

Spatial Ability 211

Chapter 211: Can't Stand Feeling Hungry

If they were the ones who had their food stolen, they would scold the thief until their ancestors leaped up from their graves!

The other families also started scolding their sons.

How could their sons do such a thing? An Jiuyue had rescued them from the flood. She was already being nice to them. How could they steal her food?

Even if they wanted to steal food, they should not steal hers. That would be inhumane!

While scolding the men, someone remembered how Mrs. Jin told them that An Jiuyue had a feud with An Gouzi, claiming she captured everyone because she was too petty.

It turned out that that was not true!

A woman could not tolerate Mrs. Jin's behavior and criticized her, "Mrs. Jin, Jiuyue saved you for nothing! You should have drowned in the floodwaters!"

"I..."

Mrs. Jin opened her mouth but did not know how to reply.

She knew stealing An Jiuyue's food was wrong. However, her children were about to starve to death!

She did not care whose food it belonged. It would be their survival food the moment it hit her cooking pot!

She turned around and glared fiercely at An Jiuyue, wishing she could bite off a piece of her flesh.

An Jiuyue can kill such a big wild boar. Does she lack food? What's wrong with giving some to our families? Why does she have to blow things up? What good will it do for her?

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"Jiuyue, you have so much food. Why can't you give some to my family? You know my children can't stand feeling hungry."

An Jiuyue looked at her with a mocking smile.

This woman is really amusing! So what if I have a lot of food at home? Am I obliged to give it to others?

"Do you have more children than me?" she retorted.

"Well..."

Mrs. Jin was speechless. Indeed, there were many children in An Jiuyue's family now. She had also heard that An Jiuyue had registered the other three children in the family genealogy.

"You do have a few children, but those three are not your biological children. Why are you feeding them so well? They can just drink some wild vegetable soup. Can't you save some food for my family—"

"So?" An Jiuyue could not be bothered to listen to her and interrupted her. "So your children are my biological children?"

They were not her biological children either. She did not understand why she should give the food to other children instead of the ones she was raising.

"Mrs. Jin, your children must be invaluable! I'm supposed to give my food to your children and not mine? You're really shameless! Must everyone save some food for your family?"

“Look at how pitiful you sound! Do you have that many children? Ask everyone here. Which family doesn’t have children?”

“Are you implying that your children are children, but others’ children aren’t children? They deserve to be robbed of their food and starved to death?”

Mrs. Jin shook her head quickly. “I... I don’t mean that.”

She never wanted anyone’s child to starve to death. She simply did not have any food at home and happened to recall that An Jiuyue’s family had food.

Hence, she and her husband had designs on her food.

Chapter 212: Already Saved the Ingrate

Besides, she did not ask her husband to steal all the food in An Jiuyue’s house.

“You may not mean that, but what about your man?”

An Jiuyue looked up and glanced at An Gouzi, still hanging from the tree and howling.

“I didn’t think there would be another family of ingrates apart from Old An’s family! You had designs on not only my food but also my two sons!

“You want to sell my sons for money? Dream on! Do you really think I’m a pushover, Mrs. Jin?”

She exposed the couple, letting everyone know what kind of people they were.

“What?!” Mrs. Jin was stunned when she heard this.

An Gouzi only told her he wanted to steal An Jiuyue’s family’s food. He did not say he wanted to capture An Jiuyue’s sons.

“No, I don’t know about this. I really don’t.” She shook her head quickly.

This has nothing to do with me. I don’t want to be chased out to the straw sheds like Old An’s family. I don’t want to contract the epidemic disease and not know if I’ll survive!

The thought of Old An and his family made her hair stand on end. She took a step back subconsciously.

How can he do this? How can he do such a wicked thing without discussing it with me? I wouldn’t have called the Chief and the others here if I knew!

“It has nothing to do with me. It must be... It must be... No, An Jiuyue, you must be talking nonsense! My husband will never do that. We have children too. Why would we sell other people’s children?”

She wanted to push the blame on her man, but she changed her mind and pinned it on An Jiuyue.

