

Switched M 151

Chapter 151: My Sister-in-law's Cooking is Delicious

"People just can't help but talk about making money – even if other families sell pork buns too, they don't have the same flavor as Qin's, and their businesses can't be as good."

Li Guangyuan took a small bite of a pork bun, the taste of meat filling his mouth, and he gave up any hope.

No matter what they did, they couldn't make pork buns like these. Maybe he was just meant to sell vegetables for the rest of his life.

Distracted, he responded to Lin Jiayi's remarks, "Auntie does make tasty food."

Immediately, alarm bells went off for Lin Jiayi. Forsaking the pork bun, she glared at him and demanded, "When did you eat her cooking? Have you been secretly meeting her?"

Li Guangyuan looked utterly baffled, "Why would I secretly meet her? Didn't auntie cook two dishes during the homecoming banquet?"

Hearing this, Lin Jiayi's anxiety abated slightly, but she still scorned, "You still remember something from the homecoming banquet? Li Guangyuan, I'd advise you to get rid of any inappropriate thoughts. My sister wouldn't spare you a glance, otherwise, she wouldn't have called off the marriage."

Li Guangyuan knew her old issue was flaring up again, "What are you babbling about? How could I have any designs on her? You're the one I married."

Their voices weren't loud but had caught the attention of Zhang Guilan, who's expression subtly shifted.

She went straight to the front counter to find Qin Han, lifting her chin slightly, "Is that the elder sister of your sister-in-law?"

The two had visited the Lin Family when the arrangements for marrying Chuxia were settled. Probably because of the broken engagement, that elder sister wasn't present at the time, only seen briefly when leaving due to the arrival of the Li Family.

Qin Han looked over, "Indeed, it is. Is my sister-in-law at the health bureau today?"

"Mm-hmm, I heard she also has to apply for some certificate; not sure when she'll be back."

Both understood Chuxia didn't want the Lin Family to know about her business dealings.

Without her mentioning it, the fact that she only had one friend at home during the wedding, given the marriage swap fiasco, one could guess the attitude of Lin Chuxia's parents towards her.

Nowadays, it's pretty common for parents to favor one child over another when there are many children. But to play favorites to such an extent was indeed rare.

Before the marriage swap, they demanded 100 yuan as a bride price from the Qin Family. Once the second daughter was involved, the ask suddenly jumped to 300 yuan. What was the difference between that and selling their daughter?

"People are coming. I'll have Chunhua bring them some things and hide in the back kitchen," better safe than sorry.

Qin Han felt the same way.

Seeing that Li Guangyuan had only bought 5 buns, Lin Jiayi muttered in dissatisfaction, "I'm not even full yet. I was thinking of eating two more on the way, and you only bought 5 – how is that enough?"

"You'll have two on your way, and there will still be three left."

Li Guangyuan placated her, his heart bleeding at the thought.

At ten cents a bun, she had just devoured six while he'd only had two. Now they were buying another five, and that was more than a yuan in total – nearly enough to buy two jin (pounds) of meat.

Two jin of meat would have been enough to feed the whole family.

"Three won't be enough – you know how much your son eats. I don't care, buy another 5; I'm not eating dinner with your mother and them."

Even though she felt like showing those women, Lin Jiayi knew that if she brought home pork buns, those people surely wouldn't just watch.

Especially those two shameless sisters-in-law who always found ways to take advantage of her.

And Li Guangyuan's mother was even worse, a real shrew who'd lose all face over some petty things.

Worn down by her nagging and not wanting to lose face in public, Li Guangyuan had no choice but to cough up the money for another five buns.

Chen Chunhua took the money, packed up the buns, and handed them over, then saw the woman who had entered.

A smile instantly crossed her face, "Mr. Lin."

Lin Jiayi saw that the waiter who had been indifferent to them just now suddenly changed her face. Hearing her address, she knew for sure that the owner of the Bun Shop had arrived.

Turning her head to look, she couldn't help but widen her eyes in surprise, "Lin Chuxia?"

Lin Chuxia? Mr. Lin?

"Is this Bun Shop yours?"

Lin Chuxia didn't expect to see Lin Jiayi here and just replied indifferently, "Big sister thinks I can open such a big Bun Shop?"

Of course, she can.

