

## Switched M 141

Chapter 141: Wife, Are You Angry?

"Wait for me, I'm going to the canteen to buy food. What dishes do you want? There probably isn't any communal pot food left at this hour, I'll go order a stir-fry."

Lin Chuxia lifted the lid of Qin Yang's lunch box and saw bok choy and tofu, she frowned slightly, "Is this what you eat every day?"

"After the snow, it's not easy for supplies to come through; having these to eat is already pretty good. I'll go myself, you just got here, take a good rest."

But Lin Chuxia didn't hand over the lunch box to him, "You're the patient, now that I am here, it's my job to take care of you."

"Then I'll go with you."

His wife had arrived, leaving him to sit alone in the room was something he absolutely couldn't do.

Lin Chuxia had no choice but to help him put on his coat.

There was no one in the canteen at this moment, and they didn't see any workers on their way either.

Seeing Lin Chuxia, Master Chen greeted her warmly, "Mr. Lin, when did you arrive? What would you like to eat today? The canteen still has some pork belly, a few mushrooms, and some garlic shoots left."

In these times, finding mushrooms and garlic shoots in the deep of winter is difficult, let alone in the Northwest.

Master Chen was showing her all he got.

Lin Chuxia chatted warmly with him, and in the end, decided on ordering twice-cooked pork since their communal meals were too plain.

After the food was ready, the couple went straight back to the dormitory. Qin Yang's food, which was placed on the radiator, was still warm.

The two of them finished their lunch with a meat dish, a vegetable dish, and two leavened steamed buns close to two o'clock.

"By the way, I saw that the construction site has stopped, and there are fewer workers around. Does that mean work is suspended and everyone can go home for the holidays?"

She remembered what Mrs. Qin had said before. In winter, Qin Yang's construction site would pause early, and after the suspension, the workers could take their New Year holidays.

But people like Qin Yang would leave later, especially Qin Yang himself, who was always in the last batch to take leave.

Before Qin Yang could respond to her question, someone knocked at the dormitory door.

Lin Chuxia ran to open the door and saw Bai Xiaoming outside, dressed in a coat and wearing a thick cotton hat.

Seeing her, he smiled, "So the sister-in-law really came. I just heard about it and thought those rascals were joking with me. Mr. Qin, it's your fault, I told you to inform your family but you didn't listen, and now you've brought your sister-in-law here in such a big snowstorm."

"Mr. Bai, you've misunderstood. It wasn't Qin Yang who called me; I came to see him. If I hadn't come, I wouldn't even know he got injured."

Lin Chuxia didn't want Qin Yang's colleagues to misunderstand, so she quickly clarified.

Bai Xiaoming thought about it and found it likely, considering Qin Yang's personality, it really was not like him to have called.

He then immediately said, "That's what I thought; however, sister-in-law, your timing is rather appropriate. The year is ending soon, and there's not much going on at the unit. In a while, I'll help you guys file a request for Mr. Qin to go home and recover from his injury. Mr. Qin, what do you think?"

"Is that possible?"

This surprised Lin Chuxia.

She knew she couldn't stay at his workplace for a long time, nor could she just leave him on his own; she was troubled about this.

"Of course, it's possible. Li Wei went home a few days ago, and by now, there wouldn't be much work in the unit anyway, especially since Mr. Qin and his team rarely take breaks, they have a lot of leave saved up."

Lin Chuxia looked towards Qin Yang, knowing he was a workaholic, she wasn't sure whether or not he was willing to go home early.

Seeing his wife's expectant gaze, a hint of a smile flashed in Qin Yang's eyes, "Then, I'll trouble Mr. Bai to help me file that request. If possible, we'll go back home in a few days."

He also knew Lin Chuxia's shop was busy.

"Okay then, I'll go write it now. Oh and about the hospital, didn't they ask you to go back for a follow-up check? Before heading home, it'd be best to go have a check-up, don't leave it unattended," Bai Xiaoming reminded them before leaving.

Qin Yang nodded, "Understood."

After the person left, Lin Chuxia began to worry about his arm injury again. Even though he downplayed it, Bai Xiaoming's cautious attitude made her anxious.

Fortunately, Qin Yang promised to go to the hospital for a check-up the next day, which would be a good opportunity for her to learn more from the doctor.

She never fully trusted what Qin Yang said.

This man was too obvious in only reporting the good news and not the bad.

Bai Xiaoming's reply came quickly; by evening, he sent news that Qin Yang could return to his hometown as soon as he handed over his current tasks.

The couple made arrangements; they would go to the hospital for a check-up and handover the next day, then head back to An City.

Early the next morning, the unit arranged for a car to take Qin Yang to the hospital.

Lin Chuxia wrapped him in a thick cashmere scarf, one she had bought before, light grey, matching the one she wore.

When she took out the scarf to wrap around him, joy sparkled in the man's eyes, unable to be concealed.

It's not for nothing they say this man is too easily pleased.

They went to the largest People's Hospital in the area, a municipal hospital, rare to have an X-ray facility.

Qin Yang had new X-rays taken, and the doctor was quite satisfied with the recovery.

"The recovery is good, if it continues like this, as long as you avoid lifting heavy objects, normal daily activities shouldn't be a problem. As for fine movements like writing, it depends on the complete recovery..."

However, Lin Chuxia's face fell at this result.

"Sorry Doctor, what do you mean by not lifting heavy objects, daily activities not an issue? Isn't he just suffering from a fracture?"

From her understanding, once recovered from a fracture, life is mostly unaffected and can even be completely restored.

Seeing her pale, Qin Yang knew she was scared and reassured her, "The doctor said the recovery is going well, don't worry."

But Lin Chuxia didn't want to listen to his sugarcoating and kept her eyes fixed on the doctor, waiting for his answer.

The doctor could tell something was up; this woman was new, and she wasn't seen when the patient was hospitalized with injuries.

Knowing Qin Yang's situation, which had been significant enough to make the newspapers, he guessed she must be a family member who had only recently arrived. He patiently explained.

"The patient suffered not only bone injuries but also varying degrees of tendon and muscle damage. To put it bluntly, this arm is practically as good as severed. Such an injury is different from a normal fracture. Even if the bone heals, other tissues' recovery still needs to be assessed."

Lin Chuxia now understood: Qin Yang's arm was likely to have significant lasting effects.

"Thank you, Doctor, I understand now."

The doctor nodded, "That's why I hope the patient's family will take good care of him; it aids the recovery."

"Will do, I'll take note," she responded.

Emerging from the hospital, Lin Chuxia had regained her composure, but Qin Yang was completely worried.

He thought she would be furious once they left, and he had prepared himself to placate her.

However, seeing her unusually calm, even carefully adjusting his coat and scarf, worried he might catch cold...

"Wife, are you angry?"

Lin Chuxia buttoned up his coat for him, her hands steadily supporting him, "No."

"But I feel like you're angry," he pursed his lips, seriousness etched on his face.

#### Chapter 142: Not Very Convenient

Lin Chuxia stared at his feet and warned, "Watch where you're going. Fall again and you can really forget about your arm."

She then sighed at the sight of his deep eyes, "I'm not mad, really. I'm just thinking about what to do next. Qin Yang, do you remember that I've taken a master? He's a well-known traditional Chinese medicine doctor, but for some reasons, he refuses to treat people. I'm thinking of going back and asking my master to take a look at your arm. It might help with the recovery," and then there's the spiritual spring water.

Yuan Bao's leg injury healed quickly after drinking the spiritual spring water. The spiritual spring water should also help with the recovery of Qin Yang's arm.

I just don't know if combining the two can restore his arm to its original state.

Thinking of this, Lin Chuxia was somewhat annoyed with Qin Yang. If he had used the spiritual spring water right after the injury, would the recovery have been even better?

But what's done is done, and it's no use talking about the past. We can only look forward.

"Then when I go back, I will also pay a visit to the master. Whether he treats me or not doesn't prevent me from regarding him as an elder."

The elders of my wife are mine too.

Lin Chuxia grinned, "If you think like that, the master will definitely be touched. Don't worry, no matter what, I will make him make an exception for you."

The two of them left the hospital and went to the department store to buy some local specialties to take back with them.

Because of Qin Yang's injury, they didn't buy much this time. On the way out, they unexpectedly ran into someone.

Jia Yuanliang hadn't expected to see Lin Chuxia here and asked while pointing at his own nose, "Big sister, do you still remember me?"

Lin Chuxia was quite surprised to see Jia Yuanliang, but she responded cheerfully, "Of course, Brother Jia."

It was the man she encountered on her first train trip to the Northwest. Before getting off, the man introduced himself. His surname was Jia, his name was Yuanliang, and he worked as a third-level worker at the local iron factory.

