

## Folly 97

### Chapter 97: Enter the Mountain Together (Part 1)

Getting dressed and combing her hair, Mu Shuangshuang finished washing up with the water prepared last night, and the sound of Old Mrs. Mu's ranting had already quieted down.

She pushed the door open, and Yu Si Niang was just returning with a basin of water from the kitchen.

Seeing Mu Shuangshuang, Yu Si Niang said with a delighted expression, "Shuangshuang, why are you up already? Why not sleep a little longer?"

In the height of summer, it's really only comfortable to sleep in the early morning; the rest of the time it's like a steamer. Naturally, Yu Si Niang hoped her daughter would sleep longer.

"No need, I've rested enough. Mom, who was Grandma yelling at this early in the morning?"

"She was cursing some dog poop on the ground; your grandma stepped in dog poop when she went out this morning."

"Pfft—" Mu Shuangshuang couldn't help but burst into laughter, clutching her stomach.

The old lady actually stepped on that stuff, truly heaven-sent.

"Why did Grandma get up so early? Doesn't she usually wake up only when it's time for food?"

Speaking of Old Mrs. Mu, Mu Shuangshuang found it odd that her status relied on the authority of serving meals every day.

If someone catered to her whims, she'd happily serve more food at meal times; if someone defied her, she'd serve barely anything, like feeding a cat, just to show them her power.

"Isn't it because your uncle said he wanted to eat some meat today? So your grandma took out the meat that the Lu Family's boy brought over last time and was just about to head to the kitchen when that happened."

Yu Si Niang didn't react as strongly as Mu Shuangshuang; there were many stray dogs in the village, so poop and pee were normal. However, the old lady didn't notice herself; she saw that sizable pile of poop and should have seen it.

"Oh my, the meat has been kept for so long! Tsk tsk tsk, truly impressive." Mu Shuangshuang couldn't find other words than admiration.

The meat Lu Yuanfeng brought last time was originally meant for her mom, but the old lady used a finger-sized piece to make a pot of soup and hid the rest away.

"Shuangshuang, stop talking; Grandma will hear and start scolding you again."

Old Mrs. Mu's favoritism for Mu Dade was as intense as her dislike for Mu Shuangshuang. If she knew Mu Shuangshuang was mocking her, Mu Shuangshuang would be up for a bamboo shoot stir-fry-style scolding.

"Mom, I'm going to the woods today." Mu Shuangshuang made an advance notice.

"No way, who said you could go there? Didn't I say it's dangerous?" Yu Si Niang's face immediately turned stern.

"Precisely because it's dangerous, Shuangshuang is taking a helper this time; the Lu Family's boy is willing to go with me."

At crucial times, Lu Yuanfeng was her best excuse.

Lu Yuanfeng was quite renowned in Er Gui Village, often taking his brother to the woods to hunt without any mishaps.

"Still no, I don't ask you to earn much silver, just that you stay safe." Yu Si Niang shook her head like a rattle; she only had three kids, and couldn't afford any accidents.

"Mom, Shuangshuang isn't going to earn money this time, but to find a rabbit for Little Zhi. You know, Little Grey was eaten by Auntie, and Little Zhi cried so sadly; as her sister, I should help her find another rabbit and protect it well."

Mu Shuangshuang didn't convey her primary intentions to Yu Si Niang, fearing her acting wasn't genuine enough to deceive Old Mrs. Mu.

"Mom, let me go; this trip not only has Lu Yuanfeng for protection, but I can also learn things from him. So, won't our family have a skill in the future?"

Unable to resist Mu Shuangshuang's adorable antics, Yu Si Niang finally agreed, but she made Shuangshuang promise to ensure her safety. After several reminders, she left for the town.

Once Yu Si Niang left, Little Zhi groggily climbed off the bed, skipped washing up, and ran over to Mu Shuangshuang, clutching her leg sweetly.

"Sister, where's Little Zhi's gift? I can't see it."

"You little smarty, what a memory! I'll go get it for you now."

Mu Shuangshuang returned to her room and handed the finished panda wallet to Little Zhi. "Sister's crafting is limited; this is the best I could do. If Little Zhi doesn't like it, sister will make you another one next time."

Next time, no pig skin will be used.

Little Zhi's eyes brightened, and she happily jumped.

"Sister, Little Zhi loves it! So pretty!"

Little Zhi held the cat wallet and couldn't seem to let it go. She had never seen such an adorable thing, with black eyes and ears—it's incredibly cute.

"Don't you think it's ugly?"

"Not at all! Sister's creations are beautiful, no one else has anything like it." Little Zhi raised the wallet above her head, her smile exposing her gap-toothed grin.

"Haha, this little girl knows how to talk. But sister needs to remind you, what this wallet is for. This wallet can hold change, also called a coin purse. But sister will put change in it for you later; do you want to try carrying it now?"

Mu Shuangshuang added a strap to Little Zhi's wallet, just like modern bags that can be slung over the shoulder, though Little Zhi's was smaller.

"Hey, brat, what is that thing Little Zhi's carrying? Give it to me!"

Gou Dan had finished his morning poop and decided to take a shortcut home. Just in time to see Little Zhi with something on her shoulder, he wanted it too, so he approached.

"None of your business, you snot-nosed brat! Wipe that snot off before you eat it!"

Mu Shuangshuang rolled her eyes, this little rascal, only six years old, just like his mom, always bullying others—it seems the lesson she gave him last time wasn't enough.

"Brat, I'm going to tell my mom you bullied me, and she'll beat you to death and make you sleep in the pigpen, all dirty and smelly!"

As he cursed, Gou Dan sucked up his snot that dangled to his lips, then inhaled it back forcefully.

"Little Zhi, let's ignore the mad dog. Once you've washed up, we'll go have breakfast."

Gou Dan was thoroughly ignored, feeling cornered, he was about to snatch what Little Zhi had when Mu Shuangshuang shooed him away with a slap. Gou Dan puckered his mouth, ready to bawl loudly.

Mu Shuangshuang raised her hand threateningly and spoke, "If you start crying, I'll tear your dog mouth apart."

Oddly enough, the little tyrant stopped crying because of Mu Shuangshuang's words, and he looked fearfully at Mu Shuangshuang, eventually retreating back to his own house.

Of course, Mu Shuangshuang suspected he was more likely going to fetch reinforcements to complain.

After Little Zhi finished washing up, Mu Shuangshuang had breakfast, and as usual was scolded by Old Mrs. Mu, but she ignored it with her strong mind.

Mu Yingying from the main house was called ugly and overly dramatic by Old Mrs. Mu, cried hysterically after getting pinched by a lobster, making everyone run around in chaos.

After all the main house fuss, Mu Shuangshuang secretly took the family's hemp rope and sneaked out to meet up with Lu Yuanfeng.

Their meeting spot was set by the creek at the foot of the mountain in Niuwei Village, practically their regular place.

This time, Lu Yuanfeng arrived before Mu Shuangshuang again, but he brought some tools this time.

Bow and arrow, a long wooden stick, a yoke, and a machete hung at his waist.