

Fat Wife 1821

Chapter 1821: Paid to Take Photos

“Is that so? But I seem to recall that all the classes have been canceled today since it’s the new students’ first day of school. The seniors are supposed to go to the main gate to help everyone with their things and to show them the way,” Qiao Mei said.

“I.. I don’t know...” Cui Hua said in a panic.

“You really don’t know or are you deliberately waiting for Wu Duo here? Oh! Don’t tell me you want to get back together with Wu Duo?” Qiao Mei asked curiously.

Cui Hua was unable to answer the question and started crying out of anxiety. She said aggrievedly, “I’m not waiting for Wu Duo here. You’ve misunderstood... I don’t know that Xie Jing doesn’t have class today. I’m really not doing it on purpose...”

Qiao Mei wanted to clap for her. Xia He could not even act as well. Xia He’s stage performances required exaggerated acting. Cui Hua’s acting was perfect for real life.

Fortunately, Wu Duo was not so stupid and was able to see through Cui Hua’s disguise. He said coldly, “Then you can continue to wait here. We’re going to do our registration. Goodbye.”

“Goodbye, Cui Huæ” Qiao Mei said happily.

One second ago, Cui Hua was still crying. The next second, she looked at the departing figures of Qiao Mei and Wu Duo with a cold and gloomy expression. She had actually also taken the college entrance examination this year, but her results were not ideal and she could not make it to any university. She had thought that Wu Duo would fail the examination as well, and definitely did not expect him to be so capable.

What was the use of regretting her decision now? It was impossible for Wu Duo to like her again. It was better to quickly tell Xie Jing this piece of news so that he could make preparations earlier.

While on the way, Qiao Mei looked at Wu Duo like she expected more from him and said, “You, you! You just told me you want to take revenge on her. Did you hear yourself just now! ”

“I... I also don’t know why it turns out like this... But now, I’ve completely seen her true colors clearly. Thank you, Mentor. Otherwise, I would have fallen into her trap again,” Wu Duo said gratefully.

“Stop all that! You should think about what to do in the future. Don’t get deceived by that woman again, especially when you meet her alone. You have to remember what I said and don’t get into any argument. Even if you’re at a disadvantage, we can just settle the score with them later. Don’t cause trouble in school, do you understand?” Qiao Mei reminded him.

“Understood!” Wu Duo said seriously.

The two of them met up with Li Xue and Wang Wei. Together, they went to get their student pass and meal cards, as well as many new books. Wu Duo and the rest helped Qiao Mei carry all her things to her car before they headed home. Xia He also closed shop for the day. She leaned back against the front passenger seat and said wearily, “Qiao Mei... Do you know that I’m about to die of exhaustion... You have to make me delicious food as compensation when we get home! ”

“Compensation? Have you checked how much money you made in this short period of time?” Qiao Mei said.

Xia He hurriedly sat up and opened her bag to count the money. She had actually earned 6,000 dollars!

“Oh my goodness! How can there be so much money! I was so busy that I didn’t even notice how many photos I took. This is more than my annual salary!” Xia He said excitedly.

“Now do an estimate of the cost,” Qiao Mei continued.

“Let me think... I know people from the film factory. They can give me the lowest price for film and photo paper. Bai Dian’s family runs a photo studio, so there’s no cost to develop the photos. I’ll just buy some gifts for Bai Dian. In that case, the cost of a photo is two dollars! I have made a net profit of 3,600 dollars today!” Xia He said.

Qiao Mei did not expect Xia He to know a film supplier and a photo studio owner. When she first did the calculations, she thought that they could make 50 cents per photo. She was not interested in such a small business, but Xia He could not stay at home every day. She had to think of a way to get Xu Lan to let Xia He come out to work.

“But these people won’t need to take photos after this period of time. That means this income is just one-off,” Xia He said dejectedly.

“How many universities are there in the capital? How much money can you earn by taking photos at the entrance of every university? If school has started for all the secondary schools, then they probably also want to take photos. The secondary school students probably have less money so we should lower the price for them. There are so many schools in the capital. Do you have any idea how much money you can earn?” Qiao Mei asked..

Chapter 1822: Let Her Go Free

“Moreover, it’s not just this new batch of students who will want to take photos! If the existing students also want their photos taken, then we can even make more money! Heavens... we can earn 20,000 to 30,000 dollars a day!” Xia He exclaimed.

“Uh-huh. By then, if you can open your own photo studio, you’ll be racking it in every year. Every year, there will be a new batch of students starting school. Moreover, when the current students graduate, they will also want to take photos. That’s a lot of money waiting to be made,” Qiao Mei said.

“But under the current climate, are we allowed to make money from this? I’m not sure if it’s illegal to do this...” Xia He said worriedly.

The economy would only fully open up next year. There were still some restrictions now, but what they were doing was not really a big thing. As long as they pulled some strings and worked together with existing photo studios, there should not be any problems. Later on, they could get Xia Wen to help them along the way. It was not a dream to be able to become rich!

One could only make money if one was bold enough. If one was too overcautious, one would not be able to make it big.

"I'll go and talk to my contacts now!" Xia He said excitedly.

"It's not that urgent. Let's go home and talk to Mother about this first. It's more important to get her to stop grounding you! Otherwise, how are you going to go out and earn money? Do I have to think of a reason to get you out of the house every time?" Qiao Mei said helplessly.