When he heard Lin Chuxia still remembered him, Jia Yuanliang was even happier, "Big sister, have you not left yet? I actually have some matters and I've been looking for you, big sister. We didn't exchange contact information that day, and I've been regretting it. I didn't expect to run into big sister again."

"Big sister, where are you staying now? Do you have time right now? I really do have something I need your help with, but if you're busy, it's okay. Just give me your contact info, and I can find you another time."

Seeing how insistently he spoke, as if she was about to leave, Lin Chuxia knew he was genuinely looking for her.

But before she could speak, Qin Yang, with his deep gaze, interjected, "It might not be too convenient to leave contact information. She came here to visit relatives."

Only then did Jia Yuanliang notice there was someone standing beside Lin Chuxia, "And this gentleman is...?"

"This is my husband. I'm here to visit my husband," Lin Chuxia introduced with a straightforward look at Qin Yang, who appeared somewhat sour.

Sure enough, after her introduction, the man's expression immediately brightened, and it seemed his spine straightened up a bit too.

Proud as can be.

Lin Chuxia kept the smile to herself and asked Jia Yuanliang, "Brother Jia, what do you need me for? If it's convenient, just say it outright."

Jia Yuanliang glanced at the time, looked around, and said, "This isn't a good place to talk. It's about time too. If it's convenient for you guys, let's go to the State-Owned Restaurant. I'll treat you to a meal as a way to return the favor for the meat buns you treated me to last time."



Lin Chuxia and her group had no other plans for today, so they agreed to the proposal after a bit of thought.

She seemed to guess what Jia Yuanliang wanted to talk to her about.

Today, the State-Owned Restaurant offered mutton stew with bread pieces. After confirming that Lin Chuxia had no dietary restrictions, Jia Yuanliang ordered three servings of the dish, a local delicacy that he insisted Lin Chuxia must try.

Knowing that Jia Yuanliang was a straightforward man, Lin Chuxia didn't stand on ceremony.

The mutton stew and bread were served. Qin Yang's arm was injured and it was inconvenient for him, so she helped him by breaking the bread into smaller pieces and soaking them in the mutton stew, while casually asking Jia Yuanliang what he wanted to discuss.

Jia Yuanliang was eager to talk, "Here's the thing, girl, I have a brother at home who's been wanting to start a small business, but just can't find the right approach. Recently, he mentioned selling meat buns, and I immediately thought of you. Speaking of meat buns, the tastiest ones I've ever had were those that you gave me. My idea was to have my brother learn the craft before opening a shop, but we couldn't locate the Bun Shop you mentioned. Did I remember it wrong or did I mishear something?"

Lin Chuxia thought to herself that he had neither remembered nor heard incorrectly; it was just that her meat buns were not bought at a transfer station as he had assumed.

But this confirmed that Jia Yuanliang was indeed seeking her out over the meat bun matter.

"No big deal. I've looked into it. The craftsmanship of the buns came from Qin's Buns Shop in Ancheng County, Shanhe Province. If you trust me, let your brother head directly to Ancheng County to look for Qin's Buns Shop."

Jia Yuanliang was still hesitant, "Will that work? What if my brother makes the long trip and can't find Qin's Buns Shop, or what if they don't take apprentices? Wouldn't that be a wasted journey?"

"If you want to do something, how can you know if it's worth doing without going and seeing for yourself? Only Brother Jia has tried the meat buns, and tastes vary—just because you think the meat buns are delicious doesn't mean others will agree. If your brother visits Qin's Buns Shop, he'll see what the situation is for himself; and as for taking on apprentices, that's something you won't know by just sitting at home and thinking about it. There's an interview process for getting a job, right? Brother Jia, isn't that the idea?"

As if experiencing an epiphany, Jia Yuanliang agreed this was the right approach. Being overly cautious wouldn't get things done.

He would send his brother to Ancheng to taste the meat buns from Qin's Buns Shop for himself and to observe their business operations, gaining experience for when he opens his own shop.

And even if his brother fails to learn the craft, or even to find the Qin's Steamed Bun shop mentioned by Lin Chuxia, the attempt itself would be a valuable experience.

"I know what to do now, big sister," he said.

Seeing that Lin Chuxia had barely touched her mutton stew with bread, he felt a bit embarrassed.

"I was too anxious. Eat up, big sister; the mutton stew with bread isn't good once it cools."

After finishing lunch, Jia Yuanliang wanted Lin Chuxia's contact information, but Qin Yang bluntly said, "She doesn't come to the Northwest often, your having her contact won't be much use."

"I can write letters. If my brother really learns the craft, and when the bun shop opens, I definitely want to invite big sister to join the celebration," Jia Yuanliang declared enthusiastically, but Qin Yang's face remained impassive, "Thanks, but no need. She doesn't like crowds."

With that, he took Lin Chuxia's hand and they left.

Lin Chuxia held back her laughter, never having seen such a petty man.

She couldn't help but recall her previous life when, for the sake of business, she would put herself out there as a woman. Li Guangyuan hadn't minded at all; in fact, he would even push her into the spotlight for the sake of business, having her drink and sing with those people.

There was even one time when it was obvious that the other party had ill intentions towards her, and Li Guangyuan acted as if he didn't notice, leaving her alone with the man in a private room.

#### Chapter 143: Qin Yang, You Are My Hero

Shaking off that scumbag, she turned around and waved goodbye to Jia Yuanliang, "Brother Jia, don't worry. The day your brother comes back and opens the Bun Shop, I'll join in the fun."

Jia Yuanliang smiled, nodded, and waved back, only feeling puzzled after she left.

The two didn't exchange contact information, so even if his brother opened the Bun Shop, how would she know the opening day?

Still, he felt that Lin Chuxia was a generous and straightforward girl; she wouldn't let anyone's words fall to the ground and cause them to lose face.

On the way back, Lin Chuxia still found the matter funny, "All he wanted was a contact method, not anything else. Are you really being too stingy?"

Qin Yang naturally responded, "Didn't you give him the address of the Bun Shop? If he still feels puzzled, that's his own folly, no one else's fault."

At this point, Qin Yang also had doubts, "Are you really planning to take on apprentices? I remember there's a secret recipe in your bun fillings."

Although they were unsure if it was handed down from the Imperial Chef, that secret recipe indeed made their buns taste unique. Wouldn't teaching others affect their Bun Shop business?

As the old saying goes, teaching your apprentices might starve the mentor.

Lin Chuxia nodded, "I do have that intention. It's not exactly taking on apprentices, I just want to expand Qin's Buns Shop. I've thought about opening branches all over the country, but I can't do it alone, so I thought of franchising."

"Franchising?" This was a new term for Qin Yang.

Not just for Qin Yang, but for anyone at this time, the term was very unfamiliar.

Lin Chuxia briefly explained the franchising model to him, and the franchise stated by her was different from the franchises of later generations.

After all, people's standard of living was limited at this time, even if they saved money to start a business, they couldn't afford the high franchise fees.

Risking the entire family fortune on an insubstantial business wouldn't work in this era.

Thus, she made some modifications in this part, but whether it would work or not would have to wait until Jia Yuanliang's brother arrived.

Qin Yang, however, saw the potential in her plan, his eyes shining, "Wife, how did you come up with this? I think it can work. Even if the other party hesitates, as long as they see the operation of our Bun Shop, they'll be interested."

Although he was far in the Northwest, after the Bun Shop opened, his wife often wrote to him, and he knew the Bun Shop did very well.

Especially after they opened a branch. It seemed like his brother-in-law was worried he wouldn't understand Lin Chuxia's capabilities, every letter elaborately praised Lin Chuxia and their Bun Shop.

He felt compelled to report how many customers the Bun Shop had daily, how many buns were sold, and how much money was made.

Before knowing Lin Chuxia, he had no real concept of money, as long as he had enough to eat and spend.

Now constantly reminded by his brother-in-law, he felt his salary was far from being comparable to his wife's, and that he needed to work harder.

Back in the dormitory, Lin Chuxia started helping Qin Yang pack his luggage.

This trip home to recover from an injury coincided with the Spring Festival, so he planned to stay home for a while.

His arm was touched by a man, "This is for you."

Lin Chuxia turned around, and saw Qin Yang holding a thick envelope, guessing what was inside from its shape.

"So much?"

"This is the bonus from the recent project and my annual bonus for this year, around 2600 in total."

When he got the money, he thought of giving it to his wife first, but thinking of his wife's Bun Shop, he wasn't as happy.

His wife's ability to earn money seemed indeed stronger than his.

Lin Chuxia noticed the hint of defeat on Qin Yang's face, and put aside the half-packed luggage, started cheerfully counting the money in front of him.

