

Peasant 371

Chapter 371: Which Was More Nourishing

As far as she knew, Lu Sangqi was a stubborn person who hated to suffer losses. How could he be willing to make amends?

However, Ye Muyu suddenly smiled when he thought of how Chu Heng had won against that person.

Chu Heng looked at Ye Muyu, who was wearing a light green shirt. His smile made him frown. 'You like Lu Sangqi a lot?' he asked.

"Ah?" Ye Muyu was shocked by his words and almost choked on her own saliva. She coughed a few times.

Chu Heng frowned and patted her back worriedly. "He's just an outsider.

There's nothing to be anxious about. Don't choke because of him."

Seeing him like this, Ye Muyu sighed. She knew that if she did not tell him directly, this person would misunderstand. She said gently, "You misunderstood. I just feel surprised and happy that you can subdue him. You already said that he's an outsider. Do you still want to misunderstand me because of an outsider?"

Chu Heng did not say anything, but joy flashed in his eyes. He put one hand on Ye Muyu's waist and made a gesture without hugging her.

Lu Chuan saw the two masters enter.

He hurriedly handed the ingredients to Zhang Shu while he went to unload the carriage.

When he returned to the main room, the dishes were already on the table.

Usually, the Chu family ate during sunset. Chu Heng came back late today, but the food was cooked at the normal time.

“Madam Hu. boil the chicken soup later.” Chu Heng ordered.

Madam Hu nodded.

He took the whole chicken from Ye Muyu and went into the kitchen. He cut the chicken in half and cleaned it up before putting it into a clay pot with various ingredients to slowly boil.

Ye Muyu waited for Chu Heng to sit down before saying, “I can’t even finish dinner, so I won’t drink the chicken soup.”

“Drink a bowl before going to bed at night,” Chu Heng said.

There was still one to two hours before bed, enough time to digest dinner. Ye Muyu glanced at him and sighed. “I still have milk. Should I not drink it?”

“I’ll drink the milk with the children. You should drink the chicken soup.” Chu Heng did not think too much about it and immediately made the arrangements.

At the same time, she picked up some food from the table and placed it in Ye Muyu’s bowl.

Ye Muyu knew that he did not think that milk was good for health at all. In his heart, it was probably not as good as chicken.

For some reason, Ye Muyu thought about it and could not help but argue. “Actually, milk can also nourish people. It would be a waste if you don’t finish the milk at night.”

“Chicken soup is more nourishing. Ask Ziluo and Lil’ Jin if you don’t believe me.” Chu Heng threw the question to the two children.

Chu Jin was still eating when he heard this. He quickly chewed and swallowed before speaking. “Mother, chicken soup is very nourishing. Dahu and Shuanzi said that when their mother is pregnant with younger brothers and sisters, if she drinks chicken soup, they will grow stronger.”

“Mother, why don’t you drink both of them?” Chu Ziluo added. “That way, you can nourish your body.”

Ye Muyu was speechless. ‘Good girl, your mother really can’t drink two bowls.’

“Milk can also nourish people. Look,” Ye Muyu mumbled, “Other calves drink milk when they’re born. It’s the same for humans. If our cows are raised well, the milk they produce will be more nutritious.”

“So, I’ll only drink milk at night from now on, not chicken soup.” Ye Muyu told Chu Heng her ultimate goal and could not help but glance at him.

She did not know if this person would insist on his own opinion. Actually, if she had not lived in the modern world, she would also think that chicken soup was more nourishing. Chu Heng and the others were not wrong to think so, but for some reason, she just wanted to try her best to convince him..

Chapter 372: The Plaque Is Done

Ye Muyu thought to herself, ‘This person better not be too stubborn.’

Chu Heng frowned. Seeing Ye Muyu’s serious expression, he could not help but wonder where Ah Yu used to live. In that case, she was considered to be alone. If he did not take care of her and let her have her way, she would probably miss home.

“Yes, you’re right. Then don’t drink chicken soup at night anymore. Drink milk instead.”

Ye Muyu was still a little surprised. She was surprised that this person was so insistent just now, but he agreed now.

Chu Jin and Chu Ziluo looked at each other. Their eyes flashed with the same thought.

‘Father only listens to mother.’

In the future, they had to please their mother!

These two children were right.

“Hurry up and eat.” Chu Heng graciously let her look at her and even shaved his beard clean so Ye Muyu would think he looked better.