As long as we don’t admit it, why would anyone believe her words?

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An Jiuyue chuckled again and sized up Mrs. Jin seriously.

“Saving you is the worst thing I’ve done in my entire life!”

She was very blunt. If she were to be given another chance, she would kick Mrs. Jin back into the floodwaters even if she wanted to board her bamboo raft.

She would never save a woman like her no matter what.

Unfortunately, she had already saved the ingrate, and it was too late to regret it. There was nothing she could do about it.

“You—”

Mrs. Jin did not expect An Jiuyue to say that.

However, she could not find any words to refute An Jiuyue. After all, she genuinely wanted to steal An Jiuyue’s food to support her family.

She panicked suddenly, and her face turned pale. She did not know why, but she had a feeling something would happen to her in the future—and An Jiuyue would only watch her suffer without helping her.

Even so, she gritted her teeth and replied, “I didn’t tell you to save me. An Jiuyue, put my husband down quickly. He didn’t manage to steal your food, so you can’t hang him up.”

Her words left everyone around speechless.

Were his actions not considered theft because he failed? The world would be in chaos if everyone had this mindset.

Everyone would go out to steal and get away with it if they did not steal successfully. And even if they did, they would not be punished if no one discovered it. What a good deal!

An Jiuyue did not want to waste her breath on Mrs. Jin anymore. She turned her attention to the Chief and the Junior Officer.

“Chief, Junior Officer, what do you think we should do?”

Upon hearing this, the Chief looked up at the people hanging from the tree, then turned around and sighed.

All these useless people... They have hands and feet, so why can't they find even a day's worth of food?

The An Clan Village was surrounded by many mountains. They could find food in the mountains easily. However, they insisted on stealing from others instead.

When neither of them spoke, An Jiuyue added, “I believe you should know that if you can even steal other people's food, you're only one step away from stealing other people's children and selling them.”

They might not have stolen her food this time, but she was not going to give them a chance to steal a single grain next time.

If An Clan Village tolerated such cruel behaviors, they would descend into chaos like other places.

Mrs. Jin panicked when she heard her words.

“An Jiuyue, stop spouting nonsense. We never thought of selling your children!”

Children? I have a few children at home! Even if I want to sell children, I'll sell mine! Why would I sell An Jiuyue's children?

However, she knew she should not continue the topic about the children. Otherwise, the Chief and the Junior Officer would not spare her family.

She looked at the Chief and spoke to him frantically, “An Jiuyue wronged my husband, Chief. He would never want to sell An Jiuyue’s child. We have our own children!

“She is spouting nonsense. She just can’t stand seeing others better than her.”

The Chief frowned and debated on who to believe.

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Of course, he trusted An Jiuyue and believed she would not spout nonsense. Since An Jiuyue accused them, An Gouzi must have had such intentions.

He took a deep breath and asked An Jiuyue, “Jiuyue, shall we bring them down first and let them explain themselves before we punish them?”

Although he believed An Jiuyue and did not want to hear the voices of those wicked people, he had to listen to what they had to say.

“Alright.”

An Jiuyue looked up and glanced at the men hanging upside down.

They’ve been hanging long enough. I’m afraid hanging them like that will damage their brains when they’re already brainless!

The Chief and the Junior Officer instructed the men they brought with them to bring the others down. They were hung for so long that they remained silent even after they reached the ground.

After a while, An Gouzi was the first to regain his senses. He broke free from Mrs. Jin, who supported him with a long face, and charged toward An Jiuyue immediately.

“An Jiuyue, you b*tch! How dare you hang me up? I’ll kill— Ah!”

Just as he found his way to her, he was sent flying with an unapologetic kick. He fell to the ground and took in a mouthful full of mud.

“Ah! My dear!” Mrs. Jin screamed and hurried to him when she saw him hit the ground.

The tree branches on the ground scratched An Gouzi’s face. He cried out as Mrs. Jin helped him up.

