

Fat Wife 1361

Chapter 1361 Giving You Two Options

"Of course not. If even the Buddha can't reform you, how can we be able to do that? We let you so that we can ask you, what do you want? I'm really too curious," Qiao Mei said as she blinked.

"What does what I want have to do with you! Who do you think you are!" Ye Xiang said angrily.

Jiang Shu suddenly stood up and said, "That's my goddaughter! She's also part of the Deng family!"

Qiao Mei did not expect to have another godmother after coming over here. She suddenly felt a little narcissistic. Perhaps it was because she was too outstanding, so everyone was very fond of her and wanted her to be their daughter.

With Jiang Shu's affirmation, Qiao Mei spoke with even more confidence. She said arrogantly, "I'm speaking up for my godmother. Is there anything wrong with that?"

Jiang Shu and Qiao Mei looked at each other and smiled. This was the kind of tacit understanding between women.

"What we want is very simple. I want my daughter to marry Deng Fan! She will become the Deng family's daughter-in-law!" Ye Xiang said.

"How short-sighted of her. Our eldest brother isn't married too, so why doesn't she go and bully him? She's just trying to take revenge on my godmother. Yet she makes it sound like she's doing it all for her daughter," Qiao Mei whispered into Xia He's ear.

"Excuse me! You actually want Eldest Brother to encounter such a woman. If he really bumps into her, he will go crazy!" Xia He said as she covered her mouth.

"I'm not afraid of all of you! So long as I say that this child belongs to Deng Fan, do you think those people outside will still believe you so firmly?" Ye Xiang looked at Qiao Mei agitatedly and then laughed loudly, as if her plan had already succeeded.

"So what if you go out and say that the baby is Deng Fan's? If I tell everyone about all those dirty things you've done in the past, let's see if everyone will still believe what you say," Qiao Mei said in a gentle manner.

"How do you know these things!" Ye Xiang looked at Qiao Mei in disbelief.

Qiao Mei shrugged resignedly and flicked her hair gently. "Perhaps... I'm just too capable."

Deng Fan and Xia He could not help but laugh out audibly. The two of them quickly coughed twice to calm down, but Qiao Mei's actions just now were really too narcissistic and they really could not help themselves. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

Ye Xiang looked at Qiao Mei in fear. If her dirty past was exposed to the public, she would definitely be caught and locked in a cage to be forcibly drowned! She would die! She must not let this happen.

pandasnovel.com "You... you won't..." Ye Xiang muttered softly.

"On account of your past relationship with Auntie, I'll give you a chance. Do you want it or not?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Chance? What chance?" Ye Xiang looked at Qiao Mei anxiously as if she had found a straw to clutch at.

"The two of you can either go to jail or... leave the capital and disappear from our sight forever," Qiao Mei said.

Ye Xiang said in a crazy manner, "You're lying to me! You must be lying to me! I only sat outside your house for two days. As if you can force the police to lock me up for the rest of my life!"

Most of the men who came to look for her were poor men who were unable to get married. Whenever they had some money, they would go and look for Ye Xiang to have some fun. Ye Xiang was not very good-looking and could not manage to attract rich men at all. The first half of her life was simply a mess.

Ye Xiang did not leave any evidence of doing these things. How could Qiao Mei have photos of these men in bed with her? Those men would not dare to come out to testify at all. If they did, they would also go to jail.

"Everything is based on evidence, though we can't know everything that happens in this world. Still, I'd advise you to think about it carefully." After saying that, Qiao Mei picked up the brown paper bag from the table and waved it in front of Ye Xiang.

Ye Xiang really did not dare to gamble with Qiao Mei, but she had no way out.

Some time ago, she met a man. That man was not a local, but he was very generous and spoke to her kindly. He was also quite skilled and even told Ye Xiang that he wanted to bring her away from this godforsaken place to live a good life.

Ye Xiang could never resist such temptation. She thought that she had finally met a nice man and decided to be with him.

Chapter 1362 Stingy

In the beginning, Ye Xiang would fantasize about the future and how she should behave as a rich man's wife. In order to go home with this man, she even bought a new set of clothes and kept thinking about the promises that he made to her.

Unexpectedly, after a few days, the man gave her 100 dollars and then left the small county city. Ye Xiang originally thought that this was the beginning of her moneyed lifestyle, but she did not expect that trouble was brewing.

Ye Xiang had never imagined that the man actually had a wife and children. His wife hired a group of thugs to smash up Ye Xiang's house. It was useless even when Ye Xiang called the police.

Even if she went back now, she would be homeless. She might as well wait for death at the Deng family's house!

"There's no use for you to stay here. I know everything you have done. I'd advise you to leave the capital immediately and not let me see you in the capital again. If you agree readily, maybe I can even give you some money for the train ticket," Qiao Mei said.

She would just treat it as giving Ye Xiang a handout. If she could use 30 dollars to solve the Deng family's current predicament, it was a very good deal indeed.

"I'm not leaving! Jiang Shu! Do you really want me to die!" Ye Xiang said as she turned to look at Jiang Shu.

"Deng Fan, bring Uncle and Auntie back to the bedroom. Qiao Mei and I will take care of things here," Xia He said as she looked at Deng Fan tenderly.

This was originally a matter for the Deng family to handle, but now that Ye Xiang was pressing on incessantly and using Jiang Shu's soft-heartedness to stir up trouble, Xia He could not care about the optics. She had to take action on this matter.