He had perfect facial features, a straight nose bridge, deep eyes, and even his thin lips were very sexy.

Coupled with the fact that he always maintained a clean fragrance on his body and showered twice a day, it was inevitable that people would take a few more glances at his appearance.

Seeing his attitude, Ye Muyu obediently ate her dinner.

At night...

She sat by the bed and was already finishing up Chu Heng’s jacket.

Chu Heng had returned.

Ye Muyu was a little surprised. She looked at the sky outside and asked, “Why are you so early today?”

After staying here for a long time, Ye Muyu slowly learned how to tell the time by looking at the sky.

"I haven't told you Lu Sangqi's identity yet. I'm sure you've wanted to know for a long time," Chu Heng said.

Hearing this, Ye Muyu quickly gave up the seat beside her. She was curious about this, mainly because she was afraid that Lu Sangqi would hold a grudge and implicate her family.

Chu Heng took the opportunity to sit down by the bed, very satisfied with her actions.

"Lu Sangqi is..."

Chu Heng told her Lu Sangqi's identity and the hidden contents of the medical book.

"You mean that this medical book was actually taken away by Doctor Lu before the Old Master of the Lu family, who is the imperial physician in the palace, finished reading it?" Ye Muyu asked.

"Yes." Chu Heng nodded.

"Then why did Doctor Lu leave home for so many years?"

"Because Doctor Lu's first wife died six years ago during a difficult labor. Both his wife and his child died."

"Ah!" Ye Muyu exclaimed. Although she had guessed that there was a story behind Doctor Lu, she did not expect it to be so tragic.

"I hope Doctor Lu can walk out of this," she whispered. "Since he was willing to return the medical book to the Lu family, he should have forgiven them, right?"

As for the more inside information, Chu Heng was not clear, and Ye Muyu did not intend to ask anymore. The night passed quickly.

The next morning.

Chu Heng got up, changed his clothes, and ate breakfast. After he was done cleaning up, he used the book box to store some books at home.

Ye Muyu carried the remaining thirty taels and went to the county with Chu Heng.

In the past two days, Lu Chuan had bought the bookshelves in the county.

Even the plaque was custom-made by someone.

Ye Muyu looked at the words “Knowledge Book Shop” written on the shop’s signboard and felt the majestic atmosphere. It was obvious that it was written by a calligraphy master.

“Who wrote this?” Ye Muyu could not help but ask.

Chu Heng had also just gotten off the carriage. “Xie Chunbo wrote the plaque on it, and the dean named the shop.”

Xie Chunbo was a high scholar, but because his family background was not prominent, he could not get an official position. Although the courtyard in the county school did not have any political power, its status was not low. No matter what, it was still an official position..

Chapter 373: Courtesy Done

Xie Chunbo was Xie Yu’s second uncle who was an official.

He was a county magistrate in a county three counties away from Nanchang County.

Usually, when he was in office, even Xie Yu rarely saw this second uncle. Who knew that the signboard of her bookstore would be inscribed by a county magistrate and a dean?

“How did this come about?” Ye Muyu asked.

Chu Heng held her hand and walked into the shop. He explained in a low voice, “Xie Yu found out about this shop and took the initiative to take this work over.

He said that this plaque was a gift from him.”

“As for the dean, I plan to sell the exam questions and papers that I usually write because of the book shop business. I need to ask the dean first.”

“The dean has given his permission. In the future, he’s also willing to give us the right to sell his annotated books.”

“These things are very precious,” Lu Chuan said. “The books in the bookstore will sell like crazy in the future. Plus, there’s going to be a provincial examination.”

Ye Muyu thought to herself, ‘Isn’t that so? You know, other bookstores also want to sell these independent notes.’

However, if the writer did not agree, there was nothing one could do.

Now that Chu Heng had settled this matter in just two or three days, she could even imagine the booming business of the bookstore.

No wonder Chu Heng suggested that she open a bookshop. This was simply the lowest-cost business.

Ye Muyu had already understood Chu Heng's intelligence, so she quickly calmed down.

He followed her into the shop.

The bookshelves in the shop were very clean. They did not look new, but they had a unique charm as if they were made of some precious wood.

"Lu Chuan, where did you buy these bookshelves?" Ye Muyu asked.

Lu Chuan said, "Madam, I didn't buy this bookshelf. It's a congratulatory gift from Young Master Du. He said that he'll come again when we open for business."

