

## RTAMM 2171

### Chapter 2171: Shameless

How would he have the time to bring his sister-in-law out? Of course, he had to stay by his wife's and children's sides. But Qiao Zijin, who had made that suggestion, was truly a fool who didn't understand the world well.

"Zhai Sheng, I won't disturb Nan Nan anymore. Take care of Nan Nan and let me know if anything happens to her." Qiao Zijin had ruined this visit for him and Qiao Dongliang didn't bother to struggle anymore. Since he had not managed to visit her today, he would return the next day.

He was afraid that Qiao Zijin would cause something bad to happen to Qiao Nan if she stayed there any longer.

"Dad, wait for me. I'll leave with you." Since Qiao Nan was asleep, and Zhai Sheng was not letting her in, Qiao Zijin had no choice but to leave with Qiao Dongliang. This was only her first time. She couldn't rush it. Haste would only make waste. If she made it too obvious and upset Qiao Nan, Qiao Nan would never agree to help her.

They were both women, and Qiao Zijin knew that there was no way Qiao Nan would be happy with another woman trying to hit on her husband, unless she was sure that she would die. Besides, she had such a tense relationship with Qiao Nan.

"Dad, I'll go with you." Qiao Zijin tried to catch her breath after finally catching up with Qiao Dongliang. "Dad, you're walking too quickly." She had not expected a seventy-year-old man to walk so much faster than her. But it was good that her dad was in good health. That would save her a lot of trouble.

"Why? We're not headed in the same direction," Qiao Dongliang replied unhappily. "Aren't you here on a holiday? Go have your fun. Once you're tired, you can return to your hotel."

"No, since I bumped into you today, there's no point in going back to my hotel. Of course, I'm going to stay with you, Dad. It'll be good for me to spend some time with you. "Although Qiao Dongliang had hung up on her the previous time, Qiao Zijin had given it some thought and realized that it was too expensive to continue paying for her hotel stay. Even in her childhood, she had

hardly listened to her dad. If she didn't go just because her dad didn't allow her to do it, would she still be Qiao Zijin?

As such, Qiao Zijin came to a decision to do whatever she wanted. Qiao Dongliang could say whatever he wanted as well. Wasn't that a win-win situation?

"I told you that I don't have an extra room or bed!" Qiao Dongliang could not help but shout irritably. It felt terrible to know someone who was so shameless, especially when it was his own daughter.

Qiao Zijin replied generously, "That doesn't matter. I'll just move some things around and make do. Otherwise, I'll buy myself a foldable bed." Anyway, she had already searched it up. Even a foldable bed wouldn't cost as much as a night's stay in the hotel. It was a terribly good deal!

Qiao Dongliang frowned. "Where's your luggage?" He didn't believe that Qiao Zijin could have arrived in the capital empty-handed.

"You don't have to worry about that." Qiao Zijin clung onto Qiao Dongliang's arm. "I'll follow you home first. I'll definitely take good care of you along the way. Once I send you home, I'll go back to my hotel alone and bring my luggage over. Don't worry, Dad. I'm grown up.. I'll take good care of myself."

Chapter 2172: Even More Miserable

Once she knew where her dad was living, would he still be able to run away from her?

Luggage? That wasn't important at all.

Of course, Qiao Dongliang could tell that Qiao Zijin wanted to take advantage of him, but he had no idea how to shake Qiao Zijin off. Based on what had happened earlier, Qiao Dongliang could guess that Qiao Zijin wanted to move in with him so that she would have a place to stay. That didn't mean much. He believed that Qiao Nan and the Zhai family wouldn't mind that.

But what would happen if Qiao Zijin wanted to tag along every time he visited Qiao Nan in the future? He had only had a suspicion earlier, but now, Qiao Dongliang was certain that Qiao Zijin had not come to the capital for a holiday. She had come for Qiao Nan!

“Let me ask you. What were you trying to do in front of Zhai Sheng?” Qiao Dongliang was upset and picked on Qiao Zijin’s earlier behavior. “Have you forgotten why Chen Jun asked for a divorce in the first place? Have you not changed that bad habit of yours? I don’t care if you want to play around, but you have to remember that Zhai Sheng is your brother-in-law!”

At the mention of the word ‘brother-in-law’, Qiao Dongliang felt enraged. So what if he was her brother-in-law? It was not as though Qiao Zijin had not snatched her brother-in-law away from her sister before! That was why Qiao Dongliang felt especially miserable thinking of that.

“Dad, what nonsense are you spouting? You’d better not mention this in front of Nan Nan in case you provoke her and she misunderstands me. Didn’t you say that Zhai Sheng is my brother-in-law? Besides, what did I do wrong today?” Qiao Zijin denied everything. She had not even made a move yet. At least, she had not even touched a strand of Zhai Sheng’s hair today. What right did he have to say that she had gone out of line?

Zhai Sheng was the only man in her eyes now. She couldn’t even be bothered to have anything to do with any other men or do anything that would ruin her happiness in the future. Would she do such a stupid thing?

“That had better be the case. Zijin, you’d better not be scheming against Nan Nan. If I find out, you’ll realize that I still have the energy and capability to deal with my own daughter even at this age. I’m not saying certain things not for the sake of your dignity, but because it’s too shameful to talk about it. It’s enough that you snatched Chen Jun away once. I don’t want to know whether you have that plan in mind again, but you’d better keep your distance from Zhai Sheng.”

He could not stand how Qiao Zijin was always trying to steal his younger daughter’s man.

“Dad, look at what you’re saying. I never even thought of doing that.” Qiao Zijin’s eyelid twitched. It was the right move not to tell her dad about her plan. Her dad was really something. He was so biased that he only had Qiao Nan in his heart. He didn’t even remember his elder daughter.

Thankfully, she had never counted on her dad helping her out in this matter. She would simply stick to her original plan and keep it tightly under wraps until she succeeded. Once Qiao Nan died and everything was firmed up, there was nothing her dad would be able to do no matter how upset he was.

Having made up her mind, Qiao Zijin assured her dad that she would never do something immoral again. She listened to whatever Qiao Dongliang had to say. But when Qiao Dongliang asked Qiao Zijin to return to Ping Cheng, she refused.

Qiao Nan hated her so much. She would definitely never come up with the idea of Qiao Zijin taking care of her children. That was why she had to stay behind and remind Qiao Nan of that possibility when she was on the verge of death.

Once she married Zhai Sheng, Zhai Sheng would still be the Qiao family's son-in-law. Her dad was foolish indeed. How could he not realize that? If Qiao Nan died, Zhai Sheng would have nothing to do with the Qiao family in the future. It was just like her situation with the Chen family after her divorce from Chen Jun.

Because Qiao Zijin was being so shameless, Qiao Dongliang could not bring himself to drive Qiao Zijin out either. In the end, not only had Qiao Zijin found out about where Qiao Dongliang was staying, but she had even checked out of the hotel and brought her luggage to Qiao Dongliang's accommodation.

Seeing that Qiao Dongliang was indeed living in a studio with only one bedroom and one bed, Qiao Zijin immediately went to purchase a foldable bed. If this had been Ding Jiayi, Qiao Zijin would definitely have gotten Ding Jiayi to sleep on the foldable bed so that she could have the bedroom to herself. But this was Qiao Dongliang and not Ding Jiayi. Qiao Zijin had only managed to move in because of how shameless she had been. Qiao Zijin dared not chase Qiao Dongliang out of the bedroom to the foldable bed.

