

Quick Transmigration: Underdog Turns out to be Untouchable

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The village chief clasped his hands behind his back and sneered, "You do have some insight, knowing what's really going on here! Stop avoiding the main issue here. Since your brother thinks I'm unqualified as the village chief and clan leader, he won't be convinced by anything I do. It's better to report this to the government and let them handle it clearly!"

Mr. Qin was anxious and agitated. Getting involved with the government is much more serious than opening the ancestral hall. At this moment, he simply hated Qin the Third, this brother who was only good at causing trouble and couldn't see the situation clearly, always stirring up trouble without any sense.

Seeing Qin the Third, who caused the trouble but was now hiding behind him, pretending like a quail, Mr. Qin wanted to slap him to death! But before Mr. Qin could make a move, a big slap had already landed hard on Qin the Third's face.

It turned out that Mr. Qin had woken up. As soon as he awoke, he immediately gave Qin the Third a hard slap that knocked his face sideways. Blood flowed down from the corner of his mouth!

Actually, Mr. Qin had woken up shortly after fainting. He thought that if he, the head of the family, remained unconscious, the Qin Family would have no one in charge, making it difficult for the village chief to deal with their family affairs. So, they had to wake him up first.

His eldest son, Mr. Qin, was always steady and intelligent. He could take the opportunity to step forward, say some good words, show some humility, and either convince the village chief to muddle through or let it go gently. If not, stalling for time would allow him to think of a good solution.

Mr. Qin had it right, and Mr. Qin did not disappoint him, cooperating quite well. However, he forgot that he had two sons, each more foolish than the other!

Beside him, Qin Laoer, foolishly kept pinching his philtrum. By now, Mr. Qin figured his philtrum was probably pinched raw and turning purple. It felt as painful as having a big

cut! If he didn't wake up, Qin Laoer would just keep pinching until his philtrum was pinched off!

Qin the Third was even better. Just as Mr. Qin had finished smoothing things over, he managed to infuriate the village chief again with a single sentence, making matters even more troublesome. With the situation in such a mess, Mr. Qin could no longer feign unconsciousness. He had to wake up and couldn't help but slap Qin the Third, producing a resounding sound!

After slapping Qin the Third, Mr. Qin smiled awkwardly and ingratiatingly at the village chief, "Village chief, this child's head isn't working right, and he doesn't think before he speaks. Please don't get involved with such a foolish junior!

Even though this is Old Chen's fault, our Qin Clan is one family. It wouldn't look good if this scandal spread outside. I know what Old Chen did was wrong, and I absolutely won't oppose you punishing her!

But she is quite old now, so please spare her some dignity, and don't escalate it to the level of the ancestral hall. I will ensure she behaves from now on!

Actually, I also bear some responsibility for this matter. I knew about Old Chen's flaws, but I kept thinking she has endured hardships by my side since her youth, weathered decades of storms and hardships, and I truly..."

Old Qin was visibly moved and shed two lines of hot tears. Mr. Qin got the cue and started wiping his eyes, while Qin the Third, after being slapped by his father, finally acted smart, tearfully pleading to the village chief.

"Village chief uncle, I was previously too worried about my mother, which led to my disrespect towards you. My mother may have wronged the girl, but she truly loves us sons. We are not heartless ingrates, and we lost our bearings because this concerns our own mother. Village chief uncle, I'm kneeling to you; please, don't send my mother to the government. Send me instead, I'll bear the crime of murder for my mother, village chief uncle..."

Qin the Third knelt on the ground, crying plaintively to the village chief, tears and snot flowing down his face, looking utterly miserable.

Beside him, Mr. Qin, along with Mr. Qin and Qin Laoer, bowed their heads, tears in their eyes. This instantly changed the attitude of many villagers, who started thinking that although Old Chen was wrong, Qin the Third's previous outburst, though unpleasant, was out of concern for his mother, which was understandable!

The change in the villagers' attitude had the village chief frowning. Mr. Qin, indeed a cunning man, was turning the situation around with his sob story duet with Qin the

Third. Qin the Third's act as a filial son worried for his mother had smoothed over previous grievances!