"Young Master Du is very thoughtful. This wood should be very precious, right?" Ye Muyu walked over and touched it.

Chu Heng stood beside her. "It's nothing. Compared to the food you cook, this wood is not important to him."

Even so, Ye Muyu did not have the habit of receiving benefits for no reason.

She thought for a while and tilted her head to look at Chu Heng. "When will the books be printed? When the opening time is confirmed, should we invite Young Master Xie and Young Master Du to our house for dinner?"

"I know a few dishes that they haven't eaten before. When the time comes, I'll have to invite my parents."

The custom in the village was that when moving to a new house, one had to cook a pot of food and invite relatives and friends to eat.

Buying a shop was not moving, so there was no need to publicize it. It was only right to invite the elders and friends who had given gifts in advance.

How could she thank someone for giving her a gift and not even treat them to a meal?

Ye Muyu had already made up her mind.

“Why don’t we treat them to a meal in the county?” Chu Heng thought for a

moment. “The exams are approaching, so I’m afraid they won’t be able to spare the time.”

In fact, it was not Du Heng and Xie Yu who were nervous about the provincial examination, but the elders in the family, especially the Xie family. The Xie family lived in a house in Nanchang County. It was actually the eldest son of the Xie family.

The second branch of the Xie family was an official.

Old Master Xie had also retired from the officialdom.

Xie Yu was the youngest son of the Xie family’s eldest branch.

He was the youngest son who was twenty years younger than his eldest brother and second brother.

He had been given high hopes since he was young. He had just become an elementary scholar before the new year, so he planned to give it a try this year. Although he could not be sure if he would pass, he could at least understand the examination rules and set the questions.

Du Heng was simpler. He was the second son of the family, and he had not even become an elementary scholar..

Chapter 374: Book Factory

However, he planned to make a trip to the capital city this year to at least familiarize himself with the process.

Besides, Chu Heng did not want Ye Muyu to work too hard.

Ye Muyu pondered for a moment. "I remember that Young Master Xie has a restaurant in the county. Let's set the banquet at the restaurant. I'll cook with

Madam Hu."

Chu Heng frowned. He did not expect Ye Muyu to be so honest.

He would also repay the two of them in other ways, but he understood Ah Yu's character. If she said so, she would definitely persist.

In addition, Xie Yu and Du Heng really wanted to eat Ah Yu's cooking.

"Yes," he finally agreed. "You should try your best to just guide from the side.

Don't tire yourself out."

"Alright, it's just a meal. It's not considered tiring." Ye Muyu smiled.

Chu Heng could not do anything about her, so he could only think of going back to Madam Hu and asking her to help.

"It's getting late. You should go to school. I'll go with Lu Chuan to customize the printing later." Ye Muyu looked at the sky and said.

Chu Heng nodded and gave Lu Chuan a few instructions before leaving.

After Chu Heng left, Ye Muyu walked around the courtyard again. She saw that the two storerooms in the backyard were also clean and tidy. There were bookshelves inside, which were used to store books.

“Madam, are we going to the bookstore to print books now?” Lu Chuan asked.

Before Ye Muyu came, she had already learned that Great Chu’s printing technology was mainly controlled by the government, and the places where books were printed were called book workshops. Basically, they were all official stores.

The price of the official market was relatively high. A book that sold for two taels of silver would cost 700 copper coins just to print.

It was almost one-third of the price, not including the cost of the ink.

On average, a book that cost two taels of silver would cost around 900 copper coins to print.

No wonder the books were so expensive that the commoner students could only copy them.

Copying books also required money. To copy a book that cost two taels of silver, one had to pay 300 copper coins. Moreover, the book could not be damaged, and there was a time limit.

No wonder many people could not afford to study.

Not to mention the cost of buying books, there was also the cost of writing brush, ink, paper, and inkstone. It was a high price.

An ordinary able-bodied man’s daily income in Nanchang County was between 20 to 30 copper coins.

Just as Ye Muyu was lamenting about the exorbitant price of books, they had already arrived at the bookstore.

The book factory was not far away.

They arrived in less than 15 minutes.

There were two stone lions at the entrance of the book factory. The entrance was very clean. The door was not big, at least not comparable to the houses of some rich families in the county.

“Madam, I’ll go knock on the door.” Lu Chuan knocked on the door.

