

R Woman 841

Chapter 841: Kindness

Mo Zhixuan also joined Han Zixiu in lighting up a cigarette and started puffing away immediately.

Mo Zhixuan subconsciously concealed the fact that Jin almost had a difficult labor, and downplayed the situation, "Yeah, but Jin had a natural birth, different from her sister. A cesarean section is a lot safer. It took almost five hours for Jin to give birth to the two little ones."

Hearing this, Han Zixiu breathed a sigh of relief; after all, Ding Siyu had only been in there for an hour.

Just as everyone was extremely anxious, a loud cry suddenly came from the delivery room.

It was the distinctive wailing of a newborn baby.

Upon hearing this, Han Zixiu hurriedly tossed his cigarette butt into the trash can, and hugged Mo Zhixuan, excitedly saying, "She's given birth, my wife has given birth!" Han Zixiu wept with joy.

After embracing Mo Zhixuan, Han Zixiu instinctively wanted to hug Chu Jin.

Seeing through his intentions, Mo Zhixuan coldly blocked him in front of Chu Jin, looking at Han Zixiu, "Are you trying to take advantage of Jin in the chaos? Shameless!"

In almost an instant, the two of them reverted to their usual selves.

Han Zixiu said somewhat speechlessly, "Look at how petty you are. I don't know how my sister fell for you."

The crying continued inside the delivery room, and Han Zixiu was too anxious to bicker with Mo Zhixuan anymore. He leaned his hands on the operating room door, anxiously saying, "Why isn't this door opening yet? Hasn't she already given birth?"

"Brother-in-law, there's no need to worry. After giving birth, the doctor still needs to do some basic care, but she should be out very soon." Chu Jin had quite the experience with childbirth.

But after hearing the baby's cry, Chu Jin also let out a sigh of relief.

Ding Siyu was just too quick. It was barely two hours, and the child had already arrived.

"I'm not in a hurry, I'm not in a hurry at all." Han Zixiu was saying one thing but feeling another, his eyes constantly looking towards the operating room.

Chu Jin looked at Mo Zhixuan with a smile, "We still don't know if my sister had boys or girls. She was pregnant with three at once; there must be at least one of each."

Mo Zhixuan gave Han Zixiu a look and said with slightly parted lips, "That remains to be seen. After all, not everyone has the good fortune of having both a son and a daughter like I do."

"Shut up already!" Chu Jin reached out and covered Mo Zhixuan's mouth.

Han Zixiu looked back at Mo Zhixuan, "Jealous, you're just jealous of me!"

At that moment, the door to the operating room was pushed open, and a group of doctors and nurses came out.

"Who is Ding Siyu's family member?" the nurse asked, holding a baby.

"I am, I am," Han Zixiu immediately stepped forward. "I'm Ding Siyu's husband. Where is she? Why didn't she come out with you?"

"The mother has been moved to the ward, and congratulations, Mr. Han, your wife gave birth to three sons. This is the eldest, and those are the second and third," the nurse said, looking at the other two nurses holding the babies.

The three children all looked similar and wore similar clothes, so the doctor had considerably attached tags with 'Eldest,' 'Second,' and 'Third' on their little hats.

"All three are boys?" Chu Jin stepped beside the nurse, asking with surprise.

"That's how it is," the nurse nodded and smiled, "The children are all very healthy."

Chu Jin looked back, surprised, "Let me hold the baby." Chu Jin hadn't expected that Bao Bao's little prediction would come true! Ding Siyu really had given birth to three boys! It seems children's words can indeed be so prescient.

The nurse handed the baby to Chu Jin.

Chu Jin carefully took the baby, a tender smile spreading across her face. Looking at this tiny infant, Chu Jin felt as if she was seeing Bao Bao and Bei Bei a year ago; at that time, they were about the same size as this child, tiny and soft.

"Mo Zhixuan, look how cute your child is."

Mo Zhixuan came over, raising an eyebrow slightly, "Hmm, quite cute, looks more like her sister."

Han Zixiu, who was holding the other two babies with the maternity matron, heard this and said with displeasure, "Mo Zhixuan, what exactly are you implying? So if the kids look like me, they wouldn't be cute?"

Mo Zhixuan glanced at Han Zixiu, speaking in a calm tone, "Not bad, you're quite self-aware, there's hope for you yet."

Han Zixiu holding his child, "I won't stoop to argue with you out of respect for my son."

Han Zixiu was immersed in the joy of being a new father and wasn't bothered to quarrel with Mo Zhixuan.

The group, holding the babies, returned to the ward where Ding Siyu was already lying in the hospital bed, still unconscious with little awareness of her surroundings.

A nurse was taking care of her.

Seeing Ding Siyu still lying there, Han Zixiu immediately handed the child in his arms to Mo Zhixuan, who was left holding the baby in the chaotic wind. Why was he given the baby by Han Zixiu? And why was his holding posture so professional?

Would Han Zixiu take this opportunity to mock him?

Han Zixiu rushed to Ding Siyu's side and took her hand, "Yuer, Yuer." He called her name twice, but Ding Siyu gave no response, which made Han Zixiu anxious. He turned to the nurse, "Nurse, why is my wife not reacting at all?"

The nurse turned her head and smiled, "Mr. Han, your wife still has the effects of the anesthetic. She'll wake up in another hour."

At this, Han Zixiu breathed a sigh of relief.

An hour later, Ding Siyu woke up and her first reaction was to ask, "Han Zixiu, where are the children?"

As it was nearing noon, Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan went out for lunch, so now only Han Zixiu and Ding Siyu were left in the ward.

"Yuer, you're awake." Han Zixiu excitedly took Ding Siyu's hand.

"Where are the children?" Ding Siyu asked a bit anxiously.

"The children are sleeping over there." Han Zixiu pointed towards the small bed on the other side.

Ding Siyu followed Han Zixiu's gaze and saw three little infants sleeping on the bed. A gentle smile spread across Ding Siyu's face, "Bring the children over to me."

"Alright, I'm going right now. Don't move because of your incision." Han Zixiu walked over and picked up the eldest, the second, and the third child, and placed them one by one next to Ding Siyu.

Ding Siyu looked at the three tiny people with a tender smile in her eyes and then asked Han Zixiu, "Which one is the son, and which are daughters? Why did you dress them in the same clothes? Didn't we also prepare clothes for girls?"

Just in case, Ding Siyu had prepared both boys' and girls' clothes.

But now, Han Zixiu had surprisingly dressed them all in the same outfits.

Han Zixiu looked at Ding Siyu with a smile, "Wife, all three are sons."

"All sons?" Ding Siyu was a bit surprised, "Are you sure they're all sons? Not a single daughter?" Ding Siyu was still very eager to have a daughter.

"Yes," Han Zixiu nodded, "All three are sons. If you like daughters, we can try for another child in the future, we can definitely have a daughter."

Ding Siyu gave Han Zixiu a look, "You wish! These babies are too supernatural! When they say it's a little brother, they are all brothers!" Ding Siyu hadn't forgotten about the prediction at the birthday party, and although she had hoped for a stroke of luck, the babies were even more accurate than the ultrasound.

That was just too terrifying!

"Wife, what do you mean? What does this have to do with Bao Bao?" Han Zixiu asked curiously.

Ding Siyu told Han Zixiu about the incident at Bao Bao and Bei Bei's birthday party.

"They say a child's mouth is very spiritual, I didn't believe it before, but now I do! Bao Bao is just too spiritual!" Ding Siyu concluded in the end.

After listening, Han Zixiu got very excited, slamming the table, "It must have been that bastard Mo Zhixuan who coaxed Bao Bao into saying that. He just can't stand the thought of me having daughters! Bao Bao is so young, how could he tell the difference between boys and girls?"

It had to be Mo Zhixuan who made Bao Bao say that!

Because Mo Zhixuan was jealous that he had both a son and a daughter! He forcefully turned my daughter into a boy!

If it weren't for Bao Bao, he would also be someone with both a son and a daughter!

Like Ding Siyu, Han Zixiu also liked daughters very much.

A daughter is like a little coat that knows how to keep one warm.

Ding Siyu gave Han Zixiu a look, "Keep your voice down, don't scare the children. What does this have to do with Zhixuan? Don't make a fuss. Right, now that the children are born, have you thought about what to name them?"

Ding Siyu had previously chosen names for girls, which certainly wouldn't be appropriate now.

Seeing Ding Siyu defending Mo Zhixuan, Han Zixiu felt a bit jealous and paused momentarily.

Seeing his reaction, Ding Siyu reminded him, "I'm talking to you."

"Oh," Han Zixiu quickly came back to his senses, his expression returning to normal, "I've already thought of the children's names. The eldest will be called Han Jiayang, the second Han Jiayue, and the third Han Jiaxing." These names, Han Zixiu had thought of a long time ago, adopting the "The Sun, Moon and Stars," which are suitable for both genders.

Ding Siyu also understood the meaning behind the names and smiled, "Then their nicknames will be Yangyang, Yueyue, and Star, right?"

"Yes, we'll do as you say." Han Zixiu nodded.

Because they were triplets, the children had wristbands on their hands labeled: eldest, second, and third, to avoid any confusion.

Before long, Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan returned from their meal, and they had even packed a portion for Han Zixiu.

"Sis, you're awake. How are you feeling?" Chu Jin walked over and took Ding Siyu's hand.

Ding Siyu shifted her gaze from the children and smiled, saying, "I feel quite good, just a bit hungry." She hadn't eaten anything before the cesarean, and now she was clearly feeling hungry.

"Yuyu," Zhao Yan came in through the door with a thermos.

"Aunt Yu," the little Lolita followed behind Zhao Yan.

"Godmother, Pengpeng, you're here." Ding Siyu smiled at them.

"Yuyu, I've made some chicken soup for you; you should drink it while it's hot." Zhao Yan opened the thermos and scooped out a bowl of thick chicken soup.

"Thank you, Godmother." Ding Siyu took the chicken soup and sipped it lightly.

Since Ding Siyu had just had surgery, she couldn't make any big movements. Han Zixiu immediately took the chicken soup from her hands, "Yuyu, let me feed you."

Chu Jin, Zhao Yan, and the little Lolita had already gone to see the three children.

"Such cute babies, sis, have you thought of names for them yet?"

"Just like Bao Bao and Bei Bei when they were little, look at their tiny hands, tiny arms..." Zhao Yan's eyes were full of loving tenderness.

Ding Siyu looked up and smiled, saying, "Han Zixiu has already chosen names for them; the eldest is called Han Jiayang, the second is Han Jiayue, and Han Jiaxing, with nicknames Yangyang, Yueyue, and Star."

"Those names are so powerful," Chu Jin gave Ding Siyu a thumbs-up.

All the terms for the sun, moon, and stars had been claimed by these three brothers—how could they not be powerful?

Han Zixiu had indeed chosen great names.

Ding Siyu smiled faintly, her face brimming with happiness.

Han Zixiu looked somewhat smugly at Mo Zhixuan, momentarily forgetting about the ordeal with Bao Bao.

Since Ding Siyu had just given birth, she needed proper rest, so Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan soon headed back, while Zhao Yan stayed in the hospital to take care of Ding Siyu.

After all, Ding Siyu called Zhao Yan 'Godmother,' so it was only right for Zhao Yan to stay and take care of her.

As soon as Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan returned to the imperial palace, the Lady of the Mo family greeted them with a smile, "Jin, did Siyu have a boy or a girl?"

Bao Bao immediately ran over from behind, shouting loudly, "A brother, Auntie had a brother."

Chu Jin couldn't help but smile, "Bao Bao is right, my sister really did have a third boy."

The Lady of the Mo family was also surprised, "Three boys? They are going to be quite the handful in the future. Once they learn to walk, they'll probably take the house apart." Having just Bao Bao and Bei Bei as twins was sometimes more than the Lady of the Mo family could handle, let alone Ding Siyu's three boys.

The days ahead were certainly going to be lively.

At the bakery on the road.

Nian'en is now over 6 months old and unlike other children, Nian'en already has four teeth. Perhaps because he knows about his mother's hard work, Nian'en is much more obedient than the other kids. When Duanmu Sheng is busy, Little Nian'en would just sit in his stroller, not making a peep.

"Nian'en, would you like Sister to hold you?" Situ Ya waved to Nian'en.

Nian'en couldn't speak yet but looked at Situ Ya, then stretched out his hands with a sweet smile.

Situ Ya picked up Nian'en and laughed, "Nian'en, call me sister."

Duanmu Sheng walked over and teased, "Nian'en, call her old witch, she's getting on in years and still pretending to be young."

After spending some time together, Situ Ya and Duanmu Sheng had become close friends who could talk about anything.

"Nian'en, let's ignore her, say sister, sister," Situ Ya held Nian'en, her eyes brimming with smiles.

Duanmu Sheng shook her head with a laugh.

"Sheng Sheng, this is a gift I bought for Nian'en." A man in a suit stepped in from outside, holding a string of little yellow ducks in his hand.

Situ Ya looked up.

The man approached, about six feet tall, with dark, tanned skin, sharp brows, piercing eyes, with his shirt sleeves casually rolled up to his forearms, revealing strong, well-defined arms. He was simple yet elegant, with a touch of roguish nonchalance.

The string of little yellow ducks he held clearly did not match his image.

When Situ Ya looked up at him, the man just happened to look in this direction as well, their eyes locking in an electric spark, a hint of surprise in the depths of the man's eyes.

He turned his gaze incredulously toward Duanmu Sheng, "Sheng Sheng sister, how can you still be with this kind of person?"

The person who arrived was none other than Zi.

Nearly a year had passed, and Zi had changed tremendously. He was no longer the black lump of coal from a year ago; even Situ Ya had not recognized him.

Zi's impression of Situ Ya was not good. If it hadn't been for Situ Ya conspiring with Shen Haoguang, Duanmu Sheng would not have ended up like this.

Upon hearing this, Situ Ya's face changed instantly, her tone turning slightly cold, "Sir, please show some respect when you speak. What do you mean by 'my kind of person'? What kind of person am I? Have I eaten your family's food, or drunk your family's water?"

Duanmu Sheng quickly stood between the two, "It's all a misunderstanding, Ya Ya, calm down, Zi, you too, calm down."

Situ Ya placed Nian'en back in the stroller, crossed her arms, and glared fiercely at Zi over Duanmu Sheng, her gaze hostile.

This man speaks so unpleasantly!

From the sound of it, he even classifies people into different levels?

Who does he think he is?

Zi looked at Duanmu Sheng and said somewhat speechlessly, "Sheng Sheng sister, have you forgotten the losses you've suffered before? Do you really want to walk the same path again?" A top-tier white lotus like Situ Ya should be kept at a distance.

Duanmu Sheng hurriedly explained, "Zi, you've misunderstood. Ya Ya isn't the kind of person you imagine. If it weren't for her, I would have died at the Shen family long ago." If Situ Ya hadn't let her out of the Shen family's basement, there indeed would be no Duanmu Sheng today.

Zi understood Situ Ya all too well. This person, for the sake of wealth and status, had been with Shen Haoguang for seven long years. After Shen Haoguang's downfall, she even got together with Shen Liangxiao and ended up bringing ruin to the Shen family. Such a person was definitely not good, and nothing good would come from Duanmu Sheng being with her.

"Sheng Sheng sister, actors are heartless. There are some people you simply can't tell when they are acting and when they are being genuine!" With that, Zi looked up at Situ Ya and said sternly, "Situ Ya, I advise you to be kind!"

Situ Ya slightly curved her lips, her eyes flashing with disdain, "Acting? Sir, how much did you pay me for the performance? Did I travel all this distance to put on a play for you? If you're sick, go see a doctor; it's not right to bite people indiscriminately. Who knows if you might be carrying rabies! And by the way, my name is Lin Yuya!"

Having said that, Situ Ya took out two banknotes from her wallet and threw them at Zi, "This is for you to get treated. No need to thank me!"

With that, Situ Ya picked up her handbag and stomped away with a huff.

Zi looked at the two red banknotes, his cheeks puffing up with anger!

Duanmu Sheng quickly caught up with Situ Ya, "Ya Ya, don't be upset. My friend doesn't understand the situation; I'll explain it to him."

Situ Ya turned around, sighed, "Forget it, after all, I used to be a bad woman. He's not wrong. You go inside first; I'm fine." After saying that, Situ Ya left.

Watching Situ Ya's retreating figure, Duanmu Sheng also sighed, then turned and walked into the bakery.

Zi, seeing Duanmu Sheng come in, said huffily, "Sheng Sheng sister, I'm the one being bullied, yet you go comforting that Situ Ya!" Zi could practically be furious to death because of Situ Ya!

As angry as he was, he couldn't physically hit her—after all, she was a woman!

Without crossing his bottom line, he would not hit a woman.

Duanmu Sheng made a drink and handed it to Zi, "Zi, don't be angry; hear me out. Ya Ya is actually not the person you think she is."

Zi took the drink and immediately felt his anger subside by more than half, "Then what kind of person is she? Sheng Sheng sister, you've already been harmed enough by her. Wake up."

Duanmu Sheng gave a self-deprecating smile, "I brought it upon myself; it's unrelated to anyone else." After a pause, Duanmu Sheng continued, "Zi, let me tell you a story."

