

## The Hunter 281

### Chapter 281: Greedy Dogs

“Did you go to the cold cave over there?” Luo Cheng asked sternly while glaring at the dogs.

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As if they knew they had done something wrong, the dogs leaned over and lay on the ground. Then, they drooped their heads with a guilty look.

Seeing this, Li Xiaoran couldn't help but laugh.

“These dogs are smart!”

Seeing Li Xiaoran smile, Luo Cheng couldn't help but remind her.

“Wife, I'm teaching them a lesson so that they won't do anything dangerous.

How can I teach them a lesson if you're smiling?”

“Huh?” When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she quickly stopped smiling and picked up the fish on the ground.

“Then I'll cook the fish. Husband, take your time to teach them a lesson! By the way, I'll leave some fish soup for them.” With that, Li Xiaoran reached out to take the fish on the ground.

However, when the pups heard Li Xiaoran's words, as if they understood, they quietly looked up at Li Xiaoran expectantly.

Seeing this, Luo Cheng was amused.

“Bring back all the other fish as well!”

When the pups heard this, they quickly wagged their tails and ran out.

Not long after, the pups returned together with a bamboo basket in their mouths.

When Li Xiaoran saw that the bamboo basket was filled with fish, her mouth fell open.

“Don't underestimate them. They're actually smarter than humans! This basket of big fish is for us to eat. They'll eat the other basket of small fish,” Luo Cheng said as he looked at the pups.

“Go and bring back the small fish you want to eat! I'll fry them and make dried fish for you tonight!”

As soon as he said this, the group of pups immediately jumped up happily and rushed out again.

When the group of pups returned with a basket of small fish, Li Xiaoran had already calmed down.

“I didn’t expect you pups to be a group of greedy dogs!” Li Xiaoran touched them one by one and then took all the fish away, leaving Luo Cheng to teach these bold pups a lesson.

Just as he finished dealing with a few big fish, Luo Cheng walked over.

“How is it? Have you lectured them enough?” Li Xiaoran asked teasingly.

When Luo Cheng heard this, he rolled up his sleeves and squatted beside Li Xiaoran to deal with the small fish in the wooden basin.

“These dogs all have their own talents, but when they work together, they’re bold and can achieve anything. Do you know what kind of place that cold cave I’m talking about is? It’s a very deep cave. The water in the mountain flows out from there. That cold cave is warm in winter and cold in summer, but it’s very dangerous inside. No one dares to go in! These few fellows are bold. Every time they crave the fish inside, they will run in and fish with bamboo baskets!” Luo Cheng explained as he removed the fish scales.

“Then how did they know that there were fish in the cold cave?” Li Xiaoran asked the key question.

This time, Luo Cheng smiled awkwardly.

“It’s my fault. When I discovered that there was a cave there, I wondered if I could use it as a wine cellar, so I brought Big Yellow along to explore. However, the terrain in the cold cave was complicated and there were dark rivers everywhere. We retreated without going deep inside and only caught some fish to eat at the periphery of the cold cave. From then on, Big Yellow knew that there were delicious fish there and would run in to catch them every time it wanted to eat them.

“So, the reason these pups went back to catch fish was because Big Yellow brought them there?” Li Xiaoran thought of something and asked.

“That’s right! Big Yellow brought them there a few times. Later on, they were able to find the way themselves! For some reason, Big Yellow didn’t go today, but the other dogs did!” Luo Cheng said.

“No wonder Big Yellow gestured at me earlier. At first, I thought it had gone to the river to catch fish, but after all this time, it was catching fish in the cold cave! But on second thought, Big Yellow and the others might have jumped into the water of the cold cave to swim and caught these fish!” Li Xiaoran said, “By the way, I’ve been at home for several months, and I’ve never seen you bathing Big Yellow and the others, but Big Yellow and the others have always been very clean. Even if they were dirty, they quickly became clean again after running out!”

“They went to the river to wash themselves! Don’t underestimate these dogs. They’re very smart!” Luo Cheng replied with a smile.

“Other people raise dogs amidst chaos. Our dogs can guard the house and have their own specialties. They can even catch fish for themselves to eat. As the owner, you should be happy! If others know that you have such capable dogs, they will be so jealous!” Li Xiaoran couldn’t help but say when she saw Luo Cheng’s smug expression.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he was immediately amused. “That’s why I didn’t publicize it outside! I only said these words to you!”

“Yes, yes, yes! Our pups are so cute. We can’t let others kidnap them!” Li Xiaoran said with a smile.

“I’m so lucky to have so many fish to eat today!” When Elder Xu walked back at this moment and saw the two of them killing fish, he immediately rolled up his sleeves and came over.

With Elder Xu’s help, the three of them killed the fish much faster.

Before long, the basket of small fish was ready.

Li Xiaoran first cut the fish into pieces and tasted them before starting to make fired dried fish.

Their family didn’t lack oil now, so Li Xiaoran was willing to use oil when she fried the fish.

Before long, the smell of fried fish came from the kitchen.

Big Yellow and the pups ran to the kitchen to stand guard when they smelled the aroma. They stared at the stove covetously.

As Li Xiaoran looked at the pups, she immediately laughed.

“Why do I feel like they’re like us when we were young? They’re always by the pot when it’s time to eat, as if they can eat more delicious food by standing guard here!”

Luo Cheng looked at the gluttonous dogs with a smile.

“Give them some of the fried dried fish first! Otherwise, I’m afraid our kitchen will be drowned in saliva.”

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng’s words, she looked at the mouths of the pups.

Sure enough, some of the dogs were already showing glistening drool with ravenous looks on their faces.

“Alright, I’ll share some with you guys first!” Li Xiaoran was overjoyed. She quickly took out some fried dried fish and handed them to the pups sitting in rows.

After each dog was given two dried fish, Big Yellow led its friends out of the courtyard and the dogs ate together..

## Chapter 282: It's Time to Change

When Zhao Xiu, Li Xiaoqing, and Luo Ziyang returned, they happened to see this scene.

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"It smells so good. Who would have thought that these pups would get to eat it first?!" Zhao Xiu teased as she walked in.

Li Shun, who was making furniture in the house, heard his wife's voice and replied, "They deserve to eat it! Don't you know that these fish were caught by these few pups?!"

Although Li Shun had been focused on making furniture, he knew what was happening outside.

"Big Yellow and the others fished them out?" Li Xiaoqing asked in surprise.

"Even if Big Yellow and the others caught them, there's nothing strange about it! Every once in a while, Big Yellow would bring a few dogs to the cold cave to fish. Every time, they would be taught a lesson by my brother. But, the next time Big Yellow and the others wanted to eat fish, they would run over to catch fish again!" Luo Ziyang thought of something and explained with a smile, "Look, the small fish that Big Yellow and the others are eating now belong to them exclusively."

When Li Xiaoran heard her mother and sister's voices outside, she shouted at the top of her lungs.

"Mother, come over and help fry the little fish!"

Zhao Xiu smiled and went to get water to wash her hands.

After walking into the kitchen, Zhao Xiu took over frying the fish, while Li Xiaoran went to prepare dinner for everyone.

Because Elder Xu was around, Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and went to get the meat.

"Sister, Mother and I found a lot of fresh chives on the way back today. Do you want to cook them tonight?" Li Xiaoqing took out the basket of chives she was carrying and asked.

