijin, your mom and I are getting older. We will definitely leave the world earlier than you. You don't have to worry. While we are still alive, we will definitely provide for you. But have you thought about what is going to happen to you when we are gone? You will get married in the future and your husband will take care of you. It is not that I am being harsh, but we have seen it in the news that many people get divorced nowadays. Zijin, I hope that you will become a useful person and will not have to rely on other people. You can work hard to support yourself and you will still be able to lead a good life. Do you understand my kind intentions?"

Qiao Dongliang did his best to convince Qiao Zijin to rely on herself. He hoped that she could understand that her parents had her best interests.

“Dad, are you trying to tell me that the only person I can rely on is myself and that other people are unreliable?” Qiao Zijin replied calmly.

“Yes! I am right about you. You can understand what I want to say.” She had made a very accurate conclusion. She was indeed a high school student. She could express his meaning in simple words.

Qiao Zijin sneered at Qiao Dongliang’s cheerful tone. “Dad, I understand what you mean. Don’t worry. I understand everything.”

#### Chapter 1165 Give Me All the Money

“I’m not chatting with you anymore. I have found a part-time job and need to leave for work now. If I don’t work a little harder, I will have nothing to eat next month.”

After finishing her words, Qiao Zijin hung up the phone.

Yes, she could not rely on anyone in this world. To her, the most reliable person was, of course, herself.

If she did not depend on herself, would her mother persist in letting her continue her studies and allowing her to go through diploma studies?

If she did not rely on herself, would Chen Jun agree to become her boyfriend and support her financially for so many years?

She was not considered as relying on herself just because the money did not come out of her own pocket?

Ridiculous!

If she had used her brains a little less, the money would not have been spent on her. She had always been relying on herself. All of her father’s words were nonsense!

Facing the phone that had been hung up, Qiao Dongliang could only take it that Qiao Zijin’s anger had not completely subsided.



He had already made himself clear. Qiao Dongliang felt more at ease now. At the very least, there was no longer any misunderstanding between him and Qiao Zijin.

As time passed, Zijin's anger would definitely subside. Sooner or later, she would understand her parents' pain and good intentions.

After that phone call, Qiao Zijin did not make any other calls home. Anyway, Ding Jiayi was not going to give her any more money. She was thus not willing to waste the cost of making calls.

On the other hand, Qiao Dongliang was thinking that Qiao Zijin had to make full use of the time outside lessons to work part-time and earn money. Otherwise, how would she be able to earn enough living expenses?

In addition, he was not certain whether Qiao Zijin's anger had already subsided. If he were to call her again, the father-daughter pair might get into an argument if Qiao Zijin was still angry. That would not be meaningful then.

Hence, Qiao Dongliang waited and did not make any further moves. He thought that Qiao Zijin would definitely contact Ding Jiayi and him when she was no longer angry.

Qiao Dongliang, who was riding on the bicycle, quietly dismissed Qiao Zijin's situation in his heart. He then arrived at the jewelry shop.

Qiao Dongliang did not go to a large shop. Instead, he patronized a jewelry shop with a good reputation that had been in business for a long time. He then enquired about the current price of gold. "Old Qiao, your family wants to purchase gold jewelry without an apparent reason?" The boss of the shop looked at Qiao Dongliang curiously.

It was not that he looked down on Qiao Dongliang. He had known previously that Qiao Nan was getting married. He thought that since everyone was long-time friends who knew each other so well, Qiao Dongliang would pick a few pieces of jewelry from his shop for Qiao Nan.

Who would have known that he had not seen Qiao Dongliang coming to his shop to buy jewelry although half a year had passed since Qiao Nan's marriage? "Old Qiao, don't tell me that your elder daughter is getting married?"

The Qiao family had two daughters. The elder one was Da Qiao and the younger one Xiao Qiao. Qiao Dongliang and Ding Jiayi were biased toward the elder daughter. They did not treat the younger daughter very well. This gossip did not only circulate within the quad.

Many people who knew Qiao Dongliang heard about this too. The boss of the jewelry shop was one of them.

Qiao Dongliang, embarrassed, smiled. "No, my elder daughter is still studying. There are two more years to go before she graduates. She won't get married so soon. It's my younger daughter. She is pregnant with twins now after marriage. I am here to buy something for my maternal grandchildren."

"Oh, I see. Twins. That's good fortune. Your younger daughter is very blessed indeed." The boss of the jewelry shop had a look of surprise and admiration on his face. "Due to the national planning policy, many families only have one child. The government does not even give them a chance to have a second one. Your family's daughter is having twins. Your son-in-law is very blessed. Right, what kind of jewelry are you looking for? Gold or silver? Necklace, wrist or ankle bracelet?"

Qiao Dongliang glanced at the price of the gold and then carefully examined the carat and the price of the jewelry on display. He then gritted his teeth and bought two small gold bracelets.

The small gold bracelets were tiny and round. They were not outstanding and did not look like kids' bracelets. It resembled more of those large exaggerated ring earrings typically worn by fashionable ladies.

"These two bracelets cost a total of 3,752 yuan. I will waive the small change of 52 yuan for you. You just have to pay me 3,700 yuan." The bracelets looked tiny but they were not considered very light when combined. Moreover, the price of gold was not low now. Although the prices of this shop were already considered affordable, it was not cheap to buy the two pieces of jewelry. With this purchase, Qiao Dongliang used up all his past six months' earnings.