Chapter 214: Don’t Lump Us Together

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

He shook his head vigorously before looking at An Jiuyue. This time, he did not dare to charge at her. Instead, he pointed his finger at her.

“An Jiuyue, you b*tch! You have so much food at home. What’s wrong with sharing some with us? How dare you attack me? Let me tell you this—I gave in to you! I would’ve killed you long ago if you were not a woman!”

He was furious. Not only did he fail to obtain a single grain of grain, but the Chief and the Junior Officer discovered his plans.

He had no reason to feign innocence now. He was determined to stay until he got some food from An Jiuyue.

“No wonder Old An wanted to sell your son! They must have asked to borrow food, but you refused to lend some to them, so they took revenge, right?”

“You stingy woman! Aren’t you afraid you’ll choke eating all that food alone?”

“I’ll let things go if you hand over some food today! But if you don’t, I won’t go easy on you! There are so many of us here. I’m sure we can defeat a little girl like you!”

An Gouzi did not think of pleading with the Chief and the Junior Officer. Instead, he demanded An Jiuyue’s food.

Mrs. Jin was stunned by An Gouzi’s words. “Stop it. Don’t talk anymore.”

There were so many people around them. They had to cover up this matter. Although she also wanted An Jiuyue’s food, she knew it did not belong to them.

“What do you mean stop talking? Why shouldn’t I say anything?”

An Gouzi glared at Mrs. Jin and shook her off. He dragged his aching body towards the Chief and the Junior Officer.

Indignant, he said, “Chief, Junior Officer, you should know what situation we are in, right? Food is scarce! Everyone should stick together! An Jiuyue has food at home, but she’s not sharing it with everyone. What’s the meaning of this?”

“Everyone helped her and took care of her frequently last time. But now that we are about to starve to death, she refuses to give us food!

“She’s really evil. Chief, Junior Officer, we have to make An Jiuyue take out her food— Ah!”

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Before he could finish what he wanted to say, the furious Junior Officer stood on tiptoe and slapped him hard. The Chief also raised his hand, ready to hit him. His hands trembled, showing how angry he was.

Does An Jiuyue owe us? Is she obliged to give us her food?

“An Gouzi, you’re really something! You’ve sure schemed well! You failed to steal the food, so you want to force Jiuyue to hand it over in the name of our entire village, right?”

The Chief’s face flushed with anger as he glared at the couple.

The others were shocked when they heard what An Gouzi said. They looked at him as if he was an idiot.

“He’s really shameless. He phrased it so nicely even though he just wants to steal food. Does he think everyone who still has food is obliged to offer them to his family?”

“I know, right? An Gouzi, don’t lump us together. My family can fill our stomachs by digging wild vegetables and picking mushrooms daily. We’re not so shameless as to rely on Jiuyue’s food to survive.”

“That’s right. The corn I grew has already sprouted. I can even have some fresh vegetables in a few days. We aren’t shameless enough to rely on Jiuyue!”

Chapter 215: Not Trying to Borrow Your Sons

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

“Should everyone treat you like you’re their ancestor and give you all their food? Having one family like Old An’s in our village is enough. Why are you like that too?”

“You’re a grown man, yet you’re so lazy. The wild vegetables are growing so well. You can gather them easily and fill your stomach. Don’t you feel ashamed stealing food?”

“It’s fine if you’re lazy, but don’t drag us into this. We’re not like you. Don’t you feel embarrassed? Can’t you tell how thick your skin is?”

An Gouzi was infuriated. “You... you all...”

Who am I doing this for? I just want to eat my fill!

“Chief, Junior Officer, I’m telling the truth. An Jiuyue’s family must have a lot of food. She—”

“No matter how much food she has, they were not obtained easily, and they do not belong to you!” the Junior Officer shouted, unable to hold it in anymore.

What does An Jiuyue’s food have to do with him?

“An Gouzi, stop talking about An Jiuyue’s food. Let’s talk about you. Why did you come here to steal her food? Who allowed you to do that?”

