

RTAMM 1721

Chapter 1721: A Reassuring Child

But he was different. He was Fang Fang's husband. He was going to stay by Fang Fang's side for the rest of her life. He was the only one who would always rank Fang Fang first in his heart. He did not believe that he would still have to fight with his son for Fang Fang's affection after this incident.

Older people were always wiser. Gao Feng was still too inexperienced to challenge him.

As a wife lover, his son was not only just as superficial as clouds but was also the biggest third wheel on earth. It had not been easy for Gao Yan to chance upon such a precious opportunity. How could he call himself a businessman if he did not capitalize on this opportunity?

He had to knock this rascal down, after all. Looking at it from this angle, Gao Yan was rather grateful for the appearance of this young lady.

How would Gao Feng ever imagine that his dad had such ideas? "Dad, don't toot your own horn. Since when has Mom ever listened to you? I bet Mom must have gone to look for Auntie Qiao again. It's been so many years, but Mom still has such a good relationship with Auntie Qiao." At the mention of Qiao Nan, Gao Feng's tone improved, and his earlier impetuosity disappeared.

Gao Yan hit Gao Feng on his head in jest. "Can you stop trying to expose me? Don't you know just how many people are trying to suck up to me once I get out of our house? I don't even let them have that chance. It's rare to have the right time and place for you to have such an opportunity, but you're saying such things instead. Are you a fool?"

Gao Yan would never admit to the fact that he had waited for so many years to win against his son, but he would still never surpass Qiao Nan in Fang Fang's heart.

Losing to a woman... Who would have guessed?

But when Gao Yan thought about Tian Dong and Zhu Baoguo, who were in the same boat as him, Gao Yan immediately calmed down. It was all good as long as he was not the only one in such a plight and suffering losses.

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After this conversation, Qiao Nan really felt that she had grown old. It was not just Zhai Xin who had encountered relationship problems. Even Gao Feng, who was only in high school, already had a 'wife'. Qiao Nan did not even know what to say about these children nowadays. She was really unable to keep up with the pace of these so-called trends.

Among the children in Zhai Yi's generation, other than her eldest son, Zhai Yi, who worried Qiao Nan the least, there were only Tian Haoran and Zhu Yu who never caused Qiao Nan any worries. In Qiao Nan's eyes, these two children were no different from the triplets. They were all her children whom she had brought up. Thus, she treated Tian Haoran and Zhu Yu just like how she treated the triplets.

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She wondered whether it was because he had been brought up 'astray'. Tian Haoran was nothing like Zhai Hua and had a soldier's blood in him. From a young age, he expressed interest and love for the military and military uniform. Perhaps it was because he liked to join in the fun while he was younger and played with his elder brothers' and sisters' toys.

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When he grew up, Tian Haoran's results were just as stellar as the triplet's. He almost swept the first-place ranking in the level. When the time came for Tian Haoran to pick a university, he chose to go to Peking University and became schoolmates with Zhai Yu without any hesitation.

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But Qiao Nan knew Tian Haoran's temper and habits well. She felt that Tsinghua University might suit Tian Haoran better. Whether it was Peking University or Tsinghua University, as long as it helped in a child's development, Qiao Nan felt that there was no problem in Tian Haoran not picking Peking University.

That was Qiao Nan's suggestion, and it was the only time she was rejected by Tian Haoran.

Qiao Nan had become somewhat of a political celebrity. With her excellent foreign language skills, she was hired by Peking University as a nominal lecturer and honorary professor of Peking University. Even though Qiao Nan very rarely returned to Peking University to teach, Qiao Nan's relationship with Peking University was undeniable.

Based on this alone, Tian Haoran refused to listen to anyone's advice and insisted on going to Peking University. Tian Haoran explained that he would definitely have to go overseas to further his studies in the future because of the major he was going to choose. Thus, there was no need to bother about whether he was going to Peking University or Tsinghua University. Besides, Peking University was such a good school and was excellent in his choice of major too. So why should he not go to Peking University?

Indeed, Tian Haoran became a researcher. He did not like the idea of being a soldier and did not like business, but he really liked doing research and experiments.

Zhu Yu's choice was much simpler. His father was a chief, and his mom was a famous female general. With such a family background and influence, it would be a waste and just as disappointing as Zhai Yi and Zhai Xin not following in their father's footsteps if Zhu Yu did not enter the military.

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From a young age, Zhu Yu's physique was much better than an ordinary child's. When other children used to get sick with flu or fevers, Zhu Yu had never. Especially during the change in seasons or the flu season, Zhu Yu was always the healthiest child that never worried Qiao Nan.

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Perhaps it was because he had been brought up by Qiao Nan and had been influenced by Qiao Nan that Zhu Yu was not as foolish as Zhu Baoguo had been when he was younger. The moment he entered the military, he was already extremely sharp both physically and mentally. Zhu Yu's intelligence had come entirely from his mom, Shi Qing, and was much higher than his father's. Under Qiao Nan's guidance, a young Zhu Yu had managed to skip three grades.

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Even after skipping grades, once he settled down, Zhu Yu had never fallen out of the top five rankings in his levels during his examinations. What's more, he would even catch up in the shortest time possible and rank among the top three in his level.

That was why Zhu Yu was about the same age as Gao Feng, but while Gao Feng was still in high school, Zhu Yu had not only finished his college entrance examination but had also been invited to the military based on his extraordinary results.

As for Tian Haoran, he had not inherited his father's emotional intelligence at all. Instead, he had matured extremely early on and had become a 'bookworm'. Tian Dong was about 1.9 meters tall, and Tian Haoran had inherited these genes from his father. Moreover, Tian Haoran was fair and clear-skinned and was not a skinny and weak chicken. With all that and his extraordinary academic performance, there was a long line of girls who had a crush on Tian Haoran.

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But Tian Haoran had no interest in such things. Apart from performing experiments, he hardly had any interaction with 'outsiders'. In the face of all these confessions, Tian Haoran would always reply with the same thing. "Thank you for your wrongly-placed love, but I had not counted on having your love. I hope you'll find someone who'll love you back."

These lines had been used a thousand times and had never changed the slightest bit from the time he was in junior high school, all the way until he was in university. Because of this, the boys who had grown up together with Tian Haoran had to respect him for that.

As for Zhu Yu, Qiao Nan had even less reason to worry. There was a saying that when one was in the army for three years, even a sow was considered pretty. Zhu Yu was so outstanding that he had surpassed Zhai Yi and Zhai Xin and had been recruited into the special forces. Other than bloodsucking mosquitoes, he did not even have the chance to see any female animals, let alone sows.

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In that case, apart from Zhai Xin, the one that Qiao Nan was more worried about at the moment was Gao Feng.

Chapter 1722: Two-Timing

Thankfully, Gao Feng was different from both Zhu Yu and Tian Haoran. Fang Fang had lots of free time, and it was only natural that she had more time to keep her eye on her son as compared to other people. With both of his parents around, Qiao Nan felt that nothing much could go wrong with Gao Feng getting into an early relationship.

But it was always better to be safe than sorry in life. Gao Feng had not caused a huge mess, but to put it bluntly, it seemed as though love between the younger generation always had something to do with resentment and grudges from the previous generation, even if it was unintentional.

Gao Feng seemed to like his girlfriend very much, and Gao Yan had always thought that reducing his son's allowance would cause the girl to break up with him. But no one had expected that Gao Feng would be the one to initiate the breakup.

When she heard that Gao Feng wanted to break up with her, Ma Yuanyuan was stunned. "Did you say something wrongly? Or did I hear something wrongly? What did you just say?"

"Let's break up." Gao Feng expressed his frustration but repeated himself again at Ma Yuanyuan's request. "I've made myself very clear. You can keep whatever I gave you in the past, or you can choose to throw them away. Let's stop meeting each other in the future. Even if we bump into each other, let's just treat each other as strangers. Do you understand?"

