

RTAMM 1591

Chapter 1591: There Was a Recording

Even if they couldn't afford thousands, a few hundred would do too!

Other than the ones who were the only child in the family, most keyboard warriors stopped the framing.

In fact, even without the analysis, most people sided with Qiao Nan after hearing the recording. After all, not everyone lived like parasites like Qiao Zijin. Most worked hard just like Qiao Nan to make a living for themselves.

No one would be willing to spend their hard-earned money on someone who drained them like a leech. It just didn't work that way!

It was understood that the news of the minister abandoning her family was fake. It was Qiao Zijin, who was greedy and lazy, that tried to achieve her goals by making up a story!

Crap!

The minister was sabotaged by her sister, but she endured the distress to this day. Recalling the scene that Qiao Zijin had made in two weeks, everyone grew empathetic toward Qiao Nan.

Being a minister sounded like a glorious job, but it must be miserable to have a sister like this. Compared to Qiao Nan, being an ordinary citizen seemed better as there wouldn't be such concerns.

Anyhow, the recording proved that Qiao Zijin was the one making things up, and not Qiao Nan.

People started to be wise after the fact, arguing that Qiao Nan wouldn't have become the minister if she had such an indecent character. The country wouldn't have allowed that to happen.

The taxpayers despised Qiao Nan for condemning her family after succeeding. Now that the cover was blown, they turned their hatred to Qiao Zijin, who could no longer run the show.

Qiao Nan's recording was proved its validity, and Qiao Zijin became the one at fault. Earlier, some publishers had been posting aggressive articles against Qiao Nan without investigating the truth. That also resulted in a loss of Qiao Nan's reputation and the honor of the governors.

Amongst the publishers, the authority picked the most active ones to issue relative punishments. The government always had ways to deal with such deceptive publications; they were just waiting for the evidence to declare the judgment. After all, they couldn't shut a publisher down by their likings.

Once the relative authorities stepped in, there was no chance of escaping the law! Fake news was not something to be taken lightly, and not understanding that rule was an oversight that publishers couldn't afford to make.

Those that once published similar articles were fearful after the authorities stepped in. They were afraid that they were on the blacklist and hid in their shell while waiting for their punishment to come.

Fortunately, the government wouldn't eliminate every publisher. The core idea behind the clearance was to limit the strength of the media, for the power of such unlawful individuals were getting out of hand.

It also served as a reminder to the media corporations that they should be mindful of what they published. Even if Qiao Nan's scandal was true, only the national media platforms should have the right to post about her after the higher-ups made relevant conclusions.

Once the government officials took action, Qiao Zijin lost her cool. There had been no retaliation for so long, so Qiao Zijin thought that a minister like Qiao Nan couldn't win against her. She figured that even an ordinary citizen could easily rip a governor apart.

Half a month had passed, and Qiao Zijin had forgotten her doubts as she gained great confidence in her victory. However, at that moment, Qiao Zijin lost it. It turned out that the country did care about Qiao Nan.

What scared her more was the recording.

Qiao Zijin was anxious and infuriated, and her face turned pale. “No, I’m done! Recording? How can there be a recording? I have never seen it! When did Qiao Nan record it?”

If she knew that Qiao Nan treacherously recorded the conversation, she would... she would have destroyed the evidence. It was no wonder that Qiao Nan didn’t contact her at all. She had a trump card in her hand all this while!

What should she do?

Qiao Zijin wanted to call Peng Yu, but she had no idea who her helper was or where he stayed. Peng Yu was always the one who contacted Qiao Zijin, and Qiao Zijin could never find him when she needed anything.

If Qiao Zijin dialed the number that called her, it would be a suspended SIM card. The man would only use the number once.

Qiao Zijin did find it strange in the beginning, but she thought that it was just a habit of rich people. The man looked for her and helped her out of nowhere. He organized events that followed, and all she had to do was speak in front of the cameras.

Chapter 1592: Is It That Bad?

After some time, Qiao Zijin finally realized a flaw in that. She could never find him when she needed to. She didn’t think that it was a problem, but she started to figure out the reason.

Did that man prepare for this day to come from the beginning? She had been the one speaking to the media, so the government would only look for her if something went wrong. There was no way of finding out the mastermind.

It seemed like she had become the scapegoat of someone else. It was just like her mother, who would do anything in her place to get what she wanted.

There was clearly someone else who wanted to frame Qiao Nan, but he couldn't do it himself. Thus, he took the opportunity to use her as a weapon against Qiao Nan. If anything went south, that man would stay hidden in the dark while she was the one under the spotlight.

Was she going to spend the rest of her life in prison? Qiao Zijin felt her legs go soft as she broke into a cold sweat.

Ding Jiayi had not told Qiao Zijin her address, but Qiao Zijin did get her number from Qiao Nan. At times of crisis, Qiao Zijin could only dial that number and seek help from Ding Jiayi. "Hello, Mom, it's me. Mom, you have to help me. You can't let Qiao Nan put me in jail. I'm still young. My future will be ruined if I end up in prison."

She was over thirty, and she would turn forty if she stayed behind bars for a few years. She had a marriage with a daughter, and now she even had criminal records under her name. Would there still be a man that would marry her and treat her well?

Qiao Zijin suddenly realized that her life in the Zhou family was cozy and comfortable. It was like a dreamland where she had everything she needed. In comparison, she scrambled around every day for the past two weeks but couldn't even get a single cent in return.

"What's wrong?" Ding Jiayi paused. "I saw you appearing in magazines every day. Isn't your life pretty glorious? Many say that you show up more frequently than some celebrities. Why are you going to prison all of a sudden?"

Ding Jiayi sounded a little jealous as she spoke.

Which woman wouldn't want to live under the spotlight? Seeing reporters queuing up to interview Qiao Zijin every day had made her slightly envious.

If she weren't living in the house that Qiao Nan provided and spending money that Qiao Nan gave, Ding Jiayi might have joined Qiao Zijin long ago. For now, Ding Jiayi didn't dare to do so as she wasn't sure if Qiao Zijin was going to come up on top.

"It's gone. It's ruined. Qiao Nan wants to destroy me forever. Mom, Qiao Nan is not going to let me off!" Qiao Zijin did think that she was living a glamorous life just a day ago. She wouldn't have spent so much effort responding to reporters otherwise. However, just after a day, Qiao Zijin loathed those reporters and magazines. They sabotaged her.

“What happened?” Ding Jiayi could feel her heart beating rapidly. It seemed like her worry did come true in the end. She had known how ruthless Qiao Nan was years ago. Before Qiao Dongliang, Qiao Nan had never helped her out. It was like Qiao Nan wanted her to divorce him. Qiao Nan had never wanted her to live a good life.

If that’s how Qiao Nan would treat her mother, she would never go easy on her sister, Qiao Zijin. “Calm down and tell me everything.”

Ding Jiayi took a deep breath and pressed the cell phone against her ear. “Oh, I see. Is it... is it that bad? Does the government have the authority to arrest you? It’s not like you did anything against the law. You are Qiao Nan’s sister. Why would the government intervene with our family business?”