"Yes, I'll make meat soup! The weather is cold today. Let's make a pot of meat soup to warm up our bodies!" Li Xiaoran nodded and replied.

When Li Xiaoqing heard this, she quickly took the chives out to wash.

Luo Ziyang also walked over to wash up with Li Xiaoqing.

After all, washing chives was a very time- and energy-consuming job. It would be much more efficient if two people did it together.

Luo Cheng didn't stay idle. He took out the rice and washed it three times before putting it on the small stove to cook a pot of rice.

Li Xiaoran cut a large basin of meat, then began to put seasoning and sweet potato powder in.

After the preparations were done, Li Xiaoran boiled another large pot.

After the fish slices and fish bones had already been seasoned, Li Xiaoran started cooking fish.

She originally wanted to make pickled fish, but the pickled vegetables had been made shortly before and hadn't been marinated yet, so she could only continue boiling fish.

After the fish was cooked, Li Xiaoran made a pot of chives and meat soup. Finally, she stir-fried a large plate with cabbage and vegetables. Dinner was ready.

Although there weren't many dishes, there was enough!

Elder Xu was also a big eater and liked the three dishes Li Xiaoran made today.

The chives and meat soup was light and nutritious. The boiled fish was spicy and fresh. The stir-fried cabbage dish was crispy and delicious.

At the end, all three dishes were eaten.

Even the meat soup used to boil the fish was drunk by everyone. If they soaked the rice in it, they could eat several bowls of it.

The big fish caught in the cold cave didn't have many bones. There was only one main bone, so be it adults, children, or elders, they weren't afraid of choking on fish bones.

After dinner, Luo Cheng called Luo Ziyang to the study.

Elder Xu had followed them around a few times today and was shocked by

Daniu's appearance, so he was already tired.

After washing up early, Elder Xu went to bed to rest.

After Li Xiaoran and her family cleaned up the kitchen and dining table, they also washed up and went to rest.

When she passed by Luo Cheng's room and saw that the oil lamp was still lit, Li

Xiaoran thought of something and reminded, "Husband, don't forget to feed Big Yellow medicine!"

Luo Cheng and Luo Ziyang were discussing the arrangement of the people on the barren mountain when they heard Li Xiaoran's voice.

"I've already fed Big Yellow medicine after dinner! You should go to bed!"

When Li Xiaoran heard that Big Yellow had already taken the medicine, she was relieved. Then, she yawned and went to sleep.

After Li Xiaoran left, Luo Cheng looked at Luo Ziyang.

"The situation is unclear now. I don't know who's setting me up, but we still have to be vigilant. Previously, I thought that I could avoid those troubles after leaving that place, but those people are actually unwilling to let me off the hook. In that case, it's time for us to expand our power! Now that I have people

I want to protect, I can't let them get harmed because of me."

Luo Ziyang's eyes lit up when he heard Luo Cheng's words.

“Brother, you should have done this long ago! The more compromising we are, the more arrogant those people will be. In my opinion, we should expand our power and teach those people a lesson. Otherwise, those people will think that you’re a pushover. Everyone will try to bully you!”

Luo Cheng had also figured it out, so his thoughts were different now.

“You’re right. Men have to be powerful enough to protect our families. Previously, I was alone, so it didn’t matter, but it’s different now! Ziyang! To be honest, I could predict our lives in the past, so I felt that it didn’t matter! But ever since your sister-in-law came, I felt that my life has gained meaning and I have something to look forward to. It feels completely different!”

“Brother, that was how I felt in the past as well! In the past, I had no family and was free to follow you wherever you went. But now, it’s different. I have my parents, my sister, you, and sister-in-law! I feel fulfilled. I feel that I’m no longer alone!” Luo Ziyang said with some emotion.

“Alright! You and I will work hard together to live a better life in the future!” When Luo Cheng heard Luo Ziyang’s words, he said in high spirits, “If anyone dares to stop us from living a good life, we’ll make sure they never return!” Luo Ziyang nodded. Then, he thought of something and became agitated.

“You’re right! We should beat these people up so that they won’t dare to provoke us again! By the way, what should we do about Daniu? We can’t keep him locked up at home, right?”

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and said, “Perhaps this person will be of great use to us. However, it’s not suitable for him to stay here. We have to find another place to settle him down!”

“Then can’t we just send him to the barren mountain? There are many people there, and they need more manpower. It’s free labor. It’s a waste not to use him!” Luo Ziyang said.

Luo Cheng thought about it carefully and finally nodded.. Then, he lowered his voice and whispered something to Luo Ziyang...

## Chapter 283: Dream Realization

The brothers whispered things to each other. That night, the oil lamp in Luo Cheng’s study stayed lit until it was very late.

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When Li Xiaoran woke up the next day, she saw Luo Cheng practicing boxing in the forest behind the house.

After pushing open the window and staring at Luo Cheng for a while, Li Xiaoran suddenly felt playful. She leaned against the window and shouted with a smile, "Hey, handsome husband, is the spring scenery not beautiful enough, or are the chirping birds and blooming flowers not enticing enough that you ignore this beautiful scenery and train here all alone?"

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran's words, he stopped and walked towards Li Xiaoran with his sword.

Li Xiaoran wasn't afraid at all. When she saw Luo Cheng walking over, she continued to stare at him with a smile.

Luo Cheng came in front of Li Xiaoran and stared at her with his handsome eyes. Suddenly, he smiled.

It had to be said that his smile was too mesmerizing!

Li Xiaoran felt dazzled by this smile.

Her heart was racing, and she looked like she couldn't breathe.

Luo Cheng was very satisfied with Li Xiaoran's reaction to his handsome looks. He raised his eyebrows and said, "Without a beautiful woman to enjoy the scenery with me, it's naturally boring! I wonder if you're in the mood to admire the scenery and practice swords with me?" Li Xiaoran laughed when she heard Luo Cheng's words.

"Sure! Wait for me!"

With that, Li Xiaoran retreated a long distance.

Then, Li Xiaoran leapt out of the window.

Li Xiaoran's actions shocked Luo Cheng, but his body reacted faster than his mind did.

The moment Li Xiaoran jumped out, Luo Cheng reached out and grabbed Li Xiaoran's waist, then rushed into the forest with her.

Li Xiaoran watched as Luo Cheng brought her through the forest and quickly arrived at the place where the flowers had bloomed. Her face was filled with excitement.

When she was young, she had dreamed of the day when she could master ninja skills and travel freely between mountains and rivers.

Unfortunately, at that time, no matter how advanced technology was, she wasn't able to fulfill her wish!

She didn't expect to fulfill her childhood dream after transmigrating to this time and space and marrying Luo Cheng. It was a pleasant surprise.

When Luo Cheng saw the excitement on Li Xiaoran's face, he thought of something, so he brought Li Xiaoran to jump onto a Magnolia tree. The two of them sat on the thick branch as they admired the beautiful scenery below. Luo Cheng took out a flute from somewhere and played it. Melodious music sounded.

While listening to the flute, Li Xiaoran looked down from the nearby Magnolias and then towards the verdant Hele Village in the distance. It was a beautiful scene.

Li Xiaoran, who had never admired the beautiful scenery of the village at such a high vantage point, suddenly realized that Hele Village actually had a serene sense of beauty.

“Luo Cheng, why did you choose to live in Hele Village back then?” Li Xiaoran suddenly asked.