Ma Yuanyuan shook her head. "Repeat it again. What did you say?" How could that be? Gao Feng had always treated her well, and he had always been willing to buy those things that her parents refused to buy for her.

Initially, when she had just gotten to know Gao Feng as a friend, she had never expected Gao Feng's family to be so rich and for Gao Feng to be so generous toward her. But after she started dating him, Ma Yuanyuan always felt that it was good to have a boyfriend like Gao Feng. Most importantly, it was always her boyfriend footing the bill every time they went out for a meal. Looking at the envious gazes from her friends and classmates, Ma Yuanyuan felt proud.

"Break. Up!" Gao Feng enunciated each word clearly. "All right. I've said my piece. Let's never meet again." With that, Gao Feng turned around and left.

When Ma Yuanyuan finally came back to her senses, she ran up and tugged on Gao Feng's arm. "No. Why? We've been good all along. Why are you suddenly breaking up with me? I've done nothing wrong. Even if I did something wrong, you should just tell me nicely about it. I can change. Why are you suddenly breaking up with me without any apparent reason? Gao Feng, do you have another woman?"

Gao Feng took a step back, distancing himself from Ma Yuanyuan. “We’re no longer in a relationship. I think it’s necessary to maintain a distance from each other. I’m not such a flippant person, unlike some people... As for the reason for us breaking up? I think we’re not suitable for each other. I don’t like you anymore, so I want to break up with you. Correcting your mistakes? That’s not necessary. Breaking up is sufficient for me.”

“I don’t believe it. You treat me so well. How is it possible that you don’t like me?” From the time she was still a child, there was no one else who treated her so well, apart from her own parents. Gao Feng was the only one aside from her parents who splurged on her. Her mom had said that a man who was willing to splurge on a woman might not necessarily like the woman, but a man who refused to splurge on a woman definitely did not love that woman.

So, it was still possible that Gao Feng liked her.

“No, I’m not breaking up.” Ma Yuanyuan was upset. “Gao Feng, I’m telling you. I won’t agree to this breakup. I’m not breaking up with you.”

“Suit yourself. As long as you don’t come looking for me in the future, I don’t care whether we break up or not.” Gao Feng flared up too. After hearing Ma Yuanyuan’s words, he felt that he would never date Ma Yuanyuan ever again unless he was a bast*rd!

Ma Yuanyuan’s eyes turned red, and Gao Feng had successfully shrugged her hands off a couple of times. “Are you mad at me for spending too much of your money? I told you from the start that I didn’t want to spend your money or receive your gifts. You were the one who insisted on giving those gifts to me. How can you throw a tantrum at me and get angry at me just because you regret your actions? At the very most, you can stop giving me gifts in the future. It’s nothing much not to get any gifts. I’m in a relationship with you because I like you. How would I have known that you’re so rich?”

She felt extremely aggrieved. She was really not as materialistic as he had made her out to be. At most...

“Yes, it’s true you didn’t make such requests. I remember the first time I saw you like a piece of clothing. You were quite moved when I spent eight hundred yuan buying it behind your back and giving it to you as a gift. From then on, you always mentioned to me about how this looked nice, and how that thing was pretty. When we were dating, I splurged on you. I won’t put the blame on you either. I’m clear about what was going on. Let’s part amicably. We’re unsuitable, so it’s best for

us to break up. Since you're two-timing me, we'll break up eventually. What's the difference between breaking up now instead of in the future?"

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"What do you mean I'm two-timing you?" Ma Yuanyuan felt a little guilty.

"I saw what happened when your mom came to find you in school yesterday." Gao Feng sighed. "Speaking of this, it might be a little embarrassing, but I guess it's better to be honest in case you come looking for me in the future. I was worried that you would be in the same situation that I was in and that your mom would come to scold you because she had found out about our relationship. I was thinking of defending you, but I had never expected to overhear your conversation with your mom. You already have someone in mind for marriage, so you should just hunker down and conquer that target. Playing around with me? I'm sorry. I'm not your toy. Thank you for thinking so highly of me, and thank you for wasting your time in high school on me. But I don't like hooligans."

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Gao Feng had never expected that his kind and considerate girlfriend was so scheming. Ma Yuanyuan treated their relationship as a plaything. Even though he had never thought about whether he would go all the way and enter the chapel with Ma Yuanyuan, at least, he was serious toward Ma Yuanyuan and never toyed with her.

What upset Gao Feng the most was that not only did he recognize Ma Yuanyuan's target, but it was his elder brother, Zhai Yi!

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Upon learning of that truth, Gao Feng felt utterly humiliated. At the same time, he was disgusted by Ma Yuanyuan's hypocrisy. She was dating him on the surface but was thinking about his brother in her heart. How daring was Ma Yuanyuan to be able to be eating from the bowl but still think of what was in the pot!

"You..." Ma Yuanyuan was scared stiff. Her mom had indeed come to visit her yesterday, and it was indeed about her relationship with Gao Feng. That person was called Zhai Yi. Apart from having a chief as a father, she had no idea about what kind of person he was, how he looked, or how he behaved. She knew nothing about him at all.

Chapter 1723: Different

Ma Yuanyuan felt rather aggrieved that she had to make such a person her target for marriage. What if that guy was ugly or had a bad temper? Worse still, what if he was abusive? What would she do then?

Compared to an 'old man' whom she did not know anything about, except for his name and family background, Ma Yuanyuan very much preferred Gao Feng, who was close at hand and who treated her well.

When her mom had suddenly brought up the topic, Ma Yuanyuan had only replied that she was clear about whom she had to marry in the future just to placate her mom. But Gao Feng treated her well, so she was using Gao Feng as practice and was just fooling around with him. She would definitely break up with Gao Feng in the future. There was no need for her mom to worry about that.

In fact, Ma Yuanyuan had thought everything through. If that person called Zhai Yi was really better than Gao Feng, it was not impossible for her mom's words to become reality. But if Zhai Yi could not match up to Gao Feng in any other way apart from his family background, she would rather have Gao Feng instead.

Being a chief's wife was her mom's lifetime dream, not hers. She preferred having more practical things, such as the bags and clothes that Gao Feng had bought her. There was nothing fanciful about being a chief. No matter how high that position was, it was still of a lowly and poor soldier's. She loved pretty clothes, jewelry, and bags. What could such a poor soldier use to buy her these things? Was he going to steal them for her?

Other people liked officials, but she preferred men with money!

But Ma Yuanyuan would never have expected that Gao Feng had overheard those words that she had said to her mother. It was true that one could not speak ill of someone behind their backs! How could it be so coincidental?

"Gao Feng, I can explain this. That's my mom's wishful thinking. My mom has had that dream since she was young. She didn't manage to fulfill that dream, so I'm the only one who can help her fulfill that dream now. I only said those things to pacify her. I didn't really mean it. That guy, Zhai

Yi, is older than me by a few years. He's probably almost ten years older than me. He's such an old man. How can I possibly fall for him? Gao Feng, don't get upset at me. Please don't break up with me!"

If he gave her a second chance, she would never ever say such nonsense to her mom in school ever again. What made her depressed was that Gao Feng had caught her right in the act of saying these things to her mom. "Gao Feng, we haven't been together for a long time. But can you really say that I haven't been sincere to you? I've said that I was only trying to placate my mom. I didn't mean those words at all. If you really mind, I'll apologize to you. But I'm sure there's no need for us to break up, right?"

Upon hearing Ma Yuanyuan's explanation, not only did Gao Feng have no intention of turning back, but he became even wearier. He did not feel that Ma Yuanyuan was saying those things just to placate her mom. He could tell what was real and what was not.

Ma Yuanyuan might still have some interest in him now, but his elder brother, Da Bao, was also an outstanding person in every aspect. When Ma Yuanyuan found out about that, Ma Yuanyuan would definitely listen to her mom and break up with him to get together with his elder brother, Da Bao.