Deng Fan obediently sent his parents back to the bedroom and locked the door before returning to Xia He's side.

"This is a matter between us elders. You little brats have no right to talk to me! I want Jiang Shu to talk to me!" Ye Xiang said.

"We wanted to talk to you politely, but it seems that there's no need now. You have to know that this is not a discussion. We're telling you to choose between the two options. If you continue to cause trouble, then we'll just send the two of you to jail," Xia He said as she looked at Ye Xiang coldly.

"You're not the Deng family's daughter-in-law yet!" Before Ye Xiang could finish speaking, Deng Fan interrupted her and said, "My wife is Xia He. Other than Xia He, I won't marry anyone else. Xia He is the only daughter-in-law of the Deng family!" I think you should take a look at pαΠdαsnovel.com

Xia He looked at Deng Fan and smiled. It felt good to be protected. In the past, she had always been the one to rush to the front to be the protector. Now, she also had someone to protect her.

"If you leave now, we'll give you 15 dollars for travel expenses on account of your past friendship. This money is enough for you to leave the capital and go anywhere," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei secretly gave Xia He a thumbs up. She did not expect Xia He to be even stingier than her. Qiao Mei had actually intended to include the money for a meal for the two women.

Ye Xiang looked at Ye Lei, who was lying in her arms, then at Xia He and said, "We'll leave the capital... but can you give us more money..."

Xia He sighed. She took out 20 dollars from Deng Fan's pocket and threw it to Ye Xiang. "That's all we have. We won't give you any more. Leave quickly with your daughter and don't come back again."

Ye Xiang looked at Xia He with indignation and hatred in her eyes. Qiao Mei quickly stood in front of Xia He and said, "I have all the evidence of your crimes here, so you'd better behave yourself in the future. I'll keep an eye on you at all times. If you dare to come back and cause trouble, then don't blame us for whatever happens."

Ye Xiang grabbed the money from the ground and left the Deng family's house with Ye Lei dejectedly. They still did not know where they could go. However, what happened to them in the future no longer had anything to do with Qiao Mei and the rest. Whether they lived or died would depend on their fates.

After the women left, Xia He looked at Deng Fan coldly before grabbing Qiao Mei and leaving the Deng family's house. She did not say anything and ignored Deng Fan no matter what he said behind her.

pandasnovel.com "Elder Sister, what's wrong with you?" Qiao Mei asked Xia He in the car confusedly.

The issue had already been resolved. They could focus on preparations for Xia He and Deng Fan's wedding next. Why was Xia He unhappy now?

"I just feel that the Deng family can't protect me. Do you know what I mean?" Xia He was a little conflicted and did not know if she should think that way.

Chapter 1363 Sense Of Security

Xia He found it hard to describe what was making her feel so uncomfortable. She had a stuffy feeling in her chest, like there was a heavy stone pressing down on her heart, making it difficult for her to breathe.

"... I think I know what you mean," Qiao Mei said after thinking for a moment.

In her previous relationship, Xia He had been humiliated and reprimanded by all those relatives in the Kong family and she had always silently endured it all. Back then, she had expected Kong Lu to stand by her side and protect her, but he had never done this all throughout. He even blamed her for being too weak.

Xia He had that same feeling again after what happened just now. She knew very well that this whole issue was caused by the Ye family and had nothing to do with Deng Fan. He had not done anything wrong.

However, at the end of the day, it was Qiao Mei who helped her to resolve the issue. Although Deng Fan had promised her that he would be able to settle it, she did not want to wait until he took action. Perhaps she and Qiao Mei were too impatient, or perhaps she should have taken into account the fact that Deng Fan did not have time as he was too busy taking care of the sick Jiang Shu. She did not know how she should feel about this entire matter.

"I... Am I wrong? I don't know what I should do now. I just... I just don't feel at ease," Xia He leaned her head weakly against the window and looked at the sky.

"It's probably the lack of a sense of security," Qiao Mei said gently.

"Sense of security? What's that?" Xia He looked at Qiao Mei in confusion. She had never heard of this term before, but yet it did not sound strange when Qiao Mei said it.

"It's like when you're in trouble, you know you can trust someone unconditionally. If you encounter any difficult matter, you know that the person will help you solve it. Even if he can't, he will always be by your side and will never abandon you. That's the gist of what it means," Qiao Mei explained.

Every word that Qiao Mei said was like a sharp sword stabbing into Xia He's heart. This was exactly how she felt, but she did not know how to address that feeling.

"I need to calm down and think things through. I think I'll stay at your house for the time being. I need to chat with Grandpa Qiao and ask him for advice," Xia He said.

"When did my grandfather become so capable? He even does psychological counseling!" Qiao Mei said in surprise. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"There are many things you don't know! Your grandfather is an open-minded person. I feel that I can work out many issues whenever I talk to him," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei realized that Qiao Qiang seemed to treat her differently from how he treated other people. Every time she ran into trouble and went to look for him, he would unconditionally support her in all her decisions. No matter whether she was right or wrong, he would always firmly choose to be on her side. If she really could not resolve the issue, he would do everything he could to help her.

pandasnovel.com The first thing Qiao Mei did when she got home was to go to the study to see if the "play dead" bird was still alive. The moment Qiao Mei opened the door, she saw the pigeon drinking water in the cage. It seemed that it had completely come to terms with its situation and realized that it was useless to fight back.