"Quick, quick, quick! Let's go home now! I can't wait! Heavens, my big house is no longer just a dream! There's so much money to be made! This is too exciting!" Xia He waved her hands excitedly.

Xia He's dream had always been to be a famous dancer. Now that she had fulfilled her dream and even gone on a national tour, she wanted to work hard towards becoming a world-famous dancer. However, in order to reassure Xu

Lan, she decided to put this dream on hold for the time being and wait for Xu Lan to completely recover from her current anxiety issues.

The most important thing now was to earn lots of money! Who would ever reject money?

The moment Qiao Mei parked the car, Xia He leaped out and ran home. She grabbed hold of Xu Lan and started talking about all her grand ambitions, repeating everything which Qiao Mei had just said to her.

"Mother! Believe me! I'll definitely be able to earn a lot of money this time round!" Xia He looked at Xu Lan expectantly.

"Are you sure?" Xu Lan asked suspiciously.

Xia He quickly showed Xu Lan all the money she had earned today. When Xu Lan saw it, she fell silent. At that exact moment, Qiao Mei walked in from outside and said, "Mother, this is a really good business opportunity. Xia He can just work behind the scenes, making sure there are enough supplies and being in charge of the money. She can hire people to do the rest."

"That's right! This is such a rare opportunity! The critical period is those first few days of school! We can't waste time. Every minute is money! Mother, just let me do it!" Xia He said.

"Since Qiao Mei says that this is a good business idea, then you can go ahead," Xu Lan said reluctantly.

During this period of time, Deng Fan had made a lot of money from Qiao Mei and was more than able to afford the cameras and film needed. Deng Fan was also very supportive of Xia He going into business. Xia He went ahead and bought 20 cameras, as well as all the film factory's stock.

To ensure that Xia He went into the venture boldly, Qiao Mei promised Xia He that she could keep whatever profits they made. In the event that the business lost money, Qiao Mei would think of a way to deal with the film and cameras. She would make sure that Xia He did not suffer any loss.

"Mother, Xia He is already an adult. She has to go out and experience the ups and downs in life. Besides, she has already learnt from her past mistakes. From now on, she will inform the family in advance before she goes anywhere," Qiao Mei sat beside Xu Lan and persuaded her.

"I know that too, but I'm just worried that something will happen to her... I still have lingering fears from what happened the last time and I can't sleep well every night," Xu Lan said as she held her chest.

"Have you been drinking the medicinal wine I gave you on a daily basis? Also, you have to put those lingzhi in your drinking water. You can't be lax about this. Your health is very important," Qiao Mei reminded her.

"Yes, I've taken all that. I'm just still worried. Actually, I also know that I can't keep Xia He locked up at home, but what else can I do?" Xu Lan said.

“Look, hasn’t Xia He been very obedient recently? When we talked about the business idea today, she even asked me to drive home so that she can discuss it with you first. If you don’t let her go out and work, she will still stay at home with you, but she has already learned her lesson. Mother, you should also give her a break and let her go out for a breather,” Qiao Mei persuaded.

“Alright, I’ll take your advice. But Xia He must tell me in advance if she wants to go out of town!” Xu Lan said.

“Of course,” Qiao Mei replied with a smile..

Chapter 1823: Asking for Guidance

Qiao Mei had some free time a while ago, so she gave Xia He driving lessons every day. Since Xia He had nothing to do as well, she might as well learn something. Once she knew how to drive, she could go anywhere she wanted.

At the same time, Qiao Mei did that so that Xia He could come out for a breather. Otherwise, she would become depressed if she stayed by Xu Lan’s side every day. Xu Lan did not believe anyone now except Qiao Mei. Only Qiao Mei could bring Xia He away from Xu Lan’s side.

Xia He drove Qiao Mei’s car and headed to Xia Wen’s workplace. She waited there until Xia Wen ended his meeting, then she grabbed him and hurriedly ran back to his office, saying, “I want to start a business! A big business!”

“Why are you here to look for me if you want to start a business? Just go ahead,” Xia Wen said to Xia He confusedly.

Xia He relayed Qiao Mei’s idea to Xia Wen and he was stunned for quite a while before he smiled and said, “Only she can think of such a complicated thing.

You definitely can’t come up with such an idea.”

“You’re right! How can she have so many ideas! I can’t think of anything at all! Quick, help me think of a way. I have to settle all these things by tomorrow and start doing business the day after tomorrow! The critical period is those first few days of school. I can’t let go of this opportunity! If I miss it, I’ll have to wait until next year!” Xia He said anxiously.

Xia Wen had contacts in many factories. He called the person-in-charge at those factories to ask for a quotation. Those people all wanted to be nice to Xia Wen, so the quotes he received were lower than what Xia He had received from her own contacts. In addition, the quantity they could supply was also a lot more. Xia Wen then negotiated with an unknown small photo studio to do a collaboration with them.

Xia He did not have the ability to open a shop yet. It was best for her to work with an existing photo studio for now. Xia He just needed to share the profits with them every month.

The business started well and Xia He even hired many photographers. Overnight, many people flocked to the main entrances of the various schools to take photos. Everyone wanted to take more photos to keep as mementos.

Even though the current practice was to go to the photo studio to take photos, everyone preferred to have their photos taken at the school gate to keep as a memento. They had to study hard for so many years to get into their preferred school. It did not matter even if it was more expensive to take photos at the main entrance. If they missed this chance, they would not have another chance to do it. They were more than willing to pay the higher price.