In reality, this matter is quite significant, as the charge of attempted murder is serious; yet, on the smaller side, it's a family issue. Old Chen killed her own granddaughter, which complicates things. If it were an outsider, it would be a different story, but since it's her own, it's much more tangled.

Because everyone in Mr. Qin's family was pleading for Old Chen, including Qin Shuangshuang's father, Qin Laoer, even if this went to the government, the official would likely not be too harsh on Old Chen after considering the circumstances!

Moreover, the village chief had another concern: due to Qin Shuangshuang's good relationships and the enormous wrong she suffered, everyone collectively felt that Old Chen was in the wrong and should be punished!

But if he pushes too hard against Old Chen, and with Mr. Qin's deliberate act of self-pity, showing a filial son concerned for his mother by crying and swaying the villagers' sympathy, further pressure might provoke sympathy toward Mr. Qin's household instead.

Additionally, Old Chen is, after all, Qin Shuangshuang's own grandmother, which give her a natural advantage in terms of status and position, making this an undeniably tricky situation.

Luckily, the village chief knew from the start that it was impossible to severely punish Old Chen, and even the talk about the ancestral hall was mostly a scare tactic; he originally planned just to give Old Chen a minor punishment.

"Alright, stop crying. You're right, filial piety is basic human nature, but is caring for the young not as well?

Now you cry over your wife, while you all weep for your mother, but none of you have expressed any remorse for Damsel Yu. Is she not your own granddaughter, your niece, hasn't she shown you filial piety?

She has been grievously injured and nearly died! Is it that she deserved this just because she survived, and it's no longer a big deal? From your arrival here to now, all you've done is cry over how your wife endured hardships with you for decades, and how your mother loves you.

But what about Damsel Yu! Such a small girl, due to your negligence, is working and earning money like an adult, only to be treated like this by you!

Have you forgotten that it's this old wife of yours who has weathered decades with you, this loving mother of yours, who nearly killed your granddaughter, your niece! That's a human life we're talking about!"

Saying this, the village chief was a bit angry. The Qin Family had been crying for so long, seemingly full of grief and sentiment. In reality, none of them had even uttered a word of concern for Qin Shuangshuang, their own flesh and blood. How could they be so heartless!

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The village chief suppressed his anger and continued in a cold voice, "From the beginning until now, you weep for the wife, you weep for the mother, but none of you has even mentioned the Second Miss lying there, not knowing if she's alive or dead!

The Second Miss is also your flesh and blood! Do you, father and son, feel even a tiny bit of compassion for the Second Miss? Any remorse? Any concern for whether she might actually die!

Qin the Third, you even said that even if the Second Miss died, you wouldn't hold anyone accountable, so others have no right to pursue it!

That is a human life! The life of a child, your own flesh and blood! How can you be so dismissive!

If you can treat your close relatives in this way, then you surely disregard the lives of others even more. Qin the Third, no matter how filial you are, if you disregard the lives of others, you are nothing but a heartless, hypocritical person!"

The village chief, being who he is, immediately turned people's mood around with this speech! The villagers, who had previously felt a faint sense of sympathy for the Qin Family, suddenly felt a chill in their hearts and, upon reflection, realized this to be the truth.

If Qin the Third could say something like that just for the sake of his mother, even ignoring the death of his own niece, then if anything were to happen to those of us who have no relation to him, he'd probably just treat it as a joke, without any feeling!

Thinking even deeper, he might even take pleasure in our misfortune, and with this thought, people's discomfort rose, the previous slight sympathy vanished, replaced instead by a growing sense of disgust!

Mr. Qin's face was ashen, and Qin the Third's expression was equally unpleasant. They could no longer cry. The village chief's words directly targeted the sly calculations in the minds of Mr. Qin and Qin the Third. They simply did not care about the life or death of a girl like Qin Shuangshuang!

In their hearts, no matter how capable the Second Miss was, she wasn't a son; a girl's life was inherently cheap, strangled or discarded at birth, or even sold when a bit older, without much thought! Besides, Qin Shuangshuang wasn't dead, so to the Qin Family, this really wasn't an issue!

Some tried to explain, but seeing the vaguely rejecting gazes from the crowd, they were at a loss for words. Mr. Qin felt a surge of shame and anger! He began resenting the village chief in his heart but did not dare to voice his offense.

