

PAMPERED BY SHORT-LIVED BIGSHOT

Chapter 15 - 15 015 Go Home with Me Forced Cohabitation (2nd Update)

Chapter 15: 015 Go Home with Me? Forced Cohabitation? (2nd Update) Chapter 15: 015 Go Home with Me? Forced Cohabitation? (2nd Update) The Jiang Family's words fell, and the private room plunged into a rare dead silence. Jiang Jinsang rubbed his fingers, his gaze cloudy and obscure.

Tang Wan was even more stunned by the sudden news.

The Jiang Family stood there, looking as indifferent as a dead pig not afraid of boiling water, as if to say,

"We're just doing what we're told, it's got nothing to do with us!"

"Fifth Master, I'm just going to the restroom." Tang Wan grabbed her bag and phone, and immediately exited the room, finding a secluded corner to call her grandfather.

She knew her grandfather liked Jiang Jinsang a lot, but she hadn't expected he would actively bring him to their home.

At that moment, Old Tang had just finished lunch, leaning back in a wicker chair sipping tea, while the TV played opera. He squinted, tapping his knee to the rhythm, shaking his head in enjoyment.

His phone rang, he put on his reading glasses and squinted at the caller ID. “Hello—Wanwan.”

“Grandpa, since when did Fifth Master plan to move to our house?” Tang Wan surely thought the Jiang Family’s mention of moving to the Tang Family referred to the old house, not the city apartment.

“What? Didn’t I tell you?” The old man feigned ignorance.

“When did you tell me?”

“Getting old, the mind isn’t sharp, even got tricked when buying health supplements. Now my memory’s gone, thought I told you.”

Tang Wan twitched a corner of her mouth. How could her grandpa, at his age, hold grudges like a child?

“You said Xiaowu came to Pingjiang for you, and now he’s sick with no one to rely on, staying in a hotel alone, if something happens, who will bear it? At our house, at least there are people to look out for him.”

“His luggage is already sent, and I’ve arranged for someone to clean the room, just in the same courtyard as you.”

Tang Wan’s eyes widened. “What? Living in my courtyard?”

The Tang Family’s old house was a three-part courtyard, with Tang Wan having her own separate courtyard where no outsider had ever stayed.

Even a fool could see what the old man was planning.

“Your courtyard is the biggest and the quietest.”

“I’m getting old, if Xiaowu has any little sickness or pain at night, cries half the night, I might not hear due to my deafness. Even if I do, with my old arms and legs, it’d be hard to bring him a glass of water.”

Tang Wan felt a headache, in truth, the old man had fallen seriously ill at the turn of winter and spring; he was perfectly healthy, his legs and feet were quicker than hers, just short of marching upstairs with a gas canister.

Previously, to get discharged early, every time the doctor checked, he'd say his legs didn't hurt, his eyes weren't blurry, nearly jumping out of bed to perform Tai Chi. Now, he was even using the excuse of hearing loss.

The old man, seeing her not speaking for a while, took a sip of hot tea and spoke.

"If you have any objections, just say it. If you don't want him living in our home, I can shamelessly chase him out."

"If something happens, the Jiang Family would only blame me for not taking good care, they wouldn't scold you."

"Anyway, I'm this old already, so I don't care what others say about me. If you don't like it, I'll be the bad guy."

Tang Wan smirked. You've said everything there is to say, now with the luggage already moved, what do you want me to say?

He clearly had an agreement with the Jiang Family, and now saying not agreeing to Jiang Jinsang moving in, even a fool would know it was her idea. What does he mean by "I'll be the bad guy"?

A classic case of taking advantage while playing innocent.

How had she not noticed her grandfather was such a drama king before, the world owed him an Oscar.

“Wanwan, why aren’t you speaking?” The old man’s tone was relaxed and cheerful.

“What else can I say?”

“If you don’t have any objections, then it’s settled. Remember to bring Xiaowu when you come home, and buy some Pine Nut Cake for me; I’m craving some.”

“...”

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While Tang Wan was making her call, Jiang Jinsang also called home, and his brother answered.

“Can’t get through to Mom. She’s not home?”

Someone glanced at his mother, who was sitting nearby playing with his son's models, and remained silent.

"What's going on? Moving my luggage to the Tang Family's?" The stuff had already been sent over; it wouldn't be appropriate to have it moved out now.

"Bro, you really don't know anything, do you?"

Someone lowered his voice, saying, "I was the one who had it done."

"Huh?"

"I had someone move your luggage, and I had the room canceled too. If you have any objections, talk to me."

His tone was like a cold, emotionless, forced-to-work machine.

Jiang Jinsang raised a brow, "Did Mom hold a knife to your throat?"

Being brothers, living together for so many years, he knew his brother's temperament well. This kind of thing was only something their mother would do.

If his brother did something like this, he would do it more drastically!

He might have bundled him up and sent him away directly while he was sick and asleep, without even giving him a chance to make a call.

"She didn't force me, she just wanted to introduce some girls to me." Someone unhesitatingly threw their mother under the bus. "If you don't want to stay, I could..."

Just then, Tang Wan happened to push the door open and enter. Someone hadn't finished speaking when Jiang Jinsang ended the call.

"Fifth Master, um..." Tang Wan hesitated, "Are you... coming home with me?"