Such a profitable business instantly attracted the attention of the other players in the industry, but they did not have the ability to do the same even if they wanted to. Cameras were so expensive, so who could buy so many in one go? Only the offspring from those prominent families in the capital could do something like this.

Xia He and Xia Wen decided that they would take 30% of the profits each and give the remaining 40% to Qiao Mei. It was useless even if Qiao Mei rejected them. If Qiao Mei did not agree to it, then there was no point in doing this business. Qiao Mei had no choice but to accept the arrangement.

Xia Wen had never participated in such ventures in the past, but things were different for him now. He had MO Zhu now and he did not want her to live a hard life with him. The MO family only had this one

daughter and MO Zhu had lived in a big courtyard house since young. Xia Wen did not want MO Zhu to have to move to his small house after marrying him.

He wanted to buy a similar siheyuan courtyard house near Qiao Mei's house so that he could visit Xia Fan and Xia Xing often. Since Xia He was also living nearby, it was easier for everyone to get together during the new year.

Xiang Chen also heard about this new venture from Xia Wen and was a little tempted, so he quietly came to have a discussion with Qiao Mei the next day.

"Cousin-in-law, help me. I also want to earn big bucks like Eldest Cousin and Second Cousin. Give me some pointers and tell me what I can do to make more money," Xiang Chen begged.

"Does your mother know about this? I seem to remember that your family wants you to continue with your studies. If I bring you into a business venture, Aunt and Uncle-in-law will definitely kill me when they find out!" Qiao Mei said.

"That won't happen! I'll make sure my parents don't know!" Xiang Chen said.

"Why... why do you want to make more money? Don't you make enough money reselling those small items in the south?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"Cousin-in-law, how do you know that I'm reselling things!" Xiang Chen said to Qiao Mei in surprise.

Qiao Mei had discovered it by accident. She had wanted to expand her business to the southern part of the country, so she asked Yao Nian to find out more information about a few cities in the south as well as the gossip about the various prominent families there. She did not expect to find out that Xiang Chen was running a small business there..

Chapter 1824: Study Hard

“How hard is it to find out about that small issue of yours? Tell me honestly, why do you want to go into business?” Qiao Mei asked.

“I...I. I just want to buy a house and get married soon...” Xiang Chen said shyly.

Qiao Mei looked at Xiang Chen in surprise. She had thought that Xiang Chen was only interested in Qian’e on a whim. She did not expect this kid to be serious about it!

“It’s not like Aunt and Uncle-in-law are short of money. They will definitely be able to buy you a house when you get married and also help you with the betrothal gifts. They won’t shortchange the lady. There’s really no need for you to go out and earn money,” Qiao Mei said.

“That won’t happen! My parents definitely will not agree to this marriage. I have to be self-reliant!” Xiang Chen said.

“Don’t... don’t tell me the person you like is Qian’e?” Qiao Mei probed.

Xiang Chen’s silence further confirmed Qiao Mei’s thoughts. Qian’e was almost 10 years older than Xiang Chen and her maternal family did not have a good reputation. In fact, the two families did not get along well. Coupled with what Qian’e had gone through during her previous marriage, she was no longer able to have children. This was unacceptable for most families.

If Xia Fang found out that Xiang Chen wanted to marry Qian’e, she would definitely break Xiang Chen’s legs!

Xia Fang and Qian’e had a harmonious relationship now but it was really only a relationship between an elder and a junior. If Qian’e wanted to become their family’s daughter-in-law, Xia Fang would never agree to it.

“You should find someone else. You are not the person Qian’e is looking for,” Qiao Mei persuaded.

"How can that be! As long as I work hard! I'm not worried that I'm not the person she's looking for. It's her choice whether she likes me or not, but I still have to try my best. It's my choice to woo her," Xiang Chen said seriously.

Qiao Mei held her forehead helplessly. It seemed that she would not be able to dissuade Xiang Chen about this, at least not for the moment. She decided to find a chance to talk to Qian'e about this. For now, it was more important to stop Xiang Chen from doing anything reckless.

"It's fine if you want to go into business. Tell me about what you want to do," Qiao Mei said.

"Right now, I'm reselling items like simple dresses, stationery, watches and so on. I only deal in small items. However, I feel that cassette tapes seem more profitable. I want to try going in this direction," Xiang Chen said.

It seemed that this kid still had some flair for doing business. Qiao Mei had also taken a fancy to the cassette tapes business previously, but it was too troublesome. She did not like to do troublesome things, so she had set it aside.

Furthermore, it was easy for things to go wrong because of the contents. Anyone could record any kind of content. No one knew if any topics would become taboo one day. If that happened, it would be hard to salvage the situation.

"This business is not easy. Think of something else. Next year, you'll be able to sell things openly. Your current task is to continue with your studies and become a graduate student," Qiao Mei instructed.

"Cousin-in-law, why are you asking me to study too..." Xiang Chen said dejectedly.

"Isn't studying a good thing? I worked hard for the college entrance examination even though I'm pregnant. Why don't you want to study? To make money, you need to amass enough knowledge. If you don't know anything and don't understand anything, how can you do business? Don't tell me you just want to be a profiteer and resell second-hand goods your entire life?" Qiao Mei questioned.

"No, that's not what I want. I want to earn big bucks, like Eldest Cousin and Second Cousin," Xiang Chen said firmly.