While Ding Jiayi blathered, she was pondering whether she would be locked up as well if she were the one that did the framing.

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It was an important question, for it would change how Ding Jiayi would approach Qiao Nan in the future.

Qiao Zijin started bawling. “How would I know if the government would step in? This is clearly between Qiao Nan and me. What does our family issue have to do with them? God knows what’s wrong with the government to mind our business. Don’t they know the difference?”

If she knew that the government would take care of Qiao Nan, she would have figured out other ways to reach her goals. At least, she wouldn’t have gotten herself so deep in trouble.

“What can you do now?” Ding Jiayi didn’t know what to do. Since the situation couldn’t be changed, it was better to think of a solution than crying over spilled milk.

The howling grew louder. “That’s the thing! I’m asking you because I don’t know what to do. Mom, you have to help me. You can’t watch me being put in jail by that heartless woman. I’m only over thirty. It won’t be hard to find a man. If I go to jail, no one would marry me when I’m out. Mom, do you want to take care of me for the rest of your life?”

She would have a husband to look after her, but that wouldn't happen unless she was married. In that case, she could only follow her mother around for the rest of her life.

Ding Jiayi almost dropped the phone, terrified upon hearing those words. "There are so many people who had been in prison. It wouldn't be that bad."

Chapter 1593: Stop with Your Nonsense

"Do you mean that everyone who has gone to jail before is single? Don't be too nervous and don't think too much. The situation can't be so bad!"

"Mom, it's not about whether people who've gone to jail can get married. Mom, I don't want to go to jail. Can you help me tell Qiao Nan and order her not to come after me? I didn't cause any harm to anyone. I didn't commit arson or murder anyone. I'm sure Qiao Nan was unhappy with me and used her position to get her revenge on me by framing me." Up until now, Qiao Zijin still did not understand why she faced a possible jail term.

All she knew was that even the most hardworking reporters who had just been interviewing her a few days earlier were now nowhere to be found. If even the magazines had been blacklisted, could she alone be even more powerful than the entire magazine company? She did not want to end up like those magazine publishers who would not be able to rise from the ashes in the future. "Mom, how can she commit such brazen acts as an official? How can she just arrest someone because she wants to? Aren't there any laws in our country? When did our country fall into such a state? How will commoners like us live in the future?"

Ding Jiayi's face darkened. "Things can be eaten carelessly, but words cannot be spoken carelessly. Do you still think you haven't caused enough trouble? I'm not sure about other things, but think carefully. You also said that Qiao Nan is an official, a national cadre. What you've harped on is Qiao Nan not acknowledging her relatives and refusing to meet you after becoming the minister of foreign affairs. It's no surprise that the state has interfered..."

Now that Ding Jiayi was not agreeing with her, Qiao Zijin no longer yelled in injustice or grievance. "All right, Mom. Stop analyzing it. I know that Qiao Nan and the Zhai family went on a holiday during the National Day period. But today is the seventh. She's definitely back. Hurry and help me think of a solution. Don't let Qiao Nan make me take responsibility for this! At most, I will stop this. If I have any requests, I will demand them nicely. There is still room for negotiation and bargaining when buying things. Qiao Nan is being too harsh by doing this!"

Qiao Zijin had never thought of skipping the intermediate steps and whacking her to death. But this time, Qiao Nan had been too harsh on her and had left no room for her at all. If Qiao Nan had not gone so far, she would not have been so furious as to expose the truth to everyone. If Qiao Nan had just a tiny bit of conscience left in her, this matter would have been settled between them long ago.

“...” Ding Jiayi clutched her chest. “So you mean that you’re about to be thrown into jail by Qiao Nan, but you’re still asking me to help you beg Qiao Nan for mercy and ask Qiao Nan to provide you with a villa, as well as five thousand dollars of living allowance every month?”

“I...” Qiao Zijin spoke. “It doesn’t have to be a villa. It’s all right as long as it’s bigger than your house now. As for the living allowance, just give me however much she gives you. If it’s not enough, I’ll go find a job.” Qiao Zijin spat out that last sentence rather forcefully and reluctantly. As if finding a job and taking less money from Qiao Nan was already giving in.

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“Zijin, it’s not that I don’t want to help you. But I’ll give you two suggestions if you have such requests. Firstly, wait until Ying Ying grows up to enjoy a good life that she provides you with. Secondly, work hard to find a husband like Zhou Zheng. In these ways, your demands will be fulfilled.” There was no way she was going to live such a lifestyle on Qiao Nan’s accounts.

“Zijin, as a mother, I really don’t want to say this, but I can’t hold it in anymore. Other than living in a different city, wasn’t the Zhou family’s house bigger than mine before you got divorced? Was the money that Zhou Zheng gave you every month less than what Qiao Nan gives me? The cost of living in Ping Cheng is low. The money that Zhou Zheng gave you was enough for you to spend and you didn’t even need to go out to work. Look at yourself. After getting divorced, even if you want to stay in a house smaller than the Zhou family’s, take less money than what Zhou Zheng gave you, go and work to get some money, Qiao Nan still would not agree to these requests. What have you been doing these few months?”

While she was in Ping Cheng, Zijin was still the Zhou family’s daughter-in-law. She had led a life that was even better than what she was asking for.

But Zijin had not wanted such a good married life and had started an affair outside. Ding Jiayi wondered if Qiao Zijin’s brains were empty or if she was retarded.

“...”

“Oh, why aren’t you saying anything?”

“...” Qiao Zijin inhaled sharply. It was not that she did not know. But she did not know what to say anymore.

It really did seem true that her life in the Zhou family was much better than her current one. Even if she were to lower her demands, Qiao Nan would still refuse to give in and provide her with a house and living allowances. Why had she gone through so much trouble to get a life that could not even compare to the one she had in the Zhou family?

Ding Jiayi sat down dispiritedly. “Zijin, actually, Qiao Nan has been pretty good to you. Don’t rebut me without thinking it through. Now, you’re finally seeing that your life after marrying into the Zhou family was not bad, right? Without Qiao Nan, there was no way you could have married Zhou Zheng. Can we look at this from another angle? After Qiao Nan helped arrange your marriage with Zhou Zheng, she has already fulfilled all your demands and helped you live a life that you wanted.”

It was just that Zijin had not treasured it and had ruined such a good life.

Whether she admitted to it, these were the facts.

Ding Jiayi’s voice was filled with fatigue. “I’m Qiao Nan’s mom, but she never treated me as her mom. Apart from giving me a house to stay in and a monthly allowance, she refuses to speak to me. I’ve never seen the three children either. Do you really think I’ll be able to help you convince Qiao Nan to stop any legal actions against you? But if I can really do it, Zijin, can you stop with all your nonsense? Let’s just live our lives quietly in the future, shall we?”

She was not faking it. She was truly exhausted.

Ding Jiayi had been making a din for almost two decades, but what had that led to?

