

Spatial Ability 131

Chapter 131: Feels Safer

“Let’s not talk about her. Jiyun, do you have any news? Is my prescription useful?”

It was not the time to care about Wang Xing’er now. An Jiuyue was most concerned about whether her prescription would help mitigate the epidemic.

“I ordered someone to pass the prescription to an imperial physician I’m familiar with. He wants me to ask you what you want in exchange for the prescription,” Qian Jiyun replied.

An Jiuyue was stunned by his question. “Huh?”

What conditions? What does he mean?

“What do I want in exchange? What do you mean?” she asked.

Qian Yiyun explained, “Sister Jiuyue, your prescription is valuable. How can you give it away so casually? He’s saying that the imperial physician asked if there is anything you want in exchange for this prescription. He’ll do whatever you say.”

An Jiuyue finally understood what he meant. She rolled her eyes and shook her head.

“It’s just a prescription. Is there a need for this?”

She did not offer this prescription to seek something in return. She only hoped to cure this epidemic disease as soon as possible.

She looked at Qian Jiyun and said earnestly, “But if I must say something I want, I hope that imperial physician can teach his revised prescription to the doctors amongst the commoners. They can then treat patients with the epidemic disease at any time.

“I don’t need to receive any benefits. I just hope that we can quickly suppress this epidemic.”

Qian Jiyun looked at her and smiled.

He knew that his wife was broad-minded. She was not attracted to all those benefits.

“Then I’ll do as you say and send someone to deliver the message,” he said.

“Don’t mind me.”

Qian Jiyun heard his sister chime in.

“Big Brother, even if Sister-in-law doesn’t want any benefits, we should at least get her some herbs in exchange. Someone tried to sabotage our water source today. Who knows what will happen in the future?”

“Even if nothing happens, it feels safer to have some medicine at home. Don’t you agree, Sister-in-law?”

Qian Yiyun raised her eyebrows and asked An Jiuyue.

How can she not receive what she deserves? The Emperor would reward any minister handsomely. She has to take what she deserves.

An Jiuyue was silent for a moment before agreeing. “Mhm.”

It had not been long after the flood, but there were epidemics everywhere. If this continued, everyone would be panicked. It would be good to have some medicine at home.

“Let’s do as Xiao Yiyun says.”

“Okay,” Qian Jiyun replied.

...

The villagers grew even more worried because of Wang Xing'er. They recruited a few more men to guard the village and the spring.

No one dared to gather water from the river to drink anymore.

However, it was not enough. Even if they had water, they had to have food.

Not many families saved up money. Besides whether they were even willing to use their money to buy food for other villagers, the rice and grain sold in town were increasingly expensive.

It had only been a few days, but prices had increased so much that the people could not afford them.

Early the next day, An Jiuyue brought Qian Jiyun to another place to fetch water. She witnessed some villagers carrying bags of grain up the mountain secretly.

Chapter 132: Coming Close to Cannibalizing

“Brother Gousheng, what’s going on here? The sky has cleared up. Why are you carrying food up the mountain?” An Jiuyue asked one of them when she saw them carry food up the mountain.

“Hi, Jiuyue.”

An Gousheng was nervous when he heard a voice. He heaved a sigh of relief when he saw that it was An Jiuyue.

He glanced at the people carrying the food and replied, "These grains were taken out secretly by the Junior Officer from his and some of our households. They will ensure our survival."

They trusted An Jiuyue. Everyone in the village would have suffered terribly if not for her. Yet, they now had to go through so much trouble to hide the food.

An Jiuyue was puzzled. "Are you hiding the food?"

She had not descended the mountain since her last trip to town, where she found An Yilu and caught a female goat on the mountain.

She did not know what was going on below the mountain.

"That's right. If we don't hide the food, it might be gone soon."

Before An Gousheng could say anything, another man carrying grain on his back replied to An Jiuyue and sighed.

"What do you mean? Are there people stealing the grain?" An Jiuyue asked.