Lin Jiayi almost didn't need to think before such an idea popped up.

In her previous life, having done such big business with Li Guangyuan, she must have learned a thing or two.

But on second thought, that was her past life, and in this life, even Li Guangyuan was still a vegetable seller. How could she open a shop?

"But she called you Mr. Lin."

It couldn't be that she heard wrong, could it?

Taking another look at Lin Chuxia, dressed in a long black cotton coat, wrapped in a light grey cashmere scarf, her face already fair became more refined and radiant, hair tied up in a high ponytail, even wearing a pair of mid-heeled leather boots on her feet.

By contrast, she wore a coarse cotton-padded jacket with floral patterns, which was made for her by her mother before she got married. She had planned to make a new cotton-padded jacket before winter came, but either the fabric got stolen or the money did, and she still hadn't managed to make a new one, so she could only wear the old one.

On her feet were a pair of old cotton shoes she made herself.

The checkered floral headscarf on her head looked utterly rustic compared to Lin Chuxia's cashmere scarf.

Not to mention her skin, weather-beaten and now spotted due to pregnancy.

The Lin Chuxia before her almost overlapped with the Lin Chuxia she remembered from her past life.

Her heart suddenly skipped a few beats, giving her an inexplicable sense of panic.

At this moment, Qin Han came out from the back, speaking casually, "Little sister-in-law, you're back. It so happens that your sister-in-law is looking for you for something."

Lin Jiayi was once again astonished, "Qin Han?"

Qin Han seemed to notice Lin Jiayi just then, "Is this little sister-in-law's sister? I'm sorry, there was some issue in the kitchen just now, I didn't notice family had come. Have you had your meal? If not, I'll waive your bill for today."

Li Guangyuan didn't know Qin Han, but hearing Lin Jiayi mentioning his name, he guessed it must be a relative on Lin Chuxia's husband's side, and politely responded, "We've already eaten, just about to leave."

He didn't know why Lin Jiayi had such a big reaction, although he too was surprised that the Qin Family owned a Bun Shop. But upon further thought, Qin's Buns Shop had to be owned by someone with the surname Qin.

"Jiayi, it's getting late, let's go."

Lin Jiayi shook off Li Guangyuan and grabbed Lin Chuxia's arm, insisting, "Is this Bun Shop yours?"

Lin Chuxia looked back, seeing the madness in her eyes, and replied indifferently, "Big sister, this is Qin's Buns Shop."

Then looking towards Li Guangyuan, "Brother-in-law, what's with big sister? Is she being mistreated at home? She seems in a bad mood."

Li Guangyuan didn't know why Lin Jiayi was reacting so strongly, and apologetically spoke, "Your sister is pregnant, and she has been feeling unwell these past few days, her mood isn't very good."

"Pregnant?" Lin Chuxia glanced at Lin Jiayi's abdomen and smiled slightly, "Then brother-in-law, you have to take good care of big sister."

"I will," Li Guangyuan said, not sure why, but he felt uneasy under Lin Chuxia's gaze.

Without saying anything more, he pulled Lin Jiayi away and left the Bun Shop.

Chapter 152 I'll Find a Way

Zhang Guilan had also emerged from the back kitchen, frowning slightly and whispering to Lin Chuxia, "What's going on with your elder sister? She isn't going to cause you trouble again, is she?"

Lin Chuxia withdrew her gaze, "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it," Lin Jiayi knowing made it likely that the Lin Family wouldn't be far behind.

But it was bound to happen sooner or later, Lin Chuxia didn't take it to heart.

What she didn't expect was that Lin Jiayi would get pregnant so quickly.

In her past life, Lin Jiayi and Qin Yang also didn't have children of their own, and Li Guangyuan remained childless.

When she died, his illegitimate child was also about to be born.

Meanwhile, as Lin Jiayi left the house, her face twisted with a vicious expression, her eyes full of resentment and unwillingness.

Why should she have to count every bun she eats, while that little wretch Lin Chuxia owns the entire Bun Shop?

Li Guangyuan was so frightened by her gaze that he wished he could stay far away.

"Jiayi, I think whether it's your younger sister's shop or the Qin Family's shop, it's a good thing..."
Perhaps they could benefit from it as well.