She counted quickly and seriously, totaling 2638 yuan.

"So much," she exclaimed, "Many people, no matter how long they save without eating or drinking, can't save this much."

Although he knew his wife might be exaggerating, Qin Yang still felt comforted, and turned his head shyly away, "But it's still not as impressive as you."

Lin Chuxia put the money aside, went over and embraced his arm, "It's different, the things we do are different, we can't measure everything with money. Qin Yang, you know, the first time I came to your unit and saw the construction work you were doing, I was shocked and proud. Shocked at all you had created despite the difficulties, and proud that my husband was involved, even as one of the designers of the whole project. The bonus is just a recognition of your achievements, the significance of your achievements is priceless."

Lin Chuxia's eyes, shiny with admiration and pride, moved Qin Yang deeply, "Do you really think so?"

Lin Chuxia nodded, "That's exactly how I feel, Qin Yang, you are my hero."

The three kinds of people she most admired in her heart were: Military personnel, scientists, and builders of the nation.

What's so great about making money?

In the era she had lived through, with a phone, a spotlight, those people fluttering in front of the camera could garner popularity and make a lot of money, such people were incomparable to the scientists and builders.

Qin Yang was thoroughly comforted, but he still insisted on leaving the money to Lin Chuxia.

A man earning money is to provide for a woman. If a woman doesn't spend a man's money, what motivation does a man have to strive in the outside world?

Lin Chuxia was his motivation to fight and strive.

Seeing Lin Chuxia's admiring gaze, Qin Yang was filled with a sense of satisfaction, lowering his head to kiss her again.

Lin Chuxia's fair little hand blocked between them, her eyes full of warning, "Just remember, heroes should not disregard their own safety. If a hero gets injured, people worry and feel sad."

Qin Yang held her small hand, his eyes brimming with tenderness almost spilling over, "I promise you, I won't let you worry or feel sad again."

Lin Chuxia smiled warmly, actively wrapping her arms around the man's neck and kissed him.

Not letting him eat meat, she could still offer him a sip of meat soup—this man deserved a reward.

After everything was ready, Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang bid farewell to Bai Xiaoming and his wife, carrying luggage onto the path back home.

The ride to the train station was also provided by the unit's vehicle, with the driver Xiao Zhang delivering them to the train as per Minister Wang's instructions.

The train tickets, including sleeper berths for both segments, were also purchased by the unit. The journey went smoothly, and they returned to their old home in An City.

Upon disembarking the train, Lin Chuxia took Qin Yang directly to the Bun Shop at the train station.

In just half a year of Qin Yang being away from home, An City's train station had changed, with notably more vendors around, the most prominent being Qin's Bun Shop not far away.

It was already the afternoon, but there was still a queue in front of the Bun Shop.

Looking at the sign 'Qin's Bun Shop,' and recalling what was mentioned in the letters, it felt different all over again.

## Chapter 144: The Rebirth Gift Package Belongs to None Other Than Qin Yang

Lin Chuxia had just entered the house when Sun Lanlan came up to her, "Chuxia, you're finally back, I've missed you so much."

"Just a few days, and you're already missing me this much."

While she was speaking, she noticed that the people behind her hadn't followed. She turned her head and saw Qin Yang standing at the door, looking at the signboard.

Sun Lanlan also saw Qin Yang, and even though she had seen him at Lin Chuxia's wedding, she couldn't help but be dazzled by him again.

She whispered in Lin Chuxia's ear, "Chuxia, I think you've really hit the jackpot, snagging such an outstanding man."

Lin Chuxia also felt lucky, considering Qin Yang was her rebirth bonus package.

"Stop teasing, grab me something to eat, some cooked dishes and small dishes too."

They hadn't eaten well on the train, and now that they were back at their own restaurant, of course, they had to appease their stomachs first.

Before long, everyone in the restaurant knew that Lin Chuxia was back, and her husband had come back with her.

Granny Sun saw Qin Yang and her compliments were free-flowing, praising how well-matched the couple was, and how excellent Lin Chuxia's taste in men was, flattering her so much she could almost dig out a mansion with her toes.

Qin Yang, that silly guy, just smiled happily, taking pride in the praise.

Right after the couple finished eating, Su Wensong came over.



He had heard that Lin Chuxia was back and specifically came to find her, but he didn't expect that Lin Chuxia had returned with her husband.

Seeing her husband was injured, he didn't say much else but asked if they needed a car ride home.

Lin Chuxia sensed something, "Is there something wrong with the restaurant?"

She had detected something unusual in Sun Lanlan's tone earlier.

Su Wensong thought for a moment and said, "There is a bit of an issue, but it's not something that can be resolved quickly. It's getting late, you should go home and rest, we can talk more tomorrow."

"Okay, have Houzi give us a ride home, I'll head back first, we'll talk tomorrow if there's anything."

She had been away for over ten days, even if there really was an issue, it wouldn't hurt to wait a bit longer.

However, the moment Su Wensong appeared, Qin Yang's radar went off, his gaze discerning and cautious as he sized up the man.

The man wasn't particularly tall, had an average build, and had a complexion that was neither fair nor dark, adorned with a pair of glasses.

What stood out most was his demeanor; he spoke with Lin Chuxia neither servile nor overbearing, and despite being her subordinate, he had a calmness that suggested he was in control of everything.

He even told Lin Chuxia to go home and rest, saying they could talk tomorrow.

This subordinate, facing his boss with news to report, was this calm about it?

Qin Yang remembered this guy must be the educated youth who had been sent to the countryside; having worked in rural areas for many years, his skin was still whiter than his older brother's, truly fitting the term 'pretty boy' as his brother had described.

Qin Yang scrutinized him further, making comparisons in his mind.

He wasn't as tall as him, his build wasn't as good as his, his skin wasn't as fair, and his gaze wasn't as sharp...

"Qin Yang?"

His arm was nudged, and he realized Lin Chuxia was calling him.

"Huh? What is it?"

"This is Su Wensong, the key member of our restaurant I mentioned to you before."

After introducing Su Wensong to Qin Yang, she then introduced Qin Yang to Su Wensong, "This is my husband, Qin Yang," just as she had introduced him to others in the restaurant earlier.

Su Wensong had already noticed Qin Yang and guessed his identity. He instinctively stretched out his right hand, "Hello, I am Su Wensong, I always hear Mr. Lin mention you."

Qin Yang, looking somewhat aloof, glanced at his own right hand in a sling, "Sorry, it's not very convenient for me, I am Chuxia's husband, Qin Yang."

"Oh sorry, I'll call a car for you guys right now."

Watching Su Wensong leave, Qin Yang couldn't help but feel delighted inside.

His wife often talks about him with her colleagues? Does that mean he holds a significant place in her heart? And looking at this guy, he doesn't seem like much, easily defeated.

Lin Chuxia saw through his little thoughts, pinched his arm, and whispered so only the two of them could hear, "Satisfied?"

Qin Yang played dumb, "Wife, what are you talking about?"

"Petty!"

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Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang went home together, and Mr. and Mrs. Qin were thrilled to see them.

Even though their younger son had an injured arm, it didn't seem like much to them. Village kids get bumps and bruises all the time; broken arms and legs happen, and they heal.

The young son had come home for the Chinese New Year just as they entered the twelfth lunar month, providing a good opportunity for him to bond with his daughter-in-law. Who knows, during this period, they might even get good news about her pregnancy.

By evening, when Qin Han and Zhang Guilan got home, the lively atmosphere at home reached its peak.

Zhang Guilan and Mrs. Qin didn't let Lin Chuxia help in the kitchen; the two of them cooked several dishes, and the family enjoyed a joyful reunion dinner.

After dinner, knowing that the couple hadn't rested well as they had been traveling for a few days by train, they quickly urged them to retire to their room.

Seeing their return, Mr. Qin had already lit the coal stove in their room, boiled some hot water; the room was warm and cozy.

As Lin Chuxia helped Qin Yang take off his thick clothes, she said, "Tomorrow, I'll take you to see my master. Whether it's applying medicine or acupuncture, as long as my master agrees to treat you, there's always hope for your arm."

These past days, Lin Chuxia had secretly swapped their drinking water with Spiritual Spring water.

Qin Yang's holiday, although long, was limited. He hoped that in this month, his injury could be rehabilitated as much as possible.

"Wait a moment; I'll get a basin for you to soak your feet."

Qin Yang wanted to speak, but she had already gone out; he could only wait eagerly for her to return with the basin. When she finally placed the basin with warm water at his feet, he blurted out,

"Wife, let me wash your feet instead, you've been working hard these past few days."