"Sure, go ahead." Zi took a comfortable sip of his drink and felt as though his whole life had been elevated. No matter what, even though Zi had turned into a strikingly handsome guy, he couldn't change his nature as a food lover.

"Once upon a time, there was a girl named Lin Yuya. When she was eight years old..." Duanmu Sheng spoke word by word, her tone slow, instantly pulling Zi into the story.

Undoubtedly, the story was a tragic one.

But the heroine was inspiring.

For the sake of vengeance, she lay in wait for seven years and ultimately took her enemy's life.

Listening to the end, Zi slightly furrowed his brows, a look of disbelief flashing in his eyes, "Sheng Sheng sister, you don't mean to say this person is Situ Ya, do you?"

Duanmu Sheng nodded, her lips curling into a faint smile, "Yes, but she's no longer Situ Ya; she is Lin Yuya."

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Hearing this, Zi's eyes already held a layer of admiration, and then she added, "But that's not right. If this Situ Ya is really a good person, why didn't she warn you when you were with Shen Haoguang? Instead, she even helped Shen Haoguang deceive you?"

Duanmu Sheng's expression remained unchanged. "Didn't you also warn me many times before? Unfortunately, love blinds. Even if it wasn't Situ Ya at that time, there would have been other women. At least Situ Ya saved my life in the end. If it were someone else, I might be dead and buried by now."

With these words, Zi's expression improved significantly, "Maybe I really misunderstood her, but regardless, she shouldn't have kept things from you. Although she may not be the main culprit, she is still an accomplice! You should avoid people like her in the future."

Zi was a person with very upright principles. A part of why Duanmu Sheng ended up in her current situation was due to Situ Ya, so Zi found it difficult to accept her at the moment.

Duanmu Sheng smiled faintly, not saying much more. No matter what, Zi Qi was only looking out for her.

After finishing her drink, Zi started playing with Nian'en.

"Nian'en, look, little duckies, quack quack quack..." Zi picked up a little duck toy and amused Nian'en with it.

Nian'en laughed heartily.

Duanmu Sheng watched the pair, the elder and the younger, and a warm glow appeared in her eyes.

Zi Qi was a really good and warm man.

In the past year or so, he had helped her and her daughter a lot.

If she had parted ways with Shen Haoguang back then, would she have a different result with Zi Qi now?

Duanmu Sheng narrowed her eyes.

Nian'en seemed to be missing a father.

Every time Zi appeared, Nian'en would smile very happily.

Zi stayed at the bakery for a while before leaving.

Duanmu Sheng, holding Nian'en, sent him to the door, "Nian'en, say goodbye to uncle."

"Little Nianen, goodbye." Zi waved at Nian'en, and as if understanding Duanmu Sheng's words, Nian'en waved his little chubby hands at Zi.

Just as Zi turned away, Duanmu Sheng called out to his retreating back, "Zi."

"Sheng Sheng, what is it?" Zi turned around, a smile blooming at the corner of his mouth, a bit sunny and somewhat heroic, which was mesmerizing.

Duanmu Sheng smiled slightly, "Come visit when you have time."

"Mhm." Zi nodded.

Duanmu Sheng held Nian'en and watched Zi's figure disappear down the street.

A long time later, Duanmu Sheng turned around and went back into the bakery.

Shortly after, Lin Xiyuan arrived. Unlike usual, Lin Xiyuan came alone today, without Zhou Yiheng by her side, and her eyes were red.

"Sheng Sheng," Lin Xiyuan's voice was somewhat hoarse.

Duanmu Sheng immediately noticed something off with Lin Xiyuan and quickly invited her to sit down, "Xiyuan, what happened to you?"

Lin Xiyuan sniffled, not saying a word, but tears uncontrollably started falling from her eyes.

"Xiyuan, what's wrong? Did my cousin bully you?" Duanmu Sheng asked anxiously.

Lin Xiyuan remained silent, pulling out a tissue to wipe her tears.

"Xiyuan, talk to me, you're really freaking me out!" Duanmu Sheng said, frantic. In her eyes, Lin Xiyuan had always been a strong girl, rarely seen in such a state.

Lin Xiyuan suddenly started crying loudly, "Sheng Sheng, Yi Heng, Yi Heng, he's with someone else now... He doesn't love me anymore..."

Duanmu Sheng frowned slightly and poured a glass of water for Lin Xiyuan, "Xiyuan, don't panic, take your time and tell me. Could this be a misunderstanding? My cousin isn't that kind of person." Zhou Yiheng might have been a bit thoughtless, but he certainly wasn't the type to two-time.

Lin Xiyuan sniffled, trying to calm herself, "Sheng Sheng, I'm telling the truth! Yi Heng really is with someone else now! If he doesn't like me, he could have just told me directly. I'm not the kind of person to cling desperately! As long as he told me that he already found someone he likes, I would immediately leave him! Why did he have to do this to me..." Her voice broke as she collapsed into sobs.

Lin Xiyuan was crying heartbreakingly, her eyelids swollen red, showing how deeply she valued the relationship.

As Duanmu Sheng patted Lin Xiyuan's back, she said, "Xiyuan, calm down for a moment and tell me exactly what happened. If it's really as you say, I will definitely stand by you."

Becoming involved with a 'mistress,' such a heartbreaking situation, was something no one could easily accept.

Lin Xiyuan dried her tears and choked out, "This morning that woman sent me a text message on her own initiative. At first, I thought it was a malicious message meant to stir up trouble between me and Yi Heng, until she sent me a picture from Yi Heng's WeChat, and that's when I realized it was true. Sheng Sheng, how could he do this to me? I love him so much! How could he treat me this way!" By the end, Lin Xiyuan had broken down into loud crying.

As Duanmu Sheng patted Lin Xiyuan's back, she asked, "Where's the photo? Can I see it?"

Lin Xiyuan took out her phone, navigated to the WeChat page, opened a photo, and handed it to Duanmu Sheng.

It was an explicit bed photo.

The woman in the photo didn't seem old, with colorful hair and a nose ring; she had a tattoo on her chest, clearly the type of restless girl.

The male protagonist was none other than Zhou Yiheng himself.

Seeing the photo, Duanmu Sheng was appalled! This Zhou Yiheng really was too irresponsible! He was already at the point of discussing marriage with Lin Xiyuan, yet how could he get involved with such an indecent woman!

"Stop crying, Xiyuan! I'll take you to confront Zhou Yiheng right now!" Duanmu Sheng was so angry she didn't even call him cousin anymore.

This Zhou Yiheng, such a disappointment!

Lin Xiyuan was pulled outside by Duanmu Sheng, who made a phone call to Zhou Yiheng arranging to meet him at a lawn square.

Since it was not a glorious matter, naturally, they couldn't meet in a crowded place.

At this time of the year, the lawn square had the fewest people.

About half an hour later, Zhou Yiheng appeared at the lawn square. He walked over, clearly annoyed, "Sheng Sheng, what's the meaning of this? Couldn't you have said whatever it is on the phone? Why did you have to drag me out here?"

At this time, Zhou Yiheng had yet to notice Lin Xiyuan's unusual behavior.

Without a word, Duanmu Sheng raised his hand and slapped Zhou Yiheng's left cheek.

Zhou Yiheng was stunned by the sudden slap, looking at Duanmu Sheng, "Duanmu Sheng, have you gone mad?"

Lin Xiyuan was also a bit stunned; she had not expected Duanmu Sheng to start with a slap and looked at him in bewilderment.

"Zhou Yiheng, confess honestly, what have you done to wrong Xiyuan?" Duanmu Sheng demanded, staring intently at Zhou Yiheng with a cold tone.

Lin Xiyuan hung her head, softly sobbing.

Zhou Yiheng, looking somewhat innocent, said to Duanmu Sheng, "What did I do? Duanmu Sheng, are you sick? Xiyuan, what exactly is going on?"

Lin Xiyuan kept her head down, saying nothing.

Duanmu Sheng continued, "Still pretending, huh? You really don't know what you've done? Zhou Yiheng, do I need to spell it out for you?"

"What have I done? Is that what I'm pretending?" Zhou Yiheng said with a face of innocence.

"Fine," Duanmu Sheng nodded, "It seems you won't give up until you're pushed to the brink!"

"You're crazy!" Zhou Yiheng, one hand covering his left cheek, took Lin Xiyuan's hand with the other, "Xiyuan, let's go! Don't bother with this lunatic!"

"Don't touch me!" Lin Xiyuan harshly pulled away from Zhou Yiheng's hand.

"Xiyuan, what's wrong? Who's bullying you? Why are you crying?" Zhou Yiheng looked at her with genuine concern, his eyes twinkling with distress.

"Get away from me! I don't want to see you!" Lin Xiyuan turned away coldly. Although she liked Zhou Yiheng, she had her pride, and her tastes were not so peculiar that she could share a man with another woman.

Only then did Zhou Yiheng realize something was seriously amiss. He glanced at Duanmu Sheng with a flicker of guilt in his eyes, coughed lightly, and then said, "Sheng, what exactly is going on here?"

Duanmu Sheng turned with a cold look, pulled out Lin Xiyuan's phone, and handed it to Zhou Yiheng with an unfriendly tone, "See for yourself!"

Upon seeing the photo on the phone, Zhou Yiheng's complexion changed instantly, he quickly said, "Xiyuan, listen to me, it's not what you think, it was just an act with that woman, you're the only one I love!"

Zhou Yiheng had never imagined that a woman with whom he had had just a one-night stand would have kept such a photo and also sent it to Lin Xiyuan while he was asleep.

He didn't even know the woman's name.

Moreover, he had never intended to be with this woman; she had set him up.

But such words, he knew, were definitely not going to be believed.

"Don't touch me!" Lin Xiyuan brushed off Zhou Yiheng's hand, "Zhou Yiheng, let me tell you, it's over between us! From today on, we go our separate ways, a clean break!" Lin Xiyuan's stance was firm. She was never one to drag things out and could not tolerate a man's infidelity.

Upon hearing this, Zhou Yiheng was completely panicked and quickly grabbed Lin Xiyuan's hand, bending his knees and kneeling down before her.

"Xiyuan, don't do this; I really didn't intend for this to happen, I love you, please don't leave me." Zhou Yiheng put aside all his pride as a man and knelt on the grass, desperately pleading with Lin Xiyuan.

This scene also shocked Duanmu Sheng.

A man willing to kneel before a woman surely proved that he genuinely loved her.

Lin Xiyuan pushed away Zhou Yiheng's hand, "Our fate ends here. Persisting obnoxiously does no good for anyone, goodbye." With that, she turned and walked away.

The moment she turned, the previously clear skies suddenly became overcast, with thunder rumbling and lightning flashing.

And then, a torrential downpour began.

Watching the two parting in the rain, Duanmu Sheng didn't know what to say.

From a woman's perspective, she could not tolerate a man's unfaithfulness.

But, from the standpoint of a cousin, she also hoped her cousin could find happiness.

She brought Lin Xiyuan to see Zhou Yiheng not to see them break up, but to resolve the issue. She thought that after slapping Zhou Yiheng and having him apologize, they could let bygones be bygones. After all, everyone makes mistakes. But she hadn't expected Lin Xiyuan to be so resolute.

Zhou Yiheng knelt in the rain, weeping endlessly, unwilling to get up.

The figure of Lin Xiyuan grew farther and farther away.

And no one noticed the faint smile at the corner of Lin Xiyuan's mouth.

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Elsewhere.

Zi, holding an umbrella, strolled along the streets of Ancient City Street.

When she reached a small alley, she paused and looked into it.

A young girl stood with an umbrella in one hand and a wooden board in the other, half crouching on the ground, building a small wooden house.

Amidst the rain, faint meows could be distinctly heard.

It was the sound of a kitten's cry.

"Don't be afraid, Little Yellow, the wooden house sister is building for you this time is very sturdy, it won't collapse again," the girl comforted, petting the head of the large ginger cat.

This girl was none other than Situ Ya.

In the veil of rain, her profile appeared especially elegant, shedding its mature sophistication for an air of ethereal grace, like an ancient ink wash painting.

If looked at for a while, this Situ Ya seemed somehow different from before.

The large ginger cat meowed, seemingly responding to her.

Situ Ya smiled slightly and pulled out a bag of cat food from her bag, pouring it into a bowl. She then reached into the small wooden house, "Yellowie, you'll have to make do sharing the cat food with Little Yellow."

Chapter 843: impossible now

Zi only then noticed that there was a chubby black dog sleeping inside the little cabin.

Added to the young cat, this tiny wooden hut surprisingly accommodated more than ten little animals.

It was clearly seen that Situ Ya must often help this group of stray little animals, for they were very friendly towards her.

Zi just stood there, for the first time in his life, he was entranced by the smile of a girl.

Her smile was genuine, unadorned, and it made people feel instantly comfortable at a glance.

Combining what Duanmu Sheng told him, Zi had changed his impression of Situ Ya considerably.

Someone who could be so gentle to stray little animals surely couldn't be all that bad at heart.

Once she made sure the little animals had eaten their fill and wouldn't get rained on, Situ Ya finally stood up, "Little Yellow, Yellowie, you have to be good, I'll come to see you again tomorrow."

As Situ Ya turned and walked towards the entrance of the alley, she seemed stunned for a moment upon seeing Zi, then she looked away and calmly walked past him.

Cherish life, keep away from the mentally challenged.

"Miss Situ Ya, please hold on." Zi stepped out an arm in front of Situ Ya to stop her.

Situ Ya stopped walking, looking somewhat displeased at Zi, "Take a left in front of the psychiatric hospital, no need to thank me. Also, to repeat, my surname is Lin."

The psychiatric hospital she referred to was well known for treating mental illnesses.

"Miss Lin, I had some misunderstandings about you before, and now I'm here to apologize to you," Zi apologized sincerely.

Situ Ya smiled faintly, "Sir, it seems like you're still quite sick. I'm just an actor, maybe I'm acting even now, so you don't need to lower yourself to apologize to an actor."

Zi was an honest kid, "Miss Lin, I'm really sorry, I didn't know the situation before, please forgive me."

"Forget it, forget it," Situ Ya said generously, waving her hand, "I accept your apology, please step aside, I need to go home."

Since he was so sincere, Situ Ya naturally didn't want to be unreasonable.

But she had always been allergic to men, and wasn't comfortable being so close to this little trash.

"Thank you, by the way, my name is Zi Qi, 'Zi' as in the color purple, 'Qi' as in the number seven, you can call me Zi just like Sister Sheng."

Zi Qi?

Upon hearing this, Situ Ya incredulously looked up, her eyes widening as she stared intently at Zi.

"You are Zi Qi?"

"Yes," Zi nodded seriously, "I won't change my name or my surname, I am Zi Qi." For some reason, Zi actually felt a bit uneasy looking directly into Situ Ya's eyes, and besides, he didn't want to show his childish side in front of her.

Situ Ya laughed with a "pfft," "You wouldn't happen to be fake, would you?" A year ago, Zi Qi was a black ghost so dark you could hardly make out his features, but it was unbelievable that a year later, Zi Qi had become a handsome young man with a perfectly normal bronze skin tone.

"I really am Zi Qi." A serious expression appeared in Zi's eyes.

Situ Ya narrowed her eyes, somewhat puzzled, "Did you get rejuvenated? Or did you use some kind of bleaching powder? What brand is the bleaching powder? The effect is so good, you should recommend it for me to use."

Zi: "... " Was he really that dark before?

Zi scratched his head and explained, "This is my original skin color, something unexpected happened in between, so that's why I turned out that way."

"Oh, so you were captured and taken to Africa as forced labor?" Situ Ya continued to ask.

That question stung a bit.

The past was unbearable to look back on.

To stop the uncomfortable feelings from continuing, Zi quickly said, "Miss Lin, I have things to do, so I'll be leaving first." With that, he hurriedly walked away.

Situ Ya tiptoed and said with a smile, "Leaving so soon? Why not stay and chat for a bit more, even if it's just for small talk worth fifty cents?"

But Zi quickened his pace even more.

If he stayed, his heart would shatter into powder.

Watching Zi's retreating figure, Situ Ya put away her smile and walked in the other direction; she didn't want any interaction with Zi Qi for the time being. In her eyes, no man was up to any good.

She had no particular feelings towards Zi Qi.

Zi Qi had always been the little coalball in her heart.

**

The Duanmu Family.

The atmosphere in the living room was rather serious.

The living room was filled with people.

Duanmu Canghai and Zhou Jin, Lin Hong and Lin Lan, as well as Zhou Yiheng's parents were also present.

Including both parties involved, Lin Xiyuan and Zhou Yiheng.

Originally, the marriage between Lin Xiyuan and Zhou Yiheng had been settled, but unexpectedly, this kind of incident occurred midway.

These two had come together through Zhou Jin's matchmaking, and at this time, whether to part or to stay together, had to go through Zhou Jin as a formality.

"My in-laws, is there really no room for maneuver in this matter? Our Yi Heng truly knows he was wrong!" Zhou's mother looked at Lin Lan, full of apology.

"Things have come to this pass; more words are useless. Even before marriage, if your Zhou Yiheng does such things, how would it be after marriage? Xiyuan is my only daughter; I can't let her suffer such humiliation. Let's end this marriage here, and you need not call me in-law anymore." Lin Lan was very firm in her attitude. Xiyuan was her only daughter, she couldn't possibly push her own child into the fire.

