

RTAMM 2051

Chapter 2051: The Future

At this moment, she didn't care which school she had graduated from. What she cared about was that when they were chatting, she couldn't possibly share that she was a student who graduated from junior high, right?

These were all embarrassing topics. Thankfully, the Zhai family didn't like the excitement and might not attend some banquets in the political circle. Otherwise, they would ask three questions: What qualifications do you have? Where did you study? Where are you studying now?

These three questions could kill Qiao Nan in seconds, leaving her without a whole body.

Zhai Sheng pinched Qiao Nan's hand. "Don't give yourself so much pressure. If you really feel there's a need to and you want to study, I'm supportive. However, if it's purely because of how others would look at you, you don't have to work so hard."

Qiao Nan shook her head. "You don't understand. We don't have to care too much about how others look at us, but we can't ignore them completely. We live in a big society. There are so many people around us that we have to keep in touch with. We have to integrate into such a living environment. We have to try and work hard. You don't have to think that this is hard work. I feel that this is putting in effort, and this is necessary."

If only she and the Zhai family were left in this world, then indeed, she didn't have to feel pressured or care about these issues. However, this was not the case. Aside from the Zhai family, there were still many people and countries in this world. Regardless of whether it was for Zhai Sheng or herself, Qiao Nan felt that it was necessary for her to improve herself.

"You also know that over the years, the only thing that I haven't lost knowledge in and have been learning better is English. As such, I want to take whatever English level tests that are available." No matter what, she had relied on this in the past to make a living.

When she was in Ping Cheng, she taught English to students who were in junior high school and below. As such, coupled with the fact that the effects of her tutoring were good, she could casually take out a CET-4 certificate and those parents would still be willing to use a good price to hire her.

In reality, Qiao Nan had put in a lot of effort to get such a reputation among the parents of elementary and junior high school children in Ping Cheng. Following the development of society, parents paid more attention to their children's education and focused more on their children's English ability. Since they had to spend a huge amount of money to hire a tutor, the tutor mustn't be too bad and had to fulfill all requests.

When Qiao Nan was studying, she was very interested in English. After dropping out of school to work, because of various reasons, the knowledge Qiao Nan came into contact with the most was actually English. As such, based on her love for studying and her own determination, Qiao Nan self-taught and passed the CET-4 test.

How would parents be willing to hire a tutor with a background similar to Qiao Nan's? Qiao Nan became a tutor to satisfy Ding Jiayi's increasing demands for higher living expenses. As such, Qiao Nan didn't dare to drop her price. She was afraid that once she dropped her price, it wouldn't be easy for her to increase her price again. What should she do if she increased her price but the other party chose to change a tutor?

In the end, as she was left with no choice, Qiao Nan came up with the suggestion of a trial teaching. The tuition fees couldn't be lowered as she was confident in her capabilities. However, she could try teaching for a while. If the child's English results during this period of trial improved, then the parents had to pay her the tuition fees for this period.

On the contrary, if her tuition was useless, she wouldn't take any money during this trial period. She would just pack her bags and leave.

Qiao Nan's suggestion was quickly accepted by parents. Some parents were open-minded. Upon seeing that Qiao Nan had a CET-4 certificate, even if they knew that Qiao Nan was just a junior high school graduate, they were willing to give her a chance.

Thankfully, Qiao Nan had really worked hard in this regard. The first child she tried teaching scored eight points higher in the first topical test when school reopened, compared to the final examinations of the previous semester. Not only did the parents retain Qiao Nan as a tutor, but they also paid her all the tuition fees.

Before the parents gave Qiao Nan the money, they also asked their child if he could understand whatever Qiao Nan had taught him. The child said Qiao Nan taught him very seriously and her lessons were quite interesting. In the past, when he looked at English, he couldn't understand or remember it well. Now, his acceptance of English knowledge was really much better than before.

Since their child had said so, why else should the parents doubt Qiao Nan?

Gradually, Qiao Nan's reputation as an English tutor who graduated from junior high school became stronger. There weren't a lot of parents who asked Qiao Nan for tuition, but there were a few who asked at the same time. These parents tried to lower the price with Qiao Nan. However, they were no match to her as their child's results had improved after Qiao Nan's teaching but dropped again after they dismissed Qiao Nan and found another tutor with a university degree. As such, Qiao Nan became their eventual choice.

Without the chance to change her destiny in her dream, Qiao Nan thought about it and decided to start with English, which she was best at. At this moment, Qiao Nan wasn't sure if her level of English had been high to begin with or if she had brought over the many years of teaching by Elder Lin in her dreams to reality.

Her English proficiency was not any worse than a university student's. Even if she was asked to be an assistant for a diplomat, Qiao Nan felt that she was competent.

Of course, Qiao Nan didn't say these words. To say them at this time would make her seem that she was bragging.

It would definitely not be wrong for her to improve herself first. Qiao Nan already thought of what specialization she wanted to apply for and how she was going to complete all the English tests step by step after reaching the capital.

Upon hearing how excited Qiao Nan was when sharing her future study schedule, Zhai Sheng smiled and was completely relieved. It was a selfish decision for him to bring Qiao Nan to the capital. Even if he and his family were sincere to Qiao Nan and never cared about her background and qualifications, it didn't mean that others would look at Qiao Nan in such a manner as well.

However, to leave Qiao Nan in Ping Cheng and not let her interact with the Zhai family's contacts in the capital was similarly selfish and unfair to Qiao Nan. She would be hurt either way. As such, Zhai Sheng was more willing to hand the choice over to Qiao Nan. In this process, he would try his best to protect Qiao Nan.

The problem was that once he heard about Qiao Nan's future plans in the capital, Zhai Sheng's heart felt warm. He was overjoyed to discover that Qiao Nan was stronger and more suitable to be a chief's wife than he had imagined. Perhaps life in the capital would make Qiao Nan feel somewhat uneasy and hesitant. However, this would not stop Qiao Nan's love for life.

Chapter 2052: Special Privilege

He had indeed found himself a soul mate and the most suitable woman for himself this time.

“Alright, we’ll do as you say. Don’t worry. My parents and I will all support you. As long as you’re happy, we’ll always be on your side no matter what decision you make.”

Perhaps, he should have a conversation with his father to let him know about Nan Nan’s ideas after he arrived in the capital and before leaving. He would definitely not have much time to help Nan Nan or take care of her once he returned to the military.

At such a time, the one who would be able to guide and help Nan Nan would be his father.

The moment the auntie in the capital heard about the news that Zhai Sheng had gotten married while back at the old villa, she was overjoyed. Because the Zhais were good people, the auntie was concerned about her employers. In such an expensive city like the capital, where others were crammed into small houses of less than a hundred square meters, Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing were often lonely and sad because there was nobody else in their huge home.

The auntie knew very well that Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing had always been longing for Zhai Sheng to get married and to have children of his own. Now that he had already passed the first hurdle of getting married, a baby was sure to be on the way very soon.

As such, Qiao Nan was very warmly welcomed by the auntie. “You’re Qiao Nan, right? I’m the auntie in this house. You must have had a long trip. I’ve already made some tea. Please go have some. I’ve also washed all the fruits on the table. Please have whatever you like!”

This auntie was not the same one as in Qiao Nan’s dream. Thus, Qiao Nan felt a little unfamiliar with her. Qiao Nan felt a little overwhelmed by the special treatment she was receiving from a stranger. “Alright, thank you.”