She didn't own this house. What would happen if Qiao Dongliang chased her out?

Qiao Dongliang had more say in this house. Besides, she would have to suck up to Qiao Dongliang in order to remain in the capital. "Dad, since I'm already here, I decided to make full use of my ticket here. I'll be staying here for quite a while. You know the Zhai family's situation as well. Nan Nan's mother-in-law is old and you can't expect her to take care of Nan Nan given her health conditions, right? As for that auntie in the Zhai family, she's still a hired help, after all. We can't count on her. As for Zhai Hua, she's still in Ping Cheng because of her daughter. I guess I'm the only one who will be able to help Nan Nan out."

"Heh..." Qiao Dongliang sneered. "Ever since you were young, you were spoiled and pampered by your mom and Nan Nan was the one taking care of you. Since when have you taken care of anyone else?" Qiao Dongliang wondered if Qiao Zijin had even taken care of her own son, Chen Feng.

How could Qiao Dongliang allow someone like that to take care of Qiao Nan?

Who dared to be so bold?

“Dad, don’t underestimate me. It was just that I didn’t want to do it in the past. There’s nothing that I can’t do if I set my mind to it.” Qiao Zijin was indignant. She had always been smarter than Qiao Nan and more likable than Qiao Nan. What Qiao Nan could do, she could do better. Her dad was indeed biased. She would have to persevere and prove her father wrong. Did her dad really think that she was so much worse than Qiao Nan and couldn’t even compare to her?

Qiao Dongliang laughed.. “Are you saying that your results are good? Nan Nan didn’t even graduate from high school, but she managed to pass the Level Six English proficiency test. However, all you could do was hand in a blank piece of paper to me?”

Chapter 2173: Deliberately

“Did you hand me a blank script because you’re unwilling to study and learn more knowledge? It seems like you were so insistent on studying simply for the sake of a degree to package yourself well.”

Qiao Zijin’s purpose for studying had been so superficial. And for that, Qiao Nan, who actually enjoyed studying, had lost her childhood, as well as her chance of studying, just to work hard to support her sister. That was too unfair! He had been blind!

“...” Qiao Zijin was speechless. She couldn’t understand why the topic had suddenly gone to Qiao Nan’s leaving school again when they had been talking about taking care of others. Was there a point in doing that?

“Dad, it’s been so many years. So what if Qiao Nan couldn’t go to school? Hasn’t she become the chief’s wife all the same? There are thousands of female university graduates in this world, but how many chief’s wives are there? Not studying doesn’t seem to have made much impact on Qiao Nan’s life. Perhaps, Nan Nan herself doesn’t even mind and has already gotten over it. On the contrary, you always bring this matter up. Maybe it’s making Nan Nan upset thinking about the past. Why bother?”

If her dad brought this up in front of Qiao Nan, it would just evoke Qiao Nan's hatred. But she couldn't afford to let her relationship with Qiao Nan deteriorate any further. It had to improve.

Her dad was really... Even if he couldn't be of any help, why did he have to do these things that only got in her way? "Dad, I bought an old hen. Why don't you teach me to make soup? That way, I can bring it to Nan Nan."

Gifts blinded the eyes. She refused to believe that Qiao Nan would continue treating her like an enemy if she were to send delicious soup to the hospital every day to nourish her. She might not have treated Qiao Nan well in the past, but she had changed for the better. Now, she really regarded Qiao Nan as her younger sister and would treat the three children no different from how she treated Feng Feng.

Others would feel her sincerity with time.

"Forget it. I'd better do it myself. I've seen the chicken. It's indeed an old hen, and one that has laid eggs. If you don't use it well, you might end up wasting it. I'll do it myself." Qiao Dongliang still had his doubts about Qiao Zijin, but he could not deny that Qiao Zijin had bought the good stuff indeed. He didn't want Qiao Zijin to waste such a good product.

In reality, every single cent that Qiao Zijin was spending now was actually Qiao Nan's in Qiao Dongliang's eyes. What was wrong with Qiao Nan eating what she bought with her own money? This had nothing to do with Qiao Zijin's kindness. It was what she was obliged to do.

"Dad, shall I accompany you to the hospital?" Zhai Sheng was probably still in the hospital taking care of Qiao Nan, right? Qiao Nan was pregnant and about to give birth. That was something almost every woman underwent. The huge difference was that Qiao Nan had a good husband, Zhai Sheng, by her side the entire time.

If Chen Jun had shown just a tenth of Zhai Sheng's care when she had given birth to Chen Feng, she might never have started an affair. No, what she should say was that if Chen Jun had bothered to do that, he wouldn't have kept a mistress outside, causing her to cheat on him as well just to get revenge for his betrayal.

"No, I'll visit her myself." Qiao Dongliang refused. "Nan Nan's health is the most important thing now. She has to remain in a good mood. Do you think Nan Nan will be able to be in a good mood when she sees you? Besides, you don't even know how to take care of a pregnant woman. You're just creating more trouble for everyone. We'll have to teach you everything. We don't have the time to do that."

Qiao Dongliang had already witnessed how ignorant Qiao Zijin was in this aspect. If she really wanted to take care of a pregnant woman, she should have read some books, at the very least. But thinking about the blank script that Qiao Zijin had handed to him, Qiao Dongliang had already lost all hope.

Qiao Zijin hadn't even been serious about her studies for her own sake. How could Qiao Dongliang expect Qiao Zijin to do that for Qiao Nan?

“Fine, I won't go if you don't want me to. But you have to let Nan Nan know that I was the one who bought this old hen specially for her to nourish her body. Dad, didn't you say that actions speak more than words? I'm already doing it and showing my care for Nan Nan. You have to do your part and let her know too. I can't be bothered to do good deeds anonymously. I want Nan Nan to know that I've really changed for the better.”

She had already spent her money anyway. If Qiao Nan misunderstood that her dad had bought it, she would have wasted her money!

As long as Qiao Zijin didn't visit the hospital and get in Qiao Nan's way, there was no reason for Qiao Dongliang to refuse. “Don't worry. I'll tell Nan Nan that you bought this hen for her. You'd better stay at home and not run about. And you'd better not follow me to the hospital. Otherwise, you can forget about calling me your dad.”

Qiao Dongliang was truly afraid that Qiao Zijin would ruin Qiao Nan's mood by appearing in front of her.

The doctor had already said that Qiao Nan had to remain in a good mood at all times. As Qiao Nan's stomach grew bigger and the months passed, the expressions on those around her only grew darker. As the days went by, the day of the three children's birth was imminent.

Now that Qiao Nan had passed her eighth month of pregnancy, there was a possibility of the three children being born any day. Now, they couldn't afford for Qiao Nan to get provoked or get upset at all!

Qiao Dongliang understood this in his heart. Unfortunately, he didn't understand it thoroughly enough. Qiao Nan was eight and a half months pregnant and Qiao Nan could obviously feel that it was a great burden to her body to continue carrying the three children. Sometimes, she even felt that she was out of breath because of the children pressing against her.

It was especially the bouts of pain as her stomach fell gradually that unsettled Qiao Nan. Even in her dreams, Qiao Nan's expression would often be set in a deep frown because of her children.