But before he could finish his sentence, Lin Jiayi sharply turned her head, "What's good about it? Everyone else is making money, and you're still a pauper, Li Guangyuan, what face do you have to say such things?"

Not to mention, it was Lin Chuxia.

The mere thought of their envy for the Bun Shop's owner just moments ago made Lin Jiayi feel a burning shame on her face, as though she had been slapped.

The moment Lin Chuxia stood in front of her, radiant and striking, she felt an unspeakable humiliation.

She had lived with this shame all her life, and now that she was reborn, was it going to cling to her like maggots and disgust her?

"Take me back to my parents' house," she had to get to the bottom of it.

Lin Jiayi sat on the back of the bicycle, calming her thoughts, her lower abdomen gave a slight twinge, and she gently stroked it.

She also felt that she had spoken too harshly to Li Guangyuan earlier, "I'm sorry, Guang Yuan, I was just impatient."

Li Guangyuan's back stiffened, and he smiled awkwardly, "It's okay, I understand."

"Guang Yuan, I know you're capable, you can certainly provide a good life for me, right?"

Li Guangyuan's smile became somewhat stiff, but Lin Jiayi sitting behind him couldn't see it.

"Jiayi, I'll work hard."

Only then did Lin Jiayi feel satisfied, her fingers gently caressing her lower abdomen.

What's so great about opening a Bun Shop? In the future, Li Guangyuan is going to do big business.

As for Lin Chuxia, she could only guard her Bun Shop alone.

Especially since Qin Yang couldn't even return home once a year, Lin Chuxia could only dream about having her own child.

On this point, she would always be unbeatable.

...

Lin Chuxia came home in the evening. Today Qin Yang didn't need to go to Old He for treatment, so she didn't have Qin Yang accompany her on errands.

Mr. and Mrs. Qin had not seen their son for half a year, and he should stay home to spend time with his parents.

When she arrived home, Qin Yang was playing games with Little Zhuangzhuang in the yard.

The two of them each held several bent willow rings, trying to hook them over distant empty bottles.

No matter how far, Qin Yang landed every shot, and each time he scored a hit, Little Zhuangzhuang would giggle nonstop, clapping his hands as if they didn't hurt at all.

It was clear that Little Zhuangzhuang really liked this little uncle; whenever Qin Yang was home, he would stick to him like a little tail.

And Qin Yang was very patient, no matter what Little Zhuangzhuang asked for, as long as it wasn't unreasonable, he would fulfill it.

Seeing Lin Chuxia return, Mrs. Qin smiled lovingly, "You see how much Yangyang loves children, when you two have your own, Yangyang will definitely be a good father."

Lin Chuxia had already become immune to Mrs. Qin's insistent prodding for grandchildren, and joined Mrs. Qin in praising Qin Yang.

"He's patient and smart; children like people like that. If he had his own children, they'd surely idolize their father."

Mrs. Qin glanced at Lin Chuxia and for some reason, she always felt that Chuxia's smile was even more tender than her own.

After dinner, Lin Chuxia returned to her room.

When Qin Yang walked into the room, he saw Lin Chuxia seated at the desk, her head bowed as she wrote something.

"Tomorrow I'll buy a lamp to bring back, the light here is too dim, it's bad for the eyes."

Qin Yang walked over and shifted the table slightly, so that she could write under better lighting.

Lin Chuxia rubbed her sore neck, "I'm just occasionally dealing with work at home, but you should take a look too when you have the time; I still prefer to write letters at home."

She smiled, her eyes curving into crescents.

The thought of her leaning over in the lamplight, writing letters to him, also filled Qin Yang's eyes with warmth.

He liked to write letters to his wife in the silence of the late night too, as it felt as though their hearts drew closer in the quiet night, even if they couldn't see each other.

"Alright, I will go tomorrow."

He stood behind Lin Chuxia, looking over her shoulder at what she was writing—a page filled not just with words but also diagrams.

"What's this?"

"Umm... consider it a work plan," she passed it to him to see, "Su Wensong and the others went out on a task today. If it goes well, the current processing site near the small courtyard will be insufficient. It would be best to find a larger courtyard for processing, or even better, to have our own factory if we find land for it. Furthermore, we are seriously short on workers, and it's difficult to hire around the Spring Festival..."

It would be frustrating if those people brought back orders that they couldn't fulfill.