“I—”

An Gouzi wanted to confuse everyone by telling them that An Jiuyue had food. He wanted everyone to focus on An Jiuyue’s selfishness so they would overlook the fact that he tried to steal her food.

However, he did not expect the villagers to refuse free food. What else could he say?

“I really don’t have any food at home, so I wanted to... borrow some from An Jiuyue,” he explained, saying ‘borrow’ instead of ‘steal’.

What could the Chief and the Junior Officer do to him if he did not say he was here to steal? With An Jiuyue’s one-sided statement, no one could accuse him of that. It would be fine as long as his companions did not expose him.

“Borrow?” An Jiuyue smiled. She was amused.

“So apart from borrowing my food, you also want to borrow my sons? In that case, when can I borrow something from your family too?”

“I don’t want to borrow your children though. I have to provide them with food if I do. How about I borrow your family’s food?”

“I’m out of food!” An Gouzi yelled without thinking, “I’m not trying to borrow your sons! I—”

“Chief, I don’t want to talk to him anymore. He wants to continue wrangling to escape his punishment for stealing food. That won’t do.”

An Jiuyue did not want to listen to An Gouzi anymore. She turned to look at the Chief. “Why don’t you tell me how we should settle this?”

The Chief was momentarily speechless. “Well...”

He was too embarrassed by An Gouzi and the others. He had also yet to decide on how to deal with this matter.

He could not chase them out of the village because the epidemic was serious. He could punish them with something, but chasing them out was not an option.

“An Feng, An Hao, tell me. Why did you come to Jiuyue’s house to steal grain?” He looked at An Feng and An Hao sternly.

“I—”

“We—”

“Chief, we didn’t come to steal grain. I already said that we wanted to borrow it from An Jiuyue.”

An Gouzi hurriedly interrupted before An Feng and An Hao could say anything.

Chapter 216: You... Help Him Quickly!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

His words were also a reminder to An Feng and the others not to spout nonsense. Borrowing and stealing were two different things. Nothing would happen to them if they insisted they were here to borrow.

“Shut up. I didn’t ask you—” The Junior Officer shouted.

However, before he could finish speaking, he saw a figure pounce on An Gouzi.

An Gouzi screamed and squatted on the ground as An Jiuyue’s fists rained down on him.

“Borrow? Try saying you’re here to borrow again! Do you really think I’m a good-tempered person? Do you really think you can trample me however you want?”

“I would have left you hanging from the tree for a few days and let you starve to death if I didn’t respect the Chief and the Junior Officer! How dare you spout nonsense with me here? Did I allow you to speak?”

“Jiu... Jiuyue...”

The Chief, the Junior Officer, and all the people who had come with them could not resist gulping. They watched An Gouzi cry out in pain, unable to resist her hits.

They finally realized how powerful An Jiuyue was. She did not even give him a chance to retaliate.

“Ah! Ah, ah!”

Mrs. Jin screamed when she realized what was happening. After all, it was her husband who was beaten up.

“S-stop! An Jiuyue, are you crazy? How can you hit him!”

She rushed forward and tried to pull An Jiuyue away. However, An Jiuyue tossed her aside with only a flick of her arm. She almost fell.

She was stunned for a moment and shrank back, not daring to go forward.

An Jiuyue is really strong. I’m not strong enough to handle her. I’d better stand back and not cause trouble for my man.

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Although she could not go forward, she shouted at the other onlookers.

“What are you looking at? Can’t you see my husband is about to be beaten to death? Hurry up and pull An Jiuyue away!”

But did anyone care about her? Everyone ignored her, and someone even rolled their eyes at her.

She was a typical ingrate. A few women had heard Mrs. Jin talk about how she wanted to repay An Jiuyue because An Jiuyue saved her and her daughters.

But how did she repay her for saving their lives? She allowed her husband to steal An Jiuyue’s food and did not even want to let An Jiuyue’s children off.

Why would they want to help An Gouzi? They did not mind if An Jiuyue beat him to death! They were just short of applauding An Jiuyue for it!

It was An Gouzi’s fault for being so arrogant and despotic to think it was right for him to steal her things.

