

Peasant 41

Chapter 41: Five Tael's Less

Then, a new question popped up. Why did Madam Ye's personality suddenly change?

From a vulgar and stingy village woman to a... clever woman...

Chu Heng was deep in thought, then found a stool and sat down.

Ye Muyu felt the flickering light and quickly reached out to cover it. After the light stabilized, she looked up at Chu Heng with a suspicious look. "Are you going to rest?"

"Yeah." Chu Heng nodded.

Ye Muyu thought for a moment, then stood up and put away the sewing basket, placing it on the table by the window.

"Have you washed your feet?" Ye Muyu turned around and asked.

Chu Heng shook his head.

Ye Muyu nodded and went into the kitchen.

The pot of water in the kitchen was already a little cold. She built another fire to heat up the water.

Chu Heng followed her out of the east wing and placed the basin into the room.

Chu Ziluo and Chu Jin would share one.

Ye Muyu first filled the water and supervised the two children to wash their feet.

When she came back, she found that Chu Heng had just poured hot water for her, as if he was waiting for her to come back and wash her feet.

“Go ahead.” Chu Heng glanced at her and said calmly.

Ye Muyu did not know what the man was thinking. She could not figure it out, so she stopped thinking and sat down on a stool.

She took off her cloth shoes and saw that the white brocade socks she was wearing were already dark brown. It was obvious that she had worn them for a long time.

The socks were similar to the undergarments, they needed to be washed and changed frequently.

However, the original owner could not bear to throw away the socks made of brocade, so she kept wearing them until the color changed.

It was to show the nobility of being a scholar’s wife. From her memories, she knew that many ordinary people did not have the conditions to wear socks, and the materials used for socks were also different.

To be able to use silk made one superior.

Ye Muyu quietly took off the socks and threw them to the side, planning to stop using them.

Ye Muyu put her feet into the water and started to soak them slowly.

Chu Heng’s gaze was fixed on her, his eyes emotionless. After washing his feet, he saw that Ye Muyu was still soaking her feet. He wiped his feet first and sat on the bed with a book in his hand.

Ye Muyu was not affected by him. Although Chu Heng was cold and harsh, Ye Muyu was a person of few words. She felt that it was much easier to get along with such a smart and self-disciplined person.

Moreover, after spending the day together, she realized that Chu Heng was very clean, so she was even more satisfied.

After patiently soaking her feet, Ye Muyu got up to pour the water on her feet and washed the basin clean. She went to check on the two children and made sure that they were all asleep. After that, she checked the courtyard door again before returning to the east wing.

In the room, Chu Heng sat cross-legged on the bed and looked straight at her.

Ye Muyu's eyes widened slightly, and he raised his eyebrows slightly. "What's the matter?"

Chu Heng pushed a money pouch in front of her.

"This is the living expenses for the next three months."

Ye Muyu remembered that Chu Heng did give the original host living expenses once every three months.

She followed him and sat down. She reached out her hand very naturally, took the money bag, and poured out the silver inside.

She counted and found that there were roughly fifteen taels.

It was five taels less than the previous twenty taels.

Could it be that Chu Heng had a financial problem?

Ye Muyu wanted to ask, but she felt that this was Chu Heng's private matter. This man probably would not tell her, so she hesitated.

Chu Heng saw that she did not get angry and asked why the silver was so little, and he felt strange.

“Yes, I understand.” Ye Muyu decided to earn money by herself. Chu Heng would continue to take the imperial examinations in the future, so he would probably have to spend even more money..

Chapter 42: Rebuttal

In Ye Muyu’s previous life, she had spent a lot of money on studying, but in this era, the imperial examinations were even more expensive.

Since she had become the other party’s wife, in ancient times, where one’s prosperity and one’s loss were all together, if Chu Heng was good, her honor would also come. Of course, she did not have the habit of relying entirely on men. She also had to make preparations to prevent the marriage from changing and men from marrying concubines.

Ye Muyu took the silver and started to think about how to earn money.

Chu Heng saw that she was deep in thought and thought that she was thinking about something bad again. He could not help but say, “Fifteen taels, three months. I want to see you take good care of the two children. If Ziluo is still so thin and Xiao Jin still has the same bad habits the next time you come back, don’t blame me for being rude.”