"Yes." An Gousheng nodded.

"You don't know about this, Jiuyue. I heard that besides our village, many other villages have been robbed of their food. Anyone who has a bite to eat will be robbed now. The food in town is more expensive than gold."

He sighed too.

"You left the village?" An Jiuyue asked in surprise.

Didn't I tell them not to leave the village? The epidemic is raging outside.

“No, no.” An Gousheng shook his head hastily.

It was not like he was tired of living. He would not dare to leave the village at a time like this.

“An outsider came to the village last night to steal our food. He was caught by our people on patrol. We heard from him that things are very chaotic outside. They’re coming close to cannibalizing one another.”

An Jiuyue was silent.

Coming close to cannibalizing one another?

Although An Jiuyue was from the modern times, she knew a little about this.

During the Great Famine, some people cooked the dead and ate them to stay alive. She did not expect to hear about this by chance.

Her expression turned grim immediately.

Qian Jiyun saw that she did not look well and handed her the water bottle at his waist. “Have some water.”

“I’m fine.” An Jiuyue glanced at him and shook her head.

Suppressed the disgust she felt, she looked at An Gousheng again. “How is the village?”

An Gousheng replied, “It’s not too bad. At least we still have some plain porridge and wild vegetables to tide us over.”

“The Junior Officer is afraid that those people from the other villages will rush over to rob our food when they find out that we still have some. They will really snatch everything away.”

An Jiuyue’s expression darkened.

Robbing their food was not too bad—running the risk that the outsiders might spread the epidemic disease to their village while robbing was a greater worry. There would be unimaginable consequences.

“Jiuyue, if there’s nothing else you need from us, we’ll go on carrying the food first.”

“Oh, go ahead, Brother Gousheng.” An Jiuyue nodded.

Chapter 133: I’ll Do What I Can

“Ji Yun, does the Imperial Court not care about this?” An Jiuyue stood on the spot and asked Qian Jiyun after An Gousheng left.

Are the officials just going to watch the commoners starve to death? Or do they simply not care about the lives of the commoners from small regions? Perhaps that’s really the case.

Qian Jiyun replied, “The Imperial Court will not fret about floods in a small city. However, since there is an epidemic happening here, they will intervene now. Their disaster response will still vary greatly from their responses to other disasters though.”

“You mean—”

An Jiuyue was a little stunned. Although she understood him, she was in disbelief.

Would the powerful Imperial Court really deem the lives of commoners worthless?

However, she had to admit that it was possible. The lives of these people were nothing to those in power. Their suffering was invisible to them.

They only had eyes for the luxury before them.

“Even so, the Imperial Court should distribute some food, right? What about the local officials? What are they doing? Or is this huge epidemic nothing to them?”

“You still don’t understand, Jiuyue. Even if the local officials want to serve the people, everything depends on how much taxes were paid last year and how much food is required to support the people,” Qian Jiyun reasoned.

An Jiuyue chuckled. “I think we should just let everyone hide and live in the mountains.”

The Imperial Court had a rule stating that the people did not have to pay taxes for reclaimed wastelands on the mountains for the first five years. They only had to pay a head tax.

However, these lands were barren before they were reclaimed and would result in average agricultural yields. Irrigating these lands would also be very inconvenient. There would be no harvest if there was a drought.

Nobody would be willing to go to the mountain and reclaim wastelands unless they had no other means to survive.

However, the Imperial Court had done nothing for years. The commoners were struggling to survive, but they were still concerned about whether the high taxes were enough to cover the expenses.

“Don’t say that.” Qian Jiyun took a deep breath and looked at An Jiuyue seriously. “There are some things that the Emperor is unable to achieve.”

The commoners would not be in this situation if the Emperor had the final say in court.

However, the Imperial Court was...

He did not want to talk about this anymore. Things would not change no matter what he said now. He could only wait for their little emperor to grow up slowly. Perhaps things would improve in the future.

