

The Hunter 291

Chapter 291: Problem with the Silver

After she left, Li Xiaoran turned around and saw many people staring at her.

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“What are you guys doing? Why are you guys all looking at me strangely?”

“Sister, you’re the one who’s acting a little strange, okay?” Li Xiaoqing walked over and sized up Li Xiaoran. “Sister, why are you acting so strange today?”

“What’s strange about what I did? I’m just doing a good deed!” Li Xiaoran didn’t find it strange at all. She walked back and came to Luo Cheng’s side.

“Husband, do you think I’m strange?”

“I don’t think so! I’m just wondering if you can cook me a bowl of hot and sour noodles tomorrow!” Luo Cheng said thoughtfully.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she couldn’t help but laugh.

“We want it too!” the others shouted in unison.

The few people who had just been hired to work held back their laughter. They wanted to laugh but didn’t dare to.

“Yes! All of you will get to eat it! I’m going to start serving a new dish tomorrow. I’m going to sell sour and spicy noodles to everyone, so you can eat them if you want. Other than this, I plan to add handmade dumplings to the menu too. However, these two dumplings will take a long time to cook. When customers order them, we have to remind them to wait a little longer!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and reminded them.

Everyone nodded and remembered what Li Xiaoran had said.

It was still raining outside. Li Xiaoran thought for a moment, then went to take out the pork.

Gao Chen was in charge of chopping the stuffing, while Luo Cheng and Luo Ziyang were in charge of kneading the dough.

Li Xiaoran and her daughters were in charge of rolling the noodles into dough and making them into dumpling skins.

The other three women were in charge of washing the chives, cabbages, and spring onions.

When they were done, the group came together to make dumplings, then placed the dumplings on the bamboo-woven steamer before placing them on the shelves.

“Daughter, I’m afraid you’ll have to sell these dumplings every day in the future. As the weather gets warmer, these things won’t be able to be stored. I feel that selling dumplings is too troublesome. You shouldn’t add these two foods to the menu!” Zhao Xiu moved her sore shoulder and said worriedly. Li Xiaoran actually regretted it a little now and realized that she had been too naive.

In the modern era, wontons and dumplings could be wrapped in large quantities and stored in the refrigerator. They could be sold at any time.

Things like dumpling skins and wonton skins were also available for sale. Things were not as troublesome as they were now.

“That’s true. It’s indeed a little troublesome to sell these, unlike sour and spicy noodles, which can be soaked in advance and cooked when you want to eat it! Forget it, we won’t sell these handmade dumplings. Let’s cook a bowl to eat later. We’ll bring the rest back and eat them gradually over the next few days!” Li Xiaoran was someone who was willing to listen to other peoples’ persuasion.

If she really did something wrong, she would admit her shortcomings and correct them.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he thought of something, but swallowed his words.

He couldn’t tell anyone that Li Xiaoran knew how to make ice cubes.

Therefore, they would take these handmade dumplings home to freeze and eat them themselves.

After all the minced meat was wrapped, there was still some dough left. These doughs were not wasted. They could also be eaten with pancakes./

Since it was raining and there were no customers, Zhao Xiu simply placed some spring onions and meat with the remaining dough and made fresh omelets.

As soon as she finished cooking the omelets, everyone ate one. At this time, they heard a commotion outside.

“Brother Luo, Sister-in-law, there’s a caravan outside!” Yuan Cheng, who was standing at the door, suddenly shouted.

When the people in the house heard this, they swarmed to the window and door and looked out.

Sure enough, a caravan member pulled up the road outside.

The people who usually set up food stalls had already gone home when it started raining.

Therefore, on such a big road, only Li Xiaoran’s food stall was left.

“Stop looking. Hurry up and wash your hands! There are so many customers. Get busy!” Li Xiaoran called out and went to wash her hands first.

By the time the people in the shop washed their hands, the merchants had already tied up the ox carts and walked towards the shop.

The group swarmed in. For a moment, the voices of people ordering food continued nonstop.

For the next four hours, everyone was busy.

The dumplings and wontons that they had made previously were all sold out. They sold as many as they had wrapped.

Not only the wontons, but even the omelets that Zhao Xiu had previously cooked were all sold out.

Of course, Yuan Cheng and Mao Dao's buns and rolls were also sold out.

Li Xiaoran was busy counting the money, but as she counted, she felt that something was wrong with the money!

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment, then called Luo Cheng over.

"Husband, come here. Look at these silver ingots!" Li Xiaoran said as she took out some silver ingots and placed them in front of Luo Cheng.

Luo Cheng was a little puzzled, but he still took the ingots and looked at them carefully.

At first, Luo Cheng wasn't very attentive, but the longer he looked at the silver ingots, the more solemn his expression became.

"There's something wrong with these silver ingots!"

"You can tell?" When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she asked, "I also feel that something is wrong with these silver ingots, but I can't put my finger on it!"

"Who gave you these silver ingots?" Luo Cheng asked.

"I know. It's the rich businessman who bought a lot of omelets!" Luo Ziyang said.

Luo Ziyang liked Zhao Xiu's omelets very much, so he had been craving them.

Unexpectedly, the omelets were all bought by a rich businessman. That was why he paid extra attention to the other party and looked at the money he paid with.

"Ziyang, take a look!" Luo Cheng threw some silver ingots to Luo Ziyang and asked him to take a closer look.

Luo Ziyang quickly caught the silver ingots and took a closer look.

Luo Cheng walked straight towards the rich businessman and sat beside him.

"Sir, if I may ask, do you sell textiles? I wonder if you have any good textiles here? There will be a joyous occasion in a few months, so I want to make some nice clothes with my wife, but I can't find good quality textiles!" Luo Cheng asked earnestly.

The rich businessman's originally vigilant expression immediately changed when he heard Luo Cheng's words.

"You're quite discerning. You were able to determine my profession at a glance! Speaking of which, I really have a lot of high-quality textiles in my hand. I'll get someone to bring a few for you to choose from." "Okay! Thank you so much!" Luo Cheng said in surprise..

Chapter 292: Some Difference

As the merchant spoke, he instructed the servants to bring a wooden box from the carriage. Then, Luo Cheng pulled the merchant to the other side of the shop and began to choose.

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Li Xiaoran knew that Luo Cheng must have his reasons, so she didn't interfere. Instead, she looked at Luo Ziyang.

"Sister-in-law, this silver..." Luo Ziyang was about to say something when he saw Li Xiaoran wave her hand, and he immediately swallowed his words.

"Ziyang, let's go to the back and get some firewood! I think we're almost out of firewood!" Li Xiaoran said.

Luo Ziyang understood and immediately followed Li Xiaoran to the woodshed at the back.

The woodshed was at the far end. There were usually no people there, so it was the most convenient place to talk.

"Did you notice something?" Li Xiaoran looked at Luo Ziyang and asked.

"Sister-in-law, this silver looks similar to official silver, but I can say with certainty that it's not official silver from our government. Instead, it seems to be silver forged by some faction." As Luo Ziyang spoke, he took out the silver and said, "Look, Sister-in-law, the silver made by the government looks brighter on the surface, but this silver looks a little rough on the surface.

However, such a small difference won't be noticed by ordinary people!"

Li Xiaoran took the silver, then took out some other silver ingots from her pocket to compare.

Sure enough, on closer inspection, there was a difference.

The silver ingots forged by the government seemed more exquisite, while the counterfeit money didn't seem to have been refined as well as the genuine ones.