As soon as Li Xiaoran finished speaking, Luo Cheng stopped playing the flute and seemed to be recalling something, then he said, “I don’t know why! I’ve

Village, but for some reason, I decided to stay in Hele Village! It was as if there was a voice telling me that I should stay here!”

With that, Luo Cheng turned to look at Li Xiaoran. “Perhaps the heavens arranged for me to stay here to wait for you to appear!”

Li Xiaoran gazed at Luo Cheng with a smile.

“Perhaps the heavens arranged for us to meet!”

Didn’t the heavens arrange for her to transmigrate from the modern world to Li Xiaoran’s body?

Li Xiaoran was certain that if she hadn’t transmigrated, Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng wouldn’t have their current fate.

Li Yan was the one who had married Luo Cheng in her past life!

Thinking of this, Li Xiaoran smiled.

Perhaps everything was meant to be.

It was destined that Luo Cheng and Li Yan would never be married in this life. It was destined that she would transmigrate here from the modern world and meet Luo Cheng.

“Wife, you should focus on your fast food business! You can tell me what you need from the barren mountain. I’ll do it. It’s not that I don’t want you to be in charge of things here, but there are too many people over there. They’re all men, so I’m worried!” Luo Cheng looked at Li Xiaoran, who was smiling happily, and said.

Li Xiaoran froze for a moment, then she recalled what had happened yesterday and understood something.

“Are you planning to leave Daniu on the barren mountain?”

Luo Cheng looked at Li Xiaoran as he laughed.

“It’s really nice to have a smart wife. I feel like I can’t hide anything from you!”

“I’m not that smart. On second thought, it’s indeed inappropriate for me to get involved! But don’t worry, husband, you can ask me anything! I’m smart. I might be able to solve many problems for you!” Li Xiaoran said with a smile.



“Don’t worry, when we sell the fish we raised, I’ll have to trouble you!” At this point, Luo Cheng thought of something. “Wife, leave the matter of raising fish and vegetables to the people on the barren mountain! As for selling fish in the future, let us do it!”

“Are you worried that some of the people who came have ill intentions, so it’s better for us to sell them ourselves?” Li Xiaoran asked.

Luo Cheng nodded and said, “I originally planned to bring over some people I felt were reliable, but now that Elder Xu is involved, things are different! I can’t say that the people sent by Elder Xu aren’t trustworthy, but I don’t dare to take the risk. Let them farm and raise fish. When the time comes, we’ll sell fish and chickens from the barren mountain. This way, the management will be much easier! No matter what goes wrong, we won’t suffer a complete lose as long as we don’t have all our eggs in once basket!”

Li Xiaoran felt that his worries weren’t unreasonable, so she nodded.

“Alright, let’s develop the barren mountain first and build it into a farm. Then, we’ll do business and buy the ingredients from the farm. This way, we can achieve a win-win outcome!”

At this point, Li Xiaoran immediately thought of something.

“No wonder you didn’t let me interfere in the barren mountain’s matter. You’ve already planned it out! Speaking of which, I’m good at doing business, but I really don’t know much about management!”

Luo Cheng nodded, grateful for Li Xiaoran’s understanding.

“I’m sorry for suddenly prohibiting you from interfering in the barren mountain’s matter!”

“It’s fine.. It’s just a small matter! Perhaps it’ll be better for me to do what I’m good at! Besides, I can take advantage of this opportunity to start the fast-food business, so I can be at ease when I leave it to my parents to run in the future!”

#### Chapter 284: Find a Chef

“Is business the only thing on your mind?” Luo Cheng suddenly said. “Don’t forget that you’re marrying me in March!”

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Li Xiaoran didn’t expect Luo Cheng to suddenly say this and immediately blushed.

“When I think about how I have to wait until March to sleep with my wife, I feel that the wait is so long!” Luo Cheng suddenly said.

Li Xiaoran looked at Luo Cheng in shock. His words were so uncharacteristic.

“Husband, I really didn’t expect you to be such a person.”

“What kind of person am I? Could it be that you can only flirt with me, but me, a handsome man, can’t get intimate with my own wife?” Luo Cheng said as he deliberately approached her.

At this moment, Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng panting, making her blush. “Luo Cheng!” Li Xiaoran couldn’t take it anymore and could only cry out in anger.

“Why are you calling me? Is there anything I can do for you?” Luo Cheng naturally noticed that Li Xiaoran’s face had turned red, so he replied teasingly.

“I’m hungry. I’m going to wash up and eat breakfast now!” Li Xiaoran immediately thought of something and said.

“I see! Give me a kiss and I’ll bring you back for breakfast!” Luo Cheng said as he leaned his cheek over.

Looking at the handsome side profile in front of her, Li Xiaoran felt shy, but also a little emboldened.

Anyway, he was her husband and he was so handsome. It would be a waste not to kiss him!

With this in mind, Li Xiaoran kissed him.

She pecked his face and quickly pulled away.

After Luo Cheng got what he wanted, he naturally brought Li Xiaoran back to the house as agreed.

After bringing Li Xiaoran back to her room, Luo Cheng thought of something and said.

“Don’t go out alone for the time being. Tell Father, Mother, and Xiao Qing not to go out alone either! Someone might be keeping an eye on me and might attack you guys as well! I’ve already instructed my secret guards to protect you guys in secret. Even so, it’s best not to go out alone!”

Li Xiaoran nodded to show that she understood.

During breakfast, Luo Cheng reminded everyone again. Everyone nodded.

The weather seemed to have warmed up today.

After breakfast, Li Xiaoran brought the family to the shop.

More and more customers were passing by the official road, and there was more and more business at the noodle shop.

When Li Xiaoran saw Yuan Cheng, she smiled and greeted him before starting work.

Now, in addition to sliced noodles, there were also steamed buns and porridge on the menu.

Bone soup made from pig bones was constantly being served. Some customers would scoop a bowl for themselves when they were thirsty.

Her mother, Zhao Xiu, was cooking noodles.

Li Xiaoqing and Luo Ziyang were in charge of serving the dishes and wiping the tables.

From the looks of things, everything was in order.

However, when the fast food stall next door opened, they would probably be busier.

“Mother, have you found workers for the shop yet?” Li Xiaoran recalled what had happened previously and asked.

“I did. I’ve already confirmed things with a few people! When are you going to meet them? See how many of them you want!” Zhao Xiu replied as she cooked the noodles.

“By the way, daughter, many people from the village came, so I’m pushing the responsibility to you. You can decide who you want to hire!”

Li Xiaoran nodded and replied, “There’s no time to lose. Why don’t you tell them to come tomorrow?!”

“Alright, after selling the knife-cut noodles during lunch, I’ll go to the village and tell those people to come to the shop tomorrow!” Zhao Xiu nodded and said.

After the matter of hiring workers was settled, Li Xiaoran began to worry about the the matter of hiring cooks.

Cooking fast food had high requirements for a chef’s culinary skills. If she just let her mother cook all the time, she would be exhausted. It wasn’t worth it.

Besides, her mother had already worked hard for most of her life. Cooking too much would probably hurt her health!

Why not hire some chefs as well?!

“Mother, do you know any good chefs?”

“Chef? You even want to hire a chef?” Zhao Xiu immediately understood what her daughter meant and quickly said, “Didn’t you say before that you wanted me to cook? Why did you change your mind again?”

