

## The Comeback of the Charming Farmer's Wife

### #Chapter 41: The Rise of the Baozi Lady - Read The Comeback of the Charming Farmer's Wife Chapter 41: The Rise of the Baozi Lady

#### **Chapter 41: Chapter 41: The Rise of the Baozi Lady**

When Yang Qingrui saw Ms. Liu yelling, he couldn't bear to show weakness and shouted back, "You are the one who put something in my sister's bowl! I saw it! Hmph, because Cousin Ruoqiu and Cousin Dongzhi looked down on my sister and thought she was dirty, her bowl has always been separated from the rest of the family's. It's the chipped one."

Because the quarrel between Yang Qingrui and Ms. Liu was so loud, it attracted the attention of everyone in the Yang Family.

Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan were among them. When Ms. Wang heard Yang Qingrui's words, she hurried to check the bowls on the stove. The chipped bowl had a pale yellow corn paste in it and didn't seem unusual. However, there was some white powder spilled on the stove.

Following Ms. Wang's action, Yang Chuxia also saw the powder. Coupled with Yang Qingrui's words just now, she suddenly felt a surge of anger in her chest. Damn it, those two little bitches actually thought she was dirty? She wondered why she always happened to use the chipped bowl every time, and now she understood the reason behind it.

She glanced coldly at Ms. Liu and suddenly grabbed her by the elbow with one hand while tightening the grip on her wrist with the other. After a quick forceful tug, Ms. Liu screamed like a pig, "My goodness! It hurts! You little brat, let go of me!"

Yang Chuxia swiftly snatched the medicine bag from Ms. Liu's hands, which were opened due to the pain. She sniffed the white powder on the tip of her nose. The odorless white powder... arsenic?

"What are you doing? Let go of your aunt! What kind of image does a young girl have by shouting all the time?" Seeing the medicine bag in Yang Chuxia's hands, Old Lady Hua hurried over, shouting and trying to snatch it from Yang Chuxia.

As Old Lady Hua tried to snatch it, Yang Chuxia dodged her quickly. Seeing this, Ms. Liu also wanted to help, but her other hand was still tightly gripped by Yang Qingrui. Annoyed, she immediately kicked in the direction of Yang Qingrui's chest.

"Qingrui, Qingrui!" Seeing her son being kicked away, Ms. Wang's anger finally reached its boiling point after being suppressed for a long time, and it exploded.

She lunged forward, grabbed Ms. Liu's hair, and began hitting her relentlessly, "I'll let you kick my son, I'll let you harm my daughter, you bitch! I'll kill you, I'll kill you..."

Seeing "Bun Mother" rise up, Yang Chuxia's eyes lit up. Her efforts to stir up trouble in the Yang Family had not been in vain.

Today, she let Qingrui expose Ms. Liu in public for two reasons: one was to let the Bun parents see the true colors of these people. If it weren't for that, she would have used the adultery incident to force Old Lady Hua to split the family voluntarily. Second, she wanted to take this opportunity to divide the family. Only by making a big fuss would everyone know that their third branch was in the right. It was only then that they could propose to split the family without being accused of being unfilial. And lastly, they couldn't file a complaint against Old Lady Hua and Ms. Liu as juniors, so they had to use this opportunity to ruin their reputation. Once they lost their reputation, she wanted to see how those two cousins would find suitable marriages.

However, what she didn't expect was that the separation would go so smoothly. People were already helping the third branch without her even mentioning it.

At this point, Ms. Liu's two daughters hurried to help as they saw Ms. Wang attacking her. Yang Da'an and Yang Dachuan started fighting on the side. For a moment, the kitchen and courtyard of the Yang Family were in chaos.

Only Yang Xiaochuan and his wife stood aside, watching the mess coldly without intervening. They even clapped their hands and cheered as they watched their family fighting among themselves.

As the Yang Family was in turmoil, a powerful and authoritative voice came from outside, "Everybody stop! Look at yourselves!"

## **Chapter 42: Chapter 42: Testing for Poison**

Yang Chuxia scrambled off Old Lady Hua and saw Yang Qingtong leading Land Officer Yang in by his hand.

She quickly thought on her feet, pinched her left and right arms hard, and immediately had tears streaming down her face. Then, she took several rapid steps towards Land Officer Yang and knelt down before him with a thunk.

She cried out loud, "Grandpa Land Officer, please save me! My grandmother told my aunt to poison me to death. She wants to poison me to death!"

