

The Hunter 21

Chapter 21

A Little Painful

Jealousy could give rise to evil thoughts.

After her rebirth, Li Yan disliked Li Xiaoran in every way.

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At the thought of the happiness she had, Li Yan was extremely jealous, so she took this opportunity to tamper with it.

Li Yan thought maliciously that if Li Xiaoran's face was ruined this time, would her good husband still marry her?

Li Xiaoran naturally didn't know Li Yan's evil thoughts, so she was also very confused.

She had no idea what all this was about.

At first, Luo Cheng was very angry that Li Xiaoran didn't pay more attention to her bodily health.

But when he saw her sitting there obediently and letting him treat her wounds, his heart softened.

The medicinal residue on the surface had been washed away. Luo Cheng picked up a small knife.

"Your wound has worsened, so I'm going to have to treat it. It hurts a little. Bear with me!"

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she already had a very clear understanding of the situation of her wound worsening.

"Do you have bamboo slices? I'll bite them!" Li Xiaoran said very seriously.

Luo Cheng glanced at Li Xiaoran. It was unknown whether he was angry or amused.

“Do you think I’m going to scrape your bones? You actually want bamboo slices? Just endure it a little!”

As soon as he finished speaking, Luo Cheng raised his hand and began to deal with it.

Li Xiaoran almost cried out in pain.

However, just as she was holding it in, Luo Cheng took the knife down and went to get the medicine in another porcelain bottle.

Seeing this, Li Xiaoran asked in surprise, “That’s it?”

“Otherwise?” Luo Cheng glanced at Li Xiaoran and immediately dug out a transparent liquid with a silver spoon. Then, it dripped onto Li Xiaoran’s wound.

A cool feeling came over her, and the pain from before disappeared.

“Alright, there’s no need to wrap any cloth. After this medicine dries, it will protect your wound! Be careful not to get drenched in the rain for the time being. Don’t let your wound touch water. You have to avoid this place when you wash your face. In half a month, your wound will heal. There won’t be any scars!” Luo Cheng’s voice came from above Li Xiaoran’s head.

Feeling that the pain from before was gone and that her mind was much clearer, Li Xiaoran became happy.

“What kind of medicine is this?! It took effect as soon as you applied it!”

When Luo Cheng saw that Li Xiaoran’s eyes had become lively and energetic, his mood improved a little.

“I made the medicine myself!”

Li Xiaoran was shocked when she heard Luo Cheng’s words.

“You’re that impressive?”

“Of course!” Luo Cheng replied as he took out a small wine bottle. He placed what he had used before on the fire that had been lit with wine and carefully burned it.

After Li Xiaoran smelled the alcohol, she thought for a moment and said, “Actually, you can disinfect it with strong alcohol!”

Luo Cheng, who was grilling the silver soup spoon, paused and then pretended that nothing had happened.

“Where did you hear that from?”

“I... Anyway, I just know! This kind of wine won’t do. The stronger the wine, the better the disinfecting effect! By the way, you can actually use strong alcohol to wipe the bodies of people who have a high fever. It can reduce the fever!” Li Xiaoran told her some common sense that she knew.

Luo Cheng continued to heat the silver spoon as he listened.

“I really didn’t expect a peasant girl like you to know so much! I’ve never seen you go out before. You’re either in the village or in the mountains. How did you find out about all this?”

“I’m not allowed to learn it myself?” Li Xiaoran couldn’t rashly tell him her background. She thought for a moment and said, “Let me tell you! I often dream of a white-bearded old man. That old man liked me a lot, so he taught me something in my dream! What I just said was taught by that white-bearded old man!”

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he reached out and knocked Li Xiaoran’s head again.

“Are you stupid?”

Seeing that Luo Cheng didn't believe her, Li Xiaoran snorted and stopped talking.

She had no choice. The man was too clever to be fooled.

The more she said, the more mistakes she would make. She should be careful with her words and actions. Just like the previous Li Xiaoran, she should be quiet.

When Luo Cheng saw Li Xiaoran sitting there angrily without saying anything, he didn't say anything else and started packing up seriously.

After everything was packed and Luo Cheng put the medicine box back, he came back and wiped everything with a rag.

Li Xiaoran ignored him and continued to sit on the bed, but her gaze fell on the window.

She had to admit she hadn't had a good look at the blue sky and white clouds outside for a long time.

Before crossing over, she'd been busy every day, and had a lot of work to do.

Back then, she would have used twenty-four hours like forty-eight hours.

It was also because she was so busy that she didn't get enough rest that she missed a step on the way home. Eventually, she blacked out and transmigrated here.

If she had known she was going to cross over because she missed a step, she wouldn't have kept herself so busy. She would have let herself rest.

Unfortunately, no one in this world knew.

She was incredibly lucky to be able to transmigrate to another place and be human again.

Luo Cheng noticed that Li Xiaoran was in a daze and ignored her. Instead, he sped up and cleaned the room.

After some time, Luo Cheng's voice fell into Li Xiaoran's ears.

“The room is ready. Go and get your bag! Because it happened so suddenly and I don't have any extra cloth at home, you can only wear your old clothes first. When I go to town to buy some cloth tomorrow, you can make your own clothes!”

“By the way, you know how to make clothes, right?”

Li Xiaoran came back to her senses and thought of something. She nodded. “I know how to make clothes!”

“That's good! Then I'll buy fabric and needles directly. Make some clothes for yourself! It can also kill time while your injuries heal!” When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran's words, he said, “By the way, I'll also buy the fabric for your parents and sister!”

Li Xiaoran didn't expect Luo Cheng to be so considerate. She was very grateful.

“Thank you, Luo Cheng!”

When Luo Cheng heard this, he walked straight towards Li Xiaoran.

‘I don't like people saying thank you or sorry to me! Express it with action!’

With that, Luo Cheng placed a thin blanket on the bed and turned to leave.

“Have a good rest today! I'll wake you at lunch! Remember, you're injured. You have to recuperate!”

Li Xiaoran looked at the departing figure and felt Luo Cheng's concern. The corners of her mouth curled up slightly.

Chapter 22

Big Yellow's Savior

After Li Xiaoran settled down, she went to get her bag and checked on her parents and sister.

What surprised Li Xiaoran was that her parents and sister had already adapted to life here.

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Li Shun and Zhao Xiu weren't idle. At this moment, they had found some hoes and were busy digging in the vegetable field in the backyard.

Li Xiaoqing was actually playing with a few dogs at this moment. Only Big Yellow was lying at the side and watching with disdain.

Seeing Big Yellow, Li Xiaoran remembered the agreement between her and Big Yellow, so she walked over.

“Big Yellow, did you capture any rabbits?”

When Big Yellow saw Li Xiaoran coming out, it immediately stood up and called out to her softly.

When Li Xiaoqing heard her sister's voice, she stopped playing with the dogs and ran over.

“Sister, Big Yellow just brought back a rabbit. It's still alive. Mother saw that the rabbit was a female rabbit and had a child in its stomach, so she discussed it with Big Yellow and left that rabbit behind to feed it!”

Li Xiaoran didn't expect so many things to happen in such a short time. Looking at Big Yellow's expectant expression, Li Xiaoran smiled.

“So Big Yellow plans to eat a few more roasted rabbits in the future?”

Big Yellow rubbed its head against Li Xiaoran's hand and wagged its tail while looking very happy.

“Sis, how did you know? That’s what Mom agreed to with Big Yellow!” Li Xiaoqing asked in surprise.

“I guessed it!” Li Xiaoran smiled and said, “By the way, where’s my bag? The room I’m staying in has been tidied up. I have to put my clothes in!”