Jiang Jinsang's earlier actions clearly indicated he wasn't aware; she still politely asked, suggesting he come with her directly. If rejected, it'd be too awkward.

The Jiang Family members lowered their heads against the wall, standing in a neat row, listening to their Master's tone during the call, hoping he wouldn't embarrass Miss Tang.

He only heard him softly say, “In that case, I’ll trouble Miss Tang.”

“You’re too kind.”

Tang Wan took a deep breath. How could she have known, those simple words of trouble...

entangled their lives forever.

Chapter 16 - 16 016 Newlywed Couple Vibes (3)

Chapter 16: 016 Newlywed Couple Vibes (Chapter 3) Chapter 16: 016 Newlywed Couple Vibes (Chapter 3) Although Tang Wan couldn’t agree with her grandfather’s approach, as the host, she still needed to be proactive and hospitable.

The Tang Family was not a hotel, and seldom had outsiders staying over. Although they had some disposable toiletries, it was fine for a one-night stay. If staying long-term, they would need to buy some personal items.

The old man directly called Tang Wan, telling her to make a trip to the supermarket.

“That kid has a peculiar temper. If I buy things randomly and he doesn’t use them, it would be a waste. Since he’s coming to our house, he should stay comfortably.”

Tang Wan had no choice but to ask for Jiang Jinsang’s opinion and went to the supermarket with him.

The Jiang Family really wanted to say one thing: their master didn’t like going to the supermarket! They could manage his household supplies by themselves just fine.

Just as Jiang Jinsang spoke up first, “Which supermarket are we going to?”

Jiang Family: “...”

Previously, when he wasn’t feeling well, he was too lazy to move. What was different today?

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The Jiang Family members were numerous, and going into the supermarket all together would attract too much attention, so they left only two people to follow along.

Tang Wan accompanied Jiang Jinsang, starting their shopping from the daily necessities section.

“Is this brand okay?” Tang Wan didn’t know his habits or preferences, so she could only choose based on her own preferences and then seek his opinion.

Jiang Jinsang followed her step by step. Though the two occasionally exchanged words, always maintaining a slight distance, they appeared inexplicably intimate, yet not jarring or uncomfortable.

Two Jiang Family members pushed a cart, following about half a meter behind them, observing the pair.

“Don’t you feel that our master is particularly agreeable today?”

“It would be great if his temper stayed this way; I’m just afraid he’s holding back for something big and we’ll suffer for it later.”

“Perhaps we should stick close to Miss Tang. I really feel our master treats her quite differently.”

...

Tang Wan was standing in front of a shelf selecting items, when Jiang Jinsang's phone in his pocket vibrated restlessly. He fished it out for a glance and stepped aside, "Hello—"

The Jiang Family members closely followed Jiang Jinsang; when he moved, they moved as well.

"I heard you collapsed again?" The voice carried a teasing tone.

"What's up?" Jiang Jinsang spoke, glancing sidelong at Tang Wan.

She was bowed over, comparing two bottles of hand soap. Her long hair draped down, concealing her face, and she casually tucked her hair behind her ear. Her neck was slender and fair, her long gray skirt cinched at a delicate waist.

Broad shoulders, long legs, gentle brows.

"Just a friend showing concern. Don't tell me the Tang Family girl rejected you, and you're heartbroken and fallen ill?"

"Just getting rejected, what's there to be sad about?"

“There are plenty of women in the world. If one doesn’t work out, just change things up every day.”

Jiang Jinsang raised an eyebrow; what else could this person do besides talking crap?

...

Not sure if it was because it rained outside, but Tang Wan felt the supermarket was particularly crowded today. She caught sight of someone pushing a cart near, so she politely moved two steps to the side.

She didn’t expect it was a mischievous kid pushing the cart, the wheels sliding out of control and aiming at her calf.

Holding items in her hand, she instinctively retreated...

In the next second, an arm wrapped her waist, pulling her slightly backward, and her back collided with someone’s chest.

Jiang Jinsang lifted a hand to steady the cart, almost pulling her entirely into his embrace.

“I’m sorry, truly sorry. Quickly apologize to the older brother and sister,” said the child’s parent apologetically. The child, shorter than the cart, obediently apologized.

“No problem,” Tang Wan shook her head good-naturedly, her waist still encircled.

In that instant...

Her heartbeat stammered, breath tight.

But in a flash, he had already released his hold. Tang Wan tried to turn sideways, attempting to avoid any further contact with him.

The space between the supermarket shelves was wide enough, but the kid’s cart pressed so closely to Tang Wan, it squeezed her and Jiang Jinsang into a narrow space.

Unavoidable contact.

Her shoulder brushing his chest, he wore a thin sweater, thicker than most, his body warmth noticeable.

“Let’s go.”

With their bodies separated slightly, he loosely shielded her, leading them both away from the cramped aisle. Tang Wan then turned her head to thank him, “Do you need anything else?”

“Almost done, let’s go home.”

His voice, inherently gentle, carried a warmth through it.

The phrase “go home” in such a setting bore a hint of cozy intimacy.

Inside, Tang Wan’s heart trembled fiercely at those two words.

Jiang Jinsang casually took the hand soap from her and tossed it into the cart behind them.