“I believe that Father and Mother can raise the two children well.” Ye Muyu raised her head and glanced at him, then retorted casually.

Chu Heng froze as he turned around. He did not expect Ye Muyu to reply to him with such words. He was furious and stared at Ye Muyu. He hoped that Ye Muyu would take back his words.

Ye Muyu looked back at him sincerely but did not say a word.

Chu Heng was so angry that his expression changed slightly. He snorted coldly and lay down on his side, not saying a word.

Ye Muyu took the silver and put it into the money box.

Now, she had more than 20 taels of silver. It was much better than she had imagined.

After keeping the silver, Ye Muyu lay down and went to sleep.

The bed was not big, but Ye Muyu slept soundly because Chu Heng turned sideways and was a few inches away from her.

She could clearly feel that Chu Heng did not want to get close to her.

‘That’s good.’

Ye Muyu thought to herself, ‘This is much better than touching.’

The next morning, Ye Muyu woke up early.

She got up and cooked some porridge, stir-fried some vegetables, and added some pickles for breakfast.

After breakfast, Chu Heng got up and asked the two children, “Have you all packed your luggage?”

“Once you’re done packing, follow me to your grandfather’s house.”

Chu Ziluo and Chu Jin stood there obediently.

“Father, I’m done packing,” Chu Ziluo whispered.

Chu Jin did not dare to raise his head. “Father, I still have some things to pack.

He fell asleep after washing his feet last night and forgot to tidy up. He slept until dawn in the morning and felt his wrists sore. He did not want to move even more and had completely forgotten about going to the old mansion. Chu Heng walked in front. "Then go pack."

Chu Jin quickly followed.

Chu Ziluo wanted to follow him, but she did not move. She turned around and looked at Ye Muyu.

Ye Muyu nodded. "Go."

Chu Ziluo happily followed him.

Ye Muyu saw that Chu Heng had the intention to teach her son, so she did not interfere. She put away the dishes and went into the kitchen to wash them. After cleaning up the kitchen, she drank the medicine.

She then turned around and entered the east wing.

She took out two pieces of silver from her purse and kept them for future use.

She looked through the cloth at home and found only some green cloth and brown cloth that Chu Heng used to make clothes.

Chu Heng had a total of three rolls of cloth that he had not used yet. The brown color was a little dark yellow, and she felt that Chu Heng did not like this color.

She found two rolls of cloth and two bags of sugar. They did not have any tea leaves left, so she needed to buy them later.

Ye Muyu prepared everything that she could.

Walking to the window of the west wing, Ye Muyu said to Chu Heng, who was teaching Chu Jin to pack his luggage, "I'll go out for a while, and I'll go with you."

"Mother, where are you going? I'll go too."

Chu Heng agreed.

Ye Muyu agreed to Chu Ziluo's request and held her hand as they walked toward the street..

Chapter 43: Encountering Madam Wang

Because the village was not far from the county town, there were usually some private shops open. There were not many, but there were some daily necessities.

For example, salt, pork, eggs, and simple cloth.

There were not many types of cloth, and the colors were not nice. Even so, most of the time, the villagers did not want to go to the county, so they were willing to buy them here.

Ye Muyu went to the meat stall first and bought five catties of meat.

Then, she went to the grocery store and bought a catty of tea leaves.

The grocery store had everything. Ye Muyu even bought some sauce, vinegar, and other seasonings.

After picking out the kitchen supplies, Ye Muyu walked to the wooden cabinet with the shoes and asked, "Ziluo, which pair do you like?"

"Mother, I don't need to buy shoes. I can make them myself." Chu Ziluo quickly waved her hand.

Speaking of which, it was very difficult to sell shoes and other finished products in the grocery store.

Most of the villagers made their own shoes and clothes. It was reasonable to buy cloth, but it was somewhat unreasonable to buy shoes.

However, Ye Muyu did not mind. She would do it, but she did not have the time to do it. She had lived in an era where efficiency was the most important. She really could not accept doing something that wasted time and did not yield much.

However, she had a strong ability to adapt. In the end, she chose to do whatever was comfortable for her.

"This blue one looks good." Ye Muyu chose the size for Chu Ziluo and paid for it after she tried it on.

"Scholar wife, come again next time." The shop owner, Aunt Wu, said with a smile.

Ye Muyu nodded with a smile. "Aunt Wu is fair in business. I'll have to trouble you in the future."

