

Folly 117

Chapter 117: So Embarrassing

The dinner was filled with heavy hearts, and Mu Shuangshuang tried several times to lighten the mood, but it was all in vain.

Mu Dashan and Yu Si Niang's spirits were still somewhat downcast, leaving Shuangshuang helpless to do anything but give up.

She didn't wish for much, only that the words she'd spoken today would open her parents' eyes to her aunt's true nature.

After dinner, Yu Si Niang tidied up the kitchen while Mu Dashan moved the tables and chairs back to the main room.

Then, they each took a quick wash with flowing water in Old Mu Family's outhouse, emerging covered with mosquito bites head to toe.

Summer was like that; when you took a bath or went for a walk, mosquitos swarmed like rain, biting you whenever they could.

Mu Shuangshuang used a bit of cleverness to hang an old cloth in her room, creating a private partition for a bathing area, and avoided getting her head full of mosquito bites.

After bathing, Mu Shuangshuang didn't go to sleep. Instead, she worked on the remaining pigskin pouch; once Yuanbao's pouch was done, she could send it along with Lu Yuanfeng's.

Staying up until midnight, when everyone was deeply asleep, Mu Shuangshuang quietly took an axe she'd stolen from the Old Mu Family's storage room to the outhouse.

In the outhouse, as soon as she lifted the curtain, the buzzing of mosquitos drowned everything out.

She rushed to the outhouse, taking advantage of the groggy mosquitos, and removed the wooden board covering the outhouse pit.

The outhouse was a communal space for the Old Mu Family, where all their business was taken care of in that little area.

In ancient times, without artificial fertilizers like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, crops relied on the natural manure made from the excrement of the ten-plus members of the Old Mu Family.

Manure, even in the old days, was valuable. Cow dung could be dried and used as fuel, pig dung could be fermented into fertilizer, and for night soil in town, people had to queue up and pay silver to get it.

The revenge on Mrs. Jin had to start with the toilet.

With a series of snaps and cracks, Mu Shuangshuang cut half of the outhouse's wooden board, just waiting for either Mrs. Jin or Mrs. Lin to step on it first tomorrow and fall into the pit.

Based on Shuangshuang's days of observation, both had a habit of relieving themselves early in the morning, so whoever stepped first would be greeted by a stinky pitfall.

With that anticipation, Mu Shuangshuang went to sleep.

Early the next morning, she was awakened by a burst of cries.

Mrs. Jin was yelling from the outhouse of the Old Mu Family, and her cries quickly brought everyone running, including Mrs. Lin, who was waiting outside for Mrs. Jin to finish up.

Mrs. Lin, protecting her own rear end, suddenly lifted the outhouse curtain.

"Sister-in-law, why are you yelling for no reason, hogging the pit early in the morning..."

Mrs. Lin froze. She found Mrs. Jin had toppled into the Old Mu Family's pit, struggling, covered in excrement from head to toe.

The worst part was, Mrs. Jin's pants hadn't been pulled up, her pale bottom glaring in Mrs. Lin's line of sight.

"What's going on, making such a fuss early in the morning? Is someone dead or what?"

Old Mrs. Mu, with sleepy eyes, grumbled at Mrs. Lin, who then, with a quick flick of her own eyes, yanked the curtain of the outhouse right off.

Mrs. Jin's miserable state was completely exposed to everyone.

"Oh dear, what's this..." Mu Dazhong took one look and immediately turned away.

"Sister-in-law, what are you doing in the pit, making fertilizer?" Mu Danian squinted, constantly peeking at Mrs. Jin in the pit.

Indeed, it was pale. The butt of a woman who hadn't worked a day was just like that, pale, unlike Chen Hong's, which was likely ruined by overuse by men, blackened.

Mu Danian stared unblinkingly at Mrs. Jin's rear end, almost drooling.

Mrs. Jin cried out even louder.

"Don't look... Don't you all look..." Mrs. Jin sobbed painfully.

It was over, all over; the image she'd painstakingly built was gone!

She had just come out for a quick relief because of an upset stomach, yet the outhouse board had to break then...

Old Mrs. Mu's face turned from red to white to black.

Never in her life had she felt so humiliated; her eldest daughter-in-law, the pride of the family, ended up caught in a pit without her pants. If word got out, what would happen to her son Da De?

"You fool of a woman, get your clothes on and climb out, go change into something clean; you stink! And all of you, go back to your rooms, what are you gawking at!"

"Mom, I'd like to go too, but my stomach's not behaving; I need to go..." Mu Danian shamelessly said.

"Hold it in, or worse, do it in your clothes! Don't think I don't know what you're up to, you little scoundrel."

Old Mrs. Mu gave a powerful kick to Mu Danian, sending him rolling to the ground, then he sheepishly scuttled back to his room.

Accomplice Mrs. Lin stepped back a few spaces and dragged Mu Dazhong to their own room, afraid her husband might see something and develop an eye sore.

In no time, there wasn't a man left at the northeast corner's outhouse.

Mrs. Jin tried several times to climb out but couldn't, until finally, Shuangshuang's fourth aunt couldn't bear it anymore and helped pull her out from the pit.

Embarrassed and furious, Mrs. Jin ran back to change clothes, and the rest, seeing there was no more spectacle to watch, returned to their rooms.

Once everyone was gone, Mu Shuangshuang held her stomach, rolling on the ground.

"Hahaha..."

It was too hilarious, that ridiculous look on Mrs. Jin; let's see if she dares to mess with people anymore. Consider this her lesson.

"Shuangshuang, what do you think made your aunt fall into the pit?" Yu Si Niang pondered aloud. Luckily, it was just the Old Mu Family; if there were outsiders, Mrs. Jin's reputation would be in tatters.

"Blame Second Aunt; she and Second Uncle are the ones who frequent the pit the most. With Second Uncle's weight, it's no surprise the board gave way.

Mom, don't worry about it; with just family here, no one would be foolish enough to speak ill of Aunt, embarrassing Uncle."

Mu Dade is the linchpin of the family. Everyone's watching his progression; no one would dare undermine him.

After all, being the official's wife and official is something all those people are eagerly watching.

"Mom's not worried about her, just feeling thankful. Originally, I planned to go too, but your Aunt and Second Aunt went first, so I didn't get the chance."

"..."

Just thinking about it gave Mu Shuangshuang pause. What if Mrs. Jin and Mrs. Lin hadn't gone to the pit, might she have hurt her own family?

It seems like things learned from observation aren't always reliable; she'd have to be more careful in the future.

"Mom, when are you heading into town? I need to go today too."

"Well, that's great; we'll go together and chat along the way."

"Someone else is coming with us too."

"Who?" Yu Si Niang asked.

"Lu Yuanfeng!"