"Nan Nan, how are you feeling today?" Qiao Dongliang placed the soup on the table, wanting to pour it out as usual.

Seeing that Qiao Zijin had not followed Qiao Dongliang, Qiao Nan was slightly surprised. When had Qiao Zijin suddenly been so self-aware, deciding not to visit because she knew how much of an eyesore she was?

Zhai Sheng pinched Qiao Nan's nose, reminding her to stop thinking about Qiao Zijin.. "Thanks, Dad."

#### Chapter 2174: Stomachache

Wasn't it best that Qiao Zijin didn't visit? As for why she decided not to come, whether it was because she herself decided not to come, or whether his father-in-law had stopped her from coming, it didn't matter. The result was good all the same.

"Nan Nan, try it. I made an old hen soup today. This is a hen that laid eggs. It's really good and nutritious. You can have a few bowls of it."

Qiao Dongliang didn't have many relatives and his parents had passed on early. As such, he knew his way around the kitchen even as a bachelor. Besides, while Grandpa Qiao had been in the army, Grandma Qiao had raised Qiao Dongliang alone. Sometimes, Qiao Dongliang would be by her side, helping her out in the kitchen as she whipped up their meals. At those times, Grandma Qiao would also impart some tips to Qiao Dongliang from time to time.

That was why Qiao Dongliang was pretty good at things like making soup. The soup was fragrant and thick. Because the chicken had already been skinned, the soup was no longer as oily.

Qiao Nan took a sip of it. Yes, it tasted quite good. It was just that Qiao Dongliang's next words made Qiao Nan lose all interest in the soup. Even the sip that she had just taken made her feel uncomfortable all over. "Zijin visited quite a few places before she managed to get this old hen. It should be a countryside free-range hen, not those raised on artificial feed. Those don't taste very good, and they aren't very nutritious either."

“...” Qiao Nan looked at the soup in her hands rather awkwardly. She couldn't bring herself to take a second mouthful of the soup. Qiao Zijin had bought her this old hen? Hehe. She dared not eat anything from Qiao Zijin. She still had the will to live. Anything from Qiao Zijin came in exchange for years of her life! “Brother Zhai, I'm not very hungry...” So, her husband could decide on how to dispose of the soup. In short, she wouldn't drink it.

Qiao Dongliang understood Qiao Nan's dilemma. “Nan Nan, try it. I spent a lot of time making it. I understand if you don't feel good about it. But there's no need to be so stubborn about it. After Zijin married Chen Jun, have you ever seen her earn a single cent for herself? She only has money now because your mom used your salary to buy her that house. Her money is yours. There's no need to feel bad about using whatever she buys because everything has been bought with your own money.”

No matter how he looked at it, Nan Nan owed Zijin nothing. Only Zijin owed Nan Nan so much that she would never be able to repay her in this lifetime.

Qiao Nan wiped her mouth. “Dad, don't overthink it. My mother-in-law made soup today as well and it hasn't been long since I drank it. My stomach is full of water now. If this soup wasn't made by you, I wouldn't even have taken a sip. I just didn't want to let your efforts go to waste. I'm really full. I can't stomach any more. The doctor said that I'm too well-nourished and that won't do either. I have to pay more attention to what I eat.”

That was what she said, and it was logical, but the truth was that she despised Qiao Zijin. Perhaps, it was because she was pregnant that Qiao Nan found herself much pettier. Because she knew the kind of person Qiao Zijin was, it would make absolutely no difference to her decision to help Qiao Zijin whether she drank this soup or not. Neither was she going to let Qiao Zijin off easily just because of a bowl of soup. Upon hearing that Qiao Zijin had bought this hen specially for her, she had really lost all appetite.

“Dad, Nan Nan is right.” Zhai Sheng stood on Qiao Nan's side unconditionally. Besides, it was true that the Zhai family had just sent some soup over earlier that day.

Qiao Dongliang sighed. “Alright, don't drink it if you don't want to. It's more important for you to be in a good mood.” He had not expected Nan Nan to be so against Zijin. Yesterday, it made sense for Nan Nan to have not eaten the watermelon that Zijin had bought. But her attitude had remained the same toward today's chicken soup.

“What's wrong?” Zhai Sheng saw Qiao Nan frowning immediately after he put the soup back.

Qiao Nan shook her head. "It's nothing much. I don't know whether it's my stomach hurting, or my hips hurting." After taking a sip of that chicken soup, Qiao Nan felt flustered and disgusted. That taste made Qiao Nan feel uncomfortable in all sorts of ways.

Qiao Nan guessed that it was the psychological impact of hating Qiao Zijin. Because she hated Qiao Zijin, she disliked everything related to her. Because she had drunk Qiao Zijin's soup, her body was starting to act up.

"Where exactly is the pain?" Qiao Nan did not take this change to heart, but Zhai Sheng did. "Feel it again. Is it your stomach that's hurting?"

As he said that, Zhai Sheng glanced at the flask of chicken soup in disdain. Even a normal person would know not to do anything to that soup. The problem was that it was Qiao Zijin they were talking about. Qiao Zijin was someone whom one could never figure out based on common sense or logic.

What if Qiao Zijin had indeed been stupid enough to do something to the soup? What would they do? Zhai Sheng was on the verge of calling the doctor over to check on whether there was something wrong with the soup.

Qiao Dongliang felt as though someone had struck him with a baseball bat. "That-that can't be, right?" Nan Nan had only started feeling unwell after drinking his soup. Did that mean that something was wrong with the soup that he had brought over? Thinking of that possibility, Qiao Dongliang felt slightly guilty. Although he had made the soup himself, Qiao Zijin had bought the chicken, after all. "It shouldn't be. I watched over the soup myself the entire time. Zijin didn't even get close to it."

If Zijin had indeed been so bold as to do something to the chicken soup, he would break her leg, even if she was his own daughter. Did she really have to go so far?

Qiao Dongliang rushed out into the corridor to call for the doctors and nurses. "Zhai Sheng, let's not scare ourselves. Nan Nan, where does it hurt?" Although he said that, Qiao Dongliang's face was already drained of all color. A more careful look would reveal that Qiao Dongliang's hands were already trembling.

"Don't worry." Amongst the three of them, Qiao Nan was the calmest. "It's normal to have stomachaches. This isn't the first time. Give me a while. The pain will subside."

At times, the three babies started kicking each other and moving around, causing Qiao Nan to feel pain. As the children grew bigger, they obviously grew stronger as well. When they moved, Qiao Nan could feel it more strongly.

#### Chapter 2175: The Situation Doesn't Look Good

These sensations usually didn't last for very long. After a while, the pain would naturally subside.

After about ten minutes, Qiao Nan's expression finally improved. "Look, I'm alright."

At this time, the doctors and nurses were already by Qiao Nan's side to give her a physical examination. "Does it really not hurt anymore? Do you have any other pains?" Actually, the doctors and nurses in an obstetrics and gynecology hospital were quite busy. They could not afford to stay by Qiao Nan's side to take care of her all the time.

If something really happened to Qiao Nan, they would have to act immediately. If there was nothing wrong with Qiao Nan, the doctors and nurses would naturally leave to take care of other patients.