In the Superpower World, there's no such thing as marriage, and forcing Lin Xiyuan to stay with Zhou Yiheng would only harm her.

Lin Xiyuan sat beside Lin Lan, her gaze never once falling on Zhou Yiheng from start to finish, with a very calm expression. Heartache had reached its limit, leaving no room for expressions.

In comparison, Zhou Yiheng looked utterly dejected, his eyes burning as he looked at Lin Xiyuan, hoping that their relationship could be rekindled.

As soon as these words were spoken, Zhou Yiheng's face turned even more ashen.

Zhou's mother sighed and continued, "My in-law, Yi Heng is young and bound to do some foolish things. Please, for the sake of this being his first mistake, forgive him just this once. I guarantee there will be no next time."

Lin Lan raised her eyes to look at Zhou's mother, "Honestly, before such an incident happened, I also liked Yi Heng very much. But now, I'm sorry, neither our Xiyuan nor our entire Lin family can tolerate any speck of dust. Think about it from another perspective; if it was Xiyuan who did this today, would you accept her?"

Since ancient times, it's commonly seen that men's mistakes are forgivable, while women's are not.

This time, Lin Lan would not accept Zhou Yiheng anymore.

Upon saying this, the living room grew quiet. It had to be acknowledged; Lin Lan's statement had left everyone at a loss.

If Lin Xiyuan were the female lead in this situation and another man the male lead, it's estimated no one would forgive her.

Zhou's mother stopped talking and lifted her eyes to look at Zhou Jin, hoping that Zhou Jin could help mediate. After all, Zhou Jin was the matchmaker, and Zhou Yiheng was her nephew. Considering her decades-long relationship with the Lin family, if Zhou Jin spoke for Zhou Yiheng, then there would certainly be room for maneuver.

Zhou Jin also felt much guilt over this matter; what was meant to be well-intentioned had ended up like this.

It was a shame that Zhou Yiheng let everyone down.

What a pity for Lin Xiyuan, such a good girl.

If Zhou Jin were in Lin Lan's shoes, she wouldn't forgive Zhou Yiheng either. But since Zhou Yiheng was a nephew from her maternal family, and those pleading with her were her sister-in-law, plus she was the matchmaker, she had to help with this favor.

Zhou Jin smiled as she looked at Lin Lan, "Sister Lan, we have been friends for decades, and you know me best. I also wish for Xiyuan to find a good home. Young people are impetuous and prone to foolish mistakes. Yi Heng truly realizes his fault now. Look, could you perhaps give Yi Heng another chance? As long as you are willing to give him one more opportunity, I'll have Yi Heng write a pledge immediately. If there is a next time, you can handle it as you see fit."

Lin Lan's expression did not change, "Sister, precisely because we have been friends for so many years, that's why I haven't blamed you. I'm very relieved that this happened before the marriage. If it were after marriage, then Xiyuan's life would have been ruined! This is the betrothal gift that the Zhou family had given before. Count it and see if there is any discrepancy; we have already converted the things that were damaged into cash. If there is anything wrong, please point it out now. Once you leave this room, our Lin family will no longer be accountable."

Having reached this point in the matter, Zhou Jin had nothing left to say.

You couldn't blame the Lin family; who would marry their daughter to a man like Zhou Yiheng?

Upon hearing these words, Zhou's father stood up directly, his face full of regret, "This matter is our Zhou family's fault. We hope Miss Lin can find a good future. Treat these items as compensation for Miss Lin's emotional distress, and hopefully, our families won't let this incident harm our relationship."

The Zhou family was not unreasonable; they were clearly in the wrong, and it was normal for the Lin family to disapprove of Zhou Yiheng after such an incident.

In the Superpower World, there is such a rule, and everyone's hearts are made of flesh; no one wants their daughter to suffer any grievance.

Lin Hong also stood up, "We don't need compensation for emotional distress. Since we brought these things here, we won't take them back. It's good to clarify things." Then, turning to Duanmu Canghai and Zhou Jin, Lin Hong continued, "Brother Canghai, sister-in-law, we'll take our leave first, goodbye."

After all, this was just a matter between the children; it shouldn't affect the adults' feelings.

Duanmu Canghai also felt sorry towards Lin Hong, his old friend, and quickly stood up to see the family to the door.

Nobody anticipated that the relationship between Lin Xiyuan and Zhou Yiheng would only last half a year.

However, the incident did not affect the good relations between the two families.

Zhou Jin felt deeply sorry towards the Lin family and Lin Xiyuan, so she often sent little gifts to the Lin family.

And Lin Xiyuan kept bringing over food, which, over time, made the relationship between Zhou Jin and Lin Xiyuan increasingly close.

As Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi were often not at home, and Duanmu Sheng was busy with the bakery, Zhou Jin started to treat Lin Xiyuan as her own daughter, sharing all sorts of heartfelt words with her.

Lin Xiyuan was a good kid, and Zhou Jin mostly felt sorry for her.

Because Lin Xiyuan often appeared at the Duanmu Family's home, Zhou Yiheng also started showing up there more frequently.

Actually, Zhou Yiheng still had feelings for Lin Xiyuan; he wanted to win her back.

Zhou Jin felt pity for her nephew and secretly created many opportunities for the two, but unfortunately, there was little progress.

In the blink of an eye, another two months passed.

Warm spring had left, and early summer had arrived.

"Auntie, what would you like for dinner tonight? I'll go make it for you," Lin Xiyuan said with a beaming smile to Zhou Jin.

Over this time, Lin Xiyuan had come to regard this place as her own home.

Zhou Yiheng immediately stepped forward, very eagerly saying, "Xiyuan, let me help you. I've also learned quite a bit recently."

Zhou Jin put on her glasses, and it only then dawned on her, "Today is Qingyi and Little Zhe's day to return home. Xiyuan, you don't need to busy yourself, Qingyi loves the dumplings I make, so I will make them for the couple."

Lin Xiyuan nodded, "Okay, then I'll help you with that."

"Alright," Zhou Jin looked at Zhou Yiheng, then said, "Then you and Yi Heng can roll out the dough and chop the fillings, respectively. I'll wrap the dumplings."

"Okay," Lin Xiyuan said with a smile, nodding her head.

The three of them entered the kitchen and busied themselves in an orderly fashion.

In less than thirty minutes, they had wrapped a lot of dumplings.

Looking at these dumplings, Lin Xiyuan said with a smile, "Auntie, you're so skillful. These dumplings look even better than the ones they sell at the supermarket. By the way, are we only making dumplings? Do we want to prepare some of Duanmu Brother's favorite dishes as well?"

Zhou Jin's smile turned even brighter as she looked up, "Little Zhe isn't picky about food. Whatever Qingyi likes, he likes too."

"Oh," Lin Xiyuan nodded, then turned to Zhou Yiheng, "What do you feel like eating? I'll make it for you."

Upon hearing this, Zhou Yiheng was pleasantly surprised and hastily said, "Xiyuan, whatever you like, let me make it for you instead."

Lin Xiyuan offering to cook for him—did this mean he had a chance?

Zhou Yiheng was very excited.

The days of waiting had finally paid off.

"That works, then make me some stir-fried pork with green peppers," Lin Xiyuan said, her smile sweet.

She wasn't someone with rigid thoughts. Although she had had a past with Zhou Yiheng, it didn't mean they had to avoid each other for life.

If they couldn't be lovers, being friends was good too.

Zhou Yiheng quickly headed to the kitchen.

Zhou Jin watched the two of them, remaining silent but smiling.

Lin Xiyuan and Zhou Jin kept making dumplings outside.

"Auntie, Duanmu Brother and Sister-in-law Qingyi have been together for such a long time, have they brought back any good news for you this time?" Lin Xiyuan asked, seemingly casually.

The smile remained on Zhou Jin's face, "We, the elders, are too lazy to meddle too much. The children will have their own fortune," Zhou Jin had always been a cheerful elder.

Lin Xiyuan skillfully pinched a dumpling together and said, "I really envy Sister-in-law Qingyi for having such a good mother-in-law like you. Auntie, I'm only mentioning this with good intentions, please don't blame me for being nosy. After all, in the Duanmu family, there's only Duanmu Brother as the male heir, and some matters should be hurried along a bit."

Lin Xiyuan's remarks made sense; it had been almost two years since Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi got married, and there had been no news, which was indeed a bit worrying.

Zhou Jin's expression remained unchanged, "Xiyuan, you're also looking out for our family's best interest. How could I blame you?"

Having made her point, Lin Xiyuan didn't continue the topic and focused on wrapping the dumplings.

After a while, Zhou Jin glanced at the kitchen, then in a low voice asked Lin Xiyuan, "Xiyuan, Auntie wants to know if there's still a chance for Yi Heng? You see, it's not easy for him either."

Lin Xiyuan's expression didn't change, she kept wrapping the dumplings in her hand and replied, "Auntie, a broken mirror can hardly be round again, and even if it does come round, there will be cracks."

The meaning behind her words was clear. Zhou Jin chuckled and continued, "If it's not possible, Auntie won't make it difficult for you, but Xiyuan, you aren't young anymore, this matter should indeed be settled sooner rather than later."

Lin Xiyuan nodded gently, "Auntie, I know."

Just at that moment, a burst of noise came from outside the door.

"Mom, we're back." A cheerful male voice came from outside.

Zhou Jin's face lit up with joy, and she quickly stood up and walked towards the door; it had been over half a year since she last saw her son and daughter-in-law.

A glimmer flashed through the downcast eyes of Lin Xiyuan as well, fleeting as she followed Zhou Jin to the door.

"Qingyi, Little Zhe, you finally came back." Zhou Jin stepped forward and embraced Mo Qingyi.

"Mom, we've missed you so much." Mo Qingyi's lips were very sweet.

"Mom missed you too, Qingyi. I specially made dumplings for you." Zhou Jin was very fond of Mo Qingyi.

Watching the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law embrace, a glint passed through Lin Xiyuan's eyes.

It seems that someone else's daughters are no match for one's own daughter-in-law.

Zhou Jin is indeed very good to Mo Qingyi.

Lin Xiyuan, following behind Zhou Jin, greeted them, "Brother Duanmu, Sister-in-law Qingyi."

Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi already knew about the situation between Lin Xiyuan and Zhou Yiheng and felt a deep sense of regret.

"Yuan Yuan, you're here too," greeted Mo Qingyi politely.

With the appearance of a friendly girl-next-door, Lin Xiyuan indeed looked endearing.

"Auntie, I have something else to take care of. I'll be heading home first, allowing Brother Duanmu and Sister-in-law Qingyi to have a good chat with you," continued Lin Xiyuan.

Lin Xiyuan was very perceptive. Now that Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi were both back, her presence as an outsider would only be resented.

"Yuan Yuan," Mo Qingyi said with a smile, "dinner is almost ready; you should stay and eat with us too. Duanmu and I are usually very busy; during this period, we are grateful for your company to my mother." Having been married, Mo Qingyi had become much more sensible and handled matters much more tactfully than before.

"Sister-in-law Qingyi, you're being too polite," Lin Xiyuan countered, "Auntie watched me grow up; it's only right for me to keep her company. Alright, I'm off now. When you have the time, you and Brother Duanmu are welcome to visit my home." Lin Xiyuan was shrewd and had a way with words.

Without even greeting Zhou Yiheng, Lin Xiyuan said farewell to Zhou Jin and Mo Qingyi, then left immediately.

After Lin Xiyuan left, Mo Qingyi helped Zhou Jin to sit down on the sofa before saying, "Mom, is there really no hope for Yuan Yuan and cousin?"

Zhou Jin shook her head and made a 'shush' gesture, "Your cousin is in the kitchen. Yuan Yuan is a determined girl; this affair seems hopeless."

Mo Qingyi fell silent.

Zhou Jin continued, "Qingyi, you and Little Zhe have to rest well at home for a while. It's been half a year since your last visit; look, your face has lost so much weight. I'll make you some good food at home to help you recuperate."

Duanmu Zhe said with a smile, "She has been on a diet lately."

Zhou Jin immediately scolded, "Why diet? You're not even fat; you look just right. If you get any thinner, a gust of wind might blow you away."

Mo Qingyi intertwined her arm with Zhou Jin's, "Mom, don't listen to Duanmu's nonsense. I'm not dieting. I love the dumplings you make the most."

Just then, Zhou Yiheng happily brought a bowl of stir-fried pork with green peppers from the kitchen, "Yuan Yuan, your stir-fried pork with green peppers is ready." Zhou Yiheng looked around, not seeing Lin Xiyuan, and raised his eyes to Zhou Jin, "Aunt, where is Yuan Yuan?"

Zhou Jin sighed, "She has already left. Yi Heng, there are plenty of fish in the sea. I've already asked Yuan Yuan for you, and it seems you two are an impossibility now."

With a "clang," the plate in Zhou Yiheng's hands dropped to the floor and shattered.

"Aunt, please help me. I truly realize my mistake," Zhou Yiheng approached, clutching Zhou Jin's hands tightly.

Zhou Yiheng had been a playboy for many years, and having finally found true love, he truly did not want to give up on Lin Xiyuan.

After being together with Lin Xiyuan for half a year, he had long been ready to spend the rest of his life with her.

Zhou Jin shook her head, "Yi Heng, a mistake is a mistake. This time, even your aunt can't help you."

"Aunt!" Zhou Yiheng shook Zhou Jin.

He couldn't bear to give up just like that.

"Yi Heng," Zhou Jin sighed, "It's not that I won't help you. It's that Yuan Yuan isn't willing to be with you anymore. You can't force feelings, and your own mistakes are not Yuan Yuan's fault."

Zhou Yiheng dejectedly sat on the ground.

Chapter 844: the Scheming Mo Zhixuan

Duanmu Zhe walked over and pulled Zhou Yiheng up, saying, "Cousin, when did you become so sentimental? Is this the Zhou Yiheng I know? An ambitious man should set his sights on the whole world; why fall apart over one woman? You can't give up the whole garden just for one flower."

Duanmu Zhe had never seen Zhou Yiheng like this before, and it was clear that he truly loved Lin Xiyuan.

If you love her, you should cherish her, he thought. If I had known this would happen, why did I ever start?

This was not something Mo Qingyi felt appropriate to comment on, so she simply offered Zhou Yiheng a glass of water, "Cousin, have some water first."

Zhou Yiheng took the cup with a forced smile, "Thank you, sister-in-law."

After a sip of water, Zhou Yiheng put down the cup, "Aunt, Little Zhe, sister-in-law, I'll be going first."

"Won't you stay a little longer, cousin?" Duanmu Zhe stood up.

Zhou Yiheng's dejected exit left Duanmu Zhe feeling somewhat uneasy.

"Let him think it over by himself," Zhou Jin reached out to stop Duanmu Zhe.

After dinner, Mo Qingyi went upstairs to bathe, leaving only Zhou Jin and Duanmu Zhe in the living room.

Zhou Jin turned to Duanmu Zhe, Lin Xiyuan's words suddenly echoing in her ears. She looked at Duanmu Zhe with a smile, "Little Zhe, have you been tired these days?"

Duanmu Zhe peeled an orange for Zhou Jin, "Not tired, I'm used to it."

"That's good," Zhou Jin said with relief and continued, "You and Qingyi are in the same unit, so make sure to look after her at work. It's not easy for a girl to be in the military. When you get off work, try to take on any tasks that need doing. A wife brought home should be pampered, and you can't let Qingyi suffer any grievances."

Duanmu Zhe nodded, "I know all this, mom. Don't worry, I will never let Qingyi suffer."

"That's good," Zhou Jin ate a segment of the orange and said, "Little Zhe, you are the only male descendant of the Duanmu family. I'm not pushing you or being old-fashioned, but since you and Qingyi have been married for quite a while now, have you thought about having a child?"

There are three forms of unfilial behavior, and the worst is to have no descendants.

Zhou Jin just wanted to remind Duanmu Zhe.

She continued, "Mom knows you're both busy with your careers, but the matter of having children is also important. Once a woman ages, childbirth becomes a risk. Qingyi isn't getting any younger. It would be better to have children sooner rather than later, even for Qingyi's sake. If you don't like children, you

can have them and leave them with me. I'll take care of them, and you can carry on enjoying your life together, just like you are now."

Zhou Jin meant well. Eventually, they would have to have children.

Duanmu Zhe appeared unfazed, smiling as he said, "Mom, I'm not in a hurry. Besides, what's the use of having a child? You have to buy them a house and a car, pay for their education. If the child is sensible, it's fine, but if not, they can drive you insane! Look how open-minded Westerners are; they simply don't have children at all."

Upon hearing this, Zhou Jin's expression changed, "Little Zhe, that's not the right way to think. How can you not want a child? Children are the foundation of our Chinese nation. They are hope; they are the future. If everyone thought like you and didn't want children, not only would the Three Realms disappear, the entire earth would no longer exist. Think about it, if your dad and I had thought the same way, would you be here now?"

Duanmu Zhe put his arms around Zhou Jin's shoulders and replied, "Mom, this is a new society, different from the past. Not wanting children and raising a dog is the same."

"Raising a dog?" Zhou Jin frowned slightly, looking at Duanmu Zhe, "Can a dog call you dad? Can it call me grandma? Can a dog take care of you in your old age? For example, if you have to travel far, if you have a child, they could drive you, but can a dog drive? How can you even compare a dog to a child! Everything on this earth was invented by humans. Without humans, what would a dog amount to?"