"Your eldest cousin used to be a university professor, and your second cousin is also an outstanding individual. She got into the military academy as one of the top three students. Which one of them didn't use to study hard? You must also study hard and then seize the opportunity when it comes by," Qiao Mei said.

"Yes, what you say makes sense. I'll take note of it," Xiang Chen said after pondering for a long time.

"Study hard first. Come back next year and tell me what business you want to do. Write me a proposal. I'm still considering whether I want to invest in you. You can do any business next year and it'll also be much easier then. It's all a matter of making more money or less money. Go back and think about it. My requisite is for you to study hard! Do you hear me!" Qiao Mei said seriously.

Xiang Chen did not answer Qiao Mei immediately. There were many people in the family doing business now. Deng Fan, Lu Huai, Xia Wen and Xia He were all making good money, so he felt that he could just ask one of them to invest in him.

Qiao Mei immediately said, "Don't have any crooked ideas. Those people at home are making money only because of me. If I tell them not to lend you money, they definitely won't dare to do it. You might as well listen to me."

Xiang Chen said dejectedly, "I promise to complete the mission..."

Chapter 1825: Waiting to Give Birth

Xiang Chen took Qiao Mei's advice and went back to tell Xia Fang that he was going back to school and that he would study hard. Xia Fang and Xiang Jin were so excited that they almost set off firecrackers to celebrate. When they heard that it was Qiao Mei who persuaded Xiang Chen to "turn over a new leaf", they almost wanted to put Qiao Mei on a pedestal and worship her.

"Mei Mei, you're simply our family's lucky star! I've been so worried for the past two days that my voice has gone hoarse and my body is getting heaty. He has finally gone back to school. Otherwise, your uncle-in-law and I don't know what to do with him," Xia Fang said excitedly on the phone,

"Xiang Chen is still young and has all kinds of ideas. It's quite normal that he can't think as far ahead as both of you. He's very obedient and has already promised me that he will go back to school. Aunt, you don't have to worry anymore," Qiao Mei said.

"How did you persuade him to go back to school? We tried all kinds of methods but nothing worked. How did you do it?" Xia Fang asked curiously.

"I simply told him that if he still has the interest to go into business next year, I will sponsor him partially and let him do whatever he wants. The prerequisite is that he has to study hard, so he naturally agrees to it," Qiao Mei answered honestly.

Xia Fang and Xiang Jin did not want Xiang Chen to go into business. However, in order to let Xiang Chen go back to school, Qiao Mei's method could be considered a "roundabout method of winning the war".

"When you have time, come over to my house. I'll cook delicious food for you! I'll bring you out to have a good time!" Xia Fang said.

"Sure! Aunt, don't restrict Xiang Chen too much. If there's something he wants to do, just let him try. As long as he doesn't break the law or commit any crimes, we shouldn't interfere too much in his life," Qiao Mei advised.

"Alright, I'll think about what you say. Xiang Chen is not cut out to study medicine or become a soldier. Your uncle-in-law and I have already come to terms with this fact," Xia Fang said with a sigh.

In the next two days, there was a lot of good news. Xia He had made a lot of money, more than 100,000 dollars in just three days! Qiao Mei was surprised when she heard the figure. Xia He and Xia Wen were so excited that they could not sleep the entire night and just sat at home counting the money!

Xia Wen immediately asked Qiao Mei to see if there was any nice house near her siheyuan courtyard house and told her that he wanted to buy one. Qiao Mei simply sold the "corn courtyard house" to Xia Wen at a low price. Xia Wen and Xia He even pooled their money to buy a siheyuan courtyard house for Xia Mao and Xu Lan. It would be easier for the whole family to get together if they all lived in the same alley.

It was just that Deng Fan would have his hands full keeping an eye on the renovation of all the houses and do his best to let everyone move in before summer starts.

Qiao Mei packed up some necessities from the courtyard house and moved them to the house opposite the university. She planned to stay there for the time being so that it would be easier for her to go to and from school every day.

All the professors had a whole new level of respect for Qiao Mei. They all hoped that Qiao Mei would become their student and help them with research later. Qiao Mei's classroom was the most popular place on campus. This was the first time everyone had seen professors taking the initiative to come and look for a student!

"Qiao Mei, have you thought about which professor you want to do research with?" Chen Pian asked.

"I haven't made any plans yet and I don't want to think about the matter of research for the time being. There's still time to think about it in my second year. My current health condition is still the most important thing for me now," Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Mei was quite sure that she was about to give birth within the next few days. Xia He had helped her apply for two months of absence from school and she intended to stay at home for the next few days to prepare for the delivery.

Xu Lan and the rest had all moved to the courtyard house for the time being. When Xu Lan saw Qiao Mei's stomach, she was even more anxious than Qiao Mei! Everyone was looking forward to the arrival of the new baby.

"Why don't we go and stay in the VIP ward for a few days? Hasn't Aunt made arrangements for you already?" Xia He asked.

"It's better not to be too ostentatious. I don't even know when I'll give birth. It's alright to go only when it's almost time," Qiao Mei said.

"No! I'm worried. Let's go to the hospital. Mei Mei, listen to me." Xu Lan asked Feng Hua to pack all the necessary things and the entire family arrived at the hospital with many bags. The hospital did not allow

too many visiting family members and only one family member was allowed to stay with the patient. Xia He stayed behind to accompany Qiao Mei.

