

Fat Wife 991

Chapter 991 - 991 What Is the Basis for Not Giving It to Me

991 What Is the Basis for Not Giving It to Me

Xia He and Tan Jing stared at Qiao Mei with bated breath, waiting for her next sentence.

“I won’t rent it to your family,” Qiao Mei said firmly.

Xia He nodded in satisfaction and pursed her lips so that Tan Jing would not notice how happy she was to hear that. If Tan Jing was not there, she would be laughing her heart out and would not have to hold it in with so much difficulty.

From the start, the Tan family had been very rude to Qiao Mei. Jiang Yi went one step further and even tried to seize what they wanted by force. If Qiao Mei had not been smart enough to deflect the issue, her properties would probably have been snatched away by those wolves from the Tan family.

“Qiao Mei, do you mean you don’t intend to rent it out anymore or you don’t want to rent it to our family?” Tan Jing suppressed her anger and asked again. She still could not believe that Qiao Mei was only targeting them.

Qiao Mei repeated, “Yes, I just don’t want to rent it to your family. I recently bought two more houses and I intend to rent them out as well. But I don’t intend to rent any of them to your family, not even to your relatives.”

Tan Jing smacked the table and shouted, “Qiao Mei! Don’t go too far! My family will pay rent! Why don’t you want to rent it to us! We’re all family! Won’t you feel more at ease if you rent it to us!”

“At ease? I don’t feel at ease at all. I don’t even know if this house will still be mine in the future. It’s easier to raise the devil than to lay him. Besides, it’s hard to say if your family is made up of devils or demons. I really don’t want to invite trouble for myself. Just let me have some peace and quiet,” Qiao Mei said as she touched her stomach.

As Tan Jing looked at Qiao Mei's huge stomach, the anger inside her was like a fire that burned her heart and pierced at her nerves. All kinds of incidents from the past surfaced in her mind.

"She's an infertile hen! Can't even lay eggs! She can't even manage to get pregnant. It's such a pity since her husband is such a nice man!"

"That's right! The Xia family is such a good family and it's such a great thing to be able to climb up the social ladder. What a waste of the chance!"

"She should just get a divorce quickly! Let me marry Xia Wen and I'll bear his children! I'll give him as many as he wants!"

"..."

The neighbors' mocking laughter echoed in Tan Jing's mind, as if it was going to shatter all her remaining rationality in the next second. She wished she could make Qiao Mei's unborn babies disappear from her sight right now. Only then would Xia Wen pay attention to her again and the Xia family would treat her well. She wanted to be the only daughter-in-law of the Xia family's eldest son.

Xia He watched as Tan Jing's eyes slowly turned red and she stared intently at Qiao Mei's stomach. Xia He instinctively felt that something was wrong and quickly got up to stand in front of Qiao Mei so that she could block Tan Jing's view. She would not let any member of the Tan family hurt Qiao Mei deliberately.

She had felt regretful about not being able to protect Qiao Mei well at the hospital. If she had been quicker and sharper, Qiao Mei might not have been traumatized yesterday.

Currently, as long as there was any sign of trouble, she would be on high alert, worried that Qiao Mei would get hurt again. She would rather be overzealous in her reaction than run the risk of Qiao Mei getting injured.

"Eldest Sister-in-law, we've already told you what you want to know. You can go back," Xia He said sternly.

As Tan Jing looked at Xia He's gaze, she became even angrier. They were a family! Why were they looking at her as if they were guarding against a thief?

"Why won't you rent it to our family! Tell me! How did our family offend you! If you don't give me a reasonable explanation today, I won't leave!" Tan Jing shouted and pointed at Qiao Mei, who was behind Xia He.

Tan Jing was not to be outdone. She put her hands on her hips and said to Xia He, "What's wrong with my family! Tell me! After talking for so long, neither of you can point out any of my family's faults. You're the ones who's quibbling! Just say that you don't feel like renting it to my family! There's no need to slander my family!"

Slander? There was no need for them to do so. The Tan family was already infamous. Everyone who lived near the Tan family knew what kind of people they were. Those who knew both the Tan family and the Xia family all said that the Tan family was the Xia family's bloodsuckers and that it was amazing that the Tan family had not wiped out the Xia family after so many years! Yet now the bad guys were here to complain about being wronged.

Chapter 992 - 992 You Are a Piece of Trash

992 You Are a Piece of Trash

"Do you know how much money your family took from my father! Do you know how much money your third brother lost at the casino! I guess you still don't know how your third brother lost his little finger. He went gambling and couldn't pay off the loan sharks and his finger was chopped off by the people he offended! My eldest brother and my father spent 100,000 dollars to save him! That was all the money which my grandfather and my family had! Otherwise, why do you think the entire family couldn't even pool together 50,000 dollars when Third Aunt-in-law got into trouble," Xia He said angrily.

Tan Jing did not believe what Xia He said at all. She had never heard of these things before, so how could Tan Bao have done all these? She believed that he did not have the guts to go gambling.

However... his little finger was indeed missing. Back then, Tan Jing had also asked him about this matter. Tan Bao said that his finger had accidentally gotten caught in the machinery at work, so Tan Jing did not dwell on the issue after that.