When Li Xiaoqing heard Li Xiaoran’s words, she suddenly thought of something and leaned over. She lowered her voice and asked, “Sister, are you going to marry Brother-in-law just like that? Are you going to live together?”

When Li Xiaoran heard her sister’s words, she smiled and shook her head.

“Luo Cheng said he would respect me. Previously, he brought me over to help me tidy up the room I live in!”

Li Xiaoran had no intention of hiding the good news that the two of them lived separately.

Since everyone lived under the same roof, they would naturally find out after some time. Therefore, there was no need to hide it at this moment.

Li Xiaoqing wasn’t a child. She was already beginning to understand some things.

Hearing her sister’s words, Li Xiaoqing was stunned. She asked with uncertainty, “You won’t live with him?”

Li Xiaoran looked at Li Xiaoqing and smiled.

“I live in the room next to his!”

When Li Xiaoqing heard her sister’s words, she didn’t know how to describe what she felt.

To be honest, she felt resistance towards Luo Cheng at first.

Her sister should marry someone who truly loved her.

It was just that family matters weren't up to them to decide.

Therefore, when she saw her grandpa and grandma forcing her sister to marry Luo Cheng, Li Xiaoqing really hated him.

However, after what had happened in the past two days, Li Xiaoqing felt that it wasn't bad to have a brother-in-law like Luo Cheng.

Therefore, when she heard that her sister and Luo Cheng were sleeping separately, Li Xiaoqing was worried for her sister.

Li Xiaoran naturally understood Li Xiaoqing's feelings.

She reached out and touched Li Xiaoqing's head.

"Little girl, you're still so young! Why are you so worried all the time! Just be happy and play with your little friend. Haven't you heard of the saying that everything will work out when the time comes? As long as our family works together, our lives will get better and better in the future!"

Li Xiaoqing thought for a moment, then nodded.

"Sister, you're right. I was greedy!"

Just as Li Xiaoqing was about to say something, there was a sudden bang, as if something had fallen to the ground.

"Sister, it's Brother-in-law. Brother-in-law went to that room just now!" Li Xiaoqing thought of something and her expression changed as she reminded her.

Seeing that the situation wasn't right, Li Xiaoran quickly ran over.

At this moment, Luo Cheng was lying on the ground with his eyes closed.

Beside him was a wooden crate stained with mud.

"Luo Cheng, Luo Cheng, what's wrong?" Li Xiaoran ran over, squatted down, and shouted.

As she didn't know what was going on with Luo Cheng, Li Xiaoran didn't dare to push him rashly.

Li Xiaoqing, who was running over, thought of something and turned around to run towards the vegetable garden at the back.

“Father, Mother, come quickly. Brother-in-law has fainted!”

When Li Shun and Zhao Xiu heard this, they were shocked and quickly ran over with their youngest daughter.

On the other side, Li Xiaoran used his hand to feel the temperature of Luo Cheng's body, only to feel a chill.

Looking out at the red sun, Li Xiaoran was a little puzzled.

The weather was good, so he shouldn't be so cold!

Could it be that Luo Cheng had been poisoned?

Thinking of this, Li Xiaoran noticed the wooden box beside Luo Cheng.

The chest contained a lot of gold and silver jewelry, but on top of them was a purple-black wooden box.

Li Xiaoran didn't take action rashly but leaned closer to take a look.

As soon as she leaned over, she smelled a faint fragrance.

Could Luo Cheng have been poisoned by this fragrance?

If there was something wrong with this scent, why was she completely fine?

She was very confused. Before Li Xiaoran could figure anything out, Li Shun and Zhao Xiu's footsteps sounded.

In order not to let her parents smell this fragrance, Li Xiaoran quickly covered the wooden box and pulled Luo Cheng's upper body up from the ground.

No matter how hard Li Xiaoran tried, Luo Cheng showed no signs of waking up.

“Daughter, don’t be anxious. I will carry Luo Cheng to his room first!” When Li Shun saw this, he immediately wanted to carry him.

“Dad, be careful. Luo Cheng is very cold!” Li Xiaoran reminded him.

Li Shun nodded and then, with the help of the others, carried Luo Cheng.

“Dad, come with me. I know where Luo Cheng lives!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and quickly walked to the front.

Soon, a group of people sent Luo Cheng to his room.

Zhao Xiu also found several quilts in Luo Cheng’s room, so she quickly brought them over and wrapped them around Luo Cheng.

“From the looks of it, we have to get a doctor!” Li Shun said worriedly.

“Our village’s doctor’s medical skills aren’t good, right?” Zhao Xiu said worriedly, “If it’s just a minor illness or pain, we can treat it. However, I’m afraid we won’t be able to treat his condition. We have to send him to town quickly!”

At that moment, Big Yellow ran in from somewhere and rushed to a cabinet. It reached out with its claws and opened a drawer. Then it jumped up with a porcelain bottle in its mouth and squatted beside Luo Cheng.

After placing the porcelain bottle on the blanket, Big Yellow looked at Li Xiaoran and called out anxiously.

Li Xiaoran sensed Big Yellow’s emotions and immediately understood.

“Mother, quickly pour some warm water and bring it over!”

Chapter 23

Entering the Dream

The warm water was quickly delivered. Li Xiaoran had already taken out the medicine from the porcelain bottle.

Just as she was about to feed one to Luo Cheng, Big Yellow barked at Li Xiaoran.

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Li Xiaoran was stunned for a moment before she understood, so she took out two pills.

After Big Yellow saw it clearly, it lay down and stared at Luo Cheng.

Seeing that Big Yellow didn't bark anymore, Li Xiaoran used water to make Luo Cheng swallow the pill.

“Looks like Luo Cheng has been like this before. That's why Big Yellow asked me to feed him this pill! Father, Mother, it's fine now. Just wait for the pill to take effect! I'll guard this place. Go and rest!”

Li Xiaoqing thought for a moment and said, “Sister, I'll stay and help you!”

Li Xiaoran waved her hand and rejected her sister's kindness.

“No, you should go and rest too! Too many things have happened in the past two days, and you need to rest too. Besides, if Luo Cheng doesn't wake up at night, he needs someone to take care of him. When the time comes, you guys will have to help me!”

Li Shun felt that his daughter was right, so he nodded and walked out with Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoqing.

When there was only one person left in the room, Li Xiaoran reached out to touch Luo Cheng's forehead.

Although his forehead was a little cold this time, it was much better than before.

Li Xiaoran looked around and thought of something before coming to the door.

“Xiao Qing, I think there’s a lot of firewood in the kitchen. Go and look for something like a small stove. Bring a stove over!”

When Li Xiaoqing heard her sister’s words, she agreed and went to the kitchen.

The unconscious Luo Cheng no longer had his usual coldness and ferocity. At this moment, he looked approachable.

However, his brows were furrowed.

Under the blanket, where no one could see, Luo Cheng’s hands were now clenched into fists, as if he was fighting something.

Seeing him like this, Li Xiaoran could sense his intense emotions.

“Luo Cheng, what’s wrong with you? Why can I sense that you feel very afraid and helpless?”

Lying on the bed, Luo Cheng naturally couldn’t answer Li Xiaoran, and Li Xiaoran had no way of knowing the cause of all this.

Soon, Li Xiaoqing brought the small stove over and the house became much warmer.

Li Xiaoran, who had been busy in front of Luo Cheng’s bed for most of the day, was also a little tired.

Li Xiaoran actually fell asleep beside Luo Cheng.

Ever since Big Yellow brought the medicine bottle over, it had been lying on the bed and guarding Luo Cheng.

Seeing that Li Xiaoran was also asleep, Big Yellow stuck out its head to take a look. Then, it lay down and fell asleep.

