

RTAMM 821

Chapter 821 Let's Die Together

Qiao Nan was the provincial top humanities scorer. It was such a glorious feat and a golden opportunity for them.

Zhai Yaohui and Zhai Sheng felt that time was ripe and that they could reveal Qiao Nan's identity. However, their plans had been destroyed by Ding Jiayi.

Zhai Sheng had no other choice but to arrange for his family to return home. He could only postpone his original plan.

Zhai Yaohui understood Zhai Sheng's concerns and worries. He also agreed with Zhai Sheng and was about to bring Miao Jing back home.

There was a glitter in Wei De's eyes. He thought of a 'good' idea. "Madam Zhai, don't be in a hurry to leave. Look, that woman seems to be very feisty. What if the man could not hold her down and Teacher Xiao Qiao suffers because of her?"

Seeing that the old chief and Regiment Commander Zhai were in a rush to leave, he knew that things were getting to be interesting.

He wanted to know what would happen if Madam Zhai stayed behind.

The two men in the Zhai family turned grim at Wei De's remarks. However, Wei De was oblivious to them. He felt that what he said was appropriate and at the same time, he could make things difficult for Qiao Nan. It was killing two birds with one stone.

Zhai Hua, who was enraged by his words, stepped on Wei De's foot to shut him up. Usually, he was very good with his words. Why did he fumble the ball at such a critical juncture?

Zhai Hua knew that the Zhai family had been waiting for this day and she could roughly guess what was on Zhai Sheng's mind.

If Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan would be able to get her mother's approval, she and Wei De would have an easier time to get her family's approval. She never expected that Ding Jiayi would destroy everything.

Instead of helping out, Wei De was more of a hindrance than a help. He must be a fool!

Wei De, who felt a sharp pain in his feet, noticed belatedly that Zhai Yaohui and Zhai Sheng were casting angry stares at him. It was frightening to be stared down by the two important figures in the Zhai family. He shut his mouth quickly.

His only thought was to foil the plan of Regiment Commander Zhai and Qiao Nan. He did not mean to affect his relationship with Zhai Hua.

He wondered how the old chief felt about his remarks. Would he leave a bad impression on him because of that?

This would not do. When he went back home later, he must ask Zhai Hua about the old chief's attitude toward Qiao Nan's relationship with Zhai Sheng. He hoped that the old chief would not give his consent to having Qiao Nan as his daughter-in-law.

Recently, Zhai Hua had been staying at the Zhai family's residence. With Zhai Sheng as her example, she tried not to be in close contact with Wei De. Instead, she would spend more time during her leave to stay at home. She wanted to work hard for her future with Wei De.

Because of this, Zhai Hua did not tell Wei De in time about Zhai Yaohui's attitude toward Qiao Nan. Wei De had no idea that Zhai Yaohui had already approved of Qiao Nan being his daughter-in-law.

What he did right now was tantamount to destroying his future.

Regardless of whether Wei De regretted his remarks or not, Miao Jing had taken in what he said. "You are right. Nan Nan has suffered a lot in this woman's hand. What if Nan Nan is bullied again? She should know that today is an important day. There is no way that surnamed Ding woman could have her ways!"

Qiao Dongliang had wanted to drag Ding Jiayi with him and settle the divorce procedures.

He looked up and was stunned to see that the Zhai family was right in front of him.

Seeing that Qiao Dongliang was distracted, Ding Jiayi gave out a loud shout. “Old Qiao, don’t be too much. You must have felt that Qiao Nan has better prospects than Zijin since she is in a relationship with the son of the chief, and that is why you keep siding with her. Do grades equivalent to one’s personality? Qiao Nan is clearly going against me and is happy to see me in a miserable state. Moreover, she fawns on such a prominent family! She must have wanted to abandon her poor mother, so she urged you to divorce me. I came here today to beg her to let me off. Is she bent on driving me to a dead end? A mother never looks ugly to her child. Even if she is dating the son of the chief, I am still her mother. How can she shun me and try means and ways to get rid of me?!”

If Qiao Nan was not in a relationship with Zhai Sheng, she would not be emboldened to urge Qiao Dongliang to divorce her.

Qiao Dongliang was not in time to stop Ding Jiayi from sputtering nonsense.

An audacious Ding Jiayi continued with her nonsense. “Qiao Nan, that wretched girl, has yet to graduate from junior high school when she got to know Zhai Sheng. She is so young, yet she goes astray and is already in a relationship. You blame me for not being good to Qiao Nan. However, Qiao Nan is not a good child. She did such shameful things, yet you blamed me for disciplining her? I was not strict enough with her and that is why she is in a relationship when she is still in school. Now that she is successful, she is so heartless to abandon her mother and to come between her parents. This won’t do!”

How dare Ding Jiayi spewed nonsense in front of the Zhai family! Qiao Dongliang, who was already feeling unwell, almost fainted out of anger at her outrageous remarks!

“Uncle Qiao!” Zhai Sheng rushed forward to support Qiao Dongliang, a grim expression on his face. “Uncle Qiao, you must calm down. Nan Nan has lost her mother. She cannot do without you. If anything happens to you, there will be no one to protect Nan Nan.”

Qiao Dongliang calmed himself down at Zhai Sheng’s reminder. “Zhai Sheng, I don’t wish to say anything else. I must divorce her today.”

If he stayed married to such a woman for another day, he might be angered to death and would not live past tomorrow.

Ding Jiayi looked guilty at the sight of Zhai Sheng. She hurried forward when she saw Miao Jing. “Madam Zhai, I was not strict enough with Qiao Nan. She goes astray at such a young age and Regiment Commander Zhai is also led astray by her. You have seen it for yourself. Old Qiao pampers her and does not care if she does the wrong things. Please accept my apology. I know Qiao Nan is unworthy of Regiment Commander Zhai. Don’t worry. I will think of ways to break them up. I will not put you in a difficult position. I did not expect that my younger daughter, Qiao Nan, will have such a bad personality and refuses to listen to us. I did not know that she would do such shameless things...”

Ding Jiayi kept on blabbering. Even though the people who gathered around the house had different reactions, every one of them had the same expression in their eyes: Was she a big fool?

Miao Jing could not help but raise her hand and give Ding Jiayi a tight slap. “I will not slap anyone under normal circumstances. However, today is a special situation and you are out of the ordinary! Hey, you are the person who made a spectacle of yourself and has a bad personality. You are the one who is hard to discipline. You are the one who is shameless!”

Miao Jing raised her voice at Ding Jiayi. She then turned to look at Zhai Sheng. “Are... are you really dating Nan Nan? Is Nan Nan the young girlfriend that you mentioned previously?”

Zhai Sheng wanted to take another time to tell Miao Jing the truth. However, his plan could not keep up with the changes. Zhai Sheng had to admit the truth. “Nan Nan said that she is still young and wants to concentrate on her studies. She does not want to be distracted by this relationship. We planned to wait until she finished her college entrance examination before telling you of our relationship.”

Chapter 822 The Zhai Family Was Mad

Everyone present had overheard Ding Jiayi’s shocking description of Qiao Nan. Zhai Sheng said those words so as to tell them that Qiao Nan had a good personality. She was unlike the person that Ding Jiayi made her to be. She did not start a relationship when she was young or did anything that was shameless.

All of those did not happen.

Ding Jiayi was the only mother in the world who would speak ill of her own daughter without getting the facts right.

In fact, if Ding Jiayi had spilled the beans about Qiao Nan's relationship with Zhai Sheng earlier, the outcome might be slightly different. Right now, Qiao Nan's neighbors were not taken aback by her words.

They had heard of many cases where the children from other families did badly in their exams because of being in a relationship.

They had never seen someone who would be so self-disciplined when in a relationship. She did so well in the exams and was the provincial top scorer.

She was indeed the provincial top scorer. She was disciplined despite being in a relationship and remained focused on her studies. Other children would not have such awareness and ability.

Furthermore, Qiao Nan was the top humanities scorer in the province. As her parents, there was nothing more to ask for. There was no need to berate her for what happened in the past.

To put things bluntly, if being in a relationship would aid their children in doing well in their studies and help them become the top scorer, they would not stop them from dating.

"..." Ding Jiayi felt that her teeth had come loose after being slapped by Qiao Dongliang and Miao Jing. She was especially in a daze by Miao Jing's words. Did it mean that Madam Zhai was not angry at Qiao Nan for being in a relationship with Regiment Commander Zhai?

Could it be that Madam Zhai had already accepted Qiao Nan? It could not be!

If she had a high social status like Madam Zhai and had an outstanding son like Regiment Commander Zhai, she would not allow her son to marry Qiao Nan who came from a poor family.

After getting a positive answer from Zhai Sheng, Miao Jing looked toward Zhai Yaohui.

