

## Regaining 411

### Chapter 411: Moving Goods

"Xu Yue, Yue, I hope the child will be upbeat and active in the future, and also the meaning of jumping; I hope he can surpass himself and become a capable person." Xu Nianji went through many books and dictionaries, and in the end, he still favored the character "Yue".

He knew not many characters, and after much deliberation, "Yue" was still his favorite.

"Xu Yue?" Ji Ying silently repeated it and didn't think it was bad at all.

It took Xu Qinghe several turns before saying, "Anyway, you are Zhuangzhuang's dad, so you decide."

As long as the name was not too excessive or unattractive, Xu Qinghe thought it was up to Xu Nianji to handle.

"I'll go and discuss it with Xiaohe." Xu Nianji happily went inside to talk to Zhou He about his son's name.

In the end, Zhuangzhuang's official name became Xu Yue.

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"Oh, my dear grandson." Zhou Ma arrived ten days after Zhou He gave birth.

"Xiaohe, something came up at Xin Lan's house, and she just got pregnant; I've been unable to get away these past few days." While explaining, Zhou Ma said, "Xiaohe, you really did well, giving birth to a son on your first try."

"How is Xin Lan doing?" Zhou He asked, already accustomed to her own parents' behavior.

In the beginning, Zhou He had some expectations, but in the end, she had given up hope.

During her postpartum confinement, with the meticulous care of Ji Ying, her mother-in-law, and the warm concerns of Xu Nianji, she felt very happy and content.

"She's pregnant!"

Zhou Ma announced with joy on her face. Her daughter-in-law finally became pregnant, which brought her great comfort.

Zhou Ma gleefully talked about Xin Lan's pregnancy, mentioning how Xin Lan was delicate and craved meat every two or three days.

Zhou He, playing with her son, didn't respond to her mother's words; her mother was satisfying every unreasonable demand of her daughter-in-law one by one.

"Xiaohe, you gave the Xu family a son; didn't your in-laws give you anything?" Zhou Ma inquired.

Zhou He paused, then said, "Zhuangzhuang is my son, a piece of flesh from my own body."

She had already talked about this last time and did not want to answer this question again.

"He's also the Xu family's son, the Xu family's grandson." Zhou Ma didn't like what she heard. "Xiaohe, you're saying you married into the Xu family, gave them a son, and they don't even consider your contributions?"

"Xiaohe, I heard Nianji even learned to drive, and now he can drive. Look, Nianji is getting more and more impressive; don't you think you should consider your own brother?" Zhou Ma was thrilled when she heard others say Xu Nianji was driving a truck.

Wouldn't her son benefit from having a successful son-in-law?

Zhou He, using her son's need to nurse as an excuse, sidestepped the topic, but she forgot that her mother was relentless in her pursuits.

At the dinner table, Zhou Ma brought the subject up directly.

Ji Ying instinctively looked at Zhou He.

"Mom, Xiaoqiang is healthy and able; why can't he find work by himself?" Zhou He said unhappily.

Zhou Ma glared at her and turned to Xu Nianji, "Nianji, they say a son-in-law is half a son, and Xiaoqiang is your own brother. You're making money now; can't you also help Xiaoqiang? The saying goes, 'profits should not flow to outsiders.' If Xiaoqiang does well, he might help you in the future, don't you think that's reasonable?"

"Mom, Xiaoqiang..." Xu Nianji had been thinking about this for some days. After seeing Zhou Ma arrive, he naturally knew her intentions and said, "We do need someone for loading when we deliver goods, but the work of loading isn't easy."

"Loading?" Zhou Ma heard the job and already felt displeased.

Chapter 412: The Beginning is the Hardest

"Although moving goods is a bit tiring, it pays more, thirty-five dollars a month, five dollars more than working in the factory."

Zhou He's words instantly lit up Mom's eyes — thirty-five dollars, that's four hundred and twenty dollars a year?

"Okay, okay, okay, I'll go back and tell Xiaoqiang, Xiaoqiang will definitely do it." Mom said immediately, no longer caring about the lack of prestige in moving goods; as long as it brings in money, what's not to do?

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"Mom, moving goods is so tiring, and I'm all skin and bones — do you want to work me to death?"

When Zhou Qiang heard it was about moving goods, he was immediately dissatisfied; he couldn't do it, it was too exhausting.

"Slap."

