

The Comeback of the Charming Farmer's Wife

#Chapter 31: The Shameless Wife (Already Modified) - Read The Comeback of the Charming Farmer's Wife Chapter 31: The Shameless Wife (Already Modified)

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Yang Xiayun didn't understand much, but she knew they were going for fun and clapped her hands, also clamoring to go.

Eventually, Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang couldn't resist the children's enthusiasm and set off to the town together as a family. Before leaving, Yang Chuxia imitated Ms. Luo's triumphant smile towards her.

Hmph, wanting to drag her father to help with work? Not a chance!

When the third branch of the Yang Family left, the courtyard suddenly became gloomy and lifeless.

Ms. Luo saw her mother-in-law's sulking face and didn't dare to speak. However, Ms. Liu and Yang Da'an did. Ms. Liu jabbed her husband's waist and hinted at him.

Yang Da'an first shrank back but eventually, unable to withstand his wife's jabbing, he thickened his skin and approached, "Mom, could you give me some money too? Otherwise, when I go to town, I won't even have a copper coin to buy a vegetable bun. It's so humiliating."

"Money, money, money! That's all you know! Don't think I don't know how many copper coins your stinky wife has hidden in her pants!"

"Mom, what are you talking about?"

Ms. Liu's face flushed red. She never expected Old Lady Hua to expose her secret publicly and even reveal where she hid the money. That old lady really pissed her off.

"Wow, sister-in-law, you're really good at hiding money! Aren't you afraid it will get in the way when you sleep?" Yang Xiaochuan smirked with a wretched face, eyeing Ms. Liu's chubby white face. Somehow, he imagined her plump body, thinking how comfortable it must be to snuggle against her like a cotton pillow. As Yang Xiaochuan swallowed his saliva, perhaps too loudly, Yang Da'an heard it, and he saw Fourth staring at his wife with that kind of gaze. He lunged at him, and the two instantly started grappling and fighting.

"You little bastard! Where are you looking? I'll kill you, believe it or not!"

It's undeniable that the most cowardly men will also explode when it comes to issues of dignity, like the always meek and bully-wary Yang Da'an, who'd become furious at this point.

Seeing her two sons fighting at the front door, Old Lady Hua got angry and grabbed a broom, hitting the two of them. Finally, the two were separated, and she threw away the broom and left.

When she reached a field of reeds behind the village, Old Lady Hua looked around and saw no one. She quickly sneaked in.

"You finally came. I've been waiting for ages!" As soon as Old Lady Hua stepped in, a muscular man immediately came forward and hugged her. If Yang Chuxia were here, she'd recognize that this man was none other than Burly Lu, the village's idler.

"It's all because of those troublemakers at home, giving me a headache."

"Where does it hurt? Let me massage it for you!" As Burly Lu said this, he started to touch her.

"..."

Soon, some discordant sounds came from the reed field. After some entanglement, Old Lady Hua did not hurry to tidy her clothes but eagerly asked Burly Lu, "How is the thing I asked you to do coming along?"

"Don't worry, as long as that little girl goes to Wangquan Town, I guarantee the next time you see her, she'll be pulling customers outside Hongcui Pavilion."

Chapter 32: Chapter 32: Instructing Ms. Wang

"Hmph, that's good. That little bitch dares to threaten me with this matter. Now I'll make sure she's dominated by men for the rest of her life."

"Hehe, don't worry." Burly Lu smirked wickedly, his hand returning to Old Lady Hua's chest, and thought to himself that this woman was already in her fifties, and yet her body was still so plump, soft, and tender. Old Yang really wasted her. Fortunately, he's here to take over now.

"Come on, let's do it again while we have this great opportunity."

After a round of lewdness, the two dressed and left separately.

Meanwhile, Yang Chuxia's family had also arrived at Wangquan Town by ox cart. Of course, Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan did not ride in the ox cart. Instead, the four children paid eight copper coins to sit in it.

Yang Chuxia counted the remaining copper coins and found that after paying the fare, they still had forty-five left.

Old Lady Hua had thrown away fifty-three copper coins. What could she do with such a small amount of money? She couldn't help but feel a little resentful towards Ms. Wang, thinking that if it weren't for her, she could have scammed more money out of her.