It wasn't particularly comfortable when the doctor laid his icy-cold hands on her stomach, but Qiao Nan knew that the doctor was trying to determine whether she was about to go into labor. However, it wasn't easy to determine that either, unless her water bag burst. She was only eight and a half months pregnant. In normal circumstances, she should not be giving birth so early.

"No, I'm fine now," Qiao Nan answered honestly.

"That's good." The doctor sighed in relief. "She's already eight and a half months pregnant. Given that she's pregnant with multiple babies, and given her age, you'll have to pay closer attention to her. It hasn't been easy for her to carry the children until now. Don't hesitate to let us know if anything happens. I've said that we cannot let our guards down now. If anything happens to the patient, we'll have to help the three children leave the mother's body immediately even if there are no signs of labor."

There were no signs of the children being born prematurely, but the problem lay with the patient's age and physical condition. If her body could no longer support the growth of the three children, she might experience symptoms like a sudden increase in blood pressure, dizziness, or even shock.

“Don’t worry. We will.” Only after hearing the doctor’s words could Zhai Sheng and Qiao Dongliang rest assured. The only thing Qiao Dongliang was thankful for was that Qiao Nan’s sudden pains had nothing to do with his chicken soup.

But after this scare, and thinking about how much Qiao Nan hated Qiao Zijin, Qiao Dongliang told himself that he would never use anything his elder daughter bought to make anything for his younger daughter. It was not as though he had no money. His elder daughter might not have poisoned the soup this time, but that didn’t mean that she would never do it.

He had been too foolish. How could he have been so careless about something meant for Nan Nan? Zhai Sheng had been so anxious earlier. If anything were to happen to Nan Nan or the children, Zhai Sheng would probably deal with him himself even if he was Zhai Sheng’s father-in-law.

“Zhai Sheng, why don’t we take turns accompanying Nan Nan? You’re always by Nan Nan’s side, but there will be times you can’t be here. What if you get too tired and fall asleep? I’m not saying that you haven’t done enough for Nan Nan. I used to be in the military too. I know how much soldiers can endure. The problem is that Nan Nan isn’t young anymore, and neither are you. No matter what you do, you have to think about your health. If you overdo it now, how will you take care of Nan Nan and the three children in the future?”

Apart from Qiao Nan, Zhai Sheng was definitely the most tired and the one who had it the hardest. Qiao Dongliang was naturally glad that his son-in-law treated his daughter so well. Since his son-in-law cherished his daughter so much, he would take care of him on her behalf. “Don’t worry. If we really take turns, I’ll take good care of her myself. I won’t let anyone in to visit Nan Nan.”

Just a mouthful of soup had scared Qiao Dongliang out of his wits. Of course, Qiao Dongliang had no intention of ever letting Qiao Zijin participate in something as important as taking care of Qiao Nan.

“...” Zhai Sheng considered Qiao Dongliang’s suggestion carefully. It had been better earlier when he had still gotten some time to rest. But with what the doctor said earlier, he would have to be on his guard and by Qiao Nan’s side all the time. It would definitely be difficult for him to take care of Qiao Nan alone.

Before Zhai Sheng could answer, Qiao Dongliang spoke again. “Why don’t I take care of Nan Nan in the morning, while you take care of her in the night? I’m old and I’m not sure if I’ll be able to pull through the nights as well as I did in my younger days. But I’m sure I’ll be fine in the morning.” Qiao Dongliang dared not make any promises he could not keep.

It didn't matter if it was embarrassing if he were to break his promise, but Qiao Dongliang felt that he might lose the will to live if something were to happen to Qiao Nan because of that.

"Alright." Zhai Sheng agreed. Given the Zhai family's background, they could just employ someone to watch over Qiao Nan. But Qiao Nan was too important and he didn't feel comfortable leaving her in the hands of an outsider. Qiao Dongliang might be a little muddleheaded, but as a father, he wasn't like Ding Jiayi. He would never do something for the sake of one daughter and let the other die.

As such, Zhai Sheng was still willing to entrust Qiao Nan to Qiao Dongliang.

Perhaps, it was because they knew of their father's and grandfather's difficulties that they decided that they were going to meet the world and their family very soon.

The longer the duration of the pregnancy, the more obvious false uterine contractions were. Qiao Nan had already gotten used to these sudden bouts of pain. The three children were never a burden to Qiao Nan, but this pain was indeed slightly unbearable for her.

No one but Qiao Nan could understand the discomfort she faced every day. Neither Zhai Sheng nor Qiao Dongliang could experience it, while Qiao Nan had too many experiences with it and had already become used to it. As such, she did not take it to heart.

But the pain that Qiao Nan had become used to had not subsided and had, in fact, worsened and become more obvious. Qiao Nan felt that something was amiss and her face paled. "Brother Zhai, come over."

"What's wrong?" Zhai Sheng was in the midst of discussing the schedule with Qiao Dongliang but he rushed over immediately as soon as he heard Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan's eyes reddened. "Brother Zhai, my lower body feels a little numb. Can you help me massage it?"

"Are you having a cramp in your foot again?" Zhai Sheng was always the one who massaged Qiao Nan's foot every time she got a cramp. Although Qiao Dongliang was around, Zhai Sheng lifted the blanket slightly to massage her foot. But Zhai Sheng's gaze suddenly sharpened. "Nan Nan, is your stomach hurting again?"

## Chapter 2176: The Triplets Are Here

“Yes.” Qiao Nan gave a curt reply. Because of the intermittent cramps in her stomach, Qiao Nan couldn’t even think about the pain in her leg. She had taken a while to realize that the pain in her stomach was intensifying and that her lower body seemed to have lost all sensation.

Zhai Sheng took a deep breath. “Dad, get the doctor over. Nan Nan’s condition doesn’t look good. She might be going into labor.”

Qiao Nan had already bled once, and the doctor had told the Zhai family that bleeding was not a good sign. They had managed to stabilize Qiao Nan’s condition the first time, but they had to keep their eye on Qiao Nan. If Qiao Nan were to bleed again, that might mean that she was going into premature labor.

Zhai Sheng dared not forget even a single word that the doctor had said when Qiao Nan had just been admitted. As such, when Qiao Nan’s pants turned red, Zhai Sheng instinctively knew that the situation that the doctor had described earlier had occurred.

“Oh, oh...” Qiao Dongliang’s eyesight might have deteriorated over the years, but he was neither color-blind nor blind. Qiao Dongliang had spotted that bright red color too! As he walked out to call for the doctors, Qiao Dongliang felt as though his legs were as soft as noodles. “Doctor! Nurse!”

Upon learning of Qiao Nan’s condition, the doctor rushed over. Not only did she check on whether Qiao Nan was bleeding but also Qiao Nan’s heart rate, breathing, and blood pressure. “The patient’s condition is not very good. We have to send her in for a cesarean section immediately. Otherwise, both the mother and children will be in danger.” Qiao Nan’s vital signs were obviously out of the normal range.

Qiao Nan bleeding again went to show that the children couldn’t stay in Qiao Nan’s womb any longer.

After confirming Qiao Nan’s condition, the doctor and nurses rushed Qiao Nan into the operating theatre. “You’re the patient’s husband. You have to sign the consent form for the patient to undergo a cesarean section.” This was a standard procedure that everyone was subjected to.