"Little fellow, you have to listen to me from now on! If you listen to me obediently, I'll give you a lot of delicious food. If you don't listen to me, I'll feed you to the big tabby cat from the old grandma's house next door!" Qiao Mei said fiercely.

The pigeon nodded fearfully and then turned to face the wall, not wanting to look at Qiao Mei. This was no different from the concept of burying its head in the sand. As long as it did not see her, then it could pretend that it had never met her before.

Qiao Mei did not force the pigeon to do anything it did not like. Sooner or later, it would adapt to life here.

"You still don't have a name yet. I'll call you 'Coocoo'. Anyway, you're always cooing away," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

The pigeon continued to face the wall motionlessly. Qiao Mei took it to mean that it was agreeable to the name and happily returned to the bedroom to sleep. She had been so busy recently that she did not have time to take care of Xia Fan and Xia Xing. Tonight, Qiao Mei carried the two of them until they gradually fell asleep.

The next morning, after Qiao Mei changed the children's clothes and fed them powdered milk, she went to Li Gui's house. Zhao Fei was coming by for a discussion on the direction of the business in the future.

As soon as Qiao Mei opened the back door, she saw Zhao Fei standing at Li Gui's main door, not daring to go in. It was probably because Zhao Fei did not know how to face Li Gui after those things which the Zhao family did.

Chapter 1364 New Operational Plan

"Why aren't you going in?" Qiao Mei asked evenly.

"Oh! Sister Qiao Mei, you're here. I... I just arrived not long ago. Let's go in together," Zhao Fei said as he scratched his head in embarrassment.

Qiao Mei did not comment on what she just saw. She led Zhao Fei into Li Gui's courtyard and as usual, the children went to Qiao Qiang's house to play.

Qian'e and Li Gui were seated in the living room and had been waiting for Zhao Fei since early in the morning. The two of them looked like they were prepared to do battle. Li Gui had even put on the new clothes she had bought for the new year. She did not even bear to wear them more than a few times during the new year!

It was obvious that Qian'e was the one who asked Li Gui to wear the clothes. She probably wanted Li Gui to look more authoritative and send a signal to Zhao Fei. Li Gui was usually very soft-spoken and she was not forceful at all. It was actually quite a good strategy to give Zhao Fei some pressure in this manner. Qiao Mei pursed her lips and smiled. These two women were really very cute when they were together.

"Since everyone is here, let's not beat around the bush." Qiao Mei took a sip of water and continued, "The factory in the suburbs is still under construction and will take about half a month to complete. During this period of time, I think we should discuss and decide on our new operational plan."

"Are we going to move all our operations there?" Qian'e asked.

Qiao Mei thought for a moment and said, "Yes, let's work there in the future. I'll go and think about how to solve the issue of transport."

Now that everyone had already settled down here, it would likely be difficult for them to get used to working in the suburbs every day. The daily journey was very long and it was also a waste of time and energy.

"Actually, I'd like to suggest that we build a dormitory in the suburbs. Since we have designated rest days, we can stay near the factory during workdays and come back here during our off days. This way, we can save on time and cost," Qian'e said.

"This is a good idea. I'll go and talk to the architect about this," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Xia Zhe's friends were different from Zhou Shuang and the rest of the women. They were currently renters, so to them, staying in the dormitory would be no different from staying at Qiao Mei's place. In fact, staying in the dormitory could save them money! I think you should take a look at pandanusnovel.com

The issues with the popcorn and braised meat were easy to resolve, but the main problem was the seeds. The seeds produced in Foshan Village had already all been bought up by Director He. There was only that much land there. Even if all the villagers stopped supplying Director He in the future and made arrangements to transport all their harvested seeds to the capital, the transportation costs would be almost the same amount as the cost of the seeds. If that was the case, the seeds business would just end up making a loss.

The best solution now was to rent some land in the villages around the capital or distribute seeds to the villagers. When it was time for harvest, they could then send someone to go around and collect the harvested seeds.

"Sister Qiao Mei... do you think you can start with planting the seeds in our village first? The seeds I sold in the past were all planted and harvested by the people in my village. The land there is definitely suitable for this! The people in our village have been farming for generations and are very experienced in growing seeds," Zhao Fei said as he looked at Qiao Mei expectantly.

"Have you resolved the conflict with your family? As I said the last time, we only want to work with you in the future and not with the rest of the Zhao family," Qiao Mei said with a frown.

Zhao Fei's village was indeed the most suitable site for a test bed, but Qiao Mei was still nursing a grudge against what had happened previously. The thing she hated the most was a selfish business partner.

παΠδσNovel.com "Don't worry! Everything has been resolved! My uncle and the others have already turned over a new leaf. They know very well that they had hurt Auntie Li with what they did. They won't dare to do it again," Zhao Fei said as he looked at Qiao Mei sincerely.

With the village chief keeping an eye on them, those Zhao family members probably would not dare to cause any trouble. Moreover, this issue concerned the livelihood of the entire village. If the village lost its chance to make money because of the Zhao family, the entire family would be reviled by everyone for the rest of their lives!

"Alright then. Go back and do a tabulation on how many people are willing to work with us and how much land each family is willing to demarcate to grow the seeds. Make sure it is accurate, not an inch more or less," Qiao Mei said.