The Jiang Family members were stunned by his series of surprising moves.

They continued to fix their eyes on Jiang Jinsang, bewildered at how their master maneuvered.

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At check-out, Tang Wan and Jiang Jinsang simultaneously pulled out their phones for payment.

“You can scan mine.”

The cashier glanced at the two, smiled, and scanned Jiang Jinsang’s phone, “A couple? Do you have to split it so precisely?”

Tang Wan’s mouth twitched, feeling like she still had unpaid old debts and was now accruing new ones.

They didn’t appear to be siblings but rather like a newly cemented couple, slightly shy and awkward, not quite daring to show affection in public...

“No, just a friend,” Tang Wan explained.

The cashier smiled, not arguing, tidying up the items, “They’re all daily necessities, must be a close friend, right?”

What with tissues, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, who would accompany a mere ordinary friend to select such things?

The Jiang Family members were already stunned by their master's surprising behavior, and after hearing the cashier's words, they studied the two, feeling more and more that this pair...

inexplicably had the air of a newlywed couple.

Chapter 17 - 17 017 The Step-Mother Vainly Acts Like a Villain Miss

Chapter 17: 017 The Step-Mother Vainly Acts Like a Villain, Miss Tang Is a Ruthless Person
Chapter 17: 017 The Step-Mother Vainly Acts Like a Villain, Miss Tang Is a Ruthless Person
On the way back to the old residence, while taking a detour to buy pastries for the old man, Tang Wan received a phone call.

It was Zhang Liyun who called, "Aunt Liyun, what's the matter?"

"It's still about Momo's classmate yesterday."

"What about her? Didn't the police handle it already?" Tang Wan's tone was calm.

“You see, she’s been at the station for a day. The young girl has learned her lesson. She’s just a student and young, just scare her a bit.”

The intermittent voice came through, and the carriage was silent. Although Jiang Jinsang couldn’t hear everything, he guessed a few things.

“Wanwan, are you free now? Her parents have come to the house and want to meet you.”

The girl’s family sought connections, but since she was caught red-handed with no options, they had no way to reach Tang Wan and could only try their luck here.

“They seem quite sincere, you...” Zhang Liyun wanted to be a peacemaker.

“If they’re here to apologize to me, I’ve received it. Aunt Liyun, sorry, I’m busy, so I won’t be going.” Tang Wan said and hung up the phone.

Zhang Liyun looked at the couple sitting in the living room, with a helpless expression.

“Sorry, I can’t help you. You know our relationship. I’m not close with her. She is a bit stubborn, sometimes she won’t even listen to her dad, let alone me.”

“It was a small matter, but it had to get this big. I... Her family spoils her, so I can’t really say anything.”

“Really, I’m sorry, I can’t help you.”

The couple quickly waved their hands, “No problem, don’t worry about it.”

Their daughter was caught stealing, which was already embarrassing enough. Zhang Liyun, as a distinguished lady, treated them so warmly without any pretense, and they were grateful.

“I’ll find someone to pull some strings, your daughter won’t suffer inside,” Zhang Liyun continued.

“Thank you so much.”

They were not locals and didn’t have much influence to find connections. Since Zhang Liyun spoke up, the couple was naturally grateful.

“You could say Wanwan went too far. Actually, it’s better to be forgiving. She’s just too headstrong and can’t help it.” Zhang Liyun smiled innocently.

In the ears of the couple, these words made Tang Wan seem like a strong, unforgiving, and unreasonable young lady.

Zhang Liyun sipped her tea, observing the couple's expressions with a hint of a smile.

Rumors were dangerous.

Bully her daughter and let that brat earn a good reputation?

Strong and unreasonable, she wanted to see if, when such rumors spread, any family, let alone the Jiang family, would want her as a daughter-in-law!

...

As Zhang Liyun reveled in her own cunning, the couple's phone suddenly rang. Seeing it was a call from the police station, the middle-aged man, the father, tensed up, cleared his throat, and answered the call.

"Hello, Officer Yang..." His tone was ingratiating.

“What did you say, my daughter was released!” The man stood excitedly, “... Oh dear, Officer Yang...”

So excited he could barely speak.

“You said it was Miss Tang who specifically called?”

“... Okay, I’ll be right over. So I need to pay bail and handle the paperwork, I understand.”

“Is it convenient to let me thank Miss Tang...”

Zhang Liyun’s smile froze and instantly cracked.

After the man hung up the phone, he didn’t have time to say anything to Zhang Liyun, just politely thanked her and took his wife to the police station.

Zhang Liyun found out through her connections that the girl caught stealing yesterday had indeed been released.

That Tang Wan, the brat!

She called me, gave me attitude, yet behind my back, she did this...

Isn't this deliberately slapping me in the face!

*

At this moment, Tang Wan was sitting in the car and had already received a thank-you call from the couple, presumably having gotten her number from the police station.

"Miss Tang, we're really sorry, we've always wanted to apologize to you in person. What my daughter did was indeed... Are you free tonight? We'd like to treat you to dinner."

"Uncle, you're too kind. I was indeed a bit impulsive at the time. Just take her back and explain the pros and cons. Besides, it's not you who did something wrong."

"A child's misstep is the father's responsibility, I am accountable."