Just like that, the two of them and the dog actually slept in the same room.

In her sleep, Li Xiaoran felt that she had suddenly arrived at a place.

The place was freezing, the cold biting into her bones, making her shiver involuntarily when she arrived.

Before she could adjust, she heard the sound of a little boy crying.

“Is there anyone? Help me!”

The voice was small and feeble.

Li Xiaoran was shocked and walked towards the source of the voice.

The closer she got, the brighter everything became.

At this moment, Li Xiaoran could clearly see a trembling little boy curled up in the corner of an ice cave.

The little boy seemed to be unconscious from the cold, so he tried his best to shout for help one moment, but then he couldn't resist the sleepiness and wanted to close his eyes.

However, he was too weak. His voice was like a cat's meow.

At that moment, the boy seemed unable to bear it any longer. Sleep overtook him and his entire head drooped.

“Don't sleep. You can't sleep. If you really fall asleep here, you'll die!” When Li Xiaoran saw this scene, she already understood something and rushed over to shake the little boy awake.

Unfortunately, she couldn't even touch the boy. Her hands passed through him.

“Am I in a dream?!” Li Xiaoran immediately reacted.

Her empathic ability also had a special skill, which allowed her to enter other people's dreams under special circumstances.

If someone in a dream was too emotional, it would arouse Li Xiaoran's sympathy. If Li Xiaoran was also sleeping, it would be easy for her to enter someone else's dream.

Therefore, at the thought of this, Li Xiaoran seemed to understand something.

She must have fallen asleep beside Luo Cheng, so this should be Luo Cheng's dream.

No wonder. No wonder his entire body had been cold before. It seemed that this dream was the cause of all this.

After figuring this out, Li Xiaoran thought about it and sat beside Luo Cheng.

"Luo Cheng, wake up. You're dreaming! None of this is real. Hurry up and wake up!" Li Xiaoran tried to wake Luo Cheng up from his dream.

It was unknown if it was Li Xiaoran's call or the two pills.

Luo Cheng finally woke up from his sleep and opened his eyes.

As soon as he opened his eyes and saw the familiar bed curtains, Luo Cheng remembered what had happened before.

Under Big Yellow's guidance, he had found a wooden box earlier. When he opened it, he saw a wooden box.

As soon as he had the wooden box in his hand, he smelled a fragrant scent.

To others, this fragrance was just a pleasant fragrance. But to Luo Cheng, it was the catalyst for his lifelong nightmare.

At this thought, Luo Cheng struggled to sit up.

Big Yellow was the first to notice Luo Cheng's movements. Seeing that he was awake, Big Yellow stood up happily and licked his hand.

Luo Cheng saw that Big Yellow was guarding him and understood something, so he reached out and touched Big Yellow's head.

“Thank you! Big Yellow!”

Big Yellow shook its head and smiled at Luo Cheng. Then, it thought of something and raised a claw to point at where Li Xiaoran was lying.

Luo Cheng followed the direction Big Yellow's claws were pointing in and saw Li Xiaoran.

When he saw Li Xiaoran guarding him, Luo Cheng's heart warmed. Then, he thought of something and took out a slightly thicker shirt from his bed and gently covered Li Xiaoran with it.

Ever since Luo Cheng woke up, that dream had disappeared.

As she had consumed too much of her empathy ability, she fell asleep. She didn't even feel it when Luo Cheng covered her with his clothes.

Seeing that Li Xiaoran didn't wake up, Luo Cheng lifted the blanket and carried Li Xiaoran up before covering her with a thin blanket.

“Big Yellow, guard her!” After Luo Cheng was done, he folded the blanket he had used before and put it in the cabinet. Then, he left with the small stove.

Chapter 24

Payback

After Luo Cheng placed the small stove in the kitchen, he realized that the kitchen seemed to have changed a lot.

The previously deserted kitchen was now filled with many things.

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A log was burning in the stove. The fire wasn't big, but it was simmering the contents of the pot.

Because of the lid, Luo Cheng didn't know what was cooking inside.

At this moment, a voice came from the vegetable garden outside.

“Xiao Qing, put these weeds on the rocks in the corner and dry them. They can even attract fire. After you're done, go to Grandma Huang's house in the village with your father. Grandma Huang has the most variety of vegetable seeds. Bring back some vegetable seeds. We can plant them today. We can eat the vegetables in a month!” Zhao Xiu's voice sounded.

“Got it, Mother! Do you want us to ask Granny Huang to hatch some baby chicks for us?” Li Xiaoqing thought of something and asked.

Zhao Xiu hesitated for a moment.

“Let's talk about this when your brother-in-law wakes up! Hatching chicks requires money too!” In the end, Zhao Xiu told her what she was worried about.

Li Shun thought for a moment and said, “I think it's fine. We can talk about it first! Incubating chicks isn't something that can be done in a short while. If we mention it in advance, we can get the chicks earlier! As for the money to buy the chicks, Luo Cheng will probably give it to us!”

When Luo Cheng heard this, he walked out.

“How much money do you need? I'll give it to you now!”

Li Shun and his family were shocked to see Luo Cheng standing at the back door of the kitchen.

“Son-in-law, are you alright?” Li Shun was the first to react, then asked with concern.

“Yes, I took the medicine and I'm fine!” Luo Cheng replied simply, not explaining why he had fainted.

“It's good that you're fine!” Li Shun and the others were relieved to hear Luo Cheng's words.

Li Xiaoqing seemed to have thought of something. She looked behind Luo Cheng and asked, "Brother-in-law, where's my sister?"

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoqing's words, he replied, "Your sister is asleep! Let her rest well!"

With that, Luo Cheng looked at Zhao Xiu.

"I wonder how much it will cost to buy seeds and chicks. I'll give it to you now!"

When Zhao Xiu saw Luo Cheng asking her, she waved her hand.

"No need. Granny Huang is a very good person. Just give us some seeds. There's no need for money. As for the chicks, why don't we buy 30 of them? I see that this orchard is very big and there's nothing to plant. It's just enough to raise chickens. When the chicks hatch, we'll pay for them! Three copper coins for one chick, and 90 copper coins for 30 chicks!"

When Luo Cheng heard this, he remembered that he had two copper coins with him, so he simply took them out.

"Keep this money for now! If you don't have enough money, just ask me for more!"

As soon as he said this, Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoqing looked at Li Shun when they saw the two copper coins that Luo Cheng had taken out.

Li Shun considered for a moment and only accepted one.

"Luo Cheng! I know you have good intentions. There's no point in us taking too much of this money. Let's take the money first. You can keep the rest! Don't worry, our family won't let you raise us for nothing."

Seeing this, Luo Cheng nodded and put away the remaining money.

"By the way, it's better to pay for those seeds! Other than these, see what else you need. You can buy them back! As you can see, the land around me is very empty. Feel free to plant them!"

Li Shun's eyes lit up when he heard that. He immediately pulled his wife over to discuss.

Speaking of farming, Li Shun felt motivated.

In the past, he had worked hard with his family but still hadn't had enough money to survive on.

Now that he had eaten a lot of good things from Luo Cheng, he had to work hard to make up for it.

After the family discussed, Zhao Xiu brought Li Xiaoqing out with a basket on her back.

Not long after the mother and daughter left, Little Huzi ran in from outside.

"Brother Luo Cheng, Brother Luo Cheng!"

Luo Cheng heard Little Huzi's shout and walked out.

"Brother Luo Cheng, I heard you've already brought Xiao Qing's family over?"

Luo Cheng nodded, then looked at Little Huzi.

"Yes! What's the matter with you? You look so happy!"

When Little Huzi heard Luo Cheng's question, he chuckled.