"Thank you." Qiao Dongliang took over the boxes carefully. In his mind, he started to plan when he could make a trip to the capital to visit his daughter and grandchildren. He would then pass this present to his two little maternal grandchildren.

Qiao Dongliang was unaware that he eventually did not manage to hide the fact of buying these two tiny gold pieces of jewelry from Ding Jiayi. After spending some effort, Ding Jiayi found out the circumstances of the matter very quickly. She was so angry that she did not manage to take any bite of her dinner that night.

Ding Jiayi was feeling unhappy. Of course, she had to make someone unhappy too. She made a phone call to the Zhai family in the capital behind Qiao Dongliang's back. "Hello, good day. This is the house of the Zhai family."

"You're the auntie of the Zhai family?" Ding Jiayi was aware of the existence of this person. Her tone was extremely terrible.

It was not because of other reasons. It was because Ding Jiayi still wished to go to the capital!

She had given birth to Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan grew up drinking her breast milk. Now that Qiao Nan was married and living in the capital, she did not spare any thoughts for her, this biological mother.

On the contrary, the auntie whom she was totally unrelated to was working for and taking a salary from the Zhai family. She had followed the Zhai family to the capital to enjoy life.

Each time she thought of this situation, Ding Jiayi was filled with hatred. She shunned Qiao Nan for being so inflexible and heartless.

If Qiao Nan was really smart, she should discuss with the Zhai family to 'transfer' all the money that the Zhai family spent on the auntie to her maternal family. She should be filial to Old Qiao and her. It was only right for her to do that.

If the Zhai family was indeed so wealthy and willing to bring a helper to the capital, why couldn't they fetch them, these two official in-laws, to the capital too?

All of them were heartless.

With feelings of resentment in her heart, the auntie of the Zhai family became Ding Jiayi's target of hate and attack. "You're just a paid housekeeper. What are you? How dare you take your master's call casually? Someone like you who doesn't even know the protocols should have been kicked out long ago. It's a waste of money to hire you."

Ding Jiayi's mind swirled. The wretched girl never listened to her. Hence, she would not agree with her to make this auntie leave.

However, if she were to find ways to force this auntie to leave and the auntie wanted to leave on her own accord, the Zhai family would not have a choice then, no?

When that time came, the Zhai family would need someone to take care of the grocery shopping and preparing meals.

She had been handling these chores for more than ten years, even before she got married. They were not difficult at all.

As long as the Zhai family gave her the money that they were supposed to spend on the auntie, she would take care of all the Zhai family's meals.

Ding Jiayi was only concerned about getting money and looked down on the auntie. She did not consider at all whether it was really so easy to earn money from the boss that she would be working for.

Regardless of how nice the Zhai family was, the chores done by the auntie were definitely not as few as what Ding Jiayi thought. There were many more chores that she had to handle.

#### Chapter 1166 Double the Earnings

Moreover, no matter how poor her relationship with Qiao Nan was or how much the Zhai family disliked her, Ding Jiayi's identity as the in-law of the Zhai family was a fact that would never change.

Which family would be so moronic as to hire the in-law as an auntie to do household chores and pay her?

Ding Jiayi felt that this was not a big deal but the Zhai family could not afford to lose this face.

The auntie, who received a sudden scolding for no apparent reason, was so angry that her face turned red. She almost threw the phone in her hand out of the house.

She had been working for the Zhai family for so many years. As such, she had received numerous phone calls and encountered people of various backgrounds.

Even the true prominent figures had been polite to a housekeeper like her. Ding Jiayi was a lousy one that she did not even look up to, yet how dare she flare up at her? “Pey! Why are you so shameless? It’s not as if you’re paying me. Even if it’s a waste, it won’t be wasted on you. You’re so shameless to say all these. You’re treating other people’s money as your own money, right?!”

This auntie of the Zhai family had heard about what kind of person Ding Jiayi was.

“What exactly is the matter? If there is nothing, I am hanging up.”

Knowing that Ding Jiayi was a good-for-nothing, the auntie could not be bothered to be angry with her. No matter what Ding Jiayi did, she did not have the capability to personally come to the Zhai family to mess around.

“You!” Ding Jiayi did not expect that the housekeeper hired and paid by the Zhai family dared to be so hostile to her. It must be that wretched girl. She must have been badmouthing her in front of the Zhai family whenever she could to the point she had to be spat at by this housekeeper now. “I am not looking for you. I am looking for my daughter. Ask her to come over and pass the phone to her. I have something to say to her.”

The person at the other end of the phone was just a helper. She would not waste energy and devalue herself by arguing with a helper.

When that wretched girl took the call, she would see how to deal with that wretched girl then.

That audacious small fly cum housekeeper! She would get the wretched girl to fire her later.

The auntie seemed to have heard an extremely amusing joke. “Hahaha, are you joking with me? Don’t tell me you don’t know what Nan Nan’s current health situation is? Alright. Speak if you have any matter. If not, I am hanging up.”

The old master and chief had already given her instructions. For any phone calls made by the Qiao family, if the caller was Qiao Dongliang, it would depend on Qiao Nan’s mood whether she wanted to take the call.