Her husband had gotten a divorce from her, and her elder daughter was selfish and stingy. It would already be filial if her elder daughter did not spend her money. Her younger daughter practically treated her as though she didn’t exist. Other than duty, she did not have any relationship with her. After spending time alone in her house for such a long time, there was no way Ding Jiayi was not going to feel lonely. Then, she recalled her past, especially the times before she got a divorce from her husband, before her family became a mess. Those had been good times.

If making a fuss could make life easier, then it would be acceptable. Ding Jiayi would not stop Qiao Zijin either. But the problem was that making a fuss would only worsen the problem.

Chapter 1594: Dream Come True

In this case, was it still necessary to continue kicking up a huge fuss?

It was probably better to simply cherish the life she had instead of letting her life get ruined and never being able to live in peace.

Qiao Zijin sobbed uncontrollably. “Why didn’t you tell me this when I was three? Why didn’t you tell me this before you got divorced from Dad? Why didn’t you tell me this before I got married to Zhou Zheng? What’s the use of telling me all these now? Mom, you’ve ruined my entire life. Mom, I hate you! Don’t you care about this! I won’t call you my mom anymore, and neither will I ever come to see you again! Are you happy now?”

She would much rather go to jail than listen to her mom reason with her. In this world, her mom was the only person who had no right to reason with her. In her next life, she would rather be an orphan than Ding Jiayi’s daughter.

Hearing Qiao Zijin’s sobs and her accusations that came from deep within her heart, Ding Jiayi was completely stunned. She was in a trance for quite a long while and was rendered speechless.

She had been biased her whole life, left everything good for her elder daughter, and spoiled her elder daughter rotten. Even though her elder daughter’s results had not been as stellar as her younger daughter’s, she had chosen to let her younger daughter work part-time while studying just to pay for her elder daughter’s school fees. After sacrificing so much for her elder daughter, this was what she had gotten in the end? Three words of ‘I hate you’?

If it had not been for her elder daughter, there was no way her relationship with her younger daughter would have deteriorated to such a state. She had sacrificed her marriage and her younger daughter. In the end, her elder daughter still hated her guts!

After hanging up the call, Ding Jiayi hugged her knees tightly and squatted down. She wept loudly, even louder, even more helpless, and even more aggrieved than Qiao Zijin over the phone earlier.

Qiao Zijin had completely fallen out with Ding Jiayi, and Qiao Zijin had even come up with the same idea as her. In her next life, she would never want to be Ding Jiayi's daughter. Qiao Nan knew nothing about all these. After the National Day holiday, the storm that Qiao Zijin had stirred up had calmed down drastically. Qiao Nan had successfully proven her innocence and restored her reputation.

Even after going through the worst situation, such magazine publishers were still being stubborn and insisted on reporting on what Qiao Nan had done to Qiao Zijin. Even that was still acceptable. But how about how Qiao Nan had never spent the new year with her mother in over ten years? Apart from providing for Ding Jiayi materially, Qiao Nan could not be considered to be a good daughter.

In over a decade, the mother and daughter had not met more than ten times. In fact, they had only met after Ding Jiayi moved to the capital. Qiao Nan's three children were already in junior high school, but they had never met their maternal grandmother even once.

All these different things showed that Qiao Nan was extremely aloof toward her mother, Ding Jiayi. Could it be that it was all right to just provide for one's parents materially with no emotional attachments in this day and age? These facts proved that what they had reported in the past was not completely untrue. After Qiao Nan gained success, she indeed did not pay attention to her family and did not have a good relationship with her relatives. They were on the verge of breaking off all contact.

No matter how one saw it, it was clearly Qiao Nan's fault for treating her mother in this manner.

All that trouble that Qiao Zijin had created had served as a foundation, and as such, such news no longer drew much attention from the public. There was a huge societal pressure to find a job and get married once one became an adult. Then, young people would not only have to work hard for themselves but also to take care of their elderly parents on both sides and raise their children.

Taking care of the elderly and raising children? All of these revolved around money.

If one did not work hard, who would pay them a salary? There was no choice but to work hard and even work overtime so as to fulfill one's responsibilities. If one worked overtime, they would naturally have less time to sleep every day. Who would have the time to care about visiting the elderly? Was this a joke?

Was it not the norm to only meet the elderly a few times every year after coming out into society to work? If that was the life of ordinary people, national cadres would only be even busier and have to work even harder.

It was already considered good that Minister Qiao had never shortchanged her parents. Moreover, the last time Minister Qiao's sister kicked up a huge fuss, even an idiot would realize that Minister Qiao's family was not harmonious. In fact, there was probably a huge problem within their family.

But it would really be no one else's business to interfere in her family affairs.

As such, all the media reports that followed did not cause huge uproars, but rather just rode on the waves that had yet to cease.

"You've really made your decision?" Upon hearing Qiao Nan's words, Deng Wenchang stared at Qiao Nan in amazement. "You... you know our family's relationship with the Peng family but you've still decided to do that? Are you sure you won't regret it?"

Qiao Nan's face was indifferent. She was not in the least bit bothered by Peng Yu. "I've already said it. Of course I considered it for a long while before making such a decision."

"Why?" Why did Qiao Nan choose a person like him at such a time? Deng Wenchang looked forward to Qiao Nan's answer. Why him? After all, there were quite a few capable newbies in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Qiao Nan's choices were not limited, so why had Qiao Nan chosen him of all people?

Deng Wenchang knew that he should not be so excited, but he could hardly control his rapidly pounding heart.

"You entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs around the same time as me. In theory, you should have as much experience as me. I thought long and hard about letting you take my place. Secondly, your educational qualifications are good since you studied abroad. Thirdly, haven't you always wanted to be the minister of foreign affairs? Shouldn't you be happy that I'm letting you take my place? Why do you care about my reasons for that?"

With that, Qiao Nan sighed heavily. She had thought through such a decision carefully. It was definitely not something she had done on a whim. There were too many eyes on her while she was

in such a position, and there were too many people with first-hand information about her work schedule.

In the long term, this was not beneficial to the development of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Everyone worked for the country and the people, but each department was independent. There was really no reason for other people to know so much about what was going on in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was full of ambitious people like Li Dawei and Xu Xinming. Deng Wenchang was hardly the only one. Now that Xu Xinming and Li Dawei had been chased away, there would surely be new people who would appear. Since all these people did not think that this woman could be their 'boss', then she would simply help a man into the position. That would do it, right?

Chapter 1595: Last Day

At this time, Qiao Nan's first choice had not been someone else but her arch-enemy who had joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the same time as her, Deng Wenchang. Without her aura, and in comparison with others, Deng Wenchang's performance was not only above average but was also very eye-catching. Unfortunately, Deng Wenchang was unlucky to have entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the same year as Qiao Nan. Thus, there was no way Deng Wenchang could outperform Qiao Nan.

In the past, Qiao Nan had taken advantage of Deng Wenchang. Now, she was returning everything to Deng Wenchang even if it seemed a little late to do so.