"Mother, next time I ask for money from my step-grandmother, you and father must not say anything, okay? Also, not only when I'm asking for money, but also when I'm arguing with them, you don't have to side with me, but don't hold me back either. Otherwise, I'll get angry."

"What are you talking about, child? She's your grandmother, and she gave you the money, so you'll see. Your aunt and the rest will definitely ask for more too."

"I can't control that. All I know is that they eat and drink because my father works hard, so it's right for me to ask her for money." As she spoke, she glanced at the silent Yang Dachuan, "Father, do you think what I said is right?"

Yang Dachuan, caught between his wife and daughter, didn't know what to say and simply scratched his head while chuckling.

"Father, Mother, just listen to my sister. She must be doing the right thing!" Yang Qingrui is now fully on Yang Chuxia's side, he said while pulling Ms. Wang, "Everything my sister does is for our siblings' sake. Since father and mother can't protect us from being held down by grandma, let my sister handle it. You guys can't do anything, but my sister can! You just need to stop controlling her."

Hearing the voice from behind, Yang Chuxia turned back and gave Yang Qingrui a thumbs up, "Little brother, you're doing great! Thank you for trusting your sister so much!"

"Of course! Besides, I'm not wrong!"

"Father, Mother, being filial to our grandparents is your responsibility. In the future, don't involve us siblings. We just need to be filial to you. That old lady has nothing to do with us, and she didn't raise us."

Seeing that Yang Qingrui made a lot of sense, Yang Dachuan and his wife didn't respond, so Yang Chuxia took the opportunity to say it again. She thought that she must not miss any chance to brainwash this honest couple, washing their minds several times should do the trick.

What she didn't know was that, although Yang Dachuan and his wife didn't explicitly say that they were on her side, they decided, like Yang Qingrui said, to let their daughter do whatever she wants from now on. After all, their daughter is stronger than them and won't be mistreated. Plus, she can protect her siblings, so they can't hold her back. As for filial piety, they're enough.

"Father, Mother, you haven't eaten anything this morning either. There's a bun shop over there, let's go buy some buns to fill our stomachs!"

As she spoke, Yang Chuxia waved to Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan behind her and ran towards the bun shop. As she ran, she thought to herself, the Sea God festival really brings a lot of people. She just didn't know which part of the sea the worship ceremony would take place.

Chapter 33: Chapter 33: The Festival of Deadly Greed

She had just asked Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang, and neither of them knew, as they hadn't come in previous years either. They happened to see a bun shop, so she thought that she might as well buy a few buns to fill their stomachs in the morning, while also asking for information.

"Xi Xia, slow down, there are lots of people!"

"I got it!" Yang Chuxia waved her hand at Ms. Wang with her back facing her, and then continued to run towards the bun shop.

"How much do you sell these vegetable buns for?"

The bun shop owner saw it was a pretty young girl with two sesame twist braids and talked to her gently.

"Little girl, the vegetable buns are one coin each, and the meat buns are two coins each. Do you want the vegetable ones or the meat ones, and how many?"

"What kind of fillings are there in the vegetable ones?"

"For the vegetable ones, there are cabbage fillings and green vegetable fillings."

Yang Chuxia nodded, thinking she should get vegetable buns. Although the meat buns were not expensive, they were expensive to her. She had only dozens of coins in total and she better not be extravagant.

"Boss, could you give me twelve cabbage buns?"

"Alright!"

The shop owner was quick to wrap the buns and hand them to Yang Chuxia, giving her an extra piece of sugar cake.

"The sugar cake is a gift for you."

"Thank you, uncle!" Yang Chuxia happily accepted the buns and sugar cake, thinking that most people in ancient times were simple, and Old Lady Hua must have been an exception.

"By the way, uncle, I wanted to ask you something!"

"Go ahead, little girl!"

"I heard today is the Sea God Festival, so where is the sea where the rituals are held? My family and I came from the village to watch the festivities, but we don't know where to go."

The bun owner laughed and pointed to the crowd behind Yang Chuxia, "Do you see all these people? They are going to the ritual. This year's Sea God Festival is held on the South Sea. If you want to go, just follow them."