“Alright.” This was the first time Zhai Sheng had written his name so untidily. His strokes were all crooked and twisted like earthworms. “If-if anything goes wrong, please remember to save the adult. The adult is most important.”

Qiao Nan was already bleeding but had not even noticed it. All she had said was that she felt a little numb in her lower body. Zhai Sheng was unsure about how bad Qiao Nan's situation was. But if he had to choose between the adult and the children, he would much rather pick the adult than the children. After all, he had always felt that his life would be the same with or without children before he had gotten married.

"Alright." The nurse had heard many families choosing the child over the mother. As such, she was rather touched and envious that Qiao Nan married such a good man when she heard his decision. "Don't worry. Our doctors will do their best." Then, the nurse entered the operation theatre holding that consent form.

Qiao Dongliang could hardly support himself and had only prevented himself from falling by leaning against the wall. Seeing Qiao Dongliang in such a state, Zhai Sheng helped Qiao Dongliang take a seat. Qiao Dongliang took a deep breath in, his hand trying to suppress his trembling leg. "Nan Nan is in labor. Should you let your parents know?"

"Let's wait for a while more." Zhai Sheng knew how expectant his parents were of the three children. If they had to choose to save the adult instead of the children, he hoped that his parents would only learn of that afterward so that they would be less hurt.

"Then, let's just wait here." Without the Zhai family saying a word, Qiao Dongliang knew that he could never let Ding Jiayi or Qiao Zijin know about this situation. As such, he simply sat there, praying silently.

The father-in-law and son-in-law waited outside the operation theatre in silence, not even blinking once.

After some time, or what seemed like an eternity to Qiao Dongliang and Zhai Sheng, they heard a baby's cry from the operation theatre.

In that moment, Qiao Dongliang could not help but sob along with the child. "How-how about the other two?" It didn't seem like having more children was truly a blessing at such a time.

"They'll be fine." Zhai Sheng comforted Qiao Dongliang, but perhaps, it was also to reassure himself. Even after hearing the first cry, Zhai Sheng couldn't relax. Unless the doctor personally told him that all four of them were safe, he...

Thankfully, the three children weren't naughty ones who liked to torture their elders. The moment the first cry subsided, two other tender cries rang out almost simultaneously.

"Nurse, how's my daughter? How are the children?" Seeing the nurse emerge, Qiao Dongliang rushed forward. Zhai Sheng had not spoken but his concerns were exactly the same.

"Congratulations, all three children were born safely. There aren't any major problems with the patient, but she'll be weaker than an average patient. You'll have to take good care of her from now on. She should be coming out soon." The nurse could not help but smile upon seeing that all four of them were safe. "Oh right, out of the three children, two of them are boys, and one of them is a girl. Your family has good fortune, indeed. You guys have both sons and a daughter!"

"Thank God!" Qiao Dongliang regained his senses. His entire face was wet with tears. "How are my three grandchildren?" They hadn't stayed within Qiao Nan's womb for nine months. As such, Qiao Dongliang had started to worry about them before even Qiao Nan could do so.

"The doctor has already checked on the three children. Their organs are well-developed and I'm sure you heard the cries earlier. Amongst all the multiple births we've had, your family's babies have the loudest cries. They might be a little lighter than average, but they'll grow up healthily and normally as long as you take good care of them."

The heaviest among the three children was only 2.4 kilograms, while the others were slightly short of that. They were quite a fair bit lighter than an average baby of 3 kilograms. But that was how it was with multiple births. There usually weren't any especially heavy ones. 2.4 kilograms was acceptable. After all, the lightest baby the nurse had ever seen had weighed only about 1 kilogram. That tender red ball had resembled a newborn kitten.

"Thank you. Thank you!" Qiao Dongliang wiped away his tears. He had three grandchildren. Three grandchildren!

Zhai Sheng had remained silent all along, not because he didn't want to say anything but because he didn't know what to say. There were some things that he wished to only experience once in his life. If he had known that giving birth was such a dangerous event for women, Zhai Sheng would have adopted a child from the orphanage instead of letting Qiao Nan risk her life to give birth to these three children. He would never let this happen again!

“It has been tough on you, doctor.” Seeing that Qiao Nan was pushed out with a pale-face look and she seemed to be still asleep, Zhai Sheng was grateful to the doctor that performed the operation on her today.

The doctor removed his mask. “During the operation, her blood pressure increased and her heartbeat became irregular. The situation wasn’t looking optimistic. The operation was successful, but in the next twenty-four hours, you have to pay more attention to her. I’ve already told this to the nurses and they will be taking care of her more.”

No one could tell what would happen after an operation.

After knowing whose daughter-in-law Qiao Nan was and what a big shot her husband was, the doctor didn’t want to recall the abnormalities that appeared in Qiao Nan’s body during the operation. It was really stressful for him to have undergone that.

“Alright, doctor. I understand.” Zhai Sheng didn’t expect that following the birth of the triplets, Qiao Nan’s condition still wasn’t stable yet. Suppressing the fear in his heart, Zhai Sheng took out his mobile and called home. “Hello, Mom. It’s me. Don’t be anxious. It’s not that something happened to Nan Nan, but Nan Nan has given birth. She has given birth to the triplets. Yes, you can decide for yourself what needs to be done.”

Upon hearing that her daughter-in-law had given birth to three grandchildren safely, Miao Jing couldn’t wait for a pair of wings to be on her back so that she could fly to the hospital. “Hurry up! Nan Nan has given birth! No, I must go to the hospital immediately to see her and our three darling grandchildren. Oh, right. Auntie, hurry to the market and see if there’s any fish or soup. We must have sufficient supplies at home. Remember to buy wild fish, and pick those bigger ones.”

“Alright.” The auntie was surprised as well. Even though she knew that Qiao Nan was going to give birth prematurely, who would have expected that it would be today? “Don’t worry. I’ve already communicated this to a friend of mine. He has fresh wild black fish. I’ll go pick them up now.”

After handing over all the family matters to the auntie, Miao Jing pulled Zhai Yaohui and rushed to the hospital. “Zhai Sheng, where’s Nan Nan? Where’re the children?”

“Nan Nan is resting. The children are naturally in the nursery room.” After the operation ended, Zhai Sheng hadn’t visited the children yet. He was guarding Qiao Nan and refused to leave. As for Qiao Dongliang, with Zhai Sheng around for Qiao Nan, he naturally went to guard his three grandchildren with ease. Qiao Dongliang shared that in the past, he often saw the news saying that someone had carried away the wrong child or had lost them.

To be on the safe side, he had to personally look after his three grandchildren!

Once Miao Jing heard that the three grandchildren were in the nursery room, her eyes shone and she rushed over. Compared to the excited Miao Jing, Zhai Yaohui seemed calmer. “Are Qiao Nan and the three children alright?”

“The doctor said that aside from the children being lighter in weight, they are alright. Nan Nan... There were some problems during the operation, so she has to be under observation for twenty-four hours. Dad, you and Mom might have to take care of the triplets more in the future.” After giving birth, Nan Nan might not be able to take care of three children at the same time.

Zhai Yaohui’s eyes flashed and his shoulders collapsed slightly. The situation that he least wanted to happen eventually happened. Qiao Nan was a geriatric pregnant woman to begin with. She even gave birth to triplets. If... Zhai Yaohui knew that from a rational point of view, it would undoubtedly be best for Qiao Nan, who was pregnant with triplets, not to have given birth if she was suitable for an abortion.