"Do you think that merchant noticed the difference in the silver?" Li Xiaoran thought of something and asked Luo Ziyang.

"Sister-in-law, do you mean that there's a problem with this merchant?" Luo Ziyang immediately understood what Li Xiaoran meant and asked.

"Ziyang, think about it. What's the best way to use this money?" Li Xiaoran reminded.

"Put it in an independent bank, or do business with it." At this point, Luo Ziyang already understood something. "I'll go look for Brother Luo and tell him about this guess!"

“Don’t go. He had probably already gone to investigate. There might be a result soon! Don’t alert the enemy prematurely. Just secretly send people to follow this caravan. For some reason, this caravan doesn’t give me a good feeling. As long as we follow them, we will definitely find something. However, their people are very vigilant, so the people we send to follow them must be extremely careful!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and reminded him.

Luo Ziyang nodded and walked towards the shop with Li Xiaoran.

After a while, with satisfaction on their faces, Luo Cheng and the merchant shook hands and said goodbye. Then, the caravan set off.

After the caravan left, Luo Cheng stopped smiling and his expression turned solemn.

“It seems that you’ve already discovered something!” Li Xiaoran looked at Luo Cheng and said.

“Yes! However, I still have to handle these matters personally! Wife, in the future, when caravans or merchants pass by our shop, we have to carefully check the silver they take out. If you discover any counterfeit money in the future, just accept it all. I will compensate you for the lost money!” Luo Cheng thought for a moment and said, “If those people are really as I expect, then shops like ours might receive more and more counterfeit money!”

Li Xiaoran nodded and said calmly, “Don’t worry! As long as I receive counterfeit money, I’ll hand it to you!”

At this point, Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and added.

“Husband, I know you’re someone who deals with important things. I won’t ask you what you want to do. I just hope that you can protect yourself at all times. You’re different from before. In addition, if you need my help, feel free to ask.

You know my capabilities. I can help you!”

Luo Cheng nodded, then an apologetic look appeared in his eyes.

“I originally wanted to accompany you after settling those people in barren mountain. I didn’t expect such a thing to happen not long after. But don’t worry, the wedding date won’t be changed. I’ll definitely marry you in March!”

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng’s words, she smiled and nodded. “Alright, I believe you!”

“Then I’ll be leaving. Ziyang will stay here. Tell him to listen to your orders!” With that, Luo Cheng rushed out of the shop.

Although Li Xiaoran was reluctant, she wasn’t a sentimental person.

She was an elite-educated modern-era independent woman, so she wouldn’t cling to a man.

After all, she had a career!

Although in Luo Cheng's eyes, these were just trivial matters, in Li Xiaoran's heart, these were the things she should focus on at the moment. After thinking it through, Li Xiaoran returned to the shop and busied herself.

After the caravan arrived just now, the shop was in a mess.

There were also many leftover fruit rinds on the ground, and even some trash by the official road.

When Li Xiaoran saw this trash, she frowned.

After cleaning up her shop, Li Xiaoran called a few men out to clean up the trash left outside.

After the trash by the official road was cleared, Li Xiaoran looked at the road with relief.

"If only we could plant some beautiful flowers on the ground beside our shop!" Li Xiaoran thought of something and said.

"Planting flowers? No problem. What flowers do you want to plant? I'll get seeds for you!" Luo Ziyang said.

"Don't buy those that are too high maintenance. They have to be easy to raise. You don't have to spend any effort. Just a large patch of flowers will do!" Li Xiaoran said.

As soon as she finished speaking, Li Xiaoran thought of a flower.

Before she could speak, Luo Ziyang remembered something.

"I know. Plant those colorful types of flowers! I know someone who has this sort of flower's seeds! But, it's not easy to plant those types of flowers!"

When Li Xiaoran heard that it wasn't easy to plant them, she quickly refused.

"Forget it, let's plant some flowers that are easy to raise! By the way, let's plant some sunflowers in March! They look pretty and we can eat melon seeds after they mature!" Li Xiaoran thought of something and said.

"Seeds for sunflowers are everywhere. We can buy some!" Luo Ziyang said.

Mao Dao thought of something and said, "Why don't we plant some osmanthus flowers?! In August, osmanthus flowers will smell very fragrant. When the wind blows, its fragrance will spread over a large area!"

"In that case, we might as well plant Michelias. When the time comes, we can use it to brew wine, and it can be used to treat mosquito bites!" Yuan Cheng retorted..

Chapter 293: Stolen Things

Their conversation reminded Li Xiaoran.

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“That’s right. There’s a water source here and it’s near the mountain. There will definitely be mosquitoes in summer! Why don’t we plant some mosquito repellent plants?”

“Sister-in-law, there’s no need. We’ll prepare an herbal bag in summer. As long as we wear it, we won’t be bitten by mosquitoes. We’ll boil this mosquito repellent herb and scatter it around the shop every day. The mosquitoes won’t come. The customers won’t be bitten by mosquitoes either. Therefore, there’s no need for us to plant some mosquito repellent flowers!”

When Li Xiaoran heard that they didn’t have to worry about mosquitoes, she immediately beamed. To be honest, anyone would hate being bitten by mosquitoes.

Especially since some mosquitoes were very poisonous.

After being bitten, it would start to itch and hurt.

“Then let’s plant roses!” Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and said, “Any type of rose is fine!”

“What’s a rose?” the group said in unison.

“How should I describe it to you guys? How about this? When I’m free, I’ll draw a painting. Then, you’ll know what roses are!” Li Xiaoran said.

Li Xiaoqing, who happened to walk out of the shop, heard this and immediately asked, “Sister, when did you learn to draw?”

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she immediately realized that she had let it slip again. Then, she added, “I learned it from your brother-in-law!”

When Li Xiaoqing heard this, she didn’t ask anything else.

The others didn’t find anything unusual and immediately forgot about this matter.

Seeing that no one was asking further, Li Xiaoran heaved a sigh of relief.

After that, more and more customers appeared on the official road. The rain had stopped at some point and the sky cleared.

Soon, evening arrived. After tidying up the shop, everyone went back to rest.

Mao Dao returned to his house, while Yuan Cheng and Gao Chen stayed in the shop.

“Let’s cook together! Let’s eat dumplings tonight!” Yuan Cheng thought of something and asked.

To be honest, Yuan Cheng was very happy.

Now, he didn’t have to worry about food and clothes, but it was still a little lonely living here alone.

Now that he had someone accompanying him, he was no longer alone.

“Where did the dumplings come from?” Gao Chen asked.

“Xiaoran left them for us! Previously, when Xiaoran saw that everyone from the caravan wanted to eat dumplings, she quickly hid two baskets of dumplings and two baskets of wontons. She asked me to secretly bring them back and put them away. However, she said that we have to keep the wontons and cook a pot for everyone tomorrow morning so that everyone can have a taste. Xiaoran said that she has to keep her promise to everyone!” Yuan Cheng said.

Gao Chen was stunned when he heard Yuan Cheng’s words.

“Here, big guy, help me wash these vegetable mosses. We’ll cook them with dumplings later as a side dish!”

Gao Chen nodded and rolled up his sleeves to wash the vegetables.

After Li Xiaoran returned home, she felt a little tired, so she wanted to cook some simple dishes!

“Father, Mother, how about I make bacon and potatoes for dinner tonight?” Li Xiaoran asked as she sat in a chair to rest.