After knocking for a while, a gatekeeper came out.

The gatekeeper was a young man in his twenties. When he saw Lu Chuan, he yawned and rubbed his eyes. “What’s the matter?” he asked.

“Hello, Sir. My employer has opened a bookstore in the county. It’s not far from the book factory. She wants to come over and print books.”

“Did you bring the documents?” Because the book factory was owned by the government, the investigation was very strict.

Ye Muyu wanted to open a bookstore, so Chu Heng had even gone to the county government to get a business license. Once he registered, it meant that he would have to pay taxes in the future.

“We’ve brought it,” Lu Chuan said.

“Come in then.” The gatekeeper nodded.

Lu Chuan quickly retreated and waited for Ye Muyu to walk in front. He followed closely behind with his book box.

After entering the main entrance, they saw a courtyard that was 300 square meters in the middle. There were some books placed in the courtyard that seemed to be drying. On both sides was a round-shaped corridor..

Chapter 375: Personally Visiting

The corridor was next to some half-opened doors.

It was obvious that there were some rooms behind the door.

As soon as she walked in, she smelled the fragrance of ink.

However, each ink fragrance was different. Ye Muyu could smell several kinds of ink fragrances just by walking from the main entrance to the hall in front of her.

She had an idea. It seemed that different inks were used in different rooms. There were at least eight large rooms on both sides, which should be the printing rooms.

Very quickly, the gatekeeper then brought Ye Muyu and Lu Chuan to the hall.

“Lord Xu, someone has come to print books.” The gatekeeper cupped his hands and bowed to the person behind a screen at the side of the hall.

Ye Muyu looked up and saw a low wooden table behind the screen. There were many books on it.

In the middle of the book, there was a man who was not young. He was leaning on it and studying something.

"Let them in," the man waved his hand.

The gatekeeper hurriedly gestured to Ye Muyu and the other man.

Ye Muyu nodded lightly. Lu Chuan took out a few copper coins from his waist and stuffed them into the gatekeeper's hand.

The gatekeeper was still a little surprised. However, he was naturally happy to receive the reward. He took it directly and whispered, "If you have any requests, just tell Lord Xu. Don't talk too much nonsense." Lu Chuan quickly nodded to show that he understood.

Ye Muyu, who was walking not far ahead, also heard this advice.

She finally understood why the ancient people liked to fight. It seemed that she had to get used to this.

He walked around the screen.

Lord Xu did not raise his head. Ye Muyu walked closer and saw that he had at least half a head of white hair. He was obviously not young.

This kind of old man was probably a little stubborn and did not like to waste his time.

Ye Muyu's thoughts flashed through her mind. She walked closer and bowed. Then, she took out some documents that needed to be checked, such as the red contract of the shop, the official document that allowed him to open the shop, and the household registration.

"Lord Xu, we'll have to trouble you."

Ye Muyu sat in front of the long desk and handed him the materials.

Xu Jiao raised his head after he finished carving the last row of words.

He reached out to take the document and checked it to make sure that there was no problem.

“Write down the amount, the name of the book, as well as the ink and paper used.”

Ye Muyu took the book.

There was some registration information on it.

Every page was different. The page she needed to write was blank.

She did not know what the format was like.

Lu Chuan was looking at it too.

Ye Muyu quickly flipped the book in front of her. In order to prevent the old man from thinking that she did not know the rules, she moved very quickly.

After all, she did not want to waste paper and cause trouble.

The old man did not even raise his head while Ye Muyu checked the format.

Then, she wrote down the books she needed to print.

She needed to print a lot of books, including the Four Books and Five Classics, some miscellaneous notes that she had brought over this time, Dean Zhang’s annotated books that Chu Heng had given her, and his examination papers.

Ye Muyu chose the cheapest but most practical type of paper, white hemp paper, which was also the most common type of paper used in the county government.

The ink was normal water-based ink.

These were the same as the other bookstores in the county and the other counties.

Ye Muyu had already asked Chu Heng before he came. He was more thorough in his research of ink and paper.

Ye Muyu did not start writing when he saw the ink.

“May I know what kind of inks the book factory has, Lord Xu?” She asked Xu

Jiao..

Chapter 376: Oil Smoke Ink

“Take a look yourself.”

Then, a book was thrown at her.

Ye Muyu did not mind. After all, they were in someone else’s territory, so they had to lower their heads. Besides, it was not a big deal.