As expected, he had not received the answer that he had hoped for and Deng Wenchang was unable to hide his disappointment. "So that's it. Thank you for thinking so highly of me. I'm grateful that you thought of me at such a time." He should not have expected it. Qiao Nan was different from him. Although he felt something for Qiao Nan, it was not returned.

"Just take care of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs well in the future. That will be the best way to thank me." Qiao Nan smiled meaningfully. "How is it? It's a little late, but at least, you've finished what Peng Yu entrusted to you. Are you happy? Why don't you call Peng Yu now? He might even prepare celebratory champagne for you."

Peng Yu had gone all out with Qiao Zijin.

In the end, she had pushed Deng Wenchang into the position of the minister of foreign affairs. Thus, Peng Yu's final goal had been achieved. Initially, Qiao Nan could have chosen someone else other than Deng Wenchang to make Peng Yu suffer. But after having worked in the department for more than ten years, she was emotionally attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

If she were to choose based on abilities, Deng Wenchang was second to none. For the sake of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she put her personal grudges aside. She could only hope that Deng Wenchang would not focus on working for Peng Yu and neglect his own position and ruin the reputation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs once he became the minister. Other than that, Qiao Nan was already prepared to ignore everything else.

"I will!" Deng Wenchang solemnly promised. "Qiao Nan, there's one more thing you might not know about. Our Deng family no longer collaborates with the Peng family" He was no longer Peng Yu's lackey and no longer the Qiao family's enemy and opponent.

"It ended? When was that?" Was this an unexpected reward?

"During the National Day holidays. Peng Yu's father came over to our house to let my dad know. Uncle Peng was the one who proposed to end it, but even before he came to our house, I discussed it with my dad and my dad had agreed." He was afraid that Qiao Nan would misunderstand that the Peng family had been the ones to end the relationship and that Deng Wenchang was only bringing this up to flatter her. In reality, he was very reluctant to end the relationship with the Peng family. Deng Wenchang faithfully recounted the whole story to Qiao Nan without leaving out a single detail.

The Deng family already had such an idea, so when Father Peng mentioned it, the Deng family immediately agreed to it without hesitation.

Since the elders of both families already had such a tacit understanding, it did not matter what the younger ones in the family thought. In the Deng family, Deng Wenchang and his father shared the same thoughts. However, Deng Wenchang knew that Peng Yu was likely to be kept in the dark about this situation. Father Peng had come to end their collaborative relationship behind Peng Yu's back.

A smile appeared on Qiao Nan's nonchalant face. "Is that so? This is the second piece of good news of today. Congratulations to you, and congratulations to me too." Even if Deng Wenchang was going to be the minister of foreign affairs, she would not need to be worried about any negative impacts on Zhai Sheng's career.

“Yes, congratulations to me, and congratulations to you too!” Seeing Qiao Nan smile, which was a different smile from the usual one, Deng Wenchang was on cloud nine. He was extraordinarily relaxed. “We’re still good colleagues in the future, right?”

“Of course.” She was just stepping down from the position of the minister, not leaving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

After Qiao Nan and Deng Wenchang came to a decision about this manpower reallocation, the news quickly spread within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, causing a huge uproar. Many people in the department expressed that they were more supportive of Qiao Nan as their minister. Hadn’t the incident been investigated and hadn’t Qiao Nan been cleared of all suspicions? There had been nothing at all.

Since Minister Qiao was innocent, why was Deng Wenchang being promoted while Minister Qiao was being demoted? That was unfair!

The moment this notice was posted, there was not a single person who was happy about the news, barring Deng Wenchang himself.

It had been said that new officials were often on fire, and Deng Wenchang was no different. Once the notice was posted, Deng Wenchang had yet to take over from Qiao Nan, but he already used his power to send out another notice, which was to kick Li Dawei out of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs!

Deng Wenchang could easily spell out seven to eight reasons for firing Li Dawei from the department. Now that Deng Wenchang was the minister, he had sufficient reasons. To keep Li Dawei in the department? Not a chance!

Li Dawei had not recovered from his joy of learning of Qiao Nan’s demotion. He did not even question who had taken over her position now that Qiao Nan was gone. Then, Li Dawei read the second part of the announcement. Oh, Qiao Nan was out and Deng Wenchang was in.

That was a bolt out of the blue!

He had waited so long for this day to come, the day when Qiao Nan would finally be demoted. But it had not ended as a dream come true for him. The ministerial position would be taken over by

Deng Wenchang. There was no time for him to even catch his breath. When he read the second announcement, Li Dawei felt that it might have been better if Qiao Nan had remained in her position and Deng Wenchang had not taken over.

“Comrade Li, it seems that today will be our last day as colleagues. At least, it will be the last day of being colleagues in the same department.” Those who did not like Li Dawei immediately ridiculed Li Dawei the moment the second announcement was sent out. “Minister Deng may have a hundred flaws, but at least, he has one good point. Minister Deng has taken revenge for Minister Qiao!”

God was fair!

When Minister Qiao was still the minister, she had been extremely tolerant of Li Dawei. Apart from not giving Li Dawei opportunities to prove himself, Minister Qiao had also rattled Li Dawei from the position. Now, the day that Li Dawei had always been looking forward to finally came, but the moment Minister Deng took over, his first attack was against Li Dawei! He deserved it!

“...” Li Dawei’s face was flushed with anger. “I-I think differently from you.” He would not leave the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This announcement was the final result. He would have to find someone to help him. Who? Right, Qiao Nan!

Although Qiao Nan was no longer the minister of foreign affairs, she had once been the minister. Other than Deng Wenchang, Qiao Nan would have the most say in this matter.

Chapter 1596: Feel Wronged for You

“Minister Qiao... Sorry, I’m used to calling you that. I can’t change this habit and I have never thought of changing it. Comrade Qiao, I really feel wronged for you. I feel wronged for myself as well. We have clarified that what happened in the past had nothing to do with you. On what basis did the leaders pull you down and pull Deng Wenchang up? Compared to you, Deng Wenchang is really much worse off. He’s not as capable as you and his character isn’t as good as yours. He doesn’t even handle things as fairly as you!”

Once he saw Qiao Nan, Li Dawei started to scold Deng Wenchang. It was like how he scolded Qiao Nan every time he met Xu Xinming. “I just don’t understand why the leaders would promote a person like Deng Wenchang. Comrade Qiao, I really couldn’t help but find it unfair for you. All these years, you have been working hard even if you have not performed meritorious deeds. How could they still treat you like this when they know that you were obviously not in the wrong?! I’m

just as unlucky as you are. Minister Deng Wenchang eliminated me from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs first just after he got this position. Both of us are just too unlucky.”

Deng Wenchang was now his and Qiao Nan’s common enemy. He hated Deng Wenchang. Qiao Nan must have hated him even more. “If I have just a bit of authority, Comrade Qiao, I will definitely do everything I can to let you continue to be the minister of foreign affairs. Comrade Qiao, in my heart, only you’re the minister. Who is Deng Wenchang?!”

After hearing Li Dawei ‘express his loyalty’, Qiao Nan had coincidentally finished packing the things in her office.