"I got some news and rushed over to tell you! Brother Luo Cheng, fortunately, you took Xiao Qing and her family away early. Otherwise, there would have been trouble today!"

Luo Cheng raised his eyebrows when he heard Little Huzi's words, then waited for him to continue.

Li Shun, who had just retracted his hoe, ran out when he heard Little Huzi's voice.

“Is something wrong?”

When Little Huzi saw Li Shun walk out and ask this question, he immediately replied, “Mr. Li, you don’t know, but at noon today, something big happened to the Li family again! Li Zhan was tied up and brought back. They said that he owed the casino 200 taels of silver. Li Zhan couldn’t pay it back, so they brought people over!”

Li Shun was stunned when he heard this. His mouth fell open.

When Luo Cheng heard this, he immediately remembered something.

Previously, when he went to town to sell wild animals, he seemed to have seen Li Zhan enter the gambling den. It seemed that he hadn’t mistaken him for someone else.

“Two hundred taels of silver? How can he owe so much?!” Li Shun came back to his senses at this moment, his face pale.

The Li family wouldn’t be able to fork out so much money even if they sold everything they had!

Luo Cheng seemed to guess Li Shun’s thoughts and sneered.

“Actually, the Li family can also fork out so much money! It just depends on how important Li Zhan is to Sr. Li! Don’t forget that the two tiger bones I gave the Li family are worth thousands of gold!”

With Luo Cheng’s reminder, Li Shun and Little Huzi finally remembered.

“That’s right! Tiger bones are very valuable! But I think the Li family might not be willing to part with them! Anyway, when I left, I didn’t see the Li family take out the tiger bones!”

At this moment, Li Shun had mixed feelings. To be honest, he also wanted to know what choice his heartless old father would make.

“He won’t give away the tiger bones!” At this moment, a voice came from behind Luo Cheng and Li Shun.

It turned out that Li Xiaoran had woken up at some point and expressed her opinion after hearing about this.

“Daughter, you said that your grandfather can’t bear to part with those two tiger bones? But your grandfather values your eldest cousin very much!” Li Shun had a different opinion.

“Father, you think too highly of Grandpa and Grandma! Grandpa can’t bear to part with those two tiger bones, nor can he bear to see his grandson suffer, so they will still target us! To be precise, they will target you, Father!” Li Xiaoran said.

Chapter 25

Pursuit

Li Shun pointed at himself in disbelief and then asked, “Me? I’ve been married off by my father. What’s the point?”

Li Xiaoran only smiled but didn’t say anything else.

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There were some things her father would only understand after it happened.

Luo Cheng glanced at Li Xiaoran and knew what she meant. Then, he narrowed his eyes.

To be honest, rather than saying that the Li family had designs on Li Shun, it would be more accurate to say that they would target him.

Thinking of this, Luo Cheng sneered.

The Li family really treated him as a fool. He wanted to see what tricks the Li family would play.

For a moment, no one spoke. Everyone had their own thoughts, so the atmosphere was tense.

“Father, where are my mother and Xiao Qing?” Li Xiaoran thought of something and asked.

“Your mother and sister went to Granny Huang’s house to get seeds!” Li Shun replied.

As soon as he said that, Li Shun suddenly remembered something. Then his expression changed.

“What?” Li Xiaoran’s expression changed.

One had to know that Granny Huang’s house wasn’t far from the Li family’s house. If the mother and daughter went out and met those people, it would be troublesome!

Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoran had also arrived at the village and were heading towards Granny Huang’s house.

As Granny Huang lived not far from the Li family’s house, the mother and daughter naturally noticed the people surrounding the Li family’s house.

Zhao Xiu wanted to go forward to take a look, but Li Xiaoqing stopped her.

“Mother, we’ve already gotten out of that place. Let’s not give ourselves up again!”

Zhao Xiu listened. After some thought, she nodded and walked towards Granny Huang’s house.

When Granny Huang saw Zhao Xiu and her daughter walk in, she quickly pulled them into the house and ran outside to close the door.

“Why did you guys come out at this time? Do you know that the Li family is making a fuss? Those heartless people from the Li family might secretly sell you and your daughter for money!” Granny Huang said worriedly.

“Granny Huang, what happened?” Li Xiaoqing asked in confusion.

When Granny Huang saw that Zhao Xiu and her daughter were both confused, she quickly told them what had happened at the Li family’s house.

“You didn’t see that those people were all fierce and aggressive. They looked like they wouldn’t let go until they saw the money. Previously, they seemed to want to drag Li Yan to pay off the debt. I don’t know what the Li family said later, but those people let Li Yan go again. So, you and your mother almost got into trouble. Sometimes, people are evil-hearted. You have to think of the worst!” Granny Huang persuaded earnestly.

She was old and had seen a great deal of things.

Black-hearted people were willing to do anything.

Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoqing were also terrified. The mother and daughter didn’t know what to do.

“Don’t worry, wait for me here first! I’ll find a junior to pass a message to Li Shun and ask him to come out and pick you up!” Granny Huang thought of something and patted Zhao Xiu’s hand.

Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoqing heaved a sigh of relief and told them the reason why they had come.

Granny Huang burst out laughing.

“You guys sure came at the right time! I’ve already hatched dozens of chicks previously. Previously, my niece-in-law asked me to leave 30 chicks for her. In the end, her family has to move to town to rent a house and can’t feed the chickens. I was just worried that I wouldn’t be able to sell these chicks when you two came!”

When Zhao Xiu heard this, she also felt that this was really a coincidence.

Fortunately, her husband had given her a lot of money previously. Otherwise, she would be too embarrassed to take Granny Huang's little chick back today.

“Wait here. I'll get you some vegetable seeds and catch some chicks for you!” Granny Huang said with a smile.

On the other side, Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng came out to pick her up.

There had to be someone left at home!

Li Xiaoran was injured and it wasn't safe to stay at home alone.

Therefore, Li Shun and Little Huzi stayed behind while Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng came out to pick up Zhao Xiu and Li Xiaoqing.

When they reached a side road in the village, they saw several strong men approaching from a short distance.

As soon as Luo Cheng saw an unfamiliar face, he became vigilant.

Li Xiaoran also stopped and stared at the group of people not far away while frowning.

“They're coming for us, Luo Cheng! We might drag you down!”

Luo Cheng thought of something when he heard Li Xiaoran's words, so he grabbed Li Xiaoran's hand and ran back.

Before long, they turned into a forest. Before the people behind caught up, Luo Cheng carried Li Xiaoran and jumped onto a very tall tree.

“Sit on it. Don't be afraid! I'll protect you!” Luo Cheng said in Li Xiaoran's ear. He placed her on a branch with three branches and jumped down.

After that, Luo Cheng ran toward where he had just run in.

Because he was sitting high up and there were lush trees below, Li Xiaoran couldn't see what was going on below.

As soon as Luo Cheng ran out, he saw the unfamiliar burly men chasing after him, so he stood there and looked at them.

“If you know what’s good for you, take out the tiger bones in your hand. Otherwise, don’t blame us for being ruthless!” One of the burly men with a scar on his face glared at Luo Cheng and threatened him.

When Luo Cheng heard this, he snorted and said, “Do you know who I am? You actually came to find trouble with me without asking around. I think you’re the ones who are too bold!”

“Brother Scarface, why are you wasting your breath on him? As long as we capture him, we can have anything we want!” Another man with a mean-looking face instigated.

As soon as he finished speaking, the scar-faced man understood what his buddy meant. He pulled something out of his sleeve and scattered some powder-like things at Luo Cheng.

Seeing this, Luo Cheng knew that this thing must be something like poison, so he quickly held his breath and retreated.