“Since you’ve raised this topic today, I’ll tell you everything that’s on my mind. Don’t make it sound as if our Xia family has mistreated you!” Xia He brought over a chair and sat down opposite Tan Jing. She had so much to say. It would take her more than three days and three nights to list down the things that the Tan family had taken from the Xia family.

“When it comes to your second brother, third brother and those kids in your family, their issues related to work and school were all resolved by my eldest brother. Do you think that it doesn’t cost money to make use of connections? Have you ever given my eldest brother money? It’s the Xia family who paid for everything! It’s my family who used our connections to help your family settle so many things!”

“It’s my father who asked someone from the community to help with the issue of your parents’ welfare payouts. Otherwise, how do you think your parents can so easily get a monthly subsidy of 50 dollars? Does money fall from the sky?”

“Also, your family would ask my father for money every now and then. All these years, my parents have given your family a total of 60,000 dollars. This is not even including the gambling debts incurred by your third brother!”

Every word that Xia He said was like a knife stabbing at Tan Jing. The slashes completely shattered Tan Jing’s self-esteem. It appeared that Tan Jing’s supposed good family background and understanding parents were all illusions and only a part of her imagination.

In actual fact, she was not worthy of Xia Wen at all. If she had not made use of a ploy back then, Xia Wen would not have married her. Everything had been a mistake from the start and she could not blame anyone else for the current situation.

“Alright, stop talking,” Qiao Mei said as she tugged at Xia He’s sleeve.

Unexpectedly, this small action agitated Tan Jing instead. Tan Jing stood up, rushed towards Xia He and gave her a slap. Xia He was stunned. No one had ever hit her since she was young. Even when the Kong family made things difficult for her, none of them dared to touch her.

Tan Jing actually hit her!

“You dirty whore! What right do you have to talk about my family! I’ll tear up your mouth today! How dare you spout nonsense!” Tan Jing started fighting with Xia He without another word.

At this moment, Xia He also came back to her senses. She pushed Tan Jing to the ground and hit her forcefully. Tan Jing was no match for Xia He and the situation quickly changed. Tan Jing went from having the upper hand to being the one beaten up and unable to fight back at all.

“How dare you hit me! Even my parents have never hit me! Even my eldest brother can’t bear to see me being bullied! How dare you hit me!” Xia He said as she kept hitting.

“So what if I hit you! Xia He, you’re a piece of trash! You were abandoned by your husband, how can you still have the cheek to go back to your maternal family! How can you still have any say in your maternal family’s affairs!” Even when Tan Jing was in pain from the beating, she still continued to scold Xia He. She would not let go of any chance.

Qiao Mei remained at the side and did not stop the fight. What Xia He did would be considered to be self-defense. Tan Jing might become much more well-behaved in the future after getting a beating. This could also be considered them helping Xia Wen to get his family affairs in order.

It was only when Tan Jing yelled out in pain and did not have any more strength to scold Xia He that Qiao Mei spoke up, “Elder sister, stop hitting her. She’ll die.”

After Xia He stopped, she even spat on the ground. She felt really sorry for Xia Wen. He must be blind to have married someone like that! No wonder Xu Lan and Xia Mao objected to this marriage back then.

“The two of you... I definitely will not let you off...” Tan Jing lay on the ground and glared fiercely at Xia He and Qiao Mei.

Chapter 993 Not Xia Zhe's Children

Jail? Why would they go to jail? Could it be that Qiao Mei had gathered evidence about the Tan family's wrongdoings? She stayed at home every day and did not go out. How would she know anything about the Tan family's affairs?

For many years, the Tan family had always been modest people. At most, they would take advantage of other people when it came to small things, but they would not dare to steal from others. However, since

Tan Jing married Xia Wen, they had gradually become more impudent. They thought that as long as they proclaimed themselves to be part of the Xia family, everyone would have to be nice to them.

As the old saying went, the water that could bear the boat was the same that could swallow it up. They only managed to harm themselves with this grand entitlement.

"Are you trying to scare me! Everyone in my family is innocent! There are no criminals! Don't spout nonsense or I'll sue you for defamation and slandering my entire family!" Tan Jing shouted angrily.

Qiao Mei looked at Tan Jing's face and spoke slowly, "Isn't your second brother having an ambiguous relationship with a married woman outside? There's no need to talk further about your third brother, he's still gambling. Your fourth brother is an honest low-ranking official in the government, but he took the hard-earned money of the common people to indulge in debauchery. You don't know about this, right? I won't say anything about your little sister. She's a woman after all, so I won't make things difficult for her."

Every sentence was like a sharp blade at Tan Jing's throat. This was her first time hearing about all these things today. If not for Qiao Mei, Tan Jing might still be kept in the dark.

Xia He widened her eyes and stared at Qiao Mei. Could Qiao Mei be some "deity"? She seemed to know everything in the world after taking a nap.

"Qiao Mei... how did you know?" Xia He whispered agitatedly into Qiao Mei's ear.

"I'll tell you later," Qiao Mei said.

Tan Jing lay on the ground for a long time, unable to come back to her senses. Xia He went out to ask Zhang Wei to go to the public phone at the entrance of the alley to call Xia Wen and ask him to come and pick Tan Jing up. She was not going to let Tan Jing leave unscathed.