Lin Chuxia saw right through his little scheme and gave him a stern look.

Qin Yang, feeling even more itchy-hearted under her gaze, said, "Wife, I really know I was wrong, and my arm has improved a lot. Seeing you, my injury has healed by more than half, really no lying, you see I can lift it now and move it freely..."

"Ah... you foolish man..." Lin Chuxia saw he was about to move and quickly stopped him, "If you don't listen, I will really get angry."

Qin Yang immediately behaved, but with a cheeky expression, "So you mean you weren't angry before? If you weren't angry, you can't always make me live like a monk. Wife, I really have no issues, it's just my arm that's out of commission, not the other part, but if you keep letting me just watch and not partake, it won't be long before that's out of commission too..."

Lin Chuxia really didn't know what to do with him; had someone told her half a year ago that Qin Yang was so shameless, she would never have believed it.

Thinking back to half a year ago, that aloof man who had dazzled her at first sight, and now looking at the man in front of her...

Really, what a sin. How did she turn this little wolf dog into such a state?

"Let's wash the feet first, the water will get cold soon."

Upon hearing this, Qin Yang's eyes lit up, knowing from her words that his wife agreed.

"Let's wash them together."

He started pulling off his socks with one hand, his eyes never leaving Lin Chuxia, his bright smile almost blinding her.

#### Chapter 145: Disciple

After all, she gave in. Lin Chuxia pulled up a stool to sit in front of him, took off her shoes and socks, and directly stepped on his feet.

At night, the wind started howling outside, whistling against the window corners with a whooshing sound, while inside the house was boiling with heat.

The man she had been thinking about for days finally achieved his goal, seemingly trying to vent all the grievances he suffered these days.

If it weren't for Lin Chuxia's reminder, he would probably have made a fuss until dawn without any care.

In the morning when they got up, Qin Han and Zhang Guilan had already gone to the store.

Their store sells breakfast, which is a very hard job. They have to get up very early every day, but thankfully, Qin Family Village is right within the city limits, and it's not very far from the Qin Family's home to the store.

Little Zhuangzhuang saw Lin Chuxia getting up and scurried over, "Little Auntie, is Little Uncle still in bed? Grandma said Little Uncle is injured and needs rest. She told me to keep quiet and not disturb Little Uncle's rest."

Lin Chuxia thought to herself that your Little Uncle doesn't need any rest at all; he was as lively as a dragon and tiger last night. The one who needs rest is your Little Auntie.

She raised her hand and rubbed his little head.

Since they all started working at the Bun Shop, the family's meals had significantly improved. Little Zhuangzhuang was getting plumper and more adorable.

Children of this age are full of energy, never able to stay put.

"There's nothing wrong, your Little Uncle is already up."

"Really?"

While he was speaking, Qin Yang came out of the house, "What's true or false?"

His words were to Little Zhuangzhuang, but his eyes were glued to Lin Chuxia, with a sticky gaze that seemed to tangle, which made Lin Chuxia uncomfortable and she lightly coughed to remind him.

This man, when at work, still restrained himself, but at home, he becomes a completely different person, utterly letting himself go without shame.

Little Zhuangzhuang, not understanding the adults' exchange of looks, happily ran back to the house, shouting as he ran, "Grandma baked sweet potatoes, said to wait for Little Auntie and Little Uncle to get up and eat together, I'm going to tell Grandma now."

After eating breakfast and the deliciously sweet, soft baked sweet potatoes, they finally left the house.

The north wind did not stop, and the temperature dropped a few more degrees. It's said that during the minor and major cold, it freezes a family to death; today just happened to be the first day of the minor cold, the coldest time of the year.

Old Sir He stayed at home and didn't go out. With the cold weather, he only occasionally went to the Bun Shop, and sometimes he didn't even see Lin Chuxia, which made him even less keen to go.

Seeing Lin Chuxia bring a man in, he guessed the identity of the man.

A pair of shrewd eyes scrutinized the visitor from head to toe, making Qin Yang instinctively straighten his back.

"Master, I heard you like the sorghum liquor from the Northwest. This is the most famous local sorghum liquor, please give it a try."

Qin Yang held the liquor with a cautious manner, which Lin Chuxia was seeing for the first time.

Seeing the little old man had no intention of taking it, Qin Yang sweated even in the harsh winter, Lin Chuxia directly took the liquor and placed it by the bed.

"Alright, old man, you can stop now. Look how scared you've made him."

Old Master He finally shifted his gaze away, snorting coldly, "They say women are sentimental. Is that why you feel sorry for him? With such a lack of mental fortitude, he still dares to marry my disciple."

"Sorry, but I was already married to him when I became your disciple, so you no longer have a vote in this."

Old Master He paused, took the broom next to him, and threw it at her, "You little wretch, aren't you just asking to upset me, old man?"

Before Lin Chuxia could raise her hand, a large hand had already steadily caught the broom, and realizing it was somewhat inappropriate, gently placed it in front of the old master.

Old Master He looked at him again, his expression slightly softened, "You're barely a match for my disciple. Even though you recognized me as your master already married, if it doesn't work out, you can still divorce. My disciple He Qichang doesn't need to be tied down by marriage and suffer those grievances."

Lin Chuxia was slightly touched; her master truly cared for her.

In her previous life, she endured so much in her marriage, yet no one had ever said something like this to her.

Qin Yang was indeed nervous, even more so than when he met her parents; he didn't quite understand why.

Hearing Old Sir He's words, his face turned serious, and he immediately responded, "Master, rest assured, I will surely treat Chuxia well, and please feel free to supervise me."

Old Sir He hummed noncommittally and pointed to a seat nearby, "Sit down. What are you here for?"

"Master, listen to how you speak! Of course, I came to see you, and incidentally brought him along for you to meet. My husband is also your junior now, so not only do you have me as a disciple, but you also have him, and together we'll honor you."

Hearing the word 'disciple,' both Old Sir He and Qin Yang couldn't help but twitch their lips simultaneously.

At that moment, the two men exchanged glances, each seeing an understanding in the other's eyes.

"Still honoring me? With his half-disabled condition, what can I even expect?"



"So, master, in order to depend on him in the future, could you please check his arm?"

Old Sir He almost laughed in exasperation, "Still saying it's nothing serious, your mind is written all over your face!"

"No, bringing him here to meet you is true. Checking his arm just came along the way; consider it a meeting gift for the junior."

Old Sir He didn't bother arguing with her. He had made up his mind not to treat anyone anymore, but since the day he acknowledged Lin Chuxia, a corner of his icy heart had also thawed.

When it came to her and her concerns, he couldn't help but relent.

"Come here, let me have a look."

Lin Chuxia brought Qin Yang over, helping him to undo the strap supporting his arm.

Old Sir He touched his arm inch by inch until he reached a spot, seeing him frown slightly, then continued moving upwards.

"Take off your jacket, let me see."

Qin Yang complied.

Previously, at a hospital in the Northwest, Lin Chuxia had seen Qin Yang's arm, which was thinner than the normal one. It had been nearly a month since his injury; it was normal for the muscles in his arm to atrophy from lack of exercise.

Yet Old Sir He still frowned slightly after examining it.

"Master, how is it?" Lin Chuxia was also very nervous.

"If it had been just injured, it would be easy to recover, but now..."

"Master, please think of something. He needs to use his right hand for writing and drawing. You know he is very talented. The Northwest Bridge reported recently was designed by him. If he can't hold a pen in his right hand..."

"I haven't even said anything yet, what's the rush?"

Old Sir He huffed in displeasure.

Lin Chuxia swallowed hard, "Then please continue..."

Old Sir He glared at her once; usually, she managed the Bun Shop with a strict and efficient attitude, but why did she seem brainless when dealing with this man?

Not wanting to leave her in suspense any longer, he straightforwardly said, "It's more troublesome now. I'll prescribe some plasters for now; apply them and come here every other day for acupuncture. After a month, there should be some recovery."

Lin Chuxia couldn't help but ask, "Can it fully recover to its original state?"

Old Sir He pointed towards the door, "Right now, you just get out..."

Chapter 146: Out of Sight, Out of Mind

Qin Yang's eyes were brimming with a smile as he tugged her arm, "Master has said I will recover, so don't worry."

Lin Chuxia knew she was being impatient, but every time she thought about the possibility of Qin Yang not being able to hold a pen, her heart ached for the loss of such an outstanding designer for the country.

"I get it, I get it. Just asking a few more questions, why are you in a rush? Hurting our master-disciple relationship, you're becoming stingier as you get older."

Despite her words, her hands were continuously busy.

She opened a can of food that she had brought and handed it over, "Hurry up and eat some canned food to quell the fire and calm down."