Seeing that he had failed, the scar-faced man quickly chased after Luo Cheng.

Seeing this, the other man followed.

“Don’t run, boy. You can run, but you can’t hide. Some of my buddies are already heading for your house. When the time comes, everything will be ours!” the scarred man shouted as he chased after him.

This voice also reached Li Xiaoran’s ears.

Hence, Li Xiaoran subconsciously looked towards the residence and saw a few people approaching.

Li Xiaoran tensed up. She was worried about her father and Little Huzi’s safety!

Chapter 26

Not An Outsider

Luo Cheng didn't panic when he heard the other party's words.

No one knew the safety of the house better than him, so he stared at the other party and attacked.

...

These people still had poison in their hands. He had to end this quickly.

With that in mind, Luo Cheng took the thing out of his sleeve and pressed the mechanism.

In an instant, needles as thin as fur were fired.

The scar-faced man and his brother were anxious to capture Luo Cheng, so they stood in front of him.

They didn't expect Luo Cheng to have such a hidden weapon on him. When they realized that something was wrong, they had already been hit and were paralyzed on the ground.

After dealing with these people, Luo Cheng walked over and pinched their cheeks. After carefully checking that there were no problems, he walked towards the big tree where Li Xiaoran was.

Seeing that Luo Cheng had arrived, Li Xiaoran shouted anxiously, "I saw someone going to our house. Hurry up and help my father!"

"Our house?" For some reason, Luo Cheng felt better when he heard that.

With a leap, Luo Cheng came to the tree and wrapped an arm around Li Xiaoran's waist.

“Don’t worry! With Big Yellow and the others around, the other party can’t enter the residence, nor can they hurt Father-in-law!”

With that, Luo Cheng jumped to the ground with Li Xiaoran.

After falling from a height, Li Xiaoran suddenly felt her heart tighten and almost stop beating.

Her abnormality naturally caught Luo Cheng’s eye, but this wasn’t the place to talk, so he didn’t ask anything.

“What are we going to do with these people?” Li Xiaoran asked.

Luo Cheng looked at her and smiled.

“We’ll give them to the authorities!”

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she frowned.

“Will the authorities care?”

Perhaps knowing what Li Xiaoran was worried about, Luo Cheng said confidently, “Don’t worry, the government will take care of it! Let’s go and pick them up!”

“What about these people?” Li Xiaoran looked at the few people on the ground.

“Don’t worry, they won’t be able to escape after being drugged by my anesthetic!” Luo Cheng pulled Li Xiaoran and left without looking back.

Zhao Xiu, who had already packed the chicks and taken a lot of vegetable seeds, was wondering if she should call someone back to bring the letter when she saw her daughter and son-in-law standing at the door of Granny Huang’s courtyard.

“It’s Xiaoran! We can go home now!” Zhao Xiu said with a smile.

Li Xiaoqing, who was talking to Granny Huang, heard her mother's words and ran to the window to take a look.

As expected, her sister and brother-in-law were here.

"Sis, why are you and my brother-in-law here?" Li Xiaoqing quickly ran out and asked with a smile.

"Little Huzi came to tell us what happened at the Li family's house. I was worried about you guys, so I came to pick you up with Luo Cheng!" Li Xiaoran replied with a smile.

With that, Li Xiaoran looked at Zhao Xiu, who was carrying a basket on her back, and asked.

"Mother, is it done?"

"It's done! We're lucky that Granny Huang has a lot of chicks here. We were able to bring them back to raise!" Zhao Xiu's face was filled with anticipation as she said happily.

"Alright, let's go home!" Li Xiaoran smiled and nodded.

When she turned around and saw Granny Huang, Li Xiaoran took the initiative to greet her.

"Granny Huang, thank you for what you did today!"

Granny Huang didn't expect Li Xiaoran to take the initiative to talk to her. She was stunned for a moment before she smiled.

"You're welcome! You guys paid for the little chicks. As for those vegetable seeds, they're not worth much!"

"That's because you're a good person, Granny Huang. That's why you're willing to share it with us! Then we won't disturb you anymore. We'll leave first!" Li Xiaoran replied with a smile.

“Alright, take care!” After saying this, Granny Huang thought of something and pointed at the Li family’s house. “Take a detour from here! Don’t go that way!”

The group immediately understood and nodded, then left.

When they were gone, Granny Huang smiled.

“Sigh, the little girl who used to be like a stuffy gourd has become more cheerful after experiencing those things these few days. It can be seen that Old Master Li did a good thing! I think this marriage is worth it!”

With that, Granny Huang turned around and went back into the house to do her own thing.

Luo Cheng first sent Li Xiaoran and her daughter home safely, then brought Big Yellow to deal with the people who had trespassed earlier.

Li Shun heaved a sigh of relief when he saw that his wife and daughter had returned safely.

“I’m glad you guys came back safely! I was so worried!”

“Father, I saw someone sneaking into our house. Where is he?” Li Xiaoran recalled what she had seen previously and asked.

“A few people came. Before Little Huzi and I could figure out what to do, we saw Big Yellow rushing out with his brothers. I don’t know where they’ve gone!” Li Shun was also confused and didn’t know what was going on.

Li Xiaoran recalled how Luo Cheng wasn’t worried at all and understood.

It seemed that Big Yellow and the others were very powerful.

Luo Cheng first followed Big Yellow to the place where the beast trap was placed and saw the unlucky people with their feet pinched.

Since this group of people had scattered the powder earlier, Luo Cheng didn't approach them. Instead, he took out the powder he had made and sprinkled it over.

The victims closed their eyes and slumped to the ground.

After making sure that there was no one around, Luo Cheng called someone.

“Ziyang, come out! Send these people to the authorities!”

Soon, a figure appeared beside Luo Cheng. He looked at the men on the ground and couldn't help but ask.

“Young Master, aren't we going to interrogate them ourselves?”

Luo Cheng waved his hand and said calmly, “What's there to ask? Just leave it to Luo Han! They're just a few people who want to take advantage of me!”

“Young Master Luo will definitely complain that you don't treat him as an outsider!” Zi Yang thought of something and said happily.

“I've never treated him as an outsider! Go! Be careful!” Luo Cheng instructed.

Ziyang nodded, then waved to his buddies in the dark and began to deal with it.

“By the way, there are also a few people in the forest over there. Take them away! Let Luo Han deal with them! Just make sure they don't provoke me again!” Luo Cheng thought of something and left after saying this.

Luo Cheng had just returned. Li Xiaoran, who was waiting in the courtyard, stood up when she saw him walk in.

“You handled it?”

“Yes! I asked someone to send those people to the authorities! Don't worry! They won't dare to come again!” Luo Cheng nodded and walked towards the room where he had fainted in.

“What are you doing?” Seeing this, Li Xiaoran quickly followed. “Don’t faint inside again!”

Chapter 27

It’s Related to You

Luo Cheng thought about Li Xiaoran’s words.

“What did you find?”

...

Li Xiaoran nodded and said, “Did something happen to you because of the smell of that wooden box?”

Luo Cheng’s expression didn’t change when he heard Li Xiaoran’s words. He shook his head and said, “No! It’s because of the jade artifacts in the wooden box. Haven’t you heard that jade is beneficial to people’s health, but also instigates some evil things? I’m born with a special constitution, so it’s easy to instigate those things.”

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she nodded skeptically. “No wonder. No wonder we were fine even after smelling the fragrance. It turns out that the source is the jade artifact! Then if you go and take a look now, won’t it happen again?”

Luo Cheng raised his eyebrows when he saw how concerned Li Xiaoran was.

“Don’t worry! I brought the amulet! I fainted before because my possession talisman was wet with sweat!”

