

RTAMM 1541

Chapter 1541: Turning Mute

He wanted their child, so he did not feel that he had done anything wrong by taking more. But if they were really to fight over it, he would naturally have to depend on his lawyer to help him gain a higher ground.

Upon hearing this, the man's lawyer felt that a private settlement would be best. If it really went to court, this case would not be easy to win, but it would not be difficult either. Who would gain more marital assets would really depend on who gained custody of their child.

But the lawyer had never expected that his client had lied to him. Not only had his client been the one to commit wrongdoings in the marriage, but his wife had also gotten ahold of solid evidence against him. There was no way for him to refute it.

It was just his bad fortune to meet such an uncooperative client!

“We’re in the same line of work. You should understand that with the evidence that my client has secured, your client doesn’t stand to benefit from it if we are to go to court. Even if your client feels no responsibility to his family and marriage and chooses to abandon it until the very end by committing such an immoral act, my client doesn’t have high expectations because he is the biological father of her child after all. After the divorce, my client will have custody of their daughter. Of course, your client will still have to pay alimony. Each of them will pay for half of whatever living expenses and tuition fees their daughter incurs. Whether it is paid in a lump sum or on a regular basis can be further discussed.”

Seeing that his opponent was already in a state of loss, Xu Shengnan’s lawyer was even more so calm and collected. “As for the marital assets...”

Xu Shengnan’s lawyer smiled and produced two pay stubs. “This is my client’s income over the past twelve months. This is your client’s. As you know, having an affair as a married man costs quite a bit of money. Your client pays for the rent of the house this lady in the photo lives in. The rent is not cheap. It’s something along the lines of 800 yuan a month. Now that the lady is pregnant, she needs more nourishment as well. After all, she’s eating for two. So with all due respect, I’d propose to you that your client doesn’t even have enough to spend. He’s probably even asking for money from my client.”

To take money from his wife to support his mistress? Was there any other man who was more shameless than this?

The man's lawyer turned pale. Ever since he became a lawyer, he had never felt so awkward and in a dilemma. Just a casual remark from the other party's lawyer rendered him speechless. But most importantly, when faced with such a bizarre situation, he actually did not want to even rebuke him.

"Other than this, let's talk about the issue of the house."

Fang Shiyou, Xu Shengnan's man, immediately spoke up. "House? What house? That house is mine. It has nothing to do with Xu Shengnan. I can't believe that I've never noticed how scheming Xu Shengnan is. She's probably had her eyes on me for a long time. It's really not easy for you to hold back your temper and finally erupt only today. But don't you think you should live with dignity, Xu Shengnan? Don't you remember how we got that house? My parents toiled their whole lives to be able to afford that small house. Don't be so shameless. Otherwise, how would Ling Ling see you as her mother in the future?"

The house was the most valuable. Besides, it belonged to their family. Xu Shengnan could dream on about even having that house.

Xu Shengnan laughed coldly. "I agree wholeheartedly about not being shameful, so I'll say it back to you. Even up until now, I've never said a bad thing about you in front of Ling Ling, so I hope that you can do some self-reflection and stop doing embarrassing things. I don't deny that your parents paid for the down-payment of that house, but what about the mortgage? I think I paid for the entirety of it. You didn't even contribute a single cent."

"That's right. These repayment slips can confirm that apart from the twenty percent down-payment, my client took care of the remaining seventy-four percent of the mortgage. Now, only six percent of it is still unpaid."

"..." The woman had obviously come prepared. This piece of evidence delivered a huge blow to Fang Shiyou's lawyer, so much so that he could not even speak.

Fang Shiyou was infuriated. "Are you a mute? Say something! Don't forget that I gave you money and hired you! Rebut them! Xu Shengnan, this house is my mom's and mine. Don't even think about having it!" Talking about the house, Fang Shiyou could no longer sit still. He was in a panic,

as though he had sat down on a nail. “Xu Shengnan, why don’t you just agree to divorce now? If you want our daughter, fine! You can have her. We can split her expenses fifty-fifty between us!”

But that was all!

Just thinking about how much he had spent on Fang Ling Ling in the past few years pained Fang Shiyou. He had not understood for a long time. Wasn’t she just a girl? It was not bad that she was already going to school. Why did she have to go for enrichment classes and throw money away like this? When his daughter grew up, she would eventually get married. Then, she would be part of someone else’s family.

It was just like Xu Shengnan’s case. No matter how capable she was, she had become part of his family after marrying him. All of her money had gone to paying for their house.

So obviously, daughters were useless and a waste of money.

“I want to leave happily too, but I hope you can just let it go. I just have one request. Return what is mine. I promise that I’ll not touch a single cent that is not mine.” She was not even expecting Fang Shiyou to give her anything. But looking at the current situation, she realized that it would be difficult for her to even get back what belonged to her.

“What do you mean by returning what belongs to you? Haven’t you left everything that belongs to you back at your parents’ home? That house is mine, and everything in it is mine as well. They have nothing to do with you. Don’t be so shameless.” The only reason why that woman was willing to be with Fang Shiyou and even got pregnant with Fang Shiyou’s baby was because of Fang Shiyou’s house.

That woman was not from the capital and knew that Fang Shiyou did not earn much. But he had a big house in the capital. As long as she married Fang Shiyou and changed her address to his house, both she and her child would be registered in the capital.

“So what? Do you want to explain to your client what belongs to my client in that house?” Xu Shengnan’s lawyer laughed and did not even bother wasting his breath on Fang Shiyou. Instead, he turned to Fang Shiyou’s lawyer.

Chapter 1542: Don’t Go Overboard

After their marriage, Xu Shengnan alone had paid for the mortgage, and she had paid for almost seventy percent! Even if the couple had paid for it together, Fang Shiyou had cheated. The Fang family should not be allowed to keep the house for themselves. Even though Xu Shengnan's name was not in the house deed, Xu Shengnan still had a share in it. Fang Shiyou could not deny that.

“Mr. Fang, please calm down. This matter can't be resolved by rushing through it. I'm sorry to inform you that it's impossible for the Fang family to gain full control of the house. Moreover, Madam Xu has the greatest share of the house you're living in now.”

“I don't believe you! You're such a weird lawyer! I'm the one who hired you and will pay you, but you're helping Xu Shengnan! I want to change lawyers! I want to change lawyers!” At this point in time, Fang Shiyou was really in a frenzy. Not only did the house not belong to him, but Xu Shengnan held the majority of it. No! This could not be happening!

“Sure, you can change lawyers. I'll return the money to you.” He really did not wish to handle such a case like this. As they were both men, the lawyer really felt that it was too embarrassing that there were men like Fang Shiyou around. “But I'll leave you with a piece of advice. It's not that there's no way that you can continue sticking to your guns in this case, but even if you change lawyers and hire the best lawyer in the world, the house will still not be yours.”

With that, the lawyer picked up his briefcase and prepared to leave.

With a client like Fang Shiyou who was full of lies, lacked cooperation, and even threw a tantrum toward him, the lawyer declared that he would never want to see Fang Shiyou ever again. He wanted to earn money, but not Fang Shiyou's.

“No!” Now that the lawyer was really going to leave, Fang Shiyou panicked again. “I spent money to hire you. You have to help me solve the problem at the very least. Is there really no other way?” Fang Shiyou could not help but pull the lawyer aside and said in a soft voice, “Lawyer, please help me. I'm willing to pay whatever it takes. I'll agree to whatever requests Xu Shengnan wants in this divorce, but the house is mine. What other way is there?”