Mom slapped him and said, "Your brother-in-law can do it, why can't you?"

"Mom."

Zhou Qiang looked at her with dissatisfaction and frustration and said, "You don't love me anymore."

He had been spoiled by Mom since childhood, and he said, "Sister just had a son for her husband's family, talk to her again and let him find me something easy and lucrative."

"Just try it out, thirty-five dollars a month."

Mom did dote on her son, but seeing her son-in-law's family living better day by day, and with Dad's fondness for drinking, their money was dwindling, and that worried her.

Under Mom's insistence, Zhou Qiang still ended up going with Xu Nianji to do the moving job.

Moving goods involved not only hauling the goods onto the truck from the factory but was also about unloading and moving them to the warehouse during delivery; each item wasn't too heavy, but the sheer volume was overwhelming.

Zhou Qiang, who usually did little at home, was exhausted.

"Mom, tell brother-in-law, I can't do it anymore." As soon as Zhou Qiang got home, he lay down exhausted, feeling like his arms and legs weren't his own.

"All beginnings are hard; just hold on a few more days."

Thinking of the thirty-five dollars, Mom urged Zhou Qiang to keep working.

Zhou Qiang didn't want to go, but thinking of the thirty-five dollars, he went with Xu Nianji to deliver goods again.

However, this time Xu Nianji was delivering a large load, fully packed, and it took two days of continuous running before Zhou Qiang could return home, exhausted to the point that he couldn't lift his arms and legs. He directly said to his brother-in-law, "Brother-in-law, do you have a problem with me? Is this even human work? I can't do this."

Zhou Qiang felt he couldn't hold on anymore; he hadn't even finished moving the goods when he lay down, not wanting to move again — these few days made him feel like he had never done such exhausting work in his life.

"Xiaoqiang, you've only been doing this for three days!"

Xu Nianji wiped the sweat from his forehead, looked at Zhou Qiang, and said, "The first few days are the hardest; after a few days, you'll get used to it."

In these few days, Zhou Qiang did at least half less work than he had done before, but it made Xu Nianji see him in a new light. If Zhou Qiang really could keep it up, Xu Nianji wouldn't mind helping him out a bit — if Zhou Qiang improved, it would also reassure Zhou He.

"Brother-in-law, I can't do it anymore, I'm about to die of exhaustion." Zhou Qiang lay down for a while, feeling much better, sat up from the lawn, and looked at Xu Nianji who continuously moved goods inside. Xu Nianji didn't stop working, and while talking said, "If it doesn't kill you, keep on working!"

He shouted towards Zhou Qiang, remembering how when he first arrived at the brick factory, he was so tired every day that he didn't even have the strength to carry water, but, for the sake of money, didn't he still persevere?

At the beginning, he only had twenty dollars!

Now having thirty-five dollars, Zhou Qiang should be content.

"I won't do it." Zhou Qiang firmly refused.

Chapter 413: Have you seen a motorcycle?

"Zhou Qiang." Xu Nianji had just finished unloading a cart of goods, huffing and puffing as he walked over to Zhou Qiang, took a swig of water, and gulped it all down in one go. He then sat down beside him and said, "If you can't handle this job, what can you do when you go back home?"

"I can do anything!" Zhou Qiang blurted out, confident as any man would be—aren't there plenty of jobs he could handle?

"Then tell me, what can you do?" Xu Nianji asked.

Zhou Qiang opened his mouth to reply, but after thinking it over, he realized that he actually couldn't do much at all.

Over the years, he had tried various jobs, this and that, yet there was nothing he could stick with for long. Thinking it over, it seemed he really didn't have any particular skills.

If there had been suitable jobs, his mother wouldn't be so anxious to find help from his brother-in-law.

"Can't think of anything, can you?" Xu Nianji chuckled, then said, "I'll tell you, when I used to move bricks, it was ten times harder than this!"

"Ah..." Zhou Qiang thought this job was already hard enough. Ten times harder? That would surely kill him.

"Back then, I earned twenty yuan a month, but I still worked my hardest." As Xu Nianji reminisced about those days, he too felt how hard they were and wondered how he had survived them. However, now he felt that the bitterness of those times was for the sweetness of the present.