“I think so. Speaking of which, I feel hungry too!” Zhao Xiu thought for a moment and agreed.

“I can eat anything. I’m not picky!” Li Shun replied as he made the furniture.

“Where are Xiao Qing and Ziyang?” Li Xiaoran asked again.

As soon as she finished speaking, Li Xiaoqing and Luo Ziyang walked over together.

“Let’s cook together!” Li Xiaoqing said.

Li Xiaoran nodded with vigor and went to get the ingredients.

The cured meat was taken down and handed to Ziyang, who roasted the skin before washing it.

Li Xiaoqing went to scoop the rice and then washed it.

Li Xiaoran took some potatoes and first peeled them with a knife before washing them and cutting them into pieces.

Soon, the cured meat and potatoes were cut into pieces. The rice that had been cooked until it was raw was placed in the pot. Then, it was boiled with water.

After doing all this, Li Xiaoran thought of something and went to the vegetable garden to pick a basket of peas. Then, she took some leftover fried meatballs and cooked a pot of peas.

When the soup was ready, the rice was also ready.

After dinner was ready, Li Xiaoran called everyone over to eat.

“Huh, where’s my brother-in-law?” Li Xiaoqing asked in confusion when she realized that Luo Cheng wasn’t around.

Li Shun thought of something and said, "Luo Cheng told me that he has something to deal with today, and he went to town, so don't wait for him for dinner. Let's eat by ourselves. By the way, daughter, Luo Cheng said that you don't have to buy the ingredients needed in the shop. He'll buy them and send them back tomorrow!"

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she knew that Luo Cheng must have gone to deal with the counterfeits, so she nodded and placed the cutlery. Then, everyone started eating together.

Li Xiaoran liked the crust the most. She used a spatula to shovel the rice with the crust into a bowl, then ate it happily.

"In the past, when I saw other people cooking risotto, I was so enticed by the aroma! Now, I finally don't have to crave other people's risotto anymore!" Li Xiaoqing said as she ate.

"Of course. In the future, we can eat whatever we want! We will slowly make up for the things that we have been lacking in the past!" Li Xiaoran said.

"Yes, I want to earn more money in the future, so I don't have to care about the looks I get from others when I want to eat something. When the time comes, I'll make the decision for myself!" Li Xiaoqing said generously.

"I don't need you to work so hard to earn money. Just tell me what you want to eat! I've saved up a lot of money. You can eat whatever you want!" Luo Ziyang said as he ate.

"No, Brother Ziyang, I only feel comfortable spending the money I earned! I still think it's better to use my own money!" Li Xiaoqing said, "After I earn more money, I'll treat everyone to delicious food!"

"Alright, we'll wait for Xiao Qing to treat us to something delicious!" Li Xiaoran said with a smile.

As soon as she finished speaking, Li Xiaoran looked at her sister and suddenly remembered something very important.

Before the new year, they realized that Li Xiaoqing was very strong. At that time, they even said that they wanted to hire a mentor for Li Xiaoqing.

She wondered how this matter was going!

Thinking of this, Li Xiaoran planned to ask Luo Cheng when he returned. At this moment, Luo Cheng was sitting with Luo Han. There was food in front of them, but they didn't eat anything.

"Is the capital already so chaotic?" Luo Cheng asked with a dark expression..

It had only been half a month since they last met, but Luo Han looked much more haggard.

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Hearing Luo Cheng's words, Luo Han smiled bitterly. He was no longer as high-spirited as before.

"I still have to tidy up the house. My father and mother will be here soon with their families! There's chaos in the capital. We've already been implicated. If we stay any longer, we'll probably lose everything. My father said that it's time to leave!" Luo Han said.

"Your entire family is moving here?" Luo Cheng looked at Luo Han in surprise and asked, "This place can't compare to the capital! Are you sure your family can tolerate it? Not to mention the dangers of the journey, how can your family withstand the climate that is very different from the capital's?" Luo Han smiled bitterly when he heard Luo Cheng's words.

"Where can my family go apart from coming to me? Luo Cheng, let me tell you the truth! With the current situation of the Luo family, even if we move to another prosperous place, someone will attack our family. If we move to Sichuan, those people in the capital won't be able to extend their reach so far, so we can live a stable life!"

"Besides, I'm the county magistrate here, and with your faction, this is the safest place! Moreover, I'll probably be the county magistrate for many more years. Whether I can be promoted in the future will depend on my luck!" Luo Cheng frowned when he heard this.

"How did this happen? Uncle Luo has always been an upright and levelheaded official. How did he end up like this?"

"Now, a few princes are competing in the capital, and no one is willing to give in. The emperor's health is deteriorating daily, so he doesn't have the energy to interfere. The crown prince is even more ruthless now and eliminates anyone who doesn't work for him. The crown prince monitors even neutral officials. My father was chosen to serve as an example of what happens if people don't obey him!" Luo Han told him the truth.

Luo Cheng fell silent. He knew that at this point, Luo Han and his family could only come to Sichuan to settle down.

Luo Cheng reached out and patted Luo Han's shoulder, but didn't say anything to comfort him.

Between buddies, words were unnecessary sometimes.

Then, Luo Cheng told Luo Han why he had come to town today.

“Luo Han, I came to see you today for something important!” With that, Luo Cheng poured out a pile of silver from his money bag.

“What are you doing? If you need my help, just tell me! Giving me so much money makes me a little uneasy!” Luo Han asked Luo Cheng as he spoke. “Look carefully at what’s different about these silver ingots!”

Luo Han glanced at Luo Cheng with a suspicious expression. Then, he picked up the silver ingots from the table and looked at them carefully.

“There’s nothing different about them. Aren’t they just silver ingots?”

Seeing this, Luo Cheng took out another money bag and some more silver ingots.

“Try comparing them again!”

When Luo Han heard this, he picked up the silver ingots that Luo Cheng had presented afterward and placed them beside the piece of silver in his hand. He compared them carefully.

Luo Han immediately realized what was wrong.

“What’s going on?”

“I received these silver ingots from my wife’s noodle shop. Coincidentally, I was there yesterday, so I found the merchant who took out these silver ingots and bought some cloth. Then, I took out a silver ingot and asked them to give me some silver as spare change. In the end, I obtained this bag of silver ingots!” Luo Cheng looked at Luo Han and said.

Luo Han wasn’t an ordinary person. He was a county official and had grown up in the capital, so he was shrewd and experienced. “No wonder you rushed over. This is indeed a serious matter!” “What should we do now?” Luo Cheng asked Luo Han.

“In the past, I could have told my father to spread the news in the capital. But now, it’s difficult to deal with this matter! I wonder who did this! No matter what, this is not a good thing. It’s a disaster for both of us!” Luo Han said.

“That’s why I came to you! Luo Han, you and I might both become scapegoats!” Luo Cheng said solemnly, “I keep feeling that those people still haven’t let me off! I’ve thought of thousands of possibilities, but I haven’t thought of this possibility! I have to say that the person who set up this scheme is really brilliant! He rendered us helpless and it’s difficult for us to save ourselves!”

Luo Han thought about it carefully. This trap was indeed perfect. Even if they discovered it, there was nothing they could do. They couldn’t deal with it in a foolproof way, and dealing with it would likely cause trouble in and of itself.

Therefore, they couldn’t do anything and couldn’t take the initiative to expose themselves. They even had to help these people cover things up.

This was because once they were exposed, it was unknown if the mastermind would be caught, but Luo Han and Luo Cheng would definitely become the scapegoats.

