

Switched Marriage: The Coddled Little Wife

#Chapter 11 This Clueless Youngster - Read Switched Marriage: The Coddled Little Wife Chapter 11 This Clueless Youngster

Chapter 11: Chapter 11 This Clueless Youngster

Lin Chuxia wasn't panicked at all, as she never planned to avoid this matter having intended to marry him.

She wasn't a clueless girl; and if this part of life happened, she would just consider it a spice of life.

Thinking so, she reached out and embraced the man's waist.

And really, he seemed tall and sturdy by day, but felt just as good to the touch.

When her delicate and soft arms encircled his waist, Qin Yang's already nervous heart pounded even harder.

Entering the room and seeing her pretending to sleep, he knew this girl, though calm and collected in appearance, was quite bold—just like her actions during the bridal procession.

He wondered if she would continue to be bold or if she would end up crying.

His Adam's apple bobbed, and with the crass jokes his married colleagues at work had shared in mind, he took his move.

"Hiss..."

Lin Chuxia frowned suddenly: Was this blockhead trying to kill her?

Hearing the noise, Qin Yang halted, his voice husky in the dark, "What's wrong, is it not okay?"

Lin Chuxia: "..."

She couldn't deal with this blockhead anymore.

Holding back discomfort, she responded, "Yes, yes," seeing how boldly and mightily you're acting, how could it not be?

No more words were exchanged, and the breathing in the dark grew heavier.

Two young bodies—one impulsive, the other inexperienced—Lin Chuxia had to follow his lead as smoothly as possible to mitigate her suffering while secretly being tactful.

Luckily, the first time wasn't very long.

Listening to the man beside her breathing heavily, evidently pleased, Lin Chuxia also felt quite good.

"Little fellow, I'll cure you yet."

She wrapped herself in the quilt, just about to sleep soundly when she felt the warmth approach her again, "One more time."

Lin Chuxia: "..."

Waking up, it was already bright outside, and hearing voices in the yard, Lin Chuxia abruptly sat up.

The man had risen from the bed at some point, even folding the quilt neatly; glancing at the bedside clock, it was almost 7:30.

Without much thought, Lin Chuxia reached for her clothes, just as Qin Yang entered from outside.

Lifting the curtain, he saw her luminous white arms and shoulders; instinctively, he darted in, sealing the curtain and giving it an extra check.

By then, Lin Chuxia had already put on her shirt, turning to see him dressed casually today as well, still in black trousers and a vest, his muscular arms and even chest subtly showcased.

She curved her lips in a satisfied smile, continuing to dress, "Why didn't you wake me up when you got up?"

Qin Yang's gaze darted away, pouring a glass of water from the kettle, "I thought I'd let you sleep in."

"So you've developed a conscience now?"

Lin Chuxia's voice was soft, usually sounding gentle and soothing.

Yet, Qin Yang's ears heated up as he stared at the water glass, his mind jumbled.

Thinking of saying something to ease the awkwardness, he heard the woman hiss.

"What's wrong?"

Lin Chuxia, supporting herself on the edge of the bed, twisted her body attempting to get on the floor but didn't land completely; seeing the worried man coming to help, she couldn't help but give him a sidelong glance.

"What do you think is wrong?"

The young guys who just started eating meat are really troublesome.

We agreed for a last time, but it happened over and over again, each time longer than the previous one.

Initially, she was proud of her improved physical conditions, but after meeting Qin Yang, she realized what good physical condition really meant.

Being seated on the kang bed was fine, but once she got off, her legs were truly weak.

Given a stern look, Qin Yang guiltily looked away, but then he thought the glance his wife gave him was stunning, and couldn't help but look at her again.

Her long black hair was loosely scattered, carrying a surprisingly beautiful messiness; her skin was as white as a peeled egg, her lips red like the peach blossoms of March, even her glaring eyes were watery, as if luring him with a little hook.

Scratching the back of his head, "How about I tell mother, and bring your breakfast into our room later?"

Lin Chuxia waved her hand, "Let me rest a bit longer."

On the first day of marriage, not being able to leave the kang bed or the door was something she couldn't afford.

After sitting for a while, Lin Chuxia stood up, fearing being seen by others, she paced around the room a couple of times.

Qin Yang was like a little eunuch, cautiously supporting her as she walked, amusing Lin Chuxia.

She didn't want to scare him, "It just hurt badly when I first stood up, it's much better now."

Qin Yang still hardly believed, "Really much better? Or shall I still..."

"It's fine, really nothing's wrong," knowing he was still thinking about bringing her food, she interrupted him, but felt warm inside.

In her past life, Li Guangyuan had never been so attentive to her.

Even though she single-handedly uplifted the Li Family, in the eyes of the Li Family, it was seen as her duty.