The village chief also had no intention of continuing to listen to their explanations; he was just about to announce his decision.

"Village chief grandpa, wait a moment!"

Before the village chief could speak, a child's small voice interrupted him. Everyone turned to see Qin Shuangshuang, her neck wrapped in a white cloth, face pale, being tightly held by Mrs. Bai, unknowingly joining the crowd's side.

The village chief was interrupted by Qin Shuangshuang, and the words he intended to say remained unsaid. Mrs. Wang, who had been silently beside the village chief, frowned disapprovingly upon seeing Qin Shuangshuang!

She expressed concern and scolded Qin Shuangshuang, "You child, why are you out here? You suffered such serious injuries earlier, and now you should be resting properly. Look at your face, even paler than paper, hurry back to lie down!"

Qin Shuangshuang smiled obediently at Mrs. Wang. She had already been listening inside the house for quite some time, knowing the village chief definitely would not severely punish Old Chen today!

Judging by the village chief's intentions earlier, he probably planned to give just a minor reprimand to Old Chen. With that in mind, Qin Shuangshuang intended to display her filial piety again through this matter, further promoting her reputation of being dutiful.

So she interrupted the village chief before he could speak, now smiling sweetly at the village chief and Mrs. Wang, saying, "Grandma Wang, I'm fine now. I just want to ask Grandpa Village Chief not to punish my grandma! See, I'm okay, please forgive her!"

As Qin Shuangshuang spoke, everyone immediately felt admiration for how virtuous and understanding this child was at such a young age. Remarkably, she didn't hold grudges and was pleading for someone who almost killed her!

Even though that person was her own grandmother, it was apparent that Old Chen had no affection for this granddaughter, treating her more like an enemy. Yet this child remarkably still valued the kinship, holding no resentment towards Old Chen.

Such a person might be considered a pushover, easily bullied, but undoubtedly, everyone hopes to meet such a person in their lives, someone like Qin Shuangshuang. Her words instantly won everyone's favor.

The village chief nodded approvingly at Qin Shuangshuang and praised, "You child are so virtuous! Truly rare."

He glanced back at Mr. Qin and Qin the Eldest, Qin Laoer, and Qin the Third, and sighed, "Since the Second Miss pleads for leniency, there will be no need to open the ancestral hall!"

"Thank you, village chief, thank you. Rest assured, I will certainly restrain Old Chen in the future and ensure she never does such things again! I will also cherish the Second Miss properly, never forgetting this child's virtue..."

The village chief finally softened his stance, and Mr. Qin immediately expressed profound gratitude with endless thanks, his mouth full of kind words, even feeling a bit more affection towards Qin Shuangshuang, realizing their family name was preserved!

Qin the Eldest and Qin the Third also joined in with pleasant words, knowing that everyone was standing up for Qin Shuangshuang now. Smartly, like Mr. Qin, they repeatedly promised to treat Qin Shuangshuang well in the future.

The village chief did not believe a single word of their flattery but did not bother to expose it, "Alright, no need to thank me here. Although I said there was no need to open the ancestral hall, that doesn't mean there will be no punishment!

Though this is your family matter, the intent to kill is not merely a family issue to be disregarded; no matter what, there can't be no punishment at all!

If there isn't any, it would disrupt the village's demeanor, encouraging elders to think it's acceptable to harm younger ones they dislike. Chaos would ensue!"

"Yes, yes! You're absolutely right. We admit the fault, without any complaints!" Mr. Qin nodded repeatedly, fully agreeing with the village chief's decision, so long as it didn't involve opening the ancestral hall or reporting to the authorities, preserving their family's reputation mattered most, Old Chen's punishment barely concerned Mr. Qin and his sons!

Ultimately, Mr. Qin cared about face and the ability to remain in the village, while Qin the Eldest and Qin the Third mainly worried Old Chen's incident could affect their future lives!

As for Qin Laoer, he was a silent man, almost no one knew what he truly thought, nor did anyone care.