"Sure, sure, sure! I'll go back and tabulate the numbers now! I'll come back tomorrow and let you know how much land we can get!" Zhao Fei said excitedly.

"However, the acquisition price is different from what we talked about previously. We'll pay 60 cents for one pound of harvested seeds and we'll supply the seeds to you for your retail sales at two dollars a pound," Qiao Mei said.

Chapter 1365 Unreasonable Price

"Then what about my selling price?" Zhao Fei asked.

"The selling price is still the same as before. One cup at 50 cents. The planting seeds will cost two dollars a pound. If you find it acceptable, then we can continue to work together," Qiao Mei said.

Zhao Fei looked at Qiao Mei in shock. Based on these numbers, both he and the other villagers would not be able to earn much money at all. He could only make a profit of 50 cents from selling one pound of seeds. Most of the profits would go to Qiao Mei.

This was clearly a 9:1 split. It did not seem fair.

"Sister Qiao Mei... isn't that too little? This is different from what we agreed on back then," Zhao Fei asked tentatively.

"The planting seeds supplied by my family can produce between 500 pounds and 800 pounds of harvested seeds per pound. If we base our calculations on the minimum harvest of 500 pounds, each family in your village can earn at least an average of 150 dollars a month." Qiao Mei looked at Zhao Fei and continued, "As for you... seeds always sell better than popcorn. If you buy more to sell, you'll be able to maintain your usual income."

The truth was that Qiao Mei could have bought the harvested seeds from Zhao Fei's village at the same price as the harvested seeds from Foshan Village, but she was not in a good mood. She wanted to teach Zhao Fei and the others a lesson and make sure they knew who their "God of Fortune" was.

Zhao Fei still wanted to negotiate further with Qiao Mei, but Qiao Mei said in a straightforward manner, "If you still want to do this business, then bring me the tabulation on the land area from your village tomorrow. There's nothing else to discuss."

Seeing how stubborn Qiao Mei was, Zhao Fei had no choice but to compromise. An income of more than 130 dollars a month was not considered a small amount, so the villagers should still feel satisfied. They currently earned only about 50 dollars a month and the amount even fluctuated from month to month.

παΠdαsNovel.com After they discussed all the items, the meeting ended. Zhao Fei walked back to the village dejectedly. He went straight to the village chief to discuss this matter and told him about Qiao Mei's request.

"At the very least, everyone will earn more money than before. That's good enough for now. Leave the matter of the tabulation to me," the village chief said with a smile.

As soon as Zhao Fei returned home, he was surrounded by the Zhao family members. Everyone wanted to ask him about the matter of the seeds business.

"Xiao Fei, how was your discussion with Qiao Mei? Is our family still in charge of sales?" Zhao Liu asked. I think you should take a look at παΠdαsNovel.com

"Younger brother, did you ask about how much you can get?" Zhao Kai looked at Zhao Fei expectantly.

Everyone's gaze was fixed on Zhao Fei, as if they would not let him into the house unless he explained everything clearly.

"As long as you don't go looking for trouble with their family, they will naturally give the job to us," Zhao Fei said helplessly.

"In that case! It's a done deal!" Wang Meng said excitedly.

During this period of time, she had felt so uneasy. Those other women in the village looked down on her and gossiped behind her back. They even mocked her for being a nouveau riche in front of her. Now that the Zhao family could earn money again, let's see who still dared to criticize her!

Zhao Fei told Zhao Liu and the others the various prices which Qiao Mei had mentioned, but he did not tell them about his selling price. If they were to find out that Zhao Fei was earning several times more than them, they would come up with crooked ideas again.

"The seeds are so expensive! Is Qiao Mei trying to rob us? We have so much land, so we have to buy at least seven pounds of planting seeds! That's 14 dollars! That's too expensive! Didn't you try to negotiate with her? We've worked with her for so long after all. Can't she just give us the seeds for free?" Wang Meng said unhappily.

"It's already good enough that our family is allowed to grow it! If Uncle and Aunt-in-law don't want to take part, you can tell Grandpa Village Chief. He'll remove our family from the list," Zhao Fei said.

Wang Meng was about to say something when Zhao Ming hurriedly pulled her aside and then said, "We'll do what you say. We'll do whatever you want as long as there's money to be made!"

The entire family spoke nicely to Zhao Fei, worried that they would offend him. For once, Zhao Liu behaved like the head of the family. He coughed twice and said, "All of you go back and check on the land area and then hurry to the village entrance to tell the village chief. Don't cause our family to miss out on this opportunity."

Zhao Fei gave them a few simple instructions and then went to the village office to help the village chief with the statistics. After Zhao Fei left, the family members' expressions changed immediately.

Chapter 1366 Develop Hybrid Seeds

"Elder Brother, it's not that I want to criticize you, but do we have to speak to a little brat in such a humble manner? Look at him, he doesn't have any respect for us elders at all. Back then, you brought him home because you pitied him. Now, he's simply repaying kindness with ingratitude. What an ungrateful thing. We should have thrown him into the trash heap back then!" Wang Meng complained.

"Sister-in-law, let's just bear with it for a while longer. Once the planting seeds are in our hands, won't we be the ones to decide our own future?" Zhao Liu said smugly.