Sitting on the sofa, Miao Jing suddenly felt that she had to accept that she had indeed grown old. While she was younger, she had accompanied Old Zhai on flights everywhere and had never once felt tired. Now, she had merely taken a three-hour flight and was already feeling aches all over. “Auntie, I’m hungry. Have you prepared our meal? If you have, you can bring them out now. Zhai Sheng, take Nan Nan to have a look at your room. Your room... I don’t want to talk about it. It’s just as well that Nan Nan can redecorate it.”

Was it even a room? Apart from a bed, there were only walls in a single color. If not for the wooden floor, Miao Jing might even mistake Zhai Sheng's room for a prison cell instead of a normal bedroom.

Even without Miao Jing's instructions, Zhai Sheng had intended to show Qiao Nan their room. Zhai Sheng had a feeling that he would spend more time in his bedroom in the next half a year than he had in the past ten years he had been in the capital.

In the face of the room he would return to, Zhai Sheng had to consider Qiao Nan's feelings even if he did not care about his own. "Nan Nan, take a look and see what needs to be changed or added. You can do as you please. I don't have any specific requirements."

Seeing that Zhai Sheng had only a bed without even a closet to hang his clothes, Qiao Nan pursed her lips. "I can tell that you really don't care about where you live. How could you not even have a closet? Where do you put all your clothes?"

"..." Zhai Sheng was a little hesitant to answer that question.

How should he put it? In the past, he had no interest in coming home. Even after Qiu Chenxi left, he had been unwilling to return. When he had just divorced Qiu Chenxi, his parents had not fully understood the situation yet, much less reconciled with him. Besides, his parents' relationship was a little strange in itself. Why would he, as their son and a single man, come in between them?

Moreover, Zhai Sheng had not been young when he had gotten married to Qiu Chenxi in the first place. After the divorce that came three years later, Zhai Sheng was even older. Yet, there was still no child in the Zhai family. As such, every time Zhai Sheng returned home, Miao Jing would nag at him to get married without fail. Even worse, upon confirming that Zhai Sheng was returning home, Miao Jing would always find ways to have two to three unmarried young ladies at home every time Zhai Sheng returned.

It was obvious what she was scheming.

His parents' relationship was still unclear while he had not been divorced for long at that time. How could Zhai Sheng possibly throw himself into another grave by being with a woman he had not known for long? With Miao Jing on his back, Zhai Sheng neither raised his voice nor threw a temper. Instead, he simply returned home to sit around for a while before excusing himself by saying that he needed to return for a mission in the military.

In the end, Zhai Sheng resorted to returning to the Zhai family's house in a clean set of clothes. Then, he would return to the military after a night's stay. Since his clothes were in the military, it was only natural that he changed his clothes back in the military. Zhai Sheng had already gotten to the point where he did not even change in the Zhai family's house. This naturally meant that a closet was unnecessary there.

Given his frugality as a soldier, Zhai Sheng had simply moved that unused closet somewhere else and put it into good use elsewhere.

Since Zhai Sheng did not answer her, Qiao Nan did not try to force one out of him. It was not a crucial matter anyway. "Alright, I'll clean this room up. Do you even come back here?"

In her dream, Qiao Nan had been Zhai Sheng's wife for over twenty years. What could Qiao Nan possibly not know about Zhai Sheng's temper and habits?

In fact, Qiao Nan had heard about Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing's situation from Zhai Hua while she had been in Ping Cheng. A child's opinions and ideas about marriage were directly influenced by his parents'. In reality, the couple's relationship had only gotten better quite recently. This had led to Zhai Hua's extreme desire to have a family of her own and a man who would cherish her with all his heart. That was why she had gotten married to Wei De.

On the other hand, Zhai Sheng felt that marriage was unnecessary after seeing his parent's relationship. By remaining unmarried, he would have one less person to make trouble for him. That way, he would have more freedom in the future.

Zhai Sheng did not think much about it and smiled. "Don't worry. I'll return home often in the future. I'll come back and spend time with you every time I get a break in the military."

Since Zhai Sheng had not read in between the lines, Qiao Nan could not be bothered to explain it any further. "Alright, come back often. By the way, if anything happens and I can't make up my mind, can I make a call to the military to find you?" Qiao Nan had already gotten this special privilege while she was still a junior high school student in her dream and before she had even been in an official relationship with Zhai Sheng. At that time, she had simply treated Zhai Sheng as an older brother who was concerned about her. She had never imagined that Zhai Sheng felt something more toward her.

Zhai Sheng's eyes glimmered. "Of course!" He had been in such bliss these days. He should have taken the initiative to offer Nan Nan his number in the military but Nan Nan had been the one to ask for it. Zhai Sheng retrieved a notebook from the study room and wrote down his number in the military. "You can dial this number if you need to get hold of me in the future. I should be able answer it most of the time."

After becoming a chief, Zhai Sheng was no longer sent on dangerous missions as often as he had been while he had been younger. It was just that he could not leave the military base because of his responsibilities. Even though he no longer went on as many missions, Zhai Sheng had never gotten excessive free time.

"Alright." It was only natural that the number Qiao Nan received from Zhai Sheng differed from the one in her dream. However, Qiao Nan memorized Zhai Sheng's number immediately all the same. "Alright, I'll call you in the future if I need you. And if anything happens, remember to let me know once you are allowed to do so."

This was a tacit understanding that Qiao Nan had developed with Zhai Sheng in her dream. It seemed as though they were reliving their lives in reality by meeting each other again and even getting married again. However, Qiao Nan had no intention of changing that harmonious way they got along before.

Zhai Sheng naturally agreed to Qiao Nan's suggestion at once. Upon returning to the capital, Zhai Sheng spent only a day at home with Qiao Nan before returning to the military yet again. As for Qiao Nan, who was now without her husband by her side, she was no different from the person she was in her dream, who had never let herself relax and be free because of her husband's absence. Quite on the contrary, Qiao Nan got even busier than anyone else.

Based on her own interests, Qiao Nan, who already had a Level Four certification in English, signed up for Level Six examination as well as a course similar to a teaching degree to upgrade her skills.

When they had just returned to the capital, Zhai Yaohui had already heard from Zhai Sheng that Qiao Nan intended to upgrade herself. Zhai Yaohui fully supported Qiao Nan in this matter. It did not matter that Qiao Nan's family background was poor or imperfect. Even a perfect family background would not be able to compare to Qiao Nan's desire to learn.

If Qiao Nan had not planned everything out for herself, her father-in-law, Zhai Yaohui, would probably have taken interest in helping her find something worth pursuing.

With Zhai Yaohui's help, Qiao Nan managed to sign up for her examinations and courses smoothly. Upon receiving her books, Qiao Nan immediately threw herself into a sea of books. Thankfully, Qiao Nan was still as enthusiastic upon seeing books as she had been while in junior high school, even though she had already been away for a few decades.

Qiao Nan did not experience headaches upon looking at books, like a normal person would after graduating. Without such negative emotions, it was only expected that Qiao Nan learned much more from the textbooks than others would. As for English, Qiao Nan did not even need to revise anything. She simply turned up for class at the right time.

In both her dream and reality, she had never lost her knowledge of English and her command of the language was extremely high.

Apart from her studies, Qiao Nan busied herself with redecorating the room that she shared with Zhai Sheng. Of course, Qiao Nan always made use of the time that Miao Jing and Zhai Yaohui were out of the house in the daytime to do that. No matter how minor her renovations were, some noise was inevitable.