“What do you think? From what I know of you, you’re not someone who just resigns yourself when you’re schemed against. Tell me what you think!” Luo Han asked, staring at Luo Cheng.

Luo Cheng shook his head and sighed.

“Actually, I haven’t thought about what to do about this! It’s difficult for people involved to extract themselves and consider the situation objectively.” “Are we just going to take it lying down?” Luo Han was getting impatient.

Luo Cheng didn’t speak, but he was indignant as well.

But he really couldn’t think of any good countermeasures now. He didn’t know what to do.

At this moment, Luo Cheng suddenly recalled what Li Xiaoran had said to him.

Luo Cheng suddenly had an idea.

Perhaps Li Xiaoran could really help him.

“Consider it again. I’ll go back and think about countermeasures too. If there are any updates, let’s meet up again. You should go settle your family down first!” Luo Cheng said.

Luo Han nodded and drank his wine gloomily with a frown on his face.

That night, Luo Cheng and Luo Han slept very uneasily.

After dinner, the two of them went back to their respective homes.

After Luo Han left Luo Cheng’s house, he pondered over what Luo Cheng had said.

When he reached the corner of a street, Luo Han suddenly stopped. After looking around, Luo Han suddenly sped up and turned to run.

Before long, a figure appeared and chased after Luo Han.

Unfortunately, by the time the dark figure rushed over, Luo Han was already gone.

Just as the figure was wondering if he should leave, a sword was placed on his neck.

“Who are you? Why have you been following me?”

Chapter 295: Help

The next day, it was raining.

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Li Xiaoran put on a jacket and walked out to see her mother wiping Big Yellow's fur with a handkerchief.

"Mother, did Big Yellow run out?" Li Xiaoran asked.

"That's right. When I woke up in the morning, I saw that Big Yellow was wet. Perhaps he had patrolled the courtyard at night, so he got himself wet. I got a handkerchief to wipe him clean. The weather is a little cold now, so I can't even help Big Yellow take a bath now!" Zhao Xiu replied as she wiped Big Yellow's fur.

Seeing this, Li Xiaoran also took a handkerchief and walked forward to wipe Big Yellow's fur. Big Yellow seemed glad to be dry again. It grinned and stuck out its big tongue.

"Big Yellow and the other pups have it the hardest! They have to guard the house every day and patrol at night!" Zhao Xiu said as she wiped.

Big Yellow seemed to understand Zhao Xiu's words and barked, as if it was agreeing with her. Seeing this, Li Xiaoran couldn't help but laugh.

"What are you laughing at?" Zhao Xiu looked at Li Xiaoran and asked. "Mother, I think you seem to be treating Big Yellow like a son!" Li Xiaoran teased.

"Isn't Big Yellow like our son? Big Yellow is much better than the sons of many people in the village! Uncle Zhang's son, who went out to do business, has finally returned. He left for two to three years. Now that he's finally back, he brought a woman back and said that they've already gotten married out of town." Zhao Xiu thought of something and said.

"Isn't it a good thing that their son came back with his wife?" Li Xiaoran asked in confusion.

"It would be good if she was a normal person, but Uncle Zhang's son brought back a mental retard. Do you think Uncle Zhang and his wife can tolerate it?" Zhao Xiu told her all the inside information.

"Mental retard? How can that be?" Li Xiaoran frowned and asked in confusion, "What's Mr. Zhang's son after?"

"Who knows?!" Zhao Xiu shook her head, indicating that she couldn't understand either. "Anyway, it's their family's matter, so we should just listen. We can't possibly go and ask around just because we're curious! Wouldn't that offend them?"

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she felt that it made sense, so she didn't take it to heart.

At that moment, a cow bleated outside.

Li Xiaoran quickly ran out.

Luo Cheng had rushed back at this time.

As expected, Luo Cheng came back with an ox cart full of things. When he saw Li Xiaoran running out, he smiled at her.

“I was lucky today. I happened to bump into someone selling fresh river prawns at the market. Because they were black market goods, the seller came early. I happened to see him, so I bought all the prawns!” As Luo Cheng spoke, he carried a wooden bucket down.

Li Xiaoran quickly walked over to take a look. After she opened the lid of a wooden bucket, she saw a bucket of fresh prawns.

“These shrimp look really good. It’s alive!” With that, Li Xiaoran quickly closed the lid. “I’ll bring this bucket of shrimp to the kitchen first!”

Luo Cheng nodded, then carried other things down from the ox cart and followed Li Xiaoran into the kitchen.

“I’ve sent the ingredients to the shop. Yuan Cheng and Gao Chen carried the other things into the storage room together. The rest are for our house. Other than prawns, I bought other things. I’ll carry them in later. Help me store them!” Luo Cheng said, “After breakfast, don’t go to the shop. I still have something to ask you for help with!”

“Alright, I understand!” Li Xiaoran nodded. After putting down the wooden bucket containing the prawns, she quickly went to wash up.

When Li Shun and Luo Ziyang heard the commotion, they quickly came out to help move the things.

When Zhao Xiu saw that the rest of her family had gotten out of bed, she quickly washed the handkerchief and hung it under the roof to dry. Then, she washed her hands and went to cook.

“Mother, I remember that you used the extra flour to make wraps a few days ago. Why don’t we use them to make spring rolls today?!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and said.

Zhao Xiu thought of something and said with a smile, “The bean sprouts from a few days ago are probably still edible. Take them out and stir-fry them. They’ll probably taste good with spring rolls!”

“Then I’ll go cut the chives! There is a saying that the first batch of chives in spring is the best. The chives can be stir-fried or placed in spring rolls!” Li

Xiaoqing, who had just washed up, walked in and heard their conversation.

“Alright, I’ll peel a few potatoes and cook the shredded potatoes before adding them to the rolls!” Li Xiaoran said with a smile.

There were usually two ways to eat spring rolls.

For the lighter version of spring rolls, they would wrap the stir-fried vegetables with some spring onions.

There was also another method, which was to wrap the vegetables and fry them.

The spring rolls were fried into a golden crisp. When one bit into it, one could taste the crispness of the spring roll and the taste of the several dishes inside.

Li Xiaoran liked both ways of eating spring rolls.

After breakfast, Li Xiaoran watched her family go to the shop.

“Mother, I left some wontons with Yuan Cheng yesterday. I’ll cook them for everyone today! I mean what I say. Don’t forget!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and reminded her.

“Don’t worry, I understand! I’ll cook it for everyone when we get to the shop!” Zhao Xiu replied.

“There’s delicious food? Then I’ll tag along to get some free food today! I feel stiff all over after making furniture at home all day. If I go to the shop today to stretch my muscles, I might be able to make better furniture tomorrow!” For some reason, Li Shun, who usually locked himself in the house to make furniture, took the initiative to go to the shop to work.

Li Xiaoran naturally didn’t object and let her father make the decision himself.

After sending them off, Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng went to the study and sat down to talk.

“Wife, there’s something that Luo Han and I can’t do, so we need your help.

Why don’t you help me see if there’s a way to resolve it?”

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she was immediately interested.

Luo Cheng didn’t hide anything. He told her about the silver ingots and his guess.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she had a strange feeling.

“Husband, why do you think those people are targeting you? I can understand if they’re targeting Luo Han, but what about you? Haven’t you already separated from your family? Even if someone is targeting your clansmen, they should find someone else to scheme against.. Why did they set you up?”