"Okay, thank you, uncle!"

After getting the information, Yang Chuxia happily held the buns and turned around to leave.

"Little girl, wait a moment."

"What is it, uncle?" Yang Chuxia looked puzzledly at the bun shop owner.

Then, the bun shop owner looked around and whispered into Yang Chuxia's ear, "Little girl, let me give you a reminder. If you can avoid joining the festivity, don't go. If you really want to see it, make sure you stick with your family and don't run around."

"Why is that, uncle?"

"Little girl, let me tell you that every year, many fishermen can't buy sea maidens for the rituals. If they're lucky, they can find a corpse to make do. But if they can't, they try to find a substitute. Some kind people offer high prices to the parents of little girls. But those with bad intentions will kidnap the girls in the crowd, cover their faces with a handkerchief during the ritual, and by the time the family realizes it, the body has long sunk into the ocean."

At this point, the bun shop owner looked at Yang Chuxia again and continued, "The best age for a sea maiden in the rituals is between ten and fifteen years old. Looking at you, little girl, you're probably around eleven or twelve, and you're quite pretty. I'm afraid

someone might have their eye on you once you're at the South Sea. I'll tell you what, the prettier the sea maiden a fisherman sacrifices, the more prosperous their catch for the year. So, little girl, be extra careful."

Chapter 34: Chapter 34: The Filth in the Sea God Festival

"Ah, that's terrifying?" Yang Chuxia listened with shock, a chill rising in her heart. People here were so cruel, throwing living people into the sea like that. It sounded fine to say that some of the purchased were corpses, but how exactly they became corpses was another story.

Thinking about this, anger rose in Yang Chuxia's heart. What kind of sacrifice was this Sea God Festival? It was all feudal superstition, and a means to make money and harm lives.

"So, little girl, let me tell you, it's better not to join that event if you can avoid it. Every year during the Sea God Festival, a few girls go missing."

"Uncle, if everyone knows that girls will be abducted during the Sea God Festival, why do people still go?" Yang Chuxia looked back at the street and saw quite a few girls in their teens, heading in what seemed to be the direction of the sacrificial ceremony.

"Ah," with a heavy sigh, the uncle replied, "Isn't it for a good marriage? Those good marriages are all lies."

"Uncle, what do you mean by that?"

Yang Chuxia was confused. What else was there to this Sea God Festival?

"Well, it is said that those who participate in the Sea God Festival prayers and blessings can obtain a good marriage, and once they are married, they will make their husband's family prosperous. Many people take pride in having their daughters pray to the Sea God, and those who haven't will be looked down upon. So, tell me, will there be people going or not?"

Now Yang Chuxia understood. Actually, those so-called good marriages were nothing more than a gimmick spread by the fishermen and sea envoys.

The aim was to get more girls to participate in the Sea God Festival, so they could profit from it.

"Hmm, thank you, Uncle, I understand, I'll be careful."

Yang Chuxia secretly thought that she would go and see for herself what the situation was. As for being abducted, she wasn't afraid, but it would be better not to encounter it; otherwise, the other party would be in trouble.

After saying goodbye to the enthusiastic bun shop owner, Yang Chuxia went to find Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang, who were waiting by the roadside.

"Xi Xia, what were you talking to the owner about? Why did it take so long?" Seeing her coming, Ms. Wang hurriedly pulled her aside to avoid passersby bumping into her.

Yang Chuxia handed out the buns in her hand, one for each person, and said, "I was asking the bun shop owner about some things." Then Yang Chuxia told everyone what the bun shop owner had told her.

As she expected, after hearing this, Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan refused to let her go.

"Dad, Mom, it's okay. As long as I stay close to you, we can go and have a look. If it's not fun, we'll go back immediately."

Ms. Wang hesitated, not really wanting to go. Yang Dachuan felt the same way; praying for blessings or not, it seemed too dangerous.

Seeing this, Yang Chuxia pressed on, "Dad, Mom, you know my abilities. None of my uncles can beat me, even if they all team up."

"That's right, Xi Xia, how did you learn those martial arts skills?" They had forgotten about this until now.