“Mother, I don’t want you to work too hard! Earning money is secondary. Your health is the most important thing. Hiring a chef is necessary. Think about it. What if something happens at home, or if Grandpa needs your help? What if you can’t leave? You might as well be the manager of noodle stall and the fast food business. Things will be much easier!” Li Xiaoran said her thoughts.

“Aunt Xiu, Xiaoran is right. You’ve worked hard your entire life. Now that Xiaoran is being so filial, you should take things easy and enjoy life!” Yuan Cheng echoed.

“That’s right, Mother, it’s good enough that we can earn money by cooking noodles! Let’s listen to my sister!” Li Xiaoqing also persuaded.

“Yes, yes, yes. Both of you have a point. Anyway, after your sister got married, each of her ideas have been better than the last. I’m just waiting to enjoy life!” Zhao Xiu said happily.

“Mother, you should enjoy life! Things have been so hard on you in the past. Now that you’re finally living a good life, you naturally have to enjoy it!” Li Xiaoran walked over and held Zhao Xiu’s hand as she said intimately.

“Go away. You’re already married, yet you’re still wheedling here?! Aren’t you afraid that others will laugh at you?!”

“No matter how old I am, I’m still a child in front of my mother! Besides, we’re family. No one will laugh at me!” Li Xiaoran said.

“Yes, we’re all friends and family!” The three customers who were eating noodles said in unison.

As soon as he said this, everyone laughed.

At this moment, a customer came to buy buns. Yuan Cheng quickly got busy. He wrapped the buns in leaves before handing them over and taking the money.

After looking outside and confirming that there were no customers, Yuan Cheng came to Li Xiaoran’s side.

“Do you really want to find a good chef?”

“Yes! Do you have anyone you recommend?” Li Xiaoran looked at Yuan Cheng and asked.

Yuan Cheng nodded, then looked at Li Xiaoqing.

“Xiao Qing, help me look after the stall. I have something to tell Xiaoran!” Li Xiaoqing agreed and started looking after the stall.

On the other hand, Yuan Cheng brought Li Xiaoqing to the courtyard at the back to discuss things.

“Sister-in-law, I won’t hide it from you. There’s someone in our village who cooks very well. His food is very delicious! However, he wasn’t a chef in the past. He just has talent in cooking.. If you don’t mind, let him try!”

## Chapter 285: Ungrateful

“Alright, I don’t mind. It’s fine as long as he’s capable! How about this, find out if that person is free tomorrow? Ask him to come over tomorrow and cook for us!” Li Xiaoran said, “By the way, he has to have good moral character! I don’t want someone with a bad character!”

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“Don’t worry! This person isn’t the irresponsible type! You’ll know when you see him tomorrow!” Yuan Cheng said.

“Then do you need to go back to the village to look for him? Aren’t you afraid of being stopped by your uncle and aunt?” Li Xiaoran thought of something and asked.

“Don’t worry, I won’t go. I’ll get Mao Dao to help me make a trip later. Actually, Mao Dao knows that person too!” Yuan Cheng explained.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she was relieved.

To Li Xiaoran’s surprise, when their family arrived at the shop early the next morning, a large group of people appeared.

Zhao Xiu looked at the crowd in front of her in shock. Then, she looked at Li Xiaoran.

“I didn’t call so many people, did I?”

The women who Zhao Xiu summoned had ugly expressions, but they still suppressed their anger.

“We heard that the shop is short of manpower. That’s why we came! It’s fine to have a few more people. The more people there are, the more options there are. Don’t you think so?” A woman with a mole on her face said loudly when she heard Zhao Xiu’s words.

The uninvited guests immediately echoed by saying that they were productive and that the salary they demanded was low.

Zhao Xiu had never seen such a scene before. For a moment, she was a little anxious and didn’t know what to do.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and went straight into the house to get a pot. Then, she knocked it a few times with a spatula.

A loud voice sounded. The people who had been chattering just now immediately looked over at Li Xiaoran.

“Stop talking. Since you all are here to give it a try, you have to follow my rules! Stand in front of me in two lines. If you don’t queue properly, please leave!” Li Xiaoran looked at the people around her as she stood on a big rock.

Although some people were unwilling, they could only obediently queue up when they heard Li Xiaoran’s words.

Someone wanted to cut the queue, but realized that Li Xiaoran was watching everyone, so that person gave up and ran to the back to queue.

Seeing that these people had lined up in two rows, Li Xiaoran put down the kettle and spatula.

Li Xiaoran looked at Yuan Cheng and Mao Dao, who were at the door, and instructed, "I'll call people in one by one. The others will wait outside. When the people inside come out, I'll call the next one in. Yuan Cheng, Mao Dao, keep an eye on them. If anyone cuts the queue, make them leave!"

Yuan Cheng and Mao Dao nodded. One of them only needed to guard the stall while the other watched the people queuing outside.

Just like that, no one dared to make a sound as they lined up quietly.

After saying the rules, Li Xiaoran looked at her mother and sister and said, "Mother, go ahead and get busy with my sister! Leave the matters here to me and Ziyang!"

Zhao Xiu looked at Li Xiaoran worriedly, then she was pulled to the noodle shop by Li Xiaoqing.

Seeing this, Li Xiaoran went to sit in the room, then she looked at Luo Ziyang.

"Ziyang, call the first person in!"

Luo Ziyang nodded and called someone in.

Zhao Xiu listened to the commotion next door from time to time and felt very anxious.

"Mother, don't worry! This is no big deal. I can handle it!"

"I know your sister can deal with it, but I feel a little uncomfortable. I repeatedly reminded these people not to spread this matter, but they all brought people over. Although I was in shock just now, I saw it very clearly. Everyone brought their families over. Aren't they breaking their promise?" Zhao Xiu said angrily.

She was being kind and wanted to help them.

Unexpectedly, her kindness wasn't reciprocated.

To be honest, Zhao Xiu was very angry.

Li Xiaoqing could actually understand her mother's feelings. If it were her, she would have lost her temper too.

"Mother, this is a good thing! This incident allowed us to see these people's true colors! It's a blessing in disguise for us. Just stay away from these people in the future! They can make us suffer a loss once, but they can't make us suffer a loss again!"

Zhao Xiu felt better when she heard her youngest daughter's words.

"That's right! It's worth it to suffer a loss in exchange for seeing these people's true colors!"

With that, Zhao Xiu ignored the discomfort in her heart.

Li Xiaoran called them in one by one and asked some questions.

Li Xiaoran could see all these people's emotions.

Li Xiaoran knew very well what the other party was thinking.

The morning passed, and the interviews finally ended.

Li Xiaoran said nothing. In the end, she took out a piece of paper with names written on it and walked out.

“Bai Shu, Yun Xiaoying, Zhang Xuan, the three of you can stay! The rest of you can go back!” Li Xiaoran said.

“What’s going on? Didn’t they say they were recruiting five people? Why are there only three?” Someone in the crowd immediately shouted unhappily.

Li Xiaoran immediately looked at the person who spoke and sneered.

“I’m the one hiring. I can hire as many people as I want! Are you still in charge of my family’s affairs?”

“Why didn’t I know that the Luo family is actually controlled by an outsider?” At this moment, Luo Cheng’s voice sounded.

Li Xiaoran looked over and saw Luo Cheng walking over with a few people.

“Husband, why are you here?” Li Xiaoran asked in surprise.