"What's the trouble? In the future, if your family lacks anything, just tell my child. I'll send it to you in a snap." Aunt Wu saw that Ye Muyu was praising her, which meant that she wanted to befriend her. She was not stupid and quickly accepted this olive branch. Not everyone had the chance to befriend a scholar's wife.

As for the women in the village who gossiped about Madam Ye, Madam Wu thought that they were all envious of their good lives.

In the entire village, Madam Ye had the best life.

Leaving the grocery store, Ye Muyu met many people who greeted her along the way.

They were all ordinary villagers who did not usually interact with each other. She did not say much and only responded.

“Sister-in-law, where are you going to buy so many things?”

Madam Ye did not expect to meet the Madam Wang on the way.

“Second Sister-in-law. I just bought some oil, salt, sauce, and vinegar that we need at home.” Ye Muyu replied casually.

“The two children are going to study at their grandparents’ place. They have to trouble their grandparents, so I bought some tea leaves for you.”

“Ah, are they really going?” Madam Wang seemed surprised that Ye Muyu had told her about this in public. She looked around and heaved a sigh of relief when she saw that no one was paying attention.

After she finished speaking, she stammered, “Actually, Third Brother is thinking too much. Ziluo is still far from getting married, and my daughter hasn’t gone to the old residence to learn too.”

After Madam Wang said this, she obviously lowered her voice.

‘Well, Third Sister-in-law, you can continue on your day. I have to work too.’

Madam Wang obviously did not want to say more as she realized that her words were not quite right.

Ye Muyu nodded and left with Chu Ziluo.

“Mother, Second Aunt said that Sister Qingyu doesn’t need to go, so why should I go?” Chu Ziluo asked softly. She felt that her mother had been so gentle since yesterday. She did not want to go to her grandmother’s house. She wanted to stay at home..

Chapter 44: Chu Qingxiang

"If you go, your Sister Qingyu will also go." Ye Muyu did not tell her much as she was still young. She just needed to grow up slowly. There was no need to know that her father had gone crazy and insisted on doing this.

Chu Heng did this because he was dissatisfied with the original host's raising two children.

No matter how indifferent she was, she could not tell an eight-year-old child that her parents were not on good terms.

When they got home, Ye Muyu put the things in the basket in the kitchen. The things that were to be sent to the old mansion were put in the same basket.

Just as Ye Muyu was ready, Chu Heng walked over.

She said, "I've prepared five catties of meat, one catty of tea leaves, two bags of sugar, and two rolls of cloth. As for the cloth, the brown one is yours. You still have two rolls of cloth. It's enough to make summer clothes."

"The other thing is about the filial piety silver."

"How much should I give?"

Ye Muyu was very thoughtful. Chu Heng felt that Madam Ye was really good at acting. He wondered who taught her.

In his previous life, he had never seen her so polite. Instead, she was so petty.

Chu Heng hid these thoughts in his heart and replied, "I've already given the filial piety money, so you don't have to worry about it."

He did not even tell her how much he had given.

Ye Muyu's expression turned a little fainter as he nodded to show that he understood.

Ye Muyu helped Chu Ziluo change into a pair of clean shoes.

The family of four then set off for the old mansion.

Outside the old mansion, the door was wide open.

Madam Chu and her eldest daughter-in-law, Madam Zhang, were washing clothes.

Chu Zhiwen and Chu Lin were not around.

Chu Sheng and Chu Ming were both studying at the village school and were not at home.

Only Chu Qingxiang, who was about to be married, was doing needlework at home.

"Mother, Sister-in-law," Chu Heng shouted. Ye Muyu and the two children followed suit.

"Ah Heng is here. Come in and talk."

"Daughter-in-law, don't wash the clothes first. Go and call your husband and Ah Lin back."

"Oh right, there's also Second Brother's family. Call them over. We have something to say."

Madam Chu had originally hoped that Chu Heng would not come over. This meant that what she said yesterday was a joke.

Unfortunately, she did not get what she wanted. Madam Chu sighed in her heart as she made arrangements in an orderly manner.

When Madam Zhang heard this, she responded, got up, patted her pants, and went out to call for help.

Chu Heng went straight into the central room.

Madam Chu shouted, "Qingxiang, come and boil tea."