It suddenly dawned on her why Zhai Yaohui would compare Qiao Nan with Zhai Sheng's girlfriend and asked her whether she would accept it if the girlfriend was like Qiao Nan. "Did you know about it long ago?"

"..." Zhai Yaohui did not make any move to deny.

Miao Jing turned to look at Zhai Hua, who did not seem to be taken aback. “Hua Hua, did you know about it as well?”

Wei De felt that there was something going on, and he hurried to say, “Madam Zhai, in fact, everyone in the family knows about it except for you. Hua Hua kept it from you for the sake of Zhai Sheng. Although Hua Hua knew about it from the start, she had her reasons for keeping it from you.”

The whole family knew about it but they kept it from Madam Zhai. If Madam Zhai knew that she was being kept in the dark, she would be furious and dislike Qiao Nan because of that.

Since the whole family kept it from her, it showed that the Zhai family placed importance on Qiao Nan.

It was impossible for Madam Zhai to be pleased that her family kept it from her so as to help an outsider.

Miao Jing was all the more furious that Wei De knew about it as well. She could not catch her breath and fainted.

“Miao Miao!” Zhai Yaohui rushed forward to catch hold of Miao Jing who had passed out.

“Old Chief, let’s send Madam Zhai to the hospital!” Look, Madam Zhai was so angry that she had fainted. She was the only person who was clear-minded in the Zhai family. She knew that Qiao Nan, who was of humble background, had no right to be the daughter-in-law of the Zhai family.

“Scram.” Zhai Yaohui looked at Wei De in disgust. “As a man, you are such a big mouth. You should fight for the job with the matchmaker. It has been a waste of your time to stay in the army for so many years.”

“Shut up!” Zhai Hua was angry as well. Wei De was adding fuel to the flames. Did he intend to anger her mother to death?

Wei De made countless blunders today. Whatever that he said only made matters worse.

If she had known that he would behave in such a manner, she would not have brought him with her.

They were here to congratulate Qiao Nan for being the top humanities scorer of the province. They had yet to congratulate her and Wei De was in a hurry to badmouth her. Zhai Hua was boiling with anger.

Wei De must be crazy. Did he know that besides ruining the plans of Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan, he had also ruined his future with Zhai Hua?

“Dad, Mom...” Zhai Hua looked worriedly at Miao Jing, who had yet to wake up. She was too angry to spare another glance at Wei De.

“There is no need to go to the hospital. Your mom only fainted in a rush of anger. It is too crowded here. It is not suitable for her to take a rest here. Let’s go home first. As for other things, we will talk about it later.” Zhai Yaohui carried Miao Jing by the waist and put her into the car.

“I will drive you back.” The Zhai family came without a chauffeur. There were a total of five of them, including Wei De.

Zhai Hua arranged for Wei De to drive the car on the way here so that he could have the chance to please her family. But now, it was impossible for him to drive them back. “Aren’t you busy in the office and have a lot of things to attend to? Alright, you should tend to your business. My family is fine now.” She had to consider whether to allow Wei De to join them on other occasions. Judging from his behavior today, he was being too meddlesome. He was plain annoying.

“Hua Hua...” Was Zhai Hua going to leave him here? Did she want him to walk all the way back to the company?

On what grounds?!

Wei De could understand that the old chief and Regiment Commander Zhai were annoyed at him for making honest remarks. However, Zhai Hua had no right to treat him in this manner!

She must have been used to being coaxed by him. She no longer took him seriously and dared to treat him in such a manner now.

“Alright. If you don’t want my dad to blow his top, it is better that you leave now. What you have done today...” She had no idea how Wei De conducted his business with that attitude of his.

If this was how he had behaved all this while, she wondered how he had managed to clinch those business deals. He did not know how to behave according to occasions and to make appropriate comments.

Since the old chief was brought up, Wei De had no other choice but to suppress his anger. “You cannot blame it all on me that Madam Zhai fainted.” He did not encourage Regiment Commander Zhai to date Qiao Nan. That was the main reason why Madam Zhai fainted.

If the old chief was really furious, he should direct his anger toward Regiment Commander Zhai and Qiao Nan. He was innocent.

“You... Forget it. I will talk to you later.” Wei De still did not realize his mistake. Zhai Hua was too angry to speak.

“Zhai Hua! Is an outsider more important than your mom?!” Zhai Yaohui blew his top, seeing how Zhai Hua wasted her time to talk with Wei De.

Zhai Hua glared at Wei De and got into the driver’s seat. She slammed the door shut and drove the car away.

Aside from Wei De, who was left behind, Zhai Sheng did not leave as well. He had to help the Qiao family settle Ding Jiayi’s problem.

Wei De pulled a long face as the Zhai family’s car that bore a special license plate number left.

Chapter 823 Divorce!

There would be a day where the Zhai family dared not give him the cold treatment!

After being slapped by Miao Jing, Ding Jiayi watched as an unconscious Miao Jing was taken away. She dared not even make a sound.

When she came back to her senses and turned to look at Qiao Dongliang, she noticed that Qiao Dongliang looked at her as if she had murdered his father. Ding Jiayi was shocked and felt like hiding from him.

“Are you satisfied now?” Qiao Dongliang could not wait to kill Ding Jiayi. “Do you know what I want to do most right now?”

Qiao Dongliang looked so ferocious as if he wanted to eat her alive. Ding Jiayi had no other choice but to hide behind Zhai Sheng. “Qiao Dongliang, don’t be reckless. The People’s Liberation Army is here. If you dare to do anything, he will not sit by and do nothing. Besides, murder is illegal!”

“You seem to know that I can’t wait to chop you into pieces now!” Qiao Dongliang smiled grimly. “I really feel like killing you and paying a life for a life. In that case, Nan Nan will have an easier life in the future. Ding Jiayi, you are too much!”

“Old Qiao, don’t be foolish.”

He Yun’s and Zheng Lingling’s parents approached Qiao Dongliang and pulled at him, trying to stop him. “If anything happens to you, what about Nan Nan?”

Given what Ding Jiayi did just now, nobody wished to side with her. They had never seen anyone who would harm their own daughter.

It was true that they did not allow their children to be in a relationship when they were still in school. They had told their children that even when they could start dating in college, as girls, they had to be mindful and to concentrate on their studies. As for other matters, they would stop being so strict with them.

Speaking of it, Qiao Nan had been doing it all this while. She was aware that she was a student and had to concentrate on her studies. She had fulfilled her duties as a student. This woman did not count her blessings despite having such a well-behaved daughter.

A few of the parents could tell that the Zhai family had a high social status. Qiao Nan’s boyfriend was very outstanding. Not only was he a soldier, but he was already a regiment commander at such a young age.

Although they did not understand the operation of the army, they could tell that Qiao Nan's boyfriend was very capable.

Qiao Nan had good results and was pretty. Her boyfriend was outstanding and came from a prominent family. The Qiao family should be happy that lady luck was smiling on them. Why would someone be out to destroy Qiao Nan's relationship with her boyfriend? She must be out of her mind.

In short, everyone felt that Ding Jiayi must be crazy or foolish to have behaved as such.

"Uncle Qiao, do you want to get a divorce?" Zhai Sheng felt that there was really no need for Qiao Dongliang to kill Ding Jiayi and to ruin his life.

The society was ruled by the law. If anyone committed a crime, he would have to pay for it.

It was not worthwhile to ruin Qiao Dongliang's life because of Ding Jiayi. "If you want a divorce, let's do so now."

"Okay!" It was a happy event for Qiao Nan, yet Ding Jiayi had spoiled the mood and turned it into a disaster. They had become the laughingstock of the small quad. All the neighbors also misunderstood Qiao Nan because of Ding Jiayi. Qiao Dongliang felt that there was no need to give Ding Jiayi a second chance. He felt disgusted by staying as husband and wife with her!

"I won't go! I won't agree to a divorce!" Ding Jiayi, who hid behind Zhai Sheng, dashed toward the wall and held tightly to it. She was worried that Qiao Dongliang would pull her by force like what he did just now. "Qiao Dongliang, let me tell you. You can give up on getting a divorce. Do you think that you can get rid of Qiao Zijin and me now that you have the Zhai family on your side? It won't work! Even if you make it rich, we will enjoy the glory with you."

Seeing that Zhai Sheng refused to leave and addressed Qiao Dongliang affectionately as uncle, Ding Jiayi knew that he would not break up with Qiao Nan, that wretched girl.

Since Zhai Sheng was determined to be with Qiao Nan, she could never allow Qiao Dongliang and Qiao Nan to have an easy life. She would stay as Qiao Dongliang's wife and Qiao Nan's mother forever!

Qiao Dongliang rolled up his sleeve, getting ready to catch hold of Ding Jiayi. However, Zhai Sheng stopped him right then. “Uncle Qiao, since she doesn’t want to go, let her be. You can file for divorce by litigation. You do not need her consent.”