"Having you apologize to me is really something I can't accept..."

After exchanging a few polite words, Tang Wan hung up the phone.

At the police station, the girl's parents were already deeply grateful to her.

Recollecting Zhang Liyun's words now, it felt bizarre.

"Isn't Miss Tang a good person, she thought of everything for us, even worried about us being embarrassed at the meeting, and saved us face. That Madam Tang is simply talking nonsense."

"How good can a stepmother be, always spouting nonsense."

"Listening to her now, it's clear she was deliberately tarnishing Miss Tang's reputation. If we hadn't interacted, we might have thought she was really overbearing."

"Oh, I heard she's fighting for the inheritance, this stepmother pretends well."

...

Zhang Liyun had been keeping an eye on the developments at the police station, and the tide had turned, now praising Tang Wan.

Most importantly, this time, she acted like a villain and was thoroughly outmaneuvered.

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The car had already arrived at the entrance of the Yiyu Tea House, and Tang Wan got out to buy pastries.

Jiang Jinsang tilted his head to watch her enter the tea house, rubbing his fingers.

“Sir, that Madam Tang must have suffered, right?” The person in the passenger seat turned to look towards the back.

Jiang Jinsang curled the corners of his mouth, “She invited the girl’s parents into the house, two outcomes, Tang Wan sees them, reconciles, then she is the peacemaker, still a top hero in the couple’s eyes, inevitably praised;”

“The other is that Tang Wan doesn’t see them, appearing overbearing and strong, allowing her to smooth things over in between.”

“Since the person was going to be released anyway...” he scoffed softly.

“Why should she be the good person!”

The two people in the driver and passenger seats also figured it out. In the Tang family, because of the fight for the inheritance, tensions were brewing, with ulterior motives in actions.

Zhang Liyun plotting was outmaneuvered by Tang Wan effortlessly.

Truthfully, with such a simple apology and release, ordinary people wouldn't have thought so deeply.

“Sir, this Miss Tang seems docile, but...”

“Pretty interesting, right,” Jiang Jinsang said.

Both pursed their lips, wasn't it actually terrifying?

Indeed a fierce person.

Clearly not someone easy to deal with, having just slapped the stepsister's face, immediately following with the stepmother's, as if meticulously planned.

When Jiang Jinsang looked outside, the storm had calmed, and Tang Wan was coming out with several boxes of pastries from the tea house. He rubbed his fingers, at this moment his phone buzzed with a message:

[My god, I heard you're moving into the Tang family? What's up with that? Cohabiting?]

Cohabiting?

When Tang Wan got into the car with the pastries, she saw Jiang Jinsang's lips slowly curl up, nodding and smiling at her, appearing almost otherworldly.

She pursed her lips; regarding the matter at the police station, she indeed used a bit of cleverness, which Jiang Jinsang definitely saw through. Anyway, as long as Zhang Liyun didn't scheme against her, there would be no issues, or else, she wouldn't be polite.

At that moment, Zhang Liyun was heading to the old residence with Tang Mo, her face like asphalt.

Previously, Tang Wan hadn't fought or competed, showing no sign of being someone with high-level schemes, and they as mother and daughter had hit a brick wall.

Chapter 18 - 18 018 Gentle Rebuttal Im Unworthy But Youre Even More

Chapter 18: 018 Gentle Rebuttal: I'm Unworthy, But You're Even More (Update 2) Chapter 18: 018 Gentle Rebuttal: I'm Unworthy, But You're Even More (Update 2) Tang Family Old Residence

The rain in Pingjiang City had stopped for a while, and the sun peeked through. The ground showed little sign of rain. By the time Tang Wan and Jiang Jinsang got home, Zhang Liyun and Tang Mo had already arrived and were sitting in the front hall talking with the old man.

"Xiaowu, you're here. How's your health?" The old man quickly stood up.

"Nothing much."

"Your things are all moved in; they're in the East Courtyard. Don't stay here, go and get some rest. Wanwan, take him to his room and let him have a good rest. Come back later."

"Then I'll go rest first." Jiang Jinsang wasn't foolish; the old man was obviously intentionally sending him away.

Tang Wan led him into her own courtyard. The round stone-carved arch gate was adorned with greenery, and in the middle of the courtyard was a large jar with some lotus plants, though they had withered in the onset of autumn.

Three rooms faced north and south, with two bedrooms both facing south, offering excellent lighting.

Which meant...

Their bedrooms were right next to each other.

“I live next door. If you need anything, you can find me anytime. The South House is the study and where I work. If you feel bored, feel free to sit there...”

Jiang Jinsang looked around the little courtyard. It wasn't large, but every corner was meticulously crafted.

He had just moved his things over, so he needed time to organize. Tang Wan led him to his room and briefly introduced the space before heading directly to the front hall.

...

Zhang Liyun and her daughter came mainly because of the incident yesterday with Tang Mo's classmate stealing something.

"...It's all this girl's fault. She's young and can't judge people well, making some bad friends," Zhang Liyun criticized her daughter without a hint of hesitation.

"I've already stopped her allowance for a while to teach her a lesson."

"In today's society, people's hearts have changed. If you dare bring those unruly people home again, you'll see what happens."

...

Tang Mo bit her lip, looking down. She had just started college, a time when making friends involved spending money. The financial punishment felt harsh.