"Got it, Grandma." Chu Qingxiang had been learning the rules recently. She only found out last night that Chu Ziluo might come over to learn the rules with her.

She did not care much about it. She was already much older than her two

cousins. Now, all she thought about day and night was life after marriage. She was looking forward to it but had no confidence. She was willing to listen to the guidance of the elders in the family.

Chu Qingxiang brought the tea over and started to boil it, but some of her actions were obviously wrong.

Seeing this, Chu Heng gave some advice.

"Thank you, Third Uncle." Chu Qingxiang was a little shocked, thinking that he was knowledgeable. Fortunately, he helped her correct her mistakes. Otherwise, if he poured tea on the guests, it would be embarrassing.

"Third Uncle, Third Aunt, have some tea."

"Sister Ziluo, Brother Ah Jin, have some tea." Chu Qingxiang's movements were smooth. It was obvious that she had learned it for a long time.

Chu Ziluo's eyes were filled with envy as she held her teacup and whispered,

"Thank you, Sister Qingxiang."

Chu Jin was much calmer than Chu Ziluo. He had been pampered by Madam Ye since he was young. Moreover, only his father was a scholar. He was the only child in the village who was envied. Therefore, when he saw Chu Qingxiang's smooth actions when making tea, he felt that it was very beautiful, but he was not envious..

Chapter 45: Discussion

It was just a novelty, and it was over.

"Qingxiang, you've worked hard. Sit down. We're a family, so there's no need to specially brew tea."

Since Chu Heng had said so, Chu Qingxiang smiled faintly and retreated. "If

Third Uncle thinks it's good, then I'm relieved."

Chu Heng knew that Chu Qingxiang had always been a smart person, so he nodded his head gently in agreement.

"Mother, are you planning to let all the girls in the family learn the rules from you?" Chu Heng asked directly. When he heard Madam Chu ask Madam Zhang to call Second Sister-in-law, Madam Wang, and Second Brother Chu Cai, he had already guessed what his mother wanted to do.

Madam Liu did not respond to his words and said perfunctorily, "What can I do? If I don't do anything, you'll have to discuss it with your father when he's back."

Chu Heng was speechless.

He raised his hand to drink his tea and really did not say anything else.

Ye Muyu had a guess.

Soon, Chu Zhiwen returned, and with him, Chu Lin.

The two of them pulled the grass and plowed the ground, planning to clear out the land at home and plant vegetables.

“Third Brother is here?”

“Wait a little longer. When your second brother comes, we’ll talk together.” Chu Zhiwen and Madam Liu sat calmly at the top.

Chu Lin was also drinking water while hugging the quilt. He lowered his head and did not say anything, not wanting to show himself.

At this moment, Madam Liu could not help but look at her third son with a slight accusation.

Chu Heng sat upright and did not meet her gaze.

Madam Liu could not do anything to her son. Helplessly, she turned her gaze to Ye Muvu who was sitting beside Chu Hene.

Ye Muyu was sitting upright, not deliberately at all. She was smiling as she held her teacup and listened. Chu Ziluo and Chu Jin were also sitting obediently.

It was completely different from her previous impression.

Madam Liu wanted to praise Ye Muyu, but she did not say anything as she thought about what would happen next.

After about half an hour, both Madam Wang and Chu Cai arrived.

Their clothes were stained with mud, so it was obvious that they had just started working in the fields. They were called over in a hurry.

"Father, Mother, Big Brother."

The two of them called out and sat down.

"Sit down." Chu Zhiwen raised his hand and waited for the two to sit down.

Only then did they start talking about today's topic.

"Third Brother suggested that all the girls in the family who are over eight years old should come over and follow your mother to learn etiquette for three months. See how your Sister Qingxiang does it and what she needs to learn so that she won't be confused when she gets married in the future."

Chu Heng raised his eyebrows. He was not surprised at all. For the sake of reputation, his mother would call Second Brother's child to the old mansion.

This was completely to prevent outsiders from talking about Madam Ye and him.

Ye Muyu did not say anything. She knew that it was useless to resist.

Besides, she did not think this matter would last long.

Chu Heng had underestimated a mother's love for her child.

Moreover, Second Sister-in-law Wang was also involved.

Before this, she did not know how Madam Wang would react, but after meeting her in the morning, Madam Wang's words clearly showed that she was reluctant to part with her daughter.