Of course, Gao Feng did not think that Zhai Yi would immediately accept Ma Yuanyuan even if Ma Yuanyuan was willing to break up with him and set her sights on Zhai Yi instead. Once Zhai Yi found out about Gao Feng's experience with Ma Yuanyuan, Ma Yuanyuan was sure to be out of the game.

After hearing Ma Yuanyuan's excuse, Gao Feng could not allow himself to continue being in a relationship with Ma Yuanyuan.

No matter how much Gao Feng liked Ma Yuanyuan in the past and how much Ma Yuanyuan tried to apologize to him, Gao Feng was still resolute on breaking up with her.

It was just a breakup, not a divorce. It did not need both parties to come to an agreement before it could happen. After Gao Feng made up his mind to break up with Ma Yuanyuan, he stopped inviting Ma Yuanyuan out. When Ma Yuanyuan tried to ask Gao Feng out, not only did he refuse, but he even asked someone to reject her on his behalf so that he would not have to face Ma Yuanyuan himself.

Gao Feng's attitude made it so obvious that the whole school knew about Ma Yuanyuan's and Gao Feng's breakup within three days. After this rumor spread, the matter developed beyond Ma Yuanyuan's control. No matter how much Ma Yuanyuan refused to break up with Gao Feng, and no

matter how much she felt that the two of them were still in a romantic relationship, the other girls in their school had already started chasing after Gao Feng once again.

Gao Feng was handsome, had good academic results, and was even physically fit. In school, these studious and sporty guys were extremely popular. But in front of Ma Yuanyuan, Gao Feng never flirted with other girls. Since they were all schoolmates, Gao Feng kept his distance from every single girl.

Even when girls confessed to Gao Feng, he would always reject them in a gentlemanly manner.

Seeing the way Gao Feng handled this, many girls gave up their pursuit of Gao Feng. They felt that Gao Feng was the kind of student who was serious and conscientious about his studies. It was the three most critical years of their lives now that they were in high school. It was actually right to focus on their studies and only get into a relationship after getting into a good university and securing a good future.

Under Gao Feng's leadership, the learning atmosphere in the entire high school was very good.

The problem was that Gao Feng had eventually gotten into a relationship with Ma Yuanyuan. At this time, the girls who felt that Gao Feng was outstanding suddenly felt as though Gao Feng had only been putting up false pretenses in the past and that their idol had finally come down to earth.

Ma Yuanyuan had already succeeded once. Since Gao Feng had gotten into one relationship, he would definitely be able to get into a second one. When would be a better time to strike than now?

Thus, the number of girls who confessed to Gao Feng upon knowing that he had broken up with Gao Feng only increased by the day. It caused such an uproar that even the teachers found out about it.

Because these students had not gone out of line, the learning atmosphere was still pretty good. Thus, the teachers could only try to convince them patiently and persuade them not to be distracted by other matters during such a crucial period. Their college entrance examination was the most important, after all.

But the law could not be enforced when everyone was an offender. Since there were so many people doing it, and none of them had gone overboard, there was nothing the teachers could do besides giving their advice.

Seeing those girls surround Gao Feng as though he was the only male in school infuriated Ma Yuanyuan. She had never even met that guy called Zhai Yi and knew nothing about him, but she was clear about how Gao Feng was as a person. She had not been in a relationship with Gao Feng for a long time, but Gao Feng had treated her well.

In the past, it was all right if she had not been able to spend like that. But everything had changed after she started dating Gao Feng.

Chapter 1724: No Turning Back

As long as she took a fancy to a certain piece of clothing, she no longer had to resist her urges and could simply shop as she pleased. Not long after Gao Feng unilaterally broke up with her, Ma Yuanyuan immediately felt the inconveniences of breaking up with Gao Feng.

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She no longer enjoyed shopping because she knew that she could only eye those pretty clothes, but Gao Feng would not be around to foot her bill. No matter how pretty the clothes were, or how much she liked them, all she could do was take a few more looks at them before someone else bought them.

In addition, when she was dating Gao Feng in the past, Gao Feng often treated her and her friends to meals.

Without Gao Feng as her boyfriend, Ma Yuanyuan did not dare to be such a spendthrift. Before she had gotten together with Gao Feng, she was no different from other students and ate in the school canteen like any other student did.

Thinking about how her friends and classmates whom Gao Feng had treated in the past had come to ask her when Gao Feng was treating them to another feast, Ma Yuanyuan felt nauseated.

Did all these so-called friends and classmates really take her to be a pig's head and a sacrificial lamb? It was only normal for people to take turns footing the bill. Why was she always the one who had to treat them to meals? They were clearly taking advantage of her.

At that time, she was spending Gao Feng's money. Since this made her proud, she did not take the matter to heart either. She believed that Gao Feng knew very well whether he was able to fork out this sum of money and would never make her life difficult just because of this sum of money.

Now that she no longer had her boyfriend footing the bill for her, Ma Yuanyuan was no fool either. There was no way she was going to treat these people to a feast in a restaurant. She was not even willing to treat them to a meal in their school canteen. "Treat you guys to a meal? Talking about that, I treated you to quite a few meals when I was still with Gao Feng. It's part of our Chinese culture to reciprocate someone else's kindness. I spent quite a lot of money treating you guys to so many meals. How's that? Isn't it time for you guys to treat me someday?"

"You can't put it that way. If you really want to talk about it, you weren't the one treating us. Gao Feng was the one who paid." What? She was not going to treat them, and she was even asking them to treat her? Was Ma Yuanyuan crazy?

"Hehehe..." Ma Yuanyuan sneered. "I really wonder when you guys were on such good terms with Gao Feng that Gao Feng was willing to treat you guys to meals. But why hasn't he asked you guys out recently? Think about why Gao Feng was willing to let you guys take advantage of him. I'm sure you guys are clear about on whose account Gao Feng was willing to treat you. I haven't said anything so that we can both save our faces. But since you guys are so thick-skinned, I might as well be straightforward with my words. It's true that Gao Feng was the one who treated you guys, so shouldn't you guys pay back the favor and treat Gao Feng to a meal? There's no need to call me along. You guys can just treat Gao Feng alone."

Now that Ma Yuanyuan said that, the rest of them were truly rendered speechless.

They were used to taking advantage of others. It felt good to be able to enjoy a delectable feast outside of school. Eating the food in the school canteen every day was quite miserable indeed. They had thought that Ma Yuanyuan would suffer in order to maintain her pride and would spend her own money to treat them to a meal.

They had never imagined that Ma Yuanyuan would be so amazing, refusing to treat them to a meal for the sake of her pride. Instead, she had even embarrassed them.

They were the ones who had come up with such a scheming idea, after all, so they were the ones who would be embarrassed if a word were to get out. It might not matter for the girls, but there were a few boys amongst them. After being lectured by Ma Yuanyuan, those who wanted to maintain their pride dared not argue with Ma Yuanyuan and could only take their leave.

But there was one person who was persistent and refused to give up. What he said revealed that he was smarter than the others around. “Yuanyuan, you’re so pretty. Others may not know about how well Gao Feng treated you in the past, but we know all too well. He liked you so much. How could he break up with you just like that? Do you mean he really has no more feelings for you? Don’t worry, Yuanyuan. We’re all friends. We’ll definitely support you all the way. If you need any help, you’re welcome to find me for help. I’ll try to help you to the best of my abilities.”

Of course, the keyword was ‘try’.

Ma Yuanyuan had no idea whether he was being genuine or not. Neither did she want to find out. The entire school had already found out about Gao Feng’s attitude toward her. Wouldn’t they take her for a fool if she were to try to get Gao Feng back? Especially those hussies who were clear that she was dating Gao Feng. They had immediately tried to get involved the minute she had gotten into a fight with Gao Feng.