“Can I divorce her even if she doesn’t agree to it?” Qiao Dongliang stopped in midway. “You should know the situation. If you really love Nan Nan, don’t stop me. I have to divorce her today. Although I will be shamed, it is better than keeping her by my side. She will be a disaster to Nan Nan this entire life. There will definitely be more instances where she will disgrace us.”

“I understand and I don’t want Nan Nan to go through so much suffering as well.” Zhai Sheng would never side with Ding Jiayi. “Without her around, you can still get a divorce. The procedures are simple.”

“Do you want to abuse the Zhai family’s power for personal gains and go against the law? Let me warn you. There are so many people around. If you abuse your power to file for a divorce, I will definitely sue you!” Ding Jiayi’s face turned pale. This was what she feared the most.

If the Zhai family helped Qiao Dongliang get a divorce, she had no choice but to divorce him. By then, she would not even get a penny from him.

“...” The people who crowded around them sucked in their breath, looking uncertain.

As citizens of the country, they were displeased that the government officials abused their authority. They panicked and were worried that they might be the victims of such cases, wherein they did not need to be present, and documents that were against their interests could be signed and approved.

“The Zhai family never goes against the law. We will not take the lead to do that as well. There is a loss of mutual affection between Uncle Qiao and you. The two of you have lived separately for two years. According to the provisions of the marriage law of our country, if there is a loss of mutual affection between a husband and wife and they have lived separately for over two years, either party can file for divorce by litigation and the other party’s consent is not required. The court will make the final decision according to the law.” Zhai Sheng was a soldier and he knew the law well. “Uncle Qiao, the people at the court has yet to knock off. I will get a lawyer to prepare the documents and we will go to the court directly. We can only go to the Civil Affairs Bureau after a few days.”

As a soldier, Zhai Sheng would not abuse his authority. He would go by the law to settle disputes.

The people who crowded around were full of respect for the impartial and just ways that he dealt with the divorce. This left them with a good impression of the soldiers.

“Okay, then I will have to trouble you.” Qiao Dongliang had mixed emotions. He felt relieved and poignant. Did it mean that he and Nan Nan could finally be rid of Ding Jiayi?

“Yes, there is indeed such marriage law in our country.” Fang Fang’s father nodded. “If you don’t believe it, you can ask around. If not, you can watch the news. The television mentions it occasionally.”

“Divorce. Since the country has this law, it means that the country supports Old Qiao to divorce that woman. He has to divorce her as soon as possible!”

The country had this law for the interest of the majority of its citizens.

“They have to divorce!”

“Yes! Do so as soon as possible.”

“She is such a lousy person. You must be rid of her.”

Everyone supported Qiao Dongliang to divorce Ding Jiayi. It was no longer a simple matter between Qiao Dongliang and Ding Jiayi.

Chapter 824 Bring the Patient Back to the Hospital

The common practice in China was to persuade couples to stay together instead of getting a divorce. Furthermore, even an honest and upright official would have difficulty resolving a family dispute. But in this case, everyone felt that it was best to get a divorce.

“Old Qiao, don’t worry. Go ahead and hire a lawyer. If you need witnesses, we can be your witnesses. Your daughter and you have moved here for more than two years. I have never seen this woman before. The two of you have celebrated three Lunar New Years in the small quad, but this woman has never joined you.” Back then, they had thought that Old Qiao’s wife had passed away and that he brought up his daughter by himself. It turned out that the wife was still alive but she refused to show up.

“That’s right. All of us will be your witnesses.”

“She did not even show up during the Lunar New Year. It shows that they no longer have mutual affection for each other. We are the witnesses!”

Everyone in the small quad joined in to say that they could be the witnesses. Ding Jiayi had got on the tails of everyone.

“Thank you very much.” Qiao Dongliang wiped his eyes. Since he no longer needed Ding Jiayi’s consent and could file for a divorce by himself thanks to the marriage law in the country that allowed him to file for divorce in such a situation, he did not care whether Ding Jiayi was willing to go with him or not. He did not bother to cast her another glance. “Everyone must have seen what just happened. This woman... She is our misfortune. She has been bullying Nan Nan since she was a child. After I leave, I hope that all of you will stop her from entering my house and bullying Nan Nan. When she married me, she came empty-handed. She spent the money that I had been saving for ten years and I even gave her the house that I used to stay in. Since I am filing for a divorce, we will go our separate ways in the future. She will not be allowed into my house.”

Although the house belonged to the school, he did not want Ding Jiayi to enter the house and dirty it!

“Don’t worry. There are so many of us here. We will not allow the woman to bully Qiao Nan.”

Many hands made light work. Ding Jiayi would not be able to deal with all of them. Besides, there were a lot of adults in the Qiao family’s residence. There was no way that she could get close to the small quad.

“No, I won’t agree to a divorce! I won’t!” Ding Jiayi panicked. She tried to catch hold of Qiao Dongliang. “I have said that you have to give me fifty thousand yuan if you want a divorce. By then, there is no need for a lawsuit and I will agree to a divorce immediately.”

Ding Jiayi could not help but be flustered. According to Qiao Zijin, she had two ways out. One of the options was to stay married to Qiao Dongliang. With Qiao Nan around, she would be able to lead a good life in the future.

If she could not stop Qiao Dongliang from filing for a divorce, she had to get the fifty thousand yuan so that she would not have to worry about money in the future.

She had to get her hands on either the man or the money.

However, if what Zhai Sheng said was true, Ding Jiayi could not keep the man with her and she would be without the money as well. Her attitude toward the divorce would not change the outcome. It would mean that Ding Jiayi would be left with nothing!

“She must be crazy!”

“This woman is crazy! She is beyond help!”

She demanded fifty thousand yuan to agree to a divorce. It was no wonder that Old Qiao was so harsh toward the woman and that they did not see each other after living separately for two years.

Nobody could stand a woman like her. Fifty thousand yuan was a huge sum. They had never seen so much money until now.

“Everyone must have heard it. As long as she has fifty thousand yuan, she is willing to take the initiative to divorce Uncle Qiao. This shows that this woman only has eyes for money. She does not love Uncle Qiao. This is proof that they no longer have mutual affection for each other.” Zhai Sheng made use of the opportunity to shut Ding Jiayi up, leaving her with no chance to retort.

Since Ding Jiayi showed that she had no more feelings for Qiao Dongliang and only wanted to have fifty thousand yuan, it would make it easy for Qiao Dongliang to divorce her. Everyone present who heard it could be his witnesses as well!

Ding Jiayi had done herself in.

There was no way that Ding Jiayi could stop Qiao Dongliang and Zhai Sheng from leaving.

Despite her screams, Zhai Sheng hailed a car and left with Qiao Dongliang.

Ding Jiayi cried uncontrollably as the taxi left the small quad.

Wei De cast a disdainful look at Ding Jiayi. "Indeed, the daughter follows after the mother. But your daughter is more capable than you." He did not expect this woman to be so useless. Zhai Sheng did not give up on Qiao Nan. Instead, she ended up in a divorce with her husband.

Although this was the first time they met, Wei De knew that if Qiao Nan had a mother like Ding Jiayi, she would be shunned by the Zhai family sooner or later. Nobody would want to be in-laws with someone who was up to no good. Things would only be more difficult between Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan.

However, if the two of them really ended up getting a divorce, she would not be able to give Qiao Nan as much trouble in the future.

It was true that no daughters would abandon their mothers after they succeeded. But similarly, if the mother was being outrageous, the daughter did not need to practice unquestioning filial piety and to be implicated by the mother.

Wei De left after saying his piece. He would wait for Zhai Hua to explain about what happened today to him.

Ding Jiayi did not expect that things would come to such a state. This was the last thing that she hoped to see.

Ding Jiayi had wanted to beg Qiao Nan to help her. In the end, she did not get to see Qiao Nan, and Qiao Dongliang was on his way to the court to file for divorce. Ding Jiayi felt like crying. "Qiao Nan, come out, come out right now. You have to get your dad to come back immediately. Tell him not to divorce me. Do you hear me? If you still treat me as your mother, come out right now!"

Old Qiao only had eyes for his daughter, Qiao Nan. As long as Qiao Nan was willing to help her, Old Qiao would change his mind.

"Don't listen to her! Don't go out." Shi Qing had a tight grip on Qiao Nan. "Your mother is known for pestering and creating a ruckus. If you show up, even if it is not your fault, she will tarnish your reputation. Let her scream for all she wants. Everyone knows what is going on. They will ignore her."

Things had already reached this state, yet Ding Jiayi still ordered Qiao Nan to come out. She was indeed obnoxious.

“That’s right. It is better that you don’t go out.” Principal Meng also agreed with Shi Qing. Ding Jiayi was a disaster. One had to cut the Gordian knot to deal with people like her.