Qin Yang's eyes twinkled with a touch of amusement seeing the way these two interacted.

His wife was like a little sun, warm and passionate.

He probably understood why Old Sir He had taken her as a disciple.

Old Sir He promptly performed acupuncture on Qin Yang. Watching the Master take out the silver needles, Lin Chuxia couldn't bear to watch, so she chose to leave.

Letting Qin Yang undergo acupuncture here, she decided to check the store first. Out of sight, out of mind.

She went straight to the cooked food courtyard to find Su Wensong. During her absence, she had left the shop in the care of Qin Han and Su Wensong, but Su Wensong was generally more capable with the shop's affairs.

"What was it that you wanted to tell me yesterday?" Lin Chuxia got straight to the point.

"There has been an issue, Mr. Lin. After entering the twelfth lunar month, the Food Store lowered their cooked food prices by twenty percent. Initially, we also made an appropriate adjustment, but the next day they lowered it by another ten percent. Now, our prices have only been reduced by ten percent, but they have gone down by thirty percent. We've lost the majority of our customers. Since then, we haven't changed our prices again, instead we've reduced the production."

After entering the yard, Lin Chuxia had noticed that there was indeed less cooked food being made than usual, and had assumed that it had already been delivered to the store. Now she understood there was a reason for it.

"You did the right thing. Engaging in a price war is not a wise choice."

The cost of raw materials for cooked food is low, but labor and processing costs are not, reducing prices by thirty percent would leave almost no profit.

However, Su Wensong was not as optimistic, "But it's almost the end of the year, and it's precisely the time when people like to buy cooked food. Now, we can't even sell one-third of what we used to. This situation can't go on."

From the experience of the Mid-Autumn Festival, their cooked food had capitalized on the market trend tremendously. They had planned to increase production for the Spring Festival, even adding two more chicken farms, but now...

"Come on, let's go to the branch and take a look."

Their cooked food sales were mainly driven by the branch, and it was precisely for this reason that they were competitive with the Food Factory.

When the two arrived at the restaurant, it was the busiest time of the day for selling cooked food.

In the past, long queues would have formed at the cooked food counter, but now there were only two or three people scattered around buying food.

By contrast, not far away, the Food Factory's cooked food store had long lines of customers, similar to when their Bun Shop first opened.

A passing Aunt Shen, recognizing the familiar face at their store's entrance, greeted, "Old Shen, why are you still buying cooked food here? The Food Store over there is very cheap, they're having some sort of pre-festival promotion."

"Really? Why didn't you tell me earlier," Aunt Shen said, then turning to Qin Wu inside, "Young man, I'm sorry, but I don't need this anymore."

"Aunt, look at this pig's head meat, I've already cut it for you. The lower jaw and the pig's ears you wanted are all the best parts, I've already weighed them..."

"Give it to me to weigh, not for me to eat, just sell it to someone else."

"But cut like this, no one else would want to buy it..."

"Do you want to blame me now? Your cooked food is so expensive, and yet you force people to buy? That's cheating customers, watch out or I'll report you to the Public Security Bureau."

Aunt Shen left these words behind, cursing and rushing off with another lady to the shop across the street.

Qin Wu felt utterly helpless and could only set the cut items aside, then warmly welcomed the next customer, "Would you like anything else?"

"Yes, I'll have a smoked chicken, young man. Don't take it to heart, the Food Store across the street is cheaper, but the taste isn't as good as yours. Ever since my old man tried your Qin's Cooked Food, he won't let me buy from anywhere else, saying 'you get what you pay for,' and that's the truth."

Lin Chuxia had already arrived at the cooked food counter, smiling sincerely at the lady, "Thank you for your support of Qin's Cooked Food, Xiao Wu, give her an extra piece of stuffed intestine."

Qin Wu perked up as soon as he saw Lin Chuxia, quickly packed the smoked chicken and stuffed intestine for the lady.

After serving a few customers, Qin Wu said, "Sis-in-law, you're finally back. Did you see the Food Store over there? Who does business like them?" They were almost ruining Qin's business.

"It's competition, you always have to have some tactics, which is very normal," she said nonchalantly.

Price war is the lowest form of competition, it harms your competitors but also yourself. Lin Chuxia truly disdained competing with them.

But Qin Wu was very anxious; he was responsible for the daily sales of cooked food. There used to be long queues every day, but now just a few customers trickle in, leaving lots of unsold food, which really worried him.

Lin Chuxia looked towards Su Wensong, "Has anyone from the machinery factory been by while I was away?"

"Someone did come, two days ago a young clerk came looking for you from the machinery factory. When they learned you wouldn't be in the shop for a few days, they asked you to go see Director Xu when you're back."

Lin Chuxia nodded, "Let's go, have Houzi drive the tricycle, we're heading to the machinery factory."

Just as Lin Chuxia had anticipated, when they reached the machinery factory, Xu Changping showed her two food packaging machines.

These were the compensation she was promised, and although there were some minor details needing improvement during production, it was still completed two days ahead of schedule.

Seeing Xu Changping beaming and exceptionally enthusiastic, Lin Chuxia knew that the production of these food packaging machines was even more satisfactory to the factory than the meat grinders.

No need for excessive pleasantries, Xu Changping called a production worker over to explain the operation and precautions of the machines to Su Wensong and Houzi in detail.

Su Wensong always had a keen interest in machinery and listened very attentively. Houzi, scratching his head beside him, looked like a real monkey.

The machines were large, and the tricycle could only carry one at a time. After dispatching the first one, Lin Chuxia stayed a bit longer in Xu Changping's office.

"I heard that the Food Factory is challenging Mr. Lin to a competition, are you planning a new approach?"

Speaking of which, Xu Changping had never admired a woman as much as he did now. Outsiders only knew about the price war between the Food Factory and Qin's which just started a week ago, while Lin Chuxia had booked the food packaging machines with him half a month ago.

Lin Chuxia feigned a sigh, "Being a small business owner is hard, Director Xu, if you have any connections in this area, please take care of your sister here."

Initially, it was just casual chit-chat, but Xu Changping pondered after hearing Lin Chuxia's words.

"I've been on a business trip to several cities, I know some people, but those I know might not be much help to your business, Mr. Lin. However, there's someone you could try. Here, I'll give you an address. When you get a chance, go see this person. If it works out, the market in Yuan City should be easy to conquer."

#### Chapter 147: Xiyang Food

Lin Chuxia's eyes lit up. The original city was a big province-level city, and it was rich in minerals and had many wealthy people. Even if it hadn't developed yet, the market was considerable.

"Then I really have to thank Brother Xu for this. Whether this matter succeeds or not, I will remember Brother Xu's kindness."

Xu Changping laughed at how quickly she switched to calling him Brother Xu, "Just remember to discuss any design ideas with your Brother Xu first in the future. Don't worry, as long as the mechanical factory can use them, we will definitely not mistreat you."

"With Brother Xu in the mechanical factory, I trust you."

Her words made Xu Changping very satisfied. Whether Lin Chuxia could create value for the mechanical factory all depended on whether Xu Changping was there.

Both were smart people; they didn't speak everything outright, yet each sentence hit the mark.

After a while, the tricycle that pulled the machines came back, loading the second machine onto the vehicle. Lin Chuxia followed the tricycle back to the small courtyard.

Jia Liang and Pang Yongli were studying the machine. Lin Chuxia called Su Wensong into the office to arrange the work that followed.

As Xu Changping said, they needed to find another way. They could hold off on the An City market for now. With the food packaging machine, they needed to process their cooked food into small packaged goods to expand their sales channels.

The most important thing next was to open up the market. What they could think of, the food factories would surely also consider, especially with the advent of food packaging machines.

She had already asked Xu Changping earlier; the two food packaging machines were her compensation and also the experimental products of the mechanical factory.

It would take time for a product to be mass-produced, and the earliest it would go to market would be after the New Year.

Lin Chuxia and her team needed to seize this time to capture the market first.

"This afternoon, let's produce a batch of samples first. You see who among Jia Liang and Houzi is willing to run the market with you. They can take the samples out. Anyone who brings in business will get a commission. Oh, and notify Qin Wu and Sun Bingnan as well."

With the impact from the food factory, sales of their cooked food had decreased, and people had more time, which was a good opportunity to get out and run the market.



"Alright, Mr. Lin," Su Wensong nodded and responded, "Under what name should we go out to drum up business? Qin's Cooked Food?"

They needed to have a reason for their approach.

"No, you all use the name Xiyang Food Factory at that time."

Su Wensong's eyes heated up when he heard this, nodding vigorously, "Okay!"

After Su Wensong left the office, Lin Chuxia teased Little Yuanbao, "Xiyang Food, does that sound good?"