"I don't believe what you said. You accuse my family of doing things that I've never even heard about! No way! Qiao Mei, you're such a vicious woman! Xia He, look at who you're helping! Don't be blinded just because of the babies! Who knows if these babies are really Xia Zhe's children!" Tan Jing shouted as she pointed at Qiao Mei.

This time round, there was no need for Xia He to step forward to deal with Tan Jing. Qiao Mei gave Tan Jing a hard kick and the gentleness in her eyes was completely gone. Tan Jing slammed hard into a pillar in the room and it felt as if the entire room shook twice. Tan Jing lay on the ground motionlessly like a corpse.

"Xia Zhe knows very well whether they're his children or not," Qiao Mei said coldly.

Xia Wen hurriedly rushed over from his workplace. When he entered and saw Tan Jing lying on the ground, his heart ached for her. However, he still understood the situation. If Tan Jing had not wanted to attack Qiao Mei, they would not have treated Tan Jing like this. Tan Jing deserved what she got.

"Eldest brother, this matter has got nothing to do with Qiao Mei. I was the one who beat her up. If you're angry, just come at me," Xia He said as she stood up.

Xia Wen looked at Xia He's swollen cheek and already roughly knew what had happened. He just thought that Tan Jing was trying to split hairs and could not figure out some things. However, he did not expect Tan Jing to take the initiative to provoke Qiao Mei and even wanted to hurt Qiao Mei.

He had let down Xia Zhe and his parents and even more so, he was unable to face Qiao Mei. The old senior Qiao was his family's great benefactor, but his wife had almost threatened Qiao Mei's life and ruined Qiao Mei's peaceful life in the capital. Everyone said that it was Qiao Mei's great fortune to have married Xia Zhe. In fact, it was the Xia family's good fortune to have a daughter-in-law like Qiao Mei. They had really let the Qiao family down.

"Qiao Mei... This whole thing is my fault. I'll go back and teach her a lesson now. I'll come and apologize to you after I'm done," Xia Wen said guiltily.

"Eldest brother, we're all family, but if we continue to indulge the Tan family, things won't be as simple as what happened today," Qiao Mei said sternly.

Xia Wen understood what Qiao Mei meant and nodded silently before turning around to carry Tan Jing home.

Chapter 994 A Female Star's Face

Before getting into the car, Tan Jing still clung tightly to Xia Wen's car door and shouted at Qiao Mei, "I won't let the two of you off! Qiao Mei! It's not over between us!"

After the car left, Qiao Mei's house was finally quiet. No one had expected Tan Jing to go so crazy to the extent that even the school did not want her to go back to work. It seemed that the Tan family had put a lot of pressure on her, causing her to become mentally unstable. She was not like this in the past.

Or perhaps Tan Jing's usual behavior was just an act that she put on for them and what she showed today was her real self.

Qiao Mei returned to her room and took out the medicine box. Her medicine box was different from what others had. It was filled with ginseng of different ages and the different types of ginseng juice extracted from them. It would not be an exaggeration to say that this box was worth five million dollars.

"Come, let me treat your face. Our female star's face is very precious!" Qiao Mei teased.

"Now that you put it this way, I'm getting angry again. I'm someone who depends on my face to make a living! She actually just came up and slapped my face! How does Xia Wen discipline his wife? I'll go back to grandfather's place now and show him how my face has been slapped! I'll get grandfather to back me up!" Xia He pouted and said aggrievedly.

The eldest son of the Xia family only had one daughter. Among the other grandchildren in the family, none of the girls joined the military, only Xia He. Moreover, she was beautiful and was good with flattery. Xia Jun doted on Xia He the most. Even if Xia He wanted all kinds of rare and precious items in the world right now, Xia Jun would think of ways to fulfill her wish.

However, it was better not to let Xia Jun worry about such small matters. It was just a quarrel between the sisters-in-law at home. It was not a big deal and it would not be good to make the family elder angry. The Xia family placed great importance on anything that was related to Qiao Mei, and no matter was too small for them. Even if Qiao Mei wanted to eat tofu, it was also a big deal.

"Do you mean you want grandfather to scold eldest brother? Is eldest brother not nice to you usually? For his sake, let's just let this matter rest. In a few days, he will definitely give us an explanation after he has dealt with it. Don't be angry anymore. Come over here quickly and I'll apply some medicine for you. If you're still disobedient, then I won't apply it for you. It's not my fault if you get disfigured!" Qiao Mei said.

Xia He quickly sat down obediently beside Qiao Mei and closed her eyes as she waited for Qiao Mei to treat her injury. Qiao Mei put three drops of 100-year-old ginseng juice into some water, soaked the towel and applied it slowly to Xia He's face.

The ginseng juice slowly seeped into Xia He's skin. Her previously swollen and painful cheek now felt very comfortable and cool, and she hummed a tune out of enjoyment.

Qiao Mei had realized that this ginseng juice had the effect of improving one's complexion. Earlier, when Zhang Miao went to the hospital for a checkup, the doctor said that she was almost fully recovered. However, Qiao Mei was still worried, so she continued to apply the ginseng juice to the young girl a few more times. She then realized that her own hands were also becoming more and more firm and fair, like hard boiled eggs that had just been shelled.

"By the way, you still haven't told me how you found out about the evidence against the Tan family. Don't tell me you're running some secret organization?" Xia He asked.