"Elder Brother is so smart! You've really thought of everything!" Zhao Ming said.

They could just keep a portion of the harvested seeds for themselves and then they would be able to use these seeds for planting the next year. After a while, they would have the final say in this business, would they not?

Qiao Mei would not be able to stay so smug for long. In the end, she might even have to cry and beg them to let her off! Just thinking about it made them feel excited.

Not only would they charge her the highest interest then, but they also wanted to monopolize the supply of seeds in the capital! They even thought that they could take over the Xia family's position in the capital.

Little did they know that money alone was not enough to gain a foothold among the wealthy families in the capital. The most highly educated Zhao family member probably only finished the third grade of elementary school. People would only think of them as the nouveau riche. Who would even think highly of them?

In the past, when Qiao Mei was in Foshan Village, she told everyone there that she had sourced the seeds from the capital. Now that she was in the capital, she could not use the same story. Zhao Fei had sold seeds in the capital for so many years and he definitely knew all the varieties available here. If there were really such good quality seeds in the capital, he would have discovered them long ago.

pandasnovel.com Qiao Mei previously told him that she had brought her batch of seeds from the village. Given that Li Gui and Qiao Mei had come from elsewhere, it had sounded quite convincing then.

The previous batches of seeds were developed as a temporary solution to solve Qiao Mei's urgent needs back then and the characteristics of the variety were not very stable. In view of this, Qiao Mei had locked herself in her room for the past few days to look into developing new types of seeds.

Qiao Mei had specially converted a room in the backyard into a small flower nursery. It was filled with many of her weird toys and trinkets, as well as the seeds she had obtained from other people.

In her other life, Qiao Mei did not even work so hard when she was in school. It seemed that money could indeed be a great motivator. She had already reached the point where she could even forget to eat and sleep.

Qiao Qiang had already sensed something strange with Qiao Mei a long time ago. After all, who could casually take out a 10,000-year-old ginseng and countless 100-year-old ginsengs within just a month? I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

Outsiders did not know the exact number of ginsengs that Qiao Mei had, but Qiao Qiang knew that all the ginseng juice that Qiao Mei extracted could not have only come from one ginseng.

He had never heard of any family who had an inexhaustible supply of 100-year-old ginsengs, as if they were just common radishes.

However, he believed that Qiao Mei had her own reasons for doing whatever she did. Since she did not tell him anything, he would not ask her about it. He even covered up for her. When anyone asked about what she was doing, he would always stop them from going in to disturb her.

In any case, Qiao Mei's ability to tend to flowers and plants was really quite outstanding. Everyone knew that Qiao Mei was skillful in this, so they found it quite normal for her to be addicted to the care of flowers and plants. They all gradually got used to it.

A few years ago, the authorities had developed a batch of hybrid seeds and had already started to distribute them to the various county cities. As the cost of research was quite high, in the beginning, the price was much higher than the original normal seeds. In recent years though, the price had dropped and everyone was more willing to use hybrid seeds.

Qiao Mei wanted to try and see if she could develop her version of the hybrid seeds. After a few days of tireless efforts, Qiao Mei finally succeeded. The batch she had was the sixth generation hybrid seeds.

Not only did this batch of seeds inherit the second generation seeds' characteristics of high yield and a short cycle, but the yield had also increased by a lot. However, the cycle was one to two weeks longer than the second generation seeds. If the cycle was too short, it would attract too much attention. It was better to keep a lower profile.

As long as the output could increase at least proportionately, it would not be an issue if it took more time.

However, the sixth generation hybrid seeds also had a particularly interesting feature. They could only be planted once and could only be produced by planting fifth generation seeds.

If anyone wanted to use the harvested seeds from the sixth generation seeds for replanting, they would only get a pile of seeds with empty shells. This was Qiao Mei's trump card in this entire exercise.

She already knew that it was very risky to sell the seeds in large quantities. Even if she knew the amount of seeds that could be produced from the amount she sold, it was only an estimate after all. She could not accurately estimate the actual amount of seeds harvested. As long as she left even one seed in someone else's hands, it would be a risk for her.

Chapter 1367 Buy New Clothes

The Zhao family definitely would not follow Qiao Mei's instructions obediently. Whenever Qiao Mei thought about the type of seeds they would harvest by replanting the harvested seeds, she felt like cheering. She very much looked forward to seeing the looks on the Zhao family members' faces when that happened.

Qiao Mei then returned to the study and flipped through all her books on plants. The knowledge from her other life was not enough to support her in the research and development of what she wanted to do. She needed to have an even deeper understanding of the nature and characteristics of plants. Only then would she be able to develop the best hybrid seeds.

After another two weeks, spring finally arrived. Zhao Fei came to look for Qiao Mei to pick up the planting seeds. Qiao Mei gave Zhao Fei 300 pounds of hybrid planting seeds based on the total amount submitted by all the families.

Zhao Fei and the rest of the villagers had heard of hybrid seeds, but they had only planted hybrid corn before. This was their first time seeing hybrid seeds!

"The eventual output should be about 180,000 pounds of harvested seeds. I hope that the actual amount I receive won't be too different from this estimate. If there's a substantial shortfall, then we may not be able to work together anymore in the future," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Actually, Qiao Mei was not telling the truth. To be precise, there should be 183,600 pounds of harvested seeds. After her repeated tests during this period of time, she could already come out with very accurate estimates.