Li Xiaoran was relieved to hear Luo Cheng say that.

“It’s good that you returned it. I’ll show you the good stuff in this box!” said Luo Cheng, reaching out to open the wooden box.

“No need! These things are all yours. I don’t need to know! Take your time to look at them. I’ll leave first!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and rejected him directly. She turned around and planned to leave.

Watching Li Xiaoran turn around and leave, Luo Cheng seemed hesitant. No one knew what he was thinking.

“Wait, actually, this box of things has something to do with you too!” Luo Cheng suddenly said.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she stopped and turned around with a puzzled expression.

“Are you sure I have something to do with the contents of this box?”

Why didn't she believe it herself?

“It's true!” said Luo Cheng, opening the wooden box.

As soon as the lid was removed, a pile of jewelry appeared in front of them.

“This wooden box was found by Big Yellow in an overgrown slope. Big Yellow used to play on that slope too, but didn't find this thing. After you married over, this slope collapsed, revealing an iron ring. When Big Yellow found it, he brought me over to find this wooden box!”

After saying this, Luo Cheng looked at Li Xiaoran. “Do you think this has anything to do with you?”

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she felt that he was trying to trick her.

This was completely unrelated. How could it be related to her?

Seeing that Li Xiaoran didn't believe him at all, Luo Cheng only smiled and didn't say anything else.

If it weren't for the fact that someone said that he had met a benefactor three days ago and had been lucky ever since, he wouldn't have believed this.

But he had to believe some of what had happened today.

After all, this box of treasures was worth a lot of money.

With that in mind, Luo Cheng poured out the wooden box.

It had to be said that this was the first time Li Xiaoran had seen so much gold and silver in both of her lives. It simply blinded her.

When Luo Cheng poured out these treasures, he focused his attention on Li Xiaoran.

Although she was also shocked, there was no greed in her eyes. She heaved a sigh of relief.

To be honest, he didn't want the wife he'd traded the tiger bones for to be greedy and shortsighted.

If Li Xiaoran was really such a person, he would definitely stay away from her.

“You can take whatever you like! I told you, thanks to you, I got so much gold and silver!” Luo Cheng said generously.

Li Xiaoran didn't believe in any pie in the sky.

For a moment, Li Xiaoran was also very tempted.

To be honest, she liked a few pieces of jewelry in there.

That style and the color were obviously high-grade.

Any woman would love these things.

With a lot of effort, Li Xiaoran calmed down and quickly placed her hands behind her back.

“No need. These are all yours. Keep them for yourself! I'll go to the kitchen. My mother was stewing a chicken. It should be ready now!”

With that, Li Xiaoran rushed out of the room and ran towards the kitchen.

When she reached the kitchen, Li Xiaoran took a few deep breaths to calm down.

Oh God! She'd almost lost it.

That jewelry was gorgeous! Especially that sapphire necklace. It was neither too big nor too small. She loved it.

“Li Xiaoran, don't be greedy! While wealth is covetable for a gentleman as well, he takes it in its natural course. If it's not something you should take, you can't take it! Do you understand?” Li Xiaoran lectured herself.

These were the words her mother often said to Li Xiaoran when she lived on Earth.

Her mother had said that as long as people were diligent and relied on their own hands to create wealth, that kind of money was the most comfortable to use.

After repeating it to herself several times, Li Xiaoran came back to her senses.

She opened the lid of the pot in her hand and the fragrance of chicken soup wafted out.

When she smelled this fragrance, Li Xiaoran's eyes lit up.

“Indeed, chickens that grow up eating grains are much more delicious! Just by smelling this chicken soup, I can tell that it's good!”

With that, Li Xiaoran scooped out the chicken soup from the pot and planned to keep it warm on the small stove.

After all, it was already noon. It was time to make lunch.

Because there was a pot of chicken soup, Li Xiaoran cooked a pot of rice and stir-fried a vegetable before calling her family over for dinner.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran shouting that it was time to eat, he responded and immediately put away the gold and silver treasures before changing to another lock.

He hadn't decided what to do with these things, so he locked them away first.

While Luo Cheng, Li Xiaoran, and the others were about to eat, the atmosphere at the Li family's house wasn't very good.

The men from the casino waited, but none of their men returned. The leader, Ma Chuan, had a bad feeling.

He wanted to call his buddies to take another look, but when he saw that there were only three buddies around him, he gave up on the idea.

Just as Ma Chuan was about to vent his anger on the Li family, someone suddenly rushed in.

It was unknown what the other party said in Ma Chuan's ear. When Ma Chuan heard this, his expression changed drastically. Then, he looked fiercely at the Li family.

“Well, well! My buddies who went to Luo Cheng's house have already been sent to the cops!”

As he spoke, Ma Chuan couldn't suppress his anger anymore. He kicked Li Zhan, who was tied up.

Li Zhan didn't expect Ma Chuan to suddenly kick him and fell to the ground. A wave of pain came, and blood flowed from his nose.

Chapter 28

Abandoning a Tiger Bone

When Sr. Li heard Ma Chuan's words, he was also frightened.

He had never expected that Luo Cheng, who had seemed easy to talk to, would be able to send those people from the casino to the officials in the blink of an eye.

...

The men from the gambling house were sent to the officials not long after they left?

Had he really underestimated Luo Cheng?

At this moment, Sr. Li felt a little regretful, but he had no choice.

He really couldn't take out so much money!

Ma Chuan stared fiercely at the Li family and gave his final warning.

“Today, the gambling debt that Li Zhan owes must be repaid. You also have to pay for the losses that our buddies suffered! You can't take out the money, right? If you can't take out the money, use the tiger bones to compensate! I heard that your family happens to have two tiger bones now! It's just right to use them to pay off the debt!”

“In your dreams! I won't give you the tiger bones!” Sr. Li was furious and retorted loudly.

“Yo, Sr. Li, you really don't feel sorry for your grandson! Li Zhan, didn't you say that your family loves you the most? Look, your family loves you so much!” Ma Chuan smiled sinisterly and stepped on Li Zhan's hand.

Li Zhan screamed like a pig being slaughtered.

“Grandpa, Grandpa, you have to save me! I'm the Li family's lifeline! Grandpa, save me! As long as you save me, I'll definitely repent and study hard. I'll bring glory to the Li family in the future!” After experiencing the pain, Li Zhan begged Grandpa Li with tears in his eyes.

Aunt Li's heart ached when she saw her grandson being tortured.

“Why don’t you take out the tiger bones?!”

The expression on Sr. Li’s face changed. For a moment, he was in a dilemma.

To be honest, he was really reluctant to hand over the tiger bones.

If he gave the tiger bones to these people, what would he do?

He felt ill at the thought of having to endure pain every day and night.

But his grandson was also his biological grandson, who he had placed the highest hopes on.

However, he never expected that his grandson, whom he had high hopes for, would get involved in gambling.

“Looks like Sr. Li can’t make up his mind! Come on, brothers! Li Zhan is young and hasn’t learned his lesson. Let’s teach him a lesson! Let’s chop off one of his fingers!” Ma Chuan said maliciously.

“Wait!” After arriving, Li Qiang, who had been silent, walked out and stopped the people from the gambling den.

“Father, can you really bear to see Zhan’er’s finger being chopped off? If Zhan’er’s finger is chopped off, he won’t be able to participate in the examination in the future. This will ruin his life! Father, I know that this tiger bone is very useful to Father, but our family really can’t take out so much money now! Father, why don’t we give him one? A tiger bone is already worth a thousand gold coins. It’s enough to repay our debt!” Li Qiang said at this moment.

“That’s right! Father, one less tiger bone means one less. In the future, we can just ask my third brother to bring one back!” Li Wei also went forward to persuade him.