It was just that Zhai Yaohui didn’t think as much as Miao Jing and his mindset was still more traditional. Regardless of whether it was a boy or a girl, Zhai Sheng still needed to have a child with his blood.

Everyone had their selfish moments. Zhai Yaohui was no exception.

Seeing that his son was nervous, Zhai Yaohui couldn’t tell if his insistence back then was correct or not. Thankfully, the three children were safe. Qiao Nan... He believed that after becoming the mother of these three children, the resilient Qiao Nan would only become stronger than before. She wouldn’t leave her three newborns behind. “We should believe in Qiao Nan. Nothing will happen to her. The triplets need their parents, especially their mother.”

Zhai Sheng’s eyes looked a little cold. “Yes, nothing will happen to Nan Nan. We only appeared in each other’s lives after being late for so many years. In the years to come, both of us wouldn’t miss out on each other. When Nan Nan was pushed in, I told the doctor to safeguard the adult instead of the children if anything were to happen. Dad, this is the first time, and it will also be the last.”

Zhai Sheng knew how much Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing were looking forward to seeing the children. Of course, if Qiao Nan didn’t insist on the children herself, Zhai Sheng wouldn’t have let her give birth for Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing alone. In this family, it seemed that he, as the father,

was the only one who wasn't particularly looking forward to the arrival of the children. As he was outnumbered, he could naturally only obey the majority rule.

Zhai Sheng didn't expect the only time he was indulgent to have caused such huge damage. Really, it was enough to feel this amount of worry and fear once. He wasn't going to let this happen again.

Hearing how distant Zhai Sheng's tone was, Zhai Yaohui felt sour in his heart. Wasn't his grandson Zhai Sheng's son? Didn't he and Miao Miao care so much for Zhai Sheng as well?

It was just that Zhai Yaohui didn't say these words out. He slapped Zhai Sheng's back and said, "Isn't this nonsense? Even if the country opens up a second-child policy, you and Nan Nan already have three children. What else do you want? Stop being a soldier?"

This one time was already so breath-taking. Another time? Zhai Yaohui really wanted to say that he wasn't certain if he still had the lifespan to wait for that day to happen. Anyway, his courage wouldn't allow him to experience this again.

After Zhai Yaohui arrived at the nursery room, unlike Miao Jing and Qiao Dongliang who kept staring at and complimenting their three grandchildren, he stood silently beside Miao Jing.

Miao Jing smiled and turned to look at Zhai Yaohui. "Old Zhai, look. These three cutest children belong to our family. Aren't they good-looking?" Zhai Yaohui's eyes flashed. "Miao Miao, I wasn't by your side when you gave birth to Zhai Hua and Zhai Sheng back then. It has been tough on you."

Seeing how tough and dangerous it had been for Qiao Nan, it didn't mean that the Miao Jing who was leading a good life now had a safe and successful delivery of her second child back then. It was unknown to Zhai Yaohui, who had been away from home back then, if Miao Jing had encountered a dangerous situation or been in pain.

Miao Jing blushed. "What are you talking about? I'm asking now if our three grandchildren are good-looking."

When she was giving birth to Zhai Hua and Zhai Sheng? Miao Jing almost had no impression of it.

Chapter 2178: "Good-Looking"

She only had a faint impression of it. When she was carrying her first child, she ate too well, causing Zhai Hua to grow big in her stomach. She only gave birth to her after a long time. After having the experience of the first child, Miao Jing didn't dare to nourish herself that well anymore when she was pregnant with Zhai Sheng. Indeed, the process of giving birth to Zhai Sheng was much smoother.

Since Miao Jing didn't want to mention it and Old Master Zhai, who knew what happened back then, was no longer around, Zhai Yaohui naturally couldn't get his answer. Seeing that Miao Jing was staring at the triplets so diligently, Zhai Yaohui looked over as well. He saw for himself three red and wrinkly children who liked to curl up and sleep like a mouse. Zhai Yaohui's lips twitched and he said against his conscience, "Pretty... pretty good-looking."

If he didn't remember wrongly, Zhai Hua and Zhai Sheng were both fair-skinned and chubby when they were young, like round steamed buns. Could it be that his grandchildren looked so ugly because they were triplets?

Qiao Dongliang didn't want to think of Ding Jiayi at this time. This was because when Ding Jiayi gave birth to their first child, Qiao Zijin, back then, she washed her face with tears every day and said that she was a letdown for not having given birth to a son. When she gave birth to their second child, Qiao Nan, Ding Jiayi couldn't wait to leave her alone. She didn't even want to breastfeed Qiao Nan. If not for milk powder being too expensive back then and it wasn't as economical as breast milk, Qiao Dongliang felt that Ding Jiayi might not be willing to even hug Qiao Nan.

They were all men. Miao Jing didn't understand the doubt in Zhai Yaohui's eyes but Qiao Dongliang did. "Children are like that when they were just born. One or two months later after they are well-fed, they will look good. The skin of newborns is redder. A few days later, they would become more fair-skinned. When Nan Nan was born, she was like that as well."

Look at how fair-skinned Nan Nan was now. On the contrary, when Zijin was born, she wasn't that red. When she grew up, she wasn't as fair-skinned as Nan Nan.

"That's right. The redder the skin of the newborn, the more fair-skinned they would be when they grow up. The skin of our three grandchildren is so red. They would definitely look as good as their mom when they grow up. Old Zhai, these two are our precious grandsons and this one is our precious granddaughter." If not for the three grandchildren had to be placed in the nursery room and parents couldn't walk around, how could she bear to let them be inside? After waiting for so many years, she couldn't wait to carry them.

“Is that so?” Zhai Yaohui was really unsure about this. “Then, they would definitely be good-looking in the future.” The genes were there. The people of the Zhai family were always tall. Qiao Nan was good-looking as well. As the children of Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan, they would definitely not look much worse in the future.

Qiao Nan didn't know what had happened after giving birth. Before she fainted, she only faintly heard the cries of the babies. Then, she lost consciousness. When Qiao Nan woke up, it was already the next day. She couldn't help but frown at the pain in her stomach.

Zhai Sheng was naturally the first to realize that she had moved. “Nan Nan, how are you? Do you feel uncomfortable anywhere?” Seeing that Qiao Nan finally woke up, Zhai Sheng heaved a sigh of relief. Thankfully, after Nan Nan was pushed out of the operating theatre, aside from being unconscious, everything else was normal.

“Hiss...” Qiao Nan sucked in a breath of cold air. Compared to her dream, she suffered an extra knife to the stomach. It must be uncomfortable. “My stomach hurts a little. The anesthetic has passed, so the pain is inevitable. Where are the children? There're three of them, right? Is it two sons and one daughter?” In this lifetime, she fainted before learning about her children's gender.

However, Qiao Nan believed that since she had given birth to three children, they must be the cute triplets in her dream.

“...” Zhai Sheng hesitated for a while. Qiao Nan didn't know because she had fainted. Zhai Sheng placed all his attention on Qiao Nan. As such, he was really unsure if their children were two boys and one girl.