"I've already sent someone over. I believe there will be good news soon."

An Jiuyue was stunned.

A general like Qian Jiyun should not be responsible for the flood. However, things were difficult for him now because she was here, and he also found himself in the middle of this situation.

"I'll do what I can, but we don't have the capacity to help everything," she said faintly.

I'm not someone who will cause trouble for my people for the sake of others. Qian Jiyun is the biological father of my two adorable children. I don't want to make things difficult for him by saying too much.

To put it bluntly, why should he care if the Emperor doesn't?

Chapter 134: Are You Really Going to Do Nothing?

"Okay." Qian Jiyun smiled.

That's right. We don't have the capacity to do everything. Why should we care so much? We'll do what we can and leave the rest to others who can do something about it.

"Let's go up the mountain again tomorrow. We have nothing else to do anyway."

An Jiuyue was stunned for a long time before nodding. "Alright."

Can he read my mind? I was about to say that I'll go into the mountains alone since there are people at home now, but he took the initiative to bring it up first. He's really taking away all my personal space!

Of course, she hoped that Qian Jiyun would stay at home to take care of the children so that she could enter the mountains alone.

But was that possible? Absolutely not. Qian Jiyun would not let her enter the mountains alone.

However, even if Qian Jiyun and Qian Yiyun left... She would probably not enter the mountains often either. After all, there were five children at home. She had to be careful.

Later, An Jiuyue handed the children to Qian Jiyun and Qian Yiyun's care. She returned to her room under the pretense that she wanted to rest.

Instead of entering her microcosmic space directly, she laid on the bed and immersed her consciousness in it.

"Master, are you really going to do nothing about the flood?" Wei Na could not resist asking. An Jiuyue had benefited a lot from this flood, after all.

"We should still do something, right? After all, we can earn points! Didn't you give them the prescription? We can definitely save many people, right?"

An Jiuyue rolled her eyes. "So you know about the prescription!"

Her prescription and Qian Jiyun's arrangements could decrease the number of people dying from the disease.

However, it was not her place to get involved in the food shortage problems. It was not like she could do anything.

"We're just ordinary commoners. Why do we have to care so much? We just have to take care of ourselves," she snapped.

I can't even manage my own land. Do I still have the time to care about others?

Moreover, she believed that the Imperial Court would not really ignore this.

They might abandon them if the epidemic could not be cured. After all, epidemics raged fiercely like tigers, and the Imperial Court's involvement might implicate even more people.

However, they would still distribute food if food shortage was the only concern.

The amount of time needed to distribute food would then depend on the capability of the ministers. That was not something she could control.

She was also not stupid enough to let Qian Jiyun get too involved. Qian Jiyun's assets would belong to Zheng'er and Rong'er in the future. She could not give that away to outsiders freely, right?

Wei Na was speechless.

As expected of my master! She's so thorough!

"Then why are you going into the mountains with him? Shouldn't you go alone? You have to gather more herbs, right?"

"Yeah, I thought so too." An Jiuyue flashed Wei Na a fake smile and nodded.

"Do you think so too, Master? That's great! Why don't—"

"Why don't you discuss this with Qian Jiyun and tell him not to follow me into the mountains?"

"Huh?!"

An Jiuyue interrupted Wei Na's nagging successfully with words so curt they almost caused Wei Na to sulk in a corner again.

Chapter 135: You're Still Reclaiming?!

"Forget it. I can't do that."

"It's good that you know. Cut the crap then!" An Jiuyue snapped again.

She wanted to enter the mountains alone too. However, she did not have the right to say that, nor the guts to do so now.

She was sure that Qian Jiyun would follow closely behind her if she entered the mountains alone.

In fact, he would follow her secretly. The secret of her microcosmic space might be exposed!

"Master, I have your best interest at heart. I don't mean to say this on purpose," Wei Na explained awkwardly.