To be honest, Li Wei originally didn’t want to interfere in such a matter.

However, these people from the casino weren't to be trifled with. If they didn't quickly think of a way to send them away, the longer they delayed, the worse it would be for them.

At this moment, Li Wei was glad that her eldest daughter, Li Lan, was already married.

Otherwise, given the M.O. of these gambling dens in the past, she might be taken away to pay off their debts.

The person called Ma Chuan kept looking at Li Yan.

What shocked Li Wei even more was that when Ma Chuan looked at Li Yan, he kept looking at his wife too.

He knew that his wife was good-looking. It wouldn't be good if these people targeted her now.

“That's right! Father, just give them a tiger bone first! As long as we resolve this matter, I can guarantee that my third brother will bring another tiger bone back!” Li Qiang was also anxious.

As Li Zhan's father, he couldn't bear to see his son's future ruined no matter what.

After the brothers' persuasion, Sr. Li heaved a sigh.

Eventually, Ma Chuan took a tiger bone. The debt between the Lee family and the casino was written off.

Li Zhan had finally escaped. Now, he lay on the ground, panting.

There was no telling what he was thinking at this moment.

Was it relief, regret, or something else entirely?

For the next three days, the Li family was peaceful, as if nothing had happened.

Li Xiaoran and her family had also adapted to their new life. The worry on their faces dissipated and was replaced by a sense of peace.

The wound on Li Shun's forehead had also been treated by Luo Cheng with medicine. Three days later, only some scabs could be seen.

The injury on Li Xiaoran's forehead had also healed a lot, but her injury was much more serious than Li Shun's, so she still needed to continue applying medicine.

In Luo Cheng's words, it would take at least a month to recover.

In the three days that the Li family had been here, Luo Cheng's place had also been changing drastically.

The house, which used to be deserted, became more lively.

After cleaning up the vegetable garden, they planted several kinds of vegetables and fruits.

In the orchard at the side of the house, Li Shun and Zhao Xiu went to cut some bamboo and circled a small piece of land. They inserted bamboo fences made of bamboo and used them to raise the chicks they had bought.

Big Yellow and its group of dog brothers were also very curious about these furry chicks.

When Zhao Xiu saw this, she simply brought Big Yellow and the others to the chicken coop and explained softly.

“Big Yellow! These chicks are being raised to lay eggs! There are also some roosters that will be eaten when they mature! You and your dog brothers can't come here to harm these chicks! You have to protect these chicks from being harmed by other things. Only then will you have meat to eat when the chickens grow up!”

Big Yellow understood what Zhao Xiu meant and howled twice, indicating that it understood.

Ever since then, Big Yellow and its dog brothers really didn't harm the chicks. They even secretly chased away the weasels that wanted to steal food.

The matters at home were handed over to Zhao Xiu, while Li Shun plowed the nearby land.

It was now the end of summer and the beginning of autumn. They could plant some crops and have some harvest in winter.

Li Xiaoqing wasn't idle either. Although there wasn't much work at home now, she would still help share the burden like before.

Previously, when Little Huzi asked her to go up the mountain to fish for pine fur, she went with him with the basket on her back.

The entire family was busy. Li Xiaoran suddenly felt like she was useless.

With nothing to do, she began to ponder.

"What are you thinking?" Luo Cheng asked curiously as he watched Li Xiaoran write on the ground in the courtyard with a tree branch.

Chapter 29

Self-reliance

"I'm thinking about how to earn money!" Li Xiaoran said without looking up, "Look, our family doesn't have much income now, and we have to feed so many people and mouths. This can't go on!"

Luo Cheng didn't expect Li Xiaoran to be thinking about this. He couldn't help but remind him, "Have you forgotten what I showed you before?! We still have a lot of money. You don't have to work so hard to earn money!"

...

Li Xiaoran couldn't help but roll her eyes at Luo Cheng.

“Don't say that to my parents. It's fine as long as you know it yourself! You know that those things were found in the ground by you. They're pies that fell from the sky. This kind of money is too eye-catching. It's better to hide them! Humans have to rely on themselves to earn money. That way, they can live a stable life.”

Luo Cheng was amused by Li Xiaoran's words.

“Alright, you're right. You have to rely on yourself! Then what can you think of to earn money?”

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she immediately became dejected.

“I'm trying to think of something, aren't I? To be honest, I don't have any money on hand right now, so there's not much I can do. I was thinking that I could set up a noodle stall to make money. There's not much that a noodle stall needs. All I need is a small stove and a pot. There's a stove and pot ready, and I can get my father to chop some bamboo for the seats and benches that the stall needs. That way, I just need to buy some wheat to grind the noodles, and this stall can open!”

Hearing Li Xiaoran's explanation, Luo Cheng became interested.

“Are you planning to set up a noodle stand in town to do business?”

Li Xiaoran shook her head and said something that Luo Cheng didn't expect.

“I've already asked. There are already many noodle stalls in town. It will be highly competitive. It won't be easy to earn money!”

“Competitive?” Luo Cheng asked while raising an eyebrow in curiosity.

“That's right! Think about it, there are only a few fixed customers in town. There are already three noodle stalls. If I add in more, I won't be able to earn that much money. Instead, I'll attract the hatred of the other noodle stall owners. I won't be

earning much money, but I'll end up attracting a lot of hatred. The loss outweighs the gain!" Li Xiaoran said righteously.

"So where do you want to set it up?" Luo asked bluntly.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and said, "Next to the road not far from our village. Actually, our village is located in a very good location. Merchants from all over the country will pass by here. Many people won't stop in town, but they will pass by here and then head straight for White Foothill City. Along the way, there are barely any towns. It's not easy to find water to drink or eat something warm. We can sell noodles and some steamed buns. When it's cold, we can also make a pot of broth. It would be nice for everyone to drink warm soup!"

"Actually, you don't have to do this! I can feed you guys by hunting!" Luo Cheng suddenly said as he looked at the energetic Li Xiaoran.

Li Xiaoran was stunned for a moment before her gaze landed on Luo Cheng.

"Luo Cheng, you should be able to tell! No one in our family is lazy. My parents, my sister, and Xiao Qing are hardworking, and so am I. Being hardworking is in our bones. Instead of being raised by you, we want to earn money with our own hands to support ourselves. To be honest, I'm actually very grateful to you. You've already done a huge favor by pulling our family out of living hell in the Li family!"

"There's a saying that goes, 'The mountain will fall, and everyone will run.' You must rely on yourself. Similarly, you don't want the people you bring back to be a burden! Although we earn very little now, we will also work hard to earn more and not drag you down!"

Luo Cheng had a new understanding of Li Xiaoran.

Actually, when Li Xiaoran found him and persuaded him to cooperate, he felt that the person in front of him was very bold.

Now that they had gotten to know each other, he discovered another side to her.

There was something about her he hadn't seen in anyone else before.

Li Xiaoran asked in confusion when she saw Luo Cheng staring at her.

“Did I say something out of line? Was I out of my place? In fact, that's exactly how I am. I don't attach myself to anyone. I just want to live my own life!”

Luo Cheng came back to his senses and looked at Li Xiaoran. He thought of something and reminded her.

“Don't you forget, you're my wife now!”

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words and remembered her identity, she immediately felt a little embarrassed.

Oh yes! She seemed to have forgotten that!

Before Li Xiaoran could explain anything, Luo Cheng said, “I understand what you mean! Do whatever you want! I'll help you! Even a noodle stall needs money. There are two taels of silver here. Take it first and consider it a loan from me! When you earn money, just return the two taels of silver to me!”

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment. She really lacked the starting capital.