“You... help him quickly!”

Mrs. Jin panicked again when she saw no one going forward to save her man.

If An Jiuyue continued to beat him, he would be crippled even if he survived! He was her husband—the only man she could rely on in her life! How could he be beaten so severely?

She jumped and shouted, “An Jiuyue, stop it! Stop it!”

She wanted An Jiuyue to stop but did not dare to go forward to stop her.

After a long time, An Jiuyue felt she had hit him enough and stopped. She rotated her wrist as she turned to look at the other dumbfounded men.

“Why? Do you want to be as dishonest as him?”

In other words, do you want to be beaten up like An Gouzi?

An Feng and the others shook their heads immediately. There was no need to think twice. They looked at An Gouzi. He was still howling. Who would want to be beaten up like him?

Chapter 217: Expel Them From the Clan Genealogy Book

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“Chief, it was Brother Dog. He told us that An Jiuyue’s family has food, so we should steal some at night.”

An Feng was the first to speak to the Chief. He did not want to lie for An Gouzi anymore. After all, they did not steal anything and did not hurt An Jiuyue. The Chief would only punish them a little.

“Yes, it was Brother Dog.” An Hao also nodded and glanced at An Gouzi, still howling in pain.

“He initially told us to come to Jiuyue’s house with him to steal some food. However, when we arrived, he said he wanted to steal all the food. Not only that, but he also wanted to sell Jiuyue’s child to Ministry Councilor He.”

“We refused to do that. We don’t know what Brother Dog was thinking, but he agreed and said to only take Jiuyue’s food,” another man said to the Chief.

In any case, their words were disadvantageous to An Gouzi.

“Hmph!” The Chief snorted.

They don’t know what An Gouzi was thinking? I know! He must have thought of conveniently taking Jiuyue’s child along. It doesn’t matter if the others agreed or not!

Wow! To think he actually wants to learn from Old An and his family!

“It seems like it’s time for An Gouzi’s family to live in the straw shed,” he said faintly.

“What?!”

An Gouzi finally stopped howling when he heard the words “straw shed”.

He had only been howling to gain everyone’s sympathy. He did not expect the Chief to not only be unsympathetic but also decide to send him to live in the straw shed.

“No, I’m not going! I haven’t contracted the disease. I can’t stay in the straw shed!”

Old An’s family was in the straw shed. They had all contracted the disease and did not know when they would die.

What would happen to him if he went and contracted the disease? He was still young and did not want to die so early. He still had a lot of delicious food to eat and fun things to do.

“Chief, we can’t go to the straw shed. Old An’s family has contracted the disease. If we go, won’t we also be infected? We can’t go.”

Mrs. Jin was really panicking now. It would be better to starve to death in their own house than to go to the straw shed and contract the disease.

“If you don’t want to go to the straw shed, accept your punishment!”

The Junior Officer looked at the couple coldly.

The men who followed the Junior Officer over asked, “What’s the punishment?”

They had to be punished severely for doing this. Otherwise, they would not learn their lesson.

“Expel them from the clan genealogy book,” the Chief said straightforwardly.

“What?” everyone exclaimed.

They only wanted to steal some food. Is there a need to punish them so severely? Expelling them from the genealogy book is a serious punishment!

“Chief, you can’t do that! Although my son, An Feng, is in the wrong, he didn’t manage to steal the food in the end. Jiuyue, help us plead for mercy! This expulsion from the genealogy book is too serious. You can’t do this.”

The families looked at An Jiuyue, hoping she would plead for mercy.

As long as An Jiuyue spoke up, the Chief would definitely give her some face. After all, they wanted to steal An Jiuyue's food.

An Jiuyue looked at the families in amusement.

Chapter 218: Gain a Lot of Good Karma

They're really here for my entertainment! Am I supposed to plead for them when they came here to steal my food? Do I look like someone who will do such a thankless task?

Perhaps after I help to plead for mercy, they'll return home and badmouth me secretly!

She had learned her lesson and did not want to interact with these people anymore. She turned to the Chief and the others.