He would rather spend more money on the lawyer than let Xu Shengnan have the house.

If it was not for anything else, the house itself had increased in value in the seven or eight years that they had been living in it. The money that they had spent on buying such a large house would not even pay for a small apartment in the same location today.

No matter what his intentions were, the house could never be Xu Shengnan's.

"There is, but only one." The lawyer's gaze was cold. He felt that this method would never work. He would not talk about how ruthless and cold-blooded his opponent's client was, but his client was not only stupid but also ruthless.

If it were him, he would never agree to these terms whether it was for love or just to show his anger.

Fang Shiyou did not notice the coldness in his lawyer's eyes and beamed. "What way is there?"

"For the female party to voluntarily give up her rights and sign the agreement."

"How is that possible? Xu Shengnan will never agree to it!" If Xu Shengnan agreed to it, the lawyer that she had hired would not even mention the issue of the house today.

"Then, there is no way." The lawyer shrugged, his face showing his helplessness.

"Other than this method, is there really no other way?" Fang Shiyou was anxious. He had thought that it would be easy to get a divorce. Why had it become so tricky now?

"No, so it's best you discuss this with your wife."

"..." Fang Shiyou thought about it and sat back down in his seat, letting out an innocent smile that Xu Shengnan was once familiar with. "Shengnan, we've been married for almost ten years. Now that we're separating, why make it so difficult for the both of us and make everyone sad? Can we separate amicably? My mom is already so old. Just take it as though you're comforting my mom and let her enjoy her old age. Will you stop fighting with me over the house? That house was originally—"

"That's impossible!" Xu Shengnan cut in without hesitation. "Don't talk to me about how we've been a couple. If you really cherished our relationship, you wouldn't have a mistress and a baby in her tummy. I just want to take back what is mine. I'm already being nice by not having you hand over all our marital assets. In short, you have to return me whatever is mine. If you don't want to split the house, that's fine. But I've made a record of how much I've paid the bank over these years.

You know how much the property prices have risen in the capital. Seeing that your mom is in her old age, I can take one step back.”

Xu Shengnan took a deep breath with firm determination in her eyes. “I don’t need you to pay me back according to the market value of my shares of the house. Just return me the amount that I’ve paid for the mortgage over these past few years.”

Xu Shengnan was already giving in significantly.

When they first purchased the house, it cost slightly more than five million yuan. When they made the down payment, the Fang family had produced about nine hundred thousand, while Xu Shengnan had paid the remaining one hundred thousand. In the end, Xu Shengnan had been the one paying the monthly mortgage that amounted to almost four million yuan.

The problem was that the house not only occupied an area of over a hundred square meters, but it was also situated in a good neighborhood. Now, there was no way of purchasing such a good property with only five million yuan, so if she were to go by the market value, the Fang family would have to pay Xu Shengnan at least eight to nine million yuan.

The Fang family was really at a great advantage now that Xu Shengnan was asking for only four million yuan.

But the problem was that Fang Shiyou could not fork out even four million yuan. If he could do so, would he have married Xu Shengnan? In fact, Xu Shengnan felt that Fang Shiyou was honest, but Fang Shiyou despised Xu Shengnan for being too dominant and lacking femininity. But she had graduated from a prestigious university, had a good job, and had a high salary.

With such a comparison, he had gotten a good deal when they got married.

Indeed, after marriage, Xu Shengnan had been the one paying the mortgage, while he could choose to spend his salary freely. As such, Fang Shiyou was rather arrogant in front of his friends.

“Shengnan, you’re clear of my family’s situation. How can we suddenly afford to pay you such a huge sum of money? Don’t be too greedy and force us to our deaths.” Where would he get such a huge sum of money?

Fang Shiyou could barely afford to pay for the ten years of his daughter's living expenses as per Xu Shengnan's request.

"Then, let's change the solution. Return me the house and I'll give you money. You guys only paid nine hundred thousand then. I'll go according to the market value of our property and pay you triple of that. 2.7 million yuan. Then, the house will be mine and Ling Ling's, and it will have nothing to do with you."

It was not exactly true that Xu Shengnan had a conscience. Based on how the property prices had risen in the past few years, Xu Shengnan knew that she would not even need another seven to eight years for the value of her property to double again.

In other words, the 2.7 million yuan that she was going to give Fang Shiyou would easily turn into six million in just a few more years.

On this matter, Xu Shengnan definitely had the upper hand. Just like what Fang Shiyou had said, Xu Shengnan was clear of the situation the Fang family was in.

If they had not sold their own smaller apartment then, the Fang family would never have been able to afford to pay for this larger house in the capital. They had received more than nine hundred thousand from the sale of their apartment. However, Mother Fang liked to have more cash on hand and wanted to take advantage of Xu Shengnan. Therefore, Xu Shengnan had paid over a hundred thousand when they made the down payment for the house in the capital.

After selling the small apartment, Mother Fang used the remaining tens of thousands on gold ornaments for herself to show off during Xu Shengnan and Fang Shiyou's wedding. Other than that, when Fang Shiyou married Xu Shengnan, they had to offer a dowry to the Xu family. In addition, Fang Shiyou had taken this opportunity to borrow over two hundred thousand from his mother to purchase a car.

With that, the million yuan that they had gotten from selling the small apartment was almost all gone after a short time. Moreover, Fang Shiyou did not have a high salary and even found himself a mistress. He had to take care of his mistress and spend even more money on her after she became pregnant.

Based on her actions in the past six months, Xu Shengnan suspected that her mother-in-law already knew about her son's affair. The only reason why Fang Shiyou could have told his mother about this was that his salary had been insufficient to cover the expenses of his mistress, so he had to borrow from his mother.

For the sake of her grandchild, Mother Fang did not refuse him.

When Fang Shiyou finally emptied Mother Fang's pockets, he had no choice but to approach Xu Shengnan for money. Just based on the amount of makeup the mistress put on in the photo, Xu Shengnan was sure that it was impossible for Fang Shiyou to cover all her expenses with only his monthly salary.

Fang Shiyou was bold and daring to think of marrying such a woman. Did Fang Shiyou think that he was living a comfortable life because of his own abilities?

No matter what, Fang Shiyou not only had no money on hand, but his hands were also tied. As such, even if Fang Shiyou were to sell everything he had, he would not be able to hand over four hundred thousand, let alone four million yuan.

Upon hearing Xu Shengnan's proposal, Fang Shiyou's face flushed with anger. Seeing his grumpy appearance, Xu Shengnan's lawyer warned Fang Shiyou through his gaze. He was afraid that Fang Shiyou would lose it and rush up to attack Xu Shengnan. Xu Shengnan's lawyer had ever encountered such a situation earlier on in his career. But with him present, he would never let Fang Shiyou hit Xu Shengnan.

At this moment, the lawyer that Fang Shiyou had hired finally spoke up. "Actually, there's a third way of settling this."

"What is the third way?" Fang Shiyou's eyes were completely red from both anger and panic. 2.7 million yuan sounded like a large sum of money. It would take Fang Shiyou forty to fifty years to earn that amount of money at the very least.

In other words, taking into account Fang Shiyou's age, there was no way he would ever have 2.7 million yuan unless he worked until his death. But as much as Fang Shiyou lacked money, he would never take this sum of money. Once he accepted it, the house would no longer be his.