"Aunt Liu, it's okay. Momo didn't do it on purpose. It's all in the past now," Tang Wan said with a light smile. It was easy to say pretty words.

"It's good you're not holding it against her," Zhang Liyun smiled benevolently.

The old man sat by the side, not saying a word.

In truth, Zhang Liyun was clever. Sooner or later, he would confront and blame Tang Mo for this, and waiting for him to speak would only embarrass Tang Mo more. So, instead, she took the initiative.

“You silly girl, still standing there? Apologize to your sister,” Zhang Liyun nudged her daughter forward.

“Sis, I’m sorry.” Tang Mo was reluctant, but after her mother explained the situation’s pros and cons, she had no choice but to bow her head temporarily.

As they talked, Tang Wan’s phone rang. Squinting at the caller, she smiled and stood up to go outside. “Dad—”

Zhang Liyun’s heart skipped a beat upon hearing the address, her expression complex.

“Madam, have some tea.” Aunt Chen came with tea, smiling at the mother and daughter duo, feeling a bit helpless herself.

Actually, the husband had his reasons for remarrying.

Raising a child alone was hard work for him. Back then, the young miss was small, and he was busy with work. As she grew up, it wasn’t appropriate for him as a father to overstep.

During that time, the elderly lady was still around, but her health wasn't good. The old couple had their hands full; even if the young miss was brought to live in the old house, neglect occurred sometimes.

Such a large family needed someone to manage it.

He believed remarrying was for better care of the young miss and to attend to the family, much like couples who stayed together for their children or even got divorced and remarried for the kids' sake.

Some things parents think are good, and who can say how many mistakes he's made?

Besides, this mother and daughter were not like they are now when they first entered the Tang Family. When they had nothing, they knew how to be grateful for what they got. Over time, seeing many good things, dissatisfaction naturally grew...

People's hearts are the hardest to discern; naturally, who could have foreseen the family's relationships becoming so tense later?

...

Zhang Liyun was the first to punish Tang Mo. The Jiang Family was still present, and though the old man said a few words, he clearly remembered everything.

“...I’ll cook tonight. Just right, Lord Wu is also here; we’ll have dinner together and make it lively,” Zhang Liyun immediately went to the kitchen to make a good impression.

Tang Wan wanted to return to the East Courtyard to see how Jiang Jinsang was settling in. As she approached her courtyard, she heard someone calling her from behind.

“Sis—”

She hadn’t turned around yet when Tang Mo ran up to her.

“Something wrong?”

“I just wanted to apologize again,” Tang Mo, under her mother’s orders, was here to forge a better relationship with Tang Wan.

“It’s all over.” Her expression showed her unwillingness. Forced small talk wasn’t much use.

The two stood outside the courtyard, exchanging a few random words. Tang Mo glanced inside a couple of times, “Lord Wu... How long will he be staying here?”

“Why do you ask?” Tang Mo’s intentions were clear to Tang Wan the first time she met Jiang Jinsang.

But when Jiang Jinsang rebuffed her, if it were Tang Wan, she would avoid him forever. Yet, Tang Mo still held such thoughts—it was plain reckless.

“Oh, nothing, just asking.” Tang Mo laughed lightly, “Sis, you wouldn’t seriously want to marry into the Jiang Family, right?”

“I thought the rumors about Lord Wu’s poor health were exaggerated; turns out they’re true.”

“Sis, marriage is a lifelong affair. You really need to think it over. Lord Wu’s temper doesn’t seem great, and he seems to look down on our family. With our current situation, we’re certainly not suited for the Jiang Family.”

Tang Wan just laughed and retorted, “Don’t worry. Since he looks down on our family, I’m unworthy. You’re even less so.”

Tang Mo’s face turned pale.

“If there’s nothing else, I’ll head back now.”

Tang Wan turned back to the courtyard, where Jiang Jinsang was leaning in front of the North House, basking in the sun. No one knows how much he heard.

He squinted in the light; Tang Mo’s words were truly petty and vile.

Our families matching or not, I haven’t said a word, so who are you to judge?

And saying...

I’m unworthy?

The Jiang Family stood by the wall, sensing a chill despite the sunlight, probably because it had rained. Though they felt the warmth, a coldness seeped into their bones.

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As the sky gradually darkened, night fell, enveloping the old house in a lively, kitchen smoke-filled atmosphere.

Zhang Liyun was busy preparing, eager to showcase her abilities in front of Jiang Jinsang. Even if they couldn't become in-laws, improving their impression was necessary.

Unexpectedly, a sudden shriek was heard—it was her daughter's!

Her heart skipped a beat, wondering what had happened now!

When she rushed to the East Courtyard, her legs went weak with fear...

Chapter 19 - 19 019 Uncle Wus actions are too daring killing with

Chapter 19: 019 Uncle Wu's actions are too daring, killing with ruthlessness (3 updates)
Chapter 19: 019 Uncle Wu's actions are too daring, killing with ruthlessness (3 updates)
Accompanied by Tang Mo's screams, a group of people rushed into the East Courtyard, only to see her lying on the ground, bruised and battered, with her clothes in tatters. It had just rained, and the ground was very dirty; she was covered in mud.

Wretched, miserable!