"I just think that we planted too many mushrooms in the space. We can use half of that land to grow wild vegetables. Then, we can grow medicinal herbs in the other wild vegetable field. We can better utilise the land in the space that way."

"I know."

Of course, An Jiuyue knew that.

She could not go to town these days. And with all the people infected with diseases outside, she might not be able to return home if she left.

The mushrooms in her space almost piled up into a mountain. She could not even dry them even if she wanted to because Qian Jiyun and Qian Yiyun were around.

Although she could fool Zheng'er and Rong'er by explaining that she gathered the mushrooms on the mountain, how would she be able to fool Qian Jiyun and his sister?

She was even more troubled at the thought of their prolonged stay because the epidemic going on below the mountain would not be over so quickly. The mushrooms in her space would really pile up into several hills by then!

"We can still gather some herbs when we enter the mountains tomorrow. I can plant them inside the space secretly," she said.

She had to do something. She could not continue growing mushrooms like this. However, she had to admit that it had its benefits. Half a piece of land should still be reserved for the mushrooms.

"I'll sell all the mushrooms in my space to the Points Mall later and see if I can get more points. After that, I'll reclaim—"

"Master, you're still reclaiming?!" Wei Na was shocked.

They had already reclaimed five plots of land and would need 4,500 points for the next.

They could reclaim more land if they had more points. However, they had too few now. An Jiuyue had to ramble on for half a day over exchanging the points for milk powder.

"I'm not reclaiming land." An Jiuyue was startled by its exclamation.

"Are you excavating ponds?" Wei Na asked.

Wei Na felt that one pond was enough for the time being. Fattening up the fishes in the pond, eating some water chestnut, and watching the lotus flowers bloom were great.

Most importantly, excavating a second pond required 2,500 points. They could not afford that.

“I want to reclaim a pasture,” An Jiuyue said seriously.

She had fenced up all the chickens, ducks, and rabbits that she raised in her microcosmic space by herself. No matter how well she raised them, her points would be halved.

If she unlocked a pasture, she would put more poultry in it and accumulate more points for future reclamation.

“A pasture? That’s more like it.” Wei Na was satisfied.

As an inhabitant of this microcosmic space, it knew that a pasture was necessary. It was essential to raise poultry.

They could also grow herbage and bring in some insects to raise them. They would be able to survive without constantly feeding them.

Chapter 136: 15,000 Points Is A Lot!

The pasture was an independent entity. Herbage and insects in it could not invade other areas or leave.

There was no need to worry that other crops and poultry might be destroyed.

Wei Na suddenly thought of something and asked, “Master, how many points does the first pasture cost?”

“Not much, Just 15,000 points,” An Jiuyue replied calmly.

“Wh—!” Wei Na almost collapsed to the ground.

15,000 points? How did Master talk about this so casually? Is she trying to scare me to death?

“Master, if you scare me to death, no one will help you take care of your Microcosm in the future,” Wei Na said with a soft cry, “Master, 15,000 points is a lot!”

“15,000 points is a lot?” An Jiuyue retorted.

She honestly did not think that it was much. After all, one pasture was equivalent to 10 plots of land. Having one pasture was more cost-effective, right?

Wei Na genuinely felt that it was a lot and stuttered, “No, not at all.”

We don’t have many points anyway. She can go ahead and dream.

“Master, we don’t have that many points. Even if you make a few more trips into the deep mountains, your man will be following you. It’s inconvenient for you to do anything. What can you get?”

“Are you going to rely on the mushrooms we planted? Ten mushrooms can only be exchanged for one point in the Points Mall!”

“Don’t be fooled by the fact that we have so many mushrooms piled up like a small mountain. We can only exchange them for so many points. I’m not pouring cold water on you, Master. It’s really not worthwhile!” it advised earnestly.

“It’s not a matter of whether it’s worthwhile.”

An Jiuyue did not mind. The mushrooms were there anyway. Even if they planted mushrooms on half a piece of land, they could produce a lot of mushrooms every day as they grow very quickly.