Miao Jing and Zhai Yaohui were no longer young and it was better to avoid such noise as much as possible.

Qiao Nan busied herself with her studies for two months until the date of her Level Six certification examination was looming ahead of her. The room that she shared with Zhai Sheng was finally comfortable and cozy enough to be termed as a room.

While Qiao Nan led a blissful life, it seemed as though the Qiao family was still in a mess. The difference was that Qiao Nan was no longer their target. Instead, Qiao Dongliang had taken her place.

"Tell me. Has Qiao Nan been sending our family money all this while? Have you been keeping the money for yourself?" Ding Jiayi had been at a loss for words for almost an hour. It was only when she returned home to that familiar and secure place that she returned from her trance and managed to speak her mind.

Ding Jiayi had already sued Qiao Nan. Given that Qiao Nan was married to Zhai Sheng, even if Qiao Nan did not care about it, the Zhai family would. They were all a family. Before the court hearings even started, the Zhai family would definitely send Qiao Nan to settle the situation with the Qiao family and would accede to all of their demands. After all, dirty linen should not be aired in public.

Chief Zhai's newly-wedded daughter-in-law did not even recognize or support her biological parents anymore. Ding Jiayi did not believe that the Zhai family would allow their reputations to be ruined just like that.

But who would have known that Qiao Nan would not show up at their door to beg for mercy or forgiveness up until the day the court hearings started. In fact, she had not even received a phone call from Qiao Nan.

In the face of Qiao Nan's 'stubbornness', Ding Jiayi told herself more than once that she had to take this chance to give Qiao Nan a good lecture. She would not be Ding Jiayi if she did not get Qiao Nan to understand how to be a good daughter.

In short, Ding Jiayi was not trying to teach Qiao Nan any morals. What she wanted Qiao Nan to know was that she would never be able to escape from Ding Jiayi's grasp. Even though she had already married into the Zhai family and had become the chief's wife, Qiao Nan would never be able to smile as long as Ding Jiayi wanted her to cry.

If Qiao Nan wanted to live a blissful life, she had to make Ding Jiayi satisfied. Only then would she allow Qiao Nan to be happy. If Qiao Nan dared to cast her mother aside or anger her, she would definitely make Qiao Nan's life a living hell.

When she arrived at the courthouse, Ding Jiayi was as arrogant and high-spirited as soldiers going to war. Others might have misunderstood that she was here to fight against her enemy, and even those in the know would have wondered if Qiao Nan was truly Ding Jiayi's biological daughter. Why else would Ding Jiayi be so vicious toward Qiao Nan?

The moment Ding Jiayi saw the seat opposite her that was meant for Qiao Nan still empty when the hearing started, she could not help but ask, "Your Honor, I would like to ask if it's considered a contempt of court that the younger daughter that I'm suing didn't even turn up today. Will I immediately win this case?"

She remembered seeing the news one day about a similar situation. Because the other party had not turned up in court, they had immediately lost the case.

Chapter 2054: Suggestion

The lawyer could not even be bothered to glance at Ding Jiayi. “The situation is different this time. Please maintain your silence in court and refrain from spouting nonsense.” The lawyer himself felt helpless that he had to deal with such a case.

He could not understand what his client could possibly sue for given the Qiao family’s familial relationships. Since their daughter had already gotten ahead in life, his client could simply relax and wait to enjoy her life. To fall out with her daughter at this point in time was simply creating trouble for herself.

The lawyer had been utterly confused until he saw the name of his client. Then, everything clicked. As a lawyer, he was indeed busy. But that did not mean that he was ignorant about what was going on in the city.

Upon finding out that his client was Ding Jiayi, the lawyer had not wanted to accept the case. Unfortunately for him, his law firm had already done so and he could not find a way out of it.

The Qiao family’s situation was unlike other families’. Everyone in Ping Cheng knew about the Qiao family’s dirty linen. With such a premise, he was sure that the judge would not have a good first impression of his client. Compared to his greedy client, a filial daughter like Qiao Nan who had been silently sacrificing herself all this while was proof that one reaped whatever they sowed.

Given that her biological mother had been so vicious toward her, sucking her dry of all her money, Qiao Nan should never have been so filial without even caring about her own well-being. Because she had always made sacrifices for the Qiao family, the Qiao family’s greed had only increased.

Everyone’s attitude toward Qiao Nan was that they were saddened by her misfortune but angered by her lack of resistance.

1

Naturally, public opinion was biased toward Qiao Nan even if Qiao Nan had not given the Qiao family a single cent or shouldered the responsibility of being a filial daughter in the past year. At the very most, the court would simply order Qiao Nan to make up for whatever allowance deemed fit according to the cost of living in Ping Cheng. The court would never be able to punish Qiao Nan severely, much less stand on Ding Jiayi’s side and fulfill all of Ding Jiayi’s demands.

“Oh, alright.” Ding Jiayi still wanted to win this case. As such, she had to behave herself and not make any trouble today. There was no other choice. She could not afford to offend the judge. If she were to offend the judge, she might very well change the verdict from one in her favor to one against her. Besides, she had to depend on her lawyer to win this case. As such, she could not afford to offend the lawyer either.

But who would have known that a lawsuit would waste so much time, effort, and money? Fighting a lawsuit was no mean feat!

The conclusion from Ding Jiayi’s discussion with Qiao Zijin was that Qiao Zijin would fork out the money, while Ding Jiayi would spend her time and effort on the case. After dividing the labor that way, it was time to put on their performance.

“Lawyer, we’ll win, right?” Ding Jiayi puffed up her chest. Since Qiao Nan would not give up until the very end, she would have to prove to Qiao Nan that one’s stubbornness did not matter. It only mattered whether she was willing to let Qiao Nan off the hook.

She was the one who had given birth to Qiao Nan. It would be a huge joke if even she could not control Qiao Nan. If her daughter did not listen to her, who would she listen to?

“...” The lawyer bit on his lip, reluctant to answer Ding Jiayi. “If it is true that the defendant did not pay any alimony in the past year, then we’ll definitely win to a certain extent.” He had made it clear that it was only to a certain extent, definitely not to the extent that Ding Jiayi was hoping for.

They did not run the courts and Ding Jiayi’s reputation was bad to begin with. This meant that they were already at a huge disadvantage as the plaintiff even before the hearing started. Even if they were to win, Ding Jiayi would never be able to gain as much as she wanted.

“That’s good. Just try to help us win.” Of course, Ding Jiayi did not understand what the lawyer meant by ‘to a certain extent’. All she cared about was that one word. Because she heard that they would win, nothing else mattered to her.

Ding Jiayi was relaxed, but the lawyer was not. “Madam Ding, I want to reconfirm that the defendant did not fulfill her obligations and responsibilities of providing for her parents in the past year.”

“I’m sure.”

How could she not be sure? Not only had Qiao Nan not given her any money, but she had even stolen the family's money that had been meant for Qiao Zijin's treatment. In fact, she had even told the lawyer about this story to prove that Qiao Nan was so bad beyond the point of rescue.

Under normal circumstances, the lawyer might have bought into his client's story upon listening to this one-sided summary of events. Thankfully, Ding Jiayi had kicked up such a fuss that she had appeared on the news. Hence, there were few who did not know about the Qiao family's circumstances. Even if one was ignorant about it, they could very easily search up about it or ask someone else about it.