Such worries!

Qin Yang stepped forward to smooth the frown lines between her brows, "Since I'm free these next few days at home, I'll help you make some rounds."

"Do you have a solution?"

She was just casually discussing it with him.

"I'm not sure yet, I'll go talk to the village chief tomorrow."

Lin Chuxia's eyes suddenly brightened.

Right, she now belonged to Qin Family Village, a city village with a strategic location—it would be a waste not to make good use of it.

"I want a big courtyard, or a large piece of land, not to lease, but to buy, land that belongs to me."

Qin Yang looked into her gleaming eyes and smiled indulgently, "Okay, I'll figure something out."

It was rare for his wife to ask him for help.

Lin Chuxia folded the paper, "Mr. Qin Yang, I'll be waiting to hear your good news."

Although she wasn't sure if it would be possible, Qin Yang had certainly opened up her thinking.

If it didn't work, she would find another solution. After all, Qin Family Village was a great place.

So delightful!

At night, Qin Yang felt that tonight's little woman was especially passionate.

His voice in the darkness was husky, "Wife, you seem a bit different today."

"Hmm?"

Her enchanting voice uttered only one word, soft enough to set the blood boiling.

"Is it because you think I'm going to drain you?"

With a provocative tone, Qin Yang couldn't help but quicken his movements as he leaned in close to whisper in her ear, "Shall we try and see if you can really drain me?"

A soft chuckle escaped from the corner of his lips, "But that's not quite how you 'drain'..."

With delicate and tender arms around his neck, Lin Chuxia used the moment of his daze to switch their positions.

In the dim moonlight of the night, the little woman smiled seductively, soft and tender, like a mill grinding beans, as if to crush and grind his bones to mush...

Qin Yang finally understood the phrase his brothers always said—he truly was with a vexing little temptress...

Chapter 153: Clearly, All of This Should Have Been the Eldest Daughter's

Mother Lin didn't keep Lin Chuxia waiting for too long, and came to find her the next day.

Coincidentally, Lin Chuxia was at the shop.

Seeing her own little daughter, whom she looked down upon, looking bright and striking busy working at the Bun Shop, as her elder daughter had described, Mother Lin felt her eyes turning red with resentment.

"I'm asking you, have you no shame? Coming here to make a scene at the Qin Family's Bun Shop, aren't you embarrassed?"

Qin Han, who was nearby, heard Mother Lin's scolding and his face darkened instantly.

"Madam Lin, since Chuxia has married into the Qin Family, she is a member of the Qin Family, and whatever she says in the Bun Shop is her right. Your words just now were too much."

Storming in and accusing his own daughter of being shameless without even asking, Qin Han knew that Lin Chuxia was not favored in the Lin Family, but he had never seen such mistreatment of one's daughter.

It further confirmed his suspicion that it was their elder daughter who had manipulated the marriage swap.

He was also thankful for her trickery that resulted in the swap because having seen the Lin Family's elder daughter yesterday, she wasn't any good either; it was a relief that his brother had not married her.

Mother Lin was just too angry seeing Lin Chuxia.

She had thought, like her elder daughter had said, that marrying into the Qin Family would mean living a life of loneliness, but instead Lin Chuxia was living with dignity, while her elder daughter was struggling to make ends meet, also tormented by her mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

This was the marriage she had carefully chosen for her elder daughter, and yet it had benefited...

She was just too angry, which made her speak without restraint.

Now, hearing Qin Han's words, she regained some sense of reason.

"It's not that I wanted to scold her, but I know my own daughter's character the best. I am just worried that she might mess things up, causing trouble for you."

"Chuxia is doing very well, our whole family likes her. Not to mention making a mess of things, even if she were to run the Bun Shop into the ground, we would be happy to support her, we are family through thick and thin."

Mother Lin was so taken aback by his words that her face turned unsightly.

She was not stupid, she could tell that Qin Han was mocking her for not treating Lin Chuxia as part of the family.

Not wanting to argue with him any further, she dragged Lin Chuxia aside.

"What's going on with you? Seeing your own mother getting picked on and not even speaking up for me, have your wings grown strong enough to not see me fit in your eyes? Don't forget where your good days came from, your sister married that poor Li Guangyuan so you could marry into the Qin Family and have a good life..."