She could not sell them for money during these difficult times or give them away to the people below the mountain for food.

Although they would be grateful to her, she could not earn any points for it. She was unwilling to do such a meritless task. It was not like they were on the brink of starvation either—they could look for food on their own.

It was also not good to allow the mushrooms to pile up.

“I can’t sell them. I can only exchange them for points,” she said.

“Even if we exchange them for points, we won’t get 15,000 points.” Wei Na was trying to dissuade her.

Although the mushrooms occupied some space, they had plenty of undeveloped jade land because they did not have enough points to reclaim much. There was a lot of empty space inside the Microcosm.

“What? Do you want me to listen to everything you say regarding the microcosmic space?” An Jiuyue retorted.

I just wanted to exchange the mushrooms for points. Must it make it seem like I’m about to do something evil?

Mushrooms grow so quickly. There will be a lot of them in a few days. Is Wei Na afraid that I won’t have enough mushrooms to sell in the future? Does it think I’m poor?

“Uh...” Wei Na was stunned.

Alright, everything in the space is up to her. I can only give my opinions. It’s also up to her if she wants to listen to me.

“Master, I’m not...”

Chapter 137: Far From It

“That’s enough. Stop talking.” An Jiuyue interrupted Wei Na.

“You don’t need to eat or drink, so why are you so concerned with me earning money? Are you earning it, or am I? I’m starting to suspect that you want to break free from the space and escape.”

Wei Na was shocked. To be honest, it never contemplated escaping.

It guaranteed hurriedly, “Master, I don’t have such thoughts. Absolutely not!”

I’m an inhabitant of the microcosmic space! Can I even survive outside if I escaped? Why would I run out if I’m doing fine inside?

I will not say anything about the Points Mall anymore, okay? Master can exchange the points for whatever she wants. I will not breathe a word about it.

“Can’t hear you,” An Jiuyue replied indifferently.

Of course, she knew that Wei Na objected to exchanging the mushrooms for points because it wanted her to sell them for money—it was for her own good.

However, money was not what she needed the most now. She needed more utilizable lands inside the space.

Wei Na thought for a moment before saying, “Master, I’ve done some rough calculations. We can exchange that pile of mushrooms for about 5,000 points. However, we’ll still be far from having enough to reclaim the first pasture.”

An Jiuyue fell silent.

That's right. Even if I exchange all the mushrooms for points, there won't be enough points for even half a pasture. This is the main problem.

"It's okay. I'll start teaching Zheng'er and Rong'er from tomorrow onwards. They're at the age where they should receive some rudimentary education. They can earn points too. We'll take it slow and earn the other points. We'll be able to reclaim the first piece of pasture somehow."

She was not in a hurry. Everything required time.

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Several pale-faced men and women coughed continuously in a newly built straw shed. They were sick and had been chased out by the villagers to live in this straw shed.

There were also some men and women who appeared better. They were the family members of the sick and were also chased out to live here.

Regardless of whether they were infected or not, everyone looked sallow. Some had cried for a few days as they could not take it anymore.

One of the women wore a worried expression.

She wiped her tears secretly as she asked faintly, "What should we do? Are we really going to die here?"

Many people in their village had already contracted the disease. People were chased out to live in the straw shed almost every day.

A woman walked in with a bowl of muddy-looking soup.

“Hmph!” she snorted loudly when she saw the other woman crying again and looked at the bowl of soup in her hand in disdain.

It was not medicine but a bowl of wild vegetable soup. However, there were very few wild vegetables in it. She could only vaguely see a few vegetables floating on top.

She wanted to eat her fill, but she had no other options. It was already good enough to have a bowl of wild vegetable soup here.

“If you weren’t useless, I would’ve brought you all to live in the An Clan Village long ago! We would be living a good life now instead of being here with an old thing who’s half dead!”

Chapter 138: I Must Escape

“You—” The woman looked up and glared at her.