Retrieving her thoughts, Lin Chuxia's eyes softened a bit, "What are mom and the others doing?"

"Oh, there isn't much to do in the fields now, elder sister-in-law is cooking breakfast, mom is feeding chickens and pigs, I just helped feed the pigs, and breakfast is almost ready."

Lin Chuxia looked at Qin Yang in surprise, she just asked casually, not expecting him to answer so thoroughly, explaining the family's situation in detail.

Was he worried that she wouldn't adapt to the new environment? Was this the same Qin Yang she had heard about, who was aloof and focused only on his work?

Qin Yang once again proved: Rumors are not to be trusted.

With a gentle smile, "Alright, I'll go check if there's anything I can help with in the kitchen."

"You wait," Qin Yang stopped her and brought over a glass of water he just poured, "Drink some water before you go."

Lin Chuxia accepted his kindness and drank the water in one gulp; the temperature was just perfect.

The county they lived in was called Ancheng County, and Qin Family Village where they resided was geographically well-situated. In the future, it would be definitely an urban village, but at this moment, it was just a vegetable garden ignored by city dwellers.

During the production team period, Qin Family Village was designated as a vegetable supply team, earning the notable name of Progress Team. After the market economy was introduced, it was renamed back to Qin Family Village, and villagers were no longer restricted to only grow vegetables or grains.

However, having grown vegetables for so many years, even if policies became liberal, villagers were still used to living off growing vegetables.

At this time, without winter greenhouses, usually, there would be two crop seasons in the field. Now, the first half of the season had ended, and seeds and seedlings for the latter half of the season were just planted, making it a slack farming period.

When Lin Chuxia came out, all the Qin Family members were home. Mr. Qin and Brother Qin were handling the poles, while Little Zhuangzhuang was chasing a big rooster around the yard with a pole.

Seeing Lin Chuxia come out, holding a stick running over to her, "Little Auntie, my dad said if I catch the chicken, he'll stew it for my lunch. Little Auntie, chicken is so delicious, do you like it?"

Lin Chuxia chuckled and ruffled his little head, "Then you should catch it hard."

"Mm, I will definitely catch it," Little Zhuangzhuang nodded vigorously and ran off chasing the chicken again.

Lin Chuxia withdrew her gaze and greeted the two people in the yard, "Dad, big brother."

Qin Han responded, and Mr. Qin also nodded, "Your mom and the others are in the kitchen, the meal should be ready soon, Yangyang, go check on your mom, it might be time for lunch."

"Dad—"

Qin Yang voiced his dissatisfaction, his face flushing red, and glanced at Lin Chuxia.

Chapter 12: Chapter 12 Division of Family Property

Lin Chuxia held back her laughter, not expecting Qin Yang's family to call him in such a way; a burly man with a nickname more delicate than Zhuangzhuang's.

Mr. Qin also realized something, but he would never admit anything was amiss.

"No matter how old, he's still my son. What's wrong with calling him Yangyang? Haven't you been called Yangyang for over twenty years without any problem?"

Seeing Qin Yang's face turn redder, Lin Chuxia quickly excused herself, "I'll go check on mom and sister-in-law."

If she didn't leave, she feared Qin Yang might spontaneously combust.

The kitchen was steaming, and the table was already set with dishes.

There were plenty of leftovers from the guests over yesterday; these days, no one wastes food. The leftovers were still eaten hot, even the food removed from the banquet was still good, as normally they wouldn't have white flour and meat dishes.

There were two plates of leftovers and one plate of freshly made cold vegetables, and also a bowl of pickled vegetable strips.

The staple foods were large steamed buns left from yesterday and freshly baked pancakes, along with a pot of corn porridge.

The sister-in-law was bending over serving porridge.

Lin Chuxia entered the room and greeted her mother-in-law, then headed straight toward her sister-in-law, "Let me serve it, sister-in-law."

Zhang Guilan, without raising her head, handed her a bowl of freshly served porridge, "I'll serve, you carry."

"Okay."

Lin Chuxia took the porridge bowl and, as she placed it on the table and turned around, saw Zhang Guilan watching her.

She couldn't help but quicken her steps, and just as she was about to take another bowl, Zhang Guilan dodged her hand.

A large spoon was shoved into her hand, "Better you serve."

Lin Chuxia pressed her lips together, her eyebrows and eyes curved slightly.

Zhang Guilan was cool and aloof yesterday, Lin Chuxia didn't deliberately try to please her, but she also thought about how to get along with this sister-in-law in the future, especially since Qin Han and Qin Yang, the two brothers, seemed to get along well.

She hadn't expected her sister-in-law to be cold on the outside but warm inside, these few days' attitude was probably just dissatisfaction with the Lin Family's way.