Hearing Ding Jiayi foolishly retelling the story, the lawyer simply asked a question that made Ding Jiayi flare up. "Did you say that your younger daughter stole all your family's money that was meant for your elder daughter's treatment? Was it your husband who earned all that money? Does that money have nothing to do with your younger daughter?"

"About this... She wasn't married, so she was still part of the Qiao family. Her money is our money." Ding Jiayi was indignant. Was that not the case with all unmarried daughters? There was no way Qiao Nan's earnings belonged to her alone. No. The Qiao family's money belonged to the entire Qiao family. It was equally shared by all four of them.

The lawyer adjusted his glasses. "Madam Ding, I'm obliged to remind you that based on what you've said, your younger daughter simply took her own earnings. I don't know what your family is like, but I know that whatever habits or customs you have will not be recognized or protected by the law. In the legal sense, whatever you've just said doesn't hold. Once your younger daughter comes of age, she is an independent individual with autonomy. Her earnings are her own. It doesn't belong to the Qiao family or you or your husband. The law will not recognize that. Do you understand?"

That meant that the court would never recognize or take into account that the defendant was an evil and cold-blooded animal that was totally indifferent to her family. "Madam Ding, my suggestion is that you provide other evidence to prove that the defendant has not done her duty to provide for her parents.. Otherwise, I would suggest that you not go through with this."

Chapter 2055: Trying His Best to Win

"It might backfire on you if you say too much. The judge might favor the other party, putting you at a disadvantage."

“...”

Ding Jiayi's expression changed and she could not help but murmur inwardly. Who decided on such a law? Why was it so wrong and foolish? Qiao Nan was unmarried, so her earnings should belong to the entire Qiao family instead of her alone.

That was the way all families worked. Why did the law not recognize and protect that?

Thinking about how the court would not punish Qiao Nan for wanting to kill her sister and would even stand on her side, Ding Jiayi was incensed. “Lawyer, let me ask you a question. Was this law passed recently?” Otherwise, why were they all helping Qiao Nan instead of her?

Was the law not supposed to protect the interests of the commoners? She did not feel that her interests were being protected at all!

Ding Jiayi felt that the law the lawyer was talking about was written by Qiao Nan herself. It seemed to favor Qiao Nan while putting her at a disadvantage! She then thought about how Qiao Nan had become the chief's wife. Perhaps, Qiao Nan had specially asked for such a law to be passed after finding out that she was going to be sued.

1

Ignorance was indeed frightening. How could a new law be passed by a single person? However, Ding Jiayi was arrogant and felt that her words and ideas were always right and would never be wrong. As such, she did not hesitate to say such ridiculous things that turned her into a laughingstock.

A normal person would never ask such a question. Did she have no common sense at all? Could it be done simply by opening one's mouth and asking for it to be passed?

However, the lawyer had to remind himself that the person in front of him was his client who was paying for his services. As such, he could not afford to get angry, much less use words to provoke her. That would only make him appear unprofessional and incompetent as a lawyer. No matter what, lawyers were still part of the service industry. “Madam Ding, it's alright for you to talk about such things to me, but I hope that you'll remain silent once we go to court. After all, silence is gold.”

It would be better for Madam Ding to remain quiet as long as he did not ask for her opinion. Given Ding Jiayi's rashness, he was afraid that it would not be his incompetence but Ding Jiayi's mouth that would cause them the case. She might even help the other party gain an edge over them with her words.

"You don't have to doubt the law's justness and fairness. The court is not a one-man paradise. Those laws that I talked about earlier have been around for decades." At that time, the defendant was probably not much older than a newborn infant.

As such, his client had better not believe that the law favored the defendant. In reality, it was rationality and justness that stood on the defendant's side.

After such a conversation, Ding Jiayi came to an understanding that many of her ideas would not be recognized by the law. As such, it would be impossible for her to attack and win against Qiao Nan. The biggest thing Ding Jiayi had going for her was that Qiao Nan had not fulfilled her responsibility as a child nor supported her parents after leaving the family. She had even betrayed them by taking her salary with her.

They could only fight the lawsuit based on this one point. Ding Jiayi should not even dream of anything else, much less voice them out in case she were to make even more mistakes the more she said, causing their already low chances of winning to decrease even further.

Although Ding Jiayi was upset that Qiao Nan had not appeared in court and she was unable to see Qiao Nan get afraid and angry, and even beg her for mercy, she remembered at all times that her lawyer had instructed her to remain silent unless she was called upon. Otherwise, she should just put on a pitiful act and keep her mouth shut.

While she was not the best at acting, she simply had to behave as she normally did. That way, she would definitely do well.

Ding Jiayi, who never allowed anyone else to control her, treated the lawyer's words like an imperial edict for the sake of winning the lawsuit. Since the lawyer had instructed her to remain silent, she would do just that. The lawyer asked her if Qiao Nan had really not even given the Qiao family a single cent after her departure. To that, Ding Jiayi nodded sincerely and replied in the affirmative. Yes, that wretched girl, Qiao Nan, had not even made a phone call to the Qiao family after running away, much less given them any money.

"Alright. Let's wait for the start of the court session." The line between winning and losing was never too clear in a lawsuit. It was already quite a big deal that he was able to help Ding Jiayi win to

a certain extent. As for... Thinking about Ding Jiayi's long list of demands, the lawyer huffed. If he was Madam Ding's daughter, he would have run away too!

Such a mother had no use for a useless child. Of course, he felt a headache on behalf of the other party's lawyer as well.

As Ding Jiayi waited for the start of the court session, Qiao Zijin, who had not turned up in court, was anxiously clutching onto her mobile phone, waiting for news from Ding Jiayi. Qiao Zijin was especially somber today, and her eyes darted around nervously.

Hearing that Qiao Dongliang had emerged from the room to get some water, Qiao Zijin stood up after some thought. "Dad, are you thirsty? Do you want me to get you a glass of water?" Actually, if her dad was willing to stand on her side and control Qiao Nan for her, she would be even more confident in being able to make Qiao Nan treat her elder sister with more selflessness and concern.

Qiao Zijin carefully poured a glass of warm water that was of the perfect temperature and handed it over to Qiao Dongliang. Qiao Zijin was frustrated as she gazed at Qiao Dongliang. A year ago, or perhaps, even from the time Qiao Nan had been in junior high school, her dad had never been one of many words. However, her dad had always behaved like her mom and had always been on her side. Her dad had always made Qiao Nan make selfless sacrifices for her sake.

Why was it that not only Qiao Nan had undergone a drastic change, but her dad had as well? Now, her dad was completely biased toward Qiao Nan!

It was not as though she needed Qiao Nan to completely sacrifice herself like her parents had demanded of Qiao Nan in the past. All she needed was for her dad to treat her a little more fairly and compassionately. Qiao Nan had married well while she was divorced and unemployed.. Qiao Nan was living a good life while her life was in the gutters. Was it too much to ask of Qiao Nan to give her a helping hand by giving her a good job? It was not too much to ask for at all!

Chapter 2056: 'Good Intentions'

If her parents were to work together to reason with Qiao Nan and attack her with facts, there was no way Qiao Nan could refuse them.

Seeming to know what Qiao Zijin was plotting, Qiao Dongliang, who had recently become especially quiet, spoke up. "I'm glad that Nan Nan got married. After she got married, I often think about the times when you were still married to Chen Jun. At that time, all the young ladies in the northern courtyard were envious of you, talking about how quickly Chen Jun was being promoted..."