Is this my daughter, whom I taught was filial?

Wang Xing’er had been sour-faced ever since she found out that her father really contracted the epidemic disease.

Her attitude worsened after her family repeatedly persuaded her not to return to the An Clan Village and cause trouble for her husband.

“Xing’er, this is for your own good. How will you be able to return to your in-laws’ house in the future if you cause trouble there now? How will your husband think of you?” the woman shook her head and coaxed her daughter.

Everything they said was for her sake. They hoped she could continue living a comfortable life and be pampered by her husband.

However, little did she know that Wang Xing'er had ruined it herself. She had even received the divorce letter.

That was why Wang Xing'er hated her parents and An Jiuyue for suggesting those measures to the An Clan Village!

She felt that she could have brought her parents to live in her in-laws' house if An Jiuyue had not given those suggestions. They could have been served good food and drinks, and she would not have to live in this straw shed.

And to think her father really contracted the disease! She was so terrified when she found out that she wanted to escape.

However, she had nowhere to escape. Several young, strong men guarded the straw sheds. They would capture anyone escaping immediately.

Being caught was not the worst—she could even be beaten to death by the villagers.

The officials would not even probe if that happened. They would say that the people beaten to death were at fault as they should not have escaped.

She could only stay in the straw shed and hide from the infected carefully.

However, she was certain she would be infected sooner or later as she lived with them every day. Hence, she knew she could not stay here any longer.

I must escape! I must leave this godforsaken place!

Why do I have to live in fear here while An Jiuyue can live on the mountain unaffected by the epidemic?

This is unfair! I want An Jiuyue to have a taste of what it feels like to be infected by the disease!

“I can’t be bothered to talk to you. I won’t stay here no matter what,” she sneered.

Neither her parents nor her siblings believed her. After all, there were people standing guard outside. Where could a woman like Wang Xing’er go?

Wang Xing’er’s sister-in-law walked into the straw shed with a bowl of wild vegetable soup.

“Mother, I brought you some wild vegetable soup. Hurry up and drink it. Ah Gen and I will go to Father—”

Before she could finish her sentence, the older woman stood up in a panic.

“No, no! I’ll go to him. Neither of you is allowed to go. Do you hear me?!” she instructed her daughter-in-law as she took the wild vegetable soup from her and went to another straw shed to feed her husband.

It was not that she did this out of an overabundance of kindness. She simply felt that given their current situation, it did not matter if a woman over 50 years old like her died from the disease.

Her son and daughter-in-law were young and had children. Who would take care of her grandchildren if they contracted the disease?

Hence, she had to be the one to serve her husband.

Chapter 139: Will You Live on the Mountain Forever?

Wang Xing’er sneered when she saw her mother’s consideration towards her sister-in-law.

If my mother-in-law had sided with me like that, I would have treated her well too. But how unfortunate! She seemed like someone I could manipulate, but she abandoned me at the most critical moment.

Wang Xing'er was very jealous of her sister-in-law as her biological mother shielded her.

She only received complaints from her mother about how she was insensible and should not have gone to the An Clan Village to make things difficult for her in-laws.

"Xing'er, why aren't you sitting down?" her sister-in-law asked after her mother left.

"Pretentious!"

Wang Xing'er glared at her hatefully.

"Don't think I don't know you. You just want to take advantage of my parents! Hmph! As long as I'm around, don't even think about it. Everything my parents have will be mine. No matter how well you treat them, you won't have a share of anything!" she warned her sister-in-law before returning to her seat.

Her sister-in-law was speechless. She did not know what she did to offend her.

Pretentious? Is it wrong to be good to your parents-in-law? Am I supposed to glare at them with anger?

She shook her head. Her in-laws were good people, and her husband was an honest man. She could not understand why her sister-in-law was so overbearing.

She did not have the energy to coax her sister-in-law now. She decided to scoop herself a bowl of wild vegetable soup and fill her stomach first.