“The shop’s business is getting bigger and bigger. In the future, it will also be easier for people to cause trouble. I’m worried about the safety of my family, so I found a few people who know martial arts to work in the shop!” Luo Cheng walked over with his people and said to Li Xiaoran with a smile.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she immediately laughed.

“It just so happens that I want a few people who know martial arts. What a coincidence!”

“You can bring this in first. I’ll handle things here!” Luo Cheng said with a smile.

Li Xiaoran shook her head and said firmly, “It’s fine, I’ll do it myself! Husband, just stand behind and support me!”

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he immediately changed his mind.

“Alright! Then I’ll support you! I want to see who dares to bully you with me around!”

## Chapter 286: Reasonable

Li Xiaoran smiled and walked to the front of the crowd.

...

Without saying a word, Li Xiaoran stood there, her expression gradually turning serious.

“I remember that my mother told some of you to keep it a secret! Why did you guys go back on your word?”

As soon as she said this, the six people in the crowd looked ashamed.

Of course, after feeling ashamed, some people were also very angry.

“It’s not that we don’t know how to keep it a secret, but after our family found out, they all started making a fuss! We had no choice! As a daughter-in-law, there are many things that we can’t decide! We were pressured!” A timid woman explained.

“That’s right! Xiaoran, it’s really because we couldn’t keep it a secret!” The others also explained.

Li Xiaoran didn’t speak and simply listened to these people. She had no intention of interfering at all.

Gradually, these people also realized that Li Xiaoran’s attitude was off and gradually fell silent.

When everyone fell silent, Li Xiaoran looked at the group of people.

“Yes, you guys had no choice! I also believe that you all had your own difficulties. However, I run a shop to do business, not charity. Your difficulties are your own business. Do I have to tolerate it if you want to take the things in my shop back to help your relatives in the future? From this, it can be seen that you guys are untrustworthy. I want you guys to be productive and diligent, but what’s more important is your character.”

“How can I trust people who can’t even keep their promises?” Li Xiaoran said in the end.

“What about us? We’re productive and have good character.” Suddenly, a woman with high cheekbones questioned indignantly.

“You? You’re productive? I might believe others, but I really don’t believe your words! I’m afraid you’ll take over my shop and treat it as yours! You’re not from our village to begin with, right?! You’re just an outsider who lives in your relative’s house, but now, you’re forcing your relatives to vacate a room for your family. You bully people all the time!” Li Xiaoran exposed the other party’s lie and mocked her.

As soon as she said this, the others looked at the woman disdainfully.

Everyone in the village knew about this.

It was just that some of them had never seen what the infamously thick-skinned woman looked like, so they didn’t recognize her.

After Li Xiaoran exposed her identity, everyone criticized this person spontaneously.



“That’s right. If you’re not from our village, why are you accusing us? You probably haven’t even figured out the situation yet! This is Hele Village, not a place for an outsider like you to behave atrociously!” A woman on the other side immediately mocked.

“That’s right. This isn’t the Huang family. Do you really think we’re as meek as the Huang family? How can we be controlled by an outsider like you?” Another woman said sarcastically.

This time, the outsider didn’t dare to say anything and could only glare at Li Xiaoran angrily.

“Try glaring at her again and I’ll dig your eyeballs out!” Luo Cheng suddenly said.

When the woman heard Luo Cheng’s words, she trembled in fear and quickly ran away.

This time, no one dared to say anything.

“As for the rest of you guys, the reason you guys weren’t hired is that none of you pay attention to personal cleanliness. I run a food business. The food will be eaten by customers. You guys came for an interview today, so you should all know this very well.”

“But look at you guys. Your clothes are untidy and there are stains in many places. Some of your clothes are clean, but look at your hands. Your nails are black and dirty. I wouldn’t dare to hire such people. There are some who are clean and tidy, but when you guys speak, you spit. If you bring dishes to the customers, won’t they be disgusted?”

At this point, Li Xiaoran didn’t continue.

“Look at the three people I’ve chosen. Are you guys still going to ask why you weren’t chosen?”

Hearing Li Xiaoran’s words, everyone looked at each other. In the end, all of them lowered their heads in dejection.

No one expected to miss such a good opportunity because they didn’t take hygiene seriously.

“Alright, disperse!” Li Xiaoran didn’t want to waste her breath on these people anymore.

To be honest, if not for the sake of the village, Li Xiaoran wouldn’t have bothered to waste her breath.

After bringing the three people to the courtyard at the back, Li Xiaoran began to talk about the work requirements, the monthly salary, and every day’s work schedule.

On the other side, Zhao Xiu heaved a sigh of relief when she saw that the matter had come to an end.

At that moment, a few people returned. They came to the door of the noodle shop and shouted.

“Zhao Xiu, can you come out and talk?” A pale woman shouted carefully. Zhao Xiu originally wanted to ignore her, but seeing the other party’s expectant expression, she thought for a moment and handed the work in her hand to her youngest daughter, Li Xiaoqing.

“Xiao Qing, cook the noodles. I have something to deal with first!”

Li Xiaoqing looked at the people outside the door and nodded. Then, she lowered her voice and said, “Mom, you can’t be muddle-headed! Don’t be too lenient and forgiving!”

“Don’t worry, I’m not stupid!” Zhao Xiu replied and walked out. After walking to the side, Zhao Xiu looked at the three people who had returned.

“If you have anything to say, say it now!” Zhao Xiu said with a cold expression.

“I’m sorry, Zhao Xiu! We really didn’t mean it!” The pale woman looked miserable and apologized to Zhao Xiu with red eyes.

“That’s right! We’re really sorry! We were wrong, so we have to apologize to you personally!” Another woman chimed in.

“That’s right! Zhao Xiu, we all knew that you were doing this for our own good, but we were ungrateful. We’re really sorry!” The woman with patches on her clothes apologized softly..

## Chapter 287: Harassing Again

Zhao Xiu looked at the three of them and said.

...

“I’ve accepted your apologies! If there’s nothing else, please leave!”

The three of them were stunned when they heard Zhao Xiu’s words.

They had expected Zhao Xiu to scold them angrily or show them her attitude, but they didn’t expect Zhao Xiu to say such words so calmly.

With that, Zhao Xiu ignored their reactions and walked towards the shop.

“Zhao Xiu, what do you mean?” The woman with the patches on her clothes was the first to shout, “We’ve already apologized to you. Do you have to act so cold and ignore us?”

Zhao Xiu stopped and turned to look at the woman.

“Do you guys really think I’m a fool? Didn’t you guys come back to apologize to me because you still wanted to work in the shop? Did I give you the illusion that I was

stupid and easy to fool? I asked you guys not to tell anyone, but all of you told your families. If you guys had treated me as a friend, you wouldn't have done this. Even if you had any difficulties, couldn't you have told me in advance?"

None of the three women said anything.

"No one came to tell me in advance! You guys think that I'm soft-hearted, so

I'm easy to bully! You're all wrong! I'm kind to others, but it doesn't mean that I'm a soft-hearted pushover. I saw what happened today clearly. You guys have never treated me as a friend! In that case, let's not see each other again in the future! I can't afford to have friends like you guys!" Zhao Xiu said and walked back into the shop resolutely.

The remaining three women exchanged glances, not knowing what to do.

Just as they were about to continue pestering her, Li Xiaoran walked out of another shop.