"After half a year, I could keep up with those who had been working for several years. My salary went from twenty yuan to twenty-five, and eventually to thirty. It was tough, but at least I was earning money." Xu Nianji decided to use this rest time to give Zhou Qiang one last piece of urgent advice. He said, "If you don't stick with me on this, I won't have any other job to recommend you for. You couldn't handle moving bricks with your skinny arms and legs."

"Brother-in-law, I..." Zhou Qiang felt truly exhausted, yet upon considering Xu Nianji's words, he thought they might actually be right.

"I know you like to smoke, your dad likes to drink, and you fancy bicycles, right?" Xu Nianji suddenly changed the subject.

Zhou Qiang was momentarily taken aback, then nodded and said, "Who doesn't like those things?"

He had bought a bicycle when he got married and wished he could show it off around the village every single day.

"Have you ever seen a motorcycle?" Xu Nianji asked.

"Saw one once." Zhou Qiang had seen a motorcycle in the county town; it was much more flashy than a bicycle.

He wouldn't even dare to dream of it!

"Don't you want to own one? And what about your house—don't you want to tear it down and build a new one?" Xu Nianji bombarded him with questions one after another.

Unable to help himself, Zhou Qiang swallowed hard and asked, "Brother-in-law, if I work with you, can I earn enough money to build a new house and buy a motorcycle?"

Just the thought of that possibility made Zhou Qiang's heart race with excitement. A new house and a motorcycle?

"I'm not saying you can buy them now, but after five years, ten years, I believe you definitely can!" Xu Nianji's words were firm and filled with profound confidence.

Being a ten-thousand-yuan household now would mean they were wealthy, but Xu Nianji felt that their family would soon become one. His goal was to earn even more money and provide a better life for his family.

Years later, Zhou Qiang, who had by then made enough money from deliveries to build a new house and was riding a motorcycle, still felt especially grateful to his brother-in-law whenever he remembered this conversation.

Without Xu Nianji, there would be no future for Zhou Qiang.

Chapter 414: Silenced?

"Nianhua, what are those materials you've been carrying around every day?" Fei Jiayi asked as she chewed on a lollipop, having seen Xu Nianhua carrying the documents around more than a few times.

"Just some useful stuff."

Xu Nianhua paused for a moment and didn't specify what kind of documents they were. She had already translated more than half of them and by this Saturday, she would be able to complete the task.

"Oh, how's your brain grown?" Fei Jiayi's eyes widened as she looked at her, almost wishing she could peel open her brain. How could she be so smart?



"Just like yours," Xu Nianhua grinned and bent down to continue translating.

Fei Jiayi pouted and said, "Yeah, right, you're so smart. Stop burying yourself in your books all the time. Here, have a lollipop."

She grabbed a lollipop and tossed it onto Xu Nianhua's bed across from her, saying, "This one is really tasty. My dad brought it from abroad, it's really hard to find and super delicious."

"Thanks."

Xu Nianhua looked at the candy and then threw it back, saying, "I don't eat candy. Remember to brush your teeth after you finish, or the bugs will get your teeth."

"I still have a lot of candy!" Fei Jiayi didn't believe Xu Nianhua's words and tossed the candy back again.

"Eat it, look, there's a whole bunch!"

Fei Jiayi waved the bag in her hand to show she still had candies, saying, "Nianhua, what, you don't think much of my candies?"

"Thanks."

Watching the tossed candy, Xu Nianhua didn't throw it back this time. Under Fei Jiayi's expectant gaze, she peeled off the wrapper and put it in her mouth, where the sweet candy slowly melted.

"How's it, tastes good, right?" Fei Jiayi watched Xu Nianhua with a smile, pleased that she had accepted her candy.

As people in the dormitory gradually came back, Fei Jiayi handed out one candy to each person, but when it came to Liao Jinling, Fei Jiayi didn't offer her any, just saying, "You wouldn't want it, would you?"

Liao Jinling glared at her but didn't respond, and went to bed early to rest.

"Hey, did the sun rise from the west today?"

Fei Jiayi waited a while and still didn't get a response from Liao Jinling, appearing surprised as she peered down from her bunk.

Liao Jinling was turned away from her, pulling the blanket over herself like she was asleep.

"Going to sleep this early? What's up with her?" It was extremely odd to Fei Jiayi. Usually, whenever she chatted with Liao Jinling, no matter what she said, Liao Jinling always had a retort ready.