Qiao Zijin's eyelids twitched and she smiled in pleasure. That was right! At that time, she was the pride of the northern courtyard!

"At that time, Chen Jun was being promoted every so often. Nan Nan... As someone who had only graduated from junior high school, she would never have been able to find a good job for herself if not for her diligence and willingness to learn. Zijin, don't you remember what you told us and Nan Nan at that time?"

1

"..."

Qiao Zijin, who was immersed in her fond memories, felt as though she had been whacked on the head with a hammer. All those good memories were instantly shattered into little fragments that could not be pieced back together.

Did she remember?

Of course she did!

After successfully snatching Chen Jun away from Qiao Nan and getting pregnant with Chen Feng before getting married, Qiao Zijin had practically reached the peak of her entire life. Every time she returned to the northern courtyard, all her neighbors would treat her as though she were their biological daughter, addressing her affectionately and asking after her. They would always ask, "Zijin, you're back?", "Zijin, we bought some fresh fruits. Would you like some?", or even "Zijin, remember to visit us sometime soon!".

Qiao Zijin knew exactly why these people treated her so warmly. Just like how her family had been treated before the civil service examination, these people simply wanted Zijin to help them ask the Chen family for a favor so that their children would have good and stable jobs or get into good schools.

Since others already behaved in this manner, Qiao Zijin had no choice but to consider Qiao Nan's situation. As long as it concerned Chen Jun, it was true that Qiao Zijin could not stand tall in front of Qiao Nan. She had snatched Chen Jun away from Qiao Nan and she did indeed owe it to Qiao Nan. But every time she opened her mouth, she made it seem as though Qiao Nan was the one who owed it to her. It's as if for the sake of preventing trouble for Chen Jun, Qiao Nan should never get involved in anything related to Chen Jun.

Once, Qiao Zijin had even directly said to her family, "Technically, Qiao Nan's my only sister, so it's my duty to treat her well. But it's Qiao Nan's fault for purposely trying to get chummy with her own brother-in-law. If I really ask Chen Jun to help Qiao Nan find a good job, wouldn't it be bad if others were to misunderstand and overthink the situation? You know very well where Chen Jun works. It's better for him not to get involved in such matters lest others catch a chink in his armor!"

"Honestly, if Qiao Nan's educational qualifications were a little higher, I might still be able to ask Chen Jun for some help since she's quite capable. I'm not even talking about being a university graduate. Even being a high school graduate would have been good. Think about it. How bad could a job recommended by Chen Jun be? Out of so many outstanding candidates, including college students, others will definitely talk about it if Chen Jun were to pick Qiao Nan for the job over everyone else. It hasn't been easy for Chen Jun to get to the position he's in today. Even if Qiao Nan's my biological sister, I can't possibly harm my husband just to help my sister, right?"

Because Qiao Zijin had said that, Ding Jiayi, who had become the most glamorous mother-in-law in the entire northern courtyard because of her son-in-law, Chen Jun, was the first to disagree. "Help? Don't bother! That wretched girl is so stupid! She has neither the capability nor the qualifications. She's the most useless person in our entire family! I don't even mind that she's embarrassing me by being single at such an old age because of her low qualifications. How could she be so shameless to expect you to help her find a job? Don't bother about her! Zijin, don't harm your husband just because of a sister who can't get married. You're a mother now!"

Ding Jiayi's words were exactly what Qiao Zijin wanted to hear and Qiao Zijin replied hypocritically. "Mom, don't be angry. Of course, I won't harm my son or my son's dad. It's just that we're a family, and some things should be clear between us. If helping Qiao Nan doesn't mean a thing to Chen Jun, I wouldn't mind helping her at all. But as you can see, there's really no way for me to help Qiao Nan given her circumstances. My goal is to benefit everyone in our family, but there's really no point in putting someone down just to help another. Besides, I've thought about it. Chen Jun might still be promoted in a few years' time. Perhaps, if Chen Jun were to help Qiao Nan then, no one would dare to say anything because of his position. When that time comes, I promise you that I'll help Qiao Nan."

Ding Jiayi did not intend to let Qiao Zijin help Qiao Nan at all. She had already known that Qiao Nan would be useless the moment she had been born. It would be enough for her as long as Qiao Zijin led a good life without Qiao Nan dragging her down. That was all she asked of Qiao Nan.

But Ding Jiayi thought about how Qiao Zijin had been able to graduate from university not because of her mother or her father, Qiao Dongliang. It had been all thanks to Qiao Nan that she had been able to graduate. Even though Qiao Zijin was Qiao Nan's only sister and it was only right for Qiao Nan to help Qiao Zijin with such a small matter, there was no way she would allow Qiao Zijin to show her 'good intentions' toward Qiao Nan now.

Anyway, Qiao Zijin had already said that Chen Jun would most probably be promoted to a position where no one would dare to gossip about him in the future. There was no saying when this 'future' would come. As such, Ding Jiayi thought that there was no point in rebuking her daughter about something that might or might not happen in the future.

These were just words anyway. They would cross that bridge once they got there in the future.

Qiao Dongliang remembered clearly that entire conversation, including the disdain on Ding Jiayi's face and the glee on Qiao Zijin's face at that time.

At that time, Qiao Dongliang had not said anything because he cared that his elder son-in-law should have been his younger son-in-law. Qiao Dongliang was a man and he was no fool. He had eyes to see whom Chen Jun truly had feelings for.

But what could he do? It was true that Chen Jun liked his younger daughter, but it was his elder daughter who was pregnant with Chen Jun's child. He could not possibly ask his elder daughter to abort her child to let her younger daughter marry Chen Jun.

He believed that his younger daughter would definitely feel resentful toward Chen Jun because of this matter. In fact, she would probably have no desire to marry Chen Jun anymore.

Chapter 2057: How Was This Different?

Since that was the case, he could only silently agree to Ding Jiayi's approach. At least, the child in his elder daughter's stomach would have a legal birth status and father.

In the end, Chen Jun became their elder son-in-law. However, he still had their younger daughter in his heart. At this moment, his younger daughter's work was arranged by his elder son-in-law. Qiao

Dongliang felt panicked. What if the same situation were to happen again and his younger daughter also... He couldn't possibly let Chen Jun change his status from the elder son-in-law to the younger son-in-law, right?

Chen Jun had a successful career...

No matter what, Qiao Dongliang felt that it was pretty good for Qiao Nan to continue guarding her original job and position. This way, there wouldn't be any problems between his elder daughter and elder son-in-law. His elder son-in-law's job would also be secure.

In the blink of an eye, Qiao Zijin had already gotten a divorce from Chen Jun. However, some situations were repeating themselves again. Now, his younger daughter had married well, his younger son-in-law had a high-ranking job, and everyone in the Qiao family had face. If his elder daughter wanted to lead a better life, she had to depend on the glory of his younger daughter and younger son-in-law.

However, it wasn't that easy. In this 'depending' process, his elder daughter might cause trouble to his younger daughter and younger son-in-law, harming their interests.

Qiao Dongliang still remembered clearly Ding Jiayi's and Qiao Zijin's attitude toward Qiao Nan back then. Similarly, Qiao Dongliang didn't forget how his attitude was back then either.

Qiao Dongliang felt depressed in his heart. Perhaps the day he thought of, which was for his younger daughter to help his elder daughter once she was leading a good life, would never happen. This was because back when their family had faced such a situation, nobody had ever mentioned for the elder daughter to help the younger daughter.