"Ah, Dad, don't worry about how I learned. Just watch out for my little sister and little brother, and I'll take care of myself and Dachuan."

After saying that, Yang Chuxia pulled Qingrui forward, and Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang reluctantly followed.

They walked behind the crowd on the street, and after about one hour, they finally arrived at the southern seafront where this year's ceremony was being held.

Chapter 35: Chapter 35: Inquiring about Fish and Shrimp

From afar, Yang Chuxia saw a large platform at the junction of the beach and the shallows. Various amulets hung on it. In the middle of the platform was an image of a creature with a dragon's head and a fish's body. Directly in front of the image was a long wooden table, topped with a large incense burner. On either side of the burner was an array of fruits, pastries, and other items.

In front of the table, five women were kneeling. From a distance, Yang Chuxia couldn't make out their faces, but they were all wearing red auspicious dresses, their heads bowed and their shoulders slightly moving — perhaps they were crying.

To the left of the women were a few men dressed as fishermen. They were likely the buyers of these sea maidens.

However, she didn't see the so-called Lord Sacrificer. Maybe it wasn't time for his appearance yet.

She then strolled around the beach market with Ms. Wang and others, finding quite a few stalls selling small items.

There were teeny sailboats and baskets glued together with seashells, and even tiny hair clips and bracelets made of seashells. Yang Chuxia looked around but didn't see any pearls.

She reasoned that pearls found in these seas, which were pricey even in modern times, would be even more valuable in ancient times. Anyone lucky enough to find a pearl would probably sell it in a shop.

Apart from seashell crafts, there were also many stalls selling small shrimps, crabs, and fish. Yang Chuxia asked about the prices. They were cheap, a few coins could buy you a pound.

However, those little crabs and fish didn't have much meat. Buying them was like paying for flavor rather than sustenance. So, in the end, it wasn't really a bargain.

"Mom, why don't I see any salted fish or dried shrimps?"

Stewing salted sea fish would create a savory dish that went well with rice. Those small shrimps, when cooked with winter melon soup or seaweed soup would not only be nourishing but delicious.

Yang Chuxia looked at her siblings and herself, all of them short like radishes, clearly lacking nutrition and calcium. She thought of buying some shrimp to supplement their diet and promote growth when they had the money. But she hadn't seen any so far.

Ms. Wang gave her a puzzled glance and said, "Salted fish? The fish in the sea are salty enough. If they're any saltier, no one will eat them. As for dried shrimps, I've never seen any. The fresh ones have barely any meat; after drying, there would be even less. Nobody would want to eat that."

"Really?" exclaimed Yang Chuxia. "What a waste! How could people not eat shrimps which are so nutritious?"

Ms. Wang only smiled, "See those? No one even buys the fresh ones; after a while, they just discard them." Following Ms. Wang's pointing finger, Yang Chuxia saw a middle-aged man dumping a bucket of small shrimps mixed with small crabs. Advancing a bit closer, she could smell their putrid odor.

When her gaze swept over the small crabs again, her eyes lit up. She lowered her voice and asked Ms. Wang, "Mom, do we have drunken crabs here?"

"Drunken crabs? Crabs?" Ms. Wang seemed not to understand. What was that?

"It's a type of food made with crabs, has some taste of alcohol but is quite delicious."

Ms. Wang shook her head, "Never heard of it. Aren't crabs just steamed? How else can they be eaten?"

Well, given Ms. Wang's reaction, Yang Chuxia guessed that they didn't have it. But that was even better. This meant that she could make money from it. The thought made her filled with happiness.

At the moment, she was still enthralled by having found a way to earn silver and didn't notice the pair of eyes that were observing her from a distance.

Chapter 36: Chapter 36: Encountering Thieves Who Steal Girls

"Xia, Xia, do you think it's about to start?"

People rushed along the beach, all pouring towards the direction of the sacrificial altar. From a distance, Yang Chuxia saw a middle-aged man with a goatee and a hat similar to a wizard's cap slowly walking towards the altar, surrounded by a crowd. That must be the person presiding over the ceremony.