Qiao Nan moved out from the Minister of Foreign Affairs’ office. Instead of sitting back in her old position, she changed to another office. “After saying so much, let me ask you one thing. Do you know exactly how Deng Wenchang became the minister of foreign affairs? Do you also know how I was pulled down from the position?”

“Didn’t the leaders decide on this?” Li Dawei was stunned. What was there to know about? There was only this possibility.

Qiao Nan smiled and drank a sip of water to soothe her throat. “The leaders? Comrade Li, you seemed to have forgotten one thing.” What did her father-in-law do? What did her husband do?

With her father-in-law and husband around, was it that easy for her to lose the position of the minister?

Li Dawei was right about one thing. Qiao Zijin’s matter had been explained clearly and Qiao Nan didn’t have any moral integrity issues. Actually, she could continue to be the minister of foreign affairs. If someone wanted to pull her down from this position at this time, that would be by force. Who dared to do that? Wouldn’t they be afraid that her father-in-law and husband would look for them for trouble?

If someone dared to force her, her father-in-law and husband would dare to force them.

“Then... then, what is it?” After Qiao Nan’s reminder, Li Dawei suddenly remembered that although Qiao Nan’s family didn’t have a strong background, her in-laws did. Oh, right. Qiao Nan’s father-in-law was the old chief. Her husband was the new chief. Qiao Nan didn’t do anything wrong. Who would dare to pull her down from the position of the minister?

Seeing that it was rare that Li Dawei listened to her words, Qiao Nan was kindhearted enough to enlighten him. “It’s because of me. I was the one who wanted to step down from this position. Nobody ordered me to do so. As for Deng Wenchang, if I didn’t recommend him, he wouldn’t be promoted as well. If I were to step down, of course I had to recommend a talent to the leaders. I feel that Deng Wenchang is quite good. The leaders also acknowledge Deng Wenchang’s capabilities. As such, Deng Wenchang became the new minister.”

Unfair?

She had recommended Deng Wenchang herself. How was it unfair? Furthermore, she was the one who wanted to step down from this position. It had nothing to do with others.

“You... you?” Qiao Nan stepped down from her position because she wanted to and she was the one who recommended Deng Wenchang. Why? Since she was stepping down, why must she push Deng Wenchang up?

He remembered that when Deng Wenchang and Qiao Nan entered the ministry, both of them didn’t get along well with each other. Why did Qiao Nan help Deng Wenchang and not think of others when there was such a good opportunity now? There were so many talents in the ministry and a lot of them were younger than Deng Wenchang. On what basis did she not recommend others but only Deng Wenchang?

If the person Qiao Nan had recommended was himself back then, would he have been the one to move into the minister’s office today after receiving the notice instead of Deng Wenchang?

Upon thinking about this possibility, Li Dawei was furious. They had similarly offended Qiao Nan, treated Qiao Nan as an eyesore, and gone against Qiao Nan. On what basis did Qiao Nan only recommend Deng Wenchang and not mention him at all when there was such a good opportunity? Why did Qiao Nan only provide a name at this time instead of a few more so that the leaders could have a choice?

In this case, was Deng Wenchang the leaders’ top candidate? Qiao Nan was the one who had clearly named him! As such, saying that the new minister was being elected was just Qiao Nan’s own words!

Seeing that Li Dawei’s eyes widened and were full of accusations, Qiao Nan became happy. “You didn’t say it, but I understand. It can’t be said that it was just my own words. Deng Wenchang is

quite capable, and he is above you. You can't deny this point. Also, I haven't been the minister for a long time, but I have done a lot of work. I do have some authority to speak about this. It's rare that the leaders think highly of me and are willing to use the person I've recommended. How would I waste such an opportunity? As for what you have in mind, you have to work hard yourself. If Deng Wenchang commits a big mistake and your performance is exceptionally outstanding, the next appointed minister might be you."

It was impossible for her to recommend Li Dawei. At the critical moments, Li Dawei kept hindering her. Deng Wenchang's performance surprised her quite a bit. Not only did he try to calm the hearts of the people in the ministry during that sensitive time, but he also found someone to communicate with those media who were reporting indiscriminately, asking them to stop making reports and headlines of her matters with Qiao Zijin.

It could be said that during the most chaotic times, Deng Wenchang had been helping her. He had even used his identity as a senior to personally suppress Li Dawei.

Aside from Deng Wenchang's own efforts, Qiao Nan's willingness to recommend Deng Wenchang was highly related to his performance during this period of time.

It didn't make sense that Deng Wenchang could let go of their hostile relationship to focus on the ministry and help her but she wasn't willing to give Deng Wenchang an opportunity to perform. Without her, this opportunity to perform would have belonged to Deng Wenchang in the first place.

It was a little late. However, at the very least, this opportunity had been returned to its rightful owner.

Chapter 1597: Intergenerational Relationship

Thinking about it in this way, the burden in Qiao Nan's heart was completely gone and her whole being felt liberated.

Qiao Nan had never expected that her act of self-liberation would turn into such a thing in Li Dawei's words. Especially after seeing how aggrieved Li Dawei looked, Qiao Nan thought that it was funny and that she had watched a free show.

Because of shock, Li Dawei's jaw hung open and his jaw bone had gotten stuck. "Wh-what are you saying? You're taking me as a joke!"

Waiting for Deng Wenchang to make a mistake? He would have to wait for his entire lifetime, and even then, Deng Wenchang would probably never commit such a grave error even up until his retirement. Qiao Nan had stepped down voluntarily even after the rumors had been proven to be false. Qiao Nan's assumptions did not hold true. He would never be able to see such a day come. Qiao Nan's words were clearly to mock him.

"All right, what I said doesn't matter. What's important is that no one has forgotten what you said. By the way, Li Dawei, before you ran into my office, did you think about my current position?" She was not sure if Li Dawei knew that this could actually mean a promotion for her behind the scenes.

If Li Dawei did not understand that, then she would have to apologize. She was not his teacher and she was not ready to explain it to Li Dawei. "If you have nothing else, please leave. After all, not everyone is as free as you are." Qiao Nan patted the huge pile of documents on her desk, hinting that she wanted to get on with her work.

Deng Wenchang exited Qiao Nan's office in a trance. It was as though he had just lost his soul. Now that Qiao Nan had reminded him of this, Deng Wenchang had suddenly realized that Qiao Nan was indeed no longer a minister, but her position would not be any lower than a minister's!

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Qiao Nan's power had not lessened, but her position was no longer as jarring as before. Th-this was no demotion. This was clearly a promotion! And a promotion into a protected position!

What he had said earlier was about to become the greatest joke of the year!

He had failed in finding an ally in Qiao Nan, and he had failed badly. In the end, Li Dawei thought that he had lost all his dignity in front of Qiao Nan. He would no longer keep struggling in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. With a pale face, he sullenly packed his things and moved them away from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to his new department.

With Li Dawei gone, the whole Ministry of Foreign Affairs department erupted in cheers. There had only been one such annoying person left in the whole department.