"Why? You guys still want to pester my mother? It seems that I was too nice to you guys previously! I let you guys off easy because you guys had a good relationship with my mother. Since you're so insensible, don't blame me for being ruthless! From now on, all our family's businesses will have nothing to do with you guys. In the future, don't even think about getting involved with anything in our family!"

"So be it. Do you really think you're some sort of big shot?! Do you think we're begging your family?" The tallest woman snorted and said.

"You'd better remember what you said now. You'll regret it in the future!" Li Xiaoran sneered and said, "Ziyang, chase them away! In the future, don't let the relatives and friends of these families enter our shop!"

Luo Ziyang agreed and walked towards the three women.

The three women were not stupid. After Li Xiaoran had ordered them to leave, they quickly ran out.

While staring at the backs of the three of them, Li Xiaoran cursed them.

"What the hell? They actually want to bully my mother? They're too big for their britches!"

After Luo Ziyang glanced at the three women, he walked over to comfort Li Xiaoran. "Don't get angry over these people. They're not worth it. We'll remember these families. They'll regret it in the future."

Li Xiaoran nodded and turned to enter the shop.

The three people who had been recruited previously knew the rules of the shop and were very satisfied with the salary, so they went straight to work.

Since they were making fast food, pots and pans were needed.

Luo Cheng had already bought pots, pans, long tables and chairs.

Therefore, the three of them were washing the dishes, tables, and chairs.

Now that they had workers, they only lacked a chef. Thinking of this, Li Xiaoran looked at Yuan Cheng.

“Yuan Cheng, when will the person you introduced come?”

When Yuan Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he replied as he packed the buns, “He’ll be here soon! Mao Dao should bring him over here soon!”

Li Xiaoran nodded and went to the tea table in the backyard. Then, she poured herself a cup of tea and drank it.

“Sigh, I’m so exhausted! My mouth is dry from talking all morning!”

Luo Cheng was reading when he heard Li Xiaoran’s words, and he laughed.

“That’s why I made you throat-soothing tea. How do you feel?”

After Luo Cheng said it, only then did Li Xiaoran sense a sweet taste in her mouth.

“Yes, it’s not bad! I like this tea. It’s not too sweet or bitter!”

“It’s good that you like it. I specifically made this for you!” Luo Cheng said happily when he saw that Li Xiaoran was very satisfied with the tea.

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng’s words, she felt touched.

“With your physique, you get inflammation easily. Once you catch a cold, your throat will be sore. Drink tea more often to prevent it!” Luo Cheng looked at Li Xiaoran and said.

“How did you know that my throat hurts first when I catch a cold?” Li Xiaoran looked at Luo Cheng in surprise and asked.

“Of course I know! Don’t forget, I’m a doctor, and my medical skills are very good!” Luo Cheng reminded her with a smile.

“Hehe!” Li Xiaoran smiled in embarrassment and took a few more sips of tea.

This tea was really good. Previously, there were some sores around her mouth, but after drinking this tea, she no longer felt that burning pain when she touched those places with her hand.

“Husband, did you notice the sores on my face?” Li Xiaoran thought of something and immediately asked.

“That’s right. No matter how small the red dot on your face is, I can see it!” Luo Cheng put down the book and looked at Li Xiaoran teasingly.

For some reason, when she heard Luo Cheng’s words, Li Xiaoran suddenly felt that the tea in her mouth tasted even sweeter!

At this moment, Mao Dao led someone in.

“Brother Luo, Sister-in-law, we brought the chef for you two!”

Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng looked over and saw a tall man following Mao Dao.

It had to be said that this man was too tall. He looked like he was almost 1.9 meters tall!

After the other party entered, he didn't look at Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran first. Instead, he looked around the courtyard.

Li Xiaoran also took this opportunity to look at the man in front of her. She looked at his hands, neck, and hair.

It had to be said that although this man was wearing old clothes, he looked very clean.

"Since you're here, cook something! There are some ingredients in the kitchen over there. Cook two dishes for us to try! Mao Dao, help him start a fire!" Li

Xiaoran said..

## Chapter 288: Request

"Gao Chen!" Just as Li Xiaoran made the arrangements, the man brought by Mao Dao suddenly said.

...

Li Xiaoran was stunned for a moment before she reacted.

"How do you spell it?"

"G-a-o C-h-e-n!" Gao Chen replied briefly.

Mao Dao was surprised to hear Gao Chen's words.

"Yuan Cheng and I have known you for so long, and we've asked you your name countless times, but you've always refused to tell us! She hasn't even asked you, but you've already introduced yourself?"

Gao Chen glanced at Mao Dao, but didn't answer him. He turned around arrogantly and went to the kitchen.

When he reached the door, Gao Chen stopped.

"Burn the fire!"

When Mao Dao heard Gao Chen's words, he was immediately amused.

"Yes, yes, yes! I'll start the fire now! Let me tell you, I'm not doing this for your sake. I'm doing this for Xiaoran's sake. Otherwise, don't even think about asking me to start a fire for you!"

It was surprisingly harmonious when one person made a fuss while the other person remained quiet.

"Husband, what do you think of this person?" Li Xiaoran suddenly asked.

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and recalled Gao Chen's previous performance. Then, he said, "He's probably quite capable!"

"I'm not talking about his culinary skills. I'm talking about how you feel about him as a person." Li Xiaoran shook her head and explained.

"It's hard to tell in such a short time! But with his personality, he should stay here as a cook!" Luo Cheng said, "He doesn't say much and just does his own thing. He's a good candidate!"

Li Xiaoran nodded and said, "Gao Chen is a nice guy, but he must have some sort of emotional trauma, so he's always so aloof and guarded." "You can even sense this?" Luo Cheng asked in surprise.

"Emotions are actually very complicated, yet simple at the same time!" Li Xiaoran said, "Actually, as long as you analyze the emotions according to the situation at that time, it's very easy to understand!"

"This is your unique talent. Others can't learn it! If you ask me, the human heart is the hardest thing to understand. Emotions are so volatile sometimes," Luo Cheng said.

"My talent is indeed quite unique!" Li Xiaoran smiled and said.

Actually, in the beginning, when Li Xiaoran realized that she could sense other people's emotions and had empathy, she wasn't as proficient as she was now.

In the beginning, she sensed other people's emotions, but she didn't understand how they came about. She didn't even understand what other people's emotions were.

Later on, Li Xiaoran self-studied psychology and understood what those emotions were. That was why she could resonate with others now. Therefore, the efforts of those with special abilities couldn't be underestimated.

Nothing was given for free. When some good opportunities or things were offered, it was important to seize them.

Li Xiaoran was someone who had grasped the ability to empathize, so she could easily sense what other people's emotions were.

As the two of them spoke, Gao Chen looked at the ingredients in the kitchen and picked some ingredients to cook.

Gao Chen knew about this shop's business model, so he took the meat and sliced it before preparing the dishes.

Because it was a new stove and there was no firewood inside, Mao Dao had to go outside to bring some firewood in.

By the time Mao Dao lit the fire in the stove, Gao Chen was also ready.

He scooped water from a gourd into the pot and washed it carefully with a bamboo brush several times. Then, he touched it with his finger to make sure that it was clean before starting to put oil in.

“Make the fire bigger now!” Gao Chen said.

“Got it!” Mao Dao replied and quickly added two more firewood.

Before long, cabbage stir-fried shredded meat, stir-fried cabbage moss, and egg and chives soup were ready.