“You’re so busy, how do you have time to accompany me? Shouldn’t you be out earning money?” Qiao Mei asked.

“Idiot! How can earning money be more important than you!” Xia He said disdainfully.

“You can get Sister Xu to come and take care of me while you go to work. It’s the peak season now. If there’s really no other way, you can get my mother to come and take care of me,” Qiao Mei said..

Chapter 1826: Get Rid of Her Child

Xia He sat at one side and thought about it. The truth was that she did not want to miss this opportunity to earn money. It was not that she was crazy about money. If she was the only one involved in this business, then it did not really matter. However, she was now responsible for more than 100 people under her care and there were even some who had gone to other cities to work. If she took her mind off the business, what would happen to the livelihoods of these people?

Recently, Li Gui had also been busy with the piece of land provided by the country. Everyone was very busy. Xu Lan had lived a pampered life for many years and definitely did not know how to wait on others. At this moment, Xu Kang was the only one who could take care of Qiao Mei.

“Then... then let me discuss with Mother first?” Xia He said hesitantly.

“There’s no need for any discussion. Go home and bring Sister Xu here. Besides, Aunt is also around in the hospital. If there’s any issues, Aunt will come and help me. Don’t worry,” Qiao Mei persuaded.

Xia He drove home and brought Xu Kang to the hospital. She repeatedly reminded Xu Kang not to leave Qiao Mei’s side. Xu Kang accompanied Qiao Mei all day long and did not leave her side at all. Even when she had to go out to get water, she would ask the nurse to watch over Qiao Mei.

The Xia family members waited to hear good news from Qiao Mei.

The news of Qiao Mei about to give birth had naturally reached the ears of the Huang family. They had just returned to the capital and did not know much about the happenings here. After hearing about the Xia family's "divine medicine", Huang Quan had specially hired a private investigator to find out more information about the Xia family.

In the end, none of these things could escape Qiao Mei's attention. How could there be a better investigator than Yao Nian? At least in the capital, there was none.

"Is your wife expecting a boy or a girl?" You Yu said, pulling Huang Quan the study.

"During the last checkup, the doctor said it's a boy," Huang Quan said nonchalantly.

"A boy! Look at what you did! How did she get pregnant so quickly! What about your two sons! Once Tan Jing gives birth, how are my two grandchildren going to live their lives!" You Yu said angrily.

"Don't worry, she won't bully them. If the children are bullied, I'll teach her a lesson!" Huang Quan said.

"No! Who can say for sure! Find an opportunity to get rid of her child. Get someone to think of a way!" You Yu said viciously.

"Mom, this is still my own child after all. There is no reason for me to take your advice to get rid of the child. Back then, I also didn't like the idea of having a youngest brother. Why didn't you get an abortion then?" Huang Quan said unhappily.

Tan Jing stood quietly outside the door of the study and eavesdropped on the conversation. She had thought that the Huang family would be happy about the baby she was expecting, but she did not expect You Yu to be so vicious. You Yu looked gentle and virtuous on the surface, but she was so sinister and cunning behind everyone's back. This woman even wanted to do something to her child! Fortunately, Huang Quan still wanted to protect her and the child.

"You beast! What are you saying! What did your youngest brother take from you when he was born? You are both my flesh and blood! How can I bear to part with either of you!" You Yu said as she looked at Huang Quan agitatedly.

Huang Quan heaved a sigh. All these years, You Yu had always favored Huang Can and did not even take good care of Huang Mian. If not for You Yu's favoritism, Huang Mian would not have left the family and worked somewhere else all these years.

"Got it. I'll think of a way," Huang Quan said.

"Do it cleanly. Don't let Tan Jing become suspicious. It's best if she can't ever give birth in the future! The cost is negotiable," You Yu said calmly.

"Yep, those people are all old hands at this. They know how to handle these things," Huang Quan said.

Tan Jing tiptoed away from the Huang family's study and quietly went to the garden downstairs to take a breather. She did not expect the Huang family to be a wolf's den! She thought that she was going to be a rich wife in the future, but she did not expect to have to use her child to exchange for the life she wanted.

She could not just sit around and wait for her doom! This child represented her future glory and wealth in the Huang family. She must protect this child! This was also her sore point and obsession for so many years. Nothing was more important than this child.

The next day, Huang Quan wrote a letter and sent it to Ah Peng, the triad boss's subordinate. Tan Jing sent someone to intercept the letter and changed her name in the letter to Qiao Mei from the Xia family. This could also be considered her gift for Qiao Mei! Let Qiao Mei's child die on behalf of her child! Qiao Mei had so many children, one less should not be a big deal.

After Ah Peng read the letter, he gathered his men overnight to think of a way. One of his underlings was called Hao An. He used to work as a doctor in a small clinic and only came to work for Ah Peng after falling on hard times..

Chapter 1827: Cesarean Surgery

“Boss! Leave this mission to me! I’m the best at abducting children!” one of Ah Pengs underlings shouted.

“The Huang family has really given us a lot of money this time. I think you’re just eyeing this sum of money! You’re only good at picking locks, not abducting children! These two things have nothing to do with each other!” another guy said.

“How much?” Hao An asked.

“The Huang family says they’ll give 100,000 dollars! They will give us a deposit of 20,000 dollars first and the rest of the money after the deed is done,” Ah Peng said.

“That’s a lot!” All the underlings had their eyes on this job. Everyone wanted to do it, but Ah Peng still had the final say within the gang. They could only listen to Ah Pengs arrangements.