She, who had always been calm, quickly opened the book and read it.

She was a little suspicious. She only saw one kind of extremely expensive Oil

Smoke Ink. The others were basically Pine Smoke Ink, and the price of Pine Smoke Ink was not cheap.

This was not surprising. After all, the raw material needed for Pine Smoke Ink was pine trees. The ancient people did not have the idea of planting trees. Over the years, Pine Smoke Ink naturally became more and more expensive.

It was located in Jiangnan, and the economy was prosperous, but it could not withstand the price of Pine Smoke Ink. She remembered that the Song Dynasty had begun to develop all kinds of Oil Smoke Ink.

Oil Smoke Ink and Pine Smoke Ink had their own characteristics. Pine smoke ink made from ancient pine trees was naturally extremely precious. Most Pine Smoke Ink was made from pine branches, so it was naturally not that useful.

The price was also cheaper.

The ink used in the county's bookstores was basically some cheap Pine Smoke Ink.

There were many types of Oil Smoke Ink. If one really calculated, the price should be cheaper and more suitable for large-scale printing.

"Lord Xu, why is there only one kind of Oil Smoke Ink?" Ye Muyu asked after reading it.

Compared to the amount of Pine Smoke Ink, the Oil Smoke Ink was all alone and somewhat desolate.

Xu Jiao raised his head to look at her. Seeing that she was a woman, he did not have any extra expression. He only said indifferently, "The development of the Oil Smoke Ink has only just appeared. How can there be so many types?"

"Was this Oil Smoke Ink developed by your book factory?" For some reason, Ye Muyu thought of the ink that Chu Heng had mentioned. It was mainly Hui Ink, and Hui Ink was a famous Pine Smoke Ink.

It was enough to show how precious it was.

However, if it was large-scale printing, Oil Smoke Ink was more suitable and the cost was lower. Especially now, seeing that the price of Pine Smoke Ink in Great Chu was getting higher and higher, it should be related to the decrease in the number of pine trees. At this time, oil smoke ink had even more value in existence.

“How did you know?” Xu Jiao raised his head in surprise. This time, he was a little surprised, especially since the person in front of him was only a woman.

“I saw that you seemed to be reading information on Oil Smoke Ink,” Ye Muyu smiled.

Ye Muyu was not lying. Just now, she carefully looked at the books that Xu Jiao was reading and realized why he had piled so many books on his desk and seemed very busy.

“You can read?” Xu Jiao was surprised at first. Then, he muttered to himself, “That’s right. You’ve already opened a bookstore. It wouldn’t make sense if you can’t read.”

“Milord, I have already written down my request.” “This is the original copy of the books that I need to print.”

“I wonder if I can choose the printing method.”

Xu Jiao took the registration book and saw Ye Muyu’s beautiful handwriting. She had written three pages, which was more than thirty books.

If it were not for Ye Muyu’s small handwriting, she probably would not even be able to write them within three pages.

“You’re lucky to have so many books. There’s no one else’s order recently. We can print them for you in seven days.”

“As for printing, we’re using movable type printing now, so the speed will be much faster.”

Ye Muyu nodded.

He thought to himself that the situation in Great Chu was a little strange. The printing technique had developed quite well, but the ink was still in a state of undeveloped.

However, this also gave her a business opportunity..

Chapter 377: A Way to Make Money

The bookstore could also sell ink.

Ye Muyu first gave a deposit of thirty taels of silver and confirmed that she would come to collect the goods seven days later.

All the books would cost 350 taels to print.

Ye Muyu's savings were not enough, so she decided to wait seven days before she had to pay up. She did not print too much.

Each book cost an average of one tael of silver, and with 35 books, there were a total of 350 copies to be printed.

Among them, she printed most of the test papers and Dean Zhang's notes.

The four books and five classics would have 10 copies each, while miscellaneous notes, medical books, and water resources books would have 5 copies each.

The maximum number of books in each category was no more than twenty, and the lowest was only five.

It could be said that it was very little.

However, she had spent a total of 350 taels!

She only had 30 taels of silver. Although Chu Heng said that he would pay for the remaining 320 taels, Ye Muyu wanted to earn more herself. It was not her character to always rely on Chu Heng.

When she came out of the bookstore, Lu Chuan saw Ye Muyu frowning slightly. He did not know what she was thinking about, so he was very troubled.