The look Zhang Guilan gave her while walking must have been because she noticed she was inconvenienced.

The two of them serving porridge together, back and forth, Mrs. Qin watched happily from the side.

And looking at her younger son eagerly watching from outside the door, Mrs. Qin's smile grew even broader.

She's a mother, what can't she see?

This morning her younger son's eyes were filled with joy, and she had seen him laughing foolishly.

Now, the way he looks at his daughter-in-law has changed; with this young man's demeanor, who could say he was cold-hearted and didn't want a wife?

Previously, she felt that Lin Family changing the bride last minute was improper, but now it seems that this switch was actually a good move.

She had inquired long ago, the Lin Family's eldest daughter was heavily pampered, definitely not as reliable as the younger daughter.

Smiling, she went outside to call everyone to eat.

Brother Qin responded, tidying up the fixed framework simply, these could be directly put to use.

Mr. Qin also clapped his hands, his body just lifting halfway when he suddenly started coughing.

Cough after cough, as though he was about to cough out his lungs.

Qin Han threw aside the framework to go help pat his back.

Mrs. Qin also came down the stairs, "Have you not taken your medicine this morning?"

While talking, she asked Qin Yang to go back to the room to fetch the medicine.

Lin Chuxia also came out at this time and followed him into the house to get a cup of warm water.

Seeing her follow him in, Qin Yang casually explained, "During the years of famine, my dad got hurt working to feed the whole family and has had lingering health issues since then. When I'm not at home, please take extra care of him."

"Okay," she agreed without hesitation.

Qin Yang saw his young wife agree so readily, without a hint of displeasure on her face, and felt that her emotions were even more stable than his.

"What are you waiting for? Did you find the medicine? Dad is still waiting," Lin Chuxia saw Qin Yang daydreaming, called him, and walked out first.

Qin Yang quickly found the medicine and followed her.

After taking the medicine and drinking some water, Mr. Qin's complexion looked much better. He complained to Mrs. Qin, "Making a big fuss over nothing, I just had an itchy throat and needed to cough a bit, it scared the kids," he said, reaching out to touch Zhuangzhuang's little face, comforting his little grandson.

Indeed, it was an old issue for him; he felt better after taking the medicine—his family was used to it, but Qin Yang was still worried, "How about I delay my return to work for a few days and take dad to the hospital in the provincial city?"

"No need, I know my own body well, just go back to your job, I'm fine."

Despite saying so, after lunch, Mr. Qin brought up the matter of dividing the family property.

"Now that both you brothers have your own families, and Brother Qin's Zhuangzhuang is already a few years old, your mother and I will not manage the household anymore. It's time you brothers divide the property and live your lives independently, giving you something to strive for."

He then looked at Lin Chuxia, "My younger son's wife has just joined the family, and Yangyang is not at home. If you are unable to manage the farm work, your mother and I, as well as Brother Qin's family, can lend a hand. If there's any issue, just speak up. Even though our family is dividing, our bonds should not weaken. This includes helping each other during the busy farming season."

Although they were dividing the family property, some things had to be stated beforehand.

Qin Han discussed with Mr. Qin, "Dad, how about we wait another year or so before dividing? My younger brother's wife has just arrived..."

He had barely started speaking when Zhang Guilan secretly pinched him.

Mr. Qin waved his hand, "No, Yangyang rarely comes home, let's settle this matter now. Is there any problem with that, my younger son's family?"

The idea of dividing the family property had not occurred to Lin Chuxia, but since it was brought up, she couldn't object.

She noticed the sister-in-law's subtle signals and felt that dividing the family was a good idea.

"I'll listen to my parents, but I'm young and still have much to learn, I might need you and my brother and sister-in-law to worry about me in the future."

Zhang Guilan visibly relaxed, "What is there to worry about? We earn our keep from the soil, as long as you work hard, life won't be bad. If you trust us, just follow our lead in the fields in the future."

Mrs. Qin, hearing this, also smiled, "Your sister-in-law is right, Chuxia. Our village grows a lot of vegetables, your brother and sister-in-law know how to farm, just follow their lead."

With the arrangements settled, Mr. Qin asked Qin Han to call the village cadres to witness the occasion.

Qin Yang moved a table under the big tree in the courtyard, prepared some tea and paper, and waited for the people to arrive so they could begin.

In recent years, there have been many divisions of family property in the village, and the village cadres were experienced in handling these matters.

Usually, the head of the household would first propose a distribution plan, and if there were disagreements, they would mediate to reach a consensus before drafting a document for the brothers to sign and affix their fingerprints.

It was relatively easy for the Qin Family with just two brothers.

First, they divided the main house, which had four rooms, with two wing rooms on each side.