Chapter 296: Breaking Point

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he sighed.

...

Luo Cheng didn’t want to say anything about his background.

Those past memories were terrible memories for him. They were part of his painful past, so he really didn't want to talk about them.

Li Xiaoran felt Luo Cheng's pain and struggles, so she reached out and held his hand.

"If you don't want to tell me, then don't! I'm just asking! As long as you're sure these people are here for you and Luo Han, it's fine!"

Luo Cheng looked at his reflection in Li Xiaoran's clear eyes. The distress dissipated and he nodded.

"Wife, thank you for understanding me!"

"Nonsense, I'm already your wife, so I naturally have to understand you!" Li

Xiaoran smiled and said, "Let me think carefully about how to get out of this situation!"

With that, Li Xiaoran fell into deep thought.

"Actually, this situation isn't a dead end!" After a while, Li Xiaoran thought of something and said.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran's words, he looked over.

"What do you mean?"

"As the saying goes, the onlooker sees the bigger picture. Husband, you think you've reached a dead end, but why are you and the other party so sure that you can't break out of this situation? It's because you all think that you and Luo

Han can't clear your names and get evidence of what the other party has done. Coincidentally, the breaking point is also here. Don't forget that we can break out of this situation!" Li Xiaoran said confidently.

"The other party did this secretly. I think it's not just this caravan we encountered. There must be other caravans secretly circulating these silver ingots. We can't catch them or find evidence to prove their crimes. There's no way to defend ourselves!" Luo Cheng said.

"But it's not that we don't have a breakthrough point! Isn't the textile merchant we encountered previously a breakthrough point? Husband, don't forget that I can enter dreams. At least, I can ask that textile merchant about these silver pieces in a dream! We might be able to find some clues. If another piece of counterfeit silver appears, we can capture the person and interrogate him. As long as we don't give up and capture them one by one, we might be able to catch the mastermind! This is called casting a wide net!" Li Xiaoran voiced her thoughts.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran's words, his eyes lit up and many ideas appeared in his mind.

“You don’t have to enter a dream. You just have to interrogate some people with me and identify their emotions. With you helping us distinguish their emotions, we can definitely find many useful clues. As for entering a dream, don’t. Every time you experience empathy, you’ll be weak for a long time. I don’t want you to suffer for these things!”

Li Xiaoran nodded when she heard Luo Cheng’s words.

“Alright, I’ll try my best to control myself! Don’t worry. You don’t look handsome when you frown!” Li Xiaoran said and reached out to smooth Luo Cheng’s frown.

Luo Cheng felt a cold sensation enter from between his eyebrows and spread throughout his body. The frustration he had felt earlier dissipated.

With a solution to his worries, Luo Cheng immediately wrote a letter and asked someone to quickly send it to Luo Han.

After putting the letter away, Luo Han looked at the man standing beside him.

“As expected, Luo Cheng thought of a solution!”

With that, Luo Han looked at the man beside him.

“Are you really sure Luo Cheng is the person you’re looking for?”

The man nodded but said nothing.

This person was none other than the man in black who had secretly followed Luo Han that day.

The man in black was called Wu Qinghe. He was actually a fellow disciple of Luo Han’s mentor.

Luo Han had learned martial arts from a secret expert in the martial world. After learning it, he was chased away by his mentor and told not to return to his mentor’s sect anymore.

Unexpectedly, a fellow disciple appeared a few years later and secretly followed Luo Han.

Unfortunately, although Wu Qinghe had learned many skills, he didn’t know martial arts. That was why he was discovered when he followed Luo Han.

“That’s right. My mentor said that I had to go down the mountain to find you! After finding you, I would naturally find the person I want to follow! My mentor said that with my fate, only by following others can I survive!” Wu Qinghe said seriously.

“Why are you so blockheaded? I think it must be because you’re too boring, so your mentor found a random excuse to send you down the mountain, just like how my mentor despised me for being noisy back then. After I learned martial arts, he told me to go down the mountain to go home and never look for him again!” Luo Han said.

“No, my mentor cares about me very much. Back then, he made you leave the mountain because you had almost finished raising his chickens. If he didn’t let you

leave the mountain, he wouldn't have had any roasted chickens to eat!" Wu Qinghe said seriously.

"Did my mentor tell you this? Why was he so stingy?! Wasn't it just a few chickens? If he can't bear to part with them, I can go down the mountain and buy a bunch of chickens for my mentor!" Luo Han said angrily.

"Uh, you clearly know that my mentor's chickens are very extraordinary. How can the chickens you bought at the foot of the mountain compare to my mentor's chickens?" Wu Qinghe exposed the truth.

"Cough cough!" Luo Han blushed and said embarrassedly, "You have to be more kind. You can't touch a sore spot! No wonder my mentor wanted to chase you down the mountain!"

Wu Qinghe was speechless.

It was as if Luo Han hadn't been chased down the mountain by his mentor!

Forget it, he was in someone else's territory now. He should endure it!

Thinking of this, Wu Qinghe said, "Then when are you going to bring me to meet Luo Cheng?"

Luo Han glanced at Wu Qinghe and sneered.

"I have to investigate you carefully. Who knows if you approached my buddy out of good intentions or bad intentions?! After all, Luo Cheng and I grew up together. His safety is important, so you should stay by my side for a while!

When I'm sure you're trustworthy, I'll introduce you to Luo Cheng!"

When Wu Qinghe heard Luo Han's words, he thought of something and said. "Just send me to him before March. Otherwise, I'll really be in trouble!"

Luo Han glanced at Wu Qinghe and nodded. Then, he said lazily, "Got it! Don't worry!"

Wu Qinghe rolled his eyes at Luo Han. He knew that Luo Han was being perfunctory, but there was nothing he could do about it.

It wasn't that he hadn't thought of looking for Luo Cheng directly, but he had been quite unlucky recently.

If he traveled alone, something unexpected might happen halfway and he might get abducted to somewhere far away.

Wasn't it like this before the new year? He was about to reach Sichuan, but he got implicated by someone and was abducted to Jiangnan..

Fortunately, he had finally met his senior brother this time, which saved him from being sent away again.

...

At least, ever since he met his senior brother, his bad luck had not flared up again.

Therefore, he couldn't act rashly. He could only rely on his senior brother's recommendation to get permission to follow Luo Cheng. This way, he wouldn't have to worry anymore.

After Luo Cheng's matter was resolved, Li Xiaoran and Luo Cheng walked towards the shop.

Today was the opening of the fast-food business. She wondered how everyone was preparing.

By the time they reached the shop, everything was going smoothly.

There were already two customers eating at the noodle stall. Li Xiaoqing and Luo Ziyang stayed behind to cook and sell noodles.

Zhao Xiu and Li Shun were washing vegetables with Bai Shu and the other two workers in the other shop.

At this moment, the pork that Luo Cheng had brought back had already been cut.

There was shredded meat, lean meat, and some minced meat.

Mao Dao was heating the fire for Gao Chen. The big pot was also washed and ready to cook.

When Li Xiaoran arrived, she didn't disturb everyone. Instead, she stood at the side and watched Gao Chen cook.

It had to be said that stir-frying big pots of food also required skill.

Aware of his limits, Gao Chen didn't stir-fry a large pot immediately. Instead, he tried to double the number of ingredients and stir-fry them first.

One had to admit, the food tasted good when it was cooked like this.

Of course, the taste of this big pot of food was naturally different from those meticulously cooked dishes in restaurants.