"Mom, there are no outsiders here, you are well aware of what actually happened before, and so am I. Why must you twist the truth?"

Lin Chuxia interrupted Mother Lin, her clear eyes as if they could see through everything.

"No matter what was said at that time, your good days now are thanks to your elder sister..."

"Then what does Mom want to do? Find another matchmaker and talk to the Qin Family and the Li Family to switch us back again?"

Mother Lin certainly wished to switch things back, but she also knew it was impossible.

"What nonsensical things are you saying? Your sister is already pregnant with Li Guangyuan's child, how can we switch back? I am just saying that you need to be grateful and remember the sacrifices your sister made for you."

Facing Lin Chuxia's gaze, Mother Lin knew that she probably couldn't manipulate this daughter with those words anymore and changed the subject.

"Regardless, you are the child I worked hard to raise, and your sister shares the same mother as you; now that you're living a good life, you can't just watch your family suffer. Your little brother wanted to buy a bicycle a few days ago, and your elder sister needs more nutritious food now that she's pregnant; you should start with giving 300 yuan."

Seeing her mother's entitled demeanor, Lin Chuxia sneered internally, it was all the same as in her previous life.

In her past life, she was mindful of kinship and had been PUAed (manipulated) by her mother since childhood. She never dared to retort whatever her mother said and was thus controlled for years.

They gave various reasons to ask her for money, and in the end, they didn't even bother to concoct excuses.

And yet, her foolish dedication still led to her being abandoned by everyone in the end.

This life, she would not give them any more money; the debt of being raised and nurtured had been paid off in full in her lifetime.

"No," she answered crisply.

Mother Lin was still holding out her hand, waiting for her to hand over the money, and upon hearing her words, couldn't believe her eyes, "You don't have it? Who are you trying to fool? You can't come up with 300 yuan in such a big shop?"

"This is the Qin Family's bun shop, I'm just here helping out. Do you think a new daughter-in-law like me is in charge of the Qin Family's money?"

Mother Lin actually believed that. If it were her family that owned such a large storefront, she would definitely not let the daughter-in-law handle the money. Even her son wouldn't have a say; she, the head of the household, would be the one in control.

"Even if you're not in charge of the money, you should have some money, right? How much did you spend on these clothes and accessories you're wearing? And you say you're not heartless, caring only about yourself and your fits, without a thought for the difficult life your parents are living?"

Thinking of her eldest daughter's tattered clothes, Mother Lin wished she could strip Lin Chuxia of her garments to give to her older daughter.

All these should have been the eldest daughter's.

Lin Chuxia ignored Mother Lin's gaze and said indifferently, "These were all bought by Qin Yang. Qin Yang works and earns a salary. He wants his wife to wear better clothes, and there's nothing wrong with that, is there?"

Since it was her son-in-law who bought these things, she had no room to argue, but Mother Lin just couldn't let it go.

"I don't care, you have to find a way to get this money for me. I know you can come up with it. Speaking of which, when you got married, our family lost 300 yuan. Did you take it? I won't delve into that now, but if you give me another 300 yuan, I will treat you well when you come back to your maternal home. Otherwise, I will disown you as my daughter..."

Mother Lin knew Lin Chuxia's temperament too well. When she was young and disobedient, she just had to threaten to send her away or sell her, and the child would obediently do whatever she said.

There's an old saying, a son never despises his mother's ugliness, a dog never despises its home's poverty. From the time Lin Chuxia could remember, Mother Lin preached constantly in her ear that the family already had one daughter, and she, as another daughter, was nothing but a burden to the family, an expendable presence.

The more she was told this, the more she feared being unwanted by her family, willing to do any task and listen to everything said.

Even now that she was married, Mother Lin didn't believe she could truly stop caring about her maternal home.

Lin Chuxia sneered inside but before she could speak, a deep voice came from behind her.

"Mother-in-law, do you really think Chuxia can't leave her maternal home, or do you think the Qin Family is easy to bully, or perhaps you think I, Qin Yang, am a pushover?"

The voice was deep and carried a chill, causing Mother Lin to shudder uncontrollably, and she turned to see Qin Yang not far away.

Qin Yang walked leisurely to Lin Chuxia's side, shielding her behind him, "Mother-in-law, do you have something you need from Chuxia? Feel free to talk to me about it."