"Chief, I don't care if you want to expel them from the clan genealogy book or not. I can't do anything about that either. However, since they wanted to steal my food, I have the right to say a few words, right?"

"Go on." The Chief looked at her sincerely.

"Jiuyue, hurry up and say it," the families urged. They thought An Jiuyue would plead for them.

An Jiuyue found it amusing.

They tried to steal my food yet still wanted me to plead for mercy. Are they pulling my leg?

"Stealing is forbidden everywhere, especially when the epidemic disease is rampant. Fortunately, they failed this time. But if they had succeeded, there would be many repeated attempts in the future."

The more they listened to An Jiuyue, the more they felt something was wrong. When she finished what she had to say, they became angry. They thought she would plead for mercy on behalf of their families.

“An Jiuyue, you...”

She’s exaggerating things in front of the Chief and Junior Officer! She’s deliberately making it sound so serious. Does she want the Chief to punish them even more severely?

That was exactly what An Jiuyue intended to do.

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If the Chief and Junior Officer did not stop people from stealing at once, it would tempt them to profit from other people’s toil in the future.

An Jiuyue glanced at them indifferently and asked, “Why? Did they not try to steal my food?”

“I found them before they could steal anything and prevented the loss. But what if I didn’t? Not only will my food be stolen, but I’ll also have to starve and freeze in the coming days. I’ll even have to deal with the aftermath of having my child stolen.

“If things really ended up like that, how are you all going to compensate me? Tsk. You may not do that. You may even think that since they’ve already stolen my food, nothing matters as long as you aren’t hungry.

“Starving my family can feed all your families. You must also think I’ll gain a lot of good karma, right? Will you be extremely grateful to me in the future?”

The families were stunned when they heard her words. “Uh...”

Nobody liked theft. However, that only applied to their belongings. If someone in their family had stolen from another, they would scold them but still eat, drink, and use the stolen items. They would not return them to their owners.

That was reality.

If something had really happened, they would not compensate An Jiuyue. They would only agree to hide the matter together to prevent exposing their filthy deeds.

Their expressions turned sour. They were embarrassed An Jiuyue had exposed them.

“I’ll be frank with everyone today.” An Jiuyue took a step forward and met their gazes.

“I saved all of you during the flood because I wanted to accumulate some good karma for myself. I didn’t do that to make you thank me for anything. I gave you food and water because I didn’t want you to starve to death outside my house.”

Chapter 219: Uphold Justice

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

“Don’t say that I’m kind-hearted. I don’t think I’m as kind as you think. I may not even extend a helping hand if a few of you faint from hunger at my door.

“Don’t think I’m obliged to be good to you and feed you. I’m not your parent. Why should I provide for you?”

“If anyone dares to cause trouble for me again in the future, don’t blame me for being rude. If I can hang you from a tree today, I can do the same again.

“In fact, I won’t just hang you for a while. I’ll hang you from a tree for the rest of your lives. Don’t doubt me. I can do whatever I want.”

She did not want them to find her too gracious lest they thought they were blessed.

Upon hearing her words, everyone present did not doubt An Jiuyue was telling the truth. If anyone dared to offend her again, she would not mind hanging them up and preventing them from coming down ever again.

The group of men felt a chill run down their spines, and their hair stood on end.

They had always assumed An Jiuyue, a woman living with many children, would only be bullied. However, they had forgotten how she had survived alone with her children on the mountain.

Was it all luck?

“I don’t care about the clan genealogy book, but these people can forget about escaping from me. Don’t they like to run up the mountain? I’ll let them run as much as they want.

“Chief, Junior Officer, I’m preparing to build a straw shed near my treehouse and stock up on more firewood. I was just thinking that I’ll have to spend many days doing everything alone since there is no one to help me.

“But they came rushing over to help! I’ll have them stay and help me. What do you think?”

The Chief and the Junior Officer exchanged glances.

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Although An Jiuyue’s words sounded unpleasant, that group of men provoked her. If the Chief and the Junior Officer agreed to it, the others had no right to object.