Even so, this big pot of food tasted very good.

After taking a few bites with her chopsticks, Li Xiaoran gave an affirmative answer.

After receiving Li Xiaoran's affirmation, Gao Chen was much more at ease, so he went to cook the next dish confidently.

It had to be said that Gao Chen was really good at cooking. Each dish he cooked was better than the last.

Soon, ten dishes were stir-fried and delivered to the table made by the shop.

There were two rows of dishes. One row was five meat dishes, and the other row was five vegetarian dishes.

Just like the noodle shop, there was also a large pot of bone soup made from pork bones placed at the side for free.

After everything was ready, Zhao Xiu changed into clean clothes and waited for the customers to come.

There was also a sign outside the shop that said “Daily Fast Food”. It even specifically indicated that customers would be able to eat food the moment they entered.

As expected, when the customers who came later saw the sign, they looked at the shop curiously.

After the ten dishes were placed neatly in front of everyone and they asked for the price, the customers ordered and sat down.

The rice was priced according to the number of bowls. There were a total of three bowl sizes, and the corresponding prices were different.

A small bowl cost one copper coin, a medium-sized bowl cost two copper coins, and a large bowl cost three copper coins.

One meat dish cost five copper coins, and a plate of vegetables cost three copper coins.

After the food was delivered, the customer buried his head in his food.

As expected, the customers felt that the food tasted fresh and delicious.

Most importantly, the food was fresh yet convenient, saving them a lot of time.

More and more customers rushed to the fast food restaurant. Of course, some people who were less well-off still went to the noodle restaurant.

Of course, there were also some poor people who didn't go to any shops at all. Instead, they bought some cheap food from the snack stalls by the road.

Therefore, people who set up stalls earned money as well.

Of course, the two shops that earned the most money were Li Xiaoran's.

Whenever Gao Chen saw that there was not enough food, he would stir-fry another pot of food.

Because every dish was stir-fried in an iron pot and warmed on a small stove, the customers ate the food warm.

When the day was over, everyone was excited.

After sending off a few workers, Li Xiaoran and the others sat around and counted the money.

Gao Chen was tired after working all day, so he didn't join them. Instead, he returned to his room to rest.

On the first day of business, the fast food shop earned for a total of ten taels of silver. After deducting the cost of ingredients and labor, they earned a total of five taels of silver in profit.

The profit was very high!

This was when there were not many people traveling on the official road.

If there were more people traveling on the official road, they would earn even more.

Of course, that was not how business revenue was calculated. The daily turnover was unstable.

Sometimes more, sometimes less. It depended on the average profit. Even so, when the family saw how profitable this fast food was, they were all overjoyed.

“No wonder you wanted to start this fast-food business. It’s indeed a good way to earn money! I saw many customers buying food when they heard that they could eat warm food here. The business at the noodle shop became a little less lively!” Li Xiaoqing thought about the situation during the day and said.

“That’s normal! What I’m worried about is that if this continues, others might imitate us when they see how popular this business is!” Li Shun thought of something and said, “When you all went to lunch today, when I was there getting food, I saw someone secretly watching what was going on in our shop!”

As expected, the next day, the stall owners by the official road also started promoting fast food.

Although there were not as many fast-food dishes, they still attracted some merchants and snatched some customers.

When Li Xiaoqing saw this, she was enraged.

“Sister, look at how shameless these people are! They copied our business idea and snatched our business!”

Li Xiaoran saw it too, but she had already expected this, so she didn’t mind.

“So be it! No one can snatch what’s ours away!”

“Sister, you’re too kind!” Li Xiaoqing stomped her feet and said.

“How old are you? Why are you so worried? What if you get wrinkles? You won’t be able to earn all the money in the world. It’s fine as long as there’s enough money for us to use. Besides, our fast food tastes much better than theirs. People with good taste definitely won’t eat their fast food!” Li Xiaoran explained with a smile.

Sure enough, before long, a large caravan arrived.

The caravan stopped when they saw two large shops by the official road.

Ignoring the greetings of the stall owners, this group of people walked straight to Daily Fast Food.

Seeing that the ten dishes looked delicious, the group ordered some food.

At the same time, there were also people who wanted to eat a mix of everything.

After knowing that the two shops were run by the same people, this group of people ordered knife-cut noodles and steamed buns.

Just like that, the fast-food business also improved the sliced noodles stall and bun stall’s business.

As there were too many people, some people ordered dishes, but sat at the noodle restaurant to eat..

The shop's good business made the people setting up stalls outside envious and jealous, but there was nothing they could do.

...

After all, the caravan was so big that their scattered food stalls couldn't satisfy the other party's needs. In the end, they could only watch with green-eyed envy.

Of course, these food stalls were not completely without business.

There were usually many people who followed the caravan. Since they couldn't squeeze into the shops, they could only eat outside.

Speaking of which, everyone had earned a lot more money than usual in the past few days.

Li Xiaoran actually received some fake silver as payment.

Because she had seen it often, Li Xiaoran could tell the difference between these counterfeit silver coins and genuine silver at a glance.

Therefore, Li Xiaoran noted down the people who gave these taels of silver and pointed them out to Luo Ziyang.

Luo Ziyang had a photographic memory, so he remembered all the people Li Xiaoran mentioned and secretly investigated their identities.

At this moment, Luo Cheng was not in the shop or in the mountains. Instead, he was at the barren mountain.

Elder Xu only stayed at Luo Cheng's house for a night before leaving.

It was unknown what had happened in his family, but after Elder Xu's servant brought the letter, Elder Xu entrusted the matter of settling the disabled soldiers to Luo Cheng and left in a hurry.

Therefore, after breakfast today, Luo Cheng went to check on the situation of the disabled soldiers.

"What exactly is going on?" Luo Cheng frowned and asked angrily.

The men also knew they had done something wrong, so they lowered their heads with apologetic looks on their faces.

Luo Cheng was furious and wished he could chase these people out.

Initially, he only wanted to settle some of his people in the barren mountain, but later on, when Elder Xu sent them over, Luo Cheng didn't object.

But look at what these people had done here!

"Do you guys know what this is?" Luo Cheng asked, suppressing his anger as he looked down at the men.

"I do. It's food!" one of them replied.

"Since you know, why did you guys waste food?" Luo Cheng couldn't help but raise his voice.

One of the men with a broken arm couldn't help but look up when he heard Luo Cheng's roar.

"Isn't it just some food? We didn't do this on purpose either! Why are you shouting? Are you bullying us for being disabled?"

As soon as he finished speaking, Luo Cheng punched the man who spoke.

The man didn't expect Luo Cheng to do this and was sent flying by the punch.

Before long, the stubborn man landed on the ground and felt intense pain. At this moment, Luo Cheng looked up and scanned the people around him.

"Whoever has any objections, feel free to step forward now!"

There was silence. No one dared to say anything else.

Luo Cheng retracted his fist as he looked at the people in front of him.

"Back then, the reason I bought this barren mountain was that I thought that you guys were probably struggling. Since I'm more well-off, I wanted to help if I could! But I'm only going to help you guys if you're worthy of my help! Since you guys are so ungrateful, I don't welcome you guys anymore!"

Luo Cheng clapped his hands as he spoke.

Soon, ten secret guards appeared beside Luo Cheng.

"Send these people and the one who was sent flying back to Elder Xu! I don't run a charity. If you don't want to improve your lives, there's no need for me to help you guys!"