It would be difficult for him to use 2.7 million yuan to purchase another house. Even if he were to purchase another house, it would not be in such a good location nor would it have such a large area

as the current one. After purchasing the house, he would still have to spend money on renovations. During the period of renovations, he would still have to rent another house.

All these were expenses to him.

Fang Shiyou had led such a life when they had first gotten married. But at that time, Xu Shengnan had arranged everything, and Xu Shengnan had been the one supporting them with her salary. Fang Shiyou also knew that it had been hard on Xu Shengnan at that time and she had treated him very well. Thus, Fang Shiyou had also wanted to live happily with Xu Shengnan at that time.

But Xu Shengnan had given birth to Xu Ling Ling, and not Xu Shi Shi. Because it had not been a son, he wavered. Moreover, he met the love of his life. And with that, Fang Shiyou chose true love unhesitatingly.

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In short, there was no way he could take the 2.7 million yuan. If he were to do so, the love of his life would never forgive him for it.

“That is to sell the house that you’re living in now. Even if you can’t give Madam Xu twelve million yuan, you should still be able to give her eight million, and you’ll be left with six to seven million yuan. With that money, you can purchase a large house around the fifth ring. There’ll be just over a decade of mortgage to pay back. This is quite a good solution compared to all the others.” In this way, Fang Shiyou had the best deal.

From his initial nine hundred thousand to six or seven million yuan, the lawyer felt that the best thing that Fang Shiyou had done in his whole life was probably marrying Xu Shengnan. Marrying her had brought him a fortune.

“This...” Hearing that he would stand to gain six to seven million yuan, Fang Shiyou hesitated. With this sum of money, he would be able to purchase a house in other neighborhoods, even if they were not as good as the third ring. If that was the case, would his mother still reject the idea?

“Excuse me. I think you’re mistaken about something.” Xu Shengnan’s lawyer laughed. He felt that those two were talking amongst themselves. “The proposals that we put forth earlier were based on the premise that the house would be either your client’s or my client’s. If the house is sold, then the distribution of the proceeds will be a separate matter. Once the house is sold, Madam Xu would like

the proceeds to be divided according to how much each of you paid in the first place.” Did they really think it was so easy to take advantage of her?

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If the house were to be sold for fifteen million yuan, Madam Xu would get at least twelve million yuan, nothing less. Allowing the Fang family to get 2.7 million yuan was already Madam Xu’s limit.

Chapter 1544: Do Not Go Easy On That Bast*rd and His Mistress

The man had gone astray in this relationship. It was enough that he was leaving the marriage without giving up any marital assets. Now, he wanted to take advantage of his wife to strike a fortune and buy a house to welcome his mistress? There was no free lunch in the world. The lawyer from the man’s side was being overly idealistic.

“Xu Shengnan, how can you be so ruthless? Are you really trying to drive us to our deaths? If my mom had not paid for part of the down payment, do you think you would have been able to buy the house? Now, you’re trying to take the majority of the shares of the house. Do you even have a heart?” Fang Shiyou was on the verge of exploding. There was finally a solution that he was barely willing to accept, but it was immediately struck down by Xu Shengnan.

Fang Shiyou had always thought that he would have the house to himself if they were to divorce and that Xu Shengnan would have nothing to do with it. They had to remember who paid the down payment. His family had contributed the greatest amount of money. Besides, Xu Shengnan’s name was not even on the property records.

“Even if you could afford the down payment, without my constant contributions to the mortgage, the house would already have been repossessed by the bank over a hundred times with that meager salary of yours, Fang Shiyou!” Xu Shengnan was not going to back down. “Now, I’m giving you two options. Either you give me four million yuan, or I give you 2.7 million yuan and we get an amicable divorce. If you’re not willing to pick any of these options, that’s fine too. We’ll go to court and see what the court says!”

If they really went to court, she would make sure that Fang Shiyou would not even be able to get 2.7 million yuan.

“I’m sorry. My client is a little upset. But I can completely understand why my client feels this way. After all, she has made so many sacrifices for her family but was still betrayed in the end. We’ll take our leave first. As for the house, please advise your client well.” Once Xu Shengnan stood up, her lawyer naturally followed suit, with a wide smile on his face.

How he wished he could take on more cases like this one, where it could be easily settled and he could get paid quickly.

Once Xu Shengnan left, Fang Shiyou grabbed onto his lawyer’s hand. “Lawyer, you have to help me. You have to help me. Whether or not my family breaks apart will all depend on you!”

The lawyer withdrew his hand as his temples throbbed. He really wanted to scream at Fang Shiyou. It was because of Fang Shiyou that his family was in this situation. It had nothing to do with the lawyer at all.

But the lawyer had to be rational, so he forced out a stiff smile. “Don’t get so agitated. Being emotional won’t solve the problem. You told me in the beginning that you wanted a divorce because you two no longer had feelings for each other. But now that I’ve completely understood the situation, I’m very sorry to tell you that you can only solve the problem according to the proposal from the other party’s lawyer. If you’re unwilling to settle this amicably and want to go to court, the result will not only not change, but you might lose out even more by doing so.”

No matter whether he was planning on continuing with the case, there was no one who was willing to help Fang Shiyou for free.

In this case, Fang Shiyou could either take the 2.7 million yuan or pay four million yuan instead. Otherwise, if he were really to go to court, Fang Shiyou would either not end up with 2.7 million yuan or have to pay more than four million yuan.

Thinking about Fang Shiyou’s concern about money as well as that mistress’ face, the lawyer laughed. Four million yuan? His client was not one who would have four million yuan. He might not even be able to borrow four million yuan.

When Qiao Nan heard about Xu Shengnan’s situation, her expression darkened. “Senior Xu, it’s coming. You’re already getting divorced. Why are you letting Fang Shiyou off so easily and let him have your money to live a good life with his mistress?”

Xu Shengnan was momentarily stunned before she furiously shook her head. “No, I’m not. How can I possibly let that guy lead a comfortable life? I wish he could soak in ice-cold water every day and hang above a furnace! Don’t worry. He won’t be able to hand over four million yuan.”

As long as Fang Shiyou could not hand over four million yuan, she would find a way to borrow 2.7 million yuan to hand over to Fang Shiyou. Then, that house worth more than ten million yuan would naturally become hers and her daughter, Ling Ling’s.

Qiao Nan rubbed her temples. “Senior Xu, have you forgotten about the existence of loan sharks? Now that you’re pressing him, and seeing as to how Fang Shiyou is so unwilling to let go of the house, he’ll find a way to get those four million yuan to pay you and get the house in his hands. When that time comes and once you’ve gotten a divorce, do you think you’ll have a say in whether Fang Shiyou sells the house? If Fang Shiyou sells the house and repays the loan sharks, he’ll probably still have ten million yuan left. With ten million yuan, Fang Shiyou will lead a better life than if he accepts his lawyer’s third solution!”

Without a house and with only 2.7 million yuan, Qiao Nan was very sure that Fang Shiyou’s mistress would definitely break off with Fang Shiyou, and Fang Shiyou would definitely not be able to maintain his lifestyle.

On the other hand, if the 2.7 million yuan turned into ten million yuan, that mistress would stick close to Fang Shiyou and declare her loyalty to him. Then, whether the couple would live lovingly until their deaths or separate in a few years’ time, they would still lead comfortable lives in their first few years together.

In this case, Xu Shengnan had wasted all her time and effort in hiring a lawyer and a private investigator.