Land Officer Yang looked around the Yang Family's courtyard and saw bruises on everyone's faces, Old Lady Hua's mouth corner broken, Ms. Liu being supported by her two daughters and gasping for breath, and Ms. Wang with disheveled hair, her eyes staring viciously at Ms. Liu.

A knot formed in Land Officer Yang's heart as he had never seen Ms. Wang like this before. He thought that she was always amiable, and it seemed that she must have been bullied quite severely this time.

As a result, Land Officer Yang's heart swayed a little. Seeing Yang Chuxia crying loudly, his inner balance tilted even more.

"Good child, don't cry. Tell me what happened, and grandpa will stand up for you."

A happy smile flickered in Yang Chuxia's heart; she had been waiting for him to say this.

She wiped her tears with both sleeves and, like a spilling bag of beans, quickly recounted the entire story before anyone else could speak.

"You're talking nonsense... That was just alkali powder... Not poison at all..." As soon as Yang Chuxia finished her story, Ms. Liu was desperate to defend herself.

She could not accept such an accusation, for it would affect her daughters' marriage prospects.

"Even if it was alkali powder, why did Aunt intentionally put it in my bowl? Doesn't Aunt know that adding too much alkali would make the porridge bitter and undrinkable?"

In fact, after hearing the entire story, Land Officer Yang already believed Yang Chuxia. He now listened to Ms. Liu's weak defense and was immediately angered.

"Bastards, all of you are bastards! You're a family, yet you're trying to harm each other!" Land Officer Yang angrily pointed with his tobacco pipe. He then looked at Old Yang squatting in the corner smoking and shook his head helplessly.

Old Lady Hua became a little frightened when she saw Yang Qingtong bringing Land Officer Yang, but she still tried to hold her ground, "Lord Land Officer, it's a misunderstanding, all a misunderstanding. What Eldest put was just alkali powder. She didn't put it in Xiaxia's bowl but in the pot. She forgot to add alkali during dinner and remembered to add some later. But that was misunderstood by Qingrui. So, it caused this chaos, and you had to make a trip here for nothing. Really, Qingrui, you misunderstood. Don't you owe your aunt and Grandpa Land Officer an apology for the trouble?"

After finishing her speech, Old Lady Hua stared at Yang Qingrui, expecting him to speak. Her cold, piercing gaze resembled that of a venomous snake. Yang Qingrui, held in the embrace of Ms. Wang, trembled upon catching her eyes.

"Hmph, whether it's a misunderstanding or not, we'll know after we get Uncle Cai to check. If it turns out to be a misunderstanding, I, Yang Chuxia, will personally apologize to my aunt and Grandpa Land Officer. For now, stop questioning my younger brother. Just now, Aunt kicked him in the chest, so he can't move. We have to wait for Uncle Cai to come and treat him." After Yang Chuxia spoke, she snorted coldly and, speaking to the now-curious neighbors who had gathered in the courtyard, she added, "Could any uncle please help get Uncle Cai?"

"No need to call, I'm here."

Uncle Cai, carrying a basket on his back, seemed to have just returned from picking up medicine outside. Surprisingly, Yang Xiayun followed him from behind, catching Yang Chuxia off guard.

### **Chapter 43: Chapter 43: Land Officer's Forced Separation of the Family**

"Uncle Cai, Uncle Cai, please take a look at my brother; my sister-in-law kicked him." Then she saw Yang Xiayun dragging Uncle Cai over to look at Yang Qingrui, and she sneered at Yang Chuxia when she turned back.

Damn, Yang Chuxia was touched. She thought this little sister was just a clueless little kid, but she turned out to be quite a cunning one. To think of it, children her age matured early and understood things at five, like knowing that they need to see a doctor when they get kicked.

Oh, I digress, back to the story. Uncle Cai first checked Yang Qingrui and then took out some medicine from the basket and gave it to Ms. Wang. Finally, he picked up the medicine bag handed over by Yang Chuxia and took a look and sniffed it.

"This is arsenic, and a heavily concentrated one at that."

Everyone gasped in shock.

"Ms. Liu is so vicious."

"Wasn't it Old Lady Hua who told her to do it?"

"Anyway, both the mother and daughter-in-law are vicious; better stay away from them in the future."

"My cousin's uncle's family just said they were interested in their Ruoqiu, but this won't work! I have to go tell my second cousin's uncle's family immediately; we can't have a marriage alliance with them."

"That's right. If the mother is so vicious, who knows if the daughter inherited that trait or not?"

"That's what I'm saying!"