"Since you all have no objections, I will proceed according to the old rules. As per the Qin Clan's traditions, those who err are punished by threshing rice in the village center. Given the gravity of Chen's mistake, she shall thresh rice for half a year, with no family assistance permitted; do you have any objections?"

Mr. Qin and his sons naturally had no objections, as being punished to thresh rice was customary; half a year, though not a light punishment, seemed too lenient considering Old Chen's offense.

Seeing Mr. Qin and his sons without objection, the village chief continued, "Since you have no objections, then Chen's matter is settled that way. With Chen's issue concluded, next, I want to discuss the Second Miss's matter!"

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Mr. Qin was full of doubt, wondering what else there was to say about Second Lady? Old Chen had already been punished, wasn't Second Lady's only task now to recover from her injury! But at this moment, whatever the village chief said, they had to listen. Mr. Qin forced a smile at the village chief, "What matter with Second Lady? Please, tell us!"

"Second Lady was badly injured just now, and the doctor repeatedly ensured she is well taken care of before leaving. She needs to eat some good food to replenish her energy and blood. You must keep an eye on that troublesome wife of yours. I know how your family treats Second Lady; it must have hurt to make you buy medicine. If you're asked to spend more money buying meat for Second Lady to nourish her body, you definitely won't be willing!"

That is definitely unwilling, in the minds of Mr. Qin and the others, Second Lady was just a girl, not deserving of eating meat to replenish her body with herbal medicine, that's already plenty! But this couldn't be said to the village chief, Mr. Qin had to clarify, "That's not right! We wouldn't do such a thing!"

The village chief impatiently frowned and said, "Enough, families have lived together in this village for decades, everyone knows about each other's character. Don't say those beautiful words anymore. I know, even if you're forced by me to agree to buy nourishing things for Second Lady, afterwards you'll treat it as idle talk or only buy a little and say unpleasant words to Second Lady. Even if you don't say anything, your wives will.

I won't let Second Lady suffer from that. Whether you buy or not is up to your conscience. Remember this, not paying for it doesn't matter, but do not covet the wild boar the child caught. Don't dispute it. Keep it all for the child's recovery! I'll have someone inspect it. If I find you don't heed my words, I'll double the punishment for the Chen family!

Also Mrs. Bai, she's Second Lady's birth mother and will surely take care of her dearly. Before Second Lady's injury has completely healed, Mrs. Bai must stay to take care of her. You can't make Mrs. Bai work, everything should be prioritized for Second Lady's recovery!"

Mr. Qin was still unwilling. Mrs. Bai, despite appearing weak, was clean and efficient in both household and field work, almost as good as a strong laborer. With the sowing season approaching, losing Mrs. Bai would increase others' workload, and importantly, the harvest might be affected. Mr. Qin could not possibly agree.

Mr. Qin and Qin the Third were also upset. They had long coveted the meat Qin Shuangshuang brought home. Whether to sell it or keep it, they'd already planned it out. It could be said they'd already considered the meat as their own. Now having to give it all up was as painful as cutting their own flesh.

However, these father and sons dared not voice their dissatisfaction, fearing to anger the village chief, they could only suppress their frustration and nodded in agreement.

Once the matter was resolved, everyone left under the village chief's guidance. Qin Shuangshuang was carried by Mrs. Bai, bidding farewell to Aunt Hao and her son Qin Yuan, and returned to their courtyard with Mr. Qin.

In the yard, Mrs. Fang was sitting against the wall with Si Lang, Wulang, and the Eldest Lady, more than ten meters away from Old Chen. Old Chen sat cross-legged on the ground with disheveled hair, her face gloomy. Little Chen accompanied her, her face showing some worry!

Upon seeing the group return, especially Qin Shuangshuang who was conscious while being carried back by Mrs. Bai, despite looking pale, no longer showed signs of near-death. Everyone in the courtyard felt somewhat relieved, finally letting go of the tension.

Even Old Chen's face, which had been constantly grim, looked a lot better. Of course, it wasn't because she was glad Qin Shuangshuang didn't die, but because since Qin Shuangshuang didn't die, she hadn't committed murder, so there was nothing to worry about!

But it was clear that Old Chen had relaxed too early. Mr. Qin might have defended her fiercely in front of the village chief and others, but internally he was not pleased with Old Chen's troublemaking or her injury to Qin Shuangshuang!