"Then I could have the driver take me," Duanmu Zhe continued.

"Will a driver call you dad? Does a driver share any blood relation with you?" Zhou Jin's face began to look displeased as she went on, "Little Zhe, mom is asking you to have children sooner for your own good. Do you really want to grow old alone without any children by your side, and then end up in a nursing home? Let me tell you, nursing homes are not nice places. Think about the famous talented woman from the Republic of China era, Miss Eileen Chang. She died alone in an apartment in America, and it took a week before her body was discovered. If she had had children, things would not have ended this way."

Zhou Jin sighed and then said, "Little Zhe, mom isn't that conservative. As long as you have a child, boy or girl, it doesn't matter. When you grow old, they can stay by your side. Look at Nine Ye and his wife; despite their high status, they wanted children. Why can't you want one too?"

Hearing this, Duanmu Zhe also sighed, then replied, "Mom, I'm not saying I don't want children. It's just that the timing isn't right. Don't worry; we definitely won't disappoint you." Duanmu Zhe was only testing the waters with Zhou Jin. He hadn't expected such a strong reaction.

He and Mo Qingyi had been together for so long without having a child, something he was also anxious about. But luckily, they were both still young, so the child matter could wait.

Relieved by his response, Zhou Jin said, "That's good, that's good. As long as you're willing to have children, that's fine. Let's drop the subject for today; go rest. I'm tired too." With that, Zhou Jin couldn't press them any further. As long as they were still open to having children, that was enough.

When Duanmu Zhe went upstairs, Mo Qingyi had just come out of the bathroom. Due to being on a mission, Duanmu Zhe hadn't been with Mo Qingyi for a while.

He walked over and wrapped his arms around Mo Qingyi.

Mo Qingyi pushed him away, "Get lost! You haven't bathed yet!"

...

Duanmu Zhe wanted a child, but he never mentioned it. He didn't want to put psychological pressure on Mo Qingyi.

He knew that Mo Qingyi was even more anxious than he was; otherwise, she wouldn't have dragged him to the hospital.

Fortunately, the examination results were all normal.

The imperial palace.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei were almost two years old, and these nearly two-year-olds were still sleeping in the same room as their parents.

"Jin, Bao Bao and Bei Bei are this big now, shouldn't they start sleeping in separate rooms? The children's room next door is so big, it seems wasteful not to use it," Mo Zhixuan said seriously, sitting on the bed and looking at Chu Jin.

The children's room had been refurbished a while ago, but Bao Bao and Bei Bei had not moved out yet.

During that time, Bao Bao and Bei Bei had moved out once, but because they woke up crying in the middle of the night and couldn't stop, the elder Mrs. Mo took pity on them and let the two children move back in.

Chu Jin was browsing her phone when she glanced at Mo Zhixuan, "I have no objections, but you'll have to come up with a way to get Bao Bao and Bei Bei to agree, on the condition, though, that you can't let Bao Bao and Bei Bei cry their eyes out." Bao Bao and Bei Bei still had two months to go before they turned two, and Chu Jin planned to let them move into the children's room next door when they were three.

Mo Zhixuan slightly curved his lips, "As long as you agree, that's fine."

Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, "Do you have a way to keep them from crying?"

Mo Zhixuan smiled mysteriously, "I not only have a way to keep them from crying, but I also have a way to get them to suggest moving into the children's room next door on their own."

At these words, Chu Jin became interested and her mouth curved slightly, "Let's hear it."

"Just watch and see," Mo Zhixuan continued to be mysterious.

Just then, Bao Bao and Bei Bei pushed the door and came in.

The two little ones were chubby, with finely carved eyebrows and delicate features, very pretty and soft and cute, like two adorable snowballs.

"Come here, Bao Bao and Bei Bei," Mo Zhixuan casually picked up a storybook, "Come to daddy, he'll tell you a fairy tale."

Upon hearing that daddy was going to tell them a fairy tale, Bao Bao and Bei Bei immediately huffed and puffed their way onto the bed, sitting beside Mo Zhixuan, one on the left and one on the right, tightly hugging his arm.

"Daddy, tell us quickly, I want to hear the story of Snow White," Bei Bei cooed, hugging Mo Zhixuan's arm.

"Daddy, I want to hear the story of Alibaba and the Forty Thieves," Bao Bao also hugged Mo Zhixuan's arm tightly.

"You two be good. As the eldest son in the family, you should give way to your sister. But today, daddy's not going to tell the story of Snow White or Alibaba. I have a new story to tell you," Mo Zhixuan opened the storybook and began his animated storytelling, "Once upon a time, in a pine forest, there lived a happy family of four, with Papa Pig, Mama Pig, and their children, big brother pig and little sister pig..."

Before Mo Zhixuan could finish, Bei Bei intervened excitedly, "Daddy, daddy, is this the story of Peppa Pig, right?" She even imitated Peppa's antics, snorting twice, "Oink oink, I am Mama Pig."

Bao Bao immediately followed by saying, "Hello everyone, I'm George."

The two little bundles of joy imitated so vividly that they made Chu Jin laugh softly.

Influenced by Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Mo Zhixuan had also watched a few episodes of Peppa Pig; he helplessly stroked their heads, "When daddy is telling a story, don't interrupt, okay?"

The two little ones immediately stopped performing and looked up at Mo Zhixuan, "Daddy, you go ahead."

Mo Zhixuan continued the story he hadn't finished earlier.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei listened very attentively and soon became engrossed.

After listening for a while, Chu Jin picked up on the pattern, because all the stories Mo Zhixuan told had the same theme.

The gist was about big brother pig protecting his little sister pig, big brother deer looking after little sister deer, and big brother fox guarding little sister fox...

After all the stories, Bao Bao patted his little chest and declared to Mo Zhixuan, "Daddy, I've grown up too, I'm a little man now, and I can protect my sister!"

Mo Zhixuan's face beamed with pride, "Then from today on, daddy will entrust your sister to you. You need to protect her well, like a little man, and make sure she doesn't suffer the slightest grievance, got it?" After saying this, Mo Zhixuan solemnly placed Bei Bei's hand into Bao Bao's.

Bei Bei was also very sensible, "Daddy, don't worry, I've grown up too. I won't make daddy and mommy worry anymore. I'll listen to my brother well."

A kindly smile appeared on Mo Zhixuan's face, and he nodded in satisfaction, "That's the seed of Mo Zhixuan, good, very good!"

Bao Bao added, "Daddy, mommy, my sister and I are two years old now! We're grown-ups now, so we should sleep separately from daddy and mommy like brother fox, sister fox, brother deer, and sister deer, Daddy, I'll take my sister to bed now, good night." Bao Bao said, holding Bei Bei's hand firmly like a little adult.

Mo Zhixuan looked concerned, "Bao Bao, can you really take care of your sister by yourself? Do you need daddy and mommy to accompany you?"

Bao Bao immediately waved his hand, "No need, brother fox and sister fox didn't ask for daddy and mommy. Daddy, rest assured, I'm the big brother, I will protect my sister, I'm two years old! I'm not a little child anymore!"

Chapter 845: now I can protect my sister too!

"Alright," Mo Zhixuan nodded, "since our Bao Bao is now a man, then daddy approves your move away. Bao Bao, from now on you're the little man of our family, and mom, dad, and your little sister all rely on you."

"Daddy, rest assured, I won't let you down." Bao Bao asserted very seriously as he patted his chest.

Bei Bei also patted her chest, guaranteeing with conviction, "Daddy, the storybooks say that girls should be strong too. I won't let you and mommy down either."

Mo Zhixuan nodded with deep emotion, "That's good. You both should go to sleep now, it's getting late. If you get scared in the middle of the night, just come back to mom and dad's room; we won't lock the door."

"Goodnight Daddy, goodnight Mommy." The two little ones, being very considerate, each gave Mo Zhixuan and Chu Jin a kiss before Bao Bao led Bei Bei out of the bedroom.

Watching the siblings' retreating figures, Mo Zhixuan's lips curled into a faint smile.

After Bao Bao and Bei Bei left, Chu Jin turned to Mo Zhixuan and gave him a thumbs-up, saying with a smile, "Mo Zhixuan, you really nailed it."

It must have been quite the challenge for Mr. Mo to come up with such a method.

"Am I great or what?" Mo Zhixuan asked Chu Jin, raising his eyebrows slightly.

Chu Jin nodded, mimicking the way Bao Bao and Bei Bei spoke, "Daddy is very great indeed."

"Since I'm so great, shouldn't you reward me with something?"

.....

Just then, a knock came from the door, "Daddy, Mommy, we're coming in." Chu Jin had taught the two little ones well, so they always knocked on the door before entering.

Hearing this, Chu Jin quickly pushed Mo Zhixuan away and straightened her clothes, maintaining a facade as if nothing had happened while looking towards the door, although her cheeks were slightly flushed.

She felt relieved inside, grateful that she had taught Bao Bao and Bei Bei to knock on the door beforehand; otherwise, if they had caught her and Mo Zhixuan, how would she explain it to them?

That was too close for comfort.

Mo Zhixuan was on the verge of tears.

Could these two little ancestors have changed their minds?

Well, there went his long spiel of little stories.

"Daddy, Mommy, what were you doing just now? Why did it take so long to open the door?" Bao Bao asked innocently, looking at Mo Zhixuan.

"Daddy, was Mommy eating candy secretly behind our backs?" Bei Bei's little hand was on her hip as she posed like a detective.

Mo Zhixuan kept a straight face as he bent down slightly, putting his hands on Bao Bao and Bei Bei's shoulders, and said earnestly, "Your mom isn't that kind of person. How could she secretly eat candy behind your backs? I was just teaching her to recognize characters!"

Upon hearing this, Chu Jin immediately glared at Mo Zhixuan!

This man really says whatever comes to his mind! What nonsense is he telling the children!

But Mo Zhixuan ignored Chu Jin's look.

Bei Bei, looking puzzled, asked, "Daddy, doesn't Mommy know how to read?"

Mo Zhixuan shook his head, "She does, but she hasn't read for a long time and has forgotten, so she needs Daddy to teach her again."

Bao Bao and Bei Bei nodded as if they understood.

Bao Bao turned to Chu Jin, sighed, and with a hint of helplessness in his shake of the head, said, "Mommy is really silly, needing Daddy to teach her how to read!"

Chu Jin was at a loss for words.

Bao Bao put his hands on his hips and, like a little adult, said to Mo Zhixuan, "Daddy, a man should have the mettle of a man! We should be considerate towards girls and not descend to the same level as them; it's wrong to scold them! You should apologize to Mommy right away! And don't bully Mommy anymore! Otherwise, I won't let you off the hook!"

"And me! I won't let you off either! You're not allowed to bully Mommy!" Bei Bei stood in front of Mo Zhixuan with her hands on her hips and a scowl, staring him down.

These actions of the two little ones warmed Chu Jin's heart.

This feeling of being protected by her children was extremely special, carrying the satisfaction of 'my children are growing up.'

Seeing how the children were acting, Mo Zhixuan changed his expression and then said, "But what if it's your Mommy who wants to bully me?"

Bei Bei lifted her chin and said in a babyish voice, "Mommy is so gentle, she definitely wouldn't bully you." In Bei Bei's eyes, Mommy was the gentlest and prettiest in the world.

Bao Bao, standing on tiptoes, gave Mo Zhixuan's shoulder a gentlemanly pat, "Daddy, Mommy and sister often bully me too, but as men, we shouldn't stoop to their level as little girls."

Mo Zhixuan could not help but chuckle, pinched Bao Bao's cheek, and said with a smile, "You are truly a good son to Daddy."

Bao Bao imitated Mo Zhixuan and pinched Mo Zhixuan's cheek, looking satisfied, "You are my good daddy, too."

Mo Zhixuan: "...". Suddenly, he had the illusion that Bao Bao was about to take to the skies.

"Right, what brings you two over? Are you scared to sleep in the next room?" Chu Jin continued to ask.

Bei Bei puffed out her chest and spoke crisply, "Not at all. We came over to get Dong Dong and Xi Xi."

Dong Dong and Xi Xi were the toy bears of Bao Bao and Bei Bei. Every night, Bao Bao and Bei Bei couldn't fall asleep without holding Dong Dong and Xi Xi.

Hearing this, Mo Zhixuan immediately handed the two toy bears on the bed to Bao Bao and Bei Bei, "Here are Dong Dong and Xi Xi for you. Now go on, goodnight." He was just relieved they were not there to disrupt his and Chu Jin's alone time.

Holding the toy bears, Bao Bao and Bei Bei walked out, but before leaving, they didn't forget to warn Mo Zhixuan not to bully Chu Jin.

The moment Bao Bao and Bei Bei stepped out of the door, Mo Zhixuan quickly flashed over, locked the door from the inside, for fear the two little ones would barge in again.

He truly feared them.

Such a real daddy!

What happened to not locking the door?

Chu Jin looked at Mo Zhixuan and slightly raised an eyebrow.

Before Chu Jin could react, Mo Zhixuan walked over quickly, lifting Chu Jin onto his shoulder in one go.

This sudden motion made Chu Jin exclaim, "Mo Zhixuan, what are you doing!"

"I'm teaching you to read," said Mo Zhixuan in a deep tone.

"Shameless!" Chu Jin began slapping Mo Zhixuan's back, "Put me down at once."

...

Time flies, and in the blink of an eye, two years have passed.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei were now four years old.

The two children grew increasingly more like Chu Jin, especially around the eyes and eyebrows.

Bao Bao was exceptionally talented; at three years old, he began to learn special ability techniques and Spiritual Power from Mo Zhixuan, and by the age of four, his special ability had already reached Level Three.

Bei Bei didn't have a mutant bone, so she couldn't learn special abilities.

Although Bei Bei couldn't learn special abilities, starting from the age of three, Chu Jin began to teach Bei Bei ancient martial arts.

While Bei Bei was less talented, she was intelligent and eager to learn. Initially, it was very challenging for her, but it became smoother over time, and now she could defend herself.

As the little ones grew older, their affection for each other deepened. Yet, they still had their little squabbles, just like any other siblings.

"Mommy, Bei Bei took my candy!" Bao Bao cried loudly, hugging Chu Jin's leg.

"I didn't; this is my own candy! Brother, shame on you..." Bei Bei performed a "shame on you" gesture.

"Mommy, I want candy..." Bao Bao was sobbing intensely.

Chu Jin squatted down and wiped Bao Bao's tears, "Didn't mommy just give you three candies? Where are the candies?" Bao Bao and Bei Bei were just like when they were younger, very fond of candy.

"Bei Bei took them!" Bao Bao pointed at Bei Bei with an aggrieved face.

Bei Bei stomped her foot, "Mommy, Bao Bao is lying! He ate the candy himself!"

Chu Jin straightened her expression and looked at Bei Bei, "Call him 'brother'."

"Mommy, I didn't take brother's candy," said Bei Bei with an aggrieved look towards Chu Jin.

Chu Jin nodded, "I know, Bei Bei is a good child and wouldn't take brother's candy." Then, Chu Jin turned her eyes to Bao Bao with a stern face and said, "You are the older brother, and it's your duty to protect your sister. How could you falsely accuse Bei Bei of taking your candy? You are punished with no candy for three days! Give all of your nine candies to your sister."

Upon hearing this, Bao Bao burst into tears.

Even though Bao Bao always talked about protecting his sister, the moment candy was involved, the promise of protection flew out of his mind.

Bei Bei sighed, pulled out a candy, and put it in Bao Bao's mouth, "Don't cry, brother. I'll share my candies with you." Bei Bei, acting like a little adult, soothed Bao Bao.

"Thank you, sister. You are really nice," Bao Bao embraced Bei Bei excitedly, "Sister, I will protect you for life."

Looking at the two little ones being so affectionate with each other, Chu Jin was also very gratified, with a faint smile edging her lips.

Just then, a noise came from outside the door, followed by the laughter of the old Mrs. Mo, as well as the voices of other people.

The sounds grew closer and closer.

Chu Jin slightly furrowed her brows, as she seemed to hear Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu's voices among them.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei also heard the commotion.

Bao Bao's ears twitched, and then he said, "Including Grandma, there are a total of five people outside."

"There are three adults and two kids in total, besides Grandma, I haven't seen the others," Bei Bei then said.

Hearing this, Chu Jin's brows twitched slightly, somewhat incredulous at the two little ones' judgement.

She hadn't noticed it herself; were these two little ones really that perceptive?

Until the door was pushed open.

Mrs. Mo walked in beamingly from the outside, and called out, "Jin, Jin, come and see who's back!"

"Grandma!" Upon hearing Mrs. Mo's voice, Bao Bao and Bei Bei immediately ran out.

Chu Jin also followed them out and indeed, standing beside Mrs. Mo were really Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu, each holding a cute child by the hand, who seemed about the same age as Bao Bao and Bei Bei.

After five years, Tong Zhi was still the same as before, wearing a well-tailored cheongsam that traced her beautiful figure, and Mo Fengxu seemed to have become much younger.

"Aunt Tong, Uncle Three," Chu Jin walked over and hugged Tong Zhi, overcome with emotion.

"Jin," Tong Zhi embraced Chu Jin with a choked voice.

After not seeing each other for five years, there were too many emotions.