At this time, Ms. Wang was completely dumbfounded when she heard it was arsenic. As soon as she recovered, she charged again at Ms. Liu and started fighting.

Yang Dachuan was also dumbfounded. He looked at Old Lady Hua and then at Liu and Wang, who resumed fighting. He was teary-eyed like a man expressing sympathy. It was hard not to pity him.

Yang Chuxia thought to herself that the poisoning incident had already given Xiaxia's mother leverage, and seeing Yang Dachuan's expression, it seemed his feelings were deeply affected. Maybe it was time to give them another heavy blow, so that Yang Dachuan could completely be disappointed in those people.

"Grandpa Land Officer, please help the third branch of our Yang family. My step-grandmother and sister-in-law tried to poison me today, tomorrow they may poison my big brother, and then my younger brother and sister, and then my parents... Grandpa Land Officer, we can't go on like this. This isn't the first time my step-grandmother has tried to kill me. Just a few days ago, she tried to suffocate me with a pillow too."

Everyone exchanged glances upon hearing this.

Someone asked, "Auntie Hua, what exactly did your granddaughter do to upset you that you keep trying to kill her? She may not be your biological granddaughter, but you were still around as she grew up. How can you be so cruel?"

"Yes, Old Lady Hua, you're too cruel. How could you do this to such a good child? You must stand up for Xiaxia, have some mercy on her." Land Officer Yang's wife also chimed in.

Seeing this, Land Officer Yang sighed, "By right, I shouldn't be the one to say this. However, looking at the mess your family has become, there's no peace left. Living under the same roof isn't going to be any easier. In my opinion, you should just split the family up. After the separation, everyone can live their own lives, not bother anybody, and have some peace."

"No, absolutely not! I disagree!" As soon as Land Officer Yang finished speaking, Old Lady Hua jumped out, and she adamantly opposed the idea of separation. "I absolutely will not agree to separate! Old man, I dare you to agree to the separation!"

Old Yang, hearing this, hesitated, "No separation, no separation!"

Enraged, Land Officer Yang kicked him impulsively, "Look at you, you damn fool! You don't want to separate? Do you really want to be happy with that hag killing all your own children and grandchildren? I didn't agree with you bringing back this kind of trouble in the first place. You've acted like an idiot, not caring whether she's good or bad. This wicked woman has been oppressing Dachuan's family for so many years. As your hall uncle, I was in a difficult position to say anything. Today, the situation has come to killing someone. No matter what, I'm going to make you separate!"

#### **Chapter 44: Chapter 44 Dual Threats Settling the Separation**

Cousin? So Land Officer Yang is Old Yang's cousin? Yang Chuxia was overjoyed, this was a great development!

Seeing Land Officer Yang's firm stance, Old Lady Hua didn't hold back either. She sat down and began to weep loudly. "Good heavens, is there any justice left? Does Land Officer Yang hold so much power that he can interfere with a family's separation? Oh my god, this is outright bullying, you watch this, Old man. Dachuan, you're a disaster, I've raised you and you stand by while they divide the house, you're unfilial and cruel. Why doesn't heaven strike you dead? Yang Chuxia, you little bastard, you're the curse that causes our family's discord."

Old Lady Hua cursed a bunch of people, switching from one person to another.

Land Officer Yang's face turned red with indignation and his anger intensified. He shouted, "Go, invite the elders of the Yang Family to me. I can't believe this. You think I don't understand you? You don't want to divide the house because you want Dachuan and his wife to be your slaves, hah! Today, as his cousin, I'll support Dachuan. This house must be divided."

"No, I disagree. I refuse even if I die. Damn old man, won't you say anything?" Seeing Land Officer Yang resolute, Old Lady Hua disregarded her tears, climbed up from the ground, and started beating Old Yang, insisting that he should intervene.

"Grandmother, whether you agree or disagree, we must divide the house today. Not to mention that it's my grandpa who has decision authority here, not you! And even if you were in charge, you, as the mastermind of the scheme against your granddaughter, have no right to interfere. Plus, you really don't care about my second uncle continuing his studies? If you really don't care, then I need to have a good talk with everyone!"

Yang Chuxia stared straight into Old Lady Hua's eyes, her threat clearly visible. Old Lady Hua met her gaze and suddenly felt a chill running down her spine. She let go of Old Yang, having forgotten about this issue entirely.

At this point, Dachuan also knelt before Old Yang panting, "Dad, just agree to the division, ok? I'll still be dutiful to you afterward!"