“Madam, Master asked me to send you back to the village before picking him up.”

Ye Muyu nodded casually.

“Let me think for a while.” Ye Muyu pondered.

Seeing this, Lu Chuan did not disturb her.

The most difficult part of doing business was the initial investment. Ye Muyu knew this very well. So now, the first thing she had to do was to gather investors.

“Let’s go buy something first.” Ye Muyu got on the carriage and pointed in the direction.

Lu Chuan was a steady driver and was familiar with the roads, so he followed Ye Muyu’s directions.

Ye Muyu used the last bit of money Chu Heng gave her to buy some materials.

They strolled around the market and saw people selling grapefruits. Ye Muyu asked Lu Chuan to buy seven or eight of them.

When she returned home, it was only a quarter past nine.

Madam Hu had just flipped through the vegetables that had been left hanging yesterday.

Chu Ziluo and Nanya had gone to the old mansion.

Zhang Shu had gone out to mow the grass.

When Ye Muyu came back, Madam Hu hurriedly opened the courtyard door to welcome her. She took the bag of grapefruits from Lu Chuan's hands and carried it over. She was still a little puzzled. "Madam, did you buy these grapefruits for us to eat?" Grapefruit trees do come out this season, but I saw a family planting grapefruit trees on the mountain last time. I think the grapefruits are ripe."

"If you want to eat grapefruits, you can buy them in the village. It's much cheaper."

Ye Muyu took out a silver coin from her waist and handed it to Madam Hu. "Put these grapefruits down and ask Lu Chuan to bring it in. Go and take a look at the grapefruit trees in the village. If they have yellowed, buy them back."

. Yes, Madam." Although Madam Hu did not understand what Ye Muyu wanted to do, she was not a talkative person. She nodded and left.

Lu Chuan thought that Ye Muyu might be preparing food.

He moved all the things that Ye Muyu bought into the courtyard. "Madam, what do you need me to do?" Lu Chuan did not go to the county immediately.

Today, Chu Heng did not give him any work, which meant that Chu Heng wanted him to help the Madam at home.

Ye Muyu pointed at the grapefruits. "Help me peel off the skin of these grapefruits. Don't spoil them."

“Yes.” Lu Chuan carried the grapefruit bag and walked to the eaves in front of the kitchen. He took a small stool and sat down to peel the grapefruits quickly.

Ye Muyu went into the room to change her clothes, put on an apron, and went into the kitchen.

She opened the cupboard and saw a large jar of honey inside.

She had wanted to make honey grapefruit tea for a long time. Previously, the grapefruits were not ripe and she had no raw materials, so she could only delay it..

Chapter 378: Honey Grapefruit Tea

Now that she needed money and this thing was easy to make, Ye Muyu made it without any hesitation.

Ye Muyu started to boil the hot water in the pot.

When the water temperature rose to 60 degrees, it was a little hot, and it was almost done.

She poured the hot water into the basin and placed the grapefruit in it, soaking it for about 15 minutes.

There was no one else in the house. Ye Muyu wanted to ask Lu Chuan to help her peel the skin, but he was too rusty to do the kitchen work.

There was a rare moment of silence.

Lu Chuan’s cheeks were a little red. He explained, “Madam, I’m a rough person. This job is too meticulous. I can do the hard work like hopping bones, but I can’t cut things thin.”

Ye Muyu felt that it was rare to see him blush, so she did not make things difficult for him. “Then go get the grapefruits for Madam Hu.”

“Alright.” Lu Chuan heaved a sigh of relief. He felt better now that Ye Muyu had understood him. He was afraid that he would not do well and cause the family to be dissatisfied.

He turned around and left the courtyard.

Ye Muyu waited for the grapefruits to soak and squeezed out the juice before slowly peeling the skin.

The less white pulp, the better. This way, it would have less bitterness and the grapefruit tea would taste better.

She had almost cut all the grapefruit.

Madam Hu returned first, with seven or eight grapefruits in her basket.

“Madam, Lu Chuan still has 13 grapefruits. They cost 100 copper coins in total, so each one is five copper coins. However, the ones in the village don’t look that yellow. I’ve bought all of them that meet your requirements.” Madam Hu went into the kitchen and washed her hands while explaining to Ye Muyu.

Ye Muyu did not find it strange. Grapefruits ripened from July to September. There were no fruit trees in the village. It would be good if they could apply some fertilizer on them. Naturally, they did not grow well.