Although Mr. Qin also disliked Qin Shuangshuang, he absolutely didn't want her severely injured or killed by Old Chen. The reason was simple, despite her young age, Qin Shuangshuang brought home goods from the mountains and sold them for money over the past two years, comparable to what the most profitable in the family, Mr. Qin, brought back!

That's despite Qin Shuangshuang being young and not fully grown yet. Once she's grown, imagine how strong she'll be!

Now the child can bring back a semi-grown wild boar, when she's older, wouldn't she be able to bring back big game like tigers or black bears! In these times, a tiger or black bear could sell for enough money to support dozens of people for a year!

Mr. Qin had already planned to keep Qin Shuangshuang at home for as long as possible, the later she marries, the better.

He even thought about if Qin Shuangshuang grew up, and Qin Laoer still had no sons, he'd use the excuse of not letting his second son be without heirs to bring a son-in-law home for Qin Shuangshuang, keeping her firmly in the family!

Imagining how much money Qin Shuangshuang would bring to the family, Mr. Qin would laugh awake even in his dreams!

The abacus was almost broken by Old Chen, naturally Mr. Qin was upset. Seeing Old Chen relieved, he coldly repeated the punishment the village chief had given, and emphasized Old Chen must comply!

After saying this, Mr. Qin went straight back to the main room, not even glancing at the silent Mrs. Bai and Qin Shuangshuang being carried.

Mr. Qin was unhappy even with Old Chen, and he was even more dissatisfied with Qin Shuangshuang, his granddaughter whom he had no feelings for, only use for. He thought if Qin Shuangshuang didn't always provoke Old Chen, why would Old Chen get angry and slash her! This thought was bizarre!

Mr. Qin entered the room, Mr. Qin considered it and followed. He knew his mother's temper, she wouldn't obediently accept punishment, she would surely cause a big scene!

Mr. Qin was a bit exhausted today, and didn't want to witness Old Chen's explosion, so he went with Mr. Qin.

Mrs. Bai held Qin Shuangshuang, quietly returning to her room, sitting silently on the bed, tight-lipped, just clinging onto Qin Shuangshuang. Qin Shuangshuang knew she had scared Mrs. Bai today, so she hugged her neck closely, accompanying her in silence.

As Mrs. Bai felt the warmth of little Qin Shuangshuang in her arms, realizing her daughter was indeed here, she gradually relaxed. Slowly easing her aching arms holding Qin Shuangshuang!

Although in a dark, cramped room, the atmosphere between mother and daughter was warm and peaceful.

While the atmosphere between Qin Shuangshuang and Mrs. Bai was cozy, outside as expected by Mr. Qin, Old Chen exploded.

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Old Chen was stunned for quite a while after hearing Mr. Qin's words, unable to react! It wasn't until Mr. Qin and Mr. Qin had both left for a while that Old Chen finally realized what Mr. Qin had said!

She blinked, looked at Qin the Third in the courtyard, and Da Lang, Second Lang, and Third Lang who had silently followed and watched from the beginning. After receiving affirmative nods from them, Old Chen raised her voice and sat on the ground with a wail!

As soon as she sat on the ground, she started hitting her thighs, raising her voice and wailing, but it was the kind of dry cry without tears, "I can't live anymore! I just know that little beast can't see me living well even a bit! Just a small injury and pretending to be dying to gain sympathy, this is really killing me!"

When Old Chen started crying and making a scene, Little Chen and Mrs. Fang, her two daughters-in-law, naturally couldn't just watch and hurried forward to console her. Even Qin the Third followed, persuading while stirring up trouble, and Da Lang, Second Lang, Third Lang accompanied by the Eldest Lady, Si Lang, and Wulang joined the chaos, making the courtyard chaotic with chickens flying, dogs barking, and ducks running around.

"Oh dear, Aunt Chen, what's going on with you sitting on the ground? Are you putting on a show here? Why is it so lively? You're sitting on the ground, shouting like thunder without rain; I could hear it from far away! Surely half the street has heard you by now!"

This was said by Aunt Hao, who came with Mrs. Wang, the village chief's wife, and beside Aunt Hao was her son Qin Yuan, carrying a large bundle of firewood almost covering him.