Her slightest actions were sure to spread like wildfire among them, and whatever news they spread was sure to be detrimental to her.

Even though it was true that she did not want to break up with Gao Feng and still wanted to salvage their relationship, she could not handle the matter in this manner. She had to find an appropriate solution that would allow her to maintain her dignity while successfully reconciling with Gao Feng.

The more so this happened, the more so she could not act out of anxiety. If she got anxious, she might come up with a bad solution and make a misstep. She was not going to allow herself to fall into such a miserable and embarrassing state.

As Gao Feng’s parents, Gao Yan and Fang Fang quickly learned of their son’s breakup. Initially, Fang Fang was upset that her son was in an early relationship. But now that her son had broken up with his girlfriend, Fang Fang could not help but worry. “Son, if you’re feeling unwell or upset, do you want to have a chat with Mom? What Mom’s trying to say is that there’s more than one tree in the forest. You should just focus on your studies for now. Once you enter university, you’ll realize just how beautiful and amazing this world is and that your life can be filled with all sorts of people whom you’ve never met before in your life.”

In short, once he interacted with more people, he would definitely meet a girl who was leagues above his ex-girlfriend. There was no need for her son to be so downcast over his first failed relationship. It made her heart ache seeing her son in this state.

“Thanks for your concern, Mom.” He had almost said ‘nonsense’ before changing it to ‘concern’. He was afraid that his dad would give him a tight slap if he were to say that his mom was spouting nonsense. “But I was the one who initiated this breakup. I wasn’t dumped. What’s there to be upset about? Haven’t you always disagreed to me being in an early relationship? Now that I’ve really broken up, shouldn’t you be the most relieved?”

He had thought that his mom would be so happy that she would even light firecrackers to celebrate upon learning of this piece of news.

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Chapter 1725: One after Another

Fang Fang laughed. “Do you mean that your mom’s opinion is unimportant and that your own opinion and feelings are most important? Are you really not upset about breaking up? Is it really that easy for you?” Or was it just a smokescreen to confuse the adults? Could it be that they had broken up on the surface but were still secretly dating behind everyone’s backs?

This was clearly feigning something but doing another!

Based on her son’s intellect, Fang Fang knew that Gao Feng was definitely capable of doing such a thing.

“Easy?” Gao Feng let out a laugh that was uglier than a cry. “Mom, this was your son’s first relationship. I really put all my effort into maintaining my relationship, but it still ended in a breakup. Do you really think it’s easy for me? I may be smiling now, but I’m actually crying inside. Mom, can you stop causing trouble for me? If you really have that much free time, why don’t you find Auntie Qiao for a chat?”

Now that his mom had gone into menopause, no one could make his mom normal. Not him, not his dad. Only Auntie Qiao could do that.

When he was younger, he always thought that Auntie Qiao could open a company for women to befriend other women if she no longer worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Women at his mom’s age had strange tempers and were really out of control. Auntie Qiao had specialized in foreign languages, but she was a natural psychologist. She would be able to calm those weird women undergoing menopause with just a few words.

Gao Feng rubbed his face. He could not imagine the kind of life he would be living if his family did not have Auntie Qiao helping them out along the way.

His mom was often undergoing menopause, and his dad was no different from his mom. Could it be that his wife had passed her menopause on to her partner because they lived together?

If that was really the case, he would have to reconsider getting married when he grew up. He could not commit a folly without being sure of it. Otherwise, he might become as irrational as his father who was as crazy as his mother. That would really be too extreme.

“You little brat! What are you going on about?” Gao Yan unhappily knocked his son on the head.

He was usually very busy because of his company’s business and expansion. It had not been easy for him to take time to spend some time with his wife, but his son was ruining things for him! He had asked Fang Fang to look for Qiao Nan! What was he going to do? Who would spend time with him?

All these years, Qiao Nan had occupied enough of his wife’s time, and his son was such a fool to say such stupid things to Fang Fang. When he was younger, Fang Fang would definitely bring him along whenever he encouraged Fang Fang to visit the Zhai family. That way, he had many more playmates all at once.

But now, he was almost going into university and had still come up with such a childish idea. He was truly hopeless.

“What’re you doing?” Fang Fang was upset that her son was being hit. “Our son has just broken up. Can’t you show more concern as a father? How can you bear to hit him? Remember that he’s not just your son. I carried him for ten months before giving birth to him. If you want to hit someone, go find someone else. I won’t let you hit my son.”

She was still worried about not having a touching reason to comfort her son with. But Gao Yan was ruining the mood by hitting her son. If it was not for her son and the need to maintain Gao Yan’s imposing image in front of his son, Fang Fang would have returned that slap on her son’s behalf.

Gao Yan pouted. All right, Gao Feng was Fang Fang’s son. Her precious son. He would not be able to do anything to this rascal while Fang Fang was around. But there were bound to be times when Fang Fang was not around. As long as Fang Fang was not under Fang Fang’s watchful eye, he would have ample opportunity to deal with that rascal, then.

Gao Feng, who had unknowingly irritated his father, felt that he was too aggrieved. Should he not be the one being comforted now that he had just broken up? Why had he suddenly become his father's eyesore and thorn in the flesh? Why was his father looking at him so menacingly?

How aggrieved he felt! What had he done?

Gao Feng felt that he had gotten the worst possible treatment for someone who had just broken up.

His dad did not allow his mom to visit Auntie Qiao. But if he was free and wanted to visit Auntie Qiao, his dad should have nothing to say about that, right?

As expected, Gao Yan did not have anything to say about that. His wife did not visit his greatest love rival, Qiao Nan, and the biggest third wheel around them, their son, had finally left them alone to have some time to themselves. Gao Yan felt that this was the life he should be living, and this was what his son ought to do.

Gao Yan, who was as happy as a lark, pulled Fang Fang along for a chat. He continuously persuaded Fang Fang that a boy of Gao Feng's age was stubborn. The more they tried to persuade him, the more he would want to rebel.

As long as they gave their son enough time and space for him to cool down and think for himself what would be the best way to deal with the matter, their son would eventually come to a realization.

Before that, all they had to do as parents was stand aside and keep their eye on their son, allowing him to think independently to resolve this problem. In that way, they could witness their son's growth.

As a businessman, as long as Gao Yan worked his magic, he could deceive even ghosts, let alone coax a person. In no time, Fang Fang, whose mind was all focused on education and simpler than others', completely bought whatever Gao Yan had told her without any hesitation.

Both sets of parents had known about how this couple got along with each other. Initially, Mother and Father Fang had always thought highly of Gao Yan and wanted him to be their son-in-law. But they were a little worried about whether letting Fang Fang marry Gao Yan was them helping their

daughter find a good husband, or whether they were committing a folly and were actually pushing their daughter into a firepit.

When the two of them were together, it was obvious that Gao Yan was that sly old fox who had everything in his control. In front of such a sly old fox, their daughter was an innocent bunny who simply followed whatever Gao Yan said. Thankfully, Mother and Father Fang were convinced by their in-laws.

Although Fang Fang was not exactly playing dumb, they could not stop their son from falling for Fang Fang's trap. Even in terms of intelligence, Fang Fang seemed not to be able to match up to their son.

Chapter 1726: To Laugh or To Cry

The problem was that between the two children, Gao Yan had been the one who stepped into the pit first. Thus, it was not Fang Fang who had been coaxed to no end. On the contrary, it had been Gao Yan who was whipped for Fang Fang.

Because of this, Gao Yan finally got his wish and married a beauty. They even had a son like Gao Feng.

At this time, Gao Yan showed off his talent of being able to deceive Fang Fang, successfully winning some time for the couple to spend together alone.

When Qiao Nan heard about the matter from Gao Feng who had come to visit her, her eyes widened in shock. "What did you just say? I didn't hear you clearly. Can you repeat yourself?"