Zhao Fei nodded. He would definitely give these seeds all his attention. They were his "lifeblood"!

As the saying went, blocking one's path to wealth was akin to killing one's parents. Anyone who blocked his path to earning money was no different from trying to kill him.

Qiao Mei stayed at home and did nothing for a few days. She heard from Sister Feng that Deng Fan had come to look for Xia He not long ago and the two of them had reconciled. She had been so busy with the matter of the seeds recently that she could even forget to eat, so she did not notice this matter at all. She did not expect Xia He to have thought things through so quickly.

"Qiao Mei! Are you at home! Come with me to buy clothes! Qiao Mei, come out!" Xia He shouted as soon as she entered the house. Qiao Mei quickly walked out of the study.

"Madam, my two little babies are still sleeping. If you do this, the two of them will get up and cause trouble," Qiao Mei said helplessly.

Xia He hurriedly covered her mouth and quickly walked over to Qiao Mei. "I'm sorry, I'm just too excited. I hope I didn't wake them up..."

Qiao Mei shook her head. Xia Wen had been very busy recently and did not come to carry Xia Xing around the house. Xia Xing slept especially soundly and could fall asleep even without anyone carrying her. Qiao Mei had already corrected all her fussy habits. I think you should take a look at

"Nowadays, these two children sleep like piglets. They won't get up even when there's thunder. Don't worry," Qiao Mei said.

"That's good. Come shopping with me to buy new clothes! Let's go! If we don't go now, it'll be too late!" Xia He said excitedly.

"Didn't I make two sets of clothes for you during the new year? Why do you still need to buy clothes?" Qiao Mei looked at Xia He and asked curiously. During this period of time, Xia He's purchases had almost filled up an entire room and yet she still wanted to go shopping.

"No! It's almost Xia Xing's wedding day. We must look more outstanding than them! You should wear new clothes too! I'll buy them for you! Let's go!" Xia He said stubbornly.

Qiao Mei laughed and asked, "If we dress nicer than the bride, then who's the lead character that day? You or me? Are the three of us getting married together?"

"Tsk, she won't care about these things! You still don't know, but their family has been in a mess recently and they don't have time to deal with the wedding at all. I'm so glad to know that!" Xia He said happily and almost wanted to jump up and clap.

Xia Jun had always said that the three brothers' families should be united and not go against one another. However, the third son's family members always created trouble for the eldest son's family, so Xia He would not treat them kindly!

The day when the third son's family members knew how to get along peacefully with them would be the day when Xia He would talk to them nicely.

In the beginning, when Shao Yin moved into the small house, she felt very happy. However, when everyone else moved in as well, she started to worry. This was not the life she wanted at all.

Given that both Qiao Mei and her were daughters-in-law of the Xia family, she did not understand why Qiao Mei could live in such a big house while her entire family had to squeeze into such a small house.

"You don't know this yet! Grandfather had arranged for Third Uncle to be transferred back to the capital and he's now in charge of training new recruits in the army," Xia He said as she held Qiao Mei's arm.

Chapter 1368 Pay A Visit

"Is Third Uncle really willing to return to the capital to work?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

Qiao Mei had heard Xia Zhe talk about Xia Guang before. The reason why the third son's family was not close to the rest of the family had something to do with Xia Guang being piqued with Xia Jun. Now that the third son's entire family was back, she did not know what kind of trouble they could stir up.

"I don't know about this, but I heard from Eldest Auntie that Third Uncle is doing quite well and might be promoted after training the current batch of new recruits. Xia Lu and Xia Yan have also started school in the capital. Everyone seems very satisfied with their current jobs and lives. But Shao Yin and Xia Xing recently had a big fight," Xia He said.

"Huh? Why? Is it because the job that Grandfather arranged for Xia Xing is not good?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Of course not. Grandfather had arranged for Xia Xing to work in government services! He's doing the same kind of work he did previously. It's neither better nor worse, but there's still a big difference between a job in the county city and a job in the capital. In that sense, Xia Xing can be considered to have been promoted. It's Shao Yin who's unhappy about her work," Xia He said with a pout.

"What does she want to do? If there's really no other way, she can just come and work at my factory. Anyway, I have to recruit people soon," Qiao Mei said nonchalantly.

"No way! If you give Shao Yin a job in the factory, I'll get angry with you!" Xia He said angrily.

Qiao Mei quickly comforted Xia He. She did not know what this Shao Yin had done to make Xia He hate her so much. Based on Xia He's personality, she would not hate someone so easily.

"Sure, sure, sure. Whatever you say. Then tell me, why did they quarrel?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Shao Yin insisted on working in government services as well. She had already quarreled with Zhou Luo about this a few times and she wept, threw a tantrum and even threatened to commit suicide. No one can do anything about her, but they are all scared of Grandfather, so they dare not tell him about this," Xia He said.

"Is it so difficult to enter government services? Eldest Brother's bodyguard is also a government employee and I see that he's doing quite well. Can't they just ask Grandfather to arrange for her to have a job in the cleaning department?" Qiao Mei said after thinking for a moment.

"What are you thinking! If things are really that simple, do you think there'll be a fight! Shao Yin wants to work with Eldest Brother! She wants to work in Eldest Brother's department!" Xia He said furiously. I think you should take a look at

Qiao Mei was stunned for a moment before she whistled playfully at Xia He and said, "How interesting. No wonder no one dares to talk to Grandfather about this."