"As if I have that ability. It's just that He Ning found out about Jiang Yi coming to cause trouble the last time. He asked someone to send me the information as a favor to me," Qiao Mei said.

"He Ning is actually so kind? It's really unexpected," Xia He said disdainfully.

Qiao Mei nodded. After she knew about the grudges between the Xia family and the He family, she rarely interacted with the He family anymore. However, it was still a good choice to let the He family work for the Xia family. In the future, if she wanted to continue doing business in the capital, she would have to interact with the He family. She knew very well that harmony was the bearer of wealth.

Xia Jun had also discussed with her about how she could deal with matters related to the He family. Xia Jun said that as long as the He family did not hurt the Xia family's interests again or hurt any members of the Xia family, then they would not target the He family too.

"Looks like I can't go out for the time being. I'll just stay at home obediently," Xia He said with a frown.

Liu Fen found two capable helpers for Qiao Mei. They were both good friends of the Xia family's current helper. They had been in this line of work for more than 10 years and had worked for many rich families. They were both very competent and no one could find any fault with them.

Qiao Mei briefly explained what she needed them to take note of, as well as the usual dietary habits and activity hours of all the people living in the house.

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Chapter 995 - 995 Body Search

995 Body Search

Qiao Yu was still in dire straits. Every day, not only did she have to serve Su Liang, but she also had to go out to buy groceries. At first, Su Liang was very generous, but as it approached the end of the month, he gave her less and less money and yet he wanted to have meat for every meal. If Qiao Yu did not buy meat, she would get scolded when she returned home.

Did he think she had magical powers? It was as if she could conjure up whatever she wanted.

At night, Su Liang would happily go to Qiao Yu's house to wait for dinner. His current lifestyle was what he had always dreamed of. He did not have to endure Old Madam Fan's nagging and Su Yang's noisiness, and he also had money every day without having to work. Once he went home, there was even hot food on the table. Most importantly, there was also a beautiful young lady waiting for him to go home.

Such days were really too blissful!

However, as soon as Qiao Yu brought out the food, Su Liang was very dissatisfied. For a few days in a row, Qiao Yu had only made one dish, and it was always a stew. The dish was tasteless and she did not seem to know how to cook something else.

“Why is there so little meat today! Didn’t I give you meat coupons!” Su Liang said unhappily.

Qiao Yu looked at Su Liang aggrievedly and said, “I don’t have any! The money and coupons you gave me are only enough to buy so much!”

“Do you take me for a fool! My mother can buy a lot of things with those coupons, but you only manage to make this vegetable dish! Tell me! Did you pocket everything!” Su Liang shouted as he pointed at Qiao Yu.

“I didn’t pocket anything. There’s really only so much. What’s the use of me pocketing these things!” Qiao Yu said aggrievedly.

The amount of food that Su Liang gave her was not even enough for her to eat on her own, so why would she want to pocket any? Before having to run a household, she really did not know how expensive things like firewood, rice, oil and salt were. Old Madam Fan had so much stuff because half of what she had were a result of her snatching them shamelessly from others. Was she supposed to go out and snatch things too?

Su Liang did not believe what Qiao Yu said and went forward to rummage through her pockets. Just as the two of them were struggling with each other, the buttons on Qiao Yu’s shirt popped open. Qiao Yu was so frightened that she quickly covered her chest and ran out crying. Su Liang did not even know what had happened.

“B*tch! You still know how to run away! If you have the guts, then don’t come back! You can freeze to death outside! I hope you starve to death!” Su Liang muttered to himself.

Even if Qiao Yu was not around, Su Liang would still finish all the food. It would be a waste not to eat the food that he paid for.

Qiao Yu was not even wearing a cotton-padded jacket. Everyone watched her run down the street with disheveled hair and clothes. Many people were curious about what she had experienced.

“Isn’t that... Su Yang’s girlfriend?” an elderly female neighbor said hesitantly.

“That’s her! Why is she running out in the middle of the night? Where is she going?” Another female neighbor looked curiously in the direction Qiao Yu had left.

“Forget it, forget it. Let’s go back. It’s the Su family’s affair so let’s pretend that we didn’t see anything. Otherwise, Old Madam Fan will come and cause trouble again.” Everyone returned home and closed their house doors tightly, worried that they would be implicated.

Qiao Yu only stopped when she reached Qiao Mei’s main door. She confirmed the location repeatedly by checking the mark she had left at the corner of the wall.

“Open the door!!! Open the door! Help!” Qiao Yu shouted as she banged on the door frantically.

Everyone in Qiao Mei’s family usually rested very early and everyone had long gone to bed. When the deafening knocks on the main door sounded, Xia He impatiently put on her cotton-padded jacket and went to the door to listen carefully to the voice outside. She found it to be quite familiar.

“I’m looking for Li Gui! I’m her younger sister! Open the door quickly and let me in!” Qiao Yu shouted.

Xia He gently opened the door a crack and Qiao Yu rushed in without another word. Xia He was caught off guard and got knocked into a pillar, waking everyone up.

Qiao Mei arrived at the courtyard in a daze. Before she could regain her senses, she saw Qiao Yu barging around the courtyard in a disheveled state like a headless fly, as if she was looking for something.

“What are you doing here? How did you end up like this?” Qiao Mei asked disdainfully.