Little Yuanbao circled around her arm with his tiny tail wagging ecstatically.

He responded to her with a couple of hums.

Lin Chuxia felt very satisfied and rubbed his head, "I also think it sounds good."

On the other side, after Qin Yang finished his acupuncture treatment, he went to the Bun Shop. He didn't expect Lin Chuxia not to be at the train station.

After asking Sun Lanlan, he learned that in addition to the bun shop in the city, there was also a yard for cooking food. Worried about the two getting separated, he simply decided to wait at the bun shop.

It was dinner time, and the bun shop had quite a few customers. The servers were busy serving buns and collecting money, and Qin Yang wanted to help but didn't know where to start.

Sun Lanlan saw Qin Yang's intent, "You better just honestly wait on the side. If Chuxia comes back and sees me mistreating a patient, she will definitely get angry at me."

Despite saying that, when she got busy, nobody paid him any more attention.

Qin Yang watched for a while and started to get the hang of things, helping out when the shop was busy.

Suddenly there was a new and handsome server in the shop, and people quietly asked Sun Lanlan and Granny Sun about him.

Neither of them hid the truth, "That's Mr. Lin's husband. He's off for the holidays and came to have a look at the bun shop."

"Ah, no wonder they say that birds of a feather flock together. Mr. Lin is so capable, and just one look at Mr. Lin's husband shows he's outstanding too."

From childhood, Qin Yang had never lacked compliments, but he had never found them so pleasant to the ear.

Suddenly, he felt it was quite nice to be busy in the bun shop.

Of course, there are also those who babble without asking and even think they're clever.

Qin Yang looked at the elderly man before him and said lightly, "Granny Sun, you've mistaken me for someone else. I'm not Xiao Su."

If this elderly man had poor eyesight, he didn't even bother to get glasses and mistook him for Xiao Su as soon as he entered.

Smelling the scent of alcohol on him, Qin Yang couldn't tell how much he had drunk.

Grandpa Shi sized up Qin Yang from head to toe again as if he didn't believe him, "If you're not Xiao Su, then who are you? Xiao Cai isn't as tall as you."

Qin Yang was exasperated, Su Wensong wasn't as tall as him either.

Hearing this, Qin Yang knew that the elderly man must be a regular customer of the Bun Shop, and probably a neighbor nearby.

"I'm not Xiao Cai either, I'm Lin's husband."

Grandpa Shi huffed, "You're Lin's husband, doesn't that make you Xiao Su? Trying to fool an old man like me, do you think I'm that gullible?"

Qin Yang widened his eyes in disbelief and argued, "Lin's husband isn't a Su, his surname is Qin. I am Lin's husband, Qin Yang."

"Oh, when did Lin remarry?"

Qin Yang felt a vein on his forehead throb. If it weren't for the fact that the man was elderly and a regular customer of Chuxia's Bun Shop, he would have wanted to kick him out.

"Granny Sun, she didn't remarry. She's always been my wife."

"How did she become your wife? Where's Xiao Su?"

Qin Yang: "..."

Sun Lanlan saw that Qin Yang had a dark face and was about to jump with frustration, she quickly ran over.

"Grandpa Shi, did you come here by yourself again today? Would you like 3 buns as usual?"

Grandpa Shi shifted his attention and nodded with a smile, "Yes, I want 3 buns, and another bowl of porridge."

"Sure, please wait. I'll go get them for you."

Sun Lanlan turned to get the buns and also pulled Qin Yang aside.

Qin Yang was still visibly displeased, pointing at the old man, "Why did he say Chuxia and Su are a couple?"

Sun Lanlan guessed it was about this issue. Seeing Qin Yang nearly explode with anger, she couldn't help but laugh inside.

On the surface, she casually said, "The old man is confused, just babbling on."

"Just babbling on? Is this something you can just babble on about?"

Sun Lanlan innocently spread her hands, "Well, I can't just go and stop his mouth."

After saying that, she went to serve Grandpa Shi with the buns and porridge. The moment she turned around, she couldn't contain her smile.

When Lin Chuxia returned to the Bun Shop, she saw Qin Yang sitting at a corner table looking unhappy, it was clearly visible.

He didn't greet her like he usually did when she came back.

She pulled Sun Lanlan aside, "What's wrong with him?"

The shop wasn't busy at the moment, and Sun Lanlan had seen Qin Yang's demeanor long ago. Covering her stomach laughing, "Chuxia, your man is really something..." She didn't even know how to describe it and said in a low voice trying to suppress her laughter, "Just now, Grandpa Shi came over, and your husband happened to be helping out. Grandpa Shi mistook him for someone else."

Lin Chuxia instantly understood.

Grandpa Shi was Su Wensong's neighbor and had some senile dementia. Because the Bun Shop rented a room from the Su Family, he had always thought she and Su Wensong were a married couple, and no matter how anyone explained it to him, he wouldn't understand.

Besides, it was pointless to argue with a sick person.

She asked Sun Lanlan to get her something to eat and sat down opposite Qin Yang.

Chapter 148: Qin Yang Always Feels There's a Bit of a Rotten Element in Lin Chuxia's Bones

"Haven't eaten yet, right? Let's have lunch first, then you can accompany me to the Bureau of Industry and Commerce."

"Um," Qin Yang responded indifferently.

Lin Chuxia handed him a pair of chopsticks and began eating on her own.

Having been busy all morning, it was already past mealtime, and she was quite hungry.

Qin Yang watched her eat heartily, thinking she must have been held up by something since she only returned now, suppressing his dissatisfaction and joined her for the meal.

After eating, Lin Chuxia didn't linger in the shop and led Qin Yang to the courtyard.

There wasn't much activity in the courtyard, Su Wensong was holding a meeting with some people.

Since some were assigned to handle the market, rearranging the prepared food tasks was necessary.

Seeing Lin Chuxia enter the courtyard, Su Wensong paused the meeting and greeted her.

Lin Chuxia nodded and then stepped aside, revealing Qin Yang behind her, "Good, everyone is here. Let me introduce you, this is my husband, Qin Yang. He doesn't work in An City, so you probably haven't met him before. Today is a good opportunity to get acquainted, and it'll be easier for him to come here in the future."

Qin Yang hadn't expected Lin Chuxia to give such a formal introduction during their meeting.

He quickly adjusted his expression and nodded slightly to those present, "Hello, everyone."

"Hello, Mr. Qin."

"Hello, Mr. Qin!"

"Hello, boss's husband..."

Among all the greetings for Mr. Qin, the term 'boss's husband' stood out significantly, causing everyone unintentionally to look towards the source of the voice.

Hou Xiaobao scratched his head, "Is that not right? If there is a lady boss, there should be a boss's husband."

Qin Yang couldn't help but twitch his mouth again.

Nice, in less than a day's time, he had garnered two titles already: disciple and boss's husband.

He smiled gently, like ice melting, "It's all good, you can call me whatever you like. Thank you all for supporting Chuxia so much. I hope to count on everyone's assistance in future work."

Su Wensong was the first to express his stance.

Ever since Lin Chuxia asked them to market under the name of Xiyang Food, he understood the significant place her husband held in her heart.

Just as he was heading to the office, Little Yuanbao rushed up barking.

It had learned to bark already, guarding Lin Chuxia's office every day. Strangers could enter the courtyard but were strictly prohibited from approaching her office.

"Yuan Bao, stop barking."

Lin Chuxia stopped it and rubbed its little head, pointing at Qin Yang, "This is my husband, the closest person to me. Yuan Bao, remember him well, he is also your male master."

Then turning to Qin Yang, "Qin Yang, come over and pet it. This is the Yuan Bao I mentioned in my letters."

Qin Yang looked at Lin Chuxia with bright eyes and, following her words, squatted down to pet the puppy.

Perhaps understanding Lin Chuxia's introduction, Little Yuanbao was not as guarded as before and wagged its tail while showing its belly for a pet.

Lin Chuxia smiled, "Looks like it's all in the family, carrying the same family aura. Little Yuanbao is very warm to you at first sight. You don't know, it wasn't this friendly to strangers at first. When Jia Liang and Houzi first arrived, it barked at people for several days before warming up."

"Little Yuanbao is very clever," Qin Yang earnestly said.

Lin Chuxia felt the same; perhaps it was because it drank spiritual spring water, Little Yuanbao was sharper than the average puppy.

To make it even smarter, she now gave it some spiritual spring water to drink every day.

Back in the office, she prepared her documents. All of Lin Chuxia's IDs were stored in a special space, which she took out while searching through the drawers.