Besides Qiao Dongliang, Qiao Nan would not take any calls, be it from Qiao Zijin or Ding Jiayi. The whole Zhai family was also not willing to take such calls.

With the backing of the old master and chief, the auntie was fearless in making Ding Jiayi lose face. “Are you going to speak or not? If not, I am hanging up. I am busy right now.” The soup that she was stewing for Qiao Nan was still on the stove. She had to turn down the fire.

“How dare you!” Ding Jiayi widened her glare. “Do you know who I am?!” She was the wretched girl’s biological mother. The wretched girl had the capability and rights to chase this stinky auntie out of the Zhai family. The Zhai family would not stop her either.

“Let me remind you. My daughter’s womb is carrying the precious grandchildren of the Zhai family!!”

The status of the pregnant Qiao Nan must be the highest in the Zhai family.

The high status of Qiao Nan meant that she was also an important figure that the Zhai family cared about.

This was just a housekeeper and she dared to be at odds with her. She must be mad!

“Pfft!” The auntie was both amused and angry. “Really... I am giving you one last chance. What exactly is the matter? If you’re not telling me, I am going to hang up.” She was so shameless to have said those things. This shameless one also had to treat her with respect now.

After talking for so long, the other party did not buy it at all. Moreover, her tone was increasingly disdainful. Ding Jiayi was enraged.

The auntie heard noises of Ding Jiayi grinding her teeth coming from the phone. “Her father had bought gold bracelets for the two children in her womb. He spent 6,700 yuan for that.”

As for the rest of the matters, Ding Jiayi believed that Qiao Nan would understand even if she did not say it.

“You want money.” At the very least, the auntie understood her words. “Fine. I know about this now. I will let Nan Nan know. As to what Nan Nan intends to do, wait for Nan Nan’s call.”

Obviously, she felt that she had spent too much money and wanted her married daughter to subsidize a little.

In that case, Ding Jiayi and Qiao Dongliang would not suffer any financial loss. At the same time, they had put on a good show as maternal grandparents. What a good plan!

However, this kind of situation was not uncommon. After witnessing the more ‘top-notch’ stuff that Ding Jiayi had done before, this situation was indeed a child’s play in comparison. There was nothing to be angry about.

“6,700 yuan?” Zhai Hua raised her eyebrows. “Is it real or fake? If I didn’t remember wrongly, recently, gold price is about three hundred yuan each gram. So as to speak, Uncle Qiao bought twenty grams of gold.” Even if there were two of them, on average, one gold bracelet was just about ten grams.

Typically, those for kids were not so heavy.

This weight was enough to make a big bracelet—the slimmer type—for a lady. It was a tad too heavy to buy those for children. “Is it two bracelets or two sets of gold jewelry?” Otherwise, the quantity and amount did not match.

Newborns were tiny and delicate.

There was a superstition that things like gold jewelry could keep them safe. That was also to express the elder’s blessing and love for the juniors.

If it was too heavy, it would be pressing on the children and make them feel tired. That would not be nice then.

Hence, regardless of whether one was wealthy, typically, the gold jewelry that they bought for young children would not be too heavy.

In particular, given the Qiao family’s situation, they were generous enough to be willing to buy some gold jewelry for her little nephew and niece. However, they bought something that cost almost 6,700 yuan at once. Did Uncle Qiao strike a lottery and become rich?

The auntie nodded. "That was what Ding Jiayi said." She was also very shocked that the Qiao family suddenly became so generous. They paid almost 7,000 yuan for something so casually.

The auntie cast a weak glance at Qiao Nan. It was not because of other reasons. The auntie had heard before that the Qiao family used all their family savings for Qiao Zijin's studies. The problem was that Qiao Nan probably did not spend anything close to 7,000 yuan in total for the many years that she lived with the Qiao family.

Facing the auntie's evasive eyes, Qiao Nan gave a bitter smile. "All of you don't need to behave like that. I grew up in that family. Can I not know the temperaments of the people in that family? Also, Sister Zhai Hua, don't believe in the price of 6,700 yuan. Most probably, we have to give a discount to the actual amount. My mom's words today are already considered very restrained."

Qiao Nan really did not wish to bring up this kind of trick anymore.

In her previous life, Ding Jiayi had always used the tactic of inflating the amount to settle scores with Qiao Nan. She then dug out all of Qiao Nan's money. If it was not enough, she would force Qiao Nan to find a few more part-time jobs until she could achieve the sum that she 'reported'.

"I-it could not possibly be?"

"..."

The auntie was shocked and dumbstruck. Zhai Hua also seemed to have been struck by a rod. "So, they bought these items for the babies on their own accord, yet they want to get it back from us and double their earnings?"

Chapter 1167 Going to Deliver the Babies

Was this still a gift?

Damn. This was obviously a highway robbery!

That was too vicious!



The auntie said, "Everyone knows the current gold price. Although there are geographical differences, the prices will not deviate too much. She told us this figure now, but won't we find out when we receive the gold jewelry?" Is it meaningful to tell such a lie? It will be exposed too easily, no?