"I don't know. She was fine during class today," Ding Guo shook her head. In the dormitory, she was the jolly one, quickly switching topics, and soon the dormitory was bustling as usual.

Zhou Wanwan, Chang Hui, and Xu Nianhua were the three most studious in the dormitory.

Fei Jiayi and Liao Jinling would always spar when they met, while Ding Guo liked to crack jokes, usually chatting with Fei Yiyi.

Right at the dormitory's lights-out time, the previously lively dorm became quiet in an instant, so quiet that one could only hear everyone breathing.

Fei Jiayi slept in a daze, feeling her bed shake from time to time.

Fei Jiayi was woken up by the noise, unable to sleep again. As she listened closely, she felt that Liao Jinling in the bunk below seemed to be quietly groaning in pain?

"Liao Jinling, are you going to sleep or not?" Fei Jiayi flipped over, annoyed, and looking down in the moonlight, she faintly saw Liao Jinling seemed to be curling up her body?

Fei Jiayi turned over, intending to go back to sleep, but Liao Jinling's voice kept echoing in her ears, making it unbearable for Fei Jiayi.

#### Chapter 415: Ungrounded Night

"Liao Jinling, what's wrong with you?" Xu Nianhua also woke up, she sat up hugging her quilt, looking at the curled-up motionless Liao Jinling, she always felt that something was off.

Normally, if Fei Jiayi said one thing to her, Liao Jinling would not hesitate to respond with ten.

But today's Liao Jinling seemed a bit off.

"..."

Liao Jinling was still curled up and did not answer a word.

"Who knows what's upset her," Fei Jiayi grumbled, "Can't we just sleep?"

"Not right."

In the conversation between Xu Nianhua and Fei Jiayi, Nianhua always felt that something was off, she put on her clothes, crawled out of bed, bent over and gently called out, "Liao Jinling, what's wrong with you?"

Xu Nianhua moved closer, gently patting Liao Jinling, and could obviously feel Jinling's body trembling. At first, she thought she was crying, but when she lifted the quilt, she realized that Liao Jinling was not crying.

"Liao Jinling, what's wrong with you?"

Xu Nianhua's voice became a bit urgent as she said, "Jiayi, let me use your flashlight for a moment."

Fei Jiayi had sat up when Xu Nianhua got up and immediately turned on her flashlight. With most of the dormitory awake now, the light allowed Xu Nianhua to clearly see Liao Jinling's pale face, her forehead dotted with large beads of sweat, looking extremely uncomfortable, her hand persistently pressed against her lower right abdomen.

"Liao Jinling, does it hurt here? Say something," Xu Nianhua asked calmly.

"What's going on?"

"Are you sick?"

In the dormitory, everyone got dressed and gathered around, saying, "The lights are out; what do we do now."

Panic spread through the dormitory.

"We should take her to the school clinic first," Xu Nianhua said calmly.

Nianhua stepped forward, hearing Liao Jinling's pain-soaked voice that could hardly form words, she did not hesitate to pull her up from the bed. With the help of Fei Jiayi and the others, she carried Jinling on her back and walked out of the dorm.

"We'll all go."

Fei Jiayi led the way with her flashlight, while Ding Guo and Chang Hui helped support Liao Jinling on either side, helping to ease some of the burden off Xu Nianhua.

Although Zhou Wanwan usually didn't join in on the dormitory's chatter, she couldn't stand by idly when someone from the dorm was in trouble.

With a clinic right on campus, they hurried Liao Jinling there, and once the on-duty doctor understood the situation, they were immediately advised to take her to the hospital.

The circumstances on the girls' dormitory side couldn't be concealed, and Pei Yicheng's dorm wasn't far from theirs. Upon learning that it was an incident in 302 dorm, Pei Yicheng immediately followed after them and coincidentally ran into Chang Hui carrying Liao Jinling out.

"Nianhua, what happened?" Pei Yicheng looked at Xu Nianhua with concern, and seeing her safe and sound, he finally felt relieved.

"Brother Cheng, she has acute appendicitis; she needs to be taken to the hospital right away." Xu Nianhua, having carried Liao Jinling all the way, was very exhausted, so after coming out of the clinic, Chang Hui took the initiative to carry Jinling. She was used to farm work at home and had the strength for it.

"I'll carry her."

A sympathetic male student offered to carry Liao Jinling, but Chang Hui declined, saying, "I can do it."

"I'll go get the car."