Now that Li Dawei had been transferred out, the people in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no longer placed their attention on Li Dawei. Instead, they worked even harder for the betterment of the department. But less than a few days later, news of Li Dawei still ended up circulating within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This time, Li Dawei had completely left the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Even though Li Dawei was extremely reluctant, the Li family had limited ability and could not send Li Dawei back into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Moreover, in these past few years, the Li family had already tried paving the way for Li Dawei several times.

In the end, not only had Li Dawei not been able to repay the Li family for the efforts, but all the Li family's efforts had also gone to waste. After Li Dawei was kicked out of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, many family members of the Li family were so infuriated that they could not even eat. The Li family decided to make one last effort to help Li Dawei to see if it was still possible.

After learning that it was 'not possible', the Li family was not disappointed at Li Dawei, but rather, enraged. Without a doubt, the Li family had abandoned Li Dawei. If Li Dawei wanted to make any progress in his career in the future, he would have to rely on his own efforts. He would never be able to ride on the laurels of his family anymore.

Being kicked out of his favorite Ministry of Foreign Affairs was already a huge blow to Li Dawei. Subsequently, he was even abandoned by his family because their family could no longer hold their heads up high among their relatives. He had become a negative example among his relatives of the same age and had been the target of their mockery. In the past, Li Dawei had always been 'that family's child who had performed exceedingly well'.

Now that the situation was reversed, how could that proud and arrogant Li Dawei accept such a difference? How could he accept the envious gazes of his relatives turning into mocking gazes? Once his negative emotions accumulated to a certain point, Li Dawei did not dare to do anything to the Li family, but he would do something to other people.

In the end, Xu Xinming, who had created the forum in Li Dawei's name during Qiao Nan's most sensitive period, became Li Dawei's target to release his pent-up anger.

As a result, it was not just the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but even the departments that were nearer to them all knew that Li Dawei and Xu Xinming had gotten into a fight and that it had been a fierce one. As civil servants, they had even fought at their workplaces of all places. They disregarded the core principles of law and discipline, damaging the image of civil servants.

Well, once they fought, Xu Xinming and Li Dawei completely ruined their reputations. In the past, they had simply been exiled to the borders, but with this fight, where the two of them were going became the most extreme border of all borders. But no matter what kind of 'border' they were sent to within the central government, it was still a good place. A position in the 'border' of a small place would really be considered an exile.

In short, the two of them were transferred out from the central government and into other smaller cities nearby to take care of warehouses.

Now that matters had been resolved in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, what Qiao Nan was more concerned about was the matter with Qiao Zijin. Qiao Nan had thought that Ding Jiayi would have appeared in front of her to beg for mercy on behalf of Qiao Zijin. Once Ding Jiayi appeared, the show that Peng Yu had arranged may be able to continue.

Strangely, Xu Xinming and Li Dawei had both left the capital, but Ding Jiayi was nowhere to be seen. Neither did Ding Jiayi try to contact Qiao Nan. "Mom, have you received any weird phone calls lately? Or has anyone been loitering around the quad?"

Qiao Zijin was in big trouble. How could Ding Jiayi, who saw Qiao Zijin as her precious baby, be so calm and not do anything? How could that be?

"No." Miao Jing removed her glasses. As she grew older, her eyesight had deteriorated and it was too difficult reading the small words in the newspaper. She wondered how much longer she could read the newspapers. "We haven't even gotten a single phone call to our house lately. Your mom hasn't called, but your dad calls occasionally to ask about how you're doing and whether your work has been affected by this."

It was probably because of the three children that Qiao Dongliang knew that if Qiao Nan were to be affected, it was bound to affect the three children as well. With the support of the three children, Qiao Dongliang's attitude was much firmer. He stood unwaveringly on the side of Qiao Nan, hoping that Nan Nan would do well along with the three children.

Miao Jing sighed. It was indeed true that grandparents were closer to their grandchildren than their own children!

Chapter 1598: Offended Someone

“Oh.” Qiao Nan responded with just a word and did not pursue it any further. It was just as well that Ding Jiayi had not called. It would only make her more annoyed. After all, rejecting Ding Jiayi took some effort. Thinking about Ding Jiayi’s persistence, Qiao Nan knew that just one less call from Ding Jiayi would make her life that much easier.

“Mom, it’s almost time for the three children’s tuition class to end. I’ll pick them up.” Without trouble from her family, and with her children all obedient, Qiao Nan was in a good mood.

“All right, come back earlier. Drive safely on the way back.”

“Yes.”

Qiao Nan replied happily, driving down the familiar road to the three children’s tuition class. “Hello, teacher, you’ve worked hard!”

“Hello.” When the three children’s teacher saw Qiao Nan, she was very respectful. There was no choice. After the saga with Qiao Zijin, whether it was the three children’s teachers in school or their weekend tuition teachers, everyone knew Qiao Nan and that the mother of their three students was their country’s minister of foreign affairs. Even if she was no longer a minister, she was still a national cadre and a very impressive woman!

As a woman herself, seeing such a strong woman in a political position, the three children’s teacher could not help but respect Qiao Nan. “You’re picking the children up personally? You’re working so hard!” She had such a high status, but she was still picking her children up personally. That was a rare sight! It was clear that this female minister placed great importance on her family.

She would never believe anyone who said that Minister Qiao disregarded her family.

“It’s not hard. Isn’t it our responsibility as parents?” Qiao Nan’s hands were already held by the three children by her side. “We’ll take our leave.”

The three children immediately chimed in. “Goodbye, miss.”

“Goodbye, miss.” After bidding farewell, Qiao Nan and the three children headed downstairs to their car.

The three children's teacher watched them from afar. "They've been taught so well. If it had not been for the news, I wouldn't have known that my three students came from such a privileged background." She could not even tell that these three children had chiefs as their great-grandfather, grandfather, and father, and a mother who was the minister of foreign affairs.

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The three children were so obedient that they could be model children. The children who lived next door to her were a hundred times harder to discipline than these triplets.

"Mom, has everything been settled?" Because he could sense that the dark clouds around his mother had dissipated, Da Bao's mood was lifted as well. He had worried that this matter would have a negative impact on his mother's work. Thankfully, there was still his grandpa and dad at home. Moreover, his mom had not done a single one of these bad things she was being accused of.

"Of course! Mom was being wrongly maligned!" Er Bao patted Qiao Nan's back. His anger exceeded that of Qiao Nan's. "Thankfully, Mom was smart and was prepared. Otherwise, Mom would never have been able to clear her name this time. Mom, you're awesome! I'll have to learn from you in the future!"

1

Er Bao really wanted to say that he had been astounded when his mom produced this recording. He almost suspected that his mom could tell the future. Otherwise, how could she have known to record that day's conversation?

But because of this incident, Er Bao had truly experienced how 'amazing' that legendary 'elder auntie' was. She was no longer a child, but she had so calmly demanded his mom to support and raise her, and her demands had even been so outrageous! Er Bao really wanted to meet Qiao Zijin and see for himself how thick Qiao Zijin's skin was. Could it be that Qiao Zijin's face had no meat at all but was made entirely out of skin?