Xia Wen was Xia Jun's treasure. Whoever dared to do anything to Xia Wen would be tantamount to endangering Xia Jun's lifeblood. Shao Yin was about to marry Xia Xing, yet she still behaved so indecently.

"She didn't even complete elementary school, yet she still wants to work in government services. The aunties who sweep the floor in the government departments need to at least have junior high school certificates! We can't let her succeed in this! We have to tell Eldest Brother about this and ask him to be on guard against her," Xia He said sternly.

"Eldest Brother already knows about this problem. You have to trust him." Qiao Mei suddenly had an idea and said, "Come! Let's go and take a look at her new home! We'll just say we're there to send our well wishes!"

"What? Go now? Then what about our plan to buy new clothes?" Xia He pouted and said unhappily.

"Another day, another day! If there's really no other way, then how about I'll make you the most gorgeous dress? I'll make you whatever design you like," Qiao Mei said.

The clothes they could buy outside were definitely not as beautiful as the ones Qiao Mei made. Since Qiao Mei had already spoken up, Xia He could only accompany her to visit Shao Yin.

Qiao Mei thought that Xia Wen had simply found a farmhouse for Xia Xing and the others. However, when she arrived, she realized that the house was even bigger than her house in Foshan Village. It was

twice as big! Moreover, there were even two more tiled houses built at the side and the whole place looked very grand. Xia Wen had really put in a lot of effort in this.

Before Qiao Mei and Xia He could enter, they already heard Shao Yin talking inside. Every word she said was about how badly the Xia family treated her and how they were not nice to her.

"Look at the kind of life I'm living! There are so many of us squeezed into this house. This is no way to live! Look at the land area here. Yet she lives in such a luxurious house. We are both daughters-in-law of the Xia family. Why do I have to live here!" Shao Yin complained.

Chapter 1369 Who Do You Think You Are

Shao Yin's elder sister, Shao Le, frowned and said, "How big a house do you want? Don't tell me you want the Xia family to build a castle for you? I think this house is not too bad. It's much better than where we live in the county city. Can't you just be down-to-earth and live here? Why do you have to keep comparing yourself with others?"

"Say, Shao Le, why are you siding with outsiders? She is your younger sister. How can you not pity her when even I find her pitiful! Girl, listen to me. We must fight for whatever belongs to us! We can't let others bully us!" Shao Yin's cousin, Bian Jiu, said.

Xia He almost wanted to rush in to teach the three women inside the house a lesson so that they would know that the Xia family was no pushover! Qiao Mei hurriedly held her back. It was not a good idea to rush in now. They still had to show Xia Xing some respect.

"Don't be rash!" Qiao Mei whispered.

"Are we just going to watch them slander us like this?" Xia He said angrily in a low voice.

"Don't be anxious. Let's see what else they can say," Qiao Mei said as she leaned against the wall.

This was a rare opportunity to hear about the Shao family's attitude towards the Xia family. It sounded like Shao Yin's elder sister, Shao Le, had a good character and at least knew how to be grateful to them. The other woman was not such a nice person.

"The house! The money! Nothing less! Shao Yin, you're our Shao family's treasure. You're the last unmarried girl in our family. You must get married in a grand manner! I definitely won't let the Xia family bully you like this!" Bian Jiu said.

In the end, the things they said became more and more outrageous and they even wanted to target Xia Fang. They wanted to ask Xia Fang to give all the Shao family's relatives free full-body checkups. As Qiao Mei and Xia He listened at the door, they could not stand it anymore. They coughed twice and walked into the courtyard.

The three people in the courtyard were stunned for a moment. Shao Yin thought that she was imagining things and only confirmed that it was really Qiao Mei and Xia He after taking a closer look.

"Who are you! This is the Xia family's courtyard! How can you barge in like this! Aren't you afraid that the Xia family will come after you! Are you tired of living!" Bian Jiu said as she looked at Qiao Mei and Xia He arrogantly. Those who did not know better would think that she was the Xia family's daughter-in-law.

"Oh, is this person part of the Xia family? Why don't I know about this?" Xia He looked at Bian Jiu mockingly. I think you should take a look at

"Who do you think you are! How dare you talk to me like that! Be careful or I'll get the Xia family to teach you a lesson! When the time comes, you'll have to kneel down and beg me!" Bian Jiu pointed at Xia He angrily.

Shao Yin hurriedly held Bian Jiu back and said to Xia He, "I'm sorry, Second Cousin. My maternal cousin doesn't mean it. Please don't take it to heart."

"Let me tell you who I think I am." Xia He walked up to Bian Jiu and said slowly, "I am Xia Mao's only daughter, the young lady of the Xia family!"

Qiao Mei turned her head and snickered. She had never seen Xia He behaving in such a lofty manner before. It was like watching elementary school students having an argument. However, the phrase "young lady of the Xia family" held so much weight that even she felt a little tempted. She wanted to try telling others that she was the Third Young Madam of the Xia family.

No, no, no! Forget it. It would be too awkward. The last time she went to Xia Jun's house, that was how the butler addressed her and she instantly had goosebumps all over her body. She was not suitable for such dramatics.

Bian Jiu looked at Xia He awkwardly. She had said something wrong in a moment of agitation and she wondered if Xia He would find trouble with her.