With that, she left the shed again.

Wang Xing'er looked around and bit her lower lip as she thought about how to escape this place and return to the An Clan Village.

Since I suffered, I'll make everybody in the An Clan Village, especially An Jiuyue, suffer too!?

And I'll take everything valuable with me when I leave! I'll make sure nothing will be left for my weak and useless sister-in-law!

...

An Jiuyue handed the children to Qian Yiyun's care and entered the mountains early in the morning.

She was in a good mood, but it did not last long when she looked at Qian Jiyun, who was following her.

It would be great if she could go into the mountains alone!

Soon after they set off, Qian Jiyun asked cautiously as he walked beside her, "Jiuyue, will you live on the mountain forever?"

An Jiuyue was silent.

What kind of question is that? What's wrong with living on the mountain?

Of course, she knew that living on the mountain had its cons. She would not be able to enter the mountains without Qian Yiyun around. After all, she had a few children at home. How could she leave them alone?

She had been conflicted over the past few days, wondering if she should build a house in the An Clan Village. She could leave the children in the care of the villagers temporarily and go into the mountains to gather her goods.

"Why? Do you have any good suggestions?" she asked, raising her eyebrows.

Qian Jiyun thought for a while and replied, "It's fine if you don't like living in the village, but the treehouse is a little small."

Chapter 140: You Won't Agree to It

He knew that it would be impossible to ask An Jiuyue to live in the village. Although they had only interacted for a few days, he could tell that she did not like socializing.

Living on the mountain also had its benefits.

A flood might occur by the Cascade River whenever it rained heavily. The mountain was safer than the village.

"Maybe you can build a bigger house next to the treehouse and buy two servants from the brokerage to watch after Zheng'er and the others. Then you'll have some free time to do your own things. Will that be better?"

An Jiuyue was surprised. She stopped in her tracks suddenly and looked at Qian Jiyun, who stopped too.

"Will that be better for you?" she asked unhappily.

All the talk about building a house on the mountain is so that he can come and stay for a few days whenever he wants, right?

Does he think I'm a young lady who can't figure out his hidden agenda?

Qian Jiyun lowered his head and chuckled.

"It will." He did not deny it.

With An Jiuyue living in the treehouse and five children constantly around, he found it impossible to grow closer to her.

An Yilu and the other two were fine—they were too young to understand adult relationships. However, Zheng'er and Rong'er were older. They would catch on to them if something happened.

He also wanted her to buy a few servants to watch over the children as he did not want her to busy herself with them every day.

Of course, he would make arrangements for her servants instead of letting her go to the brokerage to buy some unreliable ones. It would be bad if they caused trouble for her.

“But Jiuyue, you can't deny that there are many children now, right? I won't have to suggest this if you only have Zheng'er and Rong'er.

“The children will grow up in a few years. Even if we don't do anything now, they will need a bigger house in a few years.

“Of course, we can live in town or the county if you'd like. It'll be easier for me to take care of you. However, I know you won't agree to it, so I won't mention it.

“I just hope you and the children can live in a more spacious house. What do you think?”

An Jiuyue took a deep breath after listening to him. She did not nod or shake her head.

“Let me think about it again.”

“Okay.”

Qian Jiyun was relieved that she did not immediately reject his suggestion.

He was afraid she would object to it and even more afraid she would dislike him because of it. He would not know what to do if that happened.

Fortunately, the young lady did not dislike him.

“Let’s go deeper into the mountains today. How about that?”

“Sure.” An Jiuyue nodded. She wanted to see if there was anything she could gather too.

She had to go deeper into the mountains for that. A lot of villagers had been coming here recently. Almost everything that could be found around the mountain had been brought into the village.

There was a continuous mountain range near An Yue Town. With so many mountains, not many people would starve to death even if a flood occurred.

It was easy finding something on the mountain to sustain a family for a couple of days. If any family starved to death, the fault would lie in their laziness!