Luo Cheng didn't give them a chance to plead for mercy. He asked someone to send them away directly.

After these people left, Luo Cheng looked at the people around him.

"This is your home in the future. I can give you guys stable lives and help you guys earn money to support your families, but all of this is based on the premise that you guys are willing to improve. Today, I will put out the word first. If there's a next time, if you don't cherish your food and don't focus on building your home, but sow discord and scheme against each other instead, I'll punish you guys. If you don't believe me, you can try!"

Mang Hankang, who had slept in the same tent as Luo Cheng in the past, saw this scene and grinned.

Those people deserved what they got.

With General Luo's personality, he couldn't tolerate any misconduct.

To actually plot things here, they were really too big for their britches!

Seeing that the public example served its effect, Luo Cheng let everyone go to work.

“Ah Zheng, come here!” Luo Cheng shouted.

Kang Zheng nodded and came to Luo Cheng with his walking stick.

“How are you doing here? Are you accustomed to everything?” Luo Cheng asked with concern.

After all, Kang Zheng had been one of his soldiers in the past, so Luo Cheng was naturally concerned.

“I’m fine, General! Although I’m missing a leg, it doesn’t affect me from doing the job!” Kang Zheng grinned.

The burly man had a hearty smile on his face that made him look very honest and trustworthy.

Luo Cheng glanced at Kang Zheng and shook his head. “You’re unwilling to say anything?! Those people bullied you so much, but you didn’t come to me to seek justice for you!”

“This is nothing. They just said a few words out of jealousy. Words can’t hurt me. General, I’m fine. I’m used to it!” Kang Zheng recalled his previous life and said, “Compared to before, I’m already doing very well!”

When Luo Cheng heard Kang Zheng’s words, his heart ached. Then, he thought for a moment and said, “Xiaoran’s shop is still short of people. Why don’t you go to her place?!”

Kang Zheng was naturally willing, but when he thought of what had happened earlier, he shook his head.

“I’d better not. It’s more appropriate for me to stay here. I can even be your spy!”

“Go. You’re already being ostracized, so how can you be my spy? Go pack your things and follow me later!” Luo Cheng knew Kang Zheng’s good intentions, but he didn’t need him to do so.

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and added, “Don’t worry, I’ll arrange it! It’s not like you don’t know my methods. If these people still don’t know how to cherish what they’ve got, they’ll suffer the consequences!”

“On the other hand, what if you get targeted by them if you stay here?!”

When Kang Zheng heard Luo Cheng’s words, he finally nodded and went back to pack his things.

When Kang Zheng’s roommate saw Kang Zheng packing up, he immediately said enviously, “You’re so lucky. If only I could meet a former boss who wanted to help me!”

Kang Zheng looked at the man who had spoken. He was the only person who had not mocked him in the past few days.

“My general is very kind.. As long as you do your job well, you will get lucky too!”

The other man nodded when he heard Kang Zheng's words, then walked him out.

...

Naturally, what happened in the room couldn't be hidden from Luo Cheng.

Luo Cheng glanced at this person and instructed the secret guards to watch him secretly.

If possible, he could be of use to him.

When Kang Zheng followed Luo Cheng to the shop and saw how busy it was, he immediately laughed.

This was what life should be like!

"Yuan Cheng, bring him to the empty room next to yours. Take care of each other in the future!" Luo Cheng said when he saw Yuan Cheng.

When Yuan Cheng heard this, he let Mao Dao watch over the bun stall, then he walked over and nodded.

"Got it! Buddy, come with me!"

Luo Cheng also looked at Kang Zheng and counseled him.

"Follow Yuan Cheng to your room and put down your bag. Then, come out to eat a bowl of noodles. When you're free later, you can tidy up your room. The shop is relatively busy now, so come over and help! The fast food shop needs someone to scoop the vegetables. Since your legs are disabled, just sit there and scoop the vegetables!"

Kang Zheng nodded and followed Yuan Cheng to the back of the shop.

When Li Xiaoqing heard her brother-in-law's words, she quickly sliced the noodles.

"Brother-in-law, what kind of sauce do you want?"

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and said, "Put in braised meat! "

Li Xiaoqing nodded and quickly went to season it.

Li Xiaoran was busy in the fast food shop.

As there were more customers eating, there were more bowls and chopsticks that needed to be cleaned.

Seeing that everyone was so busy and that there were many wooden basins in the courtyard, Li Xiaoran simply went to boil hot water to wash up.

Luo Cheng walked over and saw that Li Xiaoran's hands were already wrinkled from being soaked in the water.

"Let someone else do the dishes! Why are you here?!"

Li Xiaoran smiled when she heard Luo Cheng's voice.

“Everyone’s too busy. I came to wash dishes since I have nothing to do!”

Yuan Cheng happened to walk out and see Li Xiaoran washing the dishes, so he quickly came over to take over.

“Xiaoran, go rest! We’ll wash the dishes!”

Seeing that someone had come to take over, Luo Cheng pulled Li Xiaoran to wash her hands. Then, he took out a bottle of ointment from his pocket and carefully applied it on Li Xiaoran.

“If you continue to soak your hands, they’ll peel off! It’s easy to shed skin during the changing seasons. If you continue to soak in water for a long time, you’ll shed a lot of skin!” Luo Cheng reminded her carefully as he wiped her

hands.

Li Xiaoran originally wanted to say that she didn’t mind shedding her skin, but seeing Luo Cheng’s nervous expression, she accepted his kindness.

“Didn’t you say you wanted to check on the situation at the barren mountain?”

“Why are you here so soon?”

“Don’t mention it. When I went to the barren mountain, I encountered something and sent a few people who don’t cherish food back to Elder Xu! I was very frustrated, so I wanted to come over here to calm down before thinking about how to deal with the situation!” After Luo Cheng confirmed that Li Xiaoran had applied ointment on her hands, he put her hands down. “Remember, try not to get wet these few days. If you apply it continuously for a few days, your skin will peel!”

Li Xiaoran nodded and sat on the bench in the courtyard with Luo Cheng.

At this moment, Kang Zheng put down his things and walked out.

“Ah Zheng, go inside and eat a bowl of noodles before working! The noodles are ready. Go to the stove and eat them!” Luo Cheng said when he saw Kang Zheng.

Kang Zheng nodded, then he greeted Xiaoran and went straight to the noodle shop.

When Li Xiaoran saw Kang Zheng appear, she asked, “Husband, you finally brought him out?”

“You don’t seem surprised at all.” Luo Cheng asked curiously when he heard Li Xiaoran’s words.

“I expected you to bring him out! No matter what, he’s your subordinate, so he naturally wouldn’t leave him in the barren mountain. Besides, there are all sorts of people there, and everyone has their own agenda. When those people came on the first day, they discovered that Kang Zheng had a special relationship with you, so they acted accordingly. With your protective personality, you naturally wouldn’t let your people stay there and suffer!” Li Xiaoran explained with a smile.

“You know me too well!” Luo Cheng said with emotion, “Ah Zheng didn’t tell me that he was being ostracized. He endured it alone because he didn’t want to cause me trouble. Just now, when I wanted to bring him away from there, he wanted to stay behind and be my spy! Isn’t that stupid? To leave someone who everyone knows is my subordinate as a spy? Isn’t that unnecessary?” When Li Xiaoran heard this, she immediately laughed.

“He’s just being kind! It means that your subordinate is a good person!”