Nan Nan had never argued, but that didn't mean that Nan Nan had forgotten about it. Zijin never helped Nan Nan. How was Nan Nan willing to selflessly help Zijin?

"At that time, Nan Nan relied on her own efforts step by step. Although you are her sister and even married a good man like Chen Jun..." Even if Zijin had snatched Chen Jun, a man with a good background, away from Nan Nan... "Under those circumstances, you never helped Nan Nan at all. Not only did you not help Nan Nan, but you even got Nan Nan to put the salary she earned into your mom's pockets so that you can use it to buy a house thereafter."

"At that time, you said that as long as you had enough face in front of the Chen family, you could put in a good word for Nan Nan in front of the Chen family in the future so that our Qiao family

would become more confident too. Now that Nan Nan married well, shouldn't you also work hard and let the Zhai family know that although our Qiao family's status couldn't be compared to the Zhai family's, our family would definitely not become Nan Nan's burden? Zijin, didn't you mean this when you expressed those words back then?"

This was the first time Qiao Dongliang realized that at his age, his memory was still like a young man's. He could express Qiao Zijin's high-sounding reasons back then in their original form and shut Qiao Zijin up.

Qiao Zijin was really taken aback by Qiao Dongliang.

Qiao Zijin didn't remember clearly what she said or did back then. Upon hearing Qiao Dongliang mention it, indeed, she found that those words sounded familiar. "Dad, that's different." She led a good life in the past. If she helped Qiao Nan, she would be burdened.

Now that Qiao Nan was leading a good life but she wasn't, Qiao Nan was naturally obliged to help her so that she could lead a good life as well. Her mom was right. Qiao Nan was born with a bad life. If not for Qiao Nan's birth, would the Qiao family's status be so low when they were young?

Even in the face of Chen Jun, she didn't need to go soft on him. After all, her mom always wanted to be the wife of a battalion commander and her dad nearly became a company commander. Without Qiao Nan, she would have had a reputable family background. As such, she didn't need to work hard or rely on outsiders. As long as she had Qiao Dongliang as a father, she could lead her dream life.

However, following Qiao Nan's birth, all the good life was destroyed by her. Her father retired from the army and became an ordinary worker. His wages couldn't support his two daughters well.

It was Qiao Nan's appearance that changed her from a little princess at home to an ordinary girl. Qiao Nan owed her. What wrong was there for Qiao Nan to let her live the life she should have led again?

When she was leading a good life, Qiao Nan must not burden her. When she wasn't leading a good life, even if Qiao Nan had to sacrifice herself, she should give her a hand and let her lead a princess-like life. Qiao Nan owed her all of this. It was right that Qiao Nan gave their mom so much money. With so much money, could she buy back the glory and status of a battalion commander's wife?

If one wanted to be calculative, Qiao Nan had owed her and her mom too much. If there was really a next life, Qiao Nan might not be able to return what she owed them in three lifetimes, let alone this lifetime. She didn't know what would happen in the next lifetime. Taking advantage of this lifetime, she was definitely going to let Qiao Nan pay back as much as possible so that she could lead a more comfortable life now.

With such a mindset, no matter how Qiao Nan was used or harmed, Qiao Zijin never felt that she was in the wrong or that Qiao Nan had suffered too much in this family. After all, based on Ding Jiayi's description, the reason why this family went downhill was all because of Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan caused the Qiao family to be like this. As such, Qiao Nan was obliged to restore the Qiao family to its previous glory days when she had yet to be born. Even if Qiao Nan did it, she shouldn't take any credit as this was the debt she owed. If Qiao Nan could make the Qiao family more glorious than before, then what Qiao Nan did would be considered compensation to the Qiao family.

Qiao Zijin never thought that Qiao Nan was equal to her. It was only right for her to do everything she wanted. It was also only right that Qiao Nan did everything for her. As such, when Qiao Zijin's and Qiao Nan's situations were completely reversed, she didn't feel that the set of theories used on Qiao Nan back then was qualified for Qiao Nan to apply it to herself in turn.

Apologies, but Qiao Nan wasn't qualified!

Only Qiao Nan owed her. In terms of repayment, Qiao Nan was not qualified to be on equal standing as her.

"What's the difference?" Qiao Dongliang didn't understand where Qiao Zijin's persistence came from. He really wanted to know how it was different.

Chapter 2058: Say It Clearly

Could it be that it was only right for Nan Nan to sacrifice for Zijin, regardless if she was good or bad?

"Forget it. There are some things that can't be said clearly to you. It's alright as long as Mom and I understand." Qiao Zijin refused to communicate with Qiao Dongliang. She had long realized that in

this family, only she and her mom had a common language and could understand each other's words and inner thoughts.

Her dad was biased. Even if what she said was reasonable, when it reached her dad, her reasoning would only become distorted. Since she knew that this was going to be the result, why should she waste her saliva and efforts to argue with her dad? There wasn't anything to gain from it.

"Dad, take a rest. I'll just wait for Mom." Once there was good news, her mom would definitely send a text message to let her know immediately. She was a fool. She had long known that her dad only had a daughter, Qiao Nan, in his heart. Wasn't she just giving herself trouble by chatting with her dad for so long?

Qiao Dongliang was still wondering if he could help Qiao Zijin and restore her strange worldviews. Who knew that before he could complain about Qiao Zijin's strange thoughts, the other party had already rejected communication with him and looked as if it was tiring to talk to him?

Qiao Dongliang felt like someone had dealt a strong blow to his head. Although he was sad in his heart, his lips couldn't help but curve up, revealing a smile that was uglier than crying. "Sure. Go ahead and wait for your mom alone then."

He was thinking for Zijin but she couldn't even be bothered to talk to him. Living in such a house, Qiao Dongliang felt cold in his heart. He was about to lose the courage to continue living in this house. He felt timid when he saw Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin.

Qiao Zijin waited for two full hours. Qiao Zijin always thought that this was an easy lawsuit. It was the truth that Qiao Nan didn't give the family money. Her family would definitely win without a doubt.

However, two hours had passed and she didn't receive any text message or call. Out of eagerness, even if the signal displayed on her mobile was four full bars, she couldn't help but take her phone to the yard and try to receive the signal. She was afraid that the signal was affected in the house and her mobile didn't react in time.

In the end, Qiao Zijin didn't wait for Ding Jiayi's call or text message but Ding Jiayi herself. "Mom, you're back?" Upon hearing the sound of a car from the door, Qiao Zijin looked out. Wasn't the person opening the door her birth mom that she had waited two hours dearly for?

“Mom, is the lawsuit over? How was it? Did we win? How did the judge decide? How did Qiao Nan look like at that time?” Upon thinking that Qiao Nan couldn’t win against her even if she had become the wife of the chief, Qiao Zijin felt extremely proud.

There was a saying that men conquered the world while women conquered men to conquer the world. The situation between her and Qiao Nan was similar to this saying. So what if Qiao Nan was formidable and married Zhai Sheng? The glorious Qiao Nan had to listen to the words of her, the birth sister, in the end.

She was the one standing on top of Qiao Nan. She was the person at the top of the food chain.

“Where’s your dad?” At this moment, Ding Jiayi’s face didn’t reveal the slightest joy. Her long face and bloodshot eyes showed that not only was the result of the lawsuit not what she expected, but it even developed in the direction that Ding Jiayi didn’t wish for the most. “Where’s your dad? I want to talk to him. There are some things I have to talk to him about clearly.”