Qiao Nan gave a wry smile. "My mom will not admit it even if I see through her ploy. At most, she will throw me words and tell me to take it that I am being filial to my parents by giving more money than the actual cost. We can forget about getting back the money after it goes into her pocket. Most likely, my dad doesn't have anything to do with this 6,700 yuan."

Her father would not be able to bring himself to buy something for his maternal grandchildren and then call his daughter to ask for twice the sum of money spent. "If I did not guess it wrong, my mom made this call behind my dad's back. My dad is not aware of it."

In other words, if she really subsidized this 6,700 yuan, it would end up in her mother's pocket. Her father would not have the chance to touch a single cent of it.

"To gain something without risking anything of one's own!" Zhai Hua took her hat off to Ding Jiayi. Earning so much despite not putting in any capital. Since Ding Jiayi was so high and mighty, why was she not in heaven?!

Zhai Hua, who had been 'traumatized', drank some water to calm herself down. "Qiao Nan, how are you going to handle this matter?"

She could not accept it if they were to really going to pay Ding Jiayi 6,700 yuan.

Zhai Hua was furious. As the party concerned, Qiao Nan was extremely calm. "There is no hurry in this matter. My dad is the one who paid for these items. Even if I really want to subsidize, I will pay my dad. I didn't receive a single cent from my dad when I got married. The problem is that my dad still has another lady to marry off."

Regardless of how much money her father spent, she had to pay him back.

Qiao Zijin was going to get married one day and she would demand a lot of dowries. When the time came and her parents could not afford the dowry, she did not want a situation of Qiao Zijin blaming her and saying that she had spent all the family's money.

Zhai Hua was breathing more normally now. "I agree. We will do that then." They should pass the money to Uncle Qiao. No matter how muddleheaded Uncle Qiao was, he was much better than Ding Jiayi.

At the very least, Uncle Qiao was not the type of person who would take other people's money for granted or liked to ask for the sky.

After discussing the situation of the Qiao family, Qiao Nan's expression changed. She placed her hands on her womb and panted continuously.

"Why? Are you going to give birth soon?" Zhai Hua asked as she held on Qiao Nan nervously.

Qiao Nan had been pregnant for eight months. The Zhai family, especially Zhai Hua, had simply gone into a state of alertness. Zhai Hua dared not leave Qiao Nan's side at all.

"Sister Zhai Hua, don't be nervous. I don't think I am giving birth soon. It's just the Braxton-hicks contraction during pregnancy. I'll be fine after a while." This was not the first time that Qiao Nan encountered the situation. Hence, she did not panic.

She had done so much research. Qiao Nan was aware that unless she was bleeding or the water bag had broken, it was not the symptoms of childbirth.

"It has been tough on you." Looking at Qiao Nan's high and tall womb, Zhai Hua's heart ached for Qiao Nan.

The longer a child remained in the mother's womb, the stronger he would become.

The babies were so fortunate. It was just that it had been tough on Qiao Nan, this biological mother.

Qiao Nan had been very careful during her pregnancy. In two lifetimes, she finally had a child. No one placed greater importance than Qiao Nan on the children in her womb.

However, no matter how careful Qiao Nan was, the situation of having twins was too difficult. When it was the end of September, Qiao Nan, who was reading, suddenly felt wetness below her buttocks. She reached out and touched it.

The water that she touched felt different. This made Qiao Nan's heart and liver tremble. "Sister... Sister Zhai Hua!"

Qiao Nan's trembling and off-pitched voice summoned Zhai Hua. "What happened? I have finished cutting the fruits. Try it and see if it tastes good?"

"Sister Zhai Hua, my... my water bag broke. I... I am going to give birth!" No matter how calm she normally was, when this moment really came, Qiao Nan was so scared that her face turned as white as a sheet. She almost cried out. "Sister Zhai Hua, it's not nine months yet. How come?"

She had thought that her children would stay in her womb for a longer time!

"Don't panic. Don't be afraid. You are already doing very well. Remember that the doctor said that some pregnant ladies have premature births seven or eight months into their pregnancy despite having only one child in the womb. Many babies were born nine instead of the full ten months into the pregnancy, and these children are all very healthy. You're doing very well. I will be by your side. Nothing will happen to you. The babies and you will be alright."

Zhai Hua was also in a flurry. Her mind seemed to have been entangled.

In the past, when she carried out missions, Zhai Hua did not even blink when she shot the enemy dead personally. Her sister-in-law was going to give birth soon, and Zhai Hua's tanned face actually turned whitish. "Auntie, quickly... quickly call the hospital. Also, get the chauffeur to drive the car out. We are going to the hospital immediately!"

She should not have allowed Qiao Nan to be so willful. When Qiao Nan was nine months' pregnant, she should have arranged for Qiao Nan to be hospitalized to prepare for childbirth. Clearly, the doctor had reminded them that Nan Nan was carrying twins and would certainly give birth earlier.

At this moment, Zhai Hua dared not drive the car at all. She could only get someone else to drive it.

She was afraid that she would be too worried about Qiao Nan and the children, and if her hands were to tremble, something would happen when she was driving.

“Zhai Hua, I have already contacted the hospital. Once we arrive at the hospital, Nan Nan can enter the delivery room. Should I help you hold on to Nan Nan as we leave the house?” The auntie was in a much better state than Zhai Hua. However, it was inevitable that she also felt nervous.