“Tell your lawyer now and get him to reiterate your stand toward the Fang family. Tell him that you’ve changed your mind. It’s good enough that you’re not letting him get divorced and leave with nothing on the account of all those years you two spent together. As for how the house should be split, it will be according to the amount of money you guys contributed. If Fang Shiyou gives you enough money, the house will be his. Otherwise, you will pay Fang Shiyou and the house will be yours. If Fang Shiyou chooses neither of these two options and decides to go straight to court, then we’ll let the court decide. If that doesn’t work, see if the court can auction off the house and then distribute the proceeds.”

“Will... will that work?” Xu Shengnan did not know much about the law, and it was her first time getting a divorce. She did not know that there were so many workings of the law.

“How would I know? But based on how shameless the Fang family is, they will definitely not implement whatever the court rules. But in front of the law, everyone is equal. As long as they don’t act in accordance with the court’s rulings, and after the court gives them a couple of reminders, it won’t be impossible for the house to be auctioned off.” At least on Qiao Nan’s side, she could give Xu Shengnan some power.

Even if Qiao Nan could not change the refusal into an acceptance, she still had the ability to force the implementation of the acceptance to speed up.

Then, even if the Fang family was not agreeable, the matter would still be solved.

In short, they could not let that scoundrel Fang Shiyou and his mistress gain an advantage from this situation.

Now that Qiao Nan had said that, the initially hesitant Xu Shengnan strengthened her resolve.

Chapter 1545: Leaving No Room

Her initial plan was not to let Fang Shiyou, his mother, and his mistress lead comfortable lives. But she had not thought it through and had left such a huge gap for Fang Shiyou to take advantage of!

Thankfully, there was still time. Fang Shiyou had not agreed. Besides, her verbal agreement was not legally binding, and she did not have to take responsibility for that. At that time, Xu Shengnan had to thank Fang Shiyou for his greed. If Fang Shiyou had agreed to it straight away, all her efforts would have gone to waste, and she would have helped Fang Shiyou and his mistress.

With this new direction, Xu Shengnan immediately contacted her lawyer. Actually, the lawyer had considered this too, but he could not tell whether Xu Shengnan was trying to let Fang Shiyou off easily, or whether she was trying to save Fang Shiyou some dignity.

Once he received Xu Shengnan’s call, the lawyer knew that Xu Shengnan was different from those softhearted women that he had met in the past. When Xu Shengnan talked about divorce, she was sure about it. It was not just a pretense.

Even if Fang Shiyou caved in to Xu Shengnan's request due to pressure, then changed his mind, Xu Shengnan would not agree. Even though the lawyer was a man, in such a situation, he was unwilling to help Fang Shiyou either. The only thing he admired was Xu Shengnan's attitude.

"All right, we'll do it that way. I'll contact the other party's lawyer and relay your stand. This should indeed be done in this way. We have to be clear whether we intend to leave any room for the other party. Otherwise, it will only be to our disadvantage."

"Okay. Thank you." Xu Shengnan breathed out a sigh of relief.

Once both parties confirmed it, Xu Shengnan's lawyer immediately made a phone call to Fang Shiyou's lawyer to tell him about Xu Shengnan's decision. Since they had not reached an agreement earlier, those terms could not be legally recognized. Fang Shiyou's lawyer had no choice but to accept Xu Shengnan's change in her decision.

Anyway, he had already done his best to help Fang Shiyou as his lawyer. It was Fang Shiyou who was too foolish and greedy to not accept such a good deal. Fang Shiyou had sabotaged himself. He had no one else to blame.

Knowing that Fang Shiyou would not stand to gain anything from the divorce settlement whether they went to court or not, the lawyer reluctantly conveyed Xu Shengnan's words to Fang Shiyou to mentally prepare Fang Shiyou. "Mr. Fang, I'll say it again. In this marriage, you are the party at fault. Madam Xu has solid evidence of you cheating on her. If you really go to court, you don't even stand a chance of winning. If you want to achieve your goal and get the most out of this, there's only one way, which is to get Madam Xu's approval."

"Of course, you're always welcome to try it out with another lawyer."

"Scram!" Knowing that he would not be able to get the house, and possibly not even twenty percent of the valuation of the property, Fang Shiyou's face turned pale. He smashed the phone down and shouted at the lawyer rudely.

After hanging up the call, Fang Shiyou still could not give up. This lawyer was too useless. He could not even remember who had recommended such an unreliable lawyer to him. That would not do. He would find another lawyer.

Fang Shiyou did not dare to delay any further as he was afraid that Xu Shengnan would act faster than him, causing him to lose out. What made Fang Shiyou vomit blood was that he had consulted

several renowned lawyers, but every single one of them told him that there was no way he would win if they were to fight this case.

It was logical for Xu Shengnan to receive more than eighty percent of the property valuation. Based on the fact that Fang Shiyou had been the cheating party, it was not impossible for Xu Shengnan to ask for compensation by taking ninety percent of it! After all, the couple still had a child. As long as the child was willing to remain in Xu Shengnan's custody, whether Xu Shengnan received ninety or a hundred percent of the property would depend only on how capable her lawyer was.

In short, as long as they were going to fight a case and Fang Shiyou angered Xu Shengnan, the money he got would only decrease. If Fang Shiyou wanted to fight for the custody of their daughter, the lawyer told Fang Shiyou that he was unlikely to win that either.

Usually, children had better relationships with their mothers, and the Fang family was unlikely to be an exception. Secondly, Fang Shiyou's cheating showed that he was irresponsible and did not care for his family. Since Fang Shiyou already had another woman and a child outside of the marriage, the judge would have to consider whether his elder daughter would still be treated fairly and be loved after his other child was born. No matter what, he would not be able to devote himself to his daughter like Xu Shengnan could.

The most fatal point was that both Fang Shiyou and his mother valued boys over girls. Once this was made known in court, everyone would know that Fang Shiyou was getting a divorce from Xu Shengnan because of the boy in his mistress' stomach. Then, there would be no doubt that the custody of their daughter would be awarded to Xu Shengnan.

If he could not gain custody of his child, he could dream on about the house. Their child belonged to the two of them. Fang Shiyou still had the obligation to contribute to raising her. This would not change because of Xu Shengnan's resolute attitude toward the house. Fang Shiyou had to consider all these aspects carefully ahead of time.

All in all, there was nothing Fang Shiyou could gain from this divorce apart from the son that was in his mistress' stomach. But once a man was blinded by beauty, and even had a son along with that, the lawyer felt that he had done the best he could by reminding him.

Under such circumstances, there was no way Fang Shiyou could turn back.

For some men, it was not that they were determined, but they simply did not know when to turn back. Only when they choked on the waters of the Yellow River and were on the verge of death would they come to their senses about how fortunate they were not to be in the river.

To get such an answer after all his efforts, Fang Shiyou felt as though he had aged by ten years overnight.

Seeing her son in this situation, Mother Fang asked out of concern, “What’s with you? You’ve been in a bad mood the whole day. Is it because Xu Shengnan is unwilling to get a divorce? I knew it. Xu Shengnan is no good thing. She wants to see our Fang family die without any descendants to continue our line. You can’t be softhearted about this. The one you’re keeping outside is already pregnant. I can’t let my grandson be illegitimate!”

When she did not have a grandson, a granddaughter would suffice, but just barely. Now that she had a grandson, her granddaughter would only be a waste of money to the family. Mother Fang was not going to tolerate Fang Ling Ling.