Three dishes were served. Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng each took a pair of chopsticks.

Li Xiaoran scooped some chives and egg soup into a bowl, then tasted it.

After that, Li Xiaoran tasted another piece of vegetable moss and finally ate a mouthful of stir-fried shredded pork with cabbage.

After eating the three dishes, Li Xiaoran put down her chopsticks and took a sip of water.

On the other side, Luo Cheng had also finished tasting the three dishes and put down his chopsticks.

“What do you think?” Li Xiaoran looked at Luo Cheng and asked.

Luo Cheng looked up at Gao Chen.

“It’s a waste of your talent to let you be a chef here!”

Gao Chen only pursed his lips without speaking. He didn’t look happy. Seeing this, Luo Cheng only raised his eyebrows. He didn’t say anything else or get angry.

Li Xiaoran looked at Gao Chen and thought for a moment before saying, “Your culinary skills are indeed very good. You can even be a chef in a restaurant! However, my shop wants to make fast food, so I have higher requirements! Are you physically strong? Also, can you cook delicious dishes in large volumes?”

Gao Chen frowned when he heard Li Xiaoran’s words.

“Large volumes?” Mao Dao asked curiously.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and explained, “Do you know those chefs who travel from village to village to cook dishes? The kind who make more than ten tables of dishes at once?!”

When Gao Chen heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he understood something.

“No problem!” Gao Chen replied.

“Are you sure there’s no problem? This isn’t just one dish, but two dishes! You might have to cook ten dishes a day, then you have to continue cooking after each dish is sold out, so this job isn’t easy. Are you sure you can handle it?” Li Xiaoran confirmed again.

“No problem, I can do it! You can pay me as you see fit, but can you let me live here too?!” Gao Chen suddenly said.

Li Xiaoran didn’t expect Gao Chen to want to live in the shop, so she subconsciously glanced at Luo Cheng.

“No problem. There’s an empty room beside Yuan Cheng’s. You can stay in it! However, you have to follow the rules here and guard this shop!” Luo Cheng said.

“No problem! I’ll do my best!” Gao Chen nodded and promised Luo Cheng.

“Aren’t you going to ask how much your salary will be? Aren’t you afraid that we’ll scam you and refuse to pay you?” Li Xiaoran couldn’t help but ask.

“You guys are not that kind of people!” Gao Chen said, “Besides, it’s fine if you don’t pay me. Just let me have enough to eat, have warm clothes to wear, and have a place to live!”

Li Xiaoran didn’t expect Gao Chen to trust them so much, so she smiled. “How about this? Your salary will be at least 80 copper coins. If you help us make a lot of profit every month, I’ll give you 20 copper coins as a reward.. Of course, these 20 copper coins will depend on your performance and your culinary skills!”

## Chapter 289: Trapped

Gao Chen was satisfied with Li Xiaoran’s arrangements, so he agreed.

...

“Then go back and pack your things now! You can move in today and start working tomorrow!” Li Xiaoran said.

Gao Chen nodded and returned home to pack.

They had a cook and workers. All they needed to do was prepare the ingredients, then the fast-food business could open up.

The tables, chairs, bowls, chopsticks, pots and pans had all been washed. The three women who had just been hired today arranged the tables and chairs.

Li Xiaoran looked around and made sure that everything was ready, then looked at Luo Cheng.

“Husband, let’s go to town and buy all the ingredients we need tomorrow!” Luo Cheng looked up at the horizon and shook his head.

“Let’s go straight to the village to buy some! I bought half a fan of pork yesterday and let Ziyang put it in the cave to keep it fresh. We just need to buy some vegetables we need in the village. Look, the sky over there is already dark. It won’t be long before it’s dark here. It might rain heavily! So if we’re going to buy something, we have to wait until tomorrow!”

Li Xiaoran looked in the direction Luo Cheng was pointing and saw that the sky had indeed darkened.



“It’s going to rain heavily later. Why don’t we close the shop before it rains and go home?! If we don’t go back before it rains, we’ll be drenched!”

“There’s no hurry. I’ve already asked Ziyang to go back and get the umbrella, raincoat, and bamboo hat. Even if it rains heavily later, we can still go back! It’s a little early to close the shop now. If customers want to enter the shop to avoid the rain now but we close it, won’t we lose a lot of business?” Luo Cheng said.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and suddenly remembered something.

Since it was raining heavily, there would definitely be people getting drenched. They should boil a pot of ginger soup quickly! It could be considered a good deed.

Thinking of this, Li Xiaoran looked for her mother and sister, Xiao Qing. Then, the three of them called a few women and went to get Mr. Jiang.

After the ginger soup was ready, Li Xiaoran went to the village with Luo Cheng to buy groceries.

The advantage of buying vegetables in the village was that if they saw anyone who had better vegetables, they could just ask them who they belonged to and go buy them.

Coincidentally, vegetable moss had grown during this period of time, so Li Xiaoran bought a lot of vegetable moss.

In addition, Li Xiaoran also bought some carrots, peas, and vegetables.

She also bought a lot of the hoe, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and other things she had dug up previously.

When she passed by a place, Li Xiaoran realized that there was a lot of sweet potato noodles being parched.

After confirming that the other party’s family had made a lot, Li Xiaoran bought some sweet potato noodles.

“I ate rice noodles at Aunt’s place previously. Now, I’m craving sour and spicy noodles! I really didn’t expect our village to have so many talented people. Husband, look at the sweet potato noodles. They’re really well made. I can guarantee that these sour and spicy sweet potato noodles will definitely taste delicious!” Li Xiaoran said excitedly.

“I realize that your eyes light up whenever you talk about food!” Luo Cheng looked at Li Xiaoran’s happy expression and teased.

“Of course! I’m a foodie. If I can’t even enjoy food, what’s the point of living?!” Li Xiaoran defended herself.

Luo Cheng smiled and said nothing more. Instead, he drove the ox cart and the ton of things towards the shop.

In addition to these vegetables, Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng also bought a lot of garlic and ginger in the village.

As soon as they unloaded these items and stored them in the warehouse, rain fell outside.

The rain became heavier. Other than Li Xiaoran and the others, there were no more customers in the shop.

After Li Xiaoran leaned against the window and looked out, she saw that the road was already wet from the rain.

Soon, mist rose up and visibility decreased.

Gradually, looking through the window, she saw nothing but whiteness.

Li Xiaoran felt a little cold again, so she went to the fireplace to warm up.

“Don’t you think it has gotten colder after the rain?” Li Xiaoran asked.

“I thought I was the only one who felt that way!” Mao Dao also said, “Yuan Cheng, go to the house and get two pieces of clothes. Let’s put on more clothes!

I really feel a little cold!”

Yuan Cheng nodded and went to his room to get clothes.

Li Xiaoran was by the fire, so she didn’t feel cold anymore. However, when she looked up, she saw the three women who came to work today leaning against each other for warmth.

“Go get a bowl of ginger soup and drink it! Ginger soup can keep you warm. Don’t get sick from the cold!” Li Xiaoran said.

Zhao Xiu thought of something and quickly took a bowl of ginger soup for everyone to drink.

Li Xiaoran walked to the windows and closed most of them, leaving only the window for selling buns and the window near the stove open.

There was still firewood burning in the house after all, so it was still necessary to leave the vent open so that they wouldn’t get carbon monoxide poisoning.