It was really because Qiao Nan and the children in her womb were too precious. They could not afford to have an accident.

Qiao Nan disliked staying in the hospital. She hated the smell there. As soon as she stepped into the hospital, she would pant and feel suffocated. That was the reason that she insisted to stay at home to care for her pregnancy despite being nine months pregnant.

However, to play safe, Zhai Hua made Qiao Nan move from the second to the first floor of the house. That would save the trouble and danger of Qiao Nan having to go up and down the stairs. Hence, the auntie dared to volunteer to support Qiao Nan outside with Zhai Hua.

Zhai Hua shook her head. “No need. I have a lot of strength. I can carry Qiao Nan alone. Help us open the door.”

This was the first time Zhai Hua carried someone in this way. She had given this ‘hug’ to Qiao Nan and the latter’s babies.

Seeing that there was really water on Qiao Nan’s seat, Zhai Hua was so scared that her arms’ strength increased.

Zhai Hua carried Qiao Nan into the car. The auntie was holding Qiao Nan’s belongings. “Alright. Quickly make your way to the hospital. Remember, fast and steady. Understand?”

“Understood.” The chauffeur looked strict and solemn. He then displayed his driving skills and steadily rushed to the hospital as fast as he could.

Zhai Hua carried Qiao Nan down the car. The nurses in the hospital were already waiting at the entrance with the hospital bed.

“How is it?” Besides the nurses and doctor, Tian Dong was also standing by the bedside. Tian Dong received the call of Doctor Wei, his old classmate cum senior, and rushed directly from the company to the hospital.

## Chapter 1168 I Will Accompany You throughout Your Labor

Tian Dong had been busy with work recently and did not have much time to accompany Zhai Hua.

Tian Dong knew that Zhai Hua was very concerned about Qiao Nan, so no matter how busy he was, he would definitely make time to accompany them, especially at times like this. It was as if his wife was going into labor and he was going to become a father.

It was September now. The National Day was around the corner. Zhai Yaohui must be very busy.

What was worrying was that even though Miao Jing could not bear to leave Qiao Nan at home, she had to accompany Zhai Yaohui on his work trip and could not take care of Qiao Nan.

Once Miao Jing left, apart from the auntie, the only person left at home was Zhai Hua. She was still a single lady who knew nothing about childbirth. Miao Jing could not help but worry.

Thankfully, Tian Dong volunteered to help. He promised that he would look out for Qiao Nan and her babies and he would liaise with the hospital and the doctors. He assured Miao Jing that nothing would go wrong. That was why Miao Jing finally agreed to leave with Zhai Yaohui.

Tian Dong meant his words. Once he knew that Qiao Nan was going into labor, he put aside all his work and dashed to the hospital to make the necessary arrangements for Qiao Nan.

Tian Dong wanted to show the Zhai family that Zhai Hua's relatives were his relatives as well.

He would treat the people whom Zhai Hua valued and cared for with utmost importance because he cherished and valued Zhai Hua and was sincere to her.

He loved Zhai Hua. Therefore, he was willing to give his love and time to the people that Zhai Hua cared for and loved.

It was as simple as that.

Seconds ago, Zhai Hua was still in a panic, but she calmed down instantly at the sight of Tian Dong. “I have read a lot of books on childbirth. Can we not do a cesarean?” She heard that it would be very painful.

“Of course.” Tian Dong held onto Zhai Hua’s hands as he gave his definite reply. Her hands were not smooth but rough.

Tian Dong had shaken the hands of many people, both men and women, during his course of work, but no single handshake was able to make his heart flutter and beat faster.

He merely held her hands and he was so affected by it. Tian Dong had a bitter yet sweet smile on his face. From a young age, it was destined that he would not be able to escape from this little hoyden!

“I have made arrangements with the doctor. Everything will be alright.”

Zhai Hua let out a long breath. She shook her hands free from Tian Dong’s hold and leaned against Qiao Nan’s bedside. “Nan Nan, don’t be afraid. I will be by your side.” She was going to accompany her throughout her labor!

Tian Dong felt hurt that Zhai Hua left his side now that she no longer needed his comfort. He looked sadly at her back. He had no other choice but followed after her. “Are you going into the delivery room with Qiao Nan? I don’t think that is a good idea.” He heard that people who went into the delivery room would have a phobia toward childbirth.

This usually happened to the fathers of the babies.

Tian Dong was worried that it would leave a phobia on Zhai Hua and she would not be willing to experience childbirth in the future.

As a traditional man, Tian Dong loved kids. He did not want Zhai Hua to go through the torture, but he had to realize his parents’ dreams of having a grandchild. His parents were already advanced in years.

“No, I have to accompany Qiao Nan. Otherwise, I won’t have peace of mind.” Zhai Hua was determined to go into the delivery room with Qiao Nan. She held onto her hands. “Nan Nan has suffered a lot after marrying Zhai Sheng.”

It was indeed true that military wives would have different married lives as compared to other women.

But the problem was other military wives would have their mothers-in-law to accompany them into the delivery room. They were experienced and would be able to take care of them. However, Qiao Nan had no one with her except an inexperienced sister-in-law.

As for the Qiao family, they could not be counted upon to help.