It was Aunt Hao who sarcastically spoke to Old Chen. Her son Qin Yuan unloaded the firewood and stood by to watch the commotion, while Mrs. Wang frowned at the dust-covered, disheveled Old Chen on the ground, unable to hide the disgust in her eyes!

Mrs. Wang and the village chief were indeed a couple, and they shared the same thoughts at that moment. She despised Old Chen's character and was somewhat disdainful of speaking with her, so she had just listened to Aunt Hao before and didn't speak out herself.

Seeing Mrs. Wang and Aunt Hao arrive, Old Chen quickly stopped crying, got up from the ground, dusting herself off with an embarrassed face. Although she liked to act unreasonably and without regard for her image in front of her family, she wasn't so bold in front of outsiders!

Mrs. Wang, seeing Old Chen stand up, reprimanded her sharply, "Chen, you are a grandmother now, yet still so reckless and unruly like a shrew. Do you think you're still a young bride who just entered the family?

The foul words you just spat, what were those? Are those words that people should say? You almost killed your own granddaughter but have no remorse, and you're here cursing the granddaughter who pleaded for you after you hacked her as a little beast. Aren't you worse than an animal!

I think it's because your punishment was too light that you are so unrepentant! Today, I'll make the decision. Your punishment is extended by three more months! If you refuse, then get the hell out of the village with your family! Our village can't have such apathetic and ungrateful households like yours!"

It must be said, Mrs. Wang's words were harsh, but she could reprimand Old Chen like this because her status was high enough!

If the village chief was the most authoritative man in the village, then Mrs. Wang was the leader among the village women! Her status and seniority were high enough to suppress all the women in the village!

Old Chen was a tyrant at home, but the hallmark of a home bully is being fierce at home while instantly cowardly outside, so although Old Chen was dissatisfied with Mrs. Wang's reprimand, she didn't dare say much. She didn't even dare to voice any objection when Mrs. Wang said she would add three months to her punishment!

Seeing Old Chen remain silent, Mrs. Wang couldn't be bothered to pay attention to the others in the courtyard. She directly went with Aunt Hao and Qin Yuan to Qin Shuangshuang and Mrs. Bai's room.

Once Mrs. Wang left, Old Chen wore a sullen face, turned, and went to the main room, not thinking much about why the three had come. She intended to settle scores with Mr. Qin, mainly about why she was being punished when Qin Shuangshuang, that little girl, wasn't dead!

Whatever disturbance Old Chen caused with Mr. Qin, Mrs. Wang didn't care. She and Aunt Hao brought Qin Yuan along this time to help Mrs. Bai turn the meat Qin Shuangshuang brought home into long-lasting smoked meat and to tally the number of smoked meats once done.

Even though the village chief had spoken, Old Chen might not dare blatantly to target this meat, but there was no guarantee she wouldn't try to sneak some or stash it away secretly.

To help make the smoked meat, Aunt Hao specifically had Qin Yuan bring many fruit woods from her home. Meat smoked with fruit wood has the best flavor.

Qin Shuangshuang wasn't surprised that Mrs. Wang and Aunt Hao came to help. She often sent mushrooms and wild fruits, always helping with chores. These efforts weren't in vain. People have hearts; moreover, these two families were kind-hearted and extending a helping hand at this time was normal.

What truly surprised Qin Shuangshuang was that her mother, Mrs. Bai, who was always gentle, easily bullied, enduring grievances, and never opposing the Qin Family or Old Chen's unjust treatment, also followed silently to make smoked meat!

Qin Shuangshuang's heart felt soft. It is often said that a mother becomes strong for her child, and this was vividly true for Mrs. Bai. Even when she didn't dare to resist Old Chen's and Qin Laoer's oppression, Mrs. Bai would protect Qin Shuangshuang with her weak body, ensuring she faced no harm from the outside.

However, the experience of her cherished daughter being hacked to death by Old Chen led Mrs. Bai to learn to resist. She no longer accepted her fate passively, which made Qin Shuangshuang particularly happy because it meant she no longer had to worry about Mrs. Bai refusing to leave with her.