Tears streamed down Qiao Yu's face. Her entire face was red from the cold and she was trembling non-stop. She looked like a battered and exhausted stray dog which was wandering the streets in winter.

"I want to look for my sister-in-law! Get my sister-in-law here!" Qiao Yu said tearfully.

Qiao Mei took pity on her, so she asked Xia He to bring Qiao Yu to the main hall to warm up while she went to put on something thicker.

Chapter 996 Been Taken Advantage Of

Even though the bangle could change the temperature around Qiao Mei, she still felt more at ease wearing a thick cotton-padded jacket. Qiao Mei did not want to be careless at all. The babies' safety was the most important thing to her. The closer she got to her due date, the more she had to be particularly careful.

Qiao Yu knelt at the side of the heater to warm her hands. Xia He leaned against the chair at the side and nodded off. Bad things always came one after another and would not give people a chance to catch their breaths.

She had not rested well for the past two days. Dealing with these things felt even more tiring than going to work! There were either people who wanted to attack Qiao Mei or all kinds of people who came to her house to argue with her. It seemed that being too rich was not a good thing. There were always people who used all kinds of reasons to ask for money.

Qiao Mei walked out of the bedroom and sat on the main seat. "Tell me how you found this place."

"What did you say?" Qiao Yu asked in a state of shock.

How could Qiao Mei not ask about her injury and situation immediately? She was indeed a cold-blooded person who did not even care about kinship.

"I said how do you know where my house is? Shouldn't you be sleeping in the factory's dormitory now? Are your ears too frozen to hear anything? I'll only say things once. Don't make me say things a second time," Qiao Mei asked with a smile. However, it was a treacherous smile filled with murderous intent.

At the mention of her job at the factory, Qiao Yu immediately perked up. She hurriedly pointed at Qiao Mei and questioned, "Don't be so hypocritical here! My job at the factory is long gone. Do you dare to say that it's not your doing!"

"So what if it's me and so what if it's not me? Everyone knows how you came to the capital. Do you need me to call my second grandpa and tell him?" Qiao Mei curled her lips and said with a smile.

At the mention of Qiao Zhuang, Qiao Yu fell silent. Compared to those days in the village, it was still better to stay in the capital.

"I told you, I don't want to repeat myself. Either you tell me quickly or get lost from my house," Qiao Mei said with narrowed eyes.

Xia He was dozing off at the side when she suddenly thought of the matter of her bumping into a ghost in the morning. Could it be that the sneaky person was Qiao Yu? Looking at her figure and the color of her clothes, there were quite a few similarities.

"Mei Mei! Don't tell me she's the 'ghost' from daytime! Let me take a closer look... It must be you! I can't be wrong!" Xia He shouted as she pointed at Qiao Yu.

Just as Qiao Yu was finding it hard to defend herself, Li Gui suddenly walked in from outside the door. The commotion just now had also woken up the four children in the backyard. Li Gui asked Zhang Qin to accompany Zhang Miao to sleep and rushed over once she had settled the children down.

When Qiao Yu saw Li Gui, it was as if she had seen her savior. She crawled over and hugged Li Gui's leg without letting go, crying and asking Li Gui to stand up for her.

"What's wrong with you? Get up to talk and say whatever you want to say slowly. Don't be anxious," Li Gui said gently.

After Li Gui helped Qiao Yu up, Qiao Yu was about to sit on the stool beside Li Gui when Qiao Mei deliberately coughed twice. It scared Qiao Yu so much that she quickly stood to the side.

"Can you not make us ask you question by question? It's like pulling teeth! It's so late at night and we don't have time to waste with you," Xia He said impatiently.

"I... I was... Su Liang took advantage of me!" Qiao Yu covered her face and cried.

The three women exchanged glances. How did Qiao Yu get involved with Su Liang as well? Could it be that Su Liang had the guts to do such a thing in the capital? Did he have a death wish?

"Are you sure what you say is true? Do you know the meaning of being taken advantage of?" Xia He asked in puzzlement.

Qiao Yu should still be a virgin. If someone had touched her hand or hugged her waist, that would at most constitute harassment. The man would not be charged even if she reported it to the police. He would be released after paying a fine and being criticized and reeducated for a few days. However, if she was raped, then the process would be completely different.

"I! Of course I know! He really took advantage of me!" Qiao Yu said.

There were only two rooms in her house back in the village. Other than Qiao Wang and Wang Qin who went out to live on their own, the rest of her brothers all had to live together in the same space in Qiao Zhuang's house. Qiao Yu slept in the same area as them and they did not bother to hide whatever they did. The first few times, Qiao Yu did not really understand what they were doing, but she understood after a while.

Chapter 997 Threatening Each Other

"Then why do you come to look for us? What has this got to do with us?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Li Gui is my sister-in-law! For the sake of my Brother Qiao Yue, you have to help me! I don't have any other relatives in the capital, only you! Sister-in-law, you have to stand up for me!" Qiao Yu cried.

At the mention of Qiao Yue, Li Gui lowered her head silently. The people she had let down the most in her life were Qiao Mei and Qiao Yue. Not long after Qiao Yue died, Old Madam Li forced Li Gui to remarry, saying that she would starve Qiao Mei to death otherwise.