“Guys, this job can only belong to Hao An. He’s the one who’s most familiar with the hospital setup and no one knows it better than him. Who dares to stand up and say that they are more familiar with the hospital than Hao An!” Ah Peng asked as he looked at his underlings. There was no response for a

long time. Ah Peng looked at Hao An and said, “Then I’m giving this job to Hao

An.”

“No problem, Boss. I’ll definitely do it well!” Hao An said with a sly smile.

After another three to four days, it was finally time for Qiao Mei to give birth. The entire family stood at the door of the delivery suite worriedly. From time to time, they would look into the room, wondering when Qiao Mei would be able to come out. The entire scene was reminiscent of the last time when Qiao Mei gave birth.

As the baby was already quite big, Xia Fang did not recommend that Qiao Mei give birth naturally as there was a possibility that it would not be a smooth delivery. It would be safer to have a Cesarean surgery.

“Mother, don’t worry. Qiao Mei will definitely be fine! Sit down and rest,” Xia He comforted her.

“I’m feeling so anxious! I don’t know why I’m especially flustered this time. I don’t ask for anything else. As long as Qiao Mei is safe and sound, I’m willing to do anything! Qiao Mei must be well...” Xu Lan said anxiously.

After a long wait, Qiao Mei finally gave birth. The nurse came out with the small baby in her arms and said, “Both mother and child are safe! It’s a boy!

Family members, you can come and take a look!”

Everyone swarmed around the nurse and asked, “How’s the mother? When

can she come out? Why can the child come out but not her?”

“Don’t worry, the mother will be out in a while. There are still some follow-up issues to be dealt with. Take a look at the child and then we’ll send him to the nursery,” the nurse said.

Everyone gave the baby a cursory glance. Qiao Mei was not out yet and they were still feeling worried. They were not in the mood to pay attention to the baby now and left the matter to Xia Wen.

Xia Wen carried the baby and took a closer look. He realized that there was a birthmark on the baby’s neck, similar to the one on Xia Zhe’s neck. This child also resembled Xia Zhe a lot, even more than Xia Fan when he was born.

“Alright, you can stay here and wait for the mother to be out. I’m going to send the baby to the nursery.” The nurse took the baby from Xia Wen’s arms and carried him away.

Hao An wore a white coat and used a fake hospital pass to get into the nursery. At this moment, the nurse had just given the baby a quick bath and was writing down his personal details.

“Doctor Xia wants you to go back. There’s an emergency situation and she needs you to go back and help with the surgery. I’ll look after the child for you,” Hao An said to the nurse with an urgent tone of voice.

The nurse noted that his white coat and staff pass were hospital-issued items and there was nothing wrong about him. She immediately said, “Thank you! I’ll be back soon! Take good care of this child!”

“Sure!” Hao An said.

Hao An waited until the nurse left for a long time and made sure that no one else had entered the nursery. He then wrapped the child with a blanket and carried him out of the nursery, quickly disappearing into the crowd.

Qiao Mei was on the way back to the VIP ward. As there was no outsider around, Xia Fang quickly poured some golden ginseng juice on Qiao Mei’s wound. This was Qiao Mei’s instruction to her before the surgery.

Qiao Mei’s wound healed visibly and very quickly. In an instant, the skin was completely intact and as white as snow. If Xia Fang did not already know the effect of the ginseng juice, she would have thought that she had seen something cursed.

“How are you feeling now? Do you feel uncomfortable anywhere? Drink some more ginseng juice. The effect will be better if you use it both internally and externally,” Xia Fang said.

“If I drink more, it will be too much. Too much nutrition will also hurt the body. It’s just right for now. I’ll be fine after resting for a couple of days,” Qiao Mei said weakly..

Chapter 1828: The Child Is Missing!

Even if the ginseng juice could heal Qiao Mei's wound quickly, it was unable to immediately restore her strength after all the exhaustion. She would still need to recuperate for a week before she could fully recover.

"Oh right! You haven't seen the baby! I'll get the nurse to bring him over for you to take a look," Xia Fang said with a smile.

"The child looks exactly like Xia Zhe when he was young! He even has the same birthmark! I've never seen a pair of father and son who look so alike. All three of us don't really look like our parents. All of us have a combination of their features," Xia Wen said excitedly.

"Really?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Yes, I saw the child immediately after he was born. He really resembles his father a lot and he wails very loudly. He should be a very healthy child!" Xia Fang said.

As the family members were chatting about the newborn baby and making comparisons between him and themselves when they were babies, the nurse ran into the ward in a panic. She said as she panted, "The child... the child... the child is missing..."

"What did you say? Speak slowly," Xia Fang said.

"The child is missing!" the nurse said loudly.

"What! Why is the child missing! Didn't you send him to the nursery personally?" Xia Fang questioned.

Qiao Mei propped herself up and asked anxiously, "Where is the child? Speak clearly, where is my child? Did you put him in the nursery yourself?"

"Yes, I'm the one who put him in the nursery. After that, this person caught hold of me and said that there was a situation in the operating theater and asked me to return to the operating theater immediately. Therefore, I asked the person to take care of the baby for me. His white coat and staff pass

were issued by our hospital, so I listened to him without thinking too much. By the time I realized that something was wrong and ran back, the child was gone,” the nurse said anxiously.