“Shiyou, listen to me. You must not be softhearted toward Xu Shengnan and Ling Ling. Remember that you’re about to have a son!”

Chapter 1546: Your Son Is the Most Important

“How can Ling Ling be more important than your son? Hurry and get divorced from Xu Shengnan! Didn’t you say that if you guys were separated for two years, then Xu Shengnan would have no choice but to get divorced?” Thankfully, Xu Shengnan cared about her dignity. Once they started the divorce proceedings, Xu Shengnan had immediately taken Ling Ling to the Xu family’s house.

Mother Fang felt that it was a pity that the Xu family had purchased a house in the capital using Xu Shengnan’s salary.

Logically, Xu Shengnan had purchased that house, and Xu Shengnan had married her son, so Xu Shengnan’s house should be her son’s house. If that house was under Shiyou’s name, that would be perfect. Then, when her grandson grew up, he would immediately have his own house!

Fang Shiyou grabbed his own hair. “Mom, it’s not that Xu Shengnan doesn’t want to get a divorce. It’s that it’s not that easy to get a divorce anymore. Once I divorce Xu Shengnan, this house will belong to Xu Shengnan!”

“What? Why? We paid for the down payment of this house! Besides, Xu Shengnan’s name is not on the property deed of this house!” Mother Fang was utterly shocked. How could this house just become Xu Shengnan’s and have nothing to do with them?

Fang Shiyou was dispirited. “You know that we paid for the down payment, but out of the one million yuan for the down payment, Xu Shengnan had forked out about a hundred thousand yuan. In the past few years, Xu Shengnan has paid for about four million yuan in total. You and I both know that we haven’t paid more than Xu Shengnan has for this house. The law states that even though Xu Shengnan’s name is not on the deed, she has a share in the house because she paid for it! And she has even forked out more money than we have... Mom, did you know that Xu Shengnan already knew about my affair and that that woman is pregnant? She has evidence against me. Just based on this alone, the lawyer said that I will definitely lose the case and the house.”

What made Fang Shiyou the most indignant was that Xu Shengnan went back on her word so easily. She had previously said that the house would be his as long as he could pay her four million yuan, but a few hours later, Xu Shengnan was no longer willing to do so. He had to pay her based on the market value of the property.

How could he possibly have twelve million? Even if it was just two million yuan, he would still have to borrow it from someone! There was no way he would get twelve million even if he were to put himself up for sale!

Frustrated, Fang Shiyou tussled his hair even more. In a moment, his hands were full of his strands of hair. “Mom, I think that I will lose everything once I get divorced from Xu Shengnan.” Without a house, could he still have a son?

Fang Shiyou’s mistress had clearly spelled out to him that she wanted both she and her child to become residents in the capital. The father of her child had to be from the capital, have a house, and not a small one for that matter.

Fang Shiyou’s mistress was rather pretty. As long as she was willing to do so, she could easily hook up with a man who was richer than Fang Shiyou. In fact, the one whom his mistress had been eyeing on was Fang Shiyou’s boss. Unfortunately, a big boss like him had no eyes for this young lady.

Fang Shiyou, who had been watching on from the sidelines, fell for the young lady and began a relationship with her. Learning that Fang Shiyou had a large house in the capital, she was not afraid that Fang Shiyou’s salary was lower than his boss’ or that Fang Shiyou was still a worker. She could

not prevent Fang Shiyou from liking her to the point of being willing to get divorced from his wife to marry her.

Compared to his boss, Fang Shiyou was younger and had better looks. It was just that he had a low salary. But with such a comparison, the young lady felt that it was all right to settle for Fang Shiyou.

After all, women had to find someone who would take care of them for the rest of their lives. Since she had already found such a target, there was no point in delaying it any further.

One was blinded by beauty, while the other had her eyes glued on money. And so, the two of them got together and started an affair behind Xu Shengnan's back.

Because she had already made herself clear from the start, Fang Shiyou knew that his mistress was sure to leave him if he did not have a house. To put it crudely, if the child in her stomach was not born, what Fang Shiyou would lose was a son. But if the child was really born, it would be a huge burden on Fang Shiyou.

"Then, what should we do?" Mother Fang was in a panic. They would be left with nothing. "Do you mean that you shouldn't get a divorce? How about that? Don't get a divorce from Xu Shengnan. When that woman gives birth, we'll take the child and ask Xu Shengnan to raise it as her own. As for that woman, maybe Xu Shengnan will give her some money to chase her away."

They would treat this as a transaction to buy a grandson.

To Mother Fang, having a house was crucial for living in such a large city like the capital. Her grandson was still the most important, but in such a situation that concerned the house, Mother Fang really did not care about which woman would be her daughter-in-law.

Mother Fang remained silent.

What for?

He was really in love with his mistress. She was young and tender, and her mouth was so sweet that she was always able to coax him. She was nothing like that tomboy Xu Shengnan. In front of Xu Shengnan, he always felt that he was not a man and that he was being suppressed by Xu Shengnan.

Was there really no perfect solution to this?

Fang Shiyou could not make up his mind and wanted to delay it further. The lawyer that Qiao Nan had found for Xu Shengnan earned his keep. Before Fang Shiyou even made his decision, the court summon had been sent to the Fang family and handed over to Fang Shiyou.

Since they had not been able to come to a consensus, they would meet in court.

In this way, both women who were related to Qiao Nan were getting divorced at the same time. The difference was that with Qiao Zijin and Zhou Zheng, Qiao Zijin had been the one to have an affair. On the other hand, Xu Shengnan had been cheated on by Fang Shiyou, who appeared honest outwardly. In fact, he was the one hiding the most lies.

“Minister, here’s the information that you wanted.” Qiao Nan’s working conditions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had not been affected by these two incidents. Li Dawei handed over the documents in his hands. “Minister, do you have any other special tasks that you require me to do?”

“No, just finish whatever work you have on hand,” Qiao Nan said as she received the documents over from Li Dawei without even lifting her head. Li Dawei’s performance had only been slightly better than Xu Xinming’s, so Qiao Nan had never dared to instruct Li Dawei to complete any important tasks that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dealt with.

She had no other choice but to let Li Dawei handle some unimportant documents. Li Dawei did not come anywhere near the core tasks that the ministry dealt with. Qiao Nan unhesitatingly rejected Li Dawei’s ‘eagerness’ to learn, refusing to even give him a chance.

Chapter 1547: An Annoyance

Deng Wenchang had said before that Qiao Nan was a woman after all and that she was bound to be softhearted. In reality, when she was faced with a problem, Qiao Nan’s style was much tougher than He Yi’s.

Now that she was not giving Li Dawei any opportunities to show off, Qiao Nan was not at all afraid that Li Dawei would publicize this situation and complain that Qiao Nan was bullying newbies by suppressing them. Even though she was in a high position and had to set an example, as long as she

did not go against her conscience, Li Dawei would have nothing to hold against her and threaten her with. What a joke!

In her current position, even if she did not abuse her power, it was still not an excuse for her to be threatened because of her management style. As for those lobbyists that Li Dawei found, they had, unfortunately, come in vain.

Qiao Nan had ever encountered such a situation in the past. The lobbyist that Li Dawei had found was not a simple person. In the face of persuasion from the other party, he expressed that Li Dawei had made mistakes while he was younger but had changed for good. As such, she should give Li Dawei a chance. Everyone was bound to make mistakes in life after all.