"Auntie Qiao..." Gao Feng was embarrassed. He had gone all out for his first relationship, but the girl whom he had chosen so carefully had been so fickle. She was dating him and was spoiled by him, but she had another man in her heart. What Gao Feng could not accept was that his girlfriend had set her sights on his own elder brother whom he adored and respected. He was too embarrassed to repeat what he had just said, much less in the presence of Auntie Qiao. Auntie Qiao might as well use a block of tofu to kill him!

Qiao Nan rubbed her forehead. “Fengfeng, don’t get upset. Perhaps, it’s because Auntie Qiao has been busy with work and has gotten too confused. I apologize if I wasn’t able to consider your feelings.”

“Auntie Qiao, it’s not that serious. I’m not that weak.” This time, Gao Feng was shocked. He knew that his dad seemed to dislike Auntie Qiao on the surface, but in fact, his dad had always told him that there was only one woman whom he respected in his whole life: Auntie Qiao.

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As for his mom, that went without saying. She was a true fan of Auntie Qiao.

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He was younger than Auntie Qiao, and Auntie Qiao had not even said anything wrong. If he dared to accept Auntie Qiao’s apology, his parents would definitely gang up to get rid of him once they found out about this matter.

1

“Hold up.” Qiao Nan took a sip of water. “Fengfeng, I hope you won’t get angry. It’s just that there’ve been too many things going on lately. You said earlier that your girlfriend and her mom already have someone in mind. Who’s their target?” She was beginning to suspect that she was having auditory hallucinations because of that incident with Zhou Xing and her second son.

Logically, since something like that had already happened to Er Bao, it was only expected that Da Bao would be next.

“Auntie Qiao, it’s true. My ex-girlfriend and her mom have set their sights on Brother Da Bao. I heard that that auntie is clear about the Zhai family’s background and knows the kind of influence Uncle Zhai has in the army. That was why she asked her daughter to set her eyes on Brother Da Bao.”

But that mother had never expected that the daughter whom she had groomed had not even entered university but had already found a boy who was not her target to get into a relationship, and they seemed to be in quite a serious relationship. “Auntie Qiao, don’t worry. Brother Da Bao is not such a muddleheaded person. I think that even if Brother Da Bao knows nothing about what went on

between me and her, she would never be the kind of person that Brother Da Bao would fall for. When Brother Da Bao learns about her past relationship with me, more so would Brother Da Bao reject her.”

In his mind, his elder brother Da Bao had always been very rational and self-controlled since he was young.

Whether it was based on the person or the incident, he could not picture his elder brother Da Bao ever falling into Ma Yuanyuan’s trap.

“Ma Yuanyuan. That’s such a coincidence.” Qiao Nan heard that the young lady not only knew about her family background but had even set her goal on her eldest son. Then, she thought again about the surname ‘Ma’. There was something that made Qiao Nan feel slightly uneasy and suspicious. “Do you know who Ma Yuanyuan’s parents are? Or what their names are?”

Could there be such coincidences in this world? But if it was not a coincidence, how would that pair of mother and daughter be so clear about the Zhai family’s situation? The Zhai family was indeed quite famous within the country, but they were not so well-known that everyone should know of the Zhai family’s situation so clearly.

If it was so easy to inquire about the Zhai family, Peng Yu would never have spent so much time and effort on doing so. Now, his son was already in junior high school, but he had yet to complete his original mission. It was definitely no mean feat to find out about the Zhai family.

Seeing Qiao Nan getting nervous, Gao Feng frowned. “What’s wrong, Auntie Qiao? Do you know Ma Yuanyuan’s family?” He had grown up under Auntie Qiao’s watch since he was a child. Auntie Qiao had always been gentle and organized when doing things. His mom even said that a person like Auntie Qiao’s was the best because she was not impatient at all.

His mom had even said that perhaps it was because he had grown up with Auntie Qiao that he did have some similarities with her in this aspect. But Auntie Qiao’s current expression was one that he had never seen before.

“If you don’t, then do you know what Ma Yuanyuan’s mom is called?” It was not at all weird to share the same surname. There were only a few hundred surnames in the whole of China, after all. It would not be uncommon to share a surname. Even sharing names was not uncommon. But if both her father’s and mother’s name were the same, then it would definitely not be as simple as a coincidence.

“I think her surname is Qiu, but I’m not too sure about her full name.” Gao Feng answered honestly.

Both he and Ma Yuanyuan were still young. Even though they had started dating secretly during such a sensitive time in high school, they had not done anything too crazy. Of course, if they needed to be so secretive with something like holding hands, meeting their parents was still a matter of years away.

Even the surname of Ma Yuanyuan’s mom was only revealed by a slip of Ma Yuanyuan’s tongue. When Ma Yuanyuan occasionally complained about her mom’s high expectations of her, she had once mentioned that ‘Old Qiu’. “If I’m not wrong, Ma Yuanyuan’s mom works in the government sector too.”

After learning about that, Gao Feng had thought that there would be no obstacles to his relationship with Ma Yuanyuan. He did not care about Ma Yuanyuan’s family background, but what if his parents did? As long as Ma Yuanyuan’s family background was all right, there would be no major problems if he wanted to get together with Ma Yuanyuan in the future.

Because of this, Gao Feng still had this impression of Ma Yuanyuan’s family situation. Otherwise, Gao Feng would not even be able to answer Qiao Nan’s sudden question today.

After receiving such an answer, Qiao Nan did not know whether to laugh or to cry. She had really guessed so. The Zhai family’s background was undoubtedly good. Excellent, indeed.

Chapter 1727: Public Display of Affection

But the Zhai family’s situation was different from a typical family’s. They were unlike those businessmen who were ranked as the richest man in China and among the richest people in the world. Those with prominent military backgrounds were not allowed to be exposed to the media in this way.

If the family situations of those with prominent military backgrounds were to be exposed, the title of the national husband could no longer be assumed by those rich N-generation heirs. For that reason, unless they were familiar with the Zhai family, there was no way they would tell their daughter who had just come of age that her future husband must be no one else but Zhai Yi. Other than Zhai Yi, she couldn’t have intimate contact or even fall in love with other boys.

“Auntie Qiao, if you’re not feeling well, shall I send you to the hospital to get a checkup?” Gao Feng could feel that the smile of Qiao Nan’s face was not a happy one. In fact, there was a tinge of uneasiness in it. “Auntie Qiao, you have to take care of your health. We all care very much about you. Please don’t hide it from us if you’re feeling unwell.”

“No, don’t worry. I’m healthy and I go for a yearly health checkup. I have no problems at all.” Qiao Nan quickly reassured Gao Feng, knowing that he was saying so out of concern for her. There was nothing wrong with her body. It was her ‘heart’ that had a problem. “Ma Yuanyuan’s mom... I know her, and so does your uncle Zhai. I guess you can say that we’re old acquaintances.”

If she had not remembered wrongly, Qiu Chenxi’s mom, Qi Minlan, had tried to snatch her father-in-law away from her mother-in-law. Following that, Qiu Chenxi had even proclaimed herself to be Brother Zhai’s fiancée. Now, Qiu Chenxi seemed to want her daughter to become her daughter-in-law by getting together with Da Bao.

Sigh...

“Old acquaintances? That’s impossible!” Gao Feng denied it immediately. Such a thing was impossible. “We children know that Uncle Zhai doesn’t even know a single female apart from you and Sister San Bao!” Moreover, his Uncle Zhai could never distinguish between genders. He had even once suspected that his Uncle Zhai had a gender consciousness disorder.

Of course, only when Gao Feng grew up did he gradually understand why apart from his wife, Qiao Nan, there was only one other female in the world in Zhai Sheng’s eyes, and that was his daughter. So when he met Ma Yuanyuan and his heart stirred, Gao Feng had been absolutely sincere with his feelings throughout this entire relationship.

Unfortunately, the effort he put in did not guarantee a return.