Pei Yicheng said immediately, leading the way to his car parked outside the campus.

Once they reached the hospital and the doctors took over, Xu Nianhua and the others finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"I'm exhausted." Fei Jiayi, whose heart had been in her throat the whole time, sat down in the corridor of the hospital and said, "What's with Liao Jinling, really? If she wasn't feeling well, why didn't she say something earlier? Why insist on toughing it out?"

Chapter 416: It's also risky

"Maybe, she didn't realize it would be so serious?" Chang Hui's weak voice rose in the corridor.

She had always been from a poor family, and she never went to the hospital for minor illnesses or pains.

She felt that Liao Jinling herself hadn't expected it to be so serious—serious enough to be sent to the hospital.

"How could she not know the condition of her own body?" Fei Jiayi, who had been deeply concerned, now felt relieved at the doctor's. Just now in the dormitory, not hearing Liao Jinling's bantering voice had terrified her. She even considered the worst-case scenario, what if something happened to her?

"Jiayi, we should also thank you today. Otherwise, we wouldn't have noticed anything wrong with Liao Jinling," Xu Nianhua spoke, staying in the bed across from her. The sound Liao Jinling made was so faint that even she, who was easily awakened, had not noticed it.

If it hadn't been for Fei Jiayi, who slept in the upper bunk of the same bed, noticing Liao Jinling's malaise, she might have suffered in bed the whole night. Who knows what could have happened?

"She was shaking so much in bed from the pain that the bed trembled. How could I possibly sleep?" Fei Jiayi, used to sleeping in a large bed alone at home, could never sleep if there was even a slight noise.

"So, Liao Jinling should thank you."

As Xu Nianhua was chatting with the girls, she saw Pei Yicheng return from making a payment and quickly stood up to say, "Yicheng, on behalf of Liao Jinling, I thank you."

If it weren't for Pei Yicheng's timely arrival with his car, they wouldn't have known what was happening to Liao Jinling.

"No need, I was helping you," Pei Yicheng said, noticing the dark circles under her eyes from lack of sleep. A touch of compassion filled his gaze as he spoke, "How about notifying her family? When are you going back to rest?"

All five girls from the dorm couldn't possibly stay here all night.

"It's the middle of the night, and we don't know her family. We have to wait until she's better before we leave," Xu Nianhua said with a yawn, "You should go back, we can take care of this."

"Right, Jiayi, do you know Liao Jinling's family?" Xu Nianhua asked, knowing that this was a serious matter. It would definitely not do without notifying her family.

"I know them, but it's so late," Fei Jiayi glanced at the time. It was already past midnight.

Zhou Wanwan reminded, "No matter how late, we must find a way to notify them. The surgery is not without risks."

Hearing this, Fei Jiayi immediately stood up and went to the nurse's station to find a phone.

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"I'm so sleepy," Fei Jiayi yawned, struggling to keep her eyes open!

They had notified the Liao family last night, but by an unlucky chance, no one was home.

Left with no other choice, the five girls from Xu Nianhua's dorm stayed overnight in the hospital. They were relieved that the surgery was a success; otherwise, their anxiety would have been even greater.

"Jinling,"

Liao's father and mother rushed to the hospital early in the morning upon receiving the news, full of gratitude as they looked at the girls from the same dorm.

"Thank you all so much," Liao's mother said. Seeing their daughter pale and lying in the hospital bed, and thinking of the doctor's words, their hearts were filled with extra gratitude towards the girls.

If it weren't for them, they wouldn't know what might have happened to their daughter.

"Auntie, no need to thank us. We all live in the same dorm, we have to help each other," Fei Jiayi said. Although she didn't like Liao Jinling and they often bickered, when it came to dealing with people and matters, she was never sloppy.

Chapter 417: Really Need to Thank Your Classmate

Xu Nianhua and her four roommates had headed straight to the shower room as soon as they returned to the dorm and, feeling refreshed, immediately threw themselves onto their beds.

"Oj, my beloved bed!"

Fei Jiayi hugged her soft, fragrant quilt, yawning continuously. They had worried most of the night before, and without a place to rest, all five of them squeezed together or just sat on the corridor chairs, hardly getting any good rest.

"Thank goodness it's Saturday, or else how would I ever attend class!" Ding Guo yawned, cuddled into her quilt, and fell asleep as soon as she turned over.