Qiao Dongliang had already made a decision. As a child, Qiao Nan should not interfere in the adults’ affairs.

“You should stay at home. There are so many people around. She won’t be able to get in.” Liu Neng sighed. It had been close to three years, but Ding Jiayi still continued with her crazy behavior.

“Telephone!” Qiao Nan grabbed the phone in the house and called the hospital that Ding Jiayi was staying at. “Hello, the patient from ward 503 of your hospital is not in the hospital. She has sneaked out of the hospital. Can you send someone to bring her back?”

Chapter 825 Do Not Poke Your Nose in Other People’s Affairs

Ding Jiayi had not been discharged from the hospital. If she were to leave the hospital at this time, it would not be beneficial for the recovery of her injuries.

The hospital had also neglected their duties by allowing a patient to leave in such a way.

Of course, at this point in time, Qiao Nan would not pursue the matter with the hospital. After all, if Ding Jiayi wished to leave the hospital, would they be able to send someone to keep a watch on her twenty-four hours a day?

It would do as long as the hospital quickly took Ding Jiayi away. Qiao Nan did expect anything else.

When the hospital received Qiao Nan’s phone call, they went to check the ward as soon as possible. True enough, Ding Jiayi, who had gone for a stroll, had not come back after an hour. They could not find her in all the gardens situated in the hospital.

On the contrary, the hospital’s security guard recalled seeing Ding Jiayi and said that she had left the hospital. When Ding Jiayi left, she was not wearing the patient’s robe. As such, he had thought that she was a visiting family member of one of the patients in the hospital.

After confirming that the information provided via the phone call was real, the hospital could only try to find ways to bring Ding Jiayi back. Ding Jiayi's health was just getting better. If she wanted to be discharged, she would need to wait for at least another half a month.

At this moment, if anything were to happen to Ding Jiayi, the hospital also had to bear part of the responsibility.

"I'm not going back. I still have something on. Don't stand in my way!" At the sight of the people from the hospital, Ding Jiayi wanted to run away. She was going to have a divorce soon. She would not have a family soon. So what if she were to break a limb?

After leaving the hospital for such a long time, her clothes were now drenched. She had not even seen Qiao Nan, let alone to pose her requests to Qiao Nan and make the latter fulfill them.

"The patient is a little emotional. If she continues to resist in this way, her injuries will worsen. Let's inject some sedative into her." The doctor observed that Ding Jiayi seemed emotionally unstable. Her eyes were red and strings of red blood vessels could be seen on her yellowish eyeballs. No matter how he looked at it, Ding Jiayi was not in the right state of mind.

As a precautionary measure, the doctor instructed the nurse to inject Ding Jiayi with a small amount of sedative to let her quiet down.

After one injection, not to mention a tigress like Ding Jiayi, even a real tiger could only quiet down and let the people from the hospital bring it back.

It was only when Ding Jiayi and Qiao Dongliang finally got a divorce that this 'comedy' of the Qiao family came to an end.

Qiao Zijin had been covering her mouth and holding the equipment provided by Chen Jun in her hands. She filmed the entire process of Ding Jiayi making a ruckus right from the start.

As soon as Ding Jiayi was lifted into the hospital's vehicle and left, Qiao Zijin walked to a dark spot. With trembling hands, she switched off the equipment and took out her phone to call Chen Jun. "I, I listened to you and took a video of everything. You... What exactly do you intend to do? My dad is really going to divorce my mom. My mom can't even object to it."

Earlier, Qiao Zijin was very shocked as well when she heard the marriage law mentioned by Zhai Sheng. She did not expect that there was such a law that coincidentally matched the situation of the Qiao family.

She had refused to let her mother look for her father all this while as she wanted to take the chance to let her father know her mother's attitude. She wanted to make known clearly to her father that he should not always think that he could be fearless.

He was not afraid of her mother and had been using divorce as a threat. It was not true that her mother might not be able to live on after the divorce.

This plan was not successful. A woman's independence had not been well established. Qiao Dongliang did not feel the charm and beauty of a woman's independence from Ding Jiayi. On the contrary, the two older ones in the family were really going to go through a divorce.

Did it mean that she would have to follow her mother and lead a life without a father from today onward?

"You can't bear to do so now?" Chen Jun sneered. "Whenever I heard you talked about your father, you seemed to hate him and expected better from him. You talked as if you looked down on him and didn't care whether you have this father. Now that your parents are getting a divorce, you can't bear to see it happen?"

"This... It's better to have something than nothing," Qiao Zijin said resentfully. Her parents were getting a divorce. No matter what, she did not feel that this was right.

"Alright, the divorce has already been finalized. There's no use even if you think too much about it. Since you have filmed it, send it over to me." Chen Jun could not be bothered about these messy matters in the Qiao family. Whether it was Qiao Dongliang or Ding Jiayi, they were secondary. He only wanted to deal with one person-Qiao Nan.

Qiao Zijin had always obeyed Chen Jun. "Oh, but Brother Chen Jun, will my mom be fine?" Her mother already had a car accident and could not go through another round of torture.

"Don't worry. She can be discharged from the hospital after half a month. I guarantee you that your mom will be in very good spirits in half a month's time," Chen Jun said, trying to smoke his way through.

After Qiao Zijin sent over the video, Chen Jun watched it from the start until the end carefully. Upon confirming that there was nothing wrong with the content, he then stored it away as if it was a treasure.

“Brother Chen Jun, what is the use of this thing?” Qiao Zijin did not understand. Qiao Nan was really becoming increasingly powerful. She now had Zhai Sheng backing her. What did Qiao Nan need to be afraid of in the future?

At the thought that Chen Jun had not succeeded at all despite his previous attempts to deal with Qiao Nan, now that the relationship between Qiao Nan and Zhai Sheng was going to be out in the open, Qiao Zijin doubted whether she and Chen Jun would still have the chance.

“Right, didn’t you say that the Zhai family is already aware of the relationship between Qiao Nan and Zhai Sheng? What’s the attitude of the Zhai family’s old chief and his spouse about this?” He did not believe that the old chief and his wife would be able to accept a daughter-in-law like Qiao Nan.

The Zhai family was not the Chen family. Their requirements were not going to be as low as that of the Chen family.

“This... It’s hard to tell...” Qiao Zijin seemed to be in a tight spot. “Madam Zhai fainted from anger. But before she fainted, she gave my mom a slap and even lashed out at my mom with all the words that my mom had used to scold Qiao Nan. Judging from this, even after she found out that Qiao Nan is with Regiment Commander Zhai, she did not seem to hate Qiao Nan very much. As for the old chief, I can’t tell.”

“Fine, I am aware of this now. Go back to the hospital and take care of your mother. There are fifty yuan here. Take it.” Chen Jun casually threw fifty yuan to Qiao Zijin. Before Qiao Zijin could reach out for the money, it had already dropped to the ground.

Qiao Zijin tugged the corners of her lips but she still bent down and picked up the money.

It was not the first time that this had happened. Qiao Zijin was not sure if Chen Jun did it on purpose. However, she felt uneasy each time it happened. “Brother Chen Jun, you have been dealing against Qiao Nan all this while. What are your thoughts exactly?”

The reason she did not wish that Qiao Nan would lead a good life was that she wanted to be better than Qiao Nan. Then, was Chen Jun's reason also purely because he did not want to see Qiao Nan lead a good life?

After a period of interaction with Chen Jun, Qiao Zijin felt that his motive was definitely not that simple. He spent so much time and effort to arrange all these. He must have wanted to gain something much more than what she had imagined. It was just that she could not guess Chen Jun's thoughts.

Chen Jun raised his brows. "This has got nothing to do with you, so you don't need to bother. Don't forget that you still have to go to school in over a month's time. Do you think that I'm giving you money for no reason? No household will have extra money to raise and support outsiders or idlers, understand?"

Qiao Zijin did not seem to be a very useful person either. It was just that she was Qiao Nan's biological sister. Qiao Zijin was then able to 'get rich' with this layer of connection.

Chapter 826 Fortunately, There Is Zhai Sheng

He could only make use of Qiao Zijin to plot against Qiao Nan. Otherwise, he would even deal with Shi Qing, who was always by Qiao Nan's side, let alone Zhai Sheng.

"I... I know." Qiao Zijin could continue with her studies due to Chen Jun and not Ding Jiayi.

At the mention of money, Qiao Zijin could not lift up her head in front of Chen Jun. This was because she did not have any source of income at all. That hard-earned money of Ding Jiayi was only sufficient for Qiao Zijin's living expenses.

She watched on as Qiao Nan's life turned increasingly better. Her mother had created a fuss today but Qiao Nan was still the provincial top scorer in the college entrance examination. Qiao Nan could choose to go to any top tier university of her choice.