Qiao Nan was tickled by Gao Feng’s words. “In your Uncle Zhai’s eyes, it might be true that only San Bao and I are female. But the main point is that your Uncle Zhai is undoubtedly a man of high caliber in other people’s eyes. Today, it’s because of your Uncle Zhai’s relationship with me that they have all given up completely. But they still have a chance with Da Bao and Er Bao. There was someone who failed to win over your Uncle Zhai. That is why she sets her sights on your elder brothers, Da Bao and Er Bao, after giving birth to a daughter.”

Obviously, the one whom Qiu Chenxi had eventually decided on was Da Bao and not Er Bao. But Er Bao... Forget it. She would rather not talk about Zhou Xing. From what she knew, after Zhou Xing apologized to Er Bao, she had indeed never shown up in front of Er Bao ever again. Neither did she continue constantly bothering Er Bao by calling him to go out with her.

“...” Upon hearing such shocking news, Gao Feng did not know how to react. “No wonder...” No wonder Ma Yuanyuan told her that she did not even know who Da Bao was and that dating Da Bao was just her mom’s wishful thinking.

He had initially been confused. If Ma Yuanyuan knew Da Bao, there was no way she would not know about their relationship since he had such a close relationship with Da Bao, so much so that they were practically biological brothers. Since Ma Yuanyuan had already made Da Bao her target and was even dating him in high school, Ma Yuanyuan was not practicing dating. Given his relationship with Da Bao, Ma Yuanyuan was simply digging her own grave!

Gao Feng bit on his lip. It was just that he had met a girl whom he had felt was right for him and wanted to get into an early relationship. He had not expected such a rare thing to happen to him!

As he found out more about her, Gao Feng gave up completely on Ma Yuanyuan. Ma Yuanyuan’s mom was someone who had fought over his uncle with Auntie Qiao! From a young age, his parents had constantly mentioned how good the relationship between Uncle Zhai and Auntie Qiao was.

Gao Feng believed that such an inflexible person like his Uncle Zhai would never have an affair. And thus, Ma Yuanyuan’s mom had not succeeded in coming between the two of them since the one Uncle Zhai liked was Auntie Qiao. Twenty years on, she was getting her own daughter to marry Uncle Zhai’s and Auntie Qiao’s son!

Gao Feng’s lips twitched. He really had no idea how to assess Ma Yuanyuan and her mom. “Ma Yuanyuan is a little pitiful.” It was impossible for Ma Yuanyuan to come up with such an idea.

The only explanation was that Ma Yuanyuan’s mom had constantly instilled this idea into her. Whether it was true or not, Ma Yuanyuan had no choice but to agree to it just to pacify her mom. It had been her mom’s obsession for decades. If Ma Yuanyuan were to refuse, her mom would definitely pester her to no end.

“But it takes two to tango. Ma Yuanyuan is almost an adult and has the ability to think and judge for herself. It’s not as though she’s at home every day. She should find a balance for herself. Of course, these are all the Ma family’s affairs. What I’m saying is that if Ma Yuanyuan is unwilling, parents can never force their children to do anything.”

Qiao Nan could not really agree with the statement that Ma Yuanyuan was pitiful. Based on how Ma Yuanyuan had been able to date Gao Feng even after Qiu Chenxi's brainwashing, it could be seen that Ma Yuanyuan was an opinionated young lady. She was not the kind of girl who would let her elders manipulate her.

Qiao Nan was not being narcissistic. But given the family background of the Zhai family and how outstanding Da Bao was, it was easy to be attracted to Da Bao. A possible reason for Ma Yuanyuan not rejecting Qiu Chenxi's idea right away was because she might have thought that Da Bao was indeed a good catch after learning about his family background. Thus, she left a possibility for things to develop between her and Da Bao.

Qiao Nan was already an adult, so it was only natural that she looked at things more comprehensively than Gao Feng did. "You came over for this matter?" Since Gao Feng already knew Ma Yuanyuan's and Qiu Chenxi's plans, Ma Yuanyuan was no longer a problem given the relationship between Gao Feng and Da Bao.

"No." Gao Feng's face turned stiff. "My parents are showing public displays of affection at home. For the sake of my own physical and mental health, I really can't stay at home any longer."

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Chapter 1728: Another Old Acquaintance

"Auntie Qiao, I can't wait to go to university. When the time comes, I won't pick universities in the capital. I'll choose some other place to study. That way, I can choose to come home only twice a year. Otherwise, I'll always be bullied for being single. Didn't you say that my mom didn't really like my dad before they got married and that my mom even had other boyfriends?"

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They had already been married for so many years, yet their relationship was only improving by the day, and they seemed to be even clingier than young people nowadays.

Gao Feng thought that his parents had a huge role to play in him getting into an early relationship with Ma Yuanyuan. If they had not constantly shown off their affection for each other in front of

him, would he have been in such a hurry to find a girlfriend and experience falling in love for himself?

Because of the sparks that constantly flew around at home, Gao Feng's greatest wish was to be the one to create these sparks one day and show them some public displays of affection too. It was only right to reciprocate what had been given to him, after all.

1

"..." Upon hearing Gao Feng's excuse, Qiao Nan had only one word: respect. "All right, you might as well have dinner at my house tonight." Knowing that Fang Fang's relationship with Gao Yan was getting better and better, Qiao Nan was naturally happy for Fang Fang. Gao Yan had really remained faithful after marriage and still cherished Fang Fang deeply.

Qiao Nan was happy to see Fang Fang living a blissful life and being as happy as a lark after her marriage to Gao Yan. Fang Fang's blissful life proved that those things that she had done in the past had not harmed anyone, and neither were they meddling in someone else's business.

But because Gao Feng had mentioned Ma Yuanyuan to Qiao Nan, Qiu Chenxi was once again brought to Qiao Nan's attention after ten years.

Peng Yu had wanted to deal with Zhai Sheng several times, but he had always failed to do so. Deng Wenchang was someone that Peng Yu had helped in joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Now, Deng Wenchang had been the minister of foreign affairs for several years. Unfortunately, Peng Yu's plan had never developed.

Deng Wenchang had suddenly ended the Deng family's collaboration with the Peng family at the very last minute. It was at this time that Qiao Nan stepped down from her previous position and supported Deng Wenchang into the position.

Because of that, Peng Yu had finally seen the dawn of victory. But it was exactly because of this that all his previous efforts had gone down the drain. The most infuriating part was that the helper whom he had found was no longer working for him and had even supported the one whom he was trying to defeat! This almost drove Peng Yu to his grave!

After Deng Wenchang took over that position, many people knew that Deng Wenchang might have been the minister, but the one who had the most power in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was still

Qiao Nan. In the face of such a situation, Deng Wenchang had not tried to change anything and had even accepted it over the years.

Based on this alone, it was clear that Deng Wenchang was on the Zhai family's side.

This change caused the Peng family to become a joke in everyone's eyes, making everyone realize just how powerful the Zhai family was. It was not just anybody who could pull an enemy's ally over to their own side to become their own stepping stone.

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In short, Peng Yu and the Peng family became somewhat of a joke in the military circle because of Deng Wenchang. If Deng Wenchang was the Peng family's first joke, then Qiu Chenxi was undoubtedly Peng Yu's second.

More than a decade had passed, and both Peng Yu and Qiu Chenxi had gotten married to their respective partners. Their children were all grown up too. The problem was that at that time, Peng Yu's parents had always brought Qiu Chenxi around by their side, acting as though Qiu Chenxi was their daughter-in-law.

Everyone was wondering what was wrong with Peng Yu. He was clearly at war with Zhai Sheng, but why was he acting so high and mighty after 'picking up' a woman that Zhai Sheng dumped?

Was Peng Yu trying to prove to everyone that Zhai Sheng was blind, and Qiu Chenxi, whom Zhai Sheng had abandoned for Qiao Nan, was truly the best woman on earth?