Mr. and Mrs. Qin lived in the two middle rooms of the main house, which were also used for guests; each side had one room, with Brother Qin's family living in the east and Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia's new room in the west.

Thus, the main house was divided accordingly, with one room each for the two brothers; when the old couple were gone, they would each take another room from them.

The east wing room was allocated to Brother Qin, and the west wing room went to Qin Yang.

Chapter 13: Chapter 13: Sharp Tongue, Soft Heart

Qin Family's courtyard is still quite spacious, not only there is a forecourt, but also a vegetable garden at the back.

In the forecourt, pigs and chickens are raised, and vegetables are grown in the vegetable garden. The pigs and chickens were divided, but the vegetable garden was not. Mr. Qin took it upon himself to help with the gardening, so all family members could eat together.

The family only has one semi-old bicycle, which wasn't divided either. Officially it belongs to Mr. Qin, and whoever needs it, uses it.

After dividing the home, they divided the land. Qin Family Village divided the land only in 1981, at that time the Qin Family had a total of six members: Mr. Qin, Mrs. Qin, Qin Yang, and the three members of Brother Qin's family, so the land was divided for six persons.

When dividing the property, Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin's land was divided equally between them, giving Brother Qin a portion for four members, and Lin Chuxia's family received land for two members. Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin only kept a little more than one acre of personal land.

Worried that Lin Chuxia might have objections, Mother Lin explained, "The village will redistribute the land every few years, and by then your household registration will be here, and you'll be able to get land. In these two years, you and Yangyang can have another child, that will add up to land for two people."

The peasants' mentality hadn't shifted yet, everyone relied on land for their livelihood, and the village redid the lands every few years.

Thus, whenever a family has a wedding or a child is born, they promptly report and update the household registration so that they can get more land during redistribution.

Of course, if there are elderly family members, they also have to deregister them in time because many people are watching. The village cadres directly remove the individuals from the registry.

At this time, no one individually possessed a household registry book, the village had a big one, and the town had a big one, recording all the village's residents, and at year's end, the village accountant would use the registry to report the village population.

It can be said that the village cadres have quite significant authority.

Lin Chuxia also understood this situation, "Mom, I know, this division is quite good, too much land I couldn't manage by myself."

With no objections, the village chief began drafting the document. It must be said, this was the most smoothly handled family division they had presided over.

Whatever the elderly said was accepted, no fighting or scrambling among the children. And Qin Yang's wife, even if she got less, her words still made you feel comforted.

It really is true that one does not enter a family that isn't theirs. The Qin Family in the village was well-regarded for its harmony, marrying such a sensible daughter-in-law.

While the village chief was documenting, he also pondered whether the Lin Family still had any daughters, as his son was also of marriageable age.

While the documents were being written, they discussed the final item, which didn't need to be recorded: the family's remaining assets.

The grain was divided per head, there were no savings, but instead, there was a famine debt of one hundred yuan.

"This one hundred six yuan famine debt will not be divided. Your mother and I borrowed it, we will repay it slowly."

As soon as Mr. Qin finished speaking, Qin Yang was about to say something, but Zhang Guilan intervened, "Dad, with that bit of personal land you have, when would this money be repaid?" She also glanced at Lin Chuxia.

Mr. Qin: "No problem, Yangyang is married now, and your mother and I have no other concerns."

Qin Yang spoke, "Dad, let me repay it, it should be my responsibility."

The money was spent on his marriage.

Yet, Mr. Qin didn't see it that way, "What should and shouldn't be, doesn't every family marry off daughters and take in daughters-in-law? This is the responsibility of your mother and me."

"Second brother isn't completely wrong; if the Lin Family hadn't asked for such a large dowry, Mom and Dad wouldn't have needed to borrow money."

Before Zhang Guilan finished speaking, Qin Han showed dissatisfaction, "Sister-in-law is already part of our family, why bring this up?"

"Why can't I say it? Did I say something wrong?" Zhang Guilan knew it wasn't good to say this in front of Lin Chuxia, but if she didn't say it, she'd been upset for days.

Originally, they had arranged for Lin Family's eldest daughter, but the Lin Family suddenly broke off the arrangement and raised the originally agreed one hundred yuan dowry to three hundred yuan.

She had nothing against Lin Chuxia as a sister-in-law but had issues with how the Lin Family handled things.

Isn't this like duping our Qin Family?

Lin Chuxia could also understand Zhang Guilan's thoughts; nowadays three hundred yuan indeed was a lot, "Sister-in-law, let's do as Qin Yang suggested, we will repay this money."

Zhang Guilan maintained a grim expression, "You make it sound nice. Dividing the family and taking on the famine debt, it would appear to others like we as the elder brother and sister-in-law are bullying you, the new bride."