On the contrary, she was just a student undergoing her diploma studies. If she could not even graduate from the diploma studies, she could no longer visualize the gap between Qiao Nan and her.

With Qiao Nan being the top scorer in the college entrance examination, Qiao Zijin was not even willing to mention to others that she was going through diploma studies.

“Since you know, you can leave now. You should understand. After your parents are divorced, your mom is still Qiao Nan’s mother. Be a little smarter on this. Don’t disappoint me.”

“I know. I’m leaving then.” When Chen Jun requested her to leave, Qiao Zijin dared not remain behind.

When she left, Qiao Zijin took a glance at Chen Jun’s back. She initially had some thoughts in mind but she now felt very lost about her future.

However, even Qiao Nan could find someone like Zhai Sheng. No matter what, she had to find someone that could not be too worse off than Zhai Sheng. Regardless of what happened, she would grab all the opportunities available to realize this goal.

“Brother Zhai, thank you so much for today. If you are not around, most probably, my dad couldn’t handle it alone.” When Zhai Sheng sent Qiao Dongliang home, most of the crowd at the house of the Qiao family had dispersed. However, Qiao Nan did not look any better.

No one would have expected that, of all times, Ding Jiayi had to pick such a moment to embarrass herself and also conveniently embarrass everyone around her.

A muddleheaded person would do muddleheaded things. She did not know when Ding Jiayi would come to her senses in this lifetime. At the very least, she should not always drag others down.

“No problem. There will be an outcome of your parents’ matter very soon.” Zhai Sheng certainly did not need to use his own power to influence the decision of the court. However, he had never said that he would definitely not use his family’s connections to speed up the development of the matter and let this divorce lawsuit come to a closure earlier.

“Brother Zhai, Auntie Miao, she...” At the thought that Miao Jing fainted from anger today, Qiao Nan was both sad and unhappy. “Auntie Miao still can’t accept me?”

“No, it has nothing to do with this. It should be that my mom did not find out about this at the right time, and it was under such circumstances. Zhai Hua called me and told me that Mom is now

awake. Don't worry. There won't be any issue." Zhai Sheng consoled Qiao Nan and asked her not to overthink. The situation was not as horrible as it seemed.

"Why don't you go back home and take a look at Auntie Miao? If you don't go home, I am certain that Auntie Miao's impression of me will worsen." The main reason that the mother-in-law could not get along with the daughter-in-law was that the former felt that the appearance of the latter had taken away the existence of the son.

"That's good too." Zhai Sheng had also wanted to return to the house of the Zhai family. "Watch after Uncle Qiao more. I'll make a trip home and call you later. Don't worry. I'll be here no matter what happens."

"Okay." At this moment, Qiao Nan could only say 'okay'. "Brother Zhai, if Auntie Miao really can't accept me at this point and ask you to break up with me, don't be too harsh or go against her when you speak to her. At most, you can postpone the day of our engagement."

"It won't be postponed." After giving Qiao Nan a hug, Zhai Sheng then went home. Even if his mother did not agree, he would also think of ways to let his mother nod so that he and Nan Nan could be engaged.

After Zhai Sheng left, Shi Qing appeared. "See, I already told you that you don't need to be so worried. Brother Zhai is around. He will definitely settle it for you."

"This is ultimately a matter that concerns the two of us. He has been settling the problems for me but I can't seem to help him in any way. I'm just worried that there will be too much burden on Brother Zhai." At the same time, she was also worried whether her relationship with Zhai Sheng could continue should she depend on Zhai Sheng in everything

"That's true too." Shi Qing had to admit. "If Brother Zhai was not here today, your mother would still be fearless. She thought that the divorce could not proceed as long as she did not agree. Your father was not clear about it either. It was only when a high-status figure such as Brother Zhai stepped out to say something that your mother finally felt frightened and believed his words. Fortunately, Brother Zhai came today and gave you support. Otherwise, even if this matter was forcibly resolved today, it would most likely look quite bad in the end."

Ding Jiayi had to come and make a fuss on the joyous day that Qiao Nan was announced as the provincial top humanities student in the college entrance examination. Even a happy occasion could become a funeral.

That being said, Ding Jiayi was prepared to be at odds with Qiao Nan during the period before and after her college entrance examination?

Ding Jiayi came here to create a scene today and she would listen to no one. Zhai Sheng was an exception. After all, given Zhai Sheng's status, Ding Jiayi was deemed as someone who bullied the weak and feared the strong

If the person who spoke out was not powerful enough, she would totally ignore them.

"I hope that everything will be smooth sailing." Shi Qing was also worried. "I think you have some hope in this matter as Auntie Miao slapped your mother for you. Auntie Miao likes you so much usually. Why would she reject you just because you have become Brother Zhai's girlfriend?"

"I hope so." Qiao Nan felt very unsettled and worried at heart. Given the 'comedy' today, she had to prepare herself for the worst.

When Zhai Sheng arrived home, fortunately, there were only the Zhai family members at home. He did not see Wei De, who was an eyesore to him. "How's Mom?"

Zhai Hua said helplessly, "Once Mom woke up, she chased Dad and me out. Mom has been staying in the bedroom and has not come out until now."

In the past, her mother would look for Qiao Nan whenever she encountered any matter that bothered her. It was an awkward situation. Her mother could not even look for Qiao Nan now.

"How's the situation at Qiao Dongliang's side?" Zhai Yaohui enquired about the situation at the Qiao family first. "Your mom's temper is like that. She will be fine after a while. Tell me about the situation of the Qiao family first. Since Ding Jiayi had left the Qiao family for two years, according to the laws in our country, it's not difficult if Qiao Dongliang wants to get a divorce."

"Not difficult. The divorce will be successful. Furthermore, there will most likely be an outcome within these few days." Zhai Sheng drank two cups of water before he could quench his thirst.

Zhai Yaohui nodded. "Did Qiao Nan have a fright?" Zhai Yaohui truly felt his heart ache for Qiao Nan.

“Nan Nan is already used to that kind of behavior from Ding Jiayi. She is more worried about Mom’s condition.”

Chapter 827 The Biological Mother Double-Crossing Her Own Son

A beautiful day had turned into a horrible one. After such an encounter, no one would feel happy.

“What’s there to worry about me? That pile of lousy matters in her family is enough for her to worry.” At this moment, Miao Jing came out of her bedroom. She wore a stiff expression as she said this in a rather unhappy manner.

When Miao Jing said this, the father and children trio had some doubts. They were unsure of Miao Jing’s stance.

When one first heard Miao Jing’s words, one would feel that she was quite mean. Qiao Nan was pitiful enough to have encountered such a matter and Miao Jing had to say such things on top of that.

Nevertheless, upon careful thinking, these words of Miao Jing seemed to carry some feelings of concern for Qiao Nan.

Zhai Sheng and Zhai Hua looked at each other as they did not understand their mother’s words. “Mom, although it’s a little late, I’m reporting a situation to you today. I have loved Nan Nan since she was in her third year of junior high school. I confessed to her but she did not agree. Thereafter, Nan Nan said that she’s still too young and her studies are more important. She said that we could discuss the matter between us further after she graduates from senior high school and is eligible to go to college. One month ago, I have already submitted my marriage report and it has been approved by the organization. My initial plan is to make use of the time during this summer vacation to be engaged with Nan Nan first. When Nan Nan reaches the legal age of marriage, Nan Nan and I will then collect the marriage certificate.”

Miao Jing was so angry that her lips almost formed a straight line. “Since you have gotten it all planned, then why are you telling me this now? You’re just notifying me, right?!”

What kind of lousy child was this? He was not eloquent at all. Wouldn’t she become angrier if he said all these?

Did Zhai Sheng still want to be engaged with Nan Nan? Did he still wish to make Nan Nan part of the Zhai family?!

“However, before I came back, Nan Nan instructed me to take your views seriously. If you’re unhappy, we can delay our matter. We are still young and are not in a hurry. We can talk about engagement after you accept us. Nan Nan also said that those are just our previous and initial plans. If you are willing to accept her, and as engagement and marriage are not small matters, we have to defer to the views of both respective families’ parents.” In contrast to his earlier words, Zhai Sheng’s words were much more positive-sounding. Miao Jing’s expression finally looked more at ease now.

Nevertheless, Miao Jing snorted unhappily. “I believe that those polite words in the second part of your speech were from Nan Nan. I don’t believe that Nan Nan and you have discussed getting engaged after her college entrance examination. Nan Nan is not that kind of child. You must have been the one who decided on that. Nan Nan was not even allowed to reject.”

She gave birth to her son. Even if she was not the one who brought him up personally, could she not know how domineering her son was toward the people and matters that he cared very much about?

Nan Nan was still young and had just reached eighteen years of age. In addition, she had plans for her studies. How could Nan Nan possibly think of marriage at this juncture? Certainly, Zhai Sheng must have been the one who thought of this!