Qiao Nan had no affinity with her parental family in this life. She only hoped to marry a good man and lead a happy life, receiving the love that she was not able to have in her parental family.

However, the Zhai family did not really take good care of Qiao Nan.

Under normal circumstances, if a daughter-in-law was pregnant with twins, she would be waited upon as if she was the queen. But Nan Nan only had her sister-in-law with her when she was due for delivery.

Tian Dong smiled. In other people's opinions, the Zhai family was beyond their reach, but once they were related to them, a good life would be awaiting them. However, Zhai Hua had made it sound as if marrying into the Zhai family was a totally different situation.

Tian Dong did not rebut her.

He knew that for people who were after the influence and power that the Zhai family held, it was true that being related to them would mean a good life ahead.

But in Qiao Nan's case, she was simple and pure, and she only wanted to lead a happy and blissful life. She did not ask for much. In that case, what Zhai Hua said was very true.

Qiao Nan felt immense and excruciating pain. She feared that she might die from the unbearable pain. Although she had heard that childbirth was a painful process, she had to experience it to know the severity of the pain.

Qiao Nan, who broke out in a cold sweat, said through clenched teeth, “Sister Zhai Hua, there is no need to accompany me. I-I can do it by myself.”

Qiao Nan was worried that the childbirth process would frighten Zhai Hua. Since she was unmarried, she would not have the courage to go into the delivery room. “Tian Dong, Sister Zhai Hua is being too reckless. Y-you have to keep a good watch on her. I-I can do it by myself. I am telling the truth. Trust me.”

Qiao Nan trusted that Tian Dong had made all the necessary arrangements with the hospital and doctors and made sure that she was well taken care of.

She knew that she did not need to go through the pain that other pregnant ladies had to go through.

“Alright.” Tian Dong breathed a sigh of relief. He was glad that Qiao Nan was so considerate. He held Zhai Hua by her shoulders. “I will keep a good watch on Zhai Hua.” He made a double-edged remark in reply to Qiao Nan’s words.

Qiao Nan smiled. “Sister Zhai Hua is not that easy to deal with. I hope that you are serious.” What happened in the previous life was too far away for her to remember. She could not remember what happened to the Zhai family either.

She was not sure if Sister Zhai Hua saw through Wei De’s true colors and whether she was still single when Tian Dong returned to China several years later.

But in this life, it seemed that Zhai Hua and Tian Dong would have a good start. She hoped that Sister Zhai Hua would find her happiness and would have a happy ending, leading a happy life.

“Nan Nan, don’t speak nonsense. Don’t frighten me.” Zhai Hua understood the conversation between Qiao Nan and Tian Dong, but this caused her to panic further. She had the impression that Qiao Nan was saying her last words. Before Qiao Nan went into the delivery room, she had to ensure that Zhai Hua would have a happy married life in the future.

Tian Dong felt touched. He was thankful that Qiao Nan would be thinking of Zhai Hua’s best interests at this critical moment. “Zhai Hua, don’t worry. Everything will be fine. We must trust that Qiao Nan will be strong. Zhai Sheng is not back yet. When he is back next time, he will be able to see his children.”



While Tian Dong was reassuring Zhai Hua, the nurses opened the door to the delivery room and Qiao Nan was pushed into the room.

Tian Dong held onto Zhai Hua. She could only watch helplessly as the lonely Qiao Nan laid on the white bedsheets and was pushed by the doctor and nurses into the delivery room.

#### Chapter 1169 The Arrival of the Three Babies

“When I give birth in the future, my husband must accompany me. He has to face it with me!”

Qiao Nan must be full of anxiety and worry. She had no wish to go through all these by herself. She was not as strong and as brave as she thought.

“Don’t worry. I will definitely be by your side. I won’t let you face this by yourself. I am different from Zhai Sheng. I will be able to stay by your side.” He would be by her side from the first day when she was pregnant until the day the baby was delivered. He would help take care of the baby and watch as the child grew up.

Qiao Nan was due for delivery. Zhai Hua had no idea who she should inform and whether the other party would answer her call. “Why is it so quiet?”

“Don’t be anxious. This might be good news.” Tian Dong was not experienced either. He had no idea what would happen during childbirth.

Nevertheless, he had to reassure Zhai Hua. Seconds ago, she was worried that it was so quiet, but seconds later, she heard Qiao Nan’s cry of pain.

Qiao Nan was behind closed doors. Zhai Hua could barely hear what was going on in the delivery room or what the doctor was telling the nurses. She leaned against the door, trying to figure out what was happening. Qiao Nan’s cry of pain was the only sound that she could hear.

“Take a seat. I heard that the childbirth process will take some time. Some pregnant ladies took twenty-four hours to give birth to their child. Qiao Nan and the babies will be alright. You will definitely be an auntie. Are you hungry? Shall I buy some food for you?” Tian Dong checked the time. He was worried that Zhai Hua would be hungry. He did not wait for her response. After Zhai Hua took a seat, he bought some food and drinks and returned as soon as possible.

Tian Dong handed the food to Zhai Hua. Although she held the bread in her hands, Zhai Hua was not in the mood to eat anything. Instead, she drank some mineral water. “I am not hungry. I really have no appetite. Let’s wait until later.”

Tian Dong was helpless. He could do nothing but wait with her.