Wow, Yang Chuxia opened her eyes wide. Her father had finally been pushed to his limit, and was now agreeing to a division. That was tough!

Seeing that Dachuan's family also agreed to the division, Land Officer Yang felt relieved. They were all following his plan, or else he would have felt awkward being the only one advocating for the division.

"Alright, Third, no need to kneel before your father anymore. Whether your father agrees or disagrees, your cousin will make a decision for you today. When the family elders arrive, we can discuss together." Land Officer Yang's gaze skipped over Old Yang and fell on Old Lady Hua. "Gather your property deeds and money for an even distribution to the fourth branch of the family. Don't even think about keeping everyone together anymore. We're always quarrelling and it's become something of a spectacle. I'm informing you now, if you don't agree, take your family and leave Yangshu Village. When I agreed to let your sons settle in our village, it was because I thought you would take care of Dachuan. Hmph, if I had known you'd behave like this, I never would have agreed."

With things having reached this stage, the situation was no longer under Old Lady Hua's control. The family had to separate. With threats from Yang Chuxia in front and Land Officer Yang behind her, even if she didn't agree, she had to. As for Old Yang's opinion, it could be ignored. Besides, given his character, he wouldn't have any objections.

## **Chapter 45: Chapter 45: Division of Family Property**

After the clan elders arrived, the Yang family separated that night. However, only Yang Dachuan's branch split off, while the rest of the family remained together.

With the clan elders, Land Officer Yang, and Yang Chuxia overseeing the division of property, they didn't lose out much in the end. As Chuxia predicted, they received four acres of land, one acre of paddy fields and three acres of dry land. They actually received slightly more land than they deserved. At first, Old Lady Hua disagreed with this division, but Land Officer Yang countered that Dachuan was their blood son and should receive more. They also received a set of farming tools, kitchen ware, and two hundred jin of corn, which wouldn't be enough to last until the autumn harvest, but Chuxia wasn't worried as she was confident in finding a solution.

As for housing, they would continue living in their current house. Old Lady Hua was unwilling to give any silver, arguing that Chuxia had already asked for a lot recently.

Chuxia thought about the silver she had requested in the past few days and calculated that it amounted to roughly two taels, which should be enough to support the family until the autumn harvest. She decided not to press for more silver.

As for chickens, ducks and pigs, the Yang family only had a few to begin with, and a small pig that hadn't been captured for long. Chuxia decided to keep the chicken eggs that Old Lady Hua had stored recently, but she didn't want the chickens, ducks or pigs.

After signing the separation agreement, the battle to divide the Yang family finally came to a satisfactory close. After Land Officer Yang, the clan elders and others left, Chuxia stretched contentedly. At last, they had separated from the main family.

Once she made her fortune, she planned to move away entirely, so she wouldn't have to deal with the malicious people of the Yang family again.

Back in the room of the third branch of the family, Ms. Wang was helping Yang Qingrui lie down on the bed. Seeing this, Chuxia hurried over to help.

"Younger brother, do you feel any better after taking Uncle Cai's medicine?"

"Sister, I'm fine!"

Chuxia examined Yang Qingrui's condition and found his spirit still strong. She nodded and said, "Luckily you're fine, or else I would have chopped off her feet."

"Hehe, sister, you're so fierce."

"You little rascal, mind your words."

"Hehe, sister, we're finally separated from the family and no longer have to put up with those people's faces."

Everyone was quite happy about the separation, especially Yang Qingrui and Yang Qingtong, who had participated in planning the whole thing.

Seeing her siblings talking happily together, Yang Xiayun could not help but join in. She ran up to Chuxia excitedly and said, "Sister, wasn't Yunyun great today? I brought Uncle Cai here."

Chuxia and Yang Qingrui exchanged glances, realizing that they had almost forgotten about that matter.

"Yes, Yunyun, you were really amazing. Uncle Cai arrived just in time and was a great help to us."

Yang Xiayun giggled with her hand covering her mouth, "Sister, I heard you and my elder brothers talking, you asked Qingtong to invite Grandpa Land Officer and Uncle Cai to our house, right?"

"Ah?" Yang Qingtong cried out, "Sister, thankfully little sister heard you, or else I would have forgotten to invite Uncle Cai."

"I thought you were the one who asked Yunyun to call for Uncle Cai. Turns out it was Yunyun who took the initiative to call him." Chuxia praised, scratching Yang Xiayun's head, "Yunyun did a great job. Tomorrow I'll boil you an egg as a reward."