However, the price was cheap, and it was not bad to make a second-class

noney pomelo tea.

“You’ve worked hard. I’ll teach you how to peel the skin.” Ye Muyu was already satisfied. It was only because Xingshui Village was close to the county and located in Jiangnan that they could buy good fruits.

Those who were slightly deeper in the mountains could only eat wild fruits. They usually did not have time to farm, so there were no villagers who deliberately took care of the fruit trees.

As far as Ye Muyu knew, most rich landowners had their own plantations. The fruits that the rich could eat were usually transported back by the plantations or merchant teams.

It was expensive.

“Yes, Madam.” Madam Hu was skilled and used to cooking. With Ye Muyu’s guidance, she quickly understood that it was not difficult for her to peel the skin.

Ye Muyu did not say anything else when she saw how fast Madam Hu was learning.

“Madam, are you going to make some new food?” Madam Hu asked after thinking for a while.

“Yes, I want to make some tea. Children and girls should like to drink it.” Ye Muyu’s confidence came from the fact that the people of Nanchang County and the other nearby counties all liked sweet flavors. Even the tea leaves they usually drank were sweet.

The honey grapefruit tea tasted sweet and sour, so it should not be disliked.

This was also the reason why she made so many desserts.

“My lady is good with her hands. By the way, Madam, I went to buy some grapefruits just now. I heard from the villagers that a monk has come down from the neighboring county.”

“I heard that there are quite a number of eight or nine-year-old children coming down the mountain this time. Most of them are orphans. Many of them can’t find their families. The monks in the temple will bring them down the mountain and ask the villagers if they are willing to adopt them.”

“It seems that the court will give a certain amount of child support, about one tael of silver. After adoption, one must go to the county government to register their household registration. However, most of the children will be adopted by families who are somewhat related to them..”

Chapter 379: Looking for Teacher Lin?

“I wonder if there will be any monks coming to our village.” Although Madam Hu was gossiping, her hands were not slow at all.

Ye Muyu had heard about this before, so it should be about time. “There should be. It’s not appropriate to raise them in the temple for too long. After all, most children don’t want to be monks.”

“Madam, you’re right.”

It took her about an hour to peel off all the pomelo skin.

Ye Muyu was going to start brewing honey pomelo tea. She bought it in the village and would make it in the afternoon. As it was already noon, she would cook later than usual.

Ye Muyu and Madam Hu were busy in the kitchen.

In the village...

Chu Ziluo came out of the old residence with some boiled peanuts in her hands. She ate them as she walked. Madam Liu had given them to her.

She had been working hard at the old residence these past two days.

Even Chu Qingxiang, who was about to get married, was overly enthusiastic toward her.

“Miss, are we going to the school to pick up Young Master?” Nanya was carrying a sewing basket. Chu Ziluo and Chu Qingxiang had been doing needlework for the past few days.

Chu Qingxiang had been busy preparing her wedding dress recently.

In fact, most of the girls in Xingshui Village only wore red clothes when they got married. It could not be considered a wedding dress. After all, their financial conditions were not great. It was already not bad to be able to wear red clothes when they got married.

For someone like Chu Qingxiang, who had made her own wedding dress, her conditions were slightly better.

To be able to wear a wedding dress and get married was great.

With Madam Zhang’s character of caring about her face, she would definitely have to fork out money to buy the red cloth for her daughter to make her own wedding dress.

Chu Ziluo nodded. “Okay. Let’s go.”

Just as the two of them reached the middle, they saw a group of bald monks in brown kasayas walking over from afar.

“Miss, is there someone coming over there?” Nanya looked over curiously. Because it was far away, she could not see clearly.

It seemed that some villagers who were working in the fields had stopped the monks. They did not come over and were talking over there.

Chu Ziluo’s curiosity was piqued. She stuffed the peanuts into her pocket and said, “Let’s go and take a look.”

“Miss, slow down.” Nanya quickly followed.

As they approached, they heard the villagers talking.

“Are you monks from Deming Temple?” The person who asked was Madam Lin, who lived next door to the Chu family.

The person being questioned by Madam Lin was a middle-aged monk in a dark brown kasaya standing at the front. Behind him was a slightly younger young monk, followed by five children dressed in the same coarse cloth.

The older one looked to be thirteen or fourteen years old, while the younger ones were only around ten years old.