“What happened?” Zhang Liyun looked bewildered, raising her eyes to search for Tang Wan.

Tang Wan had also heard the scream. She had just come out of the house, looking perplexed, and before she could react, someone had already stood in front of her.

“Madam Tang, I was the one who ordered someone to beat her.”

The voice was soft, but the autumn wind blew chillingly.

...

The issue dated back to a few minutes ago.

Tang Wan had greeted Jiang Jinsang before returning to her room. Since outsiders were staying in the courtyard, she couldn't behave as recklessly as before, so she stayed in her room.

Perhaps due to the rain and overcast sky, it got dark particularly early, and the lamps in the East Courtyard were all turned on.

But Jiang Jinsang was not in his room at that moment. With Tang Wan's permission, he was in her study casually flipping through a book.

However, everyone in the Jiang Family knew that their master was in a bad mood. A simple page of content had taken him over half an hour to read, clearly showing his mind was elsewhere.

"Master." A member of the Jiang Family leaned over, "Someone has been looking for you, hovering around the room entrance for quite a while."

"Hmm?"

"It's Tang Mo, at the entrance of the room."

Jiang Jinsang got up. At that moment, he was in the study of the South House. From the window's gap, he could see clearly that Tang Mo seemed to be holding something while pacing at his doorway.

"It's been a while. I thought she would leave soon, but didn't expect her to linger for such a long time." The Jiang Family member hadn't mentioned it earlier, noticing Jiang Jinsang's bad mood.

Jiang Jinsang held the book in his hand, rubbed its cover, a faint gleam flickering in his eyes. He raised his hand slightly, and the Jiang Family member leaned closer.

He muttered a few words, and the Jiang Family members exchanged glances.

So harsh?

Tang Mo was holding pastries, intending to privately find Jiang Jinsang to make her presence known and take the opportunity to apologize for last time. But he had been too harsh on her before, leaving her still apprehensive and afraid to approach recklessly.

Furthermore, she was worried that the noise might be heard by Tang Wan next door, risking her disdain once more, so she hesitated, not daring to proceed.

As soon as she arrived, she entered the sight of the Jiang Family members, who had been watching her for a considerable period.

“Master, are you sure you want to do this? This is the Tang Family’s residence.”

Jiang Jinsang squinted, “Since when did my words need repeating?”

The few of them nodded.

...

Tang Mo was still hesitating. Seeing that it was almost time for dinner and that she'd have to leave after eating, she took a deep breath, steeled her nerves, and prepared to knock on the door.

But before she could knock, a kick came flying at her back, sending her straight to the ground.

"Where the hell did this thief come from, what do you want to do!"

Tang Mo screamed, the impact taking her and her belongings tumbling to the ground, her spine feeling like it was about to split. Apart from shouting, she couldn't utter a clear word, let alone ask for help.

And two big men had already rushed over, starting to "gang up" on her.

Being close by, Tang Wan rushed over first and just happened to see Jiang Jinsang also coming out from the opposite door. The old house was dimly lit, and it was only by recognizing the voice that Tang Wan realized it was Tang Mo being beaten.

“Stop beating, stop—I’m Tang Mo...” Tang Mo cried out, fists raining down as swiftly as a storm.

“Fifth Master, what’s going on?” Tang Wan frowned, looking puzzled.

“Second Miss Tang?” Jiang Jinsang frowned, seemingly scrutinizing the person on the ground.

“It’s me, it’s me—” Tang Mo, not having endured such a plight before, whimpered in immense pain.

“Stop now.” Jiang Jinsang gave the order, and only then did the two big men halt.

By that time, Tang Lao and Zhang Liyun also arrived, resulting in the scene they had just witnessed, alarmed and heart-pounding.

Seeing her daughter beaten and in such a miserable state, how could Zhang Liyun remain indifferent? Her demeanor was agitated, yet she tried hard to suppress her anger, “Fifth Master, did you order this beating? What happened?”

She hurriedly raised her hand to pull Tang Mo up. Being close, she saw the extent of her injuries and felt a heartache that reddened her eyes.

Even if Tang Mo wasn't the Tang Family's biological child, she had the Tang Family's surname and was a part of them. For someone to be beaten on their own grounds, how outrageous of Fifth Master Jiang...

Today, if he doesn't provide a proper reason, Zhang Liyun will certainly not let it go easily.

Jiang Jinsang frowned, "First, I wasn't aware this person was Second Miss Tang. She was sneaking around the courtyard, and the lighting was poor. I thought a thief had entered the house."

"Miss Tang previously assured that her courtyard was absolutely quiet, and no one would enter without permission. At her age, even Old Mr. Tang avoids it, not coming in randomly. Suddenly, a figure was lingering, so I got suspicious."

"If there was something, just knock on the door directly, but to linger in the courtyard and peek inside repeatedly, if that's not a thief, what is it?"

A thief?

Tang Mo burned with anger, yet Jiang Jinsang was speaking the truth.

"Fifth Master Jiang, you considered my daughter a thief?" Zhang Liyun was so enraged her voice trembled.

“The sky was too dark, and I truly couldn’t see clearly.” His tone was firm.

“I told you who I was... Ouch—” Tang Mo raised her voice, pulling on her injury, sending tingles up her scalp.