From the side, Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan listened to the siblings' conversation, unable to make heads or tails of it.

Seeing this, Chuxia explained to Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang what Yang Qingrui had heard in the afternoon, along with their plans to catch the criminals and invite Land Officer Yang and others to their home.

#### **Chapter 46: Chapter 46: Yang Dachuan Surprisingly Knows How to Write**

After listening, Yang Dachuan nodded woodenly, "Xi Xia is really amazing! Her mind is so sharp!"

"Dad is amazing too, for not siding with that step-grandma today. And mom is great too, she could even argue with Auntie."

Today, Yang Chuxia was truly amazed by Yang Dachuan and Ms. Wang's actions.

In fact, even honest people have a bottom line, which can be triggered when stepped on, and that bottom line is their children. Thinking about it, it seemed that when she first arrived here, Ms. Wang and Yang Dachuan had a similar outburst, but it wasn't as intense because she herself was in a dead state at the time.

"That poisonous woman, she actually tried to poison you! It's already merciful for mom not to beat her to death." This time, Ms. Wang was completely angry with Ms. Liu, and naturally also angry with Old Lady Hua. However, because Old Lady Hua was her mother-in-law, and Ms. Wang was a traditional woman, she transferred most of her resentment onto Ms. Liu.

"Mom, let's not bother with such people. We've part ways now, so if we don't want to deal with her in the future, we can just ignore her."

"Sigh, I didn't think we'd be able to part ways this time. I can't describe what I'm feeling right now." Ms. Wang sighed. Thinking about it now, it felt like a dream. She thought she wouldn't be able to part ways in her lifetime, but it actually happened.

"Mom, being able to part ways is a good thing. Don't think too much about it. Dad and you are both so capable, our lives will definitely improve. When that day comes, they will envy us to death."

"That's right, Mom, now we can finally have enough to eat!" exclaimed Yang Qingtong happily.

Yang Xiayun also clapped her hands and laughed, "Parting ways is good, parting ways is good!"

"Pfft... Look how happy you are." Yang Chuxia scratched Yang Xiayun's hair, and said to Dachuan, "By the way, Dad, tomorrow morning you need to build a stove for our house. Just a simple one."

"Alright, I'll do it first thing in the morning." Yang Dachuan rubbed his hands and agreed with a silly smile. However, Yang Chuxia felt that he still hadn't quite recovered from the matter of parting ways.

But thinking about it, Yang Dachuan had been brainwashed and oppressed by Old Lady Hua for half of his life, and suddenly jumped out of that pit. It was normal for him to feel a little unaccustomed or even disbelief.

Today, Dachuan performed well, and Ms.Wang's performance was even better. With their parents on the rise and now parting ways, she started to feel confident about their future life.

"Mom, I heard from Grandpa Land Officer that he is my dad's uncle? I've never heard anyone mention this before?"

Yang Chuxia realized that she had never heard of this relationship. If she had known about such a granduncle, she would have approached him for a connection long ago.

Ms.Wang thought for a moment and said, "Isn't that all because of your grandma?"

"Stop, Mom, that's my step-grandma. My birth grandma died a long time ago. We have to make it clear that you shouldn't call her wrong ever again."

Upon hearing this, Ms.Wang scolded playfully, "You're the only one who knows how to live. Actually, this has to do with your dad."

"What does it have to do with my dad?" Yang Chuxia looked puzzled and glanced at Yang Dachuan, but saw him lowering his head after hearing this.

Ms.Wang sighed and continued, "In fact, your dad is literate! When your birth grandma was alive, your dad even went to school. It's said that at that time, they were even preparing for your dad to take the Cultivated Talent exam. But later, your birth grandma

died, and within half a year, your step-grandma entered the family. Your granduncle didn't agree with her entering the family at that time, but after all, he was not your grandfather's blood brother, and even as a Land Officer, he couldn't do anything about it. However, your granduncle loved your dad and was afraid that after your step-grandma entered the household, she wouldn't allow your dad to attend school anymore, so he agreed beforehand. If your step-grandma didn't allow your dad to go to school after she entered the family, he would have chased your grandpa, step-grandma, and their entire family out of the village."

## **Chapter 47: Chapter 47 The Reason for the Arm Disability**

"What happened next?" asked a curious Yang Chuxia. Damn, she never imagined that the Yang Family had so many secrets. She failed to see that her father was educated.