The two held each other tightly, dumbfounding the four little ones beside them.

It took a while before Tong Zhi finally let go of Chu Jin, and with a beaming smile, she said, "Jin, these must be Bao Bao and Bei Bei, right? They've grown so much in the years I haven't been back!"

Chu Jin immediately said, "Bao Bao, Bei Bei, this is your grand-aunt and Uncle Three, say hello quickly."

"Hello Grand-aunt, hello Uncle Three," the two little ones greeted very politely.

"Good, good, good," Tong Zhi nodded in satisfaction, taking out two gift boxes from her tote bag and handing them to Bao Bao and Bei Bei, "These are gifts prepared by your grand-aunt, go ahead and take them." The packaging of the gifts was very beautiful, making one eager to accept them, but Bao Bao and Bei Bei did not reach out to take them, instead lifting their eyes to Chu Jin.

Without Mommy's permission, Bao Bao and Bei Bei wouldn't carelessly accept things from others.

Chu Jin nodded, and then Bao Bao and Bei Bei accepted the gifts.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei bowed gracefully, saying in unison, "Thank you, Grand-aunt."

Tong Zhi touched the heads of Bao Bao and Bei Bei gently, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei are so good." She then lifted her gaze to Chu Jin and said with a smile, "Jin, you've raised them really well."

Chu Jin replied with a light smile, "Aunt Tong, you haven't seen the mischievous side of these two." Her eyes then fell on the two children by Tong Zhi's side, "Xiangru and Yimo have also grown so big, and they look like you with almond eyes and fair skin." And truly, Xiangru and Yimo bore a resemblance to Tong Zhi, as they were raised by her from a young age.

Tong Zhi said with a smile, "Xiangru, Yimo, this is your ninth sister-in-law." In terms of family hierarchy, Xiangru and Yimo should indeed address Chu Jin as ninth sister-in-law, as they are now the cousins of Mo Zhixuan, who is the ninth in the Mo family lineage.

"Hello Ninth Sister-in-law," Xiangru and Yimo were also very well-mannered.

"Hello, you two," Chu Jin squatted down, holding the hands of Xiangru and Yimo, and said with a beaming smile, "I'm really sorry, your ninth sister-in-law didn't know you were coming, so I didn't prepare a meeting gift for you two."

"Mommy, give my candy to brother and sister," Bei Bei walked over and put all the candy from her pocket in front of Chu Jin.

"And my Peppa Pig, Peppa Pig can also be given to brother and sister." Bao Bao handed over his beloved Peppa Pig toy to Chu Jin.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei liked Xiangru and Yimo very much too.

Although the four of them hadn't formally spoken yet, they had already communicated with each other several times with looks.

Only kids could truly play together.

Mrs. Mo and Tong Zhi both burst into hearty laughter.

Chu Jin also smiled lightly and said, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei, you can't call Xiangru and Yimo brother and sister, you should call Xiangru little uncle, and Yimo little aunt."

Little uncle, little aunt?

This answer left Bao Bao and Bei Bei completely stunned!

These two kids seemed only a little older than them, so why were they being called little uncle and little aunt?

"Mommy, but, aren't little uncle and little aunt adults? Brother and sister aren't adults!" Bei Bei looked at Chu Jin somewhat puzzled.

Bao Bao also said, "Yeah, Mommy, Qingyi Auntie is an adult, but these two are still children, so why should we call them little uncle and little aunt?"

Chu Jin smiled and explained, "It's because of the difference in generations, little uncle and little aunt have a higher status than you two, they are of the same generation as Mommy, so you need to call them little uncle and little aunt."

Generational hierarchy was indeed a magical thing.

"Oh." Bao Bao and Bei Bei nodded, not fully understanding.

Bei Bei continued, "Mommy, then why doesn't anyone call me and brother little aunt or little uncle?" Why was their generational status so low?

Bao Bao also looked at Chu Jin with a curious face, he wanted to be a little uncle too.

Chu Jin very patiently said, "You'll understand this question when you grow up, now, go take little auntie and little uncle to your amusement park to play."

Bao Bao and Bei Bei obediently nodded, turned back, and took the hands of Xiangru and Yimo, "Little auntie, little uncle, I'll take you to play on the slide, and there's also a swing."

Bao Bao added, "That's right, that's right, little auntie, little uncle, there are so many fun things at our house."

Hearing this conversation, Chu Jin couldn't help but feel an urge to laugh.

Great-nephew and great-niece taking uncle and auntie to play.

This scene was unexpectedly amusing.

Tong Zhi said from behind, "Xiangru and Yimo, play nicely with Bao Bao and Bei Bei, and don't bully them."

"Got it, Mommy." Yimo turned back, her voice clear and crisp.

Xiangru also said with a smile, "Mommy, don't worry, we'll become good friends with Bao Bao and Bei Bei."

It was evident that Xiangru and Yimo were also very sensible.

"I'll go take a look," Mo Fengxu was somewhat uneasy to let the four little kids go out to play by themselves.

The elder Mrs. Mo smiled and said, "Feng Xu, you don't need to worry, they are at home, nothing will happen, Bao Bao and Bei Bei often go out to play by themselves."

Hearing this, Mo Fengxu stopped, "That's good then."

Chu Jin stood up, "Aunt Tong, Uncle, don't stand outside, come in please."

The group entered the house.

Tong Zhi looked around the imperial palace and smiled, "It's been five years, the imperial palace is still the same as before, with no changes."

"Aunt Tong, where all have you and Uncle traveled to in these five years?" Chu Jin poured tea for Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu.

Tong Zhi smiled and said, "We have traveled to almost every country in the world." In these past five years, their family of four had been constantly on the move, experiencing many different cultures and local customs. They had thought about settling down in a nice place, but after much consideration, they couldn't bear to leave the Superpower World, couldn't bear to part with these people.

"I really envy you, if only Mo Zhixuan and I could do the same," Chu Jin said wistfully.

Mo Zhixuan held an important position, and she too had her responsibilities; neither of them could afford to be as carefree as Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu, to just up and leave.

"You'll have your time," Tong Zhi patted Chu Jin's hand and continued, "I heard Qingyi and Little Zhe are also on vacation at home, call them over."

Having not returned for many years, Tong Zhi missed everyone here.

Hearing this, the elder Mrs. Mo immediately said, "I'll make the call."

After the call, Tong Zhi looked at the elder Mrs. Mo curiously and said, "Sis, is Qingyi pregnant yet?"

The elder Mrs. Mo shook her head, "Not yet, I don't know what's with those two, still no news." As an elder, it was not her place to say much more.

Tong Zhi frowned slightly and continued, "Qingyi and Zhe have been married for over four years, right? Why aren't they planning for children? They're almost hitting thirty, if they don't have kids soon, giving birth will become risky."

The elder Mrs. Mo was also very concerned about this, "You're telling me... those two really know how to worry people!"

Chu Jin laughed and joined in, "Maybe Qingyi and Duanmu aren't in a rush, the two of them have such a good relationship, they must want to enjoy more of their world as a couple." Chu Jin had talked about this topic with Mo Qingyi before, but from Mo Qingyi's attitude, it seemed they were not in a hurry to have children.

Chapter 846: Infertility

While they were chatting, Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe arrived.

"Aunt Tong, you're finally back! I've missed you so much!" After not seeing her for five years, Mo Qingyi truly missed Tong Zhi a lot.

Duanmu Zhe followed behind and greeted everyone, "Mom, Aunt Tong, Third Uncle, Ninth Sister-in-law."

Tong Zhi patted Mo Qingyi's shoulder and smiled, "My little Qingyi is still as beautiful as ever."

"Aunt Tong, you're as beautiful as you were before too," Mo Qingyi sniffed.

Although five years had passed, time didn't leave much of a mark on these people; they still looked the same as before.

Unnoticed, the children had all grown up.

After a while, Mo Qingyi finally let go of Tong Zhi and asked with some curiosity, "Aunt Tong, how come only you and Third Uncle are here? Where are Xiangru and Yimo? How come I don't see them?"

Tong Zhi smiled and said, "They went to play with Bao Bao and Bei Bei."

In the amusement park in the backyard, four little friends were playing to their hearts' content.

"Little Auntie, be careful, this is how you play with the ball," Bao Bao instructed Yimo on one of the game attractions.

Old Mrs. Mo was a grandchild-doting fiend; she had built an entire children's amusement park in the imperial palace's backyard.

Every day, people would check the safety measures of these game attractions on a schedule.

"Bei Bei, be careful," Xiangru timely grabbed the edge of Bei Bei's clothes, preventing Bei Bei from falling off the swing.

"Thank you, Little Uncle," Bei Bei said with a sweet smile.

"Bei Bei, you've grown up to be so pretty, just like your mom," Xiangru said with a beaming smile.

"Your mom is beautiful too," Bei Bei humbly replied.

The four played together for a while before they began singing the praises of their respective dads to each other.

That's how kids are, each one prouder than the next to have a super-duper invincible dad.

Each believed their father to be the greatest in their own eyes.

Xiangru said, "My dad is the best because he can defeat lots of little monsters, just like Ultraman!"

Bei Bei immediately retorted, "Hah, that's nothing; my papa can even defeat Ultraman!"

Bao Bao chimed in, "Right! My papa is the strongest!"

Yimo was not to be outdone, "I think my dad is the most amazing. He can carry both me and my brother at the same time, tells lots of stories, and most importantly, he can fly to the sky!" Yimo spoke with a very serious demeanor.

"My papa can carry both me and Bei Bei too!" Bao Bao added, "What's so great about your papa flying? My papa can even pick stars from the sky for me!"

In the eyes of Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Mo Zhixuan was simply omnipotent; there was nothing he couldn't do.

He was the world's most powerful dad.

Hearing this, Xiangru and Yimo were both stunned and immediately looked at Bao Bao and Bei Bei with stars in their eyes, exclaiming, "Wow! Your dad is so impressive!"

"That's right," Bao Bao said with proud nonchalance, lifting her adorable little head, "You should see whose papa they are."

Bei Bei stood beside Bao Bao, hands on her hips, chiming in triumphantly, "Exactly, exactly."

"Then can you ask your papa to pick some stars for us to see?" Xiangru went on to ask.

Yi Heng was also looking at Bao Bao and Bei Bei expectantly.

Bao Bao nodded firmly, "Of course, picking stars is nothing; if you want, my papa can even pick down the sun and the moon!"

Xiangru, already clapping excitedly, said, "Wow! That's great! I want to see the sun being picked."

Yimo immediately interjected, "No, no, the sun and the moon can't be picked. If they were taken down, we wouldn't be able to see at night!"

Hearing this, Xiangru sounded regretful, "Yimo, you seem to have a point, so let's just stick to picking stars."

Fearlessly, Bei Bei waved her hand, laughing, "No worries, no worries. My papa is so amazing, after he picks them down, he can just put them back up for you!"

"Really?" Xiangru and Yimo looked at Bao Bao and Bei Bei with hopeful faces.

Bao Bao promptly nodded, "Of course, this is just a small trick. Once my papa comes back, I'll have him pick the sun and the moon for you both to see."

"Yay, yay!" Xiangru and Yimo clapped excitedly.

At this moment, Mr. Mo was unaware that his own children had dug a huge pit, waiting for him to leap into it.

The Duanmu Family.

Not long after Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe had left, Lin Xiyuan arrived.

"Auntie, I'm here." Lin Xiyuan came in with a smile, greeting Zhou Jin.

"Xiyuan, I'm in the kitchen," Zhou Jin called out from the kitchen.

Lin Xiyuan looked around the room before heading toward the kitchen.

Zhou Jin was in the kitchen making noodles.

"Auntie, are you home alone? Aren't Big Brother Duanmu and Sister Qingyi around?" Lin Xiyuan walked in and asked.

Zhou Jin replied with a warm smile, "Little Zhe is accompanying Qingyi to her parents' house."

"Oh," Lin Xiyuan nodded, "Auntie, let me help you."

"Xiyuan, there's no need for you to help, I've already finished cooking," Zhou Jin said cheerfully.

Lin Xiyuan glanced at Zhou Jin, then said, "Auntie, regarding the matter you entrusted to me last time, there are now results."

At those words, Zhou Jin's movements paused. She then asked, "What do the investigation results show?"

Lin Xiyuan took out a sealed document envelope from her bag, "Auntie, I haven't looked at it yet."

Zhou Jin took the envelope, turned on the tap, washed her hands, dried them, and then tore open the seal of the envelope.

The air was filled with silence.

Zhou Jin took out a sheet of A4 paper filled with text from the envelope; her expression changed again and again, nearly losing her balance. Thankfully, Lin Xiyuan was there to support her in time.

"Auntie, are you alright?" Lin Xiyuan asked with concern.

"I'm fine," Zhou Jin waved her hand, her complexion very pale.

"Auntie, what do the investigation results say?" Lin Xiyuan looked up at Zhou Jin.

Zhou Jin glanced at Lin Xiyuan, "Yiyuan, I have treated you like my own daughter, so I will tell you this matter, you must not tell anyone else."

"Mm, Auntie, rest assured." Lin Xiyuan nodded her head.

Zhou Jin sighed and then said, "It's Qingyi."

"What?" Lin Xiyuan was also taken aback.

Because Lin Xiyuan had a friend who was a doctor specializing in infertility, this expert could determine the problems of both the male and female from their hair. A month earlier, Lin Xiyuan took the initiative to offer help with Zhou Jin's problem.

She didn't expect that the test results would come back pointing to a problem with one of them.

"Auntie, this must be a mistake, I will have my friend check again," Lin Xiyuan grasped Zhou Jin's wrist as she continued.

"No need." Zhou Jin waved her hand and sighed, "Everything is fate, and nothing is up to us. Children will have their own fortune, I don't want to care too much anymore." This kind of thing, Mo Qingyi couldn't be blamed, nor could Duanmu Zhe, everything was arranged by fate.

Lin Xiyuan sighed as well, reaching out to steady Zhao Yan, "But if even you don't care about it, then who will? Auntie, Duanmu Big Brother is after all the only bloodline of the Duanmu Family. I think it's necessary to tell Uncle; the Duanmu Family must carry on."

Zhou Jin pressed her temples with her hand, "Yiyuan, I have my own judgment on this matter."

Lin Xiyuan nodded, "Mm, Auntie, I understand. Rest assured, I will keep it a secret."

Zhou Jin lit the stove and directly burned that medical report.

The flames reflected in Lin Xiyuan's eyes, and no one knew what she was thinking. Some things are best left unsaid, as long as Zhou Jin knew the result, that was enough.

"Auntie, don't worry too much. With medical science so advanced nowadays, there definitely is a solution," Lin Xiyuan patted Zhou Jin's shoulder, trying to comfort her.

Every disease can be cured.

Except for infertility.

In fact, Lin Xiyuan knew in her heart that this disease was incurable, she simply didn't want to burst the bubble.

Because Zhou Jin wasn't a fool either. Since she could end up with Duanmu Canghai, it showed she was not a simple person.

Zhou Jin nodded, "I don't have the energy to deal with this anymore, let it be."

"If you don't care, then the Duanmu Family... might really have no descendants," Lin Xiyuan squinted her eyes.

On hearing this, Zhou Jin's face changed.

No descendants?

There are three unfilial acts; the greatest is to have no descendants.

With that said, Lin Xiyuan continued, "Auntie, you should rest well and not think too much. Things will straighten out when the ship reaches the bridge; there's always a solution to everything. I won't disturb you any longer, I'm going back now."

Zhou Jin tried to muster a faint smile, "Alright, go ahead."

After walking a few steps, Lin Xiyuan turned back and said, "Oh yes, Auntie, Yi Heng and I are back together."

Upon hearing this, a flash of joy crossed Zhou Jin's face, "Really?"

Lin Xiyuan nodded, "Yeah, really. I've thought it over; no man is a saint, who can be without fault? So, I've decided to give Yi Heng another chance. It's been two years, and it hasn't been easy for him."

"That's good to hear," Zhou Jin said with a smile, "Yiyuan, come and visit when you have time."

"Mm, will do, Auntie." With that, Lin Xiyuan turned and left.

Nobody noticed that upon turning to leave, a faint smile appeared on the corners of Lin Xiyuan's mouth.

Zhou Jin watched her figure disappear outside the door and eventually couldn't hold back her emotions, collapsing to the ground, her whole body limp and weak.

As a mother, seeing such results truly pained her heart.

And yet, this heartache couldn't be expressed.

Sigh.

Imperial Palace.

The old Madam Mo was having a heated chat with Tong Zhi, Mo Qingyi, Chu Jin, and others.

"Mommy, Mommy."

"Mama..."

Four little ones came running over, huffing and puffing, drenched in sweat.

Mo Qingyi quickly stood up, "Wow, Xiangru and Yimo have grown this big?"

"Auntie, Auntie." Bao Bao and Bei Bei were especially excited to see Mo Qingyi after half a year.

Xiangru and Yimo looked somewhat bewildered at Mo Qingyi.

Tong Zhi immediately said, "Xiangru, Yimo, this is your sister."

"Hello, sister." The two little ones bowed politely.

Mo Qingyi smiled and fondly touched Xiangru and Yimo's heads, "Hello there." She, at her age, was unexpectedly being called sister by these little tykes, and this feeling was truly...

Novel.