The smoked meat had just started when several more people came to help, and the speed immediately picked up. Soon all the smoked meat was complete, with a lot of bone, rib cages, and four pig trotters left!

Mrs. Wang directed everyone to hang the meat in Qin Shuangshuang and Mrs. Bai's room, although this was only temporary. To properly cure the smoked meat, it would take at least another month's continuous smoking for it to keep, but Mrs. Bai could manage this herself.

The first round of smoked meat making was the most troublesome. Mrs. Wang came over, partly fearing Mrs. Bai would be overwhelmed but mainly worrying that Mrs. Bai wouldn't be able to keep the meat safe from Old Chen seizing it, and as previously mentioned, to number and keep track of how many smoked meats there were.

Qin Yuan also considerably brought some skilled stove builders from the village to build a separate small stove at the entrance of Qin Shuangshuang's room. This way, Qin Shuangshuang could cook separately without going to the big kitchen, avoiding many potential meat-snatching incidents.

While the smoking of meat and stove building kept everyone busy and bustling with activity, inside the main room, Mr. Qin was being driven crazy by Old Chen's tantrum!

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The main issue was that Old Chen was unhappy about being punished to pound rice. She had been the matriarch for so many years, and after raising her son and seeing him marry, she had not worked again, so she was naturally unwilling to lose face and suffer the burden of pounding rice!

Old Chen didn't know that Mr. Qin had genuinely exhausted his efforts, crying and feigning fainting to plead for her, and only threw a tantrum. In the end, Mr. Qin got really angry and directly slapped Old Chen!

This slap landed right on Old Chen's face in front of all the sons, grandsons, and daughters-in-law, with a crisp sound that made people feel the pain just by hearing it!

Old Chen's face immediately swelled with a red mark, a clear handprint prominently appeared on her face that was no longer young. Old Chen was stunned by this slap from Mr. Qin!

She was dumbfounded for the time it takes to drink a cup of tea, but once she recovered, Old Chen exploded! She raised a roar, jumped up high, and pounced at Mr. Qin, stretching out her hands and fiercely scratching at Mr. Qin's face!

The bystanders around were also shocked by this sudden change. It was only after Old Chen and Mr. Qin got into a scuffle that they reacted and immediately went to pull them apart, with some grabbing arms and others hugging legs. During this, Old Chen's waving hands, like chicken claws with strong destructive power, accidentally injured many!

After finally separating the two, with Mr. Qin glaring furiously and Old Chen making a scene, not only was Mr. Qin's face scratched up, but those who intervened weren't spared either, with more or less marks on their faces!

In the chaos, one of Little Chen's eyes got hit somehow, giving her a black eye, and Mr. Qin's forehead was cut, with blood covering his whole face! Qin Laoer had his neck scratched to the point of bleeding, and Qin the Third's face was the most amusing, with three scratches on one side, quite symmetrical!

Mrs. Fang was slick, she kept her kids on the edge and didn't put in effort, so she didn't get hurt either! She only took a tumble during the pushing.

Although Old Chen was fierce when she acted out, after all, she was up in years and somewhat exhausted after being pulled away, so she sat on the ground, slapping her

legs and clapping her hands, cursing Mr. Qin for being ungrateful, saying she's suffered untold hardships living with him all her life, only to get beaten when she's old!

It must be said that Old Chen was genuinely hurt at that moment, crying so much that tears and snot flowed down her face, constantly complaining—not just about Mr. Qin, but also her three sons, Mr. Qin, Qin Laoer, and Qin the Third!

The more Old Chen cried, the sadder she became, until she blew her nose hard and flung it casually, landing right on Mr. Qin's collar, nearly causing him to throw up out of disgust!

While the commotion continued, Mrs. Wang lifted the curtain and came in, directly facing Old Chen sitting on the ground, crying incessantly and covered in dirt, looking very disheveled. Mrs. Wang frowned immediately, feeling utterly fed up.

She just couldn't understand, the one who suffered and got hurt was her little daughter-in-law, who had danced at the gates of death with her young child, and yet throughout it all, she neither cried nor caused a scene, even pleading for the murderer. Her obedience was heart-wrenching; how come the attacker, the perpetrator, was the one making such a fuss?