When she heard that Miao Jing’s tone had obviously turned better and she even praised Qiao Nan, Zhai Hua’s mouth formed an ‘o’ shape, expressing that she had widened her horizons.

It was no wonder her parents became increasingly unhappy each time she put in good words for Wei De in front of them. It turned out she had utilized the wrong method.

She had to learn from Zhai Sheng. She had to be the bad guy first, and thereafter, brought out the positive qualities such as the understanding and polite nature of her partner. Yes, she had to do it that way!

If she had known things would turn out this way earlier, she would have sought Zhai Sheng’s advice long ago.

But it was strange. She was the elder sister and Zhai Sheng was the younger one. Why was it that she did not know what he did? It was fine that she did not know. However, she still had to go and consult him!

“So, Mom, how do you view this? What are your thoughts on this?” After coaxing his mother successfully, Zhai Sheng had not forgotten the main topic.

Miao Jing took a deep breath. She then looked at Zhai Sheng, seemingly a little helpless. “Zhai Sheng, tell me. Are you serious about Nan Nan?”

“Yes!” He had always very serious in everything that he did, including his relationship matters.

“Guess. When I found out that Nan Nan is that young girlfriend of yours, what was my first reaction?” Miao Jing gave a bitter smile. The three of them-Zhai Yaohui and the children-were all worried that she would object to Zhai Sheng and Nan Nan being together. In fact, it was true that she was a little against it but the reason behind it was different from what they were thinking.

Zhai Yaohui and Zhai Sheng fell silent for a while. At this moment, they were not sure what to infer from Miao Jing’s current reaction and what her thoughts were when she first heard about this piece of news.

Zhai Hua was the only one who shook her head honestly as if she was an obedient baby.

It was seldom that Zhai Hua would display such a dimwitted side of hers. Miao Jing smiled with some bitterness. “Then, do you know that I actually have already considered what kind of person Nan Nan should be married to in the future?”

Zhai Hua laughed as she moved closer to Zhai Sheng. “Mom is saying that she has thought of double-crossing you before.”

It was a rare occurrence that a biological mother would double-cross her own son. However, it happened in their family.

Zhai Sheng’s face turned black. He asked Zhai Hua to shut up and continue to listen to Miao Jing.

When his mother said this, it meant that she had already put away with this initial thought.

“I know that Nan Nan likes soldiers very much. She said that soldiers exude a sense of justice that will make her feel very safe. I have been thinking. Given our family’s situation, won’t it be easy to help Nan Nan find a soldier to marry? We don’t want the lousy ones or those who are not good enough. Anyway, Nan Nan is still young. When she is of marriageable age, Zhai Sheng will no longer just be a regiment commander. At that time, I will get Zhai Sheng to find a better regiment commander and let him interact with Nan Nan. If this person dares to bully Nan Nan, given the capability of the Zhai family, it’s not difficult to deal with him and seek justice for Nan Nan. Since ancient times, the perspective is that a woman should marry someone of higher status while a man should marry someone of lower status. However, from my perspective, there’s nothing disadvantageous for a woman to marry into a family with lower status. At the very least, the maternal family can subdue the in-law family...”

The faces of Zhai Yaohui and children trio turned black simultaneously. They did not really agree with what Miao Jing said.

Given Qiao Nan’s status, was it considered marrying into a family of lower status if she were to marry a regiment commander?!

Zhai Hua was the first one that wanted to jump out and expressed that she was only a deputy battalion commander while Wei De was just a small squad leader when he was in the army.

In that case, if she were to marry Wei De at that time, was she not considered marrying into a family of lower status?

On the other hand, Zhai Yaohui understood that Miao Jing had truly seen Qiao Nan as her own daughter.

If she was the daughter of the Zhai family, it was not considered a big deal to be married to a regiment commander.

Hence, it could be said that his wife had nearly double-crossed their son by introducing a marriage partner to their daughter-in-law?

Zhai Sheng, who had the same thought, undoubtedly looked the most sullen. He even felt a cluster of green clouds above his head, and these green clouds were formed by his biological mother. She was indeed his biological mother!

“Don’t look at me in this way. This is the truth. As long as our family is around, I don’t need to worry that Nan Nan will be bullied. All this while, to me, Zhai Sheng had been treating Nan Nan as his biological younger sister...” So, even when she and Zhai Yaohui were no longer around one day, she also believed that Zhai Sheng would continue to treat Nan Nan as his biological younger sister and take care of her.

Who would have known that...

Zhai Yaohui smiled. He conceded defeat regarding his own wife’s intelligence.

Chapter 828 Is Qiao Nan a Willing Party?

Which man would look at his biological sister in that way?

Furthermore, which man would visit his biological sister every day and ignore the woman who could possibly become his fiancée or future spouse?

Miao Miao did not even think about the fact that Zhai Sheng had insisted on rejecting the wedding arrangement between Qiu Chenxi and him only after Qiao Nan appeared.

If Zhai Sheng had not met the right person, how could he possibly confirm that Qiu Chenxi was definitely the wrong one and could say with certainty that it was impossible between Qiu Chenxi and him?

All of a sudden, Zhai Yaohui did not know whether to say that Qiao Nan had a good mother-in-law or a ‘good mother’.

Miao Jing gave a long sigh. “If Nan Nan is really together with you, and if you bully Nan Nan, how are we going to help Nan Nan?”

In the past, Miao Jing’s stand had never wavered. If Qiao Nan suffered in her marriage, she would only stand on Qiao Nan’s side. However, the person that was going to marry Qiao Nan had now become her son. What should she do? Was she going to be a good mother-in-law or a good mother?

Putting aside being a good mother-in-law or a good mother, Miao Jing could not help Qiao Nan even if she was willing to do so as she could not subdue Zhai Sheng, this son of hers!

“Mom, you fainted just because of this?” Zhai Hua looked at Miao Jing in disbelief. She had thought that her mother had been furious. Instead, it was because she was too anxious

-anxious that she could not help Qiao Nan stand up for herself when facing her husband’s family!

“Mom, I think Dad and you picked Zhai Sheng and me up from streets, didn’t you?” Otherwise, why would her mother first consider the problem that Qiao Nan would face and not whether it was appropriate for Zhai Sheng to marry Qiao Nan? The focus was completely different.

“You must have been picked up from the streets. Otherwise, why are all of you angering me!” Miao Jing’s face turned red as she gave Zhai Hua a glare.

If they were not her biological children, would she be so angry at them?

Zhai Hua shrank her neck. Alright, she spoke some nonsense that provoked her mother’s anger again.

Zhai Sheng tried hard to chase away that cluster of green clouds above his head and asked in a forthright manner, “Mom, in that case, you agree to the matter between Nan Nan and me?”

“Is Nan Nan a willing party in this?” Miao Jing asked with some doubt. “You’re quite outstanding but you’re much older than Nan Nan. I heard from others that there will be a generation gap for every three-year difference in age. Nan Nan and you already have two generation gaps, no?”

In other words, could Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan communicate when they were together?

Could it be that Qiao Nan was too young and did not know Zhai Sheng’s intentions? Or could it be that Zhai Sheng took advantage of Qiao Nan’s age and *** Qiao Nan to agree to this?

Marriage was between two individuals and involved two families. Both individuals had to be willing parties.

Upon hearing such heart-piercing words from Miao Jing, Zhai Sheng threw a look at Zhai Yaohui as if to say, ‘This is your wife. Settle her.’ He then stood up and returned to his bedroom.

Of course, Zhai Sheng was certainly happy that Miao Jing could agree to the matter between Nan Nan and him so swiftly. It was just that Miao Jing did not seem to be clear whose mother she was. This attitude was a little intolerable.

Now, even Zhai Sheng wanted to question if he was her biological son and was not picked up from who knows where.

Why was it that her mother had to continuously double-cross him and yearn that it would not be successful between Nan Nan and him?

“Spoiled.” Zhai Hua was not pleased. Her mother’s attitude was a little strange. Nevertheless, after all, she did not intend to object to it.

At the thought that Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan’s matter was proceeding so smoothly, and that even Miao Jing’s fainting episode earlier was just a false alarm, Zhai Hua felt sad for Wei De and herself.

Then, as she thought of Wei De’s performance today, Zhai Hua was very dissatisfied.

There were not many opportunities for Wei De to perform in front of her parents. There was such a rare chance today and Wei De actually let it slip.

If her parents had not long received news that Qiao Nan had become the provincial top humanities student and everyone was in a good mood to congratulate Qiao Nan together, Wei De would not even have the chance to make the trip together with her family.

It was not easy for her to finally have such a good opportunity for Wei De appear so that he could leave a good impression on the Zhai family. In the end, he caused much revulsion to the Zhai family instead.