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Otherwise, how could his 'elder auntie' even spout such ridiculous words? He would never be able to understand that.

Er Bao wanted to lie down and shout that Qiao Zijin was simply unbelievable!

1

As for the other legendary grandma, Er Bao could not help but sigh. After seeing the power of his 'elder auntie', he was not at all curious about his legendary grandma's temper. He pitied his mom for growing up in such an environment.

If either Da Bao or San Bao had such a temper, he would definitely punch them so much so that they would not even be able to recognize their mother. He did not believe that violence would not teach them a lesson.

"Mom has always been smart. You're a little slow if you only realized that today." San Bao purposely retorted Er Bao to cajole Qiao Nan. "Mom, grandma said that I've grown to resemble you even more. Dad said so too. I'm as pretty as Mom. That's great!" San Bao stroked her small face narcissistically. Sigh, there had been a few more boys who had confessed to her lately.

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Unfortunately, all these people were all too childish. They could not even compare to Da Bao or Er Bao, much less her dad. She would never accept these confessions. She liked tall, handsome, and mature men.

1

Upon hearing San Bao's words, Da Bao and Er Bao had the same reaction. As pretty? It was obvious that their mom was much prettier. San Bao had not even blossomed. At the very most, she was just a bud. How was she pretty? To say that San Bao was as pretty as their mom? That person must have been blind! Even if their dad had been the one to say it, all they could say was that their dad did not open his eyes wide when saying that.

Qiao Nan took a glance in the rearview mirror and laughed at the girl's narcissism. "You're still young. When you grow older, I'll be old and you'll be much prettier than me then." Qiao Nan had never thought of comparing her beauty with her daughter's.

"Mom!" Da Bao's eyes widened. "Mom! Stop! Stop!"

The moment Da Bao screamed, Qiao Nan had already seen what Da Bao saw and she immediately stepped on the clutch and the brake simultaneously. At the same time, she continuously honked the horn, signaling for the people on the road to get out of the way.

But this person had suddenly come out of nowhere and had been too close to the car. As such, Qiao Nan's expression changed, finding it strange. It was as though this person had been eyeing her car and had waited for the best possible moment to jump out in front of her car. She had heard of such scams before but had never experienced it for herself.

The moment this person appeared, Qiao Nan almost thought that this would be her first experience. But looking at the distance between this person and her car, Qiao Nan thought that this could not be a scam. Perhaps, this person was trying to end his life? If this was truly a scam, why would this person appear at such a great distance away?

Even though Qiao Nan had never sped on the roads, and she was driving between thirty to forty kilometers per hour, it was inevitable that her car knocked the person down with a loud 'bang'.

In that split second that her car hit the person, that person lifted up her head and smiled insidiously at Qiao Nan who was still in the car. It had not only frightened the children but Qiao Nan as well. "Qiao Zijin?!"

Chapter 1599: Three Birds with One Stone

The loud screech from the brakes was ear-deafening. Most importantly, there had been quite a few cars and passengers on the road who had all witnessed how the accident had taken place.

"Ah, she hit someone."

"No, that person ran out on her own. She knocked into the car. The car didn't knock her down. Do you think it's a scam?"

"No way. Did that woman want to kill herself?"

Upon hearing this, some car owners turned pale. Once their car hit someone, it would be considered unlucky to continue driving that car. Anyone who had ever driven a car would naturally try to avoid getting into an accident. It was unfortunate enough if one accidentally knocked a person down, but it was even more unfortunate to run into someone like this who was trying to get knocked down in a suicide attempt!

“Sit in the car, the three of you. Da Bao, use my phone to call 120 then 110. Er Bao, stay with San Bao. Don’t worry. I’ll handle this.” Qiao Nan quickly unbuckled her seat belt and got out of the car to check on Qiao Zijin.

She was sure that in the moment her car had knocked into Qiao Zijin, Qiao Zijin had deliberately lifted up her head to let Qiao Nan take a good look at her face. Qiao Zijin had smiled at her. Smiled!

In her previous life, Qiao Nan had been killed in a car crash. Truth be told, Qiao Nan had a fear of cars for a very long time. But Qiao Nan eventually went to get her license so as to send her children to school. No one would understand the difficulties she had to go through. For Qiao Nan, learning to drive meant overcoming her psychological barriers. There was nothing scarier than dying under the wheel again.

Unexpectedly, she had overcome all difficulties for the sake of her children. In this lifetime, she would not be the one pinned under the wheel. It was Qiao Zijin. No, she had not been driving quickly. It was even considered to be slow. Qiao Zijin should not be dead. She would not let Qiao Zijin die just like that. “Hold on. I’ve already dialed for the ambulance. They’ll be here in a moment. The doctor will help you staunch that bleeding and take care of your wounds. You’ll be fine.”

“Pfft...” Qiao Zijin spat out. She was in great pain, but her heart was leaping with joy and life. “Qiao-Qiao Nan, are you afraid now? Haha, ha. Aargh... You’ve just knocked me over and killed me. Qiao-Qiao Nan, I’ll make sure you’ll live with this guilt for the rest of your life. You’ll owe me in this lifetime. In the next lifetime, you’ll have to work hard to repay your debts to me because you owe me my life.”

“Because of that, you purposely ran out in front of my car?” Qiao Nan looked at Qiao Zijin in disbelief. “Are you crazy? What’s more important than your own life? Qiao Zijin, I’m telling you. If you really want to get your revenge on me, you’d better survive. Do you see how many people there are around here? I’m guessing there are probably cameras around too. I wasn’t speeding and you were the one who jumped out in front of my car. I’m not the one at fault. If you really die, I won’t even go to jail because of that. So you have to press on and survive to get your revenge on me.”

Qiao Nan thought that Qiao Zijin was willing to give up her life to get Qiao Nan into an accident so as to see Qiao Nan go to jail. But in fact, that was not the case.

Qiao Zijin shook her head with great difficulty. The blood that she spat out covered her entire face. “No, no. I don’t want you to go to jail. There’s no way you’ll go to jail. I-I want to become your nightmare, just like how you’ve been mine in these past ten years. Even if I can’t be your nightmare, I’ll be happy just haunting you. I won’t die in vain.”

She did not want to live anymore. There was no hope in her life. In the past few days that she had spent in hiding, what she had been afraid of was that she would be woken up by the police at her door. After having several nightmares like this, she decided that death would be preferable to going to jail.

There was no way for her to return to the Zhou family, and getting remarried was no mean feat either. Just thinking about living with Ding Jiayi put her off. She had said that she would never meet Ding Jiayi again and that she hated Ding Jiayi. That was all true.

She was afraid that she would have no other choice but to return to Ding Jiayi, but when that happened, she might only have a meal to eat. The thought of spending the whole day with the person who had ruined her life was excruciating. She might as well just die. She was afraid that after seeing Ding Jiayi, she would be unable to control herself and might very well just kill Ding Jiayi.