To tell the truth, they might have agreed with Peng Yu's way of thinking and actions in the past. But when the news spread that Qiu Chenxi was going to be the Peng family's daughter-in-law, Qiao Nan's career had taken off and had already reached a certain height. There was no way for Qiu Chenxi to match up to that, much less surpass that.

All they could say about Peng Yu having such thoughts was that all his efforts would eventually be in vain. After all that effort, Peng Yu would not be able to prove that Qiu Chenxi was more outstanding than Qiao Nan, or that he had better judgment than Zhai Sheng. What if he got a slap in the face? How embarrassing would that be?

Just as everyone was caught up in the uproar surrounding Peng Yu and Qiu Chenxi, Peng Yu got into a shotgun marriage with a girl who had just returned from abroad and gave birth to a son within a year.

What was even stranger was how people were still discussing about when Peng Yu and Qiu Chenxi would hold their wedding banquet. Peng Yu had gotten into a shotgun marriage, and so had Qiu Chenxi with an official with the surname 'Ma'.

Peng Yu's wife had given birth to a son. Within a few months, Qiu Chenxi and that official with the surname 'Ma' also gave birth to their daughter. It seemed as though these two people were competing with each other. Neither would lose to each other in terms of getting married or giving birth to their children. It was so bizarre that people could not even pick up with whatever was going on. When had getting married and having children become a competition?

Initially, Peng Yu had wanted to compete with Zhai Sheng. But now, it seemed as though he was competing with Qiu Chenxi. Such a phenomenon made people who initially did not believe that Peng Yu was together with Qiu Chenxi become suspicious of whether the two of them were indeed in a relationship.

Otherwise, why did it seem as though Peng Yu and Qiu Chenxi were having a competition to get married and have children? Only lovers who had fought would do something so childish and foolish!

There were also many people who were paying attention to Peng Yu, hoping to watch a good show. Upon hearing about the news regarding Peng Yu, Zhai Sheng, whom Peng Yu had always treated as his rival, did not show any response. He was so calm that it seemed as though Peng Yu was a stranger to him.

Peng Yu thought of Zhai Sheng as his lifetime rival, but Zhai Sheng had never paid any attention to Peng Yu and did not think so highly of Peng Yu that he would be a rival of his.

Whatever other people told Zhai Sheng about Peng Yu went in one ear and out from the other. Occasionally, when he remembered what was said, Zhai Sheng would subconsciously talk to Qiao Nan about it.

That was why Qiao Nan had immediately realized whose daughter Ma Yuanyuan was the moment Gao Feng mentioned Ma Yuanyuan. Her mom was also a government official, and her dad's surname was 'Ma', and they lived near the capital. There were not many people who fulfilled all

these criteria. Moreover, Ma Yuanyuan's mom's surname was 'Qiu'. Qiao Nan was absolutely sure that Ma Yuanyuan was Qiu Chenxi's daughter.

Chapter 1729: A Better Attitude

She had thought that Zhai Sheng would no longer be Qiu Chenxi's target now that she had Peng Yu. She thought that Qiu Chenxi would change her target. Who would have expected that Qiu Chenxi would get her daughter to inherit her mom's career and continue setting her sights on the men of the Zhai family?

Faced with all three generations of Qiu Chenxi's family's obsession with the men of the Zhai family, Qiao Nan did not know how to react.

That day, not only did Gao Feng have his dinner with the Zhai family, but he also spent the night at their house. Whether it was Gao Feng, Zhu Yu, or Tian Haoran, these children would always have their own beds when they slept over, even if they could not have their own rooms. In the capital where every square foot of land was precious, it was already not easy that the Zhai family could place so many beds in their house.

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The house that the Zhai family was living in was given to the Zhai family because of Zhai Yaohui. With Qiao Nan's financial abilities, it would be easy for Qiao Nan to find a bigger and better place than this, even though they were in the capital. Qiao Nan would not even have to spend a single cent on purchasing a new home. She would simply have to spend some time and effort to move her things over to a house that her master had left to her among the huge inheritance that he had passed down to her.

But the Zhai family did not mind living the way they did, and Qiao Nan herself was not that extravagant. Since there were many kids at home, it was a little cramped. But that also meant that their home felt warmer and cozier. After all, the children were all grown up and spent more time outside than they did at home with their elders.

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If they were to move to a bigger house, it would be comfortable when there were more people around. But when there were fewer people, an empty house would seem too cold for Miao Jing and Zhai Yaohui. Taking her parents-in-law's opinions into consideration, Qiao Nan gave up the idea of moving.

Sleeping in a familiar bed, Gao Feng slept well through the night. Gao Feng felt right at home with the Zhai family. His father was good at making money, and they were not lacking financially. They had no problem buying any kind of house they wanted even in a place like the capital.

To let his mom live comfortably, his dad had really bought a mansion. But there were not many people living in such a large house. Moreover, his parents had a good relationship and were always showing public displays of affection. As such, Gao Feng had no good feelings toward his own mansion at all.

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No matter where he stayed, he felt the most comfortable and at ease at the Zhai family's house. Unfortunately, his childhood friends were not by his side. Otherwise, it would surely be more lively and comfortable.

He wondered if his elder brother, Da Bao, had found a girlfriend after entering university. It was best if he had. As long as Da Bao had a girlfriend, Ma Yuanyuan should not have the guts to appear in front of Da Bao. If Ma Yuanyuan really did that, she would be the third party in a relationship. She would be interfering in someone else's relationship and snatching someone else's boyfriend!

Sigh. He could only hope that Ma Yuanyuan had her own limits and her pride as a person and would not blindly follow whatever her mom said regarding Da Bao and commit a folly because of that. Actually, whether his elder brother, Da Bao, was in a relationship or not, Ma Yuanyuan did not even stand a chance either way. He liked girls like Ma Yuanyuan, but she was not the type of girl that Da Bao would take a fancy to.

Realizing that he had constantly been thinking about Ma Yuanyuan after lying down, Gao Feng was slightly frustrated. He tried to stop himself from thinking of her. No matter what Ma Yuanyuan decided to do, it would still take two to tango. Ma Yuanyuan's lone efforts would not result in success.

Even if he could not trust Ma Yuanyuan, he should have faith in his elder brother. Yes, that was it. After convincing himself, Gao Feng finally threw the blanket over himself and closed his eyes to sleep.

Knowing that his son was not returning home and was going to spend the night at the Zhai family's, the heartless father, Gao Yan, was pretty happy. That would only mean that the third wheel would not be around, and they could continue having their time alone as a couple. Yes, actually, he would not mind if his son spent more time at the Zhai family's house when he came home on the weekends or during his school holidays.

But Fang Fang was not in such a good mood like Gao Yan was. After her son entered high school, she could only see her son once a month. He had finally returned home but had gone to her sister's house to spend the night instead. She missed her son dearly. "It's all your fault. Can't you treat Fengfeng nicely? Why do I feel like you're treating Fengfeng as a free gift that you got when signing up for a mobile contract? Is he really your son?"

"Of course he is." If he was not his own son, would he have let Gao Feng hog his wife for so long? If it had been any other man, Gao Yan would have sent him to his death no matter what kind of person or age he was after occupying Fang Fang's heart for such a long time. It was just that the one snatching his wife away from him was his own biological son. No matter how uncomfortable that made Gao Yan, he had no choice but to swallow it.

It could be said that Gao Yan had been jealous for an entire year while Fang Fang was still breast-feeding Gao Feng. He felt that he was sharing what belonged to him with another 'man'. That was terrible! If he could, he really wanted to give this 'someone else's husband' away.

The only reason that Gao Yan could not give him away was that he did not even know whether his daughter-in-law had already been born, or who she was. Otherwise, Gao Yan might really have sent his son over to his future father-in-law.