"Why are you in such a hurry, you girl?" scolded Ms. Wang, before continuing, "You know your step-grandmother's temperament. Do you think she would willingly let your father continue his studies? So, she made a plan that involved making your dad go fishing in the cold lake during winter. By the time your grandfather was informed, your father was almost frozen. Initially, it was not a big problem. He could just warm up. However, when he came back, he ran into Xiao'an, your second uncle, who was carrying hot water. He saw your father and a group of people and slipped, the hot water spilled all over your father's arm."

"Are the remnants of that incident why my father's left hand doesn't function well?"

"Yes!"

"So that's the reason." Humph, the damn Old Lady Hua was indeed ruthless. She suspected that Yang Xiao'an did not slip but did it intentionally. Yang Dachuan's arm was first frozen, then suddenly drenched in hot water. The alternate exposure to heat and cold must have damaged the tendons. Considering the primitive medical level at that time, it's not surprising that his arm got dismembered. When Yang Dachuan's arm got disabled, he naturally had to stop going to school, and Old Lady Hua achieved her goal. Not only that, she let her son replace Dachuan in school. Humph, she wishes to continue getting official positions, we will see if she will make it!

Ms. Wang continued, "That was it. Your father stopped schooling when his arm became dysfunctional. It was because of this event that your grandfather wanted to chase away your step-grandmother, but your father disagreed. The brothers had a big fight over it. We don't know what your father and grandfather said, but afterward, your grandfather stopped concerning himself with our family affairs. However, over these years, he often quietly helped your father."

After listening, Yang Qingtong instantly responded, "Mother, grandfather is such a good person!"

Yang Xiayun then ran to Yang Dachuan, took his arm and said, "Daddy, it must have hurt so much, so much hot water!" The little girl, feeling heartbroken, clung to Yang Dachuan then suddenly her little face became grave. "Humph, step-grandmother and second uncle are very bad. Yunyun will ignore them from now on."

Yang Chuxia sighed, thinking that all this was the result of Old Yang's actions. She guessed that some harsh words must have been spoken that made Grandpa Land Officer stop helping her father. If Land Officer stopped helping, how much would Old Lady Hua have oppressed and bullied Yang Dachuan?

"Mother, how old was father back then?"

"I heard your father was only a year older than your eldest brother, just ten years old."

Yang Chuxia gasped sharply. Tea that young had suffered such a disaster. She felt sorry for her adoptive father. Sigh, thinking of Yang Dachuan's character, his honest nature, filial piety, weakness, among other problems, they didn't matter anymore. It was already not easy to survive in such a situation. However, luckily her adoptive father was already changing now, everything was changing, and the life at home would gradually change too.

"Dad, since you're literate, you can teach us to read when you have time?"

Speaking of this, Yang Dachuan felt somewhat embarrassed, scratching his head, "I haven't written for many years, I have almost forgotten everything."

"That's okay, once I earn some silver and buy books, you will surely remember after reading them."

"Okay, we will see when the time comes," Yang Dachuan laughed.

#### **Chapter 48: Chapter 48: A Minor Incident in the Early Morning**

Early the next morning, as soon as the sky lightened, Yang Dachuan got up and began to set up a simple stove under the eaves of the third branch of the family's house. Yang Chuxia and Ms. Wang went to the Yang Family's warehouse to carry the food that belonged to their third branch.

Old Lady Hua's face was sour when they opened the warehouse, and her eyes carried a hint of resentment.

Yang Chuxia glanced at her coldly, snorted, and thought, 'Whether you like it or not, you have to endure it because you're not getting any less of the food that our family is entitled to. Otherwise, I'll make your life miserable.'

"Sister-in-law, our good days are coming! Don't forget about me when they arrive," said Ms.Liu as Chuxia and her mother passed by the main kitchen with the grains.

Ms.Wang didn't bother to respond due to yesterday's events.

Yang Chuxia cast her a sidelong glance and said, "Don't talk to my mother. With that poisonous look on your face, I'm afraid even your spit might be laced with poison. Be careful not to accidentally spit poison and kill someone."

"You little..." Upon hearing Yang Chuxia's words, Ms.Liu reflexively wanted to curse at her, but the thought of Chuxia's fierce fighting skills made her stop in her tracks.

Yang Chuxia sneered at Ms.Liu's reaction, then went back to the third branch with Ms.Wang, carrying their grains. After three trips, they finally brought back all the corn to their branch.

However, the stove in the third branch wasn't ready yet, and even when it was, they would have to wait a couple of days before they could use it. So they had to wait for the principal wife's family to finish eating before they could use their kitchen to cook their own meals.