This was also normal. The children in the temple had to be over eight years old before they could leave the mountain. Once every five years, some children who were not old enough would have to wait for another five years, which made them around thirteen years old.

This was also considering that these orphans could start working after the age of eight. Ordinary families were more willing to raise a capable child.

The monk at the front said Amitabha.

“May I ask if Lin Hanzhen is here?” he asked.

“Are you looking for Teacher Lin?” Madam Lin was surprised, but she quickly reacted. “He’s at the bridgehead over there. There’s a school. The teacher inside is Teacher Lin. Sir, you just have to go there.”

“Thank you for informing me.” The leading monk brought the disciples and children behind him to the school.

The monks left, and the place instantly became lively..

Chapter 380: Zhongjin

“There are five children. It seems that they are looking for an adoptive family. I wonder who in the village is willing to adopt them.”

“Wang Laosi’s family would sure want to adopt children. His wife can’t get pregnant. If he doesn’t adopt one, how would there be descendants send him off in the future?” Wang Laosi and his wife were considered rare outsiders in Xingshui Village. They had no other relatives and did not even have a child to adopt. That was why Madam Lin said that they would adopt. If it were any other family, she would never say such a thing.

Old Madam Zheng heard this and put her hands on her waist. “Isn’t that so? If you guys are free, you can go and inform Wang Laosi.”

“Ziluo, why are you here?”

Chu Ziluo was planning to go to the school to pick up her brother. On her way there, she came over to watch the show.

She turned around when she heard the voice. It was Second Aunt Wang.

“Second Aunt, I’m going to pick up my brother.” Chu Ziluo knew that her second uncle’s family had land here, so she was not surprised to see Madam Wang. She explained obediently. “Second Aunt, I’ll go over first.”

Madam Wang was not worried about Chu Ziluo when she saw that she was accompanied by a servant girl named Nanya.

“Why don’t you come and play with your Sister Qingyu?”

“I’m accompanying Sister Qingxiang to do needlework for the next two days. Would Sister Qingyu be willing to come?” Chu Ziluo knew that Chu Qingyu disliked needlework the most. That was why she had said that. Besides, she did not get along that well with Chu Qingyu.

Every time Sister Qingyu met her, she would ask her about the silk flowers on her head. These silk flowers were bought by her mother, her younger brother, and her father. She rarely chose them herself.

After telling the truth, Sister Qingyu said that she was envious and wanted to have parents who were willing to buy her silk flowers.

She did not want to continue the conversation.

Unexpectedly, when Madam Wang heard this, she really nodded and agreed. "Alright, we'll ask your Sister Qingyu first. We can go to the old residence together tomorrow."

Madam Wang's thoughts were simple. If her daughter did not like to do needlework, then she could just follow and watch. Other girls were doing it, so how could she continue to resist?

Moreover, she heard that Qingxiang's wedding date had been brought forward. She also wanted to find out how much her third sister-in-law wanted to give as a gift.

Chu Ziluo was a sensible child. Even though she did not really like her cousin's personality, she could only nod helplessly since the elders had already said so.

After speaking to Madam Wang, Chu Ziluo hurried to the school.

She was afraid that if she was a step slower, she would be stopped by the other relatives. After all, she had promised her Second Aunt. It seemed inappropriate not to promise the other relatives.

Some women who was related to the Chu family by marriage felt a little regretful when they saw Chu Ziluo leave.

They had planned to wait for Madam Wang to finish speaking before they talked to Chu Ziluo. Who knew that the child would run away so quickly? Chu Ziluo, who had escaped, soon arrived at the school gate, panting heavily.

An excited voice came from the door.

“You are... Zhongjin?” Teacher Lin looked at the tall and handsome young man in front of him who had shaved his hair. He was shocked at first, but then he felt relieved and glad. “It’s good that you’re back.”

“Master Sanhai, sorry for the trouble.” Teacher Lin cupped his hands towards Sanhai.

As soon as he finished speaking, he waved at the youth called Zhongjin. The youth looked to be only ten years old. His face was calm and there was not much expression on his face. He was extremely calm, as if nothing could make

mm waver.

“Uncle.” The young man cupped his hands and greeted him. Even when he bowed, he did not show too much emotion.

Teacher Lin was very excited. He rushed forward and hugged Zhongjin. “It’s good that my nephew is back. I thought I would never see you again..”