The village chief silently looked up, perhaps it's better to retract what he had said before.

It seems all harmonious families are the same when it comes to dividing the household.

"No way is acceptable; that's not okay either," Mr. Qin directly asked Zhang Guilan, "Eldest daughter-in-law, then tell us what to do?"

Zhang Guilan muttered, "I married into this family and have led a decent life, respecting my in-laws. I can't let my reputation be ruined just because my younger brother-in-law gets married."

Qin Han was also a bit impatient, "Enough, stop beating around the bush and just say what you want to do. Our parents and siblings aren't unreasonable."

"What can I do?" Zhang Guilan glared at Qin Han, then looked towards Lin Chuxia, "It's because I married the eldest. If we divide now, your family, being the second son, gets sixty, the parents are old, they get twenty, we'll take eighty."

Lin Chuxia could really see now; indeed, his big sister-in-law was tough on the outside but soft on the inside.

"Big sister, we'll take the larger share of money," since it was spent on her after all.

Zhang Guilan stood up, "Alright, let it be so. It's late already, and I still need to check the vegetable seedlings in the field."

Mr. Qin also wanted to say something, but Qin Han just laughed, "That's fine, Dad. Let's do as she said."

Village chief: "..."

Alright, alright, your family members are all noble, and here I am being petty.

In less than half a day, the division was settled, the documents were written, and Qin Han and Qin Yang both signed and stamped them.

They didn't let the village cadres and village chief leave, keeping them for lunch.

With the sister-in-law not home, Lin Chuxia and Mrs. Qin went into the kitchen.

Leftovers from yesterday couldn't be served to guests, but the ingredients from yesterday's feast were still there, Lin Chuxia sorted through them and discussed the lunch menu with Mrs. Qin.

"Mom, there's still a lot of meat, how about making some braised pork? The celery looks good too, pork stir-fried with celery, pork stir-fried with bell peppers, scrambled eggs with tomatoes, and a couple of side dishes to accompany the liquor..."

Mrs. Qin nodded continuously, pleased, "Sounds good, there's also half a pot of chicken stewed with mushrooms, not served yesterday, we can warm that up for an extra dish."

It's said that a true expert is revealed through their actions, and the younger daughter-in-law truly knows how to manage things. Mixed dishes with both meat and vegetables, it's economical yet sufficient, indeed a great manager of household needs.

Not to speak of other things, the Lin Family didn't lie about her.

Lin Chuxia had no objections, "Alright, then let's make it eight dishes, also make some spicy tofu."

Once the dishes were decided, they started the preparations. Among these dishes, only the braised pork required attention to fire control, so Lin Chuxia began with the meat.

She cut the pork belly into big chunks, blanched them in boiling water to remove blood and any gamy taste, then set aside.

The scallions, ginger, and star anise were prepared.

Rural folks are not picky; having Sichuan peppercorns and star anise is already pretty good. There were other spices in the villa in the city, but Lin Chuxia did not plan to bring them out; these were enough, and she also took a couple of dry chilies.

Mrs. Qin was tending to the fire beside her, watching her orderly manner and growing more satisfied.

"Mom, do we have sugar?" She needed to fry some caramel.

"Yes, I'll get it for you."

Mrs. Qin was about to stand up when Qin Yang came in from outside and heard her, "I'll get it."

With a little oil in the pan, Qin Yang handed the sugar to Lin Chuxia and didn't leave, watching her make the caramel.

The sugar melted gradually in the pan, bubbling slightly and turning darker in color, then she added the blanched meat.

After stirring and coating the meat in the caramel, she added spices and stir-fried until fragrant, then added soy sauce to enhance the flavor. Lin Chuxia went to get the thermos, and turning around, she bumped into a "wall", only then realizing someone was still standing behind her.

Chapter 14: Chapter 14 This Situation is Quite Embarrassing

"Why are you still standing here?"

Circling around to fetch the thermos, Qin Yang felt his ears heat up under her gaze, realizing her intention and quickly handed the thermos to her first.

Lin Chuxia took the thermos and glanced at him again.

Qin Yang touched his nose, knowing that he was being disliked by his wife, and bending over to take over Mrs. Qin's task, "Mom, let me do the cooking."

If it hadn't been inappropriate, Mrs. Qin would have almost laughed out loud.

Who could have imagined that her reluctant younger son would also become clingy with his wife one day.

But cooking really wasn't something he could do.

Her younger son couldn't return home even once a year, and he was one of the more successful individuals in the village. With both the Party Secretary and the village chief present, how could she let him enter the kitchen? What would the Party Secretary and the village chief think?

Just after sending the person away, Zhang Guilan came back.