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In the hospital, Liao Jinling had already regained consciousness.

"Dad, Mom, why are you here?" Liao Jinling was startled to see Mr. and Mrs. Liao and seemed not to have expected her parents' arrival.

"You silly girl, you didn't even tell us you were sick, it worried us to death!" Mrs. Liao's tears flowed as she held Jinling's hand, saying, "If it weren't for your dorm mates yesterday, you..."

Just the thought of the dangerous situation the doctors had described made Mrs. Liao tremble with worry.

"Exactly, those classmates of yours are good kids." Mr. Liao's words were filled with gratitude towards Jinling's dorm mates, and he asked, "Jinling, how are you feeling now? Is there anything else that's uncomfortable?"



"Good, I'm feeling fine." Liao Jinling had been groggy with pain the day before but was still conscious.

Fei Jiayi teased her, and because Jinling was feeling discomfort in her stomach, she didn't answer. Later, as the pain grew worse, she couldn't sleep and felt terrible all over.

After a while, Jiayi called out to her, and then it seemed everyone in the dorm was up. Xu Nianhua then carried her to the infirmary, and later, it seemed Chang Hui was carrying her; eventually, they arrived at the hospital.

She hung her head, listening to her dad's and mom's concerned words, thinking about her usual distance from her dorm mates, yet, at a critical moment, they were willing to carry her to the hospital and had stayed with her all night.

"Jinling, you really need to thank your classmates properly!" Mrs. Liao repeatedly urged.

Liao Jinling nodded and said, "Mom, I know."

She clutched her quilt tightly, feeling guilty about her past behavior.

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"Nianhua, when did you wake up?" Fei Jiayi had had a full night's rest and, upon waking, saw that everyone else in the dorm was still asleep, except Xu Nianhua, who was sitting on her bed, head down, still busily writing on some documents.

"I slept for an hour."

Xu Nianhua glanced at her and continued proofreading the documents; the translation was complete, and now all that was left was the final proofreading, which she needed to finish by tomorrow morning to give to Yicheng.

"Just an hour?"

Fei Jiayi stared at Xu Nianhua, wanting to say something but afraid of waking the others in the dorm, so she silently unwrapped a lollipop to eat—it wasn't even dinner time yet.

Xu Nianhua nodded, focused and diligent in proofreading the documents, knowing there couldn't be a single error.

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"Yicheng," Xu Nianhua was already waiting downstairs at Pei Yicheng's dormitory building early on, and when she saw Pei Yicheng, she immediately raised the documents in her hand, saying, "I'm done with the translation."

"That quick?" Pei Yicheng took the documents, gauging her, and asked, "You didn't skip resting during the day yesterday, did you?"

By her pace, Xu Nianhua shouldn't have finished translating yet.

"I slept for a little while, and I'm not tired, so I proofread. Rest assured, I was very thorough; I proofread it three times to make sure there won't be any issues," Xu Nianhua explained patiently, worried Pei Yicheng might not believe her.

Chapter 418: Lou Fan

"Would you like to meet the person in charge?" Pei Yicheng suggested.

Xu Nianhua's eyes lit up, yet she hesitated, asking, "Would that be alright?"

Pei Yicheng raised an eyebrow and said, "Having translated the materials well, you should also communicate with the person in charge."

"Okay."

Xu Nianhua agreed and followed Pei Yicheng out the door, all the way to the bicycle factory. Seeing those bicycles, Xu Nianhua couldn't help but admire them deep inside, so this is where the bicycles come from?

These bicycles would enjoy tremendous sales in later generations.

As she followed by Pei Yicheng's side, entering the office, she curtailed her curious gaze. She stayed by Pei Yicheng's side, with a gentle smile on her lips looking poised and at ease, showing no signs of nervousness at entering such a large factory.

She truly lived up to the girl he had taken an interest in, with strong adaptability.

Pei Yicheng privately admired Xu Nianhua's poised demeanor, without a hint of stage fright.

"Yicheng Bro, I just heard you were here, perfect timing, let's go eat hotpot today," a man's excited voice rang out as he strode into the office. Seeing the woman by Pei Yicheng's side, he paused, his face a picture of surprise as he said, "Yicheng Bro, since when do you have another woman by your side apart from your sister?"

In Beining University, Pei Yicheng was famously indifferent to women, and apart from his younger sister Pei Yicheng, no other woman could ever get so close to him.