"I'm sorry... I have no idea who you are... But even if you're from the Xia family, you can't just enter the courtyard without knocking," Bian Jiu quibbled.

"When we arrived, the door wasn't closed. Shao Yin is about to marry Brother Xing. We thought that since we are family, there's no need for such formal etiquette. We don't know that we need to observe such proper etiquette even when entering our family members' house," Qiao Mei said as she looked at Bian Jiu and Shao Yin.

After such a long time here, Shao Yin had already found out everything about everyone in the Xia family. In the eldest son's family, although Xu Lan had the final say, Qiao Mei was right next in line. Sometimes, Xu Lan might not even have as much say as Qiao Mei. This is because Qiao Mei could always find solutions to issues which had stumped everyone else.

She could not afford to offend Qiao Mei. She must build a good relationship with Qiao Mei as she might need help in the future!

"Third Cousin-in-law, that's not what my maternal cousin meant. Please don't misunderstand," Shao Yin said quickly.

Chapter 1370 Unfilial

"We don't have any other intentions in coming to visit. We just want to see how you're doing here. Since you have guests here, we'll go back now. We'll leave you to chat," Qiao Mei said.

"Come and sit down. That's not what my younger sister meant. These girls are still young and insensible. Please don't mind them." Shao Le quickly stood up and wanted to give up their seats to Qiao Mei and Xia He.

Xia He and Qiao Mei looked at each other. It was difficult to reject such kindness, so they reluctantly sat down to hear what else the Shao family members had to say.

"Third Cousin-in-law, I haven't seen you for a while and you've become prettier!" Shao Yin said with a smile.

Qiao Mei nodded reluctantly. She really hated dealing with such situations. Even when she was in the Xia family residence, she had never felt so awkward.

Seeing that Qiao Mei did not say anything, Shao Yin turned around to talk to Xia He. She did not expect Xia He to ignore her and look at the sky instead. Xia He found everything else interesting as long as she need not look at Shao Yin.

"I haven't made introductions yet. This is my elder sister, Shao Le. This is my older cousin, Bian Jiu. The two of them are here to chat with me," Shao Yin said.

"So they have been staying at your place during this period of time?" Xia He turned her head and asked curiously.

"That's right! Xia Xing is very considerate. He knows that I don't have many friends in the capital, so he specially lets them come and accompany me," Shao Yin said without hiding her look of disappointment.

"The longer you stay here, the more friends you will have," Qiao Mei said.

"Then can I go and look for you often? The last time I saw Xia Fan and Xia Xing, I really liked them very much. I've been thinking about them all this time! I really like children and I like to play with them," Shao Yin said as she looked at Qiao Mei expectantly.

Qiao Mei lowered her eyes slightly. During the Spring Festival, Qiao Mei had seen how Shao Yin behaved towards Xia Fan and Xia Xing. Her reaction was just lukewarm and she did not look like she liked children at all. If she really liked children, she would be like Xia Wen, who was always trying to find time to go to Qiao Mei's place to play with the children. Xia Wen spent a lot of his monthly salary on stuff for the two children. I think you should take a look at

According to Xia Wen, he was currently single and there was no point in putting aside so much money. He might as well spend his money on the two little babies.

Shao Yin had an ulterior motive for saying all this. She had failed at her attempt to work in government services to get close to Xia Wen, so now she was having designs on Qiao Mei's children. Such wishful thinking. She should just continue to daydream!

"The children are still too young. It's not good to have too many people in the house. Let's wait until the children are older. In any case, you'll be the Xia family's daughter-in-law soon. We all live in the capital, so there's no hurry," Qiao Mei rejected tactfully.

At the mention of the future, Shao Yin could not help but cover her face and cry. Bian Jiu immediately said, "Girl, why are you crying?"

"I... I just feel a little sad that my parents can't come and stay with me. This house is only big enough for me and Xia Xing's family. I can't take care of my parents. I'm really... really unfilial!" Shao Yin said as she cried.

Xia He wished she could go forward and give Shao Yin two tight slaps. She had not even married into the Xia family and she was already coming up with some much nonsense. Once she married into the Xia family, there was no telling what earth-shattering things she could do. She stared at Shao Yin and said sternly, "Brother Xing did not grow up by his parents' side. Are you saying that Brother Xing is unfilial?"

"No! That's not what I mean! Second Cousin, you've really misunderstood me!" Shao Yin said as she looked at Xia He with a pale face.

Qiao Mei sighed resignedly. It seemed that what Eldest Brother said back then was right. She should not have bought so many houses. No! She should not have bought so many big houses. Shao Yin did not manage to get a house from Grandfather, so now she was raising this issue in front of her.

However, Qiao Mei could not put all her money in the bank. The massive amount of money would have attracted the attention of the counter staff. Even though she had earned the money through legal channels, it was still better to keep a low profile. After all, it was better to avoid unnecessary trouble.

"Cousin-in-law, if you think that this house is too small, you can tell Brother Xing and ask him to talk to my eldest brother. My eldest brother can help with issues regarding the house. I believe that with Brother Xing's salary in the future, he can easily afford to rent a bigger house," Xia He said casually.

Xia Xing's salary was not even as much as what Xia He made. He only earned 60 dollars a month and could barely support his family. The rent for the house that Shao Yin was living in now was already 10 dollars a month.