“That’s right, so I asked him to come here and work at Daily Fast Food. This way, our mom won’t have to work so hard and can have free time to do other things!” Luo Cheng told her his plan.

“It’s indeed inconvenient for him to stand on that disabled leg for a long period of time, so dishing out food is the perfect task for him!” Li Xiaoran nodded and agreed to Luo Cheng’s arrangements.

“What should we do about the barren mountain? It’s spring now. Other than building a place to live, we should dig a fish pond and raise fish as well!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and reminded, “Other than the fish pond, we have to plant fish grass too!”

Speaking of this, Li Xiaoran thought of something and said the idea she had in mind for the past two days.

“Not only can we raise fish, but we can also establish a duck farm near the fish pond. We can plant pastures and pickerelweed around the fish pond. The pastures can be fed to chickens and pigs. Some of the feces of chickens, ducks, and pigs can be used to grow vegetables, and some can be added to the pickerelweed to feed the fish. We can earn money by raising fish, chickens, ducks, and pigs, and we can also plant vegetables and fruits.”

Luo Cheng didn’t know much about farming, so he felt very confused when he heard Li Xiaoran mention ecological farming.

Li Xiaoran noticed Luo Cheng’s confusion and simply took out the ecological cultivation map she had drawn previously and explained it to Luo Cheng bit by bit.

The more Luo Cheng listened, the more shocked he became. In the end, he even smacked the table and praised her.

“Wife, your idea is really too brilliant! If we really do this, the barren mountain will definitely become a wealthy manor in the future.”

“This is exactly my idea. As for what to do, I’ll write it down in detail in the next two days. As long as you arrange it according to a certain number and ratio, you will be able to maintain this manor properly! Husband, when the barren mountain’s

construction is finished, it will definitely become a big granary! In the future, no matter what happens, with such a manor, we can do anything we want!" Li Xiaoran said with anticipation..

Chapter 300: Recognizing the Truth

Ecological cultivation was something Li Xiaoran had researched when she was writing a thesis in the past.

...

At that time, Li Xiaoran was impressed by this ecological breeding model and had always wanted to try it.

Now that she had transmigrated to this space-time dimension and her man happened to have a barren mountain, she wanted to build this ecological farm.

Luo Cheng was inspired by Li Xiaoran's idea and had a good idea about the construction of the barren mountain.

Originally, Luo Cheng wanted to provide protection for injured soldiers and help improve their lives.

However, when it was really implemented, Luo Cheng realized that he was too rash.

At this moment, under Li Xiaoran's reminder, Luo Cheng suddenly understood something.

If he was going to invest his energy and money anyway, why couldn't he put more effort into making it even better?

In the past, these people might have worked for other people, but he could hire them to work for him as well.

At least he wouldn't bully them. He would arrange things according to their individual situations.

He originally wanted to build a village for them and let them live independently.

But now that he thought about it, the idea was too naive.

If he wanted to guide this group of people and let them integrate into normal life, he might as well set up his own rules from the beginning.

Then, they would only need to do what he told them to!

He could just get rid of those who had ulterior motives.

The more he thought about it, the more Luo Cheng felt that this was a good idea, so he began to think about how to implement it.

"Wife, don't you think it's better for us to build some houses on the barren mountain and pay those disabled soldiers a monthly salary?" Luo Cheng asked.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment and nodded.

“Actually, this is for the best. It’s just that the investment will be very high, at least in the early stages. The house needs to be built, the fish pond needs to be dug, while chickens, ducks, and pigs all require money to raise!”

“I’m not afraid of spending money. I can afford this small amount of money!” Luo Cheng nodded and said.

“If that’s the case, then there’s no problem! However, since it’s a manor, we still have to find some guards and a butler for the manor!” Li Xiaoran reminded again.

“Yes!” Luo Cheng nodded and said, “Then I’ll go and take a look at the construction of our father and mother’s house first! I’ll see if the workers spare the time to continue building a manor for us!”

With that, Luo Cheng stood up and left.

Li Xiaoran thought of something and suddenly realized that in the past few months, they seemed to have been constructing nonstop!

First, they built the shop. Then, they started building their parents’ house. Now, they were going to build a house in the wilderness.

Why did this have to do with repairing houses?!

Perhaps she, who in the modern era had an obsession with having a house that belonged to her, would finally fulfill her wish after transmigrating to ancient times.

When Chen Xiang, who was in charge of building the Luo family’s house, saw Luo Cheng coming, he subconsciously felt that business had come.

When he heard Luo Cheng say that he wanted him to build a manor in the wilderness, Chen Xiang was shocked.

“My people are all focused on the construction of the house. How can I have any manpower to spare?!”

Luo Cheng was disappointed to hear that.

“Are these the only people you have?”

“That’s right! I only have these people with me!” Chen Xiang nodded and said, “To be honest, before this, I didn’t even have these people to work for me! If it weren’t for the fact that you asked us to build a shop last year, I would have lost my team!”

Luo Cheng was curious when he heard Chen Xiang’s words.

“The house you guys built isn’t bad, and it was built very quickly. Why can’t you guys continue?”

Chen Xiang smiled bitterly and said, “There are many people in our line of work. I don’t do things like those sly people. I’ll tell people how much silver it takes to build a house. I won’t report too

much or too little. We also guarantee the quality of the house and won't cut corners. Compared to others, naturally we aren't liked by the owners."

When Luo Cheng heard this, he immediately understood something.

There were many twists and turns in this industry.

At this point, Chen Xiang thought of something and suddenly asked, "Actually, it's not impossible for me to take this job! But Young Master Luo, as long as you can pay me half of the money in advance, I can find people to build your manor!"

Luo Cheng didn't understand Chen Xiang's words.

"It's like this. I have a former colleague who can't survive in the industry anymore. That person is very down-to-earth, but doesn't plan to do construction anymore. However, the people under him are very skilled. I want to get these people over to build your house!" Chen Xiang explained.

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and asked, "Do you know Han Zhenming?"

When Chen Xiang heard this name, his expression immediately changed.

"How could we not know?! We were oppressed by the Han family until we couldn't survive in the industry anymore! "

Luo Cheng didn't expect to hear someone else say Uncle Han's name again.

"What do you mean? Tell me in detail!"

At this moment, Chen Xiang couldn't suppress the hatred in his heart and told him everything.

The Han family had always wanted to expand in Sichuan, so they annexed many craftsmen who built houses.

At first, the Han family promised the craftsmen lucrative rewards. After everyone signed the contract, the Han family began to show their true colors.

"Young Master Luo, do you know? People in this industry rely on our strength and skills to earn a living. Our pay isn't bad. In the end, after the Han family signed these craftsmen, they lowered the cost of each job. Even the wages of the craftsmen fell by more than half!"

"No one was willing to accept it, so they went to the Han family to ask for an explanation. The Han family took out those contracts and threatened them with a sky-high breach of contract penalty fee if they didn't accept it. Who could take out so much money? They could only take it lying down and were forced to work for the Han family!"

"Fortunately, not everyone has signed this contract. More than half of the craftsmen are freelancers. It's just that everyone has formed their own teams and can't compete

with the Han family. The Han family used dirty tricks to ostracize us bit by bit. They even threatened our craftsmen with being forced to leave their homes!”

Upon hearing Chen Xiang’s words, Luo Cheng was shocked.

It turned out that the Han Zhenming he knew wasn’t the real Han Zhenming, but a very hypocritical Han Zhenming!