First, it was Qiao Nan. Now, it was Qiao Dongliang. Ding Jiayi felt like she was a balloon full of air. If there was a little more anger in her stomach, she would have exploded. No matter Qiao Nan or Qiao Dongliang, they were the ones who did the most but said the least in this family.

Qiao Nan and Qiao Dongliang, who silently sacrificed for the family, seemed to have come to a prior agreement. They refused to be controlled by Ding Jiayi and turned into traitors one after another. As such, two hardworking oxen suddenly became dogs who loved to bite but not bark. What Ding Jiayi couldn’t accept the most and felt most pained about was that these two people were mostly under her control back then. However, the first person they chose to bite was none other than herself.

Now that the situation had developed to this point, Ding Jiayi was so angry that if she didn’t lose her temper now, this father-daughter pair would really treat her as someone without temper. If she didn’t swear an oath of sovereignty now, the people surnamed Qiao would really forget who the head of the family was.

Qiao Zijin frowned. “Dad? He’s always in his room. Mom, why are you so angry? We lost the lawsuit?” It couldn’t be, right? She consulted a lot of lawyers before, and all of them said that if they were to hand this lawsuit over to any one of them, the result would only be a win.

Her mom couldn’t have found a fake lawyer, right? The fake lawyer was so ‘capable’ that he or she could turn a sure-win lawsuit into a losing lawsuit?

“I’ll talk to you later. I have to find your dad to clarify a situation first.” The reason why she would temporarily lose this lawsuit was that not only did someone not have the same mindset as her, but he even secretly hindered her. She had to understand if what Qiao Nan’s lawyer said in court was true first before deciding how to proceed with the lawsuit.

“Old Qiao, hurry up and open the door. I know you’re in the house. It’s useless to remain silent. I’m in a very bad mood now. You’d better hurry up, open the door, and make things clear to me. Otherwise, we won’t be able to continue living together!”

1

Men really couldn’t be pampered. If not for her willingness to marry Old Qiao back then, would Old Qiao be able to have a wife and two daughters at such a young age? The Qiao family didn’t have any relatives anymore. How would an ordinary girl be willing to marry a man like Old Qiao? She was stupid not to despise Old Qiao. She married him as he had treated her well.

She had waited on Old Qiao all her life. Now that she was old, Old Qiao didn’t give her any face. First, he gave the courtyard to that wretched girl without telling her. Then, he hit her in front of Zijin and chased her to the small single room.

Today, she was going to let Old Qiao remember that without her, he was just a lonely man. She was the one who was willing to marry Old Qiao. She was the one who gave Old Qiao a home. She was the one who gave birth to two daughters for Old Qiao. The person Old Qiao should feel most thankful and grateful to in this lifetime was her, Ding Jiayi!

Qiao Dongliang opened the door. “You’re right.. Let’s make everything clear today.”

1

Chapter 2059: Lousy Teammates

That being said, Qiao Dongliang, who had already failed to communicate with Qiao Zijin once today, didn’t expect to be able to say things clearly to Ding Jiayi to make her understand.

However, before doing certain things, some words had to be said. If there wasn't any explanation, everything would be unclear. "Let's go out and talk."

Qiao Zijin felt that the atmosphere was strange. She wasn't sure if she would be able to help Ding Jiayi if she was around. As such, Qiao Zijin hurriedly said, "Dad, Mom, I suddenly feel a little sleepy. Go ahead if you need to talk. I'll return to my room to rest first." Anyway, even though she didn't linger here, she would still be able to listen to their conversation as long as the door was left open with a small gap.

She believed that not too long later, once her parents raised their voices, she could hear clearly the contents of their conversation.

Qiao Dongliang shook his head. "There's no need to. You're already forty-three years old. There isn't anything in this house that you can't listen to. Instead of trying to figure out how to listen to our conversation, it's better that you just sit here."

1

Every time he talked to Ding Jiayi, Qiao Zijin deliberately left the door open with a small gap. Qiao Dongliang might not have thought about this if it only happened once or twice. However, if it happened too many times, how could Qiao Dongliang not know at all?

Upon thinking that his daughter had so many tricks up her sleeves against him, her father, there was nothing else Qiao Dongliang could do except to admit his failure. "Just listen to what we say. There's no need for you to express your opinions, just like before. Your mom and I are elders, after all. It's not your turn to take care of us yet."

He allowed Zijin to stay only as an observer. It didn't mean that she could change from an observer to a participant.

Qiao Zijin pouted. She felt that her father's attitude was pretty hurtful. She'd rather return to her room and eavesdrop than listen to them so openly. Not only did this treatment fail to prove her status and treatment in this family, but it even made her feel like she was looked down upon. He allowed her to listen but not care. Wasn't this bullying her?

"Sure!" Ding Jiayi slammed the table hard. "I was still thinking to save you some face in front of Zijin. Since you don't want face, I won't stop you either. I'll ask everything directly. You just have to answer me honestly and clearly. Let me ask you. Ever since Qiao Nan left this house, did she

give this family two thousand yuan monthly? Did you keep all of this money and not tell me before? Even when you were hospitalized, you didn't take this money out or intend to tell me about this money. You even let me put Zijin in a spot and ask her for money for daily living expenses!"

After saying this long string of words, Ding Jiayi's face turned purplish-red.

When she was in court, she accused Qiao Nan of living to forty years old but being no better than a three-year-old child as she didn't support her parents. Not only was her behavior not worthy as a child, but she was also obviously not qualified as a person as she went to enjoy blessings by herself and ignored her parents.

Ding Jiayi really didn't like her daughter, Qiao Nan. She also hated Qiao Nan later for no longer being under her control, causing her to lose face and Qiao Zijin to not become a civil servant. Once these emotions came up, Ding Jiayi didn't control herself. She scolded all kinds of ugly words until the other people in court became stunned and tongue-tied.

The lawyer Ding Jiayi hired was also stunned by Ding Jiayi's skills of scolding Qiao Nan. When he recovered himself, Ding Jiayi had already scolded a lot of ugly words. He quickly stopped her.

The lawyer had forbidden Ding Jiayi from speaking, suggesting that she had better cooperate and shut up. It was just that Ding Jiayi had gotten so much satisfaction from scolding that she initially didn't think of what the lawyer had told her earlier. Only when she saw that the lawyer's face didn't look right and he asked her to shut up did she realize the court was quiet and many people seemed to be looking at her strangely. Ding Jiayi couldn't help but shrink her neck when she saw the way the judge was looking at her.

The judge quickly stated that Ding Jiayi should be quiet and that she was no longer allowed to curse and shout in public. If there was a second time, Ding Jiayi would be taken out from the civilized courtroom.

In order to win the lawsuit, Ding Jiayi closed her mouth under everyone's warning looks.

When the plaintiff's side was over, the lawyer representing Qiao Nan didn't have much to say. He only presented a statement of bank transfer records to the judge and jurors. "All parents would want the best for their children. I have parents as well, and my parents are like that. If it's possible, I wish for all parents to be like that as well. It's a pity that the truth tells us that there are all kinds of people in this world. Even if some of them became parents, they cannot be that kind of parents."

“These bank transfer records prove that even though such a family treated my client badly in every way, didn’t give my client the warmth, help, and support a family should be giving, and made the term ‘home’ to be cold and hell-like for my client, my client still adhered to filial piety and fulfilled her responsibility and obligation as a daughter. She had never shirked her responsibility. As such, my client does not and will not admit what the plaintiff mentioned before. I hope that the judge will give the justest decision.”