But what had he just seen?

Pei Yicheng seemed to be enjoying her company, even wearing a smile on his face.

The man looked several times, certain that he hadn't been seeing things.

"Lou Fan, the person in charge here," Pei Yicheng introduced.

Lou Fan glared at him and added, "Yicheng Bro, you're introducing me like a stranger."

He grinned and added, "Hello, Yicheng Bro and I grew up together like brothers!"

Lou Fan reached out his hand in a polite gesture for a handshake.

Pei Yicheng slapped it away, saying, "Aren't you the person in charge of the factory?"

"Yicheng Bro," Lou Fan touched his hand where it had been slapped, his gaze shifting towards Xu Nianhua from time to time.

"Hello, my name is Xu Nianhua." Xu Nianhua stood up and introduced herself gracefully, "I'm also a student at Beining University."

"A schoolmate, huh!"

Drawing out his words, Lou Fan teased Pei Yicheng with a wink, "No wonder you were adamant about going back to school!"

Pei Yicheng's leg injury had healed, which Lou Fan also knew about. After Pei Yicheng's recovery, Lou Fan had even made a special trip to Xi Province, where Pei Yicheng's leg had been treated. However, due to being occupied with lots of work and having little time, he had only glanced before leaving.

A schoolmate? What did that have to do with insisting on going back to school?

Xu Nianhua glanced at Pei Yicheng, puzzled, and didn't think too deeply about it.

"I brought the contract for you today, do you still want it?" Pei Yicheng changed the topic and handed over the translated documents.

Taking the documents, Lou Fan said, "Of course I want it, but I'm more interested in this junior schoolmate... "

"Her foreign language skills are excellent, take a closer look to see if anything needs to be revised," Pei Yicheng interrupted.

He was being quite protective.

Lou Fan gave Pei Yicheng a knowing look, with a clear understanding, and his gaze lingered on Xu Nianhua's beautiful face, her well-proportioned figure, her poised demeanor, and those bright, clear eyes. He mused that Yicheng Bro really had an eye for quality, wondering where he had found such a beautiful and talented young lady.

Chapter 419: Because Nianhua Loves to Eat

After reviewing the entire contract and listening to Xu Nianhua's explanations, Lou Fan felt that Xu Nianhua was more than just talented!

You should know that Lou Fan was also quite troubled by these contracts.

The previous translator had quit because of salary issues!

Even though he had offered a good salary, what then?

The translator had still demanded an exorbitant sum. He had money because the bicycle factory was profitable and valued his capability, but that didn't mean he would allow anyone to demand unreasonable sums just because they knew he was capable!

Did they really think he couldn't find another translator?

Although Ningbei was in great need of such talents, that didn't mean he should condone such bad practices!

Just when he was feeling a headache over this, Pei Yicheng took the initiative and took on the task.

"Brother Cheng, is she really a freshman? Did she really grow up in the countryside?" Lou Fan considered his own foreign language skills to be not bad, but in this professional field of translation, there was a significant gap.

Now, listening to Xu Nianhua's explanations, he felt that compared to Xu Nianhua, the previous translator was far inferior.

"Of course, it's true." Pei Yicheng spoke with a sense of proud glory, prouder of Xu Nianhua's recognition of excellence than when he himself had won an award.

"Xu Nianhua, could we hire you as our factory's full-time translator?" Lou Fan immediately pleaded. There was a lot of international cooperation in their factory, and foreign friends often visited, so a translator was especially important at times like these.

Not to mention his relationship with Pei Yicheng, even without that connection, based on Xu Nianhua's talent alone, Lou Fan was willing to invite such talented individuals to work in the factory.

"Me?" Xu Nianhua was somewhat surprised.

"Yes, you," said Lou Fan affirmatively. He went on to explain a lot more, like how the factory was short of translators, how the salary could be seventy yuan a month, and if there were many contract translations, additional pay could be added.

A salary of seventy yuan a month, in these times, was definitely considered a high salary.

"But, I still need to attend school," Xu Nianhua hesitantly replied, as her primary focus was on her studies. Although the job sounded great and paid, she was still a student.

"I know, a translator doesn't need to report to the factory every day."

Lou Fan explained, "You just need to translate the contracts in the factory, about three to five a month. And if someone visits the factory and needs translation, you'll get extra pay for that. How about it?"