Given the current situation whereby Wei De seemed so incompetent that everything he touched would turn to dust, Zhai Hua felt disheartened too. “Dad, I’m going back to my bedroom to rest.”

“Okay.”

Once Zhai Hua left, Miao Jing exploded. “What rest? She must be giving a call to Wei De. Hua Hua was not pleased that I don’t like Wei De. She insisted that Wei De is good. After so many

encounters, why is it that I couldn't see anything good about that person? Today, he didn't even look at the situation. He looked down on Nan Nan and deliberately hoodwinked me so that I would look down on Nan Nan, right!"

Miao Jing was sensitive. Many years ago, she had been treated in the same way by Qi Minlan. Therefore, she was able to see through this cheap trick of Wei De at once.

It was precisely because of this that Miao Jing was furious.

Her daughter was so smitten with such an individual. Until now, she was not willing to listen to their advice to let go of him. All of Miao Jing's frustration was now directed at Wei De.

An individual like Wei De, who, instead of helping, added salt to the injury when his family members were in trouble, Miao Jing expressed that if she really could not stop Zhai Hua from getting married to Wei De, after her death, she did not want Wei De to kowtow to her at her grave, and neither would she accept the money that Wei De burn for her!

To Miao Jing, even Zhai Sheng, this biological son, had to stand aside, let alone Wei De, an outsider.

Wei De was only concerned about boycotting Qiao Nan but he had forgotten Miao Jing's usual attitude toward Qiao Nan. At this juncture, he had tried to gain an advantage only to end up worse off. He had increased Miao Miao's annoyance and despise toward

him.

"This person definitely cannot make it." Zhai Yaohui very much agreed to Miao Jing's views on this. "The good thing is that Zhai Sheng has a way and managed to persuade Zhai Hua. Hence, she didn't continue to be so stubborn with us. It's just that we have to spend more time and effort in this matter."

Zhai Yaohui could not understand as well. His daughter was not extremely intelligent but was also not someone that could be misled so easily.

Why was it that Wei De had so many demerits and poor qualities, but his daughter seemed to be blind and oblivious to all his shortcomings? She did not mind or speak about it and was so devoted to Wei De.

“Nan Nan said that no one is perfect. Zhai Hua’s expectation of Wei De is not high and it’s enough as long as Wei De is good to her. She found all the care and doting that she did not enjoy from the both of us previously from Wei De,” Miao Jing said angrily. “I want to care and dote on Hua Hua. But now, Hua Hua favors her partner more than her family. She doesn’t want my love and doting. She only wants Wei De to be good to her!!!”

“Qiao Nan really said that?” He did not know that Zhai Hua possessed such psychology when she was with Wei De.

It was no wonder Qiao Nan always told Miao Miao that debts would always have to be repaid one day.

As for what they had owed Zhai Sheng, Zhai Yaohui was aware that regardless of the magnitude of the debt, they would certainly be able to repay him as long as they could let him marry Qiao Nan.

“Isn’t that so?”

“Don’t need to worry. After Qiao Nan is engaged to Zhai Sheng, you can not only go to the house of the Qiao family but also let Qiao Nan stay at our house when she has spare time. At that time, you can then have a good talk with Qiao Nan on this. Qiao Nan is knowledgeable in this area.”

Chapter 829 Everyone Has Agreed?

Regarding Zhai Hua’s psychological state, Zhai Yaohui did not have a single idea of what was going on in her mind.

Nevertheless, after hearing these words from Qiao Nan, Zhai Yaohui thought about it carefully and felt that there was such a possibility.

“That’s right! Nan Nan is going to be engaged to Zhai Sheng and will become part of our family soon. I can ask Nan Nan to stay over at our house.” In the past, Zhai Yaohui would never allow her to stay over at the house of the Qiao family unless she had a conflict with their family members.

There was no choice as Qiao Nan was not the only one staying at the house of the Qiao family. There was also Qiao Dongliang.

Even if Qiao Dongliang was not divorced, it was the truth that Ding Jiayi was not around. It was also the truth that Qiao Dongliang's relationship with Ding Jiayi was broken.

At the thought that his wife would be staying in a house with the presence of another man, Zhai Yaohui would feel uneasy all over. He would never agree to it.

Now, the situation was different. If Qiao Nan could stay over at the Zhai family, Zhai Yaohui did not have a reason to stop her anymore.

It seemed that Zhai Sheng was not the only one who would benefit from his engagement with Qiao Nan.

No one would have expected that Miao Jing, who should be the one that was the most difficult to tackle, was, in fact, not a problem at all. Zhai Sheng did not even need to persuade Miao Jing. On the other hand, Miao Miao nearly sold out her own son and double-crossed him by introducing the lady that he loved to another man as a potential wife.

Of course, Zhai Sheng further did not expect that, in fact, Miao Jing already had someone in mind: Zhou Jun.

Zhou Jun was certainly much older but Miao Jing had checked the situation of Zhou Jun's family. Zhou Jun and Qiao Nan knew each other and Zhou Jun also had positive feelings toward Qiao Nan.

The timing was just right. While Qiao Nan was studying, Zhou Jun could work hard to rise in the ranks under the leadership of Zhai Sheng.

When Zhou Jun was promoted to regiment commander, Qiao Nan would have graduated from college and become compatible with Zhou Jun. Was this not killing two birds with one stone?

Fortunately, Zhai Sheng was not aware of this. Otherwise, he would really vomit three liters of blood due to anger.

Zhai Yaohui and Zhai Sheng had been prepping Miao Jing mentally for this and it was not entirely futile. Miao Jing spent a slightly longer time thinking about this in her bedroom but she accepted this reality in the end.

Everyone in the family but her knew about this. From the situation, Miao Jing knew that her objection would be useless as Zhai Yaohui was the true decision-maker in the family.

Thereafter, Miao Jing thought about it again. She had always felt that Qiao Nan was a good lady, one that made people's heart ache for her. Why didn't she think of the saying 'one does not allow benefits created by one's own work to accrue to others' before and let Qiao Nan be married to her own son?

She did not know other young ladies well but she was extremely familiar with Qiao Nan.

If Qiao Nan were to be with Zhai Sheng, she no longer needed to worry about finding the right man that would be most suitable for Qiao Nan. She also did not need to worry whether that young girlfriend of Zhai Sheng was suitable for him and that they would be suffering in pain if they were to force themselves to be together.

It could be said that the reunion of Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan had, at once, resolved the two major problems that Miao Jing always had on her mind.

As such, Miao Jing felt that she also did not seem to have a reason to object to this.

Just as Miao Jing sorted out her thoughts, coincidentally, Zhai Sheng arrived home. Miao Jing then came out of her bedroom and expressed her thoughts in case Qiao Nan could not let down her worries.

"Brother Zhai, you're not lying to me, right? Auntie Miao agreed without hesitation? Impossible! Didn't Auntie Miao faint from anger?" Upon hearing this piece of good news, Qiao Nan did not know whether to laugh or cry. She felt more emotional and had more difficulty controlling her feelings than when she heard that she had become the top scorer in the college entrance examination.

Initially, when she heard that Miao Jing had fainted, Qiao Nan thought that her matter with Zhai Sheng was going to be unsuccessful. She was already mentally prepared for it.

Unexpectedly, such a huge and pleasant surprise dropped from the sky and hit Qiao Nan. She almost fainted. "Auntie Miao really agreed to it? Then, why did she faint from anger?"

“I feel that my mom fainting did not have anything to do with us. She fainted as she was too angry with Wei De.” Zhai Sheng had no reservation about pushing all the blame to Wei De.

Even if the news of their relationship had affected Miao Jing greatly and Wei De was just part of the reason for the fainting episode, Zhai Sheng did not hesitate to let Wei De be the scapegoat. He would coax Qiao Nan to make her happy first.

“What’s with him?” Qiao Nan wiped her eyes. She had finally let down the worries that were with her for the whole afternoon.

“Anyway, there’s nothing good to say. You should have already guessed it. We don’t need to talk in detail lest we feel unhappy. I believe that Zhai Hua is calling Wei De now to scold him.” Zhai Sheng was not willing to bring up those few words of Wei De in case of affecting their mood. “Don’t worry. Mom said that she will arrange a meet up with Uncle Qiao within these few days. Even if we plan to be engaged, the two families need to have a proper discussion on whether to have a small banquet or something. Most likely, my dad will give a call to my grandfather and ask him to make a trip home. The old master is going to have a granddaughter-in-law soon. He has to get to know her.”

“Brother Zhai, are you saying this just to coax me?” Qiao Nan sniffed. Why did she feel that her happiness had arrived too sudden and was a little unreal?

“You will know within these two days whether I’m just coaxing you. It’s better that you inform Uncle Qiao first, lest Uncle Qiao is totally unprepared like you.”