Two thousand yuan was transferred to the Qiao family monthly. Even though this amount indeed wasn’t particularly a lot, it couldn’t be considered little either. No less than two thousand yuan was transferred every month without fail. His client was still sued for not supporting the elderly and ignoring their life and death? Sorry, but his client would not bear this and become a scapegoat.

With these bank transfer records, the lawyer representing Qiao Nan felt that this lawsuit was too easy to win. This wasn’t fabricated evidence. No matter what reason, he felt that his client had already done her duty and no one could pick her fault.

Seeing Ding Jiayi’s hired lawyer’s face turn green, he sympathized with him. Really, in this industry, if the clients they met were smarter, they would be god-like teammates. One wasn’t afraid of god-like opponents but lousy teammates. He had never seen lousy teammates before. However, after seeing his client’s birth mother, he realized that that was how lousy teammates looked like.

That round of scolding had already reduced the opponent’s odds of winning by one-third.. Now, he produced evidence of his client fulfilling her basic responsibilities and obligations as a daughter after being betrayed, bullied, and oppressed by the Qiao family.

Chapter 2060: Spoiled

If he lost this lawsuit, he would change his job and pick up rubbish in the future!

Ding Jiayi was stunned when she heard what Qiao Nan’s lawyer presented as evidence. Then, she saw her own lawyer giving her accusatory looks. Ding Jiayi hadn’t forgotten what her lawyer had said earlier. They had a slight chance of winning this lawsuit only if they could prove that Qiao Nan never gave any money to the Qiao family after she left back then.

The lawyer confirmed this point with her again and again. Even if Ding Jiayi was a fool, she understood how important this point was. At this moment, she suddenly knew that Qiao Nan had been transferring two thousand yuan monthly to the family. What was shocking to Ding Jiayi wasn’t

that Qiao Nan had given the family two thousand yuan. In the past, there were plenty of times Qiao Nan had given the family twenty thousand yuan monthly. But if what the lawyer said was true and Qiao Nan had been giving money to the family, then where did all the money go? She couldn't accept it...

That was two thousand yuan each month! She had never received it before, let alone spend it!

There were three people in the Qiao family. If she neither received it nor spent it, only her husband and elder daughter were left. No matter who took the money, Ding Jiayi couldn't accept it. Also, if Qiao Nan had really been transferring two thousand yuan monthly, could she still win this lawsuit?

"Judge, I need to take a five-minute adjournment to confirm the situation with my client again." Ding Jiayi's lawyer couldn't hold it back anymore. There was such a big loophole in terms of evidence now. He regretted not retreating before the court session when he found out that Ding Jiayi's temper was exactly the same as how it had been in the news.

Ding Jiayi stated repeatedly to the lawyers and judge that she didn't know about the existence of this two thousand yuan and didn't receive a single cent.

The judge didn't care if she knew of the evidence or not. They only looked at the evidence. Furthermore, everyone had a bad impression of Ding Jiayi and sympathized with Qiao Nan, who didn't attend the session. Everyone was wondering why Qiao Nan didn't show up.

It must be very hurtful to be sued by her own birth mother for not supporting her parents. Moreover, they had to face each other in court. Not to mention that Qiao Nan was obviously the one who had sacrificed the most for the Qiao family and her parents. Not only were her efforts not recognized, but she was even accused of not supporting her parents and sued.

Whoever encountered this would definitely be angry.

Two thousand in the face of an unreasonable mother like Ding Jiayi? Two thousand yuan was too much! It was more satisfying to let Ding Jiayi have a taste of what it was like being unsupported.

It was a pity that such behavior was disallowed legally and morally. As such, when the judge made the judgment, he indicated that the two thousand yuan Qiao Nan provided monthly was very consistent with Ping Cheng's standard of living. It was up to Qiao Nan if she wanted to provide more money. The court wouldn't participate in such opinions or enforce any strong judgments.

As there was direct evidence from Qiao Nan that Ding Jiayi's accusation was a false accusation, Ding Jiayi couldn't stop the court's fast judgment even if she wanted to. Furthermore, the lawyer Ding Jiayi hired didn't want to stop it. She was full of lies on TV, and now, she even dared to lie in front of a lawyer.

The lawyer was really curious. Could it be that Ding Jiayi had been deceiving herself all this while and she really felt that the judge would give her a win if she could deceive one person and even the whole world? Even a three-year-old child might not have such naive thoughts. "The court has already passed its judgment. Madam Ding, if you want to file a lawsuit in the future, it's better to resolve all the conflicts and situations within the family. A situation like this would only waste your time and money the most. I'm sorry but I have something on. I'll make a move first."

Ding Jiayi lost money and time. The lawyer knew that he had lost face. If people knew that he had accepted such an unreliable case, he would most probably be considered as a joke for a while.

The lawyer made a silent decision. If anyone from the Qiao family came to him for a lawsuit, he would definitely not accept the case. He was afraid that there would be problems once again.

As the court had passed its judgment at lightning speed, Ding Jiayi didn't even have a chance to recover anything. As such, she rushed back home angrily and wanted to find out whose pocket the two thousand yuan Qiao Nan had been transferring monthly had landed in. One had to know that this had already taken place for about a year.

This meant that in this year, there was someone in the family who had swallowed more than twenty thousand yuan alone!

Ding Jiayi kept guessing in the car who it might be. Actually, she suspected Qiao Zijin. It was no surprise that the daughter she gave birth to was like herself. Furthermore, who in this world didn't love money and didn't want money?

The problem was that Qiao Zijin knew that she was filing this lawsuit. She even encouraged her. If that twenty thousand yuan really fell into Qiao Zijin's pockets, she wouldn't have supported her in this lawsuit. After all, for matters like bank transfer, the evidence would be produced once one went to the bank to check.

Also, the relationship between Qiao Nan and Qiao Zijin was never good, regardless if it was when they were young and the former had to give up studying, or when there was Chen Jun coming

between them when they had grown up, or now that Qiao Zijin wanted to become a civil servant. As such, if Qiao Nan were to transfer money to the family, she shouldn't have transferred it to Qiao Zijin's account.

Compared to Qiao Zijin, it was undoubtedly more likely that the person who had been 'swallowing' this twenty thousand yuan alone was Qiao Dongliang. After reaching home, Ding Jiayi rushed toward Qiao Dongliang. "Old Qiao, Qiao Nan has been transferring two thousand yuan monthly for about a year now. Did you swallow the money alone?!"

It was as if Qiao Dongliang had expected Ding Jiayi to be asking him this when she returned this time. He said calmly, "I took this two thousand yuan. It can't be considered that I've swallowed it." His daughter had given him money. How could this be called swallowing? Old Ding seemed to have taught him these words before, right?

Ding Jiayi was so angry that her body shivered. "Why didn't you tell me that that wretched girl has been giving the family two thousand yuan monthly? Why didn't you give the money to me?" Two thousand yuan a month wasn't a lot. However, in a year, that was twenty thousand yuan. Since when did Old Qiao dare to hide from her and swallow this twenty thousand yuan alone?!

When they were young, Qiao Dongliang even had to let her know if he had two yuan in his pocket.. Now, Qiao Dongliang dared to hide an amount as big as twenty thousand yuan from her. Ding Jiayi could only say that she had spoiled this man rotten!