At that time, Li Gui had no choice but to break her oath with Qiao Yue. At the end of the day, Qiao Yu was still Qiao Yue's relative, which meant that Li Gui was Qiao Yu's elder. It was understandable that Qiao Yu wanted to get her elders to back her up on such matters.

Seeing that Li Gui's attitude was gradually softening, Qiao Yu took advantage of the situation and said, "Now that I have been taken advantage of and was bullied for no reason, how am I going to get married in the future!"

"How do you know Su Liang? How did you meet him? How did you find my house? You're wearing so little, so you should live nearby, right?" Qiao Mei asked.

Qiao Yu did not dare to answer these questions, nor did she want to face Qiao Mei. Qiao Mei always gave Qiao Yu the feeling that she could see through people's hearts. Even if Qiao Yu did not say anything, Qiao Mei would be able to guess it quite accurately. Li Gui was not so smart and was very soft-hearted. It would be easiest to ask Li Gui for help.

"I'd advise you not to have any ulterior motives. I'm in charge here. Without my permission, you won't be able to get anything you want," Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Yu gritted her teeth and looked at Qiao Mei. She spoke slowly, "Su Yang and I were colleagues. After I was fired from the factory and I had nowhere else to go, I went to seek refuge with Su Yang. Su Yang arranged a place for me to stay near here. I didn't expect Su Liang to find out where I live now and then he... touched me..."

"Then what's your relationship with Su Yang?" Xia He asked curiously.

Qiao Yu quickly denied anything. "There's no relationship between us! We're just colleagues! Other than this, there's nothing else!"

"You'd better tell us the truth. There are some things that we can find out just by asking around. There's no point in lying to us here," Qiao Mei said.

"It's... it's that he likes me very much, but I really don't like him! I only treat him as a friend!" Qiao Yu said agitatedly.

Xia He could not help but burst out laughing. They all knew about the matter between Su Yang and Qiao Yu. Back then, there was a dramatic scene at the entrance of the district where the Xia family's house was located. Xia Wen had told her about it and almost reenacted the entire scene. She was not laughing at Qiao Yu's attitude, but at the fact that Su Yang liked Qiao Yu so much but only got such an answer from Qiao Yu in return. He was really quite pitiful.

"Then why did you open the door for a stranger and let him into your house?" Qiao Mei asked.

"Because... because I don't have any money now. Su Yang was the only one helping me. Su Liang used Su Yang's name to trick me into opening the door. He said that he had something that Su Yang wanted to give me, so I believed what he said," Qiao Yu said aggrievedly.

Qiao Mei connected everything that Qiao Yu said together. There were still many suspicious parts that did not match the information they had. Besides, this matter had nothing to do with her family at all, so there was no need for them to help Qiao Yu.

"You should go to the police. The police will help you," Qiao Mei said objectively.

"No! If I go to the police and everyone knows that I've been defiled by Su Liang, then how can I marry into a good family in the future? Absolutely not! Are you trying to ruin me!" Qiao Yu shouted.

"But we have no reason to help you. All these years, we both know very well what you've done to me. Is there any form of relationship between us?" Qiao Mei said disdainfully.

Seeing that Qiao Mei was very stubborn, Qiao Yu looked at her with a strange expression and said with a smile, "Don't behave like you're so innocent. I know that Li Gui is running a big business now. Although she doesn't go out to sell her goods on her own now, those people who are helping her aren't that capable. If I file a report against all of them, can your Xia family protect so many people?"

Qiao Mei frowned slightly. It was beyond her expectations for Qiao Yu to know about this matter. She did not want to cause trouble for Xia Wen at this time, in case it caused both Xia Wen's work and family to be a mess.

Chapter 998 - 998 I Want Your House

998 I Want Your House

"Since you have already made your way here, you must have already decided on what you want," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

"That's right, I want to get back everything I lost! You must let me continue working in the factory and I don't just want my previous position. I want to go back and be the team leader of the workshop! I also want... also want your house! I want you to give me a house that's as big as yours!" Qiao Yu said agitatedly.

Xia He sneered mockingly. She did not expect Qiao Yu to ask for so much. This was simply daylight robbery.

"What makes you think that I have many houses? This house belongs to the Xia family and it has nothing to do with me at all," Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Yu was not a fool. After living in this area for so many days, it was not as if she did not know how to go around and find out more information. On the surface, Qiao Mei seemed so aloof and detached. Therefore, every family around here was curious about the kind of extraordinary ability Qiao Mei had for her to be able to live in such a big house as soon as she arrived, and even be able to buy over the Cao family's part of the house.

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Li Gui's booming business had also made everyone envious, but from time to time, Qiao Mei would give the neighbors a lot of delicious food. She would always include them whenever there was anything nice. After all, to receive a favor was to sell one's liberty. Moreover, the neighbors also felt that if their children could become good friends with Zhang Wei and the other kids, they would have a bright future ahead!

Of course, they knew how to weigh the pros and cons. They were definitely on Qiao Mei's side.

However, it was inevitable that they would still discuss the issue in private. After Qiao Yu found out that Qiao Mei lived here, she only had to ask around casually and she was able to find out a lot of information about Qiao Mei. She knew that Qiao Mei definitely had more than one property. Qiao Mei owned four houses in total! All the houses were big and spacious.