She washed her hands and entered the kitchen, noticing Lin Chuxia cooking and Mrs. Qin making the fire. She paused for a moment but didn't mind, and went straight to steaming the buns—the dough had been prepared early in the morning.

Lin Chuxia stewed the braised pork in the pot while Mrs. Qin tended the fire. She then went to help Zhang Guilan knead the dough.

"Sister-in-law, how are the vegetable seedlings coming along in the fields? I heard from mom that new kidney beans and eggplants were planted," Lin Chuxia made small talk while kneading the dough.

Zhang Guilan glanced at her. Lin Chuxia was smiling gently, which eased Zhang Guilan's discomfort.

Actually, as soon as she left the house, she regretted using the dowry as an issue, as after all, the dealings of the Lin Family had nothing to do with their sister-in-law.

Long before the Lin Family considered a switch in marriage partners, they had inquired about it; the Lin Family favored the eldest daughter.

Though all daughters of the Lin Family, from childhood to adulthood, their treatment was worlds apart. In the village, it was common in families with several children that the eldest daughter and then another daughter were less favoured. They also understood that if it wasn't for the eldest daughter of the Lin Family backing out, given the conditions of the Qin Family and the younger brother, a sudden switch in marriage partners wouldn't have been possible.

Did she even have a choice in whom to marry, or how much dowry could she actually influence?

"The peas are turning out great. They've grown a bit and will need supports in a couple of days," said Zhang Guilan, "The other plot with tomatoes hasn't started transplanting yet. That can last a couple more months. After transplanting the tomatoes, we'll plant some greens, then it's time for the napa cabbage."

Once she finished speaking, she glanced at Lin Chuxia, "Our family has three plots of land, about two to three acres each. The one near the western entrance of the village is a bit smaller. Currently, one plot is planted with beans, another with eggplants, and the smaller one with tomatoes. The bean and eggplant plots are nearby but far from our house, the tomato plot is closer to us but further from the other two plots, one in the south of the village, the other in the west. This year, both beans and eggplants have good prices, and tomatoes are not bad either."

Mrs. Qin, upon hearing her elder daughter-in-law, turned her head to look over.

Lin Chuxia also understood. The lands were divided, but which family would plant which plot wasn't specified.

While kneading the dough, she didn't look up, "Then I want the one closer to home. It's more convenient for me to work alone in the field, just makes me feel bad for taking advantage from brother and sister-in-law, harvesting the tomatoes they planted for half the season."

Mrs. Qin withdrew her gaze, her eyes softly following the flames.

Zhang Guilan laughed heartily, "Hey, what advantage is that? The peak season for those tomatoes is almost over. As long as you don't feel short-changed, it's indeed the

best plot for you. It's close to home, right by the side of the village, and it's not a bad piece of land."

"I know, sister-in-law, you are always so straightforward." Lin Chuxia sincerely complimented.

Zhang Guilan, a bit embarrassed, giggled, wanting to say something more but feeling somewhat restrained.

The situation grew somewhat awkward.

At lunch, the meal was jovial with plenty of wine and ample dishes.

The Qin Family tasted Lin Chuxia's cooking for the first time and had no complaints about their new daughter-in-law.

In rural areas, when people marry a daughter-in-law, isn't it just for someone who can handle everyday chores, cook well, and eventually bear a healthy baby boy?

In the afternoon, Brother Qin, his spouse, Mr. Qin, and Mrs. Qin were tidying up the poles at home, and Lin Chuxia went back to her room and discussed the selection of the tomato field with Qin Yang.

"At that moment, my sister-in-law asked me, and I just randomly picked one."

Qin Yang didn't mind, "Any plot is fine, as long as it's closer to home."

Farming inevitably involves getting up early and staying up late. With him not being home, he was also worried about his wife walking on the roads at night.

"When the time comes, just plant something simple, and let dad give you a hand. I have a salary, and we don't need to rely on the little income from the land."

He was worried Lin Chuxia wasn't clear about the family's financial situation, so he decided to clarify things upfront about getting up early and working hard in the fields.

"My current monthly salary is 63 yuan. I will send 50 back home, you give 10 to dad and mom, and you keep the remaining 40."

His father has been on medication for a long time, and the money he had earned before was mostly spent on his father's medical expenses. Otherwise, they wouldn't have ended up in debt over a dowry of 300 yuan.

Lin Chuxia knew that Qin Yang worked on road and bridge construction, but she wasn't familiar with the specifics of his job.

Sending her 40 yuan each month was even more than what a factory worker makes in a month.

She felt increasingly that this marriage exchange was a brilliant and fruitful choice, feeling very satisfied with Qin Yang.