Just as Ye Muyu had expected.

When Madam Wang heard this, she hurriedly tugged at Chu Cai's sleeve in private.

Chu Cai was also unwilling in his heart. After waiting for a long time, he did not hear anyone refute. Seeing that his father was about to settle this matter, he could only helplessly be the vanguard and say in a muffled voice, "Father, my Qingyu hasn't turned eight yet. Should we wait until next year?"

Madam Wang also nodded and quickly raised her head. "Father, yes, Qingyu is younger. I'm afraid that my child will cause trouble for you.."

Chapter 46: Reward Order

"We're doing this for your own good." Chu Zhiwen could tell that the two of them were unwilling. In fact, this was originally used to test Chu Heng. He was the same as Madam Liu. He did not want his son to have a divorce when he had a bright future.

Whether it was divorce or temporary separation, it was not a good choice.

They felt that Chu Heng was being impulsive.

When Chu Cai and Madam Wang heard this, they knew that this matter was already a foregone conclusion. No matter who it was, he or Madam Wang could not bear the crime of being unfilial.

"However..." Chu Zhiwen deliberately changed his tone and looked at his three sons.

"It's not right to live in the old mansion."

“If we live together in the old residence, there will be gossip again.”

“People will say that the two of us are biased.”

The people below all understood, especially Madam Wnag. They were not saying that the two elders were biased. They were clearly worried that outsiders would say that there was something wrong with Third Brother’s relationship with Madam Ye.

If Madam Wang could understand, the smart Madam Zhang and Chu Lin would naturally understand as well.

Therefore, the key to this matter was Chu Heng’s attitude.

Everyone looked at Chu Heng.

Chu Heng picked up his teacup and took a sip of tea. His voice was neither fast nor slow. “Father, Mother, Eldest Brother, Second Brother, there’s something I forgot to tell you.”

“The county magistrate plans to hold a female arts competition. Girls between the ages of eight and fourteen can participate. It’ll be about needlework, tea art, paper-cutting, cooking.”

“In the entire county, the top ten unmarried girls will be rewarded by the county magistrate.”

“What? The county magistrate personally issued it?”

“Reward order? Really? Third Brother, why didn’t you say something like this earlier?”

The first sentence was said by Chu Zhiwen in surprise, but the second sentence was said by Madam Liu in excitement and disbelief.

Who would not want to be praised by the county magistrate? That was an official, the highest official in the entire county!

Even a scholar had to treat the county magistrate with courtesy.

If their girls were really received the commendation order personally issued by the county magistrate, would she still have to worry about getting married?

Madam Wang and Madam Zhang were no longer as dejected as before. They raised their heads and looked at Chu Heng excitedly.

“Third Brother, is what you said true?” Although Madam Zhang only had one daughter, Chu Qingxiang, and she was about to get engaged, she also hoped that her daughter could get a ranking. This way, when she married into her husband’s family in the future, she would have a higher status.

She was always worried that her daughter would be inferior if she married into the Song family. Although Chu Heng, the third uncle, was a deterrent, Song Lu was also an elementary scholar. Moreover, he was only seventeen now. He only became an elementary scholar two years later than Chu Heng. In the whole of Nanchang County, he could be considered a very promising scholar.

If Chu Heng failed to get become a high scholar in the future, but Song Lu did, her daughter’s status would be low.

It had to be said that as a mother, she wanted to find a good family for her

daughter before she got married.

However, if she really found a good family, she was worried that her family would not be able to support her and that her daughter would go over to suffer.

All of this worried them.

The matter of the county magistrate issuing the commendation order simply attracted Madam Zhang.

If her daughter had entered the top ten, there was no longer any worry.

Madam Wang was also thinking about her daughter's marriage.

If her daughter Qingyu could get a ranking, even if it was the tenth place, she would no longer have to worry about her daughter's marriage. At that time, all the families would definitely come to chase after her.

In that case, not only could Qingyu not refuse to learn from her mother, but she had to learn well.

Madam Wang was the first to raise her head. "Mother, Qingyu will come to the old mansion to learn from you in the future. I'll have to trouble you.."

Chapter 47: Reason

Madam Liu was also a little stunned at this moment. She did not expect her son to give her such a big shock.

Yes, it was a shock.

Her initial surprise slowly turned into worry after she thought about it.