Now that Luo Cheng was willing to invest in her, she was naturally happy to accept it.

“How about this?! I'll take this money and treat it as you joining my business. When my noodle stall earns money in the future, I'll give you money! Don't worry, with my cooking skills, we definitely won't lose money!” Li Xiaoran said confidently.

Luo Cheng smiled and nodded in agreement.

He just wanted to see what tricks Li Xiaoran could come up with if he only gave her two taels of silver.

Even if he lost money, it didn't matter. In any case, it was only two taels of silver. He could afford to lose money.

After receiving the silver, Li Xiaoran immediately began to think about what to do.

When Li Shun and Zhao Xiu learned that their daughter wanted to set up a noodle stall and that their son-in-law had taken out money to support their daughter, they decided to help.

It took a few days for Li Shun to make the chairs and benches with bamboo. He even specially took the two pieces of wood that were abandoned in the courtyard to make a large wooden table.

In order to make it easier for her to set up her stall in the future, Li Shun went to find some stones and sticky yellow mud and directly built two simple and firm stone stoves at the place where she set up her stall.

When Luo Cheng learned that Li Xiaoran and the others had built a stove, he called Zi Yang out and instructed him to do something.

Ten days later, it was a sunny day.

Li Xiaoran, who had prepared everything, set up a stall beside the official road and started selling noodles.

As soon as everything was ready and the dough was kneaded, Li Xiaoran stood in front of the noodle stall with a mask she had made herself.

She wasn't the only one. Everyone else in the house wore masks.

In Li Xiaoran's words, this was to prevent her saliva from falling into the pot and making the customers unhappy.

Luo Cheng heard this and glanced at Li Xiaoran.

She seemed to have thought of something that others couldn't think of but the idea was very practical.

Chapter 30

First Business

Not long after the noodle stall opened, an ox cart passed by.

There was thick straw on the ox cart. An old woman was lying on it, and a middle-aged man in his forties was sitting in front of her.

...

“Son, why do I smell meat soup nearby?!” The old lady sat up and asked.

“Hey, Mom, don’t sit up. Be careful! There’s no meat soup. There seems to be a noodle stall in front!” The middle-aged man explained.

When the old lady heard her son’s words, she thought for a moment. “Son, stop! I want a bowl of noodles!”

The middle-aged man thought about how they had been traveling for most of the day, so it was normal for his mother to be hungry.

His mother wasn’t in good health and couldn’t eat hard and sticky things like grain. It wasn’t a bad idea to eat a bowl of noodles now.

“Alright, Mother, sit tight. I’ll drive the ox cart over now!” the middle-aged man said.

Soon, the ox cart was near the noodle stall.

Seeing this, Li Shun hurried forward to help.

“Are you here to eat noodles? Come, come, there’s a tree here. Just tie the reins here!” Li Shun said as he led the middle-aged man to stop the ox cart.

“How do you sell your noodles?” The middle-aged man asked after parking the ox cart.

When Li Xiaoran saw that a customer was here, she smiled and replied, “A bowl of plain noodles costs three copper coins, and noodles with some minced meat costs five copper coins!”

“I see! Then give me a bowl of plain noodles and a bowl of minced meat noodles!” The middle-aged man helped his mother down from the ox cart.

“Alright, wait a moment. I’ll cook it now!” Li Xiaoran replied as she took the dough. Then, she took a piece of bamboo and peeled a piece of dough into the pot.

After the middle-aged man helped his mother sit down, he saw Li Xiaoran’s move and immediately asked curiously, “Little girl, what kind of noodles are these?”

“This is called knife-cut noodles. The texture of these noodles is very chewy and delicious! Her teeth aren’t good, so I’ll cook it softer so that it’ll be easier for her to eat!” Li Xiaoran replied as she sliced.

When the middle-aged man heard this, he was relieved.

The old lady stared at the cloth mask on the Li family members’ faces and asked curiously, “Why are you wearing masks?”

When Zhao Xiu heard the old lady’s question, she brought two bowls of bone broth over.

“This is used to prevent saliva that is spit out when we talk. We’re in the food business, so we have to be more mindful. Only then can the customers be at ease with the food!” Zhao Xiu said what Li Xiaoran had said previously.

When the middle-aged man and the old woman heard this, they looked forward to the bowl of noodles.

“You should be more mindful about this. How nice!” The middle-aged man agreed.

“That’s right! Come, these are two bowls of soup made from pig bones. Drink two mouthfuls first to warm up. The noodles will be ready soon!” Zhao Xiu smiled and greeted them.

The middle-aged man nodded. Then, he blew on the old lady’s bowl of soup to make sure it wasn’t too hot before placing it in front of his mother.

“Mother, this soup isn’t hot. Drink it slowly!”

The old lady nodded and sipped from her spoon.

It had to be said that the soup made from pig bones was delicious even with only some salt and some spring onions.

The old lady was probably really hungry. She drank most of the bowl in one go.

On the other side, Li Xiaoran scooped out a bowl of sliced noodles and stirred the condiments and sliced noodles with her chopsticks before placing them in front of the middle-aged man.

“This is your noodles! This bowl of noodles has a chewier texture!”

The middle-aged man looked at the bowl of noodles in front of him and was shocked.

“How did you know that I like to add chili to my noodles?”

“I guessed it!” Li Xiaoran replied with a smile.

“You guessed correctly! Don’t put chili in my mother’s bowl of noodles later!” The middle-aged man reminded her.

“Okay, don’t worry, sir!” Li Xiaoran nodded and quickly went to season another bowl of noodles.

“This noodles smells so good!” the old lady exclaimed as she stared at the sliced noodles in her son’s bowl.

The middle-aged man put down his chopsticks and said with concern, "Mother, my bowl of noodles is a little chewier. You won't be able to bite through it. The cooked noodles will be served later! Wait a moment!"

At this moment, the middle-aged man didn't eat first. Instead, he waited with the old lady.

When Li Shun saw this scene, he was also touched.

It seemed that this man was a filial person.

"Your son is so filial to you. You're so lucky!" Li Shun walked over with a smile.

The old woman's eyes flicked to her son when she heard Li Shun's words.

"That's right. I've given birth to a few children in my life, but only this adopted son treats me the best! He's not my biological son, but he treats me better than my biological son!"

The old woman's words instantly stunned the Li family.

Even Luo Cheng, who was secretly watching everything, was stunned.

"Mother, why are you saying this?! A son will always be your son! Without you taking care of me back then, there wouldn't be the current me! It's my duty to support you in your old age! I just look forward to Mother following me in my old age. People say that having an old person in the family is like having a treasure. You're our family's lucky charm!" the middle-aged man said with a smile.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, a smile appeared on her face.

She felt a sense of peaceful happiness from both of them.

The middle-aged man in front of her wanted to be filial to this old lady from the bottom of his heart, and he wasn't the kind of ingrate who only knew how to talk but was actually another person behind people's back.

“Alright. Then I’ll have to live a few more years and watch you get married and take care of your grandson before I can bear to die!” The old granny said with a smile.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she saw that the knife-cut noodles in the pot were ready, so she quickly scooped them up.

“Granny, your knife-cut noodles are ready! But it’s a little hot. Eat carefully!” Li Xiaoran reminded her after carrying it over.

The old lady nodded. Then she picked up her chopsticks, took a bite, and ate it carefully.

As she ate the noodles, the old lady suddenly stopped eating and took another bite.

After taking a few bites in a row, tears streamed down the old lady’s face and she kept muttering, “It’s this taste! I haven’t experienced this taste in years!”

The middle-aged man was shocked when he saw this. He quickly took out a handkerchief and carefully wiped the old lady’s tears.

“Mother, what happened to you?”