Registering the company required a trip to the Bureau of Industry and Commerce for registration, a notification at the Public Security Bureau, and since they dealt with food, a trip to the Health Bureau to process the food hygiene license was necessary.

Lin Chuxia was well versed in the procedures, which saved a lot of trouble.

After coming out of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce, Lin Chuxia looked at the company name on the business license with satisfaction and handed it over to Qin Yang, "This is going to be my first company in the future. How about that? Isn't your wife amazing?"

Qin Yang took the business license handed over by Lin Chuxia, thinking he was only asked to accompany her because she was worried he'd be bored at the shop.

He even thought that going to the Bureau was just to handle some minor things, not expecting her to actually apply for a company.

The name Xiyang on the business license stood out especially, he still remembered how Lin Chuxia felt when she mentioned this name.

Xiyang, combining one character from each of their names.

She said this company carried her hopes and also hoped he would be involved, with the character 'Yang' representing his participation, wishing their company could be as passionate and enduring as the summer sun, unstoppable.

Qin Yang looked at her smug little expression and sincerely praised, "Impressive, Lin Chuxia, you are my pride."



Lin Chuxia grinned and leaned in to ask softly, "Do you feel a bit better now?"

Qin Yang's expression stiffened, and he awkwardly averted his gaze.

So she knew everything, that's why she took him to the courtyard and formally introduced him to those employees.

Not to mention the significance of the company's name.

Every little thing she did was to make him feel secure.

Qin Yang suddenly felt ashamed of the nefarious thoughts he had harbored before. His wife was open and honest, indeed it was him who had been petty.

"I won't do it again."

Lin Chuxia held up a finger in front of him and swayed it, "I like seeing you being petty, Qin Yang, you don't know how cute you look when you are jealous."

Calling him cute?

Qin Yang didn't think it was a good word, and didn't believe his wife was complimenting him.

"What's next?"

"Go to the public security bureau for registration," Lin Chuxia patted the tricycle, asking him to get on.

The two had come out riding the tricycle, Qin Yang's arm wasn't convenient, and even though he said he could, Lin Chuxia wouldn't let him ride a bicycle to carry her.

The tricycle was stable and safe, most importantly, Qin Yang couldn't ride it.

With one hand, Qin Yang riding the tricycle didn't go in a straight line, so he had to compromise and let her lead.

Reluctantly, Qin Yang sat on it.

Watching Lin Chuxia hunch over to pedal forward on the tricycle, he, a grown man sitting on the tricycle, always felt the gazes of passersby were probing.

This woman was doing it on purpose, Qin Yang always felt Lin Chuxia had a bit of a mischievous streak, always enjoying watching his blunders.

Ah, what can one do if his own wife has this little hobby? Just pamper her.

A car rushed past face-on, and Lin Chuxia's eyes seemed to stick on it.

"Qin Yang, when I make it big, I'll also buy a car, and then the co-pilot seat will be exclusively yours, how about that?"

Qin Yang watched her making hand gestures as if she was to embark on a great mission, a smile spreading across his lips, "Okay."

This guy, even pedaling a tricycle could pedal with momentum.

Suddenly, Qin Yang no longer felt embarrassed; he sat upright on the tricycle, his voice clear and loud.

"Lin Chuxia, then it's a deal, no one else can sit in your copilot seat when the time comes."

Lin Chuxia turned to look at him.

The sun on the winter afternoon was warm and bright, Qin Yang's smile on his face was warmer and brighter than the sun at that moment...

#### Chapter 149: The Qin Family's Good Fortune

At night, the Qin Family's home was brightly lit, filled with cheerful laughter.

"Let me see, Xiyang Food Company, my good child, is the company bigger than the factory?"

Zhang Guilan took over the business license and exclaimed.

Now they don't have to fear the food factory anymore, they themselves are a food company.

"There are many intricacies here," Qin Han spoke seriously, "Strictly speaking, a company is not necessarily bigger than a factory, it's just a bit more formidable."

"As long as it's more formidable than the factory, that's good enough."

Hadn't the food factory been snatching business from their store these days? Zhang Guilan had already been holding a grudge.

Lin Chuxia smiled and said, "It's not exactly like that; a company and a factory just have different legal statuses, it's not about who's stronger. But now that we've established a food company, expanding our market beyond Ancheng County becomes well-grounded and justified."

Qin Han already knew about this; in the afternoon, he even called Qin Wu over to the small courtyard to discuss it.

Qin Wu, like many, was originally a true farmer and only widened his horizons after working at the Bun Shop.

Working every day at the counter selling cooked food, although the job was easy and the pay was not low, Qin Wu always felt something was missing.

This opportunity to help their company promote products changed him completely, giving him full confidence.

Qin Han was happy for him too. Under his younger sister's influence, everyone started becoming restless with the status quo, all aspiring to achieve something of their own.

Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin were unspeakably delighted; though they didn't understand what a food company represented, they just felt it was impressive.

As parents, nothing was more gratifying than seeing their children become successful.

Dinner was even richer than yesterday's, and Mr. Qin even brought out the sorghum wine Lin Chuxia had brought back earlier.

Qin Yang was somewhat worried when he saw it. "Dad, maybe you shouldn't drink. The alcohol content is not low, be careful of getting sick."

Although the letter mentioned his father was seldom sick now, in Qin Yang's heart, his father was still the frail old man.

But Qin Han cheerfully said, "It's fine, Dad is much healthier now, he can enjoy a couple of drinks once in a while. Today is a happy day, let him drink a little. Second brother, how about you? Can you drink a bit?"

He looked at Qin Yang's injured arm.

"I'm fine," he was also pleased.

"That's great, have a little, younger sister as well."

Qin Han took a glass and poured drinks for them both.

Zhang Guilan also took a glass, "I'll have some too, it's a joyful day."

After speaking, she also asked Mrs. Qin, "Mom, how about you have a little?"

Mrs. Qin smiled and waved her hand, "I can't, it's so spicy, it makes me dizzy after drinking."

Everyone laughed.

Lin Chuxia poured a cup of tea for Mrs. Qin, "Then take tea instead of wine, you must join in the excitement today."

Mrs. Qin's smiling face deepened with wrinkles, "Alright, this is a great celebration for our family."

After pouring the wine, Qin Han raised his glass and proposed, "Let's have a drink for the younger sister's establishment of Xiyang Food Company. From now on, younger sister will be our family's guide. You point east, and your brother and sister-in-law will definitely not go west."

Lin Chuxia stood up in response, "Big brother, sister-in-law, as well as mom and dad, you all are my support pillars. My progress and the support from my family are inseparably linked. Big brother, sister-in-law, mom and dad, I thank you all."

"In our family, we don't speak as if we're outsiders. Chuxia, marrying into the Old Qin Family makes you part of the Qin Family now. It's right for us to take care of you. In fact, having you as part of our family is our fortune. Let's eat and drink."

Mr. Qin took a sip of wine and also was feeling emotional about the changes in the home over the past half a year.

Everyone else also took a sip of wine.

Little Zhuangzhuang, with a tiny cup filled with plain water, went around making toasts, creating a lively and warm atmosphere for the family.

Qin Yang was still attentively looking out for Mr. Qin's health. He noticed that not only was his father drinking without issue, but his appetite had improved as well, and he seemed more spirited and confident in his conversation.

Mothers know best, and Mrs. Qin, sitting next to Qin Yang, reassured him, "Yangyang, don't worry. Your dad is really healthy now. Ever since he started taking medicine prepared by Chuxia, he rarely falls ill. Recently, Chuxia's master even prescribed some herbal medicine to help tune his body. Now, he can't even feel full after eating two bowls of millet bread and even says he feels more energetic than when he was younger."

Qin Yang nodded. He had noticed that his father seemed heavier than before; previously, as he was frail and suffering from constant coughing, his back had even become hunched.

Now, he indeed looked ruddy and healthy, and even his spinal posture had improved.

"That's why we say Chuxia is our family's lucky star. Marrying Chuxia has really brought fortune to our family. Dad used to worry about your marriage constantly. But look at our life now, it's getting sweeter by the day like oil mixed with honey, your father's health has improved, and honestly, I have no other desires now. I'm just hoping that you and Chuxia can add another member to our family soon."

"You're rarely home, so spend some good time with Chuxia this time you're back and try for a baby next year. Also, even when you're not home, always remember Chuxia's good qualities. Don't be ungrateful like those others. If you ever do anything to wrong Chuxia, you won't be welcome in this family anymore."

Qin Yang: "..."

Although he would never mistreat his wife, his mom's tone was a bit...

He's a bona fide member of the Qin Family, isn't he?

"Mom, I understand, don't worry, I won't."

While his mother might be a bit partial, being partial towards his wife, Qin Yang was quite happy to see it.