The reason was very simple. One could tell from the reactions of the two daughters-in-law.

If her own family wanted to get a ranking so much, then the other girls in the clan would definitely want to get a ranking too.

She thought about it, and there were seven or eight people in the clan who were of the right age.

If these people wanted to compete for this ranking, then they would have to start learning needlework, tea art, paper-cutting, and cooking.

Their needlework and cooking skills were still acceptable.

Basically, every family would teach their daughters these two things, but their abilities differed.

As for paper cutting and tea making, she was the only one in the entire Chu family who knew them.

After the clan leader learned of this news, he would definitely let her come and teach the girls in the clan.

Madam Liu felt that she had been tricked by her third son.

How would she have free time in the future?

Madam Liu's eyes were filled with resentment as she looked at Chu Heng. "Third Brother, you can't spread the news. I've never seen a county magistrate do such a thing in the past few decades."

In the past few decades, there were not many awards.

After all, the county magistrate would not care about the talents of the girls in the county. He only needed to take care of the entire county. There were so many official duties, so he should not care about the girls.

Chu Heng felt his mother's resentful gaze and thought that since he would be an official sooner or later, it was not a bad thing to let his mother get used to such a big scene first.

Therefore, he was unmoved and remained calm. "This was spread from Jing

City."

“In February of this year in Jing City, Princess Wen Yi held a Hundred Flower Banquet in the capital to test and teach the girls their talents. Those who won the rankings would be rewarded by the princess.”

“And the emperor knows the news. He also gave the winning lady a reward.” “As a result, many marriages were formed in Jing City in early spring.”

“The emperor was happy and praised Princess Wen Yi in the throne room, saying that women with high skills are beautiful.”

“Since the emperor has already said so, it was easy for those young ladies to get married.”

When Chu Heng talked about the emperor, he was also very indifferent, but the others in the room were so engrossed in listening that they did not notice.

What he did not say was that the emperor was happy not only for the happy event of marriage but also because the more married couples there were, the more offspring there would be.

The number of commoners was the highest embodiment of a country's prosperity. Whether it was joining the army or being an official, there was no need to worry about not having enough people. There were more choices.

This was especially true for soldiers. The more people there were, the stronger the military force. This was a meritorious deed.

“After this matter spread in Jing City, the officials below competed to imitate it. Not only our county, I believe that other counties will also hold this competition.”

“However, the content of the competition will change according to the local characteristics.”

“Our county is rich in tea leaves, so tea art has become one of the contents of the competition.”

“Our county already has the custom of paper-cutting, and paper-cutting is also popular in other places, becoming a specialty of Nanchang County. Therefore, for the sake of future paper-cutting inheritance and survival skills, the county magistrate decided on this project.”

“As for cooking...”

Ye Muyu noticed that Chu Heng paused suspiciously and even glanced at her subconsciously.

She was confused.

She thought to herself, What is this man trying to do to me again?’

Chu Heng continued, “The emperor’s son-in-law once said that if you want to capture a man’s heart, you must first capture a man’s stomach..”

Chapter 48: Superstition

Ye Muyu’s eyes widened. This sentence was quite modern...

Chu Heng saw her reaction. Chu Heng pondered. Indeed, Madam Ye must have heard this and deliberately learned cooking to capture his heart. How despicable.

Ye Muyu did not know what Chu Heng was thinking. Her attention was focused on what Chu Heng had just said.

The emperor’s son-in-law?

These words should have come from the words of Zhang Ailing in modern times. There were no records of them in ancient times.

However, it was also possible that there were people who said this in ancient times. They really did not know who this person was. Was he a fellow countryman from the future...

Or was the other party just making things up?

Ye Muyu was curious, but she also knew that he was usually in Jing City while she was in Nanchang County. They were far away from each other, so it was impossible for her to find out.

She could only suppress this matter in his heart.

However, in the future, she had to do things without revealing any traces. At the very least, she could not let other transmigrators know that she had transmigrated too.

Just by thinking about it, if an ancient transmigrator appeared in the future and was known by others, although it would not be as bad as what was said on the Internet, they would definitely be secretly monitored.

In the more superstitious ancient times, those in power would probably regard such people as gods and ghosts and cut them down.

In order to save her life, Ye Muyu felt that keeping a low profile was the best way to survive.