There were some noises in the delivery room three to four hours later. A loud wailing sound made by the baby brought hope and joy to Zhai Hua’s face. She cried in happiness. “I am an auntie. I will be an auntie in the future. Qiao Nan has delivered the baby!”

Zhai Hua was exhilarated. She grabbed Tian Dong’s hands tightly. He did not mind that it hurt. “Yes, you are an auntie and Zhai Sheng is a father. There is one more baby yet to be delivered. Qiao Nan will be out very soon.” Now that the first baby was delivered, the second baby should be delivered very soon as well.

As expected, the cries of a baby could be heard from the delivery room half an hour later. But the cries sounded somewhat different.

“She has made it. She has finally made it!” Zhai Hua felt reassured when she heard cries of another baby coming from the delivery room. She relaxed and collapsed, all the tension gone from her body.

Fortunately, Tian Dong caught her in time. Otherwise, she might have a bad fall. “It has been some time. Why aren’t they out yet? Aren’t they going to show me my nephew and niece?”

Ever since they knew that Qiao Nan had twins, the most common topic discussed in the Zhai family would be whether they were boys or girls.

In Zhai Hua’s opinion, it was best to have a boy and a girl.

“I have no idea. Perhaps they need time to clean up.” Tian Dong frowned. He could feel that something was amiss. The nurses should have brought the babies out to show the family after they were delivered.

Zhai Hua was waiting anxiously for the nurses to bring the babies to her. She had no idea that it was sheer chaos in the delivery room. “My goodness, the pregnant lady has triplets. There is one more baby in her womb, but the mother is drained of all energy after giving birth to two babies. She is unconscious.”

The water bag had broken. If they delayed further, once the fluid was drained, the third baby would be in danger.

It would be detrimental to the mother as well.

The doctor and nurses knew that Qiao Nan was from the Zhai family. Nothing must happen to Qiao Nan or the babies.

The problem was nobody knew that Qiao Nan was carrying triplets!

As her first natural delivery and first childbirth, it was considered a smooth delivery to give birth to her first baby in four hours.

But things would be different as she had to give birth to another child right away.

It was much more strenuous for the mother to give birth to two babies as compared to one baby.

“Doctor, what do we do now? The mother is still unconscious.” The nurses tried to wake Qiao Nan up, but it was in vain. Qiao Nan’s vital statistics did not look good. The nurses were anxious.

“Doctor, shall we ask the family members to sign an agreement form to perform a cesarean? Otherwise, the third baby and the mother would be in danger.” This could not drag any further.

“No.” The doctor shook her head. “It’s too dangerous. Can someone go out to get the family member to come in or to carry the child to the mother? The mother has to wake up to give birth to the third baby. We have to hurry.” It was still possible to deliver the third child. They must hurry!

Zhai Hua was stunned upon hearing the news. “Is my sister-in-law alright? Is she in grave danger?”

“Let’s not talk further. What is important now is that the mother wakes up as soon as possible and gives birth to the last baby. Otherwise, the third child may be in danger and it will be detrimental to the mother’s health.” The nurse made Zhai Hua went through the disinfection process and she changed into a proper outfit to enter the delivery room.

Zhai Hua sucked in her breath, looking pale and serious.

One of the nurses handed one of the babies to Zhai Hua. The baby was so soft and tiny. He did not seem to have bones and felt like a ball of flesh. Zhai Hua cradled the baby in her arms and walked to stand beside Qiao Nan. She placed the tiny red hands of the baby onto Qiao Nan's face. "Nan Nan, you must wake up as soon as possible. We are going to have three babies instead of two babies at home. You have one more baby in your womb. If you don't wake up now, we will not be able to keep the third baby. You must not give up."

The baby was wrapped in a white towel. He started crying beside Qiao Nan for no reason.

Qiao Nan frowned slightly and moved her lips, as if calling out to the baby.

The doctor and the nurses were relieved. "The mother is awake. Hurry! There is one more child to deliver!"

Qiao Nan finally gave birth to the third child amid the wailing sounds of the baby. The third child was smaller than the previous two babies and it did not cry as loud as the previous babies.

The third baby whimpered softly like a tiny kitten.

"Nan Nan, you have done it. You have given birth to three babies. They are doing fine. You are amazing!"

Chapter 1170 Mass Production

Qiao Nan could hear faint sounds of Zhai Hua's voice as she spoke to her. She tried her best to use her last ounce of energy to give birth to the last baby. Now that the baby was delivered, she relaxed, curling the corners of her lips. She could finally drift off to sleep with peace of mind.

It was too exhausting to give birth to three babies!

"Give me the baby. The baby will feel uncomfortable at the way you are holding them. But there is no hurry. You can take your time to learn the correct way." Everyone in the delivery room felt relieved. The nurse took the baby from Zhai Hua so that the doctor could examine them.

Some of the nurses cleaned up Qiao Nan, while some helped take care of the three babies.

The doctor smiled at Zhai Hua after examining the babies. “Congratulations. They are triplets. The first-born and the second-born are boys while the third-born is a girl.”

“Three babies! Are there really three of them?!” Zhai Hua felt dizzy when she stared at the three babies who were wrapped nicely in towels and placed on the table side by side. “Didn’t you say that there are only two of them?” Zhai Hua was so overjoyed that she behaved like a child. She lifted three fingers but she was, in fact, talking about two babies.