On the surface, Qiao Nan smiled and nodded continuously. With that, the lobbyist that Li Dawei had found was elated. It seemed as though this female minister was not as arrogant as Li Dawei had described, and she even looked rather eloquent. It seemed to him that his status had made things easier for them.

But no one had expected that Qiao Nan continued treating Li Dawei with the same attitude even after continuously agreeing. This stunned Li Dawei, who had just been on cloud nine. He felt as though someone had just beaten him down.

At that time, Qiao Nan eyed Li Dawei with her eyes that were curved into crescents yet gave off an eerily cold feeling. Even if Li Dawei found a more impressive lobbyist, it would be of no use. Unless Li Dawei had a way of finding a 'big shot' over to force her out of her ministerial position.

After Qiao Nan rose to the ministerial position, her performance at work had remained consistently good. Perhaps, it had even improved. In this case, no matter who Li Dawei invited over, nothing was going to move Qiao Nan from her position.

Li Dawei did not have a high status, nor did he have anyone backing him up. In comparison, Qiao Nan was Zhai Yaohui's daughter-in-law, and Zhai Sheng's wife. Zhai Yaohui and Zhai Sheng held high positions in society. As long as they wanted to, they could easily kick Li Dawei out of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As such, Li Dawei had thought of pulling some strings to beg Qiao Nan for an opportunity, but it was to no avail. In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was not just this path that was impassable. Every path was impassable to him.

Qiao Nan disallowed Li Dawei from doing anything, yet she put up a warm front when faced with Li Dawei. Qiao Nan had never ignored Li Dawei, let alone treated him coldly. What Qiao Nan was using was an invisible weapon. No matter how furious Li Dawei was, he had nothing of Qiao Nan that he could pit against her with.

Although Li Dawei had a burning desire to perform well, it was as though Qiao Nan extinguished that flame with an ambiguous statement to ‘finish whatever work you have on hand’.

The fire in Li Dawei’s heart could hardly put up a fight against Qiao Nan’s ice-cold water. In the end, this small flame was extinguished.

Qiao Nan had not used force, but her firmness had caused the dispirited Li Dawei’s lips to twitch. He could not understand. Wasn’t Qiao Nan younger than him by two years? Why was Qiao Nan acting like such an old soul? His father had said that even he might not be able to act like Qiao Nan. There was none of that temper that a young woman of thirty should have in Qiao Nan.

Quite the contrary, Qiao Nan was even more open-minded than those in their seventies and eighties. She did not get into a rage easily but was mature and level-headed. There was only one word for her: respect!

Once again, he had failed to achieve his goal. In the face of Qiao Nan’s lukewarm and business-minded attitude toward him, Li Dawei’s expression when he came out of Qiao Nan’s office was so bad that one might have mistaken that Li Dawei had been constipated for an entire week.

The newbies could only ‘admire’ Li Dawei for his persistence and dauntlessness. The moment they saw their senior exit the minister’s office, they could not help but laugh. “His spirit is really worth learning!” Li Dawei was only good at talking. He could do a little of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ work. Saying that he was capable and skillful was utter rubbish.

Li Dawei was not very capable of getting things done. All he knew was to brag, and he was arrogant and snobbish. He never cared to interact with these newbies but was always eager to follow behind the minister, begging Minister Qiao for mercy and hoping that she would give him a chance.

As a newbie, the work that they did on a daily basis exceeded that of Li Dawei, who was already a senior. To be honest, if Li Dawei were to be promoted, these newbies would definitely be angry about it. It was a fact that Li Dawei was older than them and had been in the department for a longer time. But in less than three years, they would definitely be able to surpass Li Dawei.

Anyone could be promoted, except for Li Dawei.

Especially when they saw how Li Dawei was so snobbish when meeting them, these newbies grew even more dissatisfied. They had no good feelings toward Li Dawei at all. What these newbies were most worried about was that Qiao Nan would eventually give in to Li Dawei's sweet talk and be unable to resist Li Dawei's flattery, eventually giving him a promotion.

These newbies were not very old, but they were rather knowledgeable. They had already learned that most superiors would always keep one or two jesters around them. The only reason for their existence was to liven up their moods.

To the newbies' delight, they had been in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for more than a year, and they had seen how Li Dawei had never given up his plan to win over Minister Qiao. Minister Qiao always silently deflected Li Dawei's flattery and kept things professional. She did not care to give Li Dawei special treatment just because of this.

Thinking about how the documents in their hands were even more important than what Li Dawei had, these newbies were extremely proud. 'Ha, don't think Minister Qiao is easily coaxed just because she's a woman! Minister Qiao is indeed a wise and intelligent leader, so she will never give people like Li Dawei a chance to prove themselves.'

The newbies had joined later and did not care to spare Li Dawei a glance, so they hardly had any interactions with or understanding of Li Dawei. Therefore, they did not know that Li Dawei often stuck around Qiao Nan to flatter her.

Chapter 1548: Ruinous Intentions

In fact, Li Dawei always had ruinous intentions.

He wanted to drag Qiao Nan down and take her position.

For that, Qiao Nan would never think that Li Dawei was someone worth cultivating. He was a bothersome employee that always wanted to challenge the impossible, and no employer would dig that. When the time came to get rid of him, no one would go easy.

"Mom."

The children danced their way to Qiao Nan's side.

1

Qiao Nan avoided them. “Do you guys know how hot the weather is? Are the summer school’s classes manageable?” The kids had completed elementary school, and their results didn’t disappoint. They could make it into the elite class in the top middle school directly.

Qiao Nan didn’t want to stress the kids out, but she wouldn’t mind if they had the capability to perform.

“Mom.” Da Bao was holding two bags; one belonged to him, and the other belonged to San Bao.

1

Er Bao swaggered over. “Mom, you have to educate your oldest son on his outdated mentality. We are living in a time of gender equality, but he still values girls over boys. This is unacceptable. You have to discipline him so that he won’t drag our family down.”

1

“...”

Er Bao’s skit made Qiao Nan speechless. “Is it that serious? All Da Bao did was carrying San Bao’s bag instead of yours. How did something like this elevate to a moral level?”

Others might confuse Da Bao as a gruesome criminal who deserved a bullet.

Qiao Nan knocked on Er Bao’s forehead. “I’ll let you off since we are home, but don’t say such things outside. What if others hear you and misunderstand Da Bao? Da Bao would have a hard time in school.”

“No way.” It didn’t hurt at all, but Er Bao yelled in pain anyway. He just wanted Qiao Nan to comfort him. “It’s obvious that we are joking around. How bored must they be to care about our family business? They should take the time to take care of their results.”

No matter what happened within their family, it stayed within the family. Why would anyone else want to make assumptions about them? Did they want to be part of the family as well? If that was the case, sorry, but they had no intention of accepting a new member.

“No way? What if it does happen? Just end the framing. If someone is talking behind Da Bao’s back, you would be the first to fight him. Sometimes I wonder if you are just finding an excuse to start a fight.”

If others started the fight, he would be in self-defense, which made him innocent. If he was the one to pick a fight, it wasn’t his fault because others shouldn’t be criticizing Da Bao.

Recalling Er Bao’s words from the past, Qiao Nan felt her head ringing. How should she deal with the drama king?