Seeing Xiangru and Yimo, Mo Qingyi felt as if she herself had become several years younger.

Bao Bao immediately looked up to Chu Jin and asked in a babyish voice, "Mommy, why do little uncle and little auntie call Auntie, Sister?"

Bei Bei added, "Right, right, Mommy, why has Auntie become Sister?"

Chu Jin smiled and explained, "Because little uncle and little auntie are peers with your auntie, and peers usually address each other as brothers and sisters. You are a generation below little auntie and little uncle, so they call her Sister."

Bao Bao and Bei Bei were still confused, "Mommy, then why can't we be a generation above little auntie and little uncle?"

Children's questions are endless, like a hundred thousand 'whys'.

Chu Jin passed the question to Mo Zhixuan, "Go ask your father."

Bao Bao and Bei Bei immediately bounced off to find Mo Zhixuan.

Mo Zhixuan was sitting with Mo Fengxu and Duanmu Zhe on the other side.

Mo Qingyi watched the four children and smiled, "Children are truly adorable. It feels like just yesterday when I first saw Xiangru and Yimo, they were so small." The events of those days seemed as though they happened only yesterday.

How time flies.

"Yes, five years have gone by, and I don't even know how I've raised Xiangru and Yimo to this size," Tong Zhi also felt nostalgic, and she continued, "Only when you become a mother do you understand this happiness. Qingyi, you and Duanmu are not young anymore, it's time to hurry up and have one."

At the mention of this, a shadow of sadness briefly crossed the depths of Mo Qingyi's eyes but vanished in an instant. She nodded and said, "Mm, we will hurry." Four years had passed, and her belly was still quiet.

Chapter 847: the one given with a recharge

They told outsiders they were not in a hurry, but in reality, they had not conceived.

Four years had passed, and Mo Qingyi was actually quite anxious.

Chu Jin said with a smile, "You can't rush having children; just let nature take its course, and it will happen when it's meant to." Chu Jin clearly caught the fleeting sadness in Mo Qingyi's eyes, but since Mo Qingyi did not elaborate, Chu Jin felt it improper to pry further.

Tong Zhi also said with a laugh, "That's true too, Qingyi, you don't need to be too anxious. Don't stay up late with Little Zhe just to have a child, staying up is bad for your health." Once a woman is married, dirty jokes come naturally to them without any hesitation.

Mo Qingyi's face turned a few shades of embarrassed, "Aunt Tong, what are you saying! The children are still here!"

"What would they understand," Tong Zhi commented as she peeled a grape.

The conversation then moved away from that topic.

Meanwhile, Mo Zhixuan had perfectly explained the concept of seniority to Bao Bao and Bei Bei, and even performed a little magic trick for them.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei applauded vigorously, "Daddy, you're so amazing, you know everything."

Xiangru and Yimo looked at Mo Zhixuan with stars in their eyes, "Uncle Nine, you're so cool!"

Now, Mo Fengxu wasn't happy. In his son and daughter's eyes, it used to be him who was the most amazing. How come it was now someone else's dad?

"Dad can do it too," Mo Fengxu also conjured up a string of flames with a flick of his hand.

It was just producing flames, wasn't it?

Who didn't know how to do that?

"Dad, Bao Bao and Bei Bei's dad is the most incredible," Yimo pouted, "What you did was just a minor trick."

Xiangru also chimed in, "Dad, why don't you learn more from Uncle Nine."

Mo Fengxu was so irritated that his beard bristled, and his eyes bulged. Why was it that the same trick of creating flames from the palm looked high-class and most amazing when Mo Zhixuan did it, yet when he did the same thing, it was called a minor trick!

That hurt!

It really hurt!

"Am I that bad?" Mo Fengxu looked at Xiangru and Yimo with a doleful gaze.

Yimo immediately comforted Mo Fengxu, "Dad, you're actually very impressive too; it's just that you're not as great as Uncle Nine."

Mo Zhixuan, however, appeared unfazed, though his pride was soaring sky-high. Any parent would want to show their best side in front of their children.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei were overjoyed.

Mo Fengxu was very unhappy, "Then tell me, where am I not as impressive as your Uncle Nine?"

"Uncle Nine can even pluck the sun and the moon!"

"Exactly! Bao Bao and Bei Bei have promised us that Uncle Nine will perform the trick of plucking the sun and the moon for us. Can you do that, Dad?"

Xiangru and Yimo were bursting with excitement.

Pluck the sun and the moon?

The smile on Mo Zhixuan's face froze.

These two little rascals really knew how to boast.

Plucking the sun and the moon? Why didn't they claim they could fly to heaven too?

But Mo Fengxu laughed out loud, "Xiangru and Yimo, Dad really doesn't have the ability to pick stars or fetch the moon. I'm afraid only your Uncle Nine can do that. Go ask him to perform it for you." This big nephew of his had really talked big this time; Mo Fengxu wanted to see how he would back it up.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei also clapped their hands in delight, "Daddy, the sun is so hot today; it's killing us. Let's go pluck it down."

Xiangru and Yimo also clapped their hands, "Uncle Nine, go perform for us."

Mo Zhixuan kept a straight face, maintaining a mysterious and impressive demeanor in front of the children.

No matter what, one's image in front of the children must be upheld.

"Zhixuan, stop being modest, just show the kids what you've got. Look, they can't wait," Mo Fengxu urged, not one to miss out on fun.

It's rare to see Mo Zhixuan make a blunder in life; Mo Fengxu was indeed curious to see how Mo Zhixuan would spin this tale to save his image.

Mo Zhixuan smiled faintly and stood up from the sofa, "Xiangru, Yimo, Bao Bao, and Bei Bei, since you all want to see it so much, then come with me."

Mo Fengxu raised an eyebrow slightly and stood up as well.

"It's time to show some real skill!" Bao Bao jumped up excitedly.

He had mentioned it offhandedly, never expecting Daddy to actually be able to pluck the sun and moon.

Daddy, how come you're so amazing?

The uncles and nephews came outside.

The sun hung high outside, sunlight spilling across the earth, making for a remarkably bright sunny day.

Mo Zhixuan's face was inscrutable as he already thought of a foolproof plan that would continue to inspire awe in Bao Bao and Bei Bei while saving his own face.

All four little ones looked at Mo Zhixuan with expectant faces.

Mo Fengxu was also smiling as he watched Mo Zhixuan, curious about what kind of method Mo Zhixuan had thought up, to bluff his way through in front of the children.

Pick the sun?

That joke was indeed a bit too much.

Mo Zhixuan looked up at the sun in the azure sky, the sunlight gilding his sharp features with a layer of gold, making him look even more profound.

Bao Bao couldn't help but exclaim, "Daddy, you're even more handsome than Peppa Pig's daddy!"

Mo Zhixuan: "... If he remembered correctly, Peppa's father was a pig...

Is this son really his own flesh and blood!

"Daddy, stop showing off and start showing your real skills," Bei Bei tugged at Mo Zhixuan's sleeve.

"Ninth Uncle, you start now, our necks are getting sore!" Xiangru and Yimo were also urging him.

"Okay." Mo Zhixuan slowly withdrew his gaze, "Then you guys close your eyes. I'll count to three, and then you can open them."

The four little friends immediately closed their eyes obediently.

"Third Uncle, you close your eyes too." Mo Zhixuan turned to look at Mo Fengxu.

Under pressure, Mo Fengxu also had no choice but to close his eyes.

"Three, two, one..."

When the one adult and four children opened their eyes again, the surroundings had turned pitch black, and it was chill all around, as if they were in an ice cellar.

"Daddy, Daddy, where are you, I'm scared..." Bao Bao and Bei Bei immediately panicked, their voices taking on a teary tone.

"I'm here, don't be afraid." A deep, firm male voice rose from behind, and Bao Bao and Bei Bei were immediately reassured, then they asked, "Daddy, what's going on? Why did it suddenly get dark?"

"Because Daddy has already plucked the sun down, look." As he spoke, a huge red ball appeared in Mo Zhixuan's right hand, emitting a brilliant light, illuminating everything around them.

"Wow!" All four little friends immediately let out exclamations of surprise.

"Daddy, you're so cool."

Mo Zhixuan remained composed.

Mo Fengxu, watching Mo Zhixuan's disguise technique, saw through it but said nothing. These four little guys were not so easily fooled and would see through Mo Zhixuan's disguise technique within minutes.

"Daddy, was it so dark just now because you plucked down the sun?" Bei Bei asked curiously.

Mo Zhixuan nodded slightly, "Yes, Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Xiangru and Yimo, do you know the significance of the sun's existence? What can it bring to us humans?"

"Ninth Uncle! I know." Xiangru immediately raised her little hand.

Mo Zhixuan looked at Xiangru, "Hmm, Xiangru, go ahead."

Xiangru continued, "The sun can bring us sunlight. With the sun, we can see things."

Mo Zhixuan nodded slightly, "Correct, do you know anything else?"

"I don't know." Xiangru shook her head.

Bei Bei followed up, "Daddy, can you give the sun to me? Even if we don't have the sun, we still have streetlights, and the lights can also bring us brightness." Bei Bei thought the sun looked pretty nice, so she came up with this idea.

If she had the sun as a toy, then the other children would definitely be very envious of her.

"Daddy, give it to me, please. I'm more well-behaved than my sister, and when I grow up, I'll buy you candy," Bao Bao tiptoed, looking at Mo Zhixuan with anticipation.

In a child's world, candy is always the most important thing.

Mo Zhixuan slowly curled his lips into a smile, then said, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei, today Daddy is going to teach you a lesson. Remember it well. The sun is the foundation of all things. Whether it's humans, animals, or plants, none can do without the sun. The sun brings us light and warmth. The Earth's energy is indirectly supplied by sunlight, creating the food chain. The combination of the sun and plants leads to photosynthesis, releasing oxygen. Do you know what oxygen is?"

All four little friends shook their heads.

Mo Zhixuan continued, "The air we're breathing right now contains oxygen. Without oxygen, humans would die immediately..."

Bei Bei quietly raised her little hand.

Mo Zhixuan stopped speaking and looked at Bei Bei, "Bei Bei, do you have a question?"

Bei Bei nodded, "Yes!"

"You ask." Mo Zhixuan said next.

With her milky voice, Bei Bei asked, "Papa, why would humans die without oxygen? I think we would die without candy."

Mo Zhixuan laughed and said, "Oxygen is the key element that promotes metabolism within the human body. Bei Bei, do you think candy is more important than oxygen?"

Bei Bei nodded.

Bao Bao chimed in, "Papa, I also think candy is more important than oxygen."

Xiangru and Yimo also nodded in agreement.

Mo Fengxu, still watching the fun, said, "Great nephew, I also think candy is more important than oxygen." He really wanted to see how his great nephew would explain the importance of oxygen to these four kids.

Mo Zhixuan, unfazed, continued, "Then, let's do a little experiment. After the experiment, you'll know whether oxygen or candy is more important."

"Papa, tell us quickly." Bei Bei couldn't wait.

Mo Zhixuan said with a smile, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Xiangru and Yimo, the four of you, if anyone can hold their nose and stop breathing for two minutes, I will give the sun to whoever can do it."

"Really?" The four little ones looked excitedly at Mo Zhixuan.

Mo Zhixuan nodded, "Of course, a gentleman does not joke. Let's start now. I will time you."

As soon as he spoke, the four little ones immediately covered their noses and began to hold their breaths.

As time ticked by, they all remained composed at first. But as seconds passed, their expressions began to change for the worse.

Xiangru was the first to give in, releasing his nose and taking deep breaths. "Ninth brother, you're right, oxygen is more important than candy." Without candy he wouldn't die, but without oxygen he would.

"Xiangru, you only lasted thirty seconds."

Bei Bei was the second who couldn't hold on, "Papa, I can't do it! You win!"

Yimo was the third to give in.

Bao Bao was the fourth.

All four little ones compromised. Through this experiment, they also realized the importance of the sun.

"Do you still want to claim the sun for yourselves now?" Mo Zhixuan asked.

"No more!" All four little ones shook their heads. "Papa, please hang the sun back up quickly."

Mo Zhixuan nodded slightly, waved his left hand, and the sphere in his hand disappeared into the air; the darkness dissipated, and the surroundings returned to their normal state, sunny and cloudless.

Mo Zhixuan continued, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Xiangru and Yimo, the sun is the foundation of all things. Therefore, we must protect it well. I don't want you going around and recklessly sharing that I can pluck the sun. It's a secret, okay?"

Such an act was good for one time only. If there were a next time, he would certainly be exposed.

Plucking the sun.

These little tykes really had some wild imaginations.

"Why should we keep it a secret?" Bei Bei raised her innocent little head. With her papa being so amazing, the more people who know, the better.

Keeping it hidden wasn't fun at all.

"Papa, we should live and act with high profile." Bao Bao also proudly puffed up his chest, planning to invite every little friend to see how his papa plucked the sun.

Mo Zhixuan, unfazed, carried on, "Because the energy of the sun is limited, it can only be plucked once in a lifetime. I've already done it for you today, so it can't be done again. If you tell other kids, they will definitely want me to pluck it again to prove it to them. By then, if the sun is taken down, it won't be able to be hung up again, and oxygen on earth will gradually disappear. You just experienced what would happen."

No sooner had Mo Zhixuan finished speaking than two of the little ones clamped their mouths shut, looking at him in amazement.

The taste of lacking oxygen was something they'd just experienced—it was terrifying!

Seeing the kids react this way, Mo Zhixuan said next, "So, do you want to keep the secret now?"

"Mm-hm, we'll keep the secret!" the four little ones nodded eagerly.

Even Mo Fengxu silently gave Mo Zhixuan a thumbs up.

His great nephew really had a knack for teaching kids.

Today, he not only proved his strength in front of the children, but he also taught them a lesson on the importance of the sun.

Two birds with one stone.

Previously, Mo Zhixuan had seemed aloof and detached from worldly affairs; becoming a father had truly changed him.

Mo Zhixuan patted the little ones on the head, "Let's go, let's go inside."

Inside the house.

A few women were still chatting happily together.

Seeing the two men come in with the children, Tong Zhi asked with some curiosity, "Where did you two grown men take the kids?"

"Mom, Uncle Nine was just so awesome!"

"Yeah, yeah! He can even pick..."

Before Yimo could finish her sentence, she was silenced by Bao Bao, who made a 'quiet' gesture, "Shush! Did you forget what Dad said? It's a secret."

Reminded by Bao Bao, Yimo quickly covered her mouth tightly with her little hand.

Chu Jin looked at Bao Bao with a smile, "What bad things has your dad been taking you to do again? And you're even keeping secrets?" Chu Jin noticed that lately, Mo Zhixuan seemed to have more and more secrets with the kids.

Bao Bao gestured like a little adult, "Mommy, men's business is none of your concern." Despite his childish voice, he spoke like a grown-up.

This made everyone burst into laughter.

Mo Qingyi laughed, "Jin, I don't know who your son looks like."

"I obviously look like myself." Bao Bao patted his little chest.

Chu Jin touched his forehead and said, "I think you're a creature of indeterminate type."

"Mommy, where did brother and I come from?" Bei Bei looked up at Chu Jin, her big eyes sparkling with curiosity.

"You came from Mommy topping up her phone credit, and Bao Bao came from Daddy topping up his." Chu Jin replied with a smile.

"That's not true!" Bei Bei lifted her little head, walked over to Grandma Mo, "Grandma, where did brother and I come from? Grandma, we are your own grandchildren..." Bao Bao cuddled Grandma Mo's arm, acting cute.

Grandma Mo was completely charmed by the two little ones, her eyes crinkling into a smile, "You two are the gifts Jin and Zhixuan got from topping up their phone credits."

"Dad, Mom, what about us then?" Xiangru and Yimo were also very curious as they looked towards Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu.

Tong Zhi smiled and said, "You were also gifts from Dad and Mom topping up."

Mo Qingyi looked at the four kids and then at her flat belly and was momentarily speechless.

Duanmu Family.

When Duanmu Canghai came back, Zhou Jin was sitting on the sofa, looking distraught and a bit pale.

"What's the matter with you? Have you eaten yet? Want me to cook something for you?" Duanmu Canghai looked at Zhou Jin with concern.

It was then that Zhou Jin noticed Duanmu Canghai's return. She quickly stood up, "Canghai, you're back."

"Zhou Jin, are you troubled? Or did someone upset you?" Duanmu Canghai could see straight away that something was off with her.

Zhou Jin was indeed not her usual self.

Zhou Jin sighed, sat down, wanted to say something, but didn't know where to start.

Actually, Lin Xiyuan was right. After all, Duanmu Canghai was the head of the family, and he had the right to know these things. Maybe he even had a better way to solve the problem.

"Whatever it is, just say it. Is there anything you can't talk to me about?" Duanmu Canghai sat down and poured Zhou Jin a glass of water.

Zhou Jin nodded, took a sip of water, suppressed her emotions, then slowly began to explain the whole situation.

After hearing everything, Duanmu Canghai frowned and said, "Absurd! How can you do such a thing behind the children's backs? That's an invasion of their privacy!" Duanmu Canghai's first concern wasn't the Duanmu family lineage but the privacy of Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi.

Duanmu Canghai has always been a very good father.