“It could be that we did not notice them during the checkup. We usually determine the number of babies based on the fetal heartbeat. There would be instances where the fetal heartbeats are identical.” The machine and technology were not as advanced and accurate. But she believed that it would be more accurate in the future. “Nevertheless, congratulations. We have gotten through a daunting experience without mishap. Congratulations to the arrival of the three babies.”

They were blessed to have two sons and one daughter.

Zhai Hua patted her face, feeling pain in her face. It was then that she was certain that she had not been dreaming. It was the truth that she had two nephews and one niece. “Doctor, what about the babies? Is everything alright with them?”

It was no wonder that she had the feeling that Qiao Nan’s tummy was larger than usual. It was as if her tummy was transparent and was about to burst. As a result, she would often have nightmares and wake up in the middle of the night.

It turned out that Qiao Nan might be slim, but her tummy was able to contain three babies!

Previously, she was worried that Qiao Nan’s tummy was too large and the babies might be overnourished. Now, Zhai Hua was worried that the three babies did not have enough nutrition and that they were underdeveloped.

In normal cases, pregnant ladies would take in food that was sufficient for two people.

In Qiao Nan’s case, she had to take in food sufficient for four people!

It was almost the size of a family.

The three babies had to depend on Qiao Nan to provide nutrition for them. Zhai Hua felt uneasy at the thought of that.

“Don’t worry. It is normal for mothers who carried more than one baby to have a premature delivery. The mother exercised and had been well-taken care of. She only went into labor in her ninth month. It was good enough. I have done a check on the three babies. Their hearts and lungs are functioning well and they are well-developed. They are considered to be fairly healthy.”

Compared to the size of the baby in single child pregnancy, the three babies were indeed smaller in size.

It did make a difference to share the nutrients among the three babies instead of having all the nutrition to oneself.

“Normal babies would weigh two and a half to three and a half kilograms. For your family, the elder brother weighs two thousand three hundred and fifty grams, and the younger brother weighs two thousand three hundred grams. The sister is the lightest. She weighs two thousand grams. I have helped deliver many triplets. Most of them are only about one thousand five hundred grams. Therefore, it goes to show that you have taken good care of the mother.”

Zhai Hua sniffed. “It is Nan Nan who is outstanding. She is fabulous. She is very smart and she does very well in her studies. She is the top humanities student in the college entrance examination and she is one of the top students at Peking University. Therefore, she will do a better job than others when she is pregnant!”

Upon hearing the doctor’s feedback about the babies, Zhai Hua was especially proud of Qiao Nan.

If not for Qiao Nan, they might expedite the delivery and the babies would not be so healthy and strong.

Although her nephews and niece were smaller than other babies, Nan Nan had done a very good job providing them with nutrition during her pregnancy.

The three babies weighed up to a total of seven kilograms. It was no wonder that nearing her third trimester, Nan Nan would feel backache when she lay down to sleep.

Anyone who carried something that weighed a few kilograms on their waist would find it tiring and exhausting.

Mothers were the greatest people in the world!

“Did she really have triplets?” Tian Dong was surprised when three reddish, wrinkled, and tiny babies were brought out of the delivery room. He thought that Qiao Nan carried twins. Therefore, he only prepared two sets of presents. In that case, he had to prepare another present for the third baby.

Zhai Hua, who came out with the babies, cried while she smiled. “Yes, Nan Nan is so fantastic. She has brought three babies to the Zhai family. Two of them are boys and one of them is a girl. She is fabulous. I-I am so grateful to her. Not only will I have nephews, but I will have a niece as well. I-I feel very much like crying. I cannot hold back my tears. What should I do?”

Zhai Hua was crying uncontrollably.

She had no idea why she would be so emotional and she could not stop crying at the sight of the three reddish and wrinkled babies.

She only knew that the only thing that she felt like doing right now was to have a good cry.

She was there by her side when her niece was brought to the world. She was the one who welcomed her to the world.

The child was so adorable!

“I carried my nephew in my arms. Do you know he is so tiny and he is nestled in my arms? He is smaller than my arms. He is so soft that I dared not hug him.”

“I know. Don’t cry, don’t cry.” Tian Dong’s heart ached for Zhai Hua. He pulled her into an embrace and patted her lightly on the back, as if he was consoling a child. He did not mind that her tears had dirtied his expensive shirt. It was most probably ruined and he could not wear it anymore even after he washed it.

He hugged her for about five minutes before he passed her a bottle of water. He unscrewed the cap for her and she gulped down the water, finishing the entire bottle. “Hua Hua, it is mealtime now. Should you give a call to your parents to tell them the news? Perhaps you should try calling Zhai Sheng as well, telling him that he is a father of triplets.”

Tian Dong felt envious at the mention of triplets.

He was two years older than Zhai Sheng. He longed to be a father as well.

The problem was the person he liked had yet to agree to marry him. He did not know when they would have kids. On the other hand, Zhai Sheng, who was two years younger than him, had become the father of three babies.

The number of babies was...

Was this a mass production?

As a man, Tian Dong was full of envy. Zhai Sheng was indeed capable.