“Mom, let’s head home. It’s burning outside, and I need a drink.” The children would rarely drink sweetened beverages thanks to Qiao Nan’s education. They would always carry a water bottle around. There were dispensers in the classroom, but San Bao had emptied her bottle. So, she was in a rush to get refreshments.

The weather was heating up like a stove in August, and San Bao wondered if her cheeks were on fire.

As soon as she left the air-conditioned room, sweat ran down her skin. She felt every one of her pores expand as she was drenched in sweat in no time.

“Fine, let’s move.” Qiao Nan wiped the sweat off San Bao’s cheeks, and the cool air in the car calmed San Bao’s frustration. Da Bao poured some of his water into San Bao’s bottle. “Da Bao is the best! Thanks!” San Bao gulped.

“Da Bao, I’m thirsty, too!” Er Bao was not too happy about that. It was legitimate that Da Bao was biased toward San Bao. He would carry her bag and share his drink, but Er Bao was never part of the equation. “Da Bao, have you forgotten that you have a younger brother as well? You should take care of me, too.” Er Bao felt like he was losing his position as a younger sibling.

Da Bao glimpsed at Er Bao. “Fine, I’ll let you have the first sip when we get back.” God knows who filled San Bao’s cup in the classroom all the time was. Er Bao sure loved to act pitiful before their mom.

1

It wasn’t Da Bao’s choice to have such a comical brother. Who would have known that his mother would give birth to a triplet? If it weren’t for the one-child policy, his mom might have made him another bunch of brothers and sisters. If everyone were as lively as Er Bao... Da Bao suddenly learned to appreciate the government’s policymakers.

1

“Welcome back. It must be burning out there! Wash up. Grandma has prepared your drinks. Should we have a watermelon straight from the fridge?” Miao Jing couldn’t stop smiling when she saw the kids. Among the children in the neighborhood, her grandchildren looked the best.

San Bao cheered. “I’ll wash up first.”

“I’m next.” Er Bao hurried.

Da Bao took a deep breath as the cool air in the room refreshed his mind.

After the siblings finished washing up, Da Bao headed to the washroom. When he came back, Er Bao and San Bao already had watermelon juice all over their chubby cheeks.

Chapter 1549: Eat More Tonics

“Are the both of you three years old? Why are your faces covered with watermelon juice? Should I find the bib that you used when you were young and put them on for you?” Da Bao felt helpless as well. They were all born to the same mother. Why was there such a big difference?

1

This was especially so for San Bao. When they were outside, San Bao was the fairy that many young boys yearned for. When they returned home, San Bao immediately turned into a crazy little woman. Da Bao felt embarrassed for her.

1

San Bao carelessly wiped her mouth with a tissue. “How pretentious.” Da Bao wasn’t old, but among the three of them, he loved to pretend to be matured. Snort. She felt a little awkward looking at him. Anyway, she didn’t care how others looked at her.

“There’s no meaning to this.” Er Bao felt comfortable all over after eating. “Da Bao, we are at home now. Is it fun to continue pretending? Sometimes, San Bao and I feel tired for you.” What was the reason for this? There were no ‘blind’ girls who were charmed by Da Bao at home.

Da Bao was such a rigid person who didn’t know how to laugh. Why did people have a secret crush on him?

Er Bao still didn’t understand that in school, he was known for his good looks, high IQ, and height. With these three conditions, it was no surprise that Da Bao was deemed as the most charming and handsome boy in school.

After eating to her fill, San Bao leaned back against the sofa and touched her stomach, not caring about her image at all. “Mom, Ling Ling hasn’t come to our house for a long time. Are she and Auntie Xu doing okay?” Since young, San Bao had only come into contact with boys. Among her playmates, only Fang Ling Ling was the same as her—a girl.

San Bao cherished a same-gender playmate like her. Furthermore, she was slightly older than Fang Ling Ling. In front of the triplets, she was pretty obedient. Few people would dislike such a well-behaved and pretty girl.

“Your Auntie Xu’s matter isn’t resolved yet, so it’s not convenient for Ling Ling to come to our house to play.” Qiao Nan shook her head. Even if Xu Shengnan had evidence of Fang Shiyou having an affair in her hands, both parties didn’t enter into negotiations well due to the division of the house. This wasn’t resolved even in court. With trials happening one after another, they might still not be divorced until after one or two years, let alone one or two months.

Er Bao clenched his fists and made cracking sounds. “Ling Ling’s father is a good-for-nothing. Why don’t we get Dad to teach him a lesson? To talk reason to such a person is simply a waste of breath. It’s not worth it to waste time and feelings either.”

2

Auntie Xu was such a good woman and Ling Ling was such an obedient daughter, yet that man didn’t fancy them. Was he blind?

The triplets knew that Fang Ling Ling’s father was Fang Shiyou. They had known Fang Ling Ling and Xu Shengnan since they were young. However, they didn’t even meet Fang Shiyou before, let alone know him. It was without a doubt that the triplets would side with Xu Shengnan and Fang Ling Ling when conflicts arose among the three of them.

Furthermore, the triplets already had the concept of right and wrong. After knowing that Fang Shiyou betrayed his family and provided for an indecent woman, who was now pregnant with his baby, the triplets’ tone was full of hatred and disdain when they talked about Fang Ling Ling’s father.

Qiao Nan squinted and knocked on the heads of her three children. She hit Da Bao’s head harder than the rest. “Da Bao, have you forgotten how I taught you? No matter what kind of person Ling Ling’s father is, he’s still your elder. You can ignore him, but you shouldn’t be using such a tone when talking about him. He’s just a stranger. Don’t you think you’re on the losing end if others say that that you’re rude and don’t have proper upbringing just because of this stranger?”

Da Bao carelessly touched the area where his mother had knocked on. “Mom, don’t you think that it’s not suitable to use the term ‘on the losing end’ here?”

Qiao Nan rolled her eyes in bad temper. “Oh, so now you’re teaching me? Fine, you have eaten a lot of watermelon now. It’s going to be dinner soon. Don’t complain to me that you’re hungry at midnight if you can’t eat dinner later as you’re still full from the watermelon.”

“I’ll listen to Mom. I’m done.” San Bao smiled and rubbed her red lips tightly. She crossed her hands and placed them on her knees. That quiet and happy look was like the image of a beautiful girl. People couldn’t help but be fascinated. When they were outside, San Bao was always like this and managed to charm all the boys of the same age.

If Da Bao was considered a male god in school, then San Bao was the female goddess. Er Bao, who was stuck in the middle, couldn't compete against Da Bao and didn't have the title of the most handsome boy in school. However, he was still considered good-looking. He had a face that was eighty percent similar to Da Bao's. If Da Bao was the most handsome boy in school, Er Bao wouldn't fall behind by too far.

"Good girl." Although she obviously knew that her daughter was pretending to be obedient, Qiao Nan still complimented San Bao. "Okay, go and have dinner." Seeing that the auntie was bringing out dishes and filling up the dining table, Qiao Nan wiped away the sweat on her forehead.

When Qiao Nan first married into the Zhai family, even if Old Master Zhai was around and Elder Lin came over for a meal, the dishes on the table were at least less than half. However, ever since the triplets were born and knew how to eat, the food on the Zhai family's dining table had increased yearly. This year, it was even doubled.

Of course, it was not only the dishes that were doubled. The white rice was doubled as well.

Even if the auntie had prepared a table full of dishes, with the triplets around, Qiao Nan was never worried about food wastage. As long as the triplets ate at their normal levels, all the dishes could be cleared.