“Then you should start searching immediately! Why are you still standing here!” Xu Lan shouted agitatedly.

Everyone inside the room rushed out to look for the child. Xia He stayed by

Qiao Mei’s side to comfort her. At the current moment, Qiao Mei could not be exposed to the elements nor be too worked up.

“You must calm down! The child will be fine! Eldest Brother and Mother have gone out to look for him! Don’t worry and just stay here! They’ll definitely find him!” Xia He said seriously as she pressed down on Qiao Mei’s shoulder.

Qiao Mei did not want to waste any more time. It had already been half an hour since she came back to the ward. The child was definitely not in the hospital anymore, but he was definitely still in this city. She must find him in the shortest time possible.

Such a young child was susceptible to all kinds of illnesses and diseases.

Although she had the “divine medicine”, what if she could not treat him in time? What if the child died before she could find him? She did not dare to think too much about it. She must find the child’s whereabouts as soon as possible.

“I know. Can you get me a glass of water? I’m very thirsty,” Qiao Mei said as she pretended to be calm.

There was only cold water inside the ward. Qiao Mei had only just given birth and could not drink cold water. She needed to drink warm water. Xia He picked up the glass, turned around and said to Qiao Mei, “Fine, fine, fine! I’ll go outside and get you a glass of water! You must remain calm! Wait for me to come back! Wait for me! You must wait for me!”

With that, Xia He ran out to get some water as fast as she could. Qiao Mei took the opportunity to run out of the ward with all her might. She ignored the soreness she felt all over her body and hurriedly ran to the back garden of the hospital. She found a hidden spot and squatted down.

Qiao Mei always had the habit of carrying vine seeds with her, but she did not have anything with her at the moment because of the surgery today. Without the vine seeds, how could she find any traces of the child?

It was early spring now and the plants in the garden were starting to sprout. Qiao Mei realized that there was ivy on the wall. This plant was from the same family as vines and could be used in the same way.

Qiao Mei plucked some ivy and used it to produce many seeds. She held these seeds in her palm and vigorously infused all her energy into them and planted them, letting their roots burrow deep into the ground and spread outwards quickly with the hospital as the center point. Within a short while, Qiao Mei was able to cover a radius of 10 kilometers. She began to rapidly scan through the memories of the nearby plants and finally managed to detect one particular man.

This man carried a child and ran across two streets before an accomplice drove over to pick him up. It was not a big group and there were only the two of them involved.. Qiao Mei tracked the movements of the car and finally locked onto... Tan Jings house!

Chapter 1829: Saving the Child

Qiao Mei fell on the ground suddenly. The rapid loss of energy had pushed her body to its limits. Large beads of sweat dripped down her chin. In order to avoid Xia He spotting her, she had run out still wearing the thin hospital gown. Her body temperature was now dropping rapidly and her vision was starting to blur. However, she must persevere and return to the ward. She must bring the news to Eldest Brother and Xia He.

She had never expected Tan Jing to be the one who wanted to harm her. It seemed that it was time to take revenge for all those past grudges.

Xia He had mobilized the hospital's security officers and they finally found

Qiao Mei in the back garden. Qiao Mei held Xia He's hand weakly and said,

"Tan Jing... ask Eldest Brother to go and look for Tan Jing... quick..."

"What? Let's go back to the ward first! Quick!" Xia He immediately carried Qiao Mei on her back and ran back to the ward with big strides. Qiao Mei's consciousness was starting to fade as she repeatedly whispered the name "Tan Jing" into Xia He's ear.

Xia He rushed to use the landline phone in Xia Fangs office to call Zou Mings office. She said agitatedly, "Zuo Ming, bad news! Our family's child is missing!

Please mobilize a team to do a search!"

Xia Wen and the others were all out looking for the child and they would not have time to stop and check their pagers or call home. The guard team at home must have already been mobilized by Xia Wen. The only person she could count on now was Zou Ming.

"Missing child? The children from the courtyard house? I'll send people to surround the area and do a search right now!" Zou Ming said immediately.

"No! It's Qiao Mei's third child! He was abducted from the hospital! Send your guys out in plainclothes! Don't alert the enemy! The person who abducted the child is very likely a repeat offender! The child is in Tan Jings hands! In Tan Jings new house! It's in the neighborhood next to Hai Bing Villa! The third unit on the third floor!" Xia He said.

"Alright, I'll go and save the child immediately. Don't worry." After hanging up, Zou Ming gathered his subordinates to go to Tan Jings house.

Tan Jing sat on the sofa in the room and looked coldly at the child in Hao An's arms. In order to prevent the child from crying, Hao An had specially given him a sedative so that he would not be able to wake up

for a while. As for whether this sedative would have any detrimental effects on the child, he did not care as long as he could achieve his goal.

“This is the child you want. You have to hand over the money to get the goods,” Hao An said.

“Surely you have to let me check the goods before I make payment,” Tan Jing said with a smile.

Hao An smiled mockingly and said, “We don’t have such rules. The Huang family has collaborated with us for many years and we trust each other a lot. Don’t you know the rules?”

Tan Jings expression darkened. Although she was Mrs. Huang, no one accorded her the respect that came with the title and just saw her as a poser.

“Fine... I only have 40,000 dollars here. Someone will send the rest of the money to Ah Peng after I get the child checked out,” Tan Jing said.