"It should start soon. Let's go and see too. Mom and Dad better keep a close eye on Xia and Xi Xia."

"Xi Xia, you and Qingrui stay close to your father and me, don't run around."

"Mm, I know."

With that, the family headed towards the altar.

"Xi Xia, remember to pray well later." Ms. Wang suddenly turned to remind Yang Chuxia, because she thought that girls who prayed during the Sea God Festival were very popular, which would be helpful for Xi Xia's marriage prospects in the future. At the very least, when compared to those who have not prayed during the festival, they would probably be preferred as brides.

"Mm, Mom, I know."

Although she agreed verbally, she didn't take it seriously. She thought that prayers were just a way to deceive and exploit girls, and only naive and simple women like Ms. Wang would believe it.

As she went along, Yang Chuxia suddenly felt something was wrong. She turned around abruptly and found a middle-aged woman and a middle-aged man behind her.

When the two saw her stop, they glared at her. "Hey, are you blocking the road? Are you going or not?"

"I'm sorry. You go first."

Yang Chuxia stepped aside and pulled Yang Qingrui to the side.

Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan, who were nearby, also stopped when they saw the siblings stop.

"What's wrong, Xiaxia?"

Yang Chuxia didn't say anything, looking around but not seeing anything suspicious, she shook her head, "Nothing, let's go."

However, after taking just a few steps, a sense of danger made her feel like someone was definitely following her. With this in mind, she huffed secretly and pretended not to know, continuing to walk while pulling Yang Qingrui.

As soon as they walked a few more steps, she sensed that the person following behind closed the distance a bit.

At that moment, a hand suddenly reached out from behind, holding a cloth. Yang Chuxia's eyes narrowed as she held her breath, pushed Yang Qingrui to the side, and spun around, kicking the person behind her.

Everyone heard a cry of pain, and the person who screamed was already lying on the ground. Those who were heading to the altar didn't stop, either. Whether they had seen it often or not, they all continued walking towards the altar with calm expressions.

"You bastard, I thought kidnapping in broad daylight was just a rumor, but it turns out to be true. And with that thief's face, you even dared to try it with me?"

Yang Chuxia shouted, Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan heard her and looked back. In front of Yang Chuxia was a man sprawled on the ground, with two more standing nearby. They immediately understood what was happening. Yang Dachuan didn't hesitate, took off his shoes and charged at one of them.

Yang Chuxia was slightly startled for a moment, realizing that actually, Yang Dachuan could be quite fierce. Not bad, not bad, he had potential for improvement.

However, with one hand, Yang Dachuan was clearly no match for the other man. So Yang Chuxia hurriedly went to help.

"You pesky little girl, dare to hit me? Today I'll make sure to send you to serve the Sea God!"

Previously kicked by Yang Chuxia, the man now saw his companions also involved in the fight and became encouraged. Especially since there was only Yang Dachuan as a man in the family, and he was a one-handed man at that. So the man got up from the ground, ready to catch Yang Chuxia.

Chapter 37: Chapter 37: Since you asked me to hit, then I won't be polite.

"You old thief, you dare to grab my shoulder?" Yang Chuxia's face darkened, and making use of the hand on her shoulder, she jumped and kicked the man in the face.

After her outburst, Yang Chuxia soon had the three men under her feet. She took a few deep breaths, steadied herself, and decided that she would start exercising when she got home today, as she was too weak.

"Why did you try to kidnap me?"

"If you want to hit, hit. If you want to kill, kill. Why so much talk?"

"Good, since you asked me to hit you, I won't hold back." As her words fell, Yang Chuxia's fists started raining down on the man who had spoken first.

The man screamed in pain, and apparently, the commotion drew quite a crowd. Especially those who had lost daughters themselves stopped and glared at the men who were being beaten, wishing they could go up and kick them too.

However, those men were quite tough. No matter how hard Yang Chuxia hit or kicked them, they refused to speak or reveal their motives.

"Damn, they're so stubborn. It's exhausting dealing with them."

"Sister, what should we do now?" Seeing the men lying on the ground like dead dogs, Yang Qingrui asked.

Yang Chuxia turned to see Yang Qingrui's eyes rolling and knew that the boy might have an idea.