Madam Wang and Madam Zhang looked at each other. They felt that although Third Brother's words were too direct, they were also true.

"Third Brother, since this news is true, we should inform the clan and make preparations early. I wonder when the competition will be?" Chu Zhiwen asked.

"The county hasn't issued an official document yet. I only heard about this matter in advance. I reckon that it won't be long before an official document will be issued. At that time, Father, you can ask the young men in the clan to go to the official document board outside the county government office to take a look."

Chu Zhiwen did not ask further.

Chu Zhiwen stood up and said, "This news should be told to the clan as soon as possible. Third Brother, come with me to see the clan leader."

"Madam Liu, discuss the details of your future studies with our eldest son and the others."

Madam Liu nodded and watched the two of them leave.

"Since Third Brother said so, I'm sure it's true."

"Then Qingyu and Ziluo will come to the old mansion to learn the art of paper-cutting and tea from me," Madam Liu said.

Madam Wang did not object this time. "Mother, I'll have to trouble you." "Mother, I'll come to the old mansion often in the future," Ye Muyu also said. "If there's anything, just tell me." Ye Muya was doing this for Chu Ziluo. As her mother, she could not be stingy. She should repay Madam Liu with the same sincerity.

Madam Liu nodded with satisfaction.

"It's just that the old mansion can't accommodate so many children. Madam

Wang, Qingyu will come to study during the day and go home to rest at night."

However, both Madam Zhang and Madam Wang knew that this was Chu Heng's request. As sisters-in-law, they naturally could not say anything. After all, even Madam Ye did not say anything.

"Then go back and do your own things." Madam Liu also had to prepare some tea leaves and teacups.

Madam Wang stood up with Chu Qingyu. "Mother, we'll go back first. We'll come back on time tomorrow."

"Yes." Madam Liu did not want to bother her.

Madam Wang and Chu Cai still had work to do, so they did not stay any longer. They turned around and left.

Ye Muyu stood up as well. Chu Ziluo saw her action and quickly stood up as well. She obediently followed beside her. Although Chu Jin was a little slower, he slid down from the stool and stood up straight..

Chapter 49: A Mother's Heart

'Mother, I'll help the two children make the bed first," Ye Muyu said.

Madam Zhang subconsciously looked at Madam Liu.

Madam Liu did not expect Ye Muyu to be so calm. She nodded and said,

"Alright, come with me."

Madam Zhang watched the four people leave, somewhat surprised.

When there was only her and Chu Qingxiang left in the room.

Madam Zhang asked the doubts in her heart, "Qingxiang, do you think your third aunt is pretending, or has she really thought it through?"

Chu Qingxiang was thinking about how her four talents would rank in the county. When she heard her mother's words, she said nonchalantly, "Mother, why do you care about this? You'll know after a while."

"That's true." Madam Zhang was reminded by her daughter and felt that she was asking for trouble.

She did not dwell on this problem.

Instead, she brought the topic back to the important Four Arts Competition.

"Qingxiang, although you know all four arts now, I think it will be very difficult for you to rank in the top ten of the county."

"You see, not only are there girls from the county magistrate's own family, but there are also girls from those scholars' families."

"I'm afraid we country bumpkins can't compare to these people, but there's no absolute, so we still have a chance."

"My daughter is the best. In the following period of time, you just need to consolidate the four arts." Madam Zhang was afraid that Chu Qingxiang would feel pressured, so she quickly took back her words of praise.

Chu Qingxiang did not care about Madam Zhang's words. She knew that it would be difficult for her to enter the top ten, but it was not impossible.

Just from cooking and paper-cutting, those rich ladies probably would not touch them since they were young.

Although there was a chance, she had always been cautious and did not want to waste any time. She said to Madam Zhang, "Mother, I'm going back to my room to do my needlework. Don't call me for small matters."

"I know. I won't disturb you." Madam Zhang saw that her daughter was willing to work hard and heaved a sigh of relief.

As the saying went, one was not afraid of how outstanding others were, but one was afraid that one's own daughter was not motivated.

Chu Heng had worked hard enough to become the only scholar in the village.

Madam Zhang knew that although hard work was important, a great teacher was also very important. Thus, she was already thinking about who to find to teach her daughter cooking to help her daughter.

Madam Wang also had the same thoughts as Madam Zhang.

