

Folly 54

Chapter 54: Creating Wealth Together

"Really?" Little Zhi heard Mu Shuangshuang's words, and his eyes, as big as grapes, widened as he looked at Mu Shuangshuang, filled with surprise and curiosity.

"When has your sister ever lied to you?"

"But there's nothing in your basket, sister." Little Zhi pouted, sniffing his nose hard, clearly still a bit skeptical.

"Haha, don't you know your sister can perform spells? Do you know about spells? They're something only immortals can do, and with them, sister can conjure up delicious things!"

For some reason, Mu Shuangshuang just wanted to tease this little creature in front of her. Modern kids believe in magic, so ancient kids probably believe in immortal spells!

Who knew as soon as she spoke, Little Zhi jumped up excitedly. "Then is sister an immortal? Little Zhi doesn't want food, but could you conjure a better cabinet for our family?"

It doesn't need to be new, just enough to keep the clothes wrapped up and unseen by mice. Our cabinet at home has so many holes, and mice keep going inside, leaving droppings everywhere."

Mu Shuangshuang was taken aback; she didn't expect Little Zhi's wish wasn't for food, but for a cabinet, and not even a new one, just one that could block mice.

Mu Shuangshuang sighed and looked at the legless cabinet in the room, with large holes from top to bottom, clearly showing the neatly arranged clothes inside.

This house really has nothing. The table was an old one from Old Mrs. Mu's room that she didn't want anymore because it was missing a leg. Mu Dashan thought it would be a waste to throw it away, so he picked it up and nailed a few boards together.

The family only had a table to place tea on because otherwise, everything would have to be placed on the floor.

"Sister is not an immortal, but don't worry, Little Zhi. Even without spells, sister can conjure a brand new cabinet for the family. Let's make a promise; within a month, a brand new cabinet will appear in our home, okay?"

"Okay!" Little Zhi nodded vigorously, then stuck out her pinky finger to Mu Shuangshuang and said, "Pinky promise, liars are bad people."

Just after she spoke, she seemed to remember something and quickly shook her head. "No, no, sister isn't a bad person, but liars will grow little mustaches, also no good. Growing little mustaches would make you look like Uncle Yu, and that's very ugly..."

Little Zhi made a hypothesis, but as soon as she imagined her sister becoming like that, she overturned it, so after a long time, she still couldn't come up with a proper punishment.

Mu Shuangshuang extended her pinky finger and hooked it with Little Zhi's. "If sister lies, then she'll become a bad person with little mustaches."

"Annoying, how can sister be like that? I said no little mustaches, no being a bad person..." Little Zhi pouted, her adorable little face full of displeasure.

"Exactly, no can do, so sister must conjure up a brand new cabinet for Little Zhi."

Yu Si Niang, who had been standing by the side, suddenly had tears in her eyes again. Originally, when Old Mrs. Mu insulted her like that, she should have cried, but she held it back because it wasn't worth it. But now, it's different; seeing her two daughters being so understanding, how could she not be moved?

The door to the house suddenly opened, and Mu Xiaohan's thin body squeezed in. He walked with a limp, occasionally clutching his bottom.

The area where Mu Shuangshuang spanked him hard had never healed, and because the Old Mu Family had no herbal medicine to apply, it hurt even more than before. But Mu Xiaohan said nothing.

Mu Xiaohan not only limped while walking, but his belly also strangely bulged out. Upon seeing Mu Shuangshuang, he snorted coldly, but when he looked at Yu Si Niang, his attitude became respectful.

"Mother, you're back."

After greeting her, Mu Xiaohan went straight to the kang's end, which used to be Mu Shuangshuang's place but had now become a little rabbit's den. Mu Shuangshuang had used branches and vines to weave a simple cage.

Usually, the cage was placed in a corner, and whenever someone came, a tattered blanket was thrown over it, so there wasn't any worry of being discovered.

Mu Xiaohan opened his clothing and carefully pulled out a few green cabbages from his bulging belly, handing them gently to the little grey rabbit in the cage.

For some reason, Mu Shuangshuang suddenly felt like laughing. This stinky boy was so proud, giving her nothing but blank stares and indifference, yet treating other family members with nothing but kindness. Ultimately, he just couldn't put aside his pride.

Oh well, as a sister, what's the point in taking a child's defiance seriously?

Mu Shuangshuang stepped forward, squatted down, and looked Mu Xiaohan straight in the eyes.

"Hey, silly boy, let's make up, okay? From now on, let's live peacefully, as a family in harmony. If anyone bullies you in the future, I'll help you sort it out, okay?"

Mu Xiaohan turned his face away angrily, refusing to acknowledge Mu Shuangshuang.

Mu Shuangshuang didn't get angry. It's just children; entice plus cajole, guarantee obedience.

"Xiao Han, we're a family, right?"

Mu Xiaohan still didn't respond, but Mu Shuangshuang didn't give up.

"Actually, I know why you don't like me. I was really dirty before, and apart from mom, dad, and Little Zhi, everyone disliked me. A me like that made you feel embarrassed, made you feel unable to hold your head high.

But it wasn't what I wanted. I wasn't even aware of what I did before until I hit my head, and I gradually became conscious, so let's forget about the past, okay?"

Fearing her words weren't impactful enough, Mu Shuangshuang continued.

"Actually, I also want our family to be well-off, for mom and dad to be respected when they go out, for you to have face in front of your friends. But what does that take?

Isn't it exactly us being united as a family? When facing difficulties, we think of solutions together, overcome each obstacle together. Isn't that good?"

Mu Xiaohan still didn't speak, but at this moment, there was already some hesitation in his heart. A complete family, he wanted that too, to have a sister who protected him, a well-behaved younger sister, loving parents...

But can he trust the words of the person in front of him?

Mu Shuangshuang knew that Mu Xiaohan was already wavering, and what she needed to do was ignite Mu Xiaohan's fighting spirit, make him want to proactively change the current predicament with her.

She raised her hand, casually loosening her hair. Hidden in her hair were sixteen copper coins left over from buying things, threaded through her hair and carefully hidden. With someone like Old Mrs. Mu, who only knew to check pockets, it was impossible to detect.

Mu Xiaohan widened his eyes, amazedly watching Mu Shuangshuang undo one copper coin after another from her head. By the time all the coins were taken out, her hair was disheveled, with two handfuls of copper coins in her palms.

"Here are sixteen coins, money that sister and Little Zhi earned by picking wild vegetables and fungi. Though it's not much, it's the first wealth that Little Zhi and I made together. Do you want to join us in creating more wealth for our family? Also, to get Little Zhi a brand new cabinet?"

Mu Xiaohan's eyes fixed on Mu Shuangshuang, something stirred in his eyes...