"Do you have any good ideas?"

Yang Qingrui pondered and said, "Sister, they just tried to kidnap you. They must have been hired by some fisherman looking for a sea girl. Since that's the case, let's just throw them into the sea. After all, the Sea God needs servants, right?"

"Wow!" Yang Chuxia looked at Yang Qingrui in surprise. The boy was smarter than she thought, even coming up with this idea.

However, when the onlookers heard Yang Qingrui's words, they all laughed.

"Little girl, the Sea God only wants women, and the Lord Sacrificer won't help you."

Ms. Wang, who was clutching Yang Qingtong and Yang Xiayun beside her, felt relieved to see the three men beaten to a pulp. However, as a country woman, she was inherently afraid of causing trouble, so she advised Yang Chuxia, "Xi Xia, let's just let it go. They've already been beaten. Throwing them into the sea could end their lives, and there are so many people watching."

It turned out that Ms. Wang's words reminded her that she couldn't just throw them into the sea in front of everyone. It would be the same as killing them. She wasn't familiar with the laws of this dynasty, but in modern times, killing would result in a sentence.

It would be a shame to let them go just like that, but going to the authorities would require going to the county and would be more trouble. Yang Chuxia thought for a moment and shouted to the onlookers, "Uncles, aunties, I don't know why they tried to kidnap me, but I've managed to subdue them. I heard that during the Sea God Festival, some girls would go missing, and I suspect it's related to these people. If any of you uncles or aunties has lost a niece, come and vent your anger. Just don't beat them to death."

As Yang Chuxia's words fell, numerous men and women surrounded the three, and soon screams began to emerge from the crowd.

"Hehe" Yang Chuxia chuckled mischievously and felt much better watching the three men being beaten.

She glanced at the sacrificial altar not far away. It seemed that the preparations were not yet complete, but she had lost interest in it.

Chapter 38: Chapter 38: It's Your Turn to Run Wild

However, she assumed Ms. Wang, who seldom visited, would probably want to pay her respects to the Sea God. Following behind Ms. Wang, she patiently waited until the Lord Sacrificer on the stage finished his ceremony and the fishermen took the selected girls out to sea. Only then did they leave the South Seas.

As they were leaving, she couldn't shake the feeling that the Lord Sacrificer was watching her. She wondered, could it be because of the three she fought earlier, attracting the sacrificial cleric's displeasure?

This seemed plausible. She had not only beaten up those men but also revealed their deeds, undoubtedly causing discontent among many. This would make many more parents at the beach keep a tighter grip on their children. For those who had ulterior motives, their actions would become inconvenient, and they may not catch as many girls.

If there aren't enough girls captured, many fishermen will lose their "ocean daughters". Similarly, there will be fewer girls for the Lord Sacrificer to perform the ritual, and thus the number of red envelopes he receives will be less. It is said that the number of red envelopes the Lord Sacrificer receives depends on the number of "ocean daughters". Looking at the facts, it seems she got in the way of the Sacrificer's income. It looks like she would need to be careful around him in the future.

What Yang Chuxia probably did not realize was that the Sea God Festival was filled with danger. In addition to the three men who had targeted her, two others were waiting to capture her.

Those two were the acquaintances of Old Lady Hua and Burly Lu. Ironically, the two sent by Burly Lu were cowards, who dared not approach the bold Yang Chuxia on the beach and just followed her around instead...

By the time Yang Chuxia and Yang Dachuan's group returned to Yangshu Village, the two had not found an opportunity to act.

Thus, when Yang Chuxia's family safely returned to the Yang House, Old Lady Hua choked on a chicken leg out of shock.

Old Lady Hua coughed violently, her gaze falling on Yang Chuxia as if she was looking at a ghost.

Yang Chuxia glanced at the people at the table and observed that the crowd was almost complete. Aside from the second branch of the family, almost everyone was present, including the children from the first branch who had been at their grandmother's house.

Looking at the table, every bowl was as clean as if licked by a dog. On the floor were piles of chicken bones.

Yang Chuxia didn't say a word, but went to the kitchen and peeked in; lifting the lid of the pot, she found it was empty.