It was her mother, Ding Jiayi, who had wanted a second child when Qiao Zijin was three years old. She experienced how she would have lived if the second child had been a son. It was Ding Jiayi who had distorted her outlook on life again and again, causing her to grow up with a warped idea of the world. It had also been Ding Jiayi who had taught her to be lazy and not work hard. In the end, Ding Jiayi lectured her about how her life in the past had been perfect and how her own greed had ruined her perfect life.

At such a time, Ding Jiayi told her to cherish her life, to be satisfied with what she had, and that Qiao Nan was already taking good care of her, emphasizing that Qiao Nan had never owed her anything. Even if Qiao Nan was unwilling to support her, she had no right to blame Qiao Nan for that. Instead, she should accept it graciously and work hard to create a life that she wanted.

Hahaha, she was the greatest liar in the world!

How could Ding Jiayi be so shameless? What right did she have to say that? And most importantly, Ding Jiayi had told her all these way too late!

No matter how much Qiao Zijin hated Ding Jiayi, she was clear that Ding Jiayi had given birth to her and raised her, so she owed Ding Jiayi her life. Since it was so, she might as well return her life to Ding Jiayi. From now on, she would not owe Ding Jiayi anything. In her next lifetime, she would no longer want to be Ding Jiayi's daughter. She would choose somewhere far away from Ding Jiayi and be reborn into the embrace of a normal mother to receive a normal education.

But in the end, Qiao Zijin could not take it lying down. When she was young, her results had been better than Qiao Nan's, and she had been more outstanding than Qiao Nan in every way. Why had that all changed when they grew older? Good grades, a good man, a good job, even a good mentor—they were all Qiao Nan's. She had nothing at all.

Seeing Qiao Nan live so well, she was upset. Even if she died, she would still hold that grudge.

And so, Qiao Zijin came up with such an idea, which was to knock into Qiao Nan's car. In this way, she would be repaying all her debt to Ding Jiayi. Moreover, she would no longer need to live such a meaningless life. At best, she would leave her most hated Qiao Nan with a nightmare. At worst, Qiao Nan would at least be disgusted for a short while.

It was killing three birds with one stone!

Qiao Zijin felt that the one thing she had done right in her entire life was getting familiar with the route that Qiao Nan took every day, running in front of Qiao Nan's car and dying under Qiao Nan's car.

Chapter 1600: Just to Gross Her Out

"..." Qiao Zijin's honest words silenced Qiao Nan. She didn't think that Qiao Zijin was tenacious enough to give up her life. Qiao Zijin even knew that Qiao Nan would not hold any legal liability.

A life to gross her out?

What could Qiao Nan say to Qiao Zijin's behaviors? How should she even react to it?

After the call, Da Bao heard Qiao Zijin's words when he came to report to Qiao Nan. The boy's face was red from anger. He finally knew who that woman was, which made him more infuriated.

How shameless could this woman be? She must be nuts! It was no wonder that grandma got angry whenever her in-laws' family was mentioned. No one could contain their fury when faced with someone like that!

"Mom." Da Bao walked to Qiao Nan. "Don't worry. I've made the calls. There are CCTVs. We'll be fine."

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Did she want to gross his mom out? Keep dreaming!

Er Bao, San Bao, and he, together with Xiao Bao and their dad, would keep their mother cheerful. Qiao Zijin would be wiped from her memory in no time, and they would live happily ever after.

Qiao Zijin's death would also mean that this was the last time she could disturb his mother.

"Da Bao, look away." Qiao Nan took a deep breath. "Get back in the car. I can handle this. Good job making the calls. Er Bao and San Bao need you now, so go ahead and take care of them. You won't let me be worried about you guys, right?"

Such a bloody scene was not for the weak-minded; even Qiao Nan felt the urge to puke. Sometimes, the debris of memories would overlap, and she could see herself lying in the pool of blood just like her past life. Sweat was dripping down her cheeks, and her face looked pale. Her mind wended into chaos.

"..." Da Bao could only return to the car and stay by Er Bao and San Bao. His return did bring life to the siblings' faces, especially San Bao. They all knew that a life might be lost in this accident.

Feeling San Bao's shiver, Da Bao contemplated for a second before taking Er Bao and San Bao into his arms. "Don't be afraid. Mom and I are here. It's going to be fine."

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San Bao's hand grabbed onto Da Bao's shirt, and the other hand hooked onto Er Bao. No matter how courageous the kids were, they had never seen such a gory scene. While Da Bao and Er Bao could control their expression, San Bao was not as fearless as her brothers.

The ambulance arrived soon, and the doctor examined Qiao Zijin's situation to be moderate. "A small degree of fractures, but it might have hurt the organs. Prepare the blood packs and get her in the vehicle." The experienced doctor gave an order, and Qiao Zijin was moved into the car swiftly.

"I... I don't need your help!" The doctor was quick, and Qiao Zijin had yet to feel her life paling away. She didn't want anyone to save her; she just wanted to die under Qiao Nan's wheels. She wanted to become Qiao Nan's worst nightmare.

"Please stop moving around." The doctor was dumbfounded. It was the first time that a patient didn't want to be saved. "It's my duty to save you. Nurse, secure her limbs so that she can't move about."

"Yes, doc." The nurse quickly helped the doctor tie her limbs up.

Qiao Nan took a deep breath. "Hi, doctor. I'm the driver, and I'm... her sister."

"Fine, go to the hospital with us." The doctor was shocked again. What are the chances that the patient was hit by her sister? The nurse seemed to recognize something as she glanced back and forth between the two ladies.

God, this must be the famous sisters that had been making a scene. That meant the pretty and diligent girl was the minister of foreign affairs. 'Damn, she looks better in real life!'

"Excuse me, please hold on. I was getting the kids home and didn't expect an accident. I'll have to notify my family to pick the kids up and make sure that they are safe." Da Bao had handed the phone to Qiao Nan, so she dialed Zhai Sheng's number. "Hi, Brother Zhai, I'm caught up in something. Come and bring the kids home. My car... hit Qiao Zijin, and I'm following her to the hospital. I've sent you the location, and I need to inform my parents now."

Qiao Nan took a deep breath before calling Qiao Dongliang and Ding Jiayi.

Qiao Zijin needed immediate medical attention, which meant the ambulance couldn't wait for Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan decided to drive the children to the hospital first. She didn't forget to remind Zhai Sheng to pick up the kids from the hospital.

Zhai Sheng was quick to arrive. The kids were gathered around Qiao Nan as she comforted them. Zhai Sheng let out a sigh of relief. It seemed like his family was fine. "How is it?"

"She's still undergoing surgery." Qiao Nan finally had someone to lean on. "The kids might have been frightened, so bring them back for now. It's not a good place for the kids to stay." Qiao Nan was worried that the children wouldn't fall asleep for a while.

"It's no hurry." Zhai Sheng didn't rush to leave. He was worried about the kids as well, but he realized that Qiao Dongliang and Ding Jiayi had yet to arrive.