"If I hadn't done this, we wouldn't have known about the problem between them. Canghai, it concerns our Duanmu family's legacy. What do you think we should do?" Zhou Jin was also a good mother, just that her way of dealing with problems was different.

"There are many ways for a family to continue its legacy, and it doesn't only depend on children." Duanmu Canghai continued, "Don't publicize this matter for now, and don't mention it in front of Little Zhe and Qingyi. They are young and have their own ways of solving problems. Let's not hold them back."

About the issue of offspring, Duanmu Canghai certainly cared, but he wasn't thoughtless.

Under the present circumstances, it wasn't that the young couple didn't want children; there was a problem. Since there was a problem, they needed to find a solution rather than pressuring them, which would benefit no one.

In such a situation, Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe would surely be even more anxious than the elders, and if they interfered, it would only make things worse and end in a fallout.

Zhou Jin sighed, "I thought so too; let's see how they handle it. But..." She paused, then continued, "If Little Zhe and they decide not to have children for life, then our Duanmu family will..."

The rest of her words went unsaid.

She and Duanmu Canghai were at the age to be grandparents but had not yet enjoyed the joy of a complete family.

"Don't we still have Nian'en?" Duanmu Canghai patted Zhou Jin's shoulder, "Don't forget, Nian'en is also of Duanmu blood. No matter what, the Duanmu family can continue."

With that, Zhou Jin's face brightened up considerably, and she grabbed Duanmu Canghai's hand in return, "Right, we still have Nian'en."

Duanmu Canghai added, "Children and grandchildren have their own fortunes. Don't worry too much. With medical technology being so advanced these days, there will always be a solution. You must never bring this up in front of the kids. Let's just act as if nothing happened."

Chapter 848: back together again

"Mm-hmm," Zhou Jin nodded, "I got it."

"Alright, stop crying," Duanmu Canghai wiped away the tears on Zhou Jin's face, "Smile, and you'll look ten years younger. Just smile."

Zhou Jin transformed tears into laughter.

Imperial Palace.

The day's gathering came to an end. After the meal, Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe drove off.

Mo Qingyi was sitting in the passenger seat, turned on the car stereo, and played some of the most popular music, lazily leaning back in the leather seat.

"Are you tired? I'll give you a massage when we get back," Duanmu Zhe glanced at her.

Mo Qingyi let out a long sigh, "Duanmu Xiaosi, tell me, why don't we have kids yet?" Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan have Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Han Zixiu and Ding Siyu have the three brothers The Sun, Moon and Stars, Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu also have Xiangru and Yimo, even Weiwei is pregnant now...

"What do you want a kid for? Isn't it good just to be the two of us?" Duanmu Zhe slowly spoke.

Mo Qingyi said with a twinkling smile, "Kids are adorable, and they can call us 'Dad' and 'Mom'. Look at Brother Jin's Bao Bao and Bei Bei, so cute. If we had a child, they would surely be as adorable as Bao Bao and Bei Bei." She was full of longing for her own pregnant figure and the future look of her baby.

"Aren't you afraid of the pain of childbirth?" Duanmu Zhe continued, "It's called the top pain in the world by the medical community. Besides, having a child, if obedient, would be fine, but if not, in the future, we don't know how much worry that would bring us. Let alone others, you know how many times mom and dad cried secretly when it came to the third sister and Shen Haoguang? Isn't having a child just looking for trouble?"

In fact, Duanmu Zhe also liked children very much.

But at times like this, if he showed that he really wanted a child, it would certainly cause some psychological pressure on Mo Qingyi.

Therefore, he had to seem indifferent.

Upon hearing this, Mo Qingyi countered, "Not all kids are like that, and after all, didn't Sister Sheng realize her mistakes later?"

Duanmu Zhe smiled, "Anyway, kids are not so easy to raise. Let's leave it to fate."

Mo Qingyi blinked slowly, a hint of sorrow in her eyes, "Duanmu Xiaosi, I actually know you're considering me. You don't dislike kids, you just don't want to burden me, and I am aware of all these."

After living with Duanmu Zhe for so many years, Mo Qingyi had long understood his thoughts—he did everything for her.

"Silly," Duanmu Zhe freed a hand to rub Mo Qingyi's head, his eyes reflecting deep affection, "you just stop overthinking."

Up ahead was a crossroad.

Suddenly, Mo Qingyi sat up straight and spoke, "Turn right."

The way home was to turn left, but following Mo Qingyi's words, he turned right.

"To the hospital," Mo Qingyi spoke again.

Hearing that, Duanmu Zhe became very anxious, "What's wrong, are you feeling unwell?"

"Let's just go," Mo Qingyi replied.

Duanmu Zhe drove to the hospital.

Standing at the entrance of the hospital, Mo Qingyi looked at Duanmu Zhe and said very seriously, "Duanmu, I want a child, our child."

Upon these words, Duanmu Zhe realized the implication of Mo Qingyi's statement. He took Mo Qingyi's hand, "These things don't need to be rushed. We are still young. If you like kids, then tonight I can just try harder a few more times, why waste time coming to the hospital?"

"Always the one for sloppy talk," Mo Qingyi tiptoed to pinch Duanmu Zhe's face, "We're here now, let's go in."

Duanmu Zhe stood still, not moving, "We've been to a hospital before, haven't we? The doctors said there was nothing wrong with us."

"This hospital is different from that one, just come with me," Mo Qingyi pulled Duanmu Zhe inside.

Duanmu Zhe couldn't refuse and simply followed Mo Qingyi inside.

Mo Qingyi had made an appointment with a specialist.

After about an hour in line, they saw the specialist.

After a series of tests, the specialist concluded that both were physically fine.

"I told you there was nothing wrong, but you wouldn't believe it. You insisted on wasting time to torment yourself," Duanmu Zhe said warmly, hugging Mo Qingyi's shoulders.

Mo Qingyi held her report, feeling somewhat down, "There's clearly no problem, but why can't I get pregnant?" It really was strange!

Duanmu Zhe continued, "Haven't the doctor said it? Getting pregnant isn't something that happens just because you want it to, especially in our line of work. With our irregular work and rest patterns, don't worry. As long as we work hard, we will surely have a healthy and adorable baby. It's not something you can rush."

Mo Qingyi nodded, "Right, starting from today, I will eat healthily and ensure enough sleep." Now that she was sure that there wasn't a physical issue on either side, Mo Qingyi felt much more at ease.

Duanmu Zhe smiled, "Okay, starting from today, I'll be responsible for supervising you."

Both of them got into the car, and Mo Qingyi sighed before speaking again, "Why is it so simple for some people to get pregnant? Look at Brother Jin, and Sister Siyu, and Weiwei. When it comes to me, it's so hard..." Mo Qingyi was also very sad, it looked like they got pregnant so easily.

Duanmu Zhe patted Mo Qingyi's shoulder, "People are different, just like how there are no two identical leaves in the world."

The Duanmu Family's house was brightly lit, and entering it, one could hear the laughter of children coming from inside.

Toward evening, Duanmu Sheng came back with Nian'en.

Every few days, Duanmu Sheng would bring Nian'en to visit his parents. Occasionally, Nian'en would stay with his grandparents for a few days.

"Auntie!" Seeing Mo Qingyi return, Nian'en started to run towards Mo Qingyi with short, quick steps.

Nian'en was already three years old this year, very much resembling Duanmu Sheng and extremely cute with a sweet little mouth.

"Little Nianen," Mo Qingyi swooped up Nianen in her arms.

"Auntie, Nianen has missed you so much these past few days," Nianen clung to Mo Qingyi's neck, babbling away.

Mo Qingyi said with a smile, "If Nianen misses Auntie, then how about staying here a bit longer this time? Auntie just happens to be on vacation these days."

At these words, Nianen's eyes lit up. Just as she was about to agree, she looked up at Duanmu Sheng, her voice pitiful, "Mommy, may I?"

Nianen was a child who understood things at an early age. She knew how hard it was for Duanmu Sheng and the implications of her own existence. Therefore, she never asked Duanmu Sheng about her father.

Looking back, Duanmu Sheng felt that having Nianen was the greatest blessing of her life.

No matter what.

She would never regret having Nianen.

Duanmu Sheng nodded, "Of course you can, but you have to promise not to bother your aunt."

Nianen nodded vigorously, "Auntie is my favorite, I will definitely not bother her. Mommy, don't worry."

Zhou Jin entered carrying dishes with a smile and walked out of the kitchen, "Qingyi, Little Zhe, have you eaten? If not, go wash your hands and eat."

"Mom, let me help you." Mo Qingyi put Nianen down and headed for the kitchen. "Mom, Duanmu and I already ate at my mom's house."

Zhou Jin smiled and pushed Mo Qingyi back out, "Go on, get out; the kitchen is full of cooking fumes. None of you are to come in; I'm all you need."

After an afternoon of talking things through with Duanmu Canghai, Zhou Jin had also come to understand a lot.

There were indeed some things that weren't her place to meddle in as an elder.

Let nature take its course.

During the meal, Zhou Jin smiled and said, "I have some good news to announce. Want to hear it?"

Duanmu Zhe chimed in, "What news? Mom, just tell us, no need for suspense."

"Exactly, Mom, just tell us now." Duanmu Sheng joined in with a smile.

Mo Qingyi, who was feeding Nianen, also smiled and said, "Mom, what's the good news? Let's hear it."

Even though Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe had already eaten, they still sat at the dining table to chat with everyone. With Nianen there, the atmosphere was much livelier.

Zhou Jin continued, "Xiangru has agreed to give Yi Heng another chance; they are together again." This was indeed good news for the Duanmu Family. Zhou Yiheng was no longer young, and having been single for the past two years, everyone was anxious for him.

"Really?" Duanmu Sheng looked up in surprise, "That's really wonderful news."

Duanmu Zhe said, "I hope cousin will treat Xiangru well this time and not make the same mistakes as before."

"Exactly," Zhou Jin nodded in agreement, "After that incident, Yi Heng has grown up a lot. He won't be foolish again. As the saying goes, 'a prodigal who returns is more precious than gold.'

Mo Qingyi added, "Mom, since cousin and Xiangru are not young anymore, shouldn't they handle their matters sooner rather than later?"

Zhou Jin shook her head, "I don't know about that. Xiangru might still want to observe Yi Heng for a while. When you see Yi Heng, remind him not to be silly again. If he does, Xiangru will not forgive him this time."

Duanmu Sheng chimed in, "After what's already happened, if cousin makes the same mistakes this time, he's really a fool!"

After dinner, Nianen clung to Mo Qingyi, "Auntie, I want you to give me a bath."

Duanmu Sheng approached from behind, "Student Duanmu Nianen, don't pester your auntie, mommy will bathe you."

"No, I want Auntie." Nianen hung on Mo Qingyi's neck, rarely acting coquettish.

Mo Qingyi was very fond of the adorable little Nianen; she looked at Duanmu Sheng and said with a light smile, "Sheng, let me give Nianen a bath, it's okay."

"Auntie, I love you." Nianen kissed Mo Qingyi.

Duanmu Sheng watched the receding figures of Nianen and Mo Qingyi, shaking her head helplessly. With Auntie around, the little girl had completely forgotten about her mother.

Just then, Zhou Jin came out from the next room.

Duanmu Sheng offhandedly remarked, "Mom, Qingyi loves children so much; why doesn't she have one with Little Zhe sooner?"

Zhou Jin was very tight-lipped about that matter; she hadn't even told Duanmu Sheng.

Zhou Jin replied with a laugh, "Never mind them, young people have their own ideas. Sheng, why not stay at home for a few more days this time? It's been a long while since Qingyi, Little Zhe, and the rest of us have spent time together like this."

Duanmu Sheng's bakery was quite a distance from the Duanmu family's large courtyard.

By car, it would take an hour or two.

At the mention of this, Duanmu Sheng chuckled, "Mom, you must be joking. I'm so busy now that even coming here today required squeezing time out of my schedule; I have to leave with Nianen early tomorrow morning. I'll definitely come home more often when I have the time."

Over the past two years, Duanmu Sheng had successfully expanded her bakery from one store to four, so she was indeed very busy.

"Didn't we agree to let Nianen stay here for a few days?" Zhou Jin pressed, "Qingyi came back specially, and she's so fond of Nianen."

Duanmu Sheng smiled and patted Zhou Jin's hand, "Okay, as long as you don't mind, I'll leave Nianen here. She has some time before school starts anyway." Although Nianen was only three, she was already attending an early education center.

Zhou Jin immediately scolded playfully, "What are you talking about, child? When have I ever minded Nianen? I adore her; I've always said to leave her to me, but you wouldn't agree. What early education center can compare to the care you'd get from your own mother?"

Chapter 849: Childhood Fun

Zhou Jin truly never disliked Nian'en, it was just that Duanmu Sheng didn't want to trouble his mother.

"Mom," Duanmu Sheng gave Zhou Jin a hug, "I just don't want to make things too hard for you. You're at the age to enjoy your life and retirement, so you should spend your time dancing with the uncles and aunties in the courtyard or walking dogs." Since Nian'en was born, Duanmu Sheng had become much more sensible too.

One only understands parental grace when one becomes a parent.

The next day, early in the morning, Duanmu Sheng left, leaving Nian'en still here.

Seeing that his mom was gone, Nian'en neither cried nor made a fuss but happily followed Mo Qingyi around.

For breakfast, Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe took Nian'en to the imperial palace.

Tong Zhi and Mo Fengxu didn't leave the night before.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Xiangru, and Yimo, these four little ones, were very happy to see their new playmate.

Today, Bao Bao was dressed in a very handsome little suit, with a top hat on his head, looking like a little prince walking out of a fairy tale.

Upon seeing Nian'en, Bao Bao took off his hat, placed one hand on his chest and the other behind him, and bowed slightly, greeting very gentlemanly, "Hello there, I'm Mo Jingxing, my nickname is Bao Bao, I'm four years old, you can just call me Bao Bao."

It was only when meeting little girls that Bao Bao would be so enthusiastic.

None of Mo Zhixuan's cool and aloof air could be seen in Bao Bao.

"Hello Bao Bao, I am Duanmu Nianen, I am three years old. I don't have a nickname, you can call me Nian'en." Nian'en shook Bao Bao's little hand very politely, and the two little ones shook hands very formally, amusing the adults watching them.

"Nian'en, I am older than you by one year, so you have to call me Big Brother Bao Bao," Bao Bao followed.

Nian'en was a sweet little darling, responding crisply, "Hello, Big Brother Bao Bao."

"Good," Bao Bao extended his hand and patted Nian'en's head, then gave him a fruit candy, "This is a candy from Big Brother Bao Bao, once you take my candy, from now on you'll be one of mine." Despite being a young child, he was acting like an adult, which was comically adorable.

Nian'en accepted the candy, "Thank you, Big Brother Bao Bao."

Bao Bao waved his little hand, "You're welcome, we're all family."

With a smile, Tong Zhi turned to Chu Jin, "I don't even know who your son takes after, being such a charmer. Imagine how many little girls he'll attract when he grows up."

Chu Jin shrugged helplessly as well, "Definitely not like me." Her and Mo Zhixuan's temperaments were both somewhat cool, and she didn't understand how they ended up with such a warm-hearted child like Bao Bao...

From what Chu Jin observed on a daily basis, Bao Bao really liked playing with little girls.

His friends were called "Lingling," "Jingjing," "Xiaoyuer," and such.

She really didn't know who the child takes after...

Tong Zhi continued, "He doesn't take after Zhixuan either, when Zhixuan was as big as Bao Bao, he was like a little old man, very prim and proper, spending all his time practicing martial arts or studying, your mom even thought the child might be autistic."

All things considered, apart from his looks, which are somewhat similar to Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan, in terms of personality, Bao Bao really does not follow either of them.

Chu Jin laughed softly, "When I first met Mo Zhixuan, he wasn't talkative either." He gradually changed a lot over time.

Mo Zhixuan sat to the side, his face always maintaining a faint smile.

Meanwhile, the five kids quickly started playing together.

With Bao Bao as the center, the other four little ones gathered around him.

"Mommy, can I take everyone to meet my friends, okay?" Bao Bao walked over to Chu Jin.

"Go ahead, but be careful. Call mom every half an hour, understand?" As a boy with special ability, Chu Jin naturally let Bao Bao go out to play on his own quite often, it was also a good way to foster his independence.

"Yeah," Bao Bao nodded, "Okay, mommy, don't worry."

Watching the little ones walking away, Tong Zhi expressed her concern, "Jin, your heart is really big, letting such little kids go out on their own?" In this group of children, the oldest were Xiangru and Yimo, and they were only about five years old.

Chu Jin replied with a smile, "Don't worry, Auntie Tong, Bao Bao and Bei Bei often go out to play by themselves, and besides, I've sent a pair of Hidden Guards to follow them, you can be at ease." Chu Jin was not one to be irresponsible.

Upon hearing this, Tong Zhi finally breathed a sigh of relief, "Then I am reassured."

After a while, Ding Siyu and Han Zixiu also came with their children.

The Sun, Moon and Stars brothers were over two years old this year, one of them resembled Ding Siyu, the other two looked like Han Zixiu.

The three brothers, although only two years old, already spoke very clearly.

Standing in front of everyone, they greeted them one by one.

"Yangyang, Yueyue, Star, come here to your auntie." Chu Jin beckoned the three brothers over.

"Auntie, Uncle, hello." The three brothers walked over to Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan and spoke with considerable politeness.