Since Qiao Mei could live in such a luxurious house, then she could definitely do the same! Qiao Mei owed her all this! Given that they both came from the same village, why was it only Qiao Mei who was living a good life? She must ask for everything that was due to her today.

"Don't think that I'm a fool. I know everything. I just want the part of the house behind your house! Are you going to give it to me or not!" Qiao Yu said.

"Do you know how much such a big house costs?" Xia He asked.

Qiao Yu looked at them smugly and said, "If it's not worth anything, why would I ask you for it?"

"You have to know that not everything is yours. If I'm willing to give it to you, it's only because I pity you. At most, we'll just stop running our current business. It's not like the Xia family can't afford to support me. What about you? What do you have to pit against me and wear me down? Without this business, I can still do other things. There's no loss to me at all. Can you afford to wait while it drags on?" Qiao Mei said.

She could do a roaring business simply by selling ginseng. Moreover, Li Gui had a lot of cash in hand now and it would not be a problem for her to support her family for more than a year. In a year's time, the economy would be fully open and there would no longer be any problem doing any type of business. Even if she wanted to do business overseas, no one would stop her.

Qiao Yu was still too inexperienced to be able to threaten her. She was already being very nice to Qiao Yu if she gave her a job.

“Qiao Mei, don’t go too far! If I go back to the village and say that you’ve become rich in the capital and no longer care about the lives of the villagers, see if anyone in the village is willing to work for you anymore!” Qiao Yu shouted.

Qiao Mei had always intended to go into the business of selling seeds in the capital. What she was depending on was the large piece of land in Foshan Village and that mountain in their backyard. The ginseng from the area had already become well-known. If she found a random mountain near the capital to grow ginseng, it would not be easy to cover up the truth if anything should happen in the future.

Although Qiao Mei believed that those people in the village would definitely not betray her after listening to Qiao Yu’s casual chatter, the fact was that gossip was a scary thing. If she stayed in the capital for too long, people would start believing the lies.

“I can help you with the job, but it’s impossible to get the house,” Qiao Mei said sternly.

Qiao Yu considered it through and felt that it was something she could agree with. At the very least, she had solved the problem of her survival now. There was no urgency with the issue about the house. As long as she was able to stay in the capital, she could keep coming to Qiao Mei to ask for the house. One day, Qiao Mei would give in.

Chapter 999 - 999 One Person Doing the Work of Eight

999 One Person Doing the Work of Eight

“Isn’t there an empty room in this house? Why can’t I stay here?” Qiao Yu said unhappily.

Xia He shouted angrily, “Why do you have so many requests! Why don’t I just send you to the police station to sleep! It’s easier for you and we’ll also have some peace!”

Qiao Yu silently shut her mouth. She realized that although Qiao Mei had a ruthless way of doing things, Qiao Mei still had a good temper and did not go around scolding people. Xia He was different. Her feelings were all over her face. Whoever made her unhappy would not have an easy time.

Xia He followed behind Qiao Yu silently and gave her instructions on where to go. Xia Zhe was the one who taught her this method. Xia He did this to ensure that Qiao Yu did not escape when she was not

paying attention. In this manner, Qiao Yu would be right under Xia He's nose and she would not be able to escape even if she wanted to.

They did not go through the back door of the courtyard. Instead, they made a long detour to reach Li Gui's house. This was to prevent Qiao Yu from figuring out the shortcuts around Qiao Mei's house.

"You can go in. Don't touch anything inside. If you break anything, you won't be able to afford it," Xia He said.

Actually, there were not many valuable items left in the house. It would not matter even if there was a fire. When Xia Wen renovated the house, he had changed all the bricks and tiles to new ones. Moreover, the new materials were resistant to high temperatures and would not be easily destroyed or burned.

Qiao Yu did not even hear what Xia He was saying at all. She only had eyes for Li Gui's house, which was far superior to the place she used to live in. This was not just a place for humans to live. This was clearly a place where one could live like an immortal.

Xia He wanted to ignore Qiao Yu as well. She found it disgusting to have to talk to such a person. Earlier, Xia He had already made a phone call back home to the Xia family and asked for more people to come over to protect Qiao Mei's safety. At the same time, it would also make it easier for Qiao Mei to handle this matter.

Li Gui lowered her head and sat on the chair in a daze. She was still a little soft-hearted when it came to Qiao Yu. In the past, when Qiao Yue was still alive, Qiao Yu often went to their house to play. She was obedient and cute and very likable. After Qiao Yu grew up, Qiao Zhuang always asked her to do all kinds of tiring and heavy work. Qiao Yue did not agree with Qiao Zhuang's actions and often helped Qiao Yu out in secret.

Qiao Yu was not an ungrateful child. When she went to the mountains to chop firewood, she would always bring a portion for Qiao Yue's family. When she went to the river to catch fish, she would also give them the largest one.

Qiao Yu seemed to have become a different person by now. She still looked the same as when she was young, but her heart had changed too much.

“Qiao Mei... are we really going to ignore Qiao Yu?” Li Gui asked softly.

“Am I supposed to care about her? Mom, have you forgotten how she came to the capital? Have you forgotten how she bullied me when I was young?” Qiao Mei questioned.

Li Gui came to her senses with a start. It was best if she did not interfere in this matter. Qiao Mei would take care of everything. As for Qiao Yue... His spirit in heaven would probably understand her actions. Things had changed and Qiao Yu was no longer the kind child from back then.