This innocent look, as if she had just suffered a great grievance, would make anyone who didn't know think she was the one who was nearly killed with a slash?

Mrs. Wang sneered directly, sarcastically saying, "Chen, have you become attached to this ground? How come you're always seen rolling on the floor every time I look at you! You cry and act aggrieved; anyone ignorant might think you've suffered an enormous grievance!

I genuinely don't understand how the little daughter-in-law you almost killed with a knife didn't cry or make a fuss, so why do you, the murderer holding the knife, feel wronged and have the nerve to cry and scream here? Or are you actually dissatisfied with the village's punishment given to you?"

Old Chen didn't respond, stood up with Mr. Qin's help, and sat aside gasping. She still looked utterly aggrieved, making Mrs. Wang's chest ache with anger!

Mr. Qin wanted to say something, but his face was so scratched by Old Chen that he was too embarrassed to show it, so he kept his back to Mrs. Wang while sitting inside.

It was still Mr. Qin who accompanied and smiled at Mrs. Wang, explaining, "Aunt Wang, my mother's just foolish by nature. Please don't stoop to her level. We have no objections to the village's punishment and will absolutely comply."

Mrs. Wang was also lazy to waste words with this family, directly sneering, "Fine, your family's matters are beyond me, and I'm not interested in meddling. I'm here just to

warn you: all the meat is meant for the daughter-in-law's recovery, and I've counted the quantity clearly. I will also have someone come to check it later.

Remember, if I find the meat tampered with once, Chen's punishment will be extended by ten days, twice by twenty days, and so on. If you're not afraid of her pounding rice at the threshing ground for life, feel free to target that meat!"

Mrs. Wang finished her words and didn't wait for a response from the Qin Family, turning around and leaving directly!

It must be said that Mrs. Wang's visit was quite intimidating; after she left, Mrs. Bai made bone broth and stir-fried pork with cabbage for Qin Shuangshuang, while things remained very quiet on the other side! No one came over, except for Si Lang and Wulang, who gazed longingly at the aroma outside the door of the other room for ages.

Qin Shuangshuang didn't pay them any mind. It's not that she was stingy with the meat; frankly, if she wanted to eat meat, she only needed to wander the mountain to get some!

It's just that after Mrs. Bai had painstakingly prepared the meat, no matter how much Qin Shuangshuang persuaded, Mrs. Bai wouldn't take a bite, insisting instead on watching the food go into Qin Shuangshuang's belly. Qin Shuangshuang truly couldn't bring herself to share this meat, filled with Mrs. Bai's maternal love, with anyone else!

Mrs. Bai made a lot of meat, maybe intending to restore Qin Shuangshuang's health all at once, and even with her large appetite, Qin Shuangshuang couldn't finish it all. Still, Mrs. Bai refused to eat, finally giving in only after Qin Shuangshuang said that if she didn't eat, it might be stolen by others or taken by Qin Laoer when he returned.

After eating, Mrs. Bai didn't wait for Qin Laoer to come home and serve him before going to rest, as usual. She directly hugged Qin Shuangshuang and lay down on the bed. Mrs. Bai's action was a standard protective gesture, tightly enclosing Qin Shuangshuang in her embrace.

Qin Shuangshuang pretended to sleep with her eyes closed, feeling that Mrs. Bai hadn't fallen asleep either and was quite tense, knowing she was worried about Qin Laoer. In fact, Qin Shuangshuang's heart was also not at ease.

Although it had been dark for a long time, Qin Laoer was still in the main room. Today, she was injured—no matter if the wound was really serious, the bleeding was real, and Qin Shuangshuang still felt dizzy and weak all over.

This was a good opportunity; it's impossible that Qin the Third and Little Chen wouldn't incite Qin Laoer. Qin Laoer used to be afraid of her immense strength, but now that her threat was gone, he was very likely to be provoked into making a move, so Qin Shuangshuang didn't dare to sleep!

The two lay tightly hugging on the bed pretending to sleep, but Qin Laoer never came home. It wasn't until the middle of the night when Qin Shuangshuang was drowsy with fatigue that she finally heard the room door click open, being pushed by someone!