"I don't need much money at home, you should keep more for yourself," she reasoned, as initial investments in a business are large, and she had that 300 yuan which was sufficient.

"Mm, I will see how it goes."

Qin Yang didn't give a definitive answer, and suggested they go out together.

Lin Chuxia finally voiced the doubt in her heart, "When will you be returning to your unit?"

She heard that in his previous life, he had left early on the second day of their marriage, and now it was already the afternoon.

"I'll return after visiting your family's home," Qin Yang retrieved a net bag, "Let's first go get our marriage certificate, then stop by the supply and marketing cooperative to buy some things for your parents."

This genuinely surprised Lin Chuxia, but she quickly recovered and agreed, "Okay."

The two informed Mrs. Qin and immediately headed out with their bicycle.

Qin Han and Zhang Guilan were arranging poles in the courtyard. Seeing the couple leave, Qin Han suddenly remembered something.

"Oh right, we haven't decided who will plant which fields. If the second brother's family wants to plant string beans, we need to start setting up the poles these few days. Dad's not in good health, and our sister-in-law definitely can't handle such work. It's good that the second brother is home; let him set up the poles for the string beans. Remind me to talk to him later."

Zhang Guilan propped the carried poles against the wall, wiped her hands, "No need to tell them. They asked for the tomato field. Just go set up the poles for the bean seedlings early tomorrow morning."

Qin Han turned around, "How come they want that plot? Did you discuss it with the second brother and his wife? Did you tell them how profitable beans and eggplants were this year? You didn't make them choose the tomato field, did you?"

Zhang Guilan slapped Qin Han's shoulder and pushed him a little, "Is that what you think of me? I've already said, the second brother's wife chose it. She wanted a plot close to home. Besides, what's wrong with the tomato field? Harvest the fruits every three days, sell them, and that's money. Beans and eggplants are nothing compared to that."

Qin Han stumbled but wasn't annoyed. Seeing his wife getting irritated, he approached her with a laugh, "I knew my wife is generous. That's absolutely right. It's just me being petty, my mistake."

He gave her a thumbs-up, Zhang Guilan pouted and glared at him but couldn't help laughing too.

Chapter 15: Chapter 15 This is a Fool

"You see, now that we've split into our own household with farmland for four people, if we can save like we did in the first half of this year, in a few years we should be able to build a house, right?"

The Qin Family's house was relatively good in the village; it was a new blue-brick house they built the year they got married. But it was still a bit cramped for so many people living in just four rooms.

Qin Han was tidying up and nodded, "Yeah, if it's like the vegetable prices this year, we could build a house in three to five years. By then, Zhuangzhuang will be bigger and it'll be just the right time for him to have his own room. It would be great if we could have a second child," having only one child is too lonely.

"It's not as easy as just wanting another child, family planning is so strict. I heard it costs several hundred yuan now to have a second child."

"If it really takes a few hundred yuan to have another child, I would accept it," Qin Han glanced at his son running around the courtyard with a stick, "We should hurry and try for another one while we can, before they possibly stop allowing second pregnancies in a few years."

On the other side, Qin Yang had already obtained an introduction letter from the brigade. These days, getting married was simple, although the commune had changed to a township, many administrative structures were still unstandardized, and you still had to go to the town government secretary for a marriage license.

Qin Family Village was part of Ancheng Town in Ancheng County. Having found the secretary and handed over all the paperwork and the introduction letter, it cost one yuan to get a marriage license.

It was Lin Chuxia's first time getting a marriage license in two lifetimes. The countryside wasn't particular about such formalities; in her previous life, she and Li Guangyuan just had a wedding banquet in the village without getting a marriage certificate.

Staring at the marriage certificate that looked like an award, clearly stating Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang voluntarily getting married, a strange feeling suddenly crossed her heart.

Looking at the man next to her, he was really tall, over one meter eighty, almost a head taller than her.

His profile was smooth and youthful, energetic. When he wasn't smiling, his cool demeanor gave people a keep-your-distance vibe, but it was also refreshing and pleasing to the eye.

Feeling the gaze from beside him, Qin Yang asked her, "What's up?" Then looking at the marriage certificate in her hand, he grinned, showing a row of bright white teeth.

Lin Chuxia retracted her earlier thought, he was just a simpleton.

"It's nothing. Do you want to keep the marriage certificate or shall I?"

Qin Yang thought for a moment, took it from her carefully, and rolled it up, "I'll keep it, maybe my work unit will need it."

The marriage application was approved; what would his work unit need the marriage certificate for? Lin Chuxia didn't expose his little trick, and they went to the supply and marketing co-op together.

They bought two bottles of alcohol, two bags of sugar, two cans of canned goods, and two jin of peach crisp. Qin Yang wanted to buy some malted milk essence, but Lin Chuxia stopped him.