“Mei Mei, it’s all settled at Qiao Yu’s end and she’s locked up in the house. There are two people guarding the door and there won’t be any problems,” Xia He said as she walked in with a yawn.

Qiao Mei called over two guards and asked them to immediately go to both the Su family’s house and the place where Qiao Yu lived to look for Su Liang and then bring him somewhere for a secret interrogation. She still did not believe what Qiao Yu said. If Su Liang had coerced her into doing something, there was no way she could have traveled so far to reach their house.

Perhaps Qiao Yu was only putting up a show in order to cheat her of her house, or perhaps it was a new trick which the Su family came up with to take revenge on her family.

“Elder sister, is there any news from the prison? Did Officer Zou tell us about any new developments?” Qiao Mei asked.

It seemed that he had not contacted them... There had been too many things happening recently and Xia He could not remember if anyone had given her any information. Every day, she had to take care of the family’s daily needs, protect Qiao Mei’s safety and help Qiao Mei to send letters and messages. She was one person handling the work of eight people and she could barely cope.

“Oh right! Zou Ming didn’t tell us anything about the case, but he sent someone to say that Su Yang and Old Madam Fan would be released in around three days’ time,” Xia He said agitatedly.

Chapter 1000 - 1000 Kidnapped and Taken Away

1000 Kidnapped and Taken Away

The police station had tried to contact Su Liang many times, but he either hung up the phone or scolded them. When they wanted to go to the house to talk to him, he would always have all kinds of reasons not to be at home.

The police had no choice but to call the Su family's daughter to see if the other children had time to come back and bail out Old Madam Fan. After this matter was dealt with, they would then be able to discuss the subject of mediation with Sun Juan and the other victims.

"Let's leave it like this for now. I'll leave Su Liang's matter to the guards. They know how far they can go. We can talk about the other things later. There's no need to send food to Qiao Yu tomorrow. There's food in that house. Let her cook for herself," Qiao Mei said tiredly.

Li Gui and Xia He left the main hall together. However, Xia He turned back after walking halfway through and hesitated, not knowing what to say to Qiao Mei.

"If you have something to say, just say it quickly. Why are you being so awkward?" Qiao Mei said.

"It's just that... should we tell eldest brother about this matter? I think it will be faster to let eldest brother handle this matter," Xia He lowered her head and muttered softly.

They did not know the situation with Xia Wen and Tan Jing now. Would they be causing him more trouble if they called him now?

Qiao Mei shook her head and said, "Let's not tell him about it for now. We'll talk to eldest brother after hearing the results of Su Liang's interrogation session."

After confirming that everything was settled, they all went back to sleep. The process of capturing Su Liang went very smoothly. Before the guards even needed to enter the house, Su Liang walked out on his own unsteadily, clearly having had some drinks.

"Who... who are you? Get out of my way! Don't block me!" Su Liang said fiercely as he slapped the shoulder of the guard team leader, Luo Yu.

Without another word, Luo Yu pressed Su Liang to the ground, tied his hands together, put a sack over his head and brought him away. Their car was just parked outside and he pushed Su Liang into it before driving all the way to a small tiled house in the suburbs. This was a place that the guards had always used to do their work.

Not only did they have to protect the Xia family, but they also did odd jobs for the government and also helped the criminal police division with investigation cases. As Xia He described, "The guard team is like a brick that can be moved to wherever it is needed."

Of course, the salary and benefits of the guards in this team were much higher than those in ordinary positions. The government would pay for a part of their allowance and salary, and the rest was the monthly subsidy that the family under protection would give to the guards. Based on the rules, they had to be paid at least 20 dollars per person and the amount would also be reimbursed by the army.

In other words, the average salary of an ordinary member of the guard team was about 170 dollars a month, which was enough to support his entire family. However, this job was very risky and had very little rest time. There were pros and cons to the job.

When they reached the place, Luo Yu untied Su Liang's hands and kicked him into a corner. Su Liang curled up in fear and lay trembling on the ground. He did not even dare to take off the sack over his head. He did not know where he was at all and also did not even know who had tied him up. He had been dizzy from drinking just now, but his head was feeling much clearer now.

"Hey, do you know who you've offended?" Luo Yu sat down on the stool and asked domineeringly.

Su Liang shook his head in fear and said, "Big brother! No, no, no! Hero! Please spare my life! I really haven't done anything. I'm just an ordinary person. I usually only like to look at women and whatnot. I really haven't done anything illegal! Please spare me!"

Su Liang was still wearing the sack over his head, so he could not see what was going on in the room at all. He quickly knelt down and kowtowed to the front. Luo Yu was actually behind him on his right. Everyone in the room laughed out loud when they saw how stupid Su Liang looked. Some people even wanted to go forward and tease Su Liang, but they were stopped by Luo Yu.

"If you really didn't do anything bad, then why would I come looking for you? Think about what you did tonight," Luo Yu said.

"I... Qiao Yu and I had dinner at home... I didn't do anything!" Su Liang said fearfully.

The colleagues from the guard team, who were behind Luo Yu, gave him a thumbs up. They were in awe of the team leader. He acted the part of a hooligan so well. Even his tone of voice was on point.