“Yes, it is.” Thankfully, Miao Jing appeared at the right time and helped Zhai Sheng out. “Nan Nan, you didn't see how good-looking they are. When the nurse gave them a bath, I saw it. They cried as loudly as other children. One look at them and it was obvious they are healthy. A lot of people said that you could really give birth as the triplets were born so healthily.”

After knowing that the lightest child weighed about a kilogram, which was half the weight of their grandson, Miao Jing once again expressed that Qiao Nan was formidable. Perhaps, women who were mothers were powerful.

Their Zhai family had grandchildren. Three grandchildren. In the past, she didn't care about other people's children. Now, there was even less need for her to be envious. She had three grandchildren.

Qiao Nan smiled. She and Zhai Sheng hadn't changed. Thus, the triplets hadn't changed either. Such a feeling was great. "Mom, are the three children well?"

"Yes, extremely well." Nothing was better than this. "Nan Nan, since you're awake, drink some soup. It has been tough on you this time around. We must nourish your body well. After giving birth, you've lost the flesh on your body and become so skinny. It will be even tougher for you to take care of the triplets in the future. This wouldn't do. Don't worry. During your confinement period, the auntie and I will think of ways so that you become chubby. Oh, right. You gave birth to triplets. I asked the doctor and it's safer for you to undergo two months of confinement instead."

It wasn't easy to give birth to triplets.

It was best to recuperate one's body through the confinement period.

It had been tiring this time around. One naturally had to be more attentive toward Qiao Nan's confinement compared to other pregnant women's. Miao Jing specially approached the doctor for a complete recipe list. It was stated clearly what was good for mother and child, what was suitable for a woman in confinement to eat, and how to prepare these items. This allowed the Zhai family to take good care of Qiao Nan.

"Two months of confinement?" Qiao Nan, who already had the confinement experience once, more or less closed off her heart to this. "There's no need for two months. Forty days should be sufficient." In her dream, it seemed that she had to undergo two months of confinement as well.

In her dream, Qiao Nan gave birth to the triplets in summer. It was conceivable how terrible it was to undergo confinement in summer. Now, Qiao Nan had to undergo confinement in winter. It didn't seem as bad as her dream. However, it was still uncomfortable to be in confinement. After suffering such a 'sin' once, Qiao Nan felt that it was good to save as many days as possible from confinement. If thirty days were too little, then let it be forty days. Anyway, she couldn't stand sixty days.

#### Chapter 2179: All Alike

"Forty days is fine too." Zhai Sheng naturally had some understanding of this, so he felt that it wouldn't be too short for Qiao Nan to have a confinement period of forty days.

"Alright." Since the couple wasn't willing for Qiao Nan to go through two months of confinement, Miao Jing relented since she already had her grandchildren. "Nan Nan, you haven't seen the triplets,

right? The nurse will bring them over soon. From today on, we'll definitely nourish all four of you well so that you'll all gain some weight!"

Miao Jing had only one thought in her mind, and that was to feed them well. She had set her mind to fattening all four of them up, especially the three children. If the three children weren't fat in their infancy, when else would they get fat?

"Alright." At the mention of her children, Qiao Nan's eyes twinkled. If possible, she wanted to meet them right now, hug them, and kiss them. She had waited a long time for this day to come. It hadn't been easy either.

After waking up from her dream, apart from missing her husband, Zhai Sheng, Qiao Nan felt pangs of pain every time she thought about the triplets. That was a mom's heart. Staying apart from Zhai Sheng was already painful enough, but thinking about how she might never have the fate to meet her intelligent and outstanding children again in this lifetime, Qiao Nan felt as though she was going to die when she had first awoken.

If not for that broken heart, Qiao Nan would never have traveled all the way to Qingshui Town in a bid to heal her wounds.

Thankfully, everything had gone well, and their family of five had finally reunited!

Just as they finished their conversation, the nurse entered with the three children. "Congratulations. Take a look at your three babies. Would you like to carry the elder brothers or the younger sister first?"

"Give me the younger sister first." Qiao Nan chose San Bao without any hesitation. As she carried the small and tender San Bao in her arms, tears welled up in Qiao Nan's eyes. Her San Bao... Her princess was finally back. "Mom, shall we give the three children nicknames of Da Bao, Er Bao, and San Bao?" Since they were still her same three children, Qiao Nan had no intention of changing their nicknames.

"Alright, alright. That sounds good. Aren't these three babies our family's most precious three babies? There aren't any other nicknames that are more affectionate!" Miao Jing dared not rebuke Qiao Nan, and she even called out the children's nicknames affectionately. "Do you and Zhai Sheng have any ideas for the children's official names?"

Old Zhai had been flipping through the dictionary since the previous day, pondering over the names of the three children. But Qiao Nan had been the one to give birth to them, after all. If Qiao Nan had already named the children, Old Zhai would have no chance of using those names he had picked out.

As she landed a tender kiss on her daughter's forehead, San Bao moved slightly in her sleep, seeming to know that she was in her mother's embrace. She slept especially peacefully, with no signs of waking up. Qiao Nan looked up toward Zhai Sheng. "Brother Zhai, how about you?"

In her dream, her father-in-law had given her three children their names, and she had been rather pleased with them. In this lifetime, she was willing to hand this important task to her father-in-law once again.

"Anything's fine." Zhai Sheng stroked San Bao's head through a cloth. He knew that the children were still young and could not be touched. He was also afraid that he wouldn't be able to control his strength and would cause discomfort to the children. Zhai Sheng dared not carry his children, much less touch them. When the nurse had tried to hand him Da Bao, Zhai Sheng had simply moved away for Miao Jing to take over.

As such, only Er Bao was left in the nurse's arms. After giving it some thought, she decided to place Er Bao on Qiao Nan's bed so that he would be close to his mother. Otherwise, both the eldest brother and younger sister were being carried while he would be the only one in an outsider's arms. How aggrieved he would feel!

They were all her children, and Qiao Nan loved them all the same. Once Er Bao was placed by her side, Qiao Nan decided to place San Bao down as well to let the siblings lie beside each other. Qiao Nan gazed at them, stroking them, feeling as though she didn't have enough hands to do what she wanted. "Brother Zhai, our three children have grown so well!"

"..." Zhai Sheng remained silent for a moment, his gaze as confused as Zhai Yaohui's the previous day. Over the night, all that had been done was clean the children up slightly. They were still as red and wrinkly. Zhai Sheng dared not get close to those tiny babies. Zhai Sheng had no idea what Qiao Nan was talking about. Their three children looked exactly like tiny animal cubs. How had they grown well?

From an emotional standpoint, it was obvious that one's own children would always be the best in the world. But after being scared by Qiao Nan's near-death encounter, Zhai Sheng felt that he was still unqualified as a good father, and that logic still ruled over him. If not for how Qiao Nan and

Miao Jing were full of praise and flattery for the three children, Zhai Sheng would probably have asked which part of the children actually looked good.

Having two sons and a daughter was not bad indeed.

A man couldn't depend on his looks, especially one from the Zhai family. He would have to rely on his own strength. So, it wouldn't really matter even if he was really ugly. As for his only princess, it wouldn't matter if she wasn't especially pretty either since her two elder brothers would take care of her.

Besides, there was also their aunt, Zhai Hua, as an example. Zhai Hua had had poor judgment and had gotten married, missing out on Tian Dong. Zhai Sheng believed that his daughter with Qiao Nan would never be worse off than Zhai Hua. At the very least, San Bao should at least meet a man comparable to Tian Dong.