She still didn't say anything. As she turned to leave, her eyes fall on the kitchen knife. She held the knife in her hand, finding it quite balanced. She went back to the main hall, looked at the crowd, and then approached Old Lady Hua. "Earlier today, Granny said we're short on money and gave me a few copper coins. But tonight, we can afford to eat Wangquan roast chicken. It seems we're not that poor. How about Granny gives me some more money, so I can enjoy a chicken too?"

"Scoff, you ragamuffin thought you deserve to eat roast chicken? You're not even fit to eat chicken bones."

Yang Chuxia turned around and saw that the one who spoke was none other than Yang Ruoqiu, the firstborn daughter of the first branch, who just turned fourteen this year. She had been spending time with her siblings at their grandmother's house and seemed to have returned today.

Instead of arguing back, she walked up to Yang Ruoqiu and slapped her directly, pushing Ruoqiu a step back.

Yang Dongzhi, the second daughter of the first family, saw her sister being slapped, rushed out and started scolding Yang Chuxia, "You little harlot, you have the audacity to throw a tantrum here; don't you know your place?"

Chapter 39: Chapter 39: Start a Fight

Just as Yang Dongzhi finished speaking, no one saw how Yang Chuxia made her move, but only heard a "slap!" Yang Dongzhi's face had already taken a solid slap.

"It's true that shameless people give birth to shameless people. You're clearly shameless yourself, yet you insist on calling others so. Damn it, you ask me where this is? This is the Yang family, and if I, the legitimate granddaughter of the Yang family, have no right to speak, what right does a bastard like you have to talk? Get the hell out of my sight, I'm not in the mood to deal with you right now."

"You wretch! How dare you speak to me like that? I'll beat you to death."

Upon hearing Yang Chuxia's words, Yang Ruoqiu and her sister glanced at each other and were instantly enraged. Who gave this little wretch the courage to speak to them like this? In the past, she always kept her head down when she saw them, never daring to disobey their orders. She would never dare to eat two bites if they allowed her only one. Now she dares to speak to them like this, how can they bear this attitude?

Hit her!

However, before they could get close, their faces were slapped again, one after another with a sound like a firecracker.

"Damn it, that's your sister, and you dare to raise your hand against her." Ms.Liu saw her two daughters getting slapped and hurriedly rushed over to embrace them, seeing red fingerprints on their faces, she went straight to Ms.Wang and Yang Dachuan.

"Third, are the third branch of the family dead or what? Look at the daughter you raised, does she still have any respect for her elders? No matter who it is, just raise your hand and hit, do you still care or not?"

On the other side, Yang Xiaochuan, who felt he had worked like a dog all day, chimed in, "That's right, Third Brother, if you can't manage your daughter, we'll help you. I don't believe we can't handle a bitch like her."

Then Yang Da'an, Ms.Luo, Old Lady Hua, and others in the room all stared closely at Yang Dachuan and Ms.Wang, as if they needed an explanation from the couple.

Seeing this, Yang Dachuan scratched his head, not knowing what to say. Yang Qingrui tugged at him, and he looked at Yang Qingrui by his side, suddenly remembering the words his daughter and son had said to him over the past two days. Then he said lightly, "In our third branch, Xi Xia has the final say." These words angered everyone in the room.

But Yang Chuxia was satisfied, thinking it wasn't easy for her father to finally come to his senses.

Then Yang Chuxia disdainfully glanced at Yang Xiaochuan and Ms.Liu, propped up the knife in her hand, and coldly said, "You want to discipline me? First ask my knife if it's willing, and also see if you have the qualifications to control me."

Without waiting for their reply, she went straight back to Old Lady Hua and said, "Great-grandma, the three of us didn't come back late, but there was no food left for our third branch. I'm afraid it was deliberately done by fourth aunt again, right? Since that's the case, please don't blame me for being excessive, Grandma. Tonight our family is having Wangquan roast chicken, but we haven't had a single piece in our third branch, and there wasn't even a single bite for dinner. In that case, Grandma, you can just convert the food we didn't get to eat into silver for us, right? Just five hundred wen will do!"