“Mrs. Huang, don’t go against the rules of our industry. Since you can’t fork out that much money, we’ll send the goods to Mr. Huang. We’ll only do business with whoever can pay us the full sum,” Hao An said firmly.

If Huang Quan found out about this, she would definitely get a beating! She definitely could not let Huang Quan know about it! However, she really did not have that much money on hand. All she could afford was 40,000 dollars. She had even secretly sold many pieces of You Yu’s jewelry! You Yu had so much jewelry that she probably would not notice there were some missing.

“Fine! I’ll give it to you! The money is inside the room! Go in and get it yourself. Give me the child first,” Tan Jing said.

“Don’t play any tricks!” Hao An said.

“This house is only so big. I’m a pregnant woman, so where can I run to? It’s so easy for you to capture me,” Tan Jing said frankly.

“Hmph, at least you know where you stand.” Hao An handed the child to Tan Jing and went into the room with his partner to count the money.

Just as the two sides were bargaining, Zou Ming and his team had already reached the main door. They did a quick check on the number of people in the house and roughly where they were.

Once they were sure that the child was safe, they rushed into the house. Before Hao An could even react, Zou Ming had already pressed him down on the floor. The child was carried away by Zou Mings subordinates and Tan Jing was also handcuffed.

“Move!” Zou Ming roared.

They split up into two groups. Zou Ming rushed the child back to the hospital while the rest of his team escorted the criminals back to the police station..

Chapter 1830: Settle the Score in the Future

“Quick! Someone! Save the child! The child didn’t even cry or make a fuss along the way! But he’s still breathing!” Zou Ming shouted as he ran towards the doctors.

Xia Fang was still holding on to the leftover golden ginseng juice from Qiao Mei. She quickly fed it to the child. The nurses beside her looked at her in a daze, wondering if what she did was against the rules.

“This is my grandnephew! I’ll bear the responsibility if anything happens!” Xia Fang shouted as she ran towards the ICU ward with the child. She placed him carefully into the incubator and had him hooked up to the various equipment. This was where they kept premature babies or children born with congenital illnesses. Xia Fang had never expected to see her family’s child here one day.

“My little darling, you must get better. We’re all waiting for you. You must be healthy,” Xia Fang whispered. She stood at the side and wept quietly. She looked at the tiny child whose body was hooked up to all kinds of equipment and she felt as if her heart was being stabbed by needles.

She did not know if the medicinal wine would work on the child or when he would wake up, but she was sure that he was not in any mortal danger. Qiao Mei was also unconscious at the moment. She wondered who the Xia family had offended this time. Why were all these people unwilling to let Qiao Mei and her children off?

Once Xia Wen received the news, he gathered all the guard team members and headed back. He rushed to the hospital to check on Qiao Mei and to find out what was going on.

"I don't know anything either. Qiao Mei told me that she was thirsty and she ran away while I was getting hot water. By the time I found her, she was already very weak and kept saying Tan Jings name. I couldn't find you, so I went to look for Zou Ming," Xia He said.

Xia Wen would not ask Qiao Mei why she knew the location of the child. The last time, it was also Qiao Mei who told them the approximate whereabouts of the other two children and that was how they successfully found Xia Fan and

Xia Xing in the end. The same thing had happened this time round. So long as Qiao Mei did not say anything, he would not ask her.

"Yes, you did the right thing. If you had waited for me, I'm afraid the child would be dead by now," Xia Wen said self-reproachfully.

"What exactly did they do to the child!" Xia He said angrily.

"They gave him a dose of anesthesia meant for an adult. Fortunately, the child was already very healthy even before he was born and was stronger than ordinary children, so he was able to hang on for a longer period of time. Aunt said that if it was two hours later... the child would not be able to hold on anymore..." Xia Wen said through gritted teeth.

Xia He was extremely furious by now. She punched the wall and said, "It's all my fault... If not for the fact that I'm too greedy and did not take good care of Qiao Mei because I want to go out and earn money, this might not have happened..."

“What happened was beyond anyone’s expectations. Even if you manage to keep an eye on Qiao Mei at all times, those people will come prepared and it’s impossible to guard against them. The most important thing now is to bring the perpetrators to justice, but... but I just received a call and heard that Tan Jing might be fully acquitted in the end,” Zou Ming said with a frown.

“Why? Didn’t you catch Tan Jing red-handed? Why can’t you convict her?” Xia He asked agitatedly.

“Those people took on full responsibility for the crime and even said that they were the ones who threatened Tan Jing and forced her to find them a place to stay. They say they are the perpetrators and that Tan Jing is also a victim,” Zou Ming said.

“Don’t you have any evidence?” Xia Wen asked.

“No, it was flawless. They planned everything right from the beginning. If the matter was exposed, they would just push all the blame to these two people. There’s nothing we can do,” Zou Ming said apologetically.

“It’s fine, you don’t have to blame yourself. Leave this matter to me. You just need to follow the proper procedures,” Xia Wen said darkly.

The Xia family, the Huang family and the Tan family must settle this score clearly. He would not let any of them off! These people must pay with their blood! Tan Jing must repay the pain that their family’s child had suffered thousands of times over!

At noon the next day, Qiao Mei regained consciousness. Qiao Qiang had found out about this incident and brought over all the golden ginseng juice he had at home. He fed Qiao Mei a lot and then asked Xia Fang to give the child a little more. The child’s vital signs had gradually returned to normal. “Where’s the child? Is the child alright?” Qiao Mei asked wearily..