Lou Fan was earnestly persuading, wishing Xu Nianhua would agree immediately.

"Okay."

Xu Nianhua didn't think much longer. Since she could work on it at school, why not do it?

Although the money wasn't much, it was a steady and long-term job, and she wouldn't have to worry about pocket money every month.

"Wonderful!"

With this tough issue explained, Lou Fan felt as if a huge stone had been lifted from his heart.

"However,"

Xu Nianhua added a but, saying, "If on-site translation is needed, you definitely need to notify me in advance so I can arrange my classes."

"No problem," Lou Fan agreed eagerly, exclaiming, "Brother Cheng, thank you. You've really solved a big problem for me!"

"Aren't you going to treat us to hotpot then?" Pei Yicheng raised an eyebrow.

Lou Fan readily agreed, secretly wondering when Brother Cheng had become so interested in food.

When they arrived at the hotpot restaurant, Lou Fan realized that Brother Cheng was still the same person he had always been. He was interested because Xu Nianhua loved it!

Chapter 420: Soaking in a Vinegar Jar

"You don't find it spicy?" Lou Fan also ate spicy food, but watching Xu Nianhua spooning chili after chili into her bowl, and the vegetables from the hot pot rolling around in her own blend of seasonings, even looking at those fiery red chilies made Lou Fan feel the heat.

Xu Nianhua flashed a big smile and praised, "Not spicy at all, just right; this hot pot restaurant isn't bad."

She was the type who absolutely needed spiciness in her food; even when stir-frying vegetables, she seemed to yearn for adding chilies.

Lou Fan: "..."

Well, maybe people from South City can handle the heat better?

Pei Yicheng used serving chopsticks to pick up her favorite tripe, along with enoki mushrooms, fatty beef rolls, and baby bok choy, among others.

"Thank you."

Xu Nianhua ate with exceptional joy; she just had to bury her head and enjoy the delicious food.

She also had several prawns, which were satisfyingly meaty. Touching her rounded belly and gazing at the trash beside her table, she blushed and asked, "Yicheng, you've been tending to me all this time; what would you like to eat?"

Pei Yicheng casually ordered a couple of dishes, watching Xu Nianhua eagerly serve him. It seemed as if the food tasted even better.

On the side, Lou Fan felt as though he was meeting Pei Yicheng for the first time. When had Yicheng ever been so attentive in serving others? When had Yicheng liked having others serve him?

Lou Fan's gaze uncontrollably returned to Xu Nianhua's young and beautiful face. It wasn't that he hadn't seen women prettier than Xu Nianhua, but why did Yicheng particularly like her?



"Lou Fan, don't you have stuff to deal with back at the factory?" Pei Yicheng suddenly spoke up.

Lou Fan: "..."

He had specifically invited them for a meal, what business could there be?

However...

Lou Fan's eyes shifted, and he scooted closer to Xu Nianhua, sensing someone's gaze growing colder. With a sly smile, like a cunning fox, he said, "Nianhua, in half a month, which is also a Saturday, our factory is expecting a foreign inspection team. So, we need an accompanying translator—thirty dollars a day, food and accommodation included."

Originally, he could have contacted Xu Nianhua next week, but seeing how eager Pei Yicheng was for him to leave, he decided to mention it early.

"Sure!"

Xu Nianhua readily agreed; she was completely free on weekends, and at thirty dollars a day, including food and lodging, working just two days would equate to a month's salary!

"How much money could this inspection team bring if they came more often?" Xu Nianhua murmured, wondering if the pay was a bit high.

"Do you think the inspection team comes every month?"

Hearing her soft mumbles, Lou Fan explained, "Sometimes they don't even come once in half a year, so opportunities like this are rare."

If not for the rarity of the opportunity, how would the previous translator, Pangxin, have dared to demand such high prices?

Finding a skilled and professional translator isn't that easy.

"Oh, I see. So I'm pretty lucky then," Xu Nianhua said with a delighted face.

"Right."

Lou Fan nodded affirmatively, feeling content as he sensed a chilly air all around. He satisfactorily watched Pei Yicheng stewing in jealousy and wisely chose to leave early.

"Yicheng, thank you. Without you, I wouldn't have stumbled upon such a good job!"

On the way back, Xu Nianhua expressed her gratitude; although the money wasn't a lot, it was quite a bit for a student!