It was better to cultivate their feelings for each other from a young age, after all. Just like how he and Fang Fang were childhood sweethearts. How awesome was that!

"Your own son? I can't tell at all." Fang Fang could not understand what was in Gao Yan's head. All she knew was that her son had finally returned home, but Gao Yan had chased him back out. The angry Fang Fang stared at Gao Yan before hitting him with a pillow. "Go sleep in the study room. I'm angry just looking at you!"

She was in a cranky mood now that her son was not at home. The sight of anyone made her upset.

“...” He had gone to great lengths to chase away the third wheel and had finally managed to complete all his work to free up some time to spend time with his wife. He was thinking that tonight would be a hot and passionate night.

But who would have known that his enthusiasm completely died down just because that dirty rascal was not at home. In the end, he even had to sleep in the study room!

Looking at the pillow that Fang Fang had stuffed in his arms, Gao Yan raised his eyebrows. Sleeping in the study room? No way! He did not want to sleep in the study room. He wanted to sleep with his wife!

With a loud scream, Gao Yan jumped toward Fang Fang, whose sulking back was facing him, and skillfully removed Fang Fang's clothes. Initially, Fang Fang was still upset at him. But with Gao Yan's teasing, she could only focus on the man on top of her and temporarily put her son aside.

Gao Yan and Fang Fang got along well, and Qiao Nan's relationship with Zhai Sheng was even better.

Now, Zhai Sheng returned home more often. When Qiao Nan lay beside Zhai Sheng, it was only natural that the topic of their children came up.

Chapter 1730: Adults' Affairs

“Brother Zhai, how should we resolve this? Should we let Da Bao settle it himself if it really happens? Or should you get involved?” As a mother, there was no way Qiao Nan could let the matter go, knowing that someone has their eyes on her son.

“Let him resolve it himself.” Zhai Sheng said domineering while hugging Qiao Nan. “This is quite similar to that matter with Zhou Xing. They'll face many such problems in the future. If they can't even solve such a problem concerning a woman, how can I rely on them to overcome the difficulties and solve the challenges we encounter on missions in the military?”

Zhai Sheng was rather surprised by this too. He had almost forgotten about the existence of Qiu Chenxi. He had never expected that Qiu Chenxi had even instructed her daughter to set her sights on his son. Zhai Sheng himself could not really understand what Qiu Chenxi was doing. It was not

as though there were only the men of the Zhai family left in the whole world. There was really no need to be so obsessed with the men of the Zhai family.

In the past few years, Qiu Chenxi had never appeared in front of him. Similarly, her mother, Qi Minlan, had not appeared in front of his mother. As a parent himself, Zhai Sheng always remembered how his mom would always hide away when Qiu Chenxi and Qi Minlan visited.

“Don’t be so quick to pass your judgment. If my memory serves me well, Qiu Chenxi still thought of herself as your fiancée even after I became your girlfriend. She always came to cause trouble for me.” Brother Zhai had not handled the matter regarding Qiu Chenxi as cleanly and quickly as he expected Da Bao to do.

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“At that time, if it had not been for Shi Qing’s help, I would have suffered great losses at Qiu Chenxi’s hands. Although we had not publically announced our relationship, Qiu Chenxi made it seem as though it was shameful for us to be together. And you have to guts to talk about Da Bao and Er Bao now?”

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This woman’s temper never changed no matter her age. Everyone was about the same.

Because of her rebirth, Qiao Nan had decided to rebel against Ding Jiayi. That was how she had bumped into Zhai Sheng and had been won over by just a simple fever medicine. Her previous life had been ruined because she had cowardly accepted the path that Ding Jiayi had arranged for her.

Even though she lived in the same courtyard as Zhai Sheng and knew who Zhai Sheng was, Zhai Sheng never knew that there was a young lady named Qiao Nan living in the same compound as him. In her previous life, she had almost turned forty years old but had remained single and had never had a boyfriend until her death.

Qiao Nan could not believe that Zhai Sheng, who was five years older than her and at forty-four years old, was just like her, unmarried without any children.

Qiao Nan felt a little sour when thinking about how her parents-in-law had even identified Qiu Chenxi as their own daughter-in-law when the two of them had been together. She could not help

but think that Qiu Chenxi was the one that Zhai Sheng had married when she had not appeared in her previous life. In their previous lives, it had been Qiu Chenxi who had given birth to Zhai Sheng's children and had been the one who was the chief's wife.

If that was really the case, Qiao Nan did not know whether to feel a little guilty toward Qiu Chenxi. Even if she had not taken the initiative to fight for this relationship, it had been her appearance that changed Qiu Chenxi's original destiny. She had only thought about changing her own destiny. Because of the butterfly effect, she had not only changed her own destiny but someone else's as well.

You reaped what you sowed.

So would she need to repay her debts to Qiu Chenxi for changing their destinies? It did not matter for her, but Qiao Nan did not want to drag her son into the matter and give her son to Qiu Chenxi.

"..." At the mention of this, Zhai Sheng's attitude softened. "I never like her. No one understands my mom's feelings toward the pair of mother and daughter better than me and Zhai Hua."

"But I never saw your family being very persistent in ostracizing them. Didn't your families treat each other as in-laws? My father-in-law's attitude was just like that, and neither did my mother-in-law resist. Albeit clearly detesting them, you guys chose to feel depressed only in your hearts and hurt yourselves. It's not that I want to pass judgment on you or Sister Zhai Hua. The two of you should know that I have no objections. But it was because the two of you were neglected by your parents when you were younger that you guys bore resentment. Both of you felt that the adults should settle their own problems. You guys tried to help your mom, but there was a limit to your abilities. Mom herself disliked Qi Minlan and her daughter but was still willing to accept the both of them. You and Sister Hua Hua had the intention of following your parents and causing trouble for them."

It was not as though Qiao Nan did not know about what had gone on at that time. But at that time, the Zhai family's relationship lacked a little sincerity, and there was even a tinge of indifference. The way the Zhai family got along with each other made Qiao Nan feel that the family might be living under the same roof, but they did not really care about each other. As long as someone thought that he was doing well, even if someone else thought that such an idea was wrong, he would not try to correct the other person. At most, he might give a suggestion, but it would ultimately be up to the other person to do whatever he deemed fit.

Qiao Nan put up her hands and calculated the time Zhai Sheng spent at home. It was truly pitiful.

Even then, her mother-in-law and sister-in-law had always told her that Zhai Sheng was now in contact with his family more frequently because she was in a relationship with Zhai Sheng!

Qiao Nan wondered what would have happened had she not appeared, given that Zhai Sheng was stationed in an army camp for the long-term. Zhai Sheng would not even have any time to get to know another girl apart from Qiu Chenxi, let alone date a girl!

With the relationship between Qi Minlan and Zhai Yaohui, it was actually quite easy for Qiu Chenxi to get married to Zhai Sheng if she wanted to. After all, Zhai Sheng did not know another young lady apart from Qiu Chenxi, much less say like another young lady, or get into a relationship with her.

Instead of finding a totally unknown and unfamiliar young lady, Qiu Chenxi became the best choice for Zhai Sheng.

“...” Zhai Sheng rubbed his nose. “Haven’t you heard that children shouldn’t meddle in adults’ affairs?” He could not deny that neither he nor Zhai Hua was close to their parents.

He could see that his mom disliked Qi Minlan and her daughter, but the two families interacted more often than real in-laws. His mom would always put up a false smiling front but would cry behind their backs. Once she could no longer stand it, she would run out to hide. He and Zhai Hua knew about this, but they could not do anything. Neither did they want to do anything about it.

As an adult and as the matriarch of the Zhai family, if their mom was going to behave in this manner, there was no reason for the two children to interfere. Saddened by the misfortune but angered by the lack of resistance. That was the principle.

Zhai Sheng had always thought that their family would continue getting along with Qi Minlan and her daughter in this strange way.