Besides, they did not want the villagers to think An Jiuyue was a pushover. Otherwise, they would come up the mountain and bully her.

Look at them! How could they have the cheek to ask An Jiuyue to plead on their behalf when their family members had come to steal her food?

Would An Jiuyue spare them countless times just because she saved them once?

The Chief and the Junior Officer were already embarrassed they did not speak up about this. Yet, these people had the cheek to plead for mercy. Would they continue acting like this if no one spoiled them anymore?

“Let’s do that,” the Junior Officer agreed. With that, it was decided.

“The issue regarding the clan genealogy book is the Chief’s decision. I can’t interfere with that. However, all of you have to help Jiuyue chop all the firewood! You will chop as much firewood as she wants!”

“That’s not a good idea, right?” The families objected to it.

Their children were hung up, and their hands were injured. How could they chop firewood? They were making things difficult for them.

“Chief, you...”

They looked at the Chief, hoping he would uphold justice for them.

However, would the Chief still indulge them? They were too spoiled. If he continued to give in to them, they would become too self-centered!

Chapter 220: You Want Me to Work for Her?

“I will expel them from the clan genealogy book! No one is allowed to plead for mercy!” he announced in a deep voice as he scanned the families sternly.

“You lot better do Jiuyue’s chores well. Follow what the Junior Officer says, and do whatever Jiuyue tells you to. If you don’t help Jiuyue chop the firewood, I’ll chase all of you out to the straw shed outside the village!

“If you perform well, I may consider allowing you to return to the clan genealogy book in the future. Otherwise... Hmph!”

His threats were made clear—if they wanted to continue living in the village, they had to stop causing trouble.

They gasped. They were already planning to do slipshod work.

However, they did not dare to do so after the Chief said that. Nobody wanted to be chased out to live in the straw shed outside the village because people who had contracted the disease lived there.

After some thought, they decided it was not too bad. Although the Chief had decided to expel them from the clan genealogy book, they could still be re-registered in the future. At most, they would have to spend some money for that.

Chopping firewood for a straw shed was no big deal too. They were used to working in the fields. How could they not know how to chop firewood? If they worked together, they could fill a small straw shed with firewood in less than two days.

After it was decided, everyone dragged the exhausted men home as it was nighttime. An Gouzi glared at An Jiuyue fiercely as he walked by her.

After walking far away, her turned around and cursed behind him, “Just you wait!”

He was mainly saying it to vent his anger. It would be different if he had to face An Jiuyue.

“Dear, are you really going to chop firewood for An Jiuyue tomorrow?” Mrs. Jin asked in a hushed voice.

“Pui!” An Gouzi spat.

I don’t want to do anything for An Jiuyue! I want to wring her neck! Chop firewood for her? How about I chop her!

Whoever wants to go tomorrow can suit themselves. I’m not the only one expelled from the clan genealogy book anyway. We’ll have to spend money if we want to re-register ourselves in the genealogy book in the future. Why do I have to work?

I don’t believe the Chief and the Junior Officer will really chase us to the straw shed either! I’m sure the Chief and the Junior Officer don’t have the guts to send healthy people to live with the infected.

They will be in big trouble if outsiders discover this! Don’t think I don’t know anything!

“Who is she? How does she deserve me working for her?”

There was a look in Mrs. Jin’s eyes.

She wanted to say that since An Jiuyue had already said that, she would definitely find a way to get An Gouzi to go up the mountain and chop firewood for her.

However, she knew An Gouzi would definitely scold her and even hit her if she said that out loud.

She dismissed the thought and decided not to mention it.

Let’s think about tomorrow tomorrow. I’m not the one chopping firewood anyway.

...

Early the next day, An Feng and the others came up the mountain with their machetes and axes as the Chief and the Junior Officer had instructed.

However, An Gouzi was the only one missing.

“Jiuyue, Brother Dog is seriously injured and can’t get out of bed. We’ll help out with his portion of the work,” An Hao said with an awkward smile.