Yet, Ms.Luo, a scheming woman, intentionally left some unfinished porridge in the pot, refusing to serve it in bowls - all in order to keep the pot occupied and prevent the third branch from cooking. Ms.Wang went to check several times, but the porridge was still there.

Seeing this, Yang Chuxia simply took her own bowl and started serving herself the porridge, as well as filling bowls for her siblings. She didn't stop until there was nothing left in the pot, and then called Ms.Wang to cook.

Ms.Luo was furious, but she didn't dare to complain to Old Lady Hua because it was her decision not to serve the porridge, and Old Lady Hua would surely blame her for being lazy. So she swallowed her anger, and it felt as though her liver was hurting.

Yang Chuxia, seeing Ms.Luo's suffering, became even happier, slurping up the porridge noisily. Ms.Luo anxiously kept looking at the principal wife's room, afraid that Ms.Liu or Old Lady Hua would come out and see Chuxia still eating porridge.

She knew very well that the corn porridge for the third branch had just been put in the pot, and if Old Lady Hua saw them eating porridge, she would assume it was from their own branch, and then they'd be in big trouble.

Yang Qingrui, a cunning boy, saw the opportunity to stir up trouble. Pretending to be unintentional, he shouted, "Sister, I can't finish this porridge. Would you like to have some?"

Upon hearing this, Ms.Liu scrambled out of her room, and then rushed to the kitchen to find out where the hell the kids got the porridge since the stove was still on. She saw that the morning's leftover porridge was gone and knew exactly what had happened. Then she yelled for Old Lady Hua.

As a result, you can imagine, Ms.Luo was severely scolded.

After breakfast, there wasn't much to do at home, so Yang Chuxia picked up a little wooden bucket, greeted Ms.Wang and Yang Dachuan, and went out. Naturally, her fanboy Yang Qingrui followed her excitedly.

"Sister, where are you going?"

"Little brother, let's go back to the river where we caught fish before and catch some more. Last time, I saw there were also some small shrimps in there - we can bring some back as well."

The children in the family were all too thin, with obvious signs of malnutrition. She decided to catch some fish to make fish soup for her siblings to nourish their bodies. If there were any extras, she would dry them under the sun to save for future meals.

#### **Chapter 49: Chapter 49: Sending Fish to the Land Officer**

"Hmm, then we can eat fish for lunch."

"Yeah, let's have our mom make fish soup for lunch." Yang Chuxia nodded. Catching fish is pretty quick, so they'd definitely be back before lunchtime. "By the way, little brother, do you know which beach is closest to us?"

"The closest one?" Yang Qingrui thought for a while and suddenly exclaimed, "Sis, I got it! Actually, all the beaches are quite far from us, but the closest one is a small beach to the west. It takes about half of one hour to get there from the village."

"Is that so? Then let me ask you another question. Can we find small crabs and small shrimps there when the tide is high?"

"Yes, definitely!"

"Great!" Yang Chuxia snapped her fingers happily and said, "Little brother, let's go to the small beach early tomorrow morning to collect little crabs."

"Huh? Sis, why do we need those things? They're too small to eat!"

"Don't worry, they're edible. I'll make them delicious for you later." She thought to herself that she might even be able to exchange some silver for them.

The siblings chatted as they arrived at the small river they'd been to last time.

Indeed, it seemed like not many people frequented this place. As they parted the grass, they could see the fish swimming happily below. Yang Chuxia picked up a tree branch she'd found on the way and tested its weight in her hand. Then she aimed and thrust it forcefully. Unfortunately, she missed on her first try, but she didn't lose heart and continued. On the third try, she finally caught a fish the size of her palm.

Perhaps she'd gotten the hang of it, because she was accurate with every subsequent thrust.

When the small bucket contained almost half a bucketful of fish, she stopped. She looked around the river for a while but knew catching shrimps would be difficult without a net. She thought it would be nice to have one.

"Little brother, do we have a fishing net at home?"

"No, we don't live by the sea, so why would we have such a thing?"

She thought about it for a moment and realized that fishing nets were indeed more common among fishermen. No matter, she would see if she could make one for herself later.

"Little brother, let's go back. This amount of fish is enough for us to eat!"

"Alright!"

Unable to catch any shrimp, the siblings took the bucket of fish and headed back to the village. At the entrance, Yang Chuxia handed over the small basket she'd brought and placed five or six fish in it.

"Little brother, take these fish to Grandpa Land Officer's house!"

Yang Qingrui took the basket and obediently said, "Alright, I got it. Our granduncle has been kind to our father, and we should repay him."