“Second Miss Tang, truly sorry. We aren’t acquainted, so I couldn’t recognize your voice. You see, you were sneaky at someone else’s door, it wasn’t our fault for misunderstanding...”

Someone else’s door?

There were only two rooms here, and to disturb Jiang Jinsang, it had to be at his door.

Those with Jiang Jinsang were carefully selected from the family, generally honest fellows.

But in serious matters, they were adept at dealing with them.

“You say you don’t stay in the front yard but keep running to someone else’s place, what is it?” The Jiang Family member added another jab.

Tang Mo had previously intruded into Tang Wan's room, and now she entered someone else's courtyard. It seemed nothing was impossible because...

She was a habitual offender!

"You... I just..." Tang Mo's body was in immense pain, tears of grievance streaming down her face.

"You what?" The Jiang Family member spoke with an impassive expression.

It was already dark, and she wanted to knock on a stranger's room door? Such words, Tang Mo couldn't voice them, and could only swallow this bitter pill.

"I just, I..." Tang Mo was getting anxious.

"Enough, isn't it embarrassing enough? You previously entered Wanwan's room without permission, and this time what are you trying to do!" Tang Lao rebuked, the truth of the Jiang Family member's words being quite clear, "They've already given you enough face, get out now!"

"It's fine, just educate well, control your legs, and guard your mouth, don't walk around randomly, and don't speak recklessly."

Jiang Jinsang's final words had a deeper meaning, but Tang Mo was left utterly confused...

Since yesterday, she hadn't even seen him, speak recklessly? What did that mean?

...

Zhang Liyun was fuming inside, hating herself for having a daughter who couldn't sit still, who was disappointing. What kind of temper did this Fifth Master Jiang have, why would you go seeking him out!

Her daughter was beaten, leaving Zhang Liyun with no outlet for her rage, and eventually, she had to apologize to Jiang Jinsang.

As the atmosphere in the courtyard turned subtly awkward, Jiang Jinsang tilted his head slightly, looking at the person standing behind him at an angle, "Miss Tang, I'm sorry..."

"What?" Tang Wan still hadn't come back to her senses. Why was he apologizing to her?

"They were busy catching a thief earlier..." He gestured to a spot where an empty flowerpot had been kicked over, dirt from inside spilled all over the ground.

“I’m sorry, I just moved in and accidentally dirtied your courtyard.”

The voice was gentle, but the words were frost-bitten.

It was evidently implying that Tang Mo was unclean.

Tang Wan was already stunned by someone’s series of actions, being struck, rebuked, and then having a bucket of filth poured over and stepped on?

To harm one’s heart and spirit, this was about the level.

Chapter 20 - 20 020 Fifth Master My health isn't that bad

Chapter 20: 020 Fifth Master: My health isn’t that bad. Chapter 20: 020 Fifth Master: My health isn’t that bad. Messed up the yard...

Jiang Jinsang finished speaking, and even the autumn night’s wind seemed to grow colder. Everyone understood—he was subtly mocking Tang Mo.

He beat you up, and you have no way to retaliate.

Tang Wan had seen his knack for insults before; at that time, it could be said he was cunning. Now, however...

He was ruthless!

The Jiang Family struck too hard. Tang Mo, supported by Zhang Liyun, hunched over, holding her waist, her face bruised and swollen, with bloodstains at the corners of her mouth and eyes.

“Send her to the hospital for a check-up. I’ll cover the medical expenses,” Jiang Jinsang said, rubbing his fingers, his gaze indifferent.

Tang Wan remained silent from start to finish, only feeling that this Fifth Master Jiang was too harsh.

After beating her, stepping on her, he suggested sending her to the hospital, clearly indicating he wanted them to leave.

“It’s probably not a big deal; we don’t need any medical expenses. I’ll change clothes later and take her for a check-up. Applying some medicine should be enough,” Zhang Liyun said. She had been cooking just now and was still wearing an apron.

Jiang Jinsang had already made such a statement, how could they have the audacity to ask for medical expenses?

“Miss Tang, you must really mind your words and actions in the future to avoid unnecessary misunderstandings.”

He never offered a single apology, already using his actions to tell Tang Mo:

Everything that happened today was her own doing.

Tang Mo whimpered as if seriously injured. Zhang Liyun couldn’t care about eating and took her directly to the hospital.

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At the dining table in the front hall, the atmosphere improved significantly after Zhang Liyun and her daughter left.

Old Tang sat at the head, with Jiang Jinsang to his left. Tang Wan brought out a dish of green snail shrimp from the kitchen.

“Why make this dish?” Old Tang recently was on medication that forbade fish, shrimp, and seafood.

“Just don’t eat it,” Tang Wan said, placing the dish directly in front of Jiang Jinsang. She remembered he had eaten quite a bit of it the last time.

“Thank you,” Jiang Jinsang said, slightly moved.

He clearly remembered the dishes they had the first time they dined together, and she...

Remembered his preference.

Old Tang’s eyes darted back and forth between the two, unable to contain his smile.

“Chen Ma, I’m happy today; bring out the plum wine brewed last year. Xiaowu and I will have a little drink,” said Old Tang in a booming voice.