After Li Xiaoran closed the window, she suddenly thought of something.

“Gao Chen hasn’t returned after he went back to pack his things. Could he have encountered something?!”

“No! Gao Chen lives in an old house. He doesn’t have many things to bring. The reason he hasn’t come until now is probably that he’s been pestered by that widow called Dai Qian!” Mao Dao seemed to know something, so he said.

“Widow? What’s going on?” Li Xiaoran asked.

“It’s like this. I don’t know where Gao Chen came from, but he wandered into our village and stayed there. Although Gao Chen doesn’t have a house or any property, he’s quite good-looking. So, he was fancied by a widow called Miss Dai. Gao Chen has always ignored Miss Dai, but Miss Dai keeps pestering Gao Chen,” Mao Dao explained.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she frowned.

What was going on?! She hoped that Gao Chen could handle this matter well instead of bringing her to their shop to cause trouble.

In fact, in a dilapidated old house, Gao Chen was indeed being pestered by Miss Dai.

“Are you going to move away because you want to avoid me?! Silly man, don’t you know how I feel about you? Why don’t you stay, so we can live a good life together?”

## Chapter 290: Come Again Tomorrow

In the past, Gao Chen would have ignored her and left.

...

But today, after Gao Chen packed his things, he stopped when he heard Dai Qian’s words.

It happened to be raining heavily outside. Gao Chen turned to look at Dai Qian, who was begging him.

“You’re a good woman, but I’m not a good match for you! Dai Qian, you’ve never been involved in my past, so you don’t know what kind of person I am. You only see this side of me and think I’m reliable, but you don’t see my bad side. I won’t ever get married or have children. So, forget me! I’m just a passerby. You can find a better person!” Gao Chen said honestly.

Gao Chen knew how good Dai Qian was to him.

However, from the beginning to the end, Gao Chen didn’t reciprocate her feelings.

He couldn’t offer her anything, so he always refused her advances coldly.

It was also because he was leaving that he said such a thing.

“Why? Everything can start over! I don’t care what happened to you in the past. Can’t we start over? Let’s stay in this village. I have a house and I’m hardworking. You can work hard with me so we can have a family. Isn’t that good?” Dai Qian’s face was covered in tears. She couldn’t accept what Gao Chen had said.

Gao Chen looked at Dai Qian and sighed. Then, he looked in a certain direction.

“Look behind you!”

When Dai Qian heard Gao Chen’s words, she subconsciously turned her head.

In the wind and rain, a man in a raincoat and a bamboo hat was standing not far away and looking over.

“Look, as long as you turn around, you can see a person who treats you better and cares more about you. He can build a happy family with you. However, you keep coveting what doesn’t belong to you and refuse to see what’s behind you.

Sometimes, you have to cherish and be grateful for what you have now. Otherwise, it’ll be too late to regret it after you lose it! In the past, I didn’t understand this, so I ended up like this!” Gao Chen said as he picked up his things and prepared to rush into the rain.

However, Gao Chen thought of something and turned around to walk towards Dai Qian.

Dai Qian thought that Gao Chen had changed his mind and her face lit up.

Unfortunately, Gao Chen walked past Dai Qian and walked towards the man in the raincoat.

“Brother, protecting her from afar isn’t enough. If you really love someone, show yourself in front of her! Otherwise, she’ll never see you! Good luck!”

As Gao Chen spoke, he reached out and patted the man’s shoulder. Then, he rushed into the rain and disappeared in front of the two of them.

As Dai Qian looked at Gao Chen’s departing figure, she wailed.

The man guarding Dai Qian recalled what Gao Chen had said, so he walked in front of Dai Qian...

When Gao Chen arrived at the shop amidst the rain, Li Xiaoran asked Yuan Cheng to bring him to change into dry clothes.

When Gao Chen appeared in the shop again, Mao Dao scooped him a bowl of ginger soup.

“Don’t just stand there. Come and drink the ginger soup. Then, I’ll go with you to tidy up your house!” Mao Dao called out.

After Gao Chen froze for a moment, he drank the ginger soup and took the initiative to wash the dishes. Then, he went to tidy up the room with Mao Dao.

Because there was no business in the shop, Li Xiaoran let everyone rest.

At that moment, a woman carrying a bag arrived in the rain.

Although she was holding an umbrella, the woman was still drenched. However, the woman’s expression was blank and her eyes looked listless. She didn’t seem to care that she was wet.

When Li Xiaoran peeked out of the window, she immediately noticed the woman passing by the shop.

“Ma’am, you’re already wet. Come in and have some ginger soup. Stay by the fire until the rain eases!”

The woman continued walking forward, as if she had not heard anything.

Li Xiaoran sensed that something was wrong, so she took an umbrella and rushed over.

Ling Xuerou looked ahead in confusion. It was as if she couldn’t hear anything and was immersed in her thoughts.

At that moment, a pair of hands pulled her to a stop.

She turned around and saw the face of a girl.

The girl smiled and said to her, "It's raining heavily outside. Come to our shop to drink some ginger soup and dry your clothes. You can leave after the rain subsides!"

For some reason, upon seeing the smile in front of her, Ling Xuerou nodded and entered a shop not far away.

After Li Xiaoran brought her back, she shouted, "Xiao Qing, quick, scoop a bowl of ginger soup for this girl!"

Li Xiaoqing nodded and quickly went to scoop ginger soup.

When Zhao Xiu saw Ling Xuerou's condition, she quickly ran over and helped her twist her wet clothes.

"You're a woman. Why aren't you taking good care of your body?! Look at you. It's raining so heavily that most of your clothes are wet. If you don't dry your clothes quickly, you'll get sick!"

As Zhao Xiu spoke, she pushed Ling Xuerou to sit in front of the stove.

A fire burned in the stove, giving off a warm glow.

Ling Xuerou sat in front of the stove in sorrow.

Looking at the menu hanging on the wall not far away, Ling Xuerou's gaze landed on the words knife-cut noodles.

"I want to eat a bowl of sliced noodles!" Ling Xuerou reached out and pointed at the menu on the wall.

"Alright, I'll cook for you!" Li Xiaoran walked over and replied with a smile. Then, she went to wash her hands and began to knead the noodles before cutting them.

Soon, a bowl of sliced noodles was made. Li Xiaoran even specifically brought a stool over and let Ling Xuerou use it as a table to eat the noodles.

After she took a bite, Ling Xuerou's eyes finally lit up. Then, she started eating in big mouthfuls.

Soon, she finished the bowl of sliced noodles.

After eating this bowl of noodles, Ling Xuerou took out copper coins and paid for the noodles.

At this moment, the rain outside suddenly lessened. Even the wind seemed to have disappeared.

"Thank you!" After Ling Xuerou said this, before her clothes were even completely dry, she planned to leave with the umbrella.

"Wait! Come back tomorrow!" Li Xiaoran suddenly stopped the person in front of her and said.

Ling Xuerou looked at Li Xiaoran and was stunned.

"Come back tomorrow?" Ling Xuerou looked at Li Xiaoran in confusion and repeated.

“Yes, come back tomorrow! I’m going to make sour and spicy noodles tomorrow. They taste better than sliced noodles! It’ll be a pity if you don’t come and try them!”

Ling Xuerou frowned and pondered while struggling internally.

“Alright, I’ll definitely come tomorrow!”

With that, Ling Xuerou left with an umbrella..