"You, you're robbing me, five hundred wen? Are you eating gold?" Old Lady Hua was anxious when she heard they wanted money, "I don't have any silver, who are you blaming for not eating? Who told you to come back late? You deserve to have bad luck, but I don't have any silver, go ask someone who does."

"Great-grandma, I am not negotiating with you! Five hundred wen, not a single coin less, bring it! Otherwise..." Hmph, you think you can renege? I can threaten too! How arrogant, courting death with a handle over your head.

Chapter 40: Chapter 40: Ms. Liu Caught Poisoning

Despite all this, Old Lady Hua was still unwilling to give her the silver. Yang Chuxia gradually lost her patience, grabbed the kitchen knife and opened the door, ready to leave. Seeing her open the door made Old Lady Hua panic instantly.

In the end, she begrudgingly handed over half the amount of money to Yang Chuxia.

However, with such matters, if there is a first time, there will be a second, and if there is a second, there will be a third. Moreover, Yang Chuxia was deliberately causing trouble, so her demands grew more frequent and urgent.

Finally, Old Lady Hua couldn't bear it anymore and secretly plotted against her. Upon receiving the news, Yang Chuxia rejoiced, for she could finally stop blackmailing Old Lady Hua. Recently, she had swindled quite a sum of money from her, which would be enough to support her if she split from the family. This seemed like an opportunity to scheme for independence.

"Sister, that step-grandmother of ours wants to kill you, and yet you're still laughing?"

Yang Qingrui fretted next to her, scratching his head. Heaven knows he'd only been passing the vegetable garden after using the toilet when he overheard murmurs behind him. Curiosity drove him to eavesdrop. As a result, he heard the terrifying news: his step-grandmother instructed his aunt to poison Chuxia's congee that night, intending to kill her.

"Little brother, have you ever heard the saying, 'catch the thief by their loot'? You need evidence, and you can also use their trap against them."

As expected, Yang Qingrui shook his head, expressing his confusion. He knew about gathering evidence, but he didn't understand the counter-plot.

"It doesn't matter if you don't understand; just do what you're told. Come here; I'll tell you the plan!"

"Sister, I'm here too! I want to know, and I can help!" Seeing Yang Chuxia only consulting with Yang Qingrui, Yang Qingtong felt left out, insisting on having a role to play.

Yang Chuxia looked at Yang Qingtong, pondering for a moment before smiling, "Little brother, as a matter of fact, I do have an important task for you." She leaned in, whispering instructions in Yang Qingtong's ear. His eyes sparkled as he eagerly nodded.

At dinnertime, Ms. Liu from the first branch of the family was busy in the kitchen. As everyone had become accustomed to taking turns with chores, Ms. Wang was in the house, mending one of Yang Dachuan's clothes.

Meanwhile, Yang Dachuan was off working without any available land. He had found a job on the town's boat, carrying bags for three days and resting one. By the end of a day, he could earn about twenty or thirty wen.

Today, Yang Dachuan was in town carrying bags as usual, and had returned home to wash his hands.

"Aunt, what are you pouring into my sister's bowl?" After Yang Dachuan finished washing his hands, Yang Qingrui's voice suddenly came from the kitchen.

Hearing Qingrui's voice, Yang Chuxia didn't hesitate and dashed towards the kitchen. Little Qingtong followed suit, but instead of running to the kitchen, he bolted outside.

Upon arriving at the kitchen, Yang Chuxia found that Yang Qingrui was clutching Ms. Liu's arm. Ms. Liu still held an unthrown paper packet in her hand.

"What's wrong, little brother?" Yang Chuxia asked him as if nothing had happened.

"Sister, it's a good thing you came. I saw Aunt sprinkle something into your bowl." Yang Qingrui spoke while pointing at the substance in Ms. Liu's hand.

Realizing the situation, Yang Chuxia quickly tried to snatch the package from Ms. Liu's hand.

Seeing her plan exposed, Ms. Liu clenched her fist tightly.

"Nonsense, Yang Qingrui! When did I ever put anything in your sister's bowl?" Fending off Yang Chuxia, Ms. Liu shouted at Qingrui, "Besides, there are so many bowls here. How can you be sure it was your sister's?"