Marrying into the Qin Family had already drained their resources, and Qin Yang knew exactly how much money he had left, still needing to buy bus tickets.

The Lin Family didn't need him to overspend any further; these four kinds of gifts were moderate and sufficient.

The next morning, Lin Chuxia felt some movement beside her and opened her eyes, moving her sore and lazy body slightly, and looked resentfully at the vigorous man beside her.

After all the fuss last night, though he exerted more, why was he so spirited, and she felt like she had been beaten up?

Was this some kind of secret energy-restoring technique?

With his energy, it's good that he's not often at home, otherwise Lin Chuxia felt her hopes for a healthy physique in this lifetime were dashed again.

Qin Yang just finished folding his own blanket, wondering if tonight he wouldn't need to prepare blankets for two anymore; it wasn't necessary, and such repetitive folding was troublesome.

Feeling her stare from behind, he saw that Lin Chuxia was awake, looking deeply at him.

That look made his heart tighten, recalling certain images from last night, his ears warmed.

"You can sleep a bit more."

He was used to it, waking up naturally at the same time. She probably hadn't gotten enough sleep; there were obvious dark circles under her eyes.

Lin Chuxia glanced at him, "Rare, Mr. Qin shows a bit of conscience."

Qin Yang's face turned even redder as he called out to Mr. Qin.

Last night, when she was pleading for mercy, she also called him by various names.

He didn't want to hear her call him Yangyang, so in an attempt to punish her, she switched names: Yangyang, Qin Yang, Boss Qin, Brother Qin, Mr. Qin... Hearing her soft and tender voice address him with terms his colleagues used stirred a warmth in Qin Yang's heart; he almost couldn't hold back at the moment.

Feeling uneasy, he touched his nose, "Sorry, I... I'll be more careful next time."

Thinking about returning home today, Qin Yang also felt some regret.

But holding his soft and fragrant wife and living like a monk was truly impossible for him.

Thinking back, his brothers mentioned how satisfying and addictive it was and he had scoffed at them, now he understood.

If he had known earlier, he would have requested a few more days off.

Seeing Lin Chuxia yawn again, Qin Yang dryly explained, "I heard them say, going home to leave a child with the wife, also saves you from loneliness at home," he absolutely couldn't admit his greed.

As Lin Chuxia finished yawning and her eyes reddened, she rolled her eyes without delay, "You guys are all quite something."

Qin Yang felt he was a hopeless case, why did he not only not get annoyed when scolded, but also felt joyful, and even thought his wife looked pretty when she glared at him.

It felt like there was a cat scratching at his heart, every move Lin Chuxia made was exceptionally beautiful.

Something was taking root and sprouting in his chest, searching for an outlet to burst forth, that head-rushing feeling almost instinctively made him plant a "smack" on Lin Chuxia's cheek.

After the kiss, Lin Chuxia had yet to react, but Qin Yang was already stunned, even more so as he met Lin Chuxia's gaze, throwing him off balance.

"Um... I'm going outside to check, I think my dad is calling me."

Without waiting for Lin Chuxia's response, he got up and jumped off the kang, the tall figure of 1.8 meters scattering in a rush.

"Phew..."

She couldn't hold it in and let out a low laugh.

This silly guy, after all the intimate things they've done, blushing just from a kiss on the face, does he not know that a kiss on the cheek really doesn't count as a kiss?

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Today is the day when the two daughters of the Lin Family returned to their paternal home, and the Lin family was bustling from early morning.

Although returning to one's parental home is not as grand as sending off a daughter in marriage, two daughters bringing their husbands to the family suddenly made the Lin family very lively, and Second Aunt Lin and her daughter-in-law came over to help early.

The two families were neighbors, and Uncle Lin and Mr. Lin were first cousins who were close.

Lin Jiayi and Li Guangyuan arrived first, Li Guangyuan lives in Xiaoqingshan Village, right next to their Daqing Mountain Village.

Seeing Lin Jiayi in a brand-new outfit, glowing with a rosy complexion, Mother Lin's heart relaxed a bit.

On the day of the wedding when they arrived at the Li Family, Mother Lin did have regrets.

The three rooms were still partly earthen, and there were hardly a few decent pieces of furniture in the house; marrying off was hardly better than her own home.

Initially, even in advising her second daughter, it was only because she thought Li Guangyuan was a sincere man and well-matched with her second daughter.

Second Aunt Lin loved to talk, she greeted from afar with a smile, "Just look at our son-in-law treating Jiayi so well, just a few days apart, I think Jiayi has even gained a little."

Li Guangyuan, a straightforward man, upon hearing this, glanced at Lin Jiayi and revealed a naive smile, "Jiayi is also very good."