With him around, he would never let San Bao commit the same mistake as Zhai Hua. He would never let her give up a good man only to marry a bastard and get so hurt in the process.

“They look pretty good. Like you... Like me...” Knowing that women cared most about appearances, Zhai Sheng had intended to praise the three children. That was why he said that they resembled Qiao Nan. The problem was that the children did not look good at all at the moment, and Zhai Sheng was afraid that Qiao Nan would get mad at him for saying that they resembled her.

What he meant was that the children's good features came from Qiao Nan, while their uglier ones were his problem.

Thankfully, no one else knew Zhai Sheng's true thoughts. They simply thought that Zhai Sheng was too emotional as a first-time father, so his speech was a little strange. In Qiao Nan's and Miao Jing's eyes, Zhai Sheng's words meant that the three children looked good because they resembled both Qiao Nan and their father.

Chapter 2180: Where To?

“Isn't that right?” Miao Jing grinned widely as she carried her eldest grandson. “Our triplets are really so handsome and beautiful. They've inherited the good features from both their parents. I can imagine how many people will chase our three children in the future.” She could not bear to put down Da Bao, who felt so tender and soft in her arms.

But Er Bao and San Bao were already lying by Qiao Nan's side. Not wanting her eldest grandson to feel 'left out', and wanting the three children to share a good relationship with each other, she could not possibly not let the three children spend time together by their mother's side. As soon as she laid the three children side by side, Miao Jing's heart melted into a puddle. "Our three children are really beautiful!"

Zhai Sheng took another closer look at his sons and daughter, replying with an insincere hum. Zhai Sheng knew that Miao Jing thought that her grandchildren were the best and probably saw them through rose-tinted lenses. Only in a month's time when the children grew a little older and gained some weight would Zhai Sheng be able to tell whether his mom and Qiao Nan were right and whether their three children were indeed more beautiful and attractive than other children.

Zhai Sheng was amazed at how children could grow from being ugly to good-looking in just a month's time.

"Dad, why are you making fish soup instead? Isn't it still a little early?" On the other hand, Qiao Zijin thought that it was extremely strange that Qiao Dongliang had started making all sorts of fish soup instead. As a mother, Qiao Zijin naturally knew what fish soup was for. It was good for women to drink fish soup after giving birth so that they would have an abundance of breast milk. It was just that Qiao Nan had not even given birth yet. Wasn't it too early to be making fish soup for Qiao Nan? Besides, if Qiao Nan were to really give birth, she should die right after giving birth. In that case, she wouldn't even get a chance to drink this fish soup. Her dad was wasting his time and effort making this fish soup.

Qiao Dongliang poured the soup out carefully before placing on the lid. Having learned from yesterday, he dared not use a single ingredient that Qiao Zijin had bought. While boiling the soup, he dared not even take a step away from the kitchen. Thankfully, Qiao Zijin had no intention of entering the kitchen either. Because he had overseen the entire process, Qiao Dongliang felt reassured about this flask of fish soup.

Yesterday, Qiao Nan had started bleeding after just a mouthful of chicken soup and had been forced to undergo a cesarean section. It had almost scared Qiao Dongliang out of his wits. Regardless of whether there had been anything wrong with that soup, Qiao Nan could not afford to touch anything from Qiao Zijin. How could it be so coincidental that Qiao Nan had started bleeding after taking just a sip of chicken soup made from the chicken that Qiao Zijin had bought?

He put the lid on tightly. At the thought of the three rascals in the hospital, Qiao Dongliang could not help but let out a warm smile. "It isn't early anymore. I'd better bring this to Nan Nan now. She should be awake, right?" As he thought about that, he whipped out his phone to have a look.

Qiao Dongliang knew that Qiao Nan needed someone by her side to take care of her all the time. Since Qiao Nan had already given birth, she only required one person to accompany her. Qiao Dongliang had no intention to fight with Zhai Sheng for that role. But before leaving, he had instructed Zhai Sheng to let him know immediately once Qiao Nan awoke so that he wouldn't worry about her while he was at home.

Upon checking his phone, he realized that Zhai Sheng had indeed sent a message an hour ago, reporting that Qiao Nan was doing fine. Thinking about the doctor's words, Qiao Dongliang knew that Qiao Nan must have passed the critical stage and would be fine from now on.

"She's awake? What does that mean? What do you mean it's right for Qiao Nan to drink it now? Has she given birth?" Qiao Zijin was frantic about Qiao Nan's situation. If it wasn't prohibited, she would have installed a camera by Qiao Nan's bed to monitor her every move. Hearing that Qiao Dongliang had a different tone and air today as compared to yesterday, Qiao Zijin immediately sensed something amiss. "Dad, be honest with me. Did Qiao Nan go into labor? When did she go into labor? Has she delivered yet? How's she doing after delivering the children?"

Damn it...

This was too early. How could she have given birth so early? She had not even gotten to do anything. Thankfully, her dad was still making soup for Qiao Nan. That meant that Qiao Nan was probably still alive even though she had already delivered. If Qiao Nan was really dead, she would have wasted all her effort and money! "Dad, you're too much! How could you have kept it from me that Nan Nan has delivered? Did she give birth yesterday? How's Nan Nan? What did the doctor say? Is it not very optimistic?"

That had to be the case. Wasn't Qiao Nan courting death by giving birth to three children at once?

That wouldn't do. She had to rush to the hospital and persuade Qiao Nan to ask Zhai Sheng to marry her while Qiao Nan was still alive. Opportunities never come knocking on the door twice. She was in a race against time now. She had to persuade Qiao Nan before she took her last breath!

At the thought of that, Qiao Zijin shot a whole bunch of questions at Qiao Dongliang and rushed out with her bag without even getting a clear answer from Qiao Dongliang. If she arrived at the hospital just a minute too late to find that Qiao Nan had passed away, she would have made a wasted trip to the capital. She couldn't afford to waste even a minute!

"Sigh, Zijin. Where are you going?" Qiao Dongliang was taken aback by how quickly Qiao Zijin ran off. She had never even run so quickly when participating in the eight-hundred-meter sprint in

school in the past. But based on the questions that Zijin had been asking about Nan Nan, could it be that Zijin had rushed off to see Nan Nan in the hospital?

That wouldn't do. Nan Nan had just awoken and needed to rest. That definitely would not happen with Zijin around. If Zijin made a fuss and caused a disruption in Nan Nan's confinement, Nan Nan might very well fall ill.

With that in mind, Qiao Dongliang hailed a cab and rushed to the hospital with his freshly-made soup in hand.

It was not the first time Qiao Zijin was visiting Qiao Nan, so she already knew which ward Qiao Nan was in. Of course, that made it a lot easier for her to find her way around.

Qiao Zijin caught a nurse who had just arrived at work. "Hello, I'm Qiao Nan's elder sister. I heard that my younger sister gave birth yesterday. How's she doing?"

It wouldn't have been easy for Qiao Nan to give birth to three children. Not only was she in danger herself, but the three children were also in danger! The only thing Qiao Zijin wanted to do was be a good stepmother, but she was afraid that she wouldn't be able to take care of three children at once. Taking care of just one child was difficult enough, much less when Qiao Nan had given birth to three at once.