“We’re really going to tell him about this?” If she were to inform her father, it would mean that the two families would meet formally. It was fine for Brother Zhai to console her with this, but it would be overboard to console her father in the same way.

“You can go ahead to tell him that. Don’t need to worry.”

“Okay.”

After hanging up the phone, Qiao Nan smiled with relief.

“Tsk, tsk, tsk, look at your smile. It’s sweeter than when you’re eating sweets. There’s no issue with Madam Zhai’s side? Brother Zhai is so capable to have resolved it so quickly!” Shi Qing dared not believe it. This good news came too quickly and there was no conflict at all.

She had thought that Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan had to go through a fight to get Miao Jing’s approval.

“I’m not very sure too. Brother Zhai didn’t give too many details. He just told me that Auntie Miao did not object and even wants to meet my dad to discuss.” Qiao Nan was still in a daze at the moment. She could only repeat what Zhai Sheng had said.

“Really?” Qiao Dongliang, who had just stepped out of his bedroom, was very surprised to hear this. “The old chief’s family has all... all agreed?!” Was this possible?

“Hmm, actually, Chief Zhai knew about the matter between Brother Zhai and me long ago. He has known about it for about two years. Auntie Miao was the only one who found out about it today. Nevertheless, just as Brother Zhai said, Auntie Miao has agreed.” At the mention of this, Qiao Nan felt quite shy.

In her previous life, she was a forty-year-old woman. She did not even have a boyfriend, let alone talks about marriage.

In this life, she was going to have a fiancé as soon as she reached the age of an adult. The difference between the two lifetimes was so extreme.

Qiao Dongliang heaved a sigh of relief. The old chief had known about this matter for so long but he had never expressed anything. This clearly showed that he had agreed. However...

Chapter 830 Oh No, Something Is Happening

“Madam Zhai fainted today.” Similarly, Qiao Dongliang cared very much about the fact that Miao Jing had fainted. This reaction did not seem like she would agree to the relationship between Qiao Nan and Zhai Sheng. “That meal... Don’t you think it will be a meal in disguise of some plot?”

“No, it can’t be.” Before Qiao Nan could reply, Qiao Dongliang rejected this notion. “Soldiers are always true to their words. They won’t come up with such things. Then, Nan Nan, you have truly been accepted by the old chief’s family? This won’t do. Why do I feel so dizzy? I... I’ll go back to my room to lie down for a while.”

At the sight of Qiao Dongliang returning to his bedroom feeling heavy-minded and light-footed, both Qiao Nan and Shi Qing were amused. “Qiao Nan, your father is so funny. But that’s for sure. Anyone who hears this piece of news will be so happy that they can’t differentiate between reality and false imagination. Qiao Nan, congratulations. You’ve finally succeeded after going through so many hardships.”

She was all set to get into a top tier university and was going to get such an outstanding fiancé soon on top of that.

Perhaps Ding Jiayi had created too many troubles and difficulties for Qiao Nan. Hence, Qiao Nan was rewarded after enduring all the hardships and was now on the momentum to become a big winner in life.

Qiao Nan laughed but she did not agree with Shi Qing’s words.

A woman was considered to have become successful after finding and marrying a good man?

No, Qiao Nan felt that a woman’s lifetime should not only amount to that.

When she received Brother Zhai’s phone call, she was truly overjoyed. She was happy not because she succeeded. She was happy because there was an opportunity that her relationship with Brother Zhai would ‘bloom’ soon. “Shi Qing, you have to remember that a woman’s life is not all about a man. What I’m happy about is that my relationship can have a good ending.”

She was not that kind of woman and did not hope that Shi Qing would become like that.

Shi Qing was stunned. “Have you thought about what you want to do in the future?”

“No, but I will definitely not become a housewife.” She would not remain at home. Although Qiao Zijin and Chen Jun’s example in her previous life was a little special, however, if Qiao Zijin had not been idling too much at home, why would she think of having an extramarital affair?

Since Qiao Zijin had been thoroughly dependent on Chen Jun for her living expenses, why would she leave the marriage without any maintenance or marital compensation after divorcing Chen Jun?

She could not even fork out any money for her own medical and hospitalization fees. Qiao Nan was the one who coughed out every cent.

It was all because Qiao Zijin felt that she had married well and could be the ‘rich young lady’ who was free of worries for her entire life.

“Oh,” Shi Qing replied. “I think I won’t either. I can’t stay at home.”

“Right, Qiao Nan, I have to tell you something. It’s not any good news. Initially, I wanted to tell you a few days later in case you feel unhappy about it. Nevertheless, given what happened today, I think nothing else can deal you a blow. That matter which happened during the college entrance examination is a little bizarre. They won’t be able to find out more even if they proceed with the investigation.”

It was a man who paid the money for the arrangements. Almost all of those people at the ‘frontline’ pointed their fingers to the same man.

The problem was that this man did not seem to be from Ping Cheng. He was someone from another place and did not seem to be in Ping Cheng now.

Without this middleman, it was impossible to find both proof and witness.

Government officials had to act according to the law. They could not convict someone of guilt based on a groundless guess.

As such, they could not find out much regarding the matter pertaining to Qiao Nan’s college entrance examination despite having fined and imprisoned a few ordinary citizens for twenty-four hours.

In other words, they most likely could not seek justice for Qiao Nan for the suffering that she had gone through.

“So it’s about this matter.” Qiao Nan’s expression did not change, but the corners of her lips, which were curled into a slight smile, remained. “I’ve already guessed the outcome of this matter. Even Qiao Zijin did not appear. The one who collaborated with Qiao Zijin, no, I should say that the one who made use of Qiao Zijin won’t possibly appear so easily. Brother Zhai told me that he will deal with these people.”

At most, he would not deal with these people with this matter. He would deal with them using other means. As long as it was not illegal, nothing was impossible.

“Brother Zhai knew who did it?”

“He knows.”

“Who?!” Her father had not even found out and Brother Zhai already knew about it. That was quick.

“That cousin of yours is one of them. My biological sister is another one. There’s another one—Chen Jun. As for...” Wei De that did not dirty his hands but was the cause of all the problems, Qiao Nan did not really wish to mention him at this point in time.

“What? Qiu Chenxi really has something to do with this! It’s not right. The Qiu family is not poor but they are not that generous. Where did she get so much money? Regardless of how much my auntie dotes on her, it’s good enough that she has a few hundred yuan in her hands. It’s not possible for her to give out tens of thousands of yuan.”

The situation of the Qiu family was not that good. Unless Qiu Qin took bribes or did something illegal...

“This issue... Brother Zhai said it’s related to a highly confidential matter of our country and it’s not convenient to let me know about it. Hence, I’m not very clear about the actual situation. Nevertheless, it seems that something major is going to happen to the Qiu family in the near future. It won’t be as simple as a change in designation like before.” Qiao Nan told Shi Qing because she wanted to alert Shi Qing and Shi Peng, lest Shi Peng became implicated negatively if anything were to happen to the Qiu family.

Unfortunately, Qi Minlan was Shi Peng’s biological sister and Qiu Qin was his brother-in-law.

If the Qiu family committed wrongdoings and something happened to them, perhaps some scheming individuals would drag Shi Peng into this and said that Shi Peng was in cahoots with the Qiu family, that Shi Peng was involved in all the wrongdoings that were done by the Qiu family

One did not necessarily need to be overly anxious about this kind of matter but should be prepared in advance just in case.

“I understand what you mean. Don’t worry. Our family does not have much connection or interaction with the Qiu family. If something really happens to the Qiu family, it has got nothing to do with my family and my father at all.” During the Lunar New Year for the past few years, she and her father had always gone back to her maternal grandfather’s house in the capital. She would go to her paternal grandfather’s house on the first day of the Lunar New Year and leave on the third day.

Not to mention the Qiu family, even their interaction with Old Master Shi’s family had also dwindled.

However, if someone truly wanted to put the blame of the Qiu family’s matter on her father, it would be better if her father had some plan in mind.

Back to the topic, what major issue was going to happen to the Qiu family this time that required Qiao Nan to alert her father?

Could it be that the money that Qiu Chenxi used did not come from legal sources?

If that was truly the case, Qiu Chenxi was really too audacious. The Qiu family was daring enough to take such money and Qiu Chenxi even dared to spend them to attract attention. She was not fearful of dying!

Shi Qing did not understand why Qiu Chenxi was so full of herself. Previously, she did not believe that Qiao Nan was that vixen hidden by Zhai Sheng. Naturally, she felt that no one would suspect her for what she did this time. Well, did she really not know that Qiao Nan was the vixen that she had been looking for?

Unfortunately, the first person that Zhai Sheng targeted was her.

Everyone was in the same social circle. Zhai Sheng would not know for sure how wealthy the Qiu family was but he could estimate it.