Everyone was working tomorrow morning. After dinner, they all went back to their rooms to rest.

As soon as Lin Chuxia entered the room, she smelled a strong, sweet scent of sweet potatoes.

"Did you bake sweet potatoes?"

Qin Yang had already walked over to the stove and, using a cloth as a coaster, lifted the upside-down copper pot revealing two well-baked, oozing sweet potatoes.

"This morning I saw you liked it, so I baked two just now. Want one? I noticed you mostly ate vegetables at dinner."

Lin Chuxia showed him a big smile, "Qin Yang, how are you so good? You're like a mind reader."

She indeed hadn't eaten enough not because of awkwardness but because she had spent the afternoon running between the Bureau of Industry and Commerce and the Public Security Bureau. The tedious procedures made her feel a bit dizzy, and there were mostly meat dishes at dinner, which she didn't have much appetite for.

Now, the smell of the sweet potatoes made her crave them deeply.

She reached out to grab one, but a large hand swiftly grabbed it first.

"It's hot, let me."

Qin Yang picked up the sweet potato with his uninjured hand and transferred it to his injured hand, which, despite being in a sling, did not affect his grip.

He then slowly peeled the sweet potato, revealing the soft, sweet flesh inside, and transferred it back to his good hand before bringing it to Lin Chuxia's lips.

Lin Chuxia bit into it from his hand, enjoying the soft, sweet taste, and said with a smile, "Aren't we being a bit too sappy? I'm perfectly capable, yet acting as if I can't fend for myself."

Qin Yang fed her another bite, "What if I say I like taking care of you like this? Lin Chuxia, you don't have to be so tough when you're with me."

Chapter 150: Lin Chuxia, You Are Also My Pride!

You don't need to cover every base, don't need to tend to every tiny detail, don't need to think three steps ahead for every single step you take.

You can show your most tender and vulnerable side, he is her husband, her man.

All those words in the letters from before are nowhere near as real as today, after running around with her for half a day, he knows how hard she has it.

"Wife, actually my salary is enough to support you, even if it's not, I can work harder. Anyway, you don't have to work so hard."

Lin Chuxia finished half of a sweet potato, then grasped his hand and started peeling the sweet potato for him, speaking casually.

"Qin Yang, I enjoy doing these things. People live their lives chasing many things, it's meaningful only if you leave something behind. Even though I can't contribute to the people like you do, I still want to live my life my way."

She raised her eyes to look into his.



"Qin Yang, you just focus on doing a good job. In my heart, what you do is something I can never compare to, you are my pride."

Qin Yang, looking at her admiring gaze, knew his wife wasn't deceiving him.

He chuckled softly, kissing her tender, red lips.

Lin Chuxia stuttered in resistance, "Don't kiss, I still want to eat my sweet potato."

"I want to taste if it's sweet or not, this sweet potato must be smeared with honey, otherwise how could it be so sweet-talking."

Lin Chuxia: "..."

Who's sweet-talking you!

Yet she heard a gentle sigh next to her ear, "Lin Chuxia, you are my pride as well!"

...

On the pathway of the county hospital, a man and a woman walked by.

Lin Jiayi held her waist, pushing out the still inconspicuous belly.

Li Guangyuan, standing beside her, was still fretting over the medical costs they had just spent. Hearing Lin Jiayi wanting to go to the city for a stroll, he cautiously advised, "If you're not feeling well, we should go back early. Once home, you can take a good rest."

"Forget it, with your mom and sister at home, how can I rest well?"

Lin Jiayi, having cohabited with Li Guangyuan for so long, also noticed how stingy this man could be. She figured he must be worrying about the money spent right now.

However, she doesn't see it as a big issue, knowing well that the richer people are, the more frugal they tend to be. Li Guangyuan had been wealthy in his previous life, and his frugality might well have something to do with it.

But right now, they hardly had much money, and it wasn't okay for him to be stingy with her.

"Li Guangyuan, you don't need to fret over the medical expenses. If your sister hadn't upset me, would I have become so agitated that it affected the baby? Later on, you'll accompany me to the shops to buy some things I like, maybe I'll feel better once my anger subsides."

Li Guangyuan felt exposed and couldn't quite save his face, "It's not that I care about the money, I just worry about you."

"Worry about me?" Lin Jiayi let out a cold laugh, "If you truly care for me, then do as I say. Get Li Hongmei's wedding sorted out before the New Year, marry her off early, and the house would be more peaceful. Not to say anything about your siblings, but Li Guangyuan, just look at other families. Don't little sisters at least help with cooking or feeding the chickens if they're not working in the fields? Your family is raising two young ladies, I'd believe it if you said you're not your mother's biological child."

Li Guangyuan found it hard to argue against that. Since he was little, he had been the only man in the family and was used to working in the fields, never expecting his sisters to help out.

But as Lin Jiayi kept pointing it out, he too began to notice how his mother did indeed favor his two sisters.

"Mother seems to want to wait a bit longer."

"What are you looking at? Don't they trust me, you don't either? That's a really good household; you've seen it yourself last time. Let alone being a millionaire, just having so many pigs at home means they're living much better than average folks. I'm telling you, if it weren't for the matchmaker being on good

terms with us, with you all hesitating back and forth, they would've moved on to meet other prospects. Miss this opportunity, and there won't be another shop like it."

"Hongmei always wanted to marry someone from the city."

"Someone from the city?" Lin Jiayi laughed as if she heard the biggest joke, "Let me tell you, Li Guangyuan, your sister must be dreaming even during the day, and you aren't being foolish too, right? What status does she have? She has no job, no education, lazy and gluttonous—who from the city would want her?"

She hasn't married someone from the city, why should they enjoy that luxury?

She's no Lin Chuxia, Li Hongmei still thinking about marrying someone from the city? Maybe in her next life.

Li Guangyuan was left speechless and dumbfounded; he too thought his sister's ideas were wildly unrealistic.

"I'll talk to mom about it when we get back."

"You tell your mom, marrying Ma Dazhuang, not only will they provide a dowry for Hongmei, but we can also give some betrothal gifts; all of this will be Hongmei's backbone. If she marries someone from the city, we won't be able to give even a penny of dowry, nor can we afford a decent betrothal gift. Marrying over there, she'd just have to live at the mercy of others. Let your mom think it over, which life would be better. I think she'll understand this reasoning."

Li Guangyuan felt his wife's words made sense and nodded repeatedly, "Alright, I'll talk to mom when I get back."

Upon hearing the satisfactory response, Lin Jiayi finally smiled, "Guang Yuan, your son said he's hungry, and he wants meat buns, specifically from Qin's. Take me there, will you?"

Last time those two shameless people stole their money to come to the city, buying clothes and eating meat buns; heard they got them from Qin's Steamed Bun.

The few meat buns they brought back were divided up and eaten by that mother and daughters; not a single one was left for her, she only got the smell of them.

This time she's going to eat several more and bring some back to let them smell it.

The two arrived at Qin's Bun Shop and saw a long queue at the entrance, with people constantly coming and going inside. Lin Jiayi said to Li Guangyuan, "No wonder everyone says if you want meat buns, go to Qin's. Look at all these people; they must be delicious. Guang Yuan, buy a few extra when it's our turn."

Li Guangyuan hadn't expected so many people; his thoughts differed from Lin Jiayi's.

Lin Jiayi had been urging him to find a business, and he did concentrate on that for a while, but being unfamiliar with everything, he gave up on the idea.

Now seeing the bustling hall, his first thought was how much money they must be making.

"Jiayi, do you think we could make money selling meat buns?"

Lin Jiayi's eyes also lit up, "Right, with so many people, think about how many buns they sell and how much money they make in a day. We should open our own bun shop too, make a fortune."

Li Guangyuan shook his head when he heard her, "We're just dreaming; you can't even cook, who would buy meat buns made by you?"

A bucket of cold water poured down, but Lin Jiayi didn't give up, "If I can't cook, can't you learn?"

Li Guangyuan thought to himself, isn't cooking a woman's job?

Yet he chose not to argue with her at that moment, "Let's eat first."

"Right, let's taste it first. Maybe it's not that hard to make."

When Li Guangyuan brought over the purchased meat buns, Lin Jiayi stopped talking.

These buns were just too well-made, each shaped like a flower; she nearly couldn't bear to eat them.

She hadn't even taken a bite and could already smell the rich meat scent. Taking a bite, the savory and juicy taste was completely different from any meat bun she'd tried before.

"Speaking of which, my sister Chuxia makes pretty tasty meat buns too, but they don't have this flavor, I have no idea how they make them."

Lin Chuxia's cooking skills were indeed quite good.