It was just that Qiao Nan couldn't help but sweat when she thought of how the pace was akin to feeding pigs. Did she really raise these three children, who could eat so well? The problem was that although she didn't have a small appetite all along, it wasn't big either. Her three children were tall, but they looked slender.

It was because of that that Qiao Nan didn't understand where the food the triplets stuffed themselves with every day disappeared to. Why was it that the triplets had only grown taller, but there wasn't any extra meat on their bodies?

"Here, eat more. If it's not enough, refill your bowl. Auntie has prepared a lot of food. Eat more vegetables. There're a lot of nutrients there." Miao Jing didn't have as many thoughts as Qiao Nan. She didn't care about others. As long as the triplets could eat, it didn't matter where their food went to. Furthermore, didn't the triplets' heights from year to year explain everything?

Chapter 1550: Actually, I Know Everything

Knowing that the three children were growing, Miao Jing discussed it with the auntie and prepared a pot of thick bone broth for the three children from time to time. This was to nourish the children so that they would not be malnourished while growing.

That was why under the auntie's and Miao Jing's feeding, the three children's nutrition was much better than other children's, and they grew much faster as well. Miao Jing felt as though she was looking at a beautiful and tall bamboo that grew up from small, tender and plump bamboo shoots.

The sense of achievement Miao Jing experienced from seeing the three children grow up was one she had never experienced with Zhai Sheng or Zhai Hua. Miao Jing felt that raising these children was getting increasingly interesting.

If the state allowed it, the three children would already be in junior high school and would spend less time at home. When that time came, Qiao Nan could take that time to give birth to more children for her to raise.

Yes, after having the first child, Miao Jing had the same thought as the three children. They thought that as long as Qiao Nan got pregnant a second time, it was likely that this pregnancy would not result in only one child. It was highly probable that it would be a multiple birth.

As such, Da Bao was especially hurt just thinking about how he might have a bunch of brothers and sisters like Er Bao and San Bao.

After he had his fill, San Bao was now interested in learning more about Xu Shengnan and Fang Ling Ling's situation. "Mom, are you really not going to tell me more? Has Auntie Xu gotten a divorce? You have to know that I'm really concerned about Auntie Xu and Ling Ling! In case anything happens to them, we can help them!" San Bao was very loyal to her only younger sister.

"Okay, the other party is trying to delay this divorce, so there's no way of settling it for the time being. Thankfully, the problem is not too serious. There's no way that Ling Ling's father can disagree to the divorce." Once they got a divorce, that house would be Xu Shengnan's. She would say it again. As long as Fang Shiyou could not hand over the money, they would sell the house, and Xu Shengnan and Fang Shiyou would take whatever proportion of the proceeds that belonged to them.

But thinking about the crazy property prices in the capital, Qiao Nan had already thought it through. If they were really going to sell the house, Qiao Nan would purchase the house on Xu Shengnan's behalf. Of course, it was not for free. The money used to purchase the house would be a loan to Xu Shengnan. After all, Xu Shengnan had a larger share for that house.

Xu Shengnan would have no other burden aside from the sum that she would have to hand over to Fang Shiyou, which was less than three million yuan. In other words, she would only have to lend Xu Shengnan three million yuan to help Xu Shengnan secure that house.

What Qiao Nan was thankful for was that Fang Shiyou had not taken his mistress to that house in the past. Otherwise, it would be rather disgusting to keep the house. In that case, it would be even better to sell the house and purchase another one.

In these past few years, Qiao Nan had earned quite a large sum of money. Knowing that property prices were on the rise, Qiao Nan had long ago taken the cash she had on hand to purchase properties. Based on her income alone, Qiao Nan had gradually become a landlady. Afterward, when she inherited Old Lin's assets, Qiao Nan lost the desire to purchase houses.

Her master, Old Lin, was truly crazier than Qiao Nan.

Old Lin was rich, not lacking in finances. The way he purchased things was much crazier than how Qiao Nan was. In the capital alone, Old Lin already had a few properties. Aside from the capital, Old Lin still had three villas in Ping Cheng. Old Lin did not even let go of Mo Du.

What surprised Qiao Nan the most was that Old Lin even had properties in Hong Kong, and in the Banshan district no less!

1

After seeing the villa that Old Lin had constructed in Sanya, Qiao Nan had nothing left to say. She really wondered whether she was the master of reincarnation, or whether her master was. Otherwise, how could her master purchase houses in such good locations?

Old Lin had great insight. The locations of his properties were even more eye-catching. Moreover, the number of properties that he had purchased was impressive. It was no wonder that Qiao Nan had no interest in properties even though she had spare cash on hand. With these properties alone, Qiao Nan could rest easy at home and count her money every day.

It was because of this reason that Qiao Nan could afford to fork out fifteen million yuan at once to help Xu Shengnan claim the house. Otherwise, it would really be quite difficult for her to do so.

It was not that the three young children did not know about how rich Qiao Nan was. What they were concerned about was whether there was a way for the three of them to give Auntie Xu a hand now that she was in trouble. Though they were young and did not have much power, they still had to show that they cared.

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With Qiao Nan as her best and strongest supporter, Xu Shengnan did not have to worry about her divorce case at all. Xu Shengnan's lawyer was completely clear of the kind of friends Xu Shengnan had. As such, the lawyer became even more so calm.

Seeing that Fang Shiyou had been rather efficient in changing lawyers, Xu Shengnan's lawyer could not help but laugh. Fang Shiyou was doomed to receive little money from that house, but he was still so adamant in finding so many lawyers. Did he not know that he would need to pay all of them? He was seriously too dumb to be saved.

But there was no reason for him to interfere if Fang Shiyou was willing to waste his money in this way. Since they were all in the same line of business, there was no reason for him to stop other lawyers from earning this bastard's money now that he was sure to earn money, as well as earn a reputation. In fact, Fang Shiyou could even hire a few more, or even an entire team of lawyers. That would be a big deal.

At this moment, Xu Shengnan's lawyer watched Fang Shiyou as though he was watching a monkey doing tricks. The more Fang Shiyou did, the more exciting it became for him to watch. The only thing that he did not do was to throw some money at Fang Shiyou and shamelessly praise him for that.

Xu Shengnan wanted to get a divorce from Fang Shiyou, but recently, Fang Shiyou no longer wanted to concede defeat. He had gone through all that trouble to hire lawyers, dragging the case all the way to end-August, yet there was still only one result.

Based on what Fang Shiyou had done, there was no chance of Fang Shiyou winning. Even if the lawyers that Fang Shiyou hired told him that he had an extremely low chance of winning, the truth was it was nearly impossible. The only thing that they could do for Fang Shiyou was to try to get more for Fang Shiyou from the distributions of the proceeds of the house after the divorce.

Moreover, Fang Shiyou and Xu Shengnan's daughter, Fang Ling Ling, was crucial. If Fang Shiyou could gain custody of his daughter, it would be beneficial for him.

Now that Xu Ling Ling was already in primary school, she was able to make her own decisions and choices. So, when the people from the court asked her, Fang Ling Ling unhesitatingly replied that she would follow her mother, not her father.

After all this time, Fang Ling Ling was already clear that her father, who was not exceptionally fond of her, had not only found another auntie outside behind her mother's back but that auntie even had a younger brother that her father and grandma loved in her stomach. Because of this younger brother, both her father and grandma had been exceptionally joyful recently.