Zhang Liyun left the meal halfway, and Tang Wan took over, finishing plating the last dish. She caught a glimpse of her grandfather holding small sake cups, placing one in front of both herself and Jiang Jinsang.

“Sir, you shouldn’t drink too much of this,” Chen Ma said, having already brought out the wine.

The indigo bottle, adorned with a white plum branch, gave off a sweet and sour plum aroma when uncorked.

“It’s alright, I’m happy today,” the old man chuckled, just about to grab the bottle when Jiang Jinsang stood up. “Grandpa Tang, let me do it.”

The Jiang Family members stood by, grumbling to themselves:

Yesterday he was still Old Tang; today he’s Grandpa Tang...

The warmth had increased more than just a little bit.

“Ah, it’s alright; feel free in our home, no need for formalities.” The old man was laid-back, thinking highly of Jiang Jinsang’s politeness and manners.

However, just as Jiang took the bottle, a hand reached out from the side to intercept it.

“What are two sickly people doing drinking? You feel a bit better now, so you’re going to indulge?” Tang Wan frowned, clearly displeased.

Jiang Jinsang merely looked down at her, his gaze intense, pretending to be angry, but surprisingly...

Somewhat cute.

“Just a couple of glasses, it’s Xiaowu’s first day here. A little drink to lift the spirits. The doctor didn’t say I can’t drink at all,” Old Tang lightly scoffed. “Xiaowu, can you not drink?”

“A little won’t be a problem.”

“Look, he can drink too. We’ll just have a small glass. You can boss me around, but why are you bossing Xiaowu?” Old Tang smirked. “You’re not even the wife, getting too involved.”

“Grandpa!” Tang Wan understood his intentions. Saying it privately was fine, but how could he spout nonsense in front of Jiang Jinsang? It made her grind her teeth in anger.

“One glass, right? Then I’ll pour for you, but once it’s poured, it’s being put away.”

“You... this girl...” Old Tang was frustrated but had no choice.

Tang Wan poured a small glass for the old man first before filling Jiang Jinsang’s cup.

The small sake cup, only the size of two thumbs, required careful pouring; a slight mistake, and the wine would spill over.

“Thanks for your concern earlier,” Jiang Jinsang said, seated, slightly tilting his head to catch a clear view of her profile.

With her hair tied up for cooking, it exposed a portion of her neck, fair and slender. Perhaps from the kitchen smoke, her ears were a soft pink.

They say southern women are beauties, and Tang Wan certainly qualified as beautiful.

Even if not stunning at first glance, on the second glance...

She had a way of capturing one’s heart.

At that moment, the proximity seemed almost unbelievable.

As he spoke, Tang Wan felt his breath brush against her hair at the temples, tickling her face.

A faint itch lingered in her heart.

“You’re welcome,” Tang Wan replied quietly.

“Actually...” He seemed to lean in closer.

“My health isn’t as weak as you think.”

His voice was low, still warm and gentle, strangely a bit intimate.

Your health isn’t that bad, but what does that have to do with me? Just get better and go back to your own home.

Tang Wan's hand trembled slightly, spilling a bit of the wine. She retracted her hand, stood up, closed the wine lid, and left composedly.

Old Tang lifted his glass, sniffed it while seemingly appreciating the aroma, but his eyes stayed on the two nearby, seeing how good they looked together.

Even when Tang Wan returned to her seat, her heart was still unsettled.

She raised a hand to adjust the stray locks by her ear, feeling as if his voice echoed in her ears, and with them sitting directly opposite each other, their gaze inevitably met. Perhaps due to a little wine, she inexplicably felt that this man...

Not only was his voice captivating, but even his gaze was warm.

*

Jiang Jinsang didn't speak much; Old Tang was more talkative. He just listened quietly. By the end, the food had gone cold, and Tang Wan had to get up to heat some soup for the two of them.

After the meal, Jiang Jinsang lingered for a while, chatting with the old man. Meanwhile, Tang Wan helped Chen Ma clean up the table.

“Miss, the dish you made is quite to Fifth Master Jiang’s taste,” Chen Ma said with a smile.

Tang Wan glanced at the table; the only completely empty dish was the green snail shrimp.

With someone appreciating it, anyone would feel good. She smiled, lowered her head to clean up, and said nothing.

Meanwhile, Jiang Jinsang’s situation at the Tang home was being truthfully reported back to the Jiang Family.

They were also having dinner at the time, discussing how fussy someone was and their picky eating habits, only to learn that everything went surprisingly smoothly.

He even enjoyed the shrimp with some plum wine.

Madam Jiang breathed a sigh of relief, worried her son would come back and vent his anger, blaming her for making decisions on her own. Now it seemed he had quite a tasteful time.

Could it be that in someone else’s house, he wouldn’t act out?

After all, no matter how bad his temper was, he had to save face!

She turned to her eldest son, “Stop staring at your son eating, answer me. What do you think is up with Xiaowu this time...”

“Unusual situations must harbor demons, and his unusual behavior...” he paused.

“Must harbor a great demon.”

The little guy clutched his chopsticks, sneakily hiding the carrots under his rice, looking innocent, trying to divert his father’s attention, “I miss Second Uncle, when is he coming back?”

“Are you digging a hole to bury the carrots?”

“...”

“Don’t leave the table until you finish it.”