"It's been a while since I've seen you, and you three have grown a lot taller." Chu Jin reached over and affectionately touched the tops of the three brothers' heads.

Tong Zhi was very fond of the three brothers and pulled Han Jiayang's hand, saying, "Look how alike these three brothers look. Siyu, you're going to be so lucky in the future with three big sons."

Ding Siyu laughed, "Auntie Tong, you're joking. These three brothers are quite mischievous. It would be good enough if they don't drive me to death with frustration, let alone enjoying any luck."

These three brothers really were mischievous—at home if left unattended for a moment, they could practically rip off the roof. Their destructive abilities were on par with Two Ha.

In fact, they were even more capable than Two Ha. Ding Siyu wished she could tie them up with a rope.

"Auntie, where are Brother Bao Bao and Sister Bei Bei?" The eldest, Han Jiayang, looked up at Chu Jin.

Han Jiayang was an extroverted child, whereas Han Jiayue and Han Jiaxing were a bit more introverted. Perhaps because he was the eldest, Han Jiayang had a certain poise about him.

"They went out to play. Just wait a moment, I'll call them and have them come back." Saying this, Chu Jin took out her phone to call Bao Bao.

Bao Bao and Bei Bei each carried an invisible children's phone.

Soon, Bao Bao and Bei Bei returned with Xiangru, Yimo, and Nian'en in tow, and in the blink of an eye, five kids turned into eight.

And they were all around the same age.

Bao Bao immediately assumed the role of a big brother and introduced Xiangru, Yimo, and Nian'en to the three brothers, The Sun, Moon, and Stars.

"Yangyang, Yueyue, Star, let me introduce you to my little uncle and my little aunt. Just call them little uncle and little aunt like I do." Bao Bao was a very clever child, with a sharp mind.

"Little uncle, little aunt." Yangyang, Yueyue, and Star were young, but they understood the concepts of uncle and aunt.

"Very good, here's some candy for you." Bao Bao dug out the last piece of candy from his pocket and handed it to the three brothers, The Sun, Moon, and Stars.

"This is Sister Nian'en. She's a year older than you, so you should call her Sister Nian'en," Bao Bao continued.

"Hello, Sister Nian'en."

In just a few minutes, the children got to know each other and soon sat down on the carpet to share their toys.

Watching so many children, the Mo family's grandmother remarked sentimentally, "Children really bring life to a place. Just look how well they play together."

Ding Siyu, however, noticed something different and said with a laugh, "In total, there are eight children but only three girls. The gender ratio is really unbalanced. Nowadays, the gender imbalance is getting worse, and I worry whether our three little rascals will be able to find wives in the future."

Nowadays, the gender imbalance was indeed a serious issue.

Mo Qingyi laughed and said, "Yangyang, Yueyue, and Star are such handsome brothers, how could they have trouble finding wives? Sister Siyu, you're worrying without cause." After all, with their parents' genes, The Sun, Moon, and Stars were indeed remarkably handsome.

"Being good-looking doesn't put food on the table," Ding Siyu replied. "It's hard to predict the future situation, especially as there seem to be fewer and fewer young girls."

Tong Zhi took up the conversation, "The person here with the least to worry about is Jin. In the future, there will surely be many girls vying to become your daughter-in-law." After all, Bao Bao had already mastered the art of charming girls at a young age.

Chu Jin smiled modestly, "Auntie Tong, please don't tease me."

In the blink of an eye, it was noon, and since there were many people, everyone suggested having a barbecue.

Barbecues are more fun with many people.

Since it was a gathering of young people, the Mo family's grandmother didn't join them but went to the Chu Family to chat with Zhao Yan instead.

Chu Jin and Mo Qingyi went to wash the vegetables.

Finally having a moment alone with Chu Jin, Mo Qingyi lowered her voice and asked, "Jin, may I ask you a question?"

"Go ahead," Chu Jin turned to look at Mo Qingyi, her eyes smiling.

"Jin, how long were you and my brother together before you got pregnant?" Mo Qingyi asked, her face turning slightly red.

"Why this sudden question?" Chu Jin felt a bit embarrassed. "Are you thinking about having children?"

Mo Qingyi nodded.

Chu Jin thought for a moment, "Actually, back in the secular world, we were together soon after we got our marriage certificate, but I didn't get pregnant. Later, after returning to the Superpower World, it seemed like it took two or three months before Bao Bao and Bei Bei came along. Getting pregnant isn't

something you can rush; it's all about fate." Mainly, it had been so long that she couldn't quite remember.

"Seems like you all get pregnant so easily," Mo Qingyi sighed.

"Have you and Duanmu Zhe taken any contraceptive measures over these years?" Chu Jin continued to ask.

Usually, Mo Qingyi seldom brought up such topics on her own.

"No," Mo Qingyi shook her head, "We actually like children a lot, just that we haven't been able to conceive."

Hearing this, Chu Jin frowned slightly.

Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi had been together for four years without using contraception, it didn't make sense that they hadn't conceived...

Unless, one of them... had a problem.

"Have you been to the hospital?" Chu Jin looked at Mo Qingyi and asked very tactfully.

Mo Qingyi understood what Chu Jin meant. She nodded, "Yes, we have, but the doctor said there was no problem. I don't know what's going on. I just can't get pregnant." Mo Qingyi was truly anxious, otherwise, she wouldn't have brought it up with Chu Jin.

Chu Jin narrowed her eyes slightly, put down the vegetables she was holding, and pulled out a tissue to wipe her hands. Then she said, "Qingyi, stretch out your hand." Chu Jin was quite knowledgeable in medicine, and with her in-depth research over the years, she could already be described as a "Divine Doctor."

If it was indeed an issue with Mo Qingyi's body, she would definitely be able to diagnose it.

Mo Qingyi extended her hand nervously in front of Chu Jin.

Chu Jin reached out, touched her pulse, and then closed her eyes slightly.

A moment later, Chu Jin slowly opened her eyes.

Mo Qingyi immediately asked, "Jin, how is it?"

Chu Jin smiled and said, "Don't worry, there's nothing wrong with your body."

Hearing this, Mo Qingyi sighed in relief. "Jin, with your medical skills, isn't there some kind of medicine that one can take to get pregnant?"

Ancient medical practices were miraculous and complex—since there were contraceptive herbal remedies, there naturally were also ones that could promote pregnancy.

Chu Jin thought for a moment, then said, "There is indeed one such prescription, although it's all traditional medicine and might not taste too good. If you can stick to drinking it for three months, it will definitely be effective."

"As long as I can have children, I'm not afraid of taking a bit of medicine. Jin, please write down the recipe for me." Mo Qingyi wouldn't miss even the slightest hope, especially since the prescription was coming from Chu Jin, which made her even more confident.

"Come with me." Chu Jin rolled up her sleeves and headed upstairs to the study.

Mo Qingyi followed behind.

In the study, Chu Jin picked up a brush, stood to dip it in ink, and began to write.

Even though it was now a modern society, Chu Jin still preferred to use a brush.

Her brush and pen calligraphy each had their own merits.

Soon, Chu Jin finished writing a prescription. After stopping her brush, she picked up the paper, blew on it to dry the ink, and then handed it to Mo Qingyi, instructing, "Qingyi, you must persist in taking these medicines for them to work. Continue until you are confirmed pregnant before you stop."

Hearing this, Mo Qingyi asked with some concern, "Won't it have any effect on the baby?"

Chu Jin shook her head, "That won't be an issue. Rest assured, these medicines are non-toxic and only beneficial to people."

Mo Qingyi nodded, "That's good then. Jin, thank you." Mo Qingyi hugged Chu Jin to show her gratitude.

Chu Jin patted Mo Qingyi's back, "Wait until you're pregnant to thank me. Oh, and Duanmu needs to drink the medicine too. It's not going to work if only you drink it."

Hearing this, Mo Qingyi asked in surprise, "Ah? Why is that?"

Chu Jin tapped Mo Qingyi's head, "Silly girl, is having a child only your concern? Can you have a baby without a man?" Therefore, this kind of medicine usually is effective when both the man and woman take it.

"Oh, I understand. Don't worry, I'll make Little Zhe drink it with me." If it were any other man, he might not be willing to drink the medicine with his wife, but Duanmu Zhe was different. If possible, Duanmu Zhe would even be willing to have the baby in place of Mo Qingyi.

"Good," Chu Jin nodded slightly, "Remember, once a day is enough."

Duanmu Family.

Lin Xiyuan came again, bringing gifts with her. It was almost a daily occurrence that she would come bearing something.

If not bringing fruits, then it would be homemade snacks.

"Xiyuan, have you eaten? If not, come eat with Auntie," Zhou Jin called for Lin Xiyuan to sit down.

With a smile, Lin Xiyuan replied, "I'm just getting hungry, thank you, Auntie."

Zhou Jin instructed the servant to bring a bowl of noodles.

Watching Lin Xiyuan eat so deliciously, Zhou Jin said with a smile, "Xiyuan, if you like it, eat more. I've had a lot of noodles cooked."

There wasn't a trace of yesterday's worry on Zhou Jin's face, and a flicker of surprise crossed in Lin Xiyuan's eyes.

Logically speaking, Zhou Jin should not have been this calm after knowing about that matter.

"Thank you, Auntie, I'm already full. Suddenly, I feel reluctant to leave you. If I get married to Yi Heng in the future, I won't be able to visit Auntie's home as often," Lin Xiyuan said with reluctance.

Laughing, Zhou Jin said, "Silly child, if you like it here, you can come over every day to play."

"Oh, Auntie, I have something to give you." As if suddenly remembering, Lin Xiyuan took out a prescription from her bag and handed it to Zhou Jin, "Auntie, this prescription was given to me by a doctor friend. It's said to be very effective. You can have Qingyi sister-in-law give it a try."

Without saying it, Zhou Jin knew what kind of prescription it was.

Zhou Jin took the prescription with a composed expression and smiled, "Xiyuan, you are thoughtful." Zhou Jin had finally gotten over that hurdle, and now Lin Xiyuan was dredging up the past again. It was inevitably a bit painful, but she did not show it.

"Auntie, in the future, we are all family, there's no need for you to be so polite with me," Lin Xiyuan continued, "Rest assured, I won't tell anyone about this, including my parents. I haven't told them, either."

Zhou Jin patted Lin Xiyuan's hand, "Yes, good child, Auntie believes in your character."

Lin Xiyuan went on to comfort her, "Auntie, don't be too anxious. There will always be a solution to this issue, and worrying is useless."

Zhou Jin nodded, "Yes, Xiyuan, don't worry about me. Little Zhe and Qingyi are good kids. Even if they truly don't have their own children, it's okay. Aren't the Tong madam and the third master of the Mo family childless? The two children they adopted are brought up well too. If it really doesn't work out, when the time comes, we'll let Little Zhe and Qingyi adopt a child as well."

Zhou Jin had come to terms with it. If Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi really ended up not having children of their own, adopting one would be just as good.

Lin Xiyuan smiled and said, "Auntie, I have to speak my mind here, and please don't be upset with me for being outspoken. As the saying goes, hair is not as good as your own, and children are not like your own. Other people's children will always be other people's in the end, especially for a prominent family like the Duanmu Family. Should all their wealth really fall into the hands of outsiders? You and uncle have struggled all your lives, should it all be for others to enjoy?"

Lin Xiyuan's words were piercing, leaving Zhou Jin feeling very upset. Yet, Zhou Jin had no words of rebuttal. What Lin Xiyuan said was true.

These children, indeed, are not like one's own flesh and blood.

Zhou Jin did not respond.

Seeing Zhou Jin's expression change, Lin Xiyuan added, "Auntie, I was just speaking off the cuff. Don't take it to heart. I'm considering the bloodline of the Duanmu Family."

Zhou Jin nodded, "Yes, Xiyuan, I am aware of all you've said." Pausing for a moment, she continued, "Since it has happened, we can only let nature take its course."

Lin Xiyuan nodded with a smile, "Auntie, you're right. With medical science so advanced now, there must be a way. Oh, and about this medicine, remember to have Qingyi sister-in-law take it, and she must not skip any doses, or it won't have any effect."

"Yes, Xiyuan, I will," Zhou Jin said. "By the way, how are things with you and Yi Heng now? You two aren't getting any younger. If possible, Auntie still hopes you can settle down sooner rather than later."

"We'll talk about that next holiday. I have to return to the military in a few days," Lin Xiyuan said with a smile.

"That's fine too," Zhou Jin nodded, her expression somewhat downcast.

After glancing at her phone, Lin Xiyuan said, "Auntie, Yi Heng and I have an appointment. I won't disturb you any longer." Lin Xiyuan had come today specifically to deliver the medicine to Zhou Jin. Now that it had been delivered, she naturally had to leave.

Zhou Jin really was a good mother-in-law to be so composed even after learning her daughter-in-law might not be able to have children.

Any other mother-in-law would find it unbearable.

"Go ahead," Zhou Jin smiled, seeing Lin Xiyuan out the door.

Watching Lin Xiyuan's retreating figure disappear from sight, Zhou Jin turned and walked back inside.

Returning to the living room and seeing the packet of medicine on the table, Zhou Jin's eyes filled with an unbearable bitterness. She sighed deeply and put the packet of medicine into a kitchen drawer.

Outside the house.

Having walked a few steps, Lin Xiyuan looked back with a hint of a faint smile at the sunlight-drenched courtyard.

Imperial Palace.

Bao Bao and his little friends were playing under a large banyan tree. The dense branches shaded them from the strong sun, casting dappled shadows, while cicadas noisily chirped on incessantly.

"Shall we play hide and seek?" Bao Bao asked, mysteriously producing a long rectangular strip of cloth.

Chapter 850: as handsome as Dad, uncle Shu

"Okay, okay." The other children clapped and cheered.

Aside from Bao Bao and Bei Bei, Xiangru and Yimo, Nian'en, and the three brothers The Sun, Moon and Stars, a few new friends had been added, all of whom were Bao Bao and Bei Bei's good friends.

"So, who will be the 'cat'?" Bei Bei stepped forward with a puzzled voice.

"Let's play rock-paper-scissors, and the loser will be the 'cat'." Star suggested.

Bei Bei, pretending to be an adult, stroked his chin, "Alright."

Through multiple rounds of rock-paper-scissors, the 'cat' was finally determined.

Bei Bei had a sorrowful look on her face, "Why is it always me who gets to be the 'cat'."

"Sister Bei Bei, if you don't want to be the 'cat', let me do it," a boy slightly taller than Bei Bei walked up to her side and took the cloth strip from Bei Bei's hand.

This was also one of Bei Bei's playmates, Lin Yuze.

"No way, my daddy says that you have to accept the outcome of a bet, you can't replace Bei Bei." Bao Bao took the cloth strip from Lin Yuze's hand and stuffed it back into Bei Bei's hand.

Among these children, Bao Bao wasn't the oldest, but he was the king of the kids; whether they were older or younger, they all followed him around.

"Wow! Big brother Bao Bao, you're so cool!" Immediately after, a little fan girl with stars in her eyes exclaimed.

"All right then." Lin Yuze showed a disappointed expression, then patted Bei Bei's shoulder, comforting her, "Don't be sad, sister Bei Bei."

Bei Bei pouted her lips, said "Bad brother," and then covered her eyes with the cloth strip, starting the game of hide and seek.

Bei Bei, with her eyes covered, saw pitch black.

The other children all hid far away.

Bao Bao pulled Lin Yuze's hand, reminding him not to go easy on Bei Bei.

"Big brother, little auntie, little uncle, Yuze, Star..." Bei Bei waved her hands, feeling her way forward.

The children giggled from time to time.

Bei Bei had very sensitive hearing; her ears twitched, and she ran towards the source of the sound, stumbling along the way.

"Haha, got you!" Bei Bei immediately hugged the person in front of her, to be precise, a pair of slender legs surrounded by a faint medicinal fragrance.

"Slow down." At the same time, a pleasant voice came from above.

That voice, hmm, it was unfamiliar.

By the process of elimination.

First, this wasn't mommy.

Second, it wasn't daddy...

And it wasn't grandmother, nor could it be from grandma...

Bei Bei quickly pulled off the cloth strip from her eyes and looked up.

What appeared before her was a man, as handsome as daddy.

Bei Bei had never seen another uncle as handsome as her daddy before this big.

Bei Bei hesitated, then spoke up, "Uncle, who are you?"

The man looked down at the little girl in front of him, and he too was startled; it was as if through those sprightly big eyes, he saw the presence of another person.

Adorned in stunning red.

Gracefully dressed in white.

Gallop across the battlefield.

Standing at the pinnacle of three realms.

These eyes and eyebrows, they looked so much like her.

"Sister, did you forget what mommy said? Don't talk to strangers!" Bao Bao ran over, took Bei Bei's hand, and protected her behind him like a mother hen with her chick, warily watching the man, "Who are you, uncle? We don't know you."

The man smiled gently, crouched down, and said softly, "Bao Bao and Bei Bei, don't be nervous, I am a good friend of your mommy's."

"How do you know we're Bao Bao and Bei Bei?" Bao Bao protectively pulled Bei Bei back several steps.

This uncle was no simple man.

He even knew his and his sister's names.

The man smiled warmly, "Don't be scared, I really am a good friend of your mommy's, isn't your mommy called Jin?"