"You're right, little brother."

After that, the siblings split up, one heading for the old Yang's house and the other for Land Officer Yang's house.

When Yang Chuxia returned to the old Yang's house, Yang Dachuan had just finished building the stove, and the yellow mud had been applied. "Girl, you're back!"

"Mhm, Dad, look what I got!"

As she spoke, Yang Chuxia showed the small bucket to Yang Dachuan.

"Wow, so many fish?" Yang Dachuan's expression suddenly changed. "Did you go to that evil river again? Who let you go there again? Be careful not to fall in."

"Dad, don't worry about it. I didn't go into the water. I just found a shallow spot and used a tree branch to spear the fish." Yang Chuxia set the bucket down and then said, "Dad, can you go to town and buy me some things tomorrow?"

"What do you need?"

Yang Chuxia thought for a moment and then listed the items needed for making drunken crab.

"What are you going to do with these?"

"Dad, don't ask too much for now. I'll need them later, and I promise I won't waste any."

## **Chapter 50: Chapter 50: The one who should host a meal when dividing the family**

Yang Dachuan wiped his sweat and saw his daughter looking serious, so he nodded, "Alright then, I'll clear some land in the field this afternoon, and go to town tomorrow."

"What are you two whispering about?" Ms. Wang took out two clothes to mend from the house, and saw the father and daughter chatting through the window.

"Mom, I was discussing with Dad how we should have this fish for lunch!" Fearing that Ms. Wang would object, Yang Chuxia kept the actual plan a secret for now. When she turned her head, she winked at Yang Dachuan, signaling him not to reveal it yet.

"Fish?" Ms. Wang came out and saw that there were indeed quite a few fish in the small barrel, about twenty or so. However, the fish were not very big—the largest ones were only about the size of a palm. "Wow, how did you get so many fish?"

"My second brother and I just went to catch them." Yang Chuxia poked the barrel of fish a couple of times and said, "Mom, let's make fish soup for lunch instead of boiling corn porridge. Corn porridge with pancakes is good for filling our stomachs."

"Alright! I'll go to Aunt Wang next door to borrow some green onions and ginger slices. Fish soup needs green onions and ginger to get rid of the fishy smell." Saying that, Ms. Wang put down the clothes in her hands, picked up the barrel of fish, and said, "By the way, Xi Xia, do you want to give some to the principal wife?"

"What?" Yang Chuxia thought she had heard wrong, "My dear mother, they want to poison your daughter, and now you want me to take fish to them? You might as well just kill me because the thought of it makes me sick."

"But there's your grandfather, you should always show respect."

Yang Chuxia rolled her eyes. She didn't have any good feelings towards Old Yang, "Grandfather doesn't lack food, my step-grandmother wouldn't withhold food from him. Mom, don't worry about it."

Ms. Wang still felt it wasn't right for the younger generation to eat alone, but due to her daughter's account of last night's incident, she lost the will to insist.

"Forget it, let's just eat it ourselves. I'll go to Aunt Wang's."

As Ms. Wang was about to leave, Yang Qingrui came home with a basket, "Mom, sister, I'm back. I gave the fish to Grandpa and Grandma, and they even gave us some green onions and ginger slices."

"Oh, that's great! We don't need to borrow from next door then." Ms. Wang took the basket from Yang Qingrui, laughed, and said, "You two are really sensible to send some to your grandparents."

Yang Chuxia shrugged, "Mom, we're not overly sensible." She glanced out the window and spoke louder, "It's just that some people have no idea what they're doing. This family separation is a big deal. In my opinion, we should invite the clan elders and the Land Officer for a meal, right? But they're all pretending not to know. These elders act oblivious, so we, the younger ones, can't take the lead. We can only send them such little things to express our goodwill. Mom, there are still some fish in this small barrel. You can divide them up later and let my brothers take them to the elders' homes. It's just enough to add a dish to their lunch."

After she finished speaking, she heard footsteps outside the window and snorted.

"Ah, Dachuan, Xiaxia is right, we should have a meal for this family separation. Even if the principal wife doesn't invite them, we should. It's just that we can't afford to treat them well at the moment and have nothing decent to offer to our guests."

Yang Dachuan thought for a moment and said, "Then do as Xiaxia said, send the fish for now, and we'll make up for the proper invitation later."

"That'll do!"

With that, Ms. Wang went to find some thin rope, divided the fish into several portions, strung them up, and asked Yang Qingrui to deliver them.