When Madam Wang returned home, she did not go to the fields. Instead, she hurried back to her maiden family in the same village. Her mother would be fine with needlework. She also sent a message back, wanting to get her mother to teach her daughter needlework first.

Over here, Ye Muyu followed Madam Liu to the west wing.

The structure of the Chu family's old house was similar to Chu Heng's.

The moment they entered the courtyard.

However, there were more rooms in the Chu family's old mansion, and there were two more rooms on both sides.

Chu Jin was a boy, so he lived with Chu Sheng and Chu Ming. The first room in the west wing was the study room. It was convenient for the three children to study there.

Moreover, he would not have to clean up a room alone.

Chu Ziluo stayed alone in the outermost room of the east wing.

The room was next to Chu Qingxiang's room.

The two sisters could usually do needlework together.

This was Madam Liu's consideration.

Ye Muyu was the first to enter the room. She felt that although the whole room was a little small, it was still clean. It was a guest room prepared in the old mansion.

Even the mattress was new, and the bedsheets were all laid out. However, the entire room was empty, with no furniture.

"Mother, my husband said that he will teach Ziluo how to read in the future. I will buy a desk and place it by the window," Ye Muyu said..

Chapter 50: Get Together More

"Second Brother only knows how to do carpentry. It's just that he's been busy with farming recently, so I'm afraid he won't have time," Ye Muyu said.

Madam Liu did not consider this question. When she heard that Chu Heng wanted to teach her daughter how to read, her first reaction was to agree. She had studied some books back then and could read, so she was more knowledgeable than the other women in the village.

She was especially glad about this.

After all, it was really uncomfortable to see many women in the village acting stupid because they did not know the rules. She did not want to become like that.

Madam Ye was the one that worried her the most.

However, hearing Ye Muyu's words, Chu Liushi could clearly feel that Madam Ye was sensible.

She felt extremely comfortable.

She thought of what she had said yesterday. Madam Ye had suffered a lot because of the rumors in the village. For a moment, she felt a little guilty.

Seeing that her words were reasonable, Madam Liu said, "Go and ask your second brother later. If he's not free, go and ask your fifth uncle if he has time to make it. If not, go and buy it."

Ye Muyu knew that the clan basically helped each other. For example, in the entire Chu clan, other than Chu Cai, who did carpentry work, there was also the second grandfather's uncle, Chu Feng.

Usually, when it came to work that could be done by one's own family, they would first look for their own clansmen and also have the intention of befriending them.

Ye Muyu knew she would have to deal with the clan if she wanted to live in the village now. Besides, this would not bring her any trouble. She thought that it was better to have one more friend than one more enemy. She naturally nodded lightly. After all, she thought the same in her heart.

Ye Muyu and Madam Liu tidied up the house. The blankets on the bed were all new.

In order to prevent outsiders from gossiping, Madam Liu did not allow Ye

Muyu to prepare quilts for the two children. She could still afford to get them.

There were also some who did not want to make a big move and let the villagers focus on the changes in the third family.

Madam Liu thought that once the news of the female arts competition came out, no one would care about Third Brother anymore. That would be great.

Ye Muyu did not know that her mother-in-law was thinking so much in such a short time.

After she cleaned up the entire bed, she placed Chu Ziluo's clothes on it.

At this time, there were no clothes racks. In addition, the clothes were made of soft material and the color was monotonous. It was suitable to put them directly in the small wooden box by the bed.

In addition to clothes, she also prepared a dressing box for Ziluo, which contained a hairband and a comb. As for the mirror, it was only the size of a palm.

After she was done tidying, Madam Liu looked outside and saw that her husband and Third Brother had not returned yet.

"Ziluo, go and see how your brother's room is doing."

After sending the child away, Madam Liu said, "I think Third Brother will stay for quite some time. After all, this news will have a huge impact on the clan." Ye Muyu quietly waited for the other party to finish her sentence.

"Take Lilt Jin and Ziluo back first and come back tomorrow. Third Brother will definitely leave for the county to study in the afternoon."

"If you can convince the other party to let the two children stay at home and only come to class during the day, I will be pleased."

"I know that you want to spend the rest of your life with Third Brother."

“He might have heard some gossip outside that the two children are not outstanding enough. You know that he is full of expectations for the two children. Naturally, he does not want the two children to really become what outsiders say..”