Mother Lin could bully her daughter and naturally ask her for money, but facing this son-in-law, she always felt a chill down her spine.

Mother Lin was somewhat snobbish; when the matchmaker first talked about Qin Yang, a university graduate and a formidable designer, she took a high view of him in her heart.

Later on, when Qin Yang married her younger daughter, no matter how much she looked down on this daughter, she was always all smiles and somewhat obsequious in front of her son-in-law.

Now being questioned by him, Mother Lin instinctively wanted to flee, but seeing Qin Yang, equally polished and stylish, that unwillingness in her heart surged forth again.

How many times stronger was this man than Li Guangyuan? How could her eldest daughter have been blind enough to reject Qin Yang and choose to marry Li Guangyuan instead.

All of this should have been the eldest daughter's.

With resentful eyes, she glanced at Lin Chuxia, "She is my daughter, what's wrong with showing filial piety to the family? Not just her, even you, as a son-in-law, should show us filial reverence..."

"Really? Then, mother-in-law, explain what's this 300 yuan business

Chapter 154: Is There a Reward?

"You should ask her about that. When we got married, the Qin Family gave a dowry of 300 yuan, which then disappeared. There are so few people in the family; if she didn't take it, who did? I asked her for money because I wanted to get our family's money back."

"Our family's money?" Qin Yang sneered, "Wasn't that Xiaxia's dowry? I just heard that if Xiaxia didn't bring the money, the Lin Family wouldn't recognize her as their daughter..."

"I... I was just speaking casually, we are all family, even if the bones are broken, the tendons are still connected," she couldn't really disown her daughter.

With such a large Bun Shop like the Qin Family has, and being so prosperous, cutting off relations would just be to their advantage, wouldn't it?

"Just speaking casually?" Qin Yang said with a stern face, "I advise my mother-in-law to think carefully before speaking, and not to use filial piety to pressure others. I'm not buying that. If you want someone to be filial, first look at what you yourself have done. Accusing my wife of stealing money— if she gives you the money, wouldn't it confirm that she indeed took it?"

"I..."

"Mother-in-Law, don't say anything else. If you're just here to see Xiaxia, we welcome you. She'll be well taken care of with good food and drink at the Bun Shop. But if it's for anything else, please leave."

Seeing Qin Yang's firm stance, Mother Lin turned to look at Lin Chuxia, "You ungrateful girl, your wings are hardened? I am your mother, look at how he's treating me."

"Qin Yang's attitude is my attitude," Lin Chuxia said, she might have said something even harsher if Qin Yang hadn't been there.

"Fine... Fine, don't you regret it... Without your family's support, if one day you're bullied to death by your in-laws, don't come crying back to your family."

"Don't worry, Mom. Even if I'm bullied to death, I won't come back to the family home crying."

What's the use of going back home? In her last life, she went back to the Lin Family, only to be driven out again, adding another layer of heartache.

Mother Lin saw that she was not persuadable and left in a huff.

Qin Yang put his large hand on Lin Chuxia's shoulder, "Don't worry, I won't let you be bullied, and neither will the family."

Of course, Lin Chuxia knew that. The Qin Family cherished her too much to ever bully her.

Seeing Qin Yang's deep eyes, she suddenly felt guilty.

Although Qin Yang firmly took her side, when she thought about it carefully, she knew where the capital for her business had come from.

"That..."

She wanted to explain something, but Qin Yang spoke first, "I believe you."

He believed that she had her reasons for everything she did.

He vividly remembered their wedding situation, when the entire Lin Family had only one friend to accompany her, the bride, not to mention the last-minute change of the groom.

Knowing that his wife's circumstances at her family home might not have been good, he had never imagined it was this bad.

To think that such words came from her own mother, Qin Yang couldn't help feeling heartache.

How she had survived those twenty years at home.

"I never heard you talk about it before, I thought you had a good relationship with them."

Lin Chuxia stuffed her hands into her pockets, feeling somewhat uncomfortable under his unconditionally trusting gaze and eyes.

"There's nothing worth mentioning. I don't want to waste my energy on some people and things."

She wasn't afraid of the Lin Family, she just didn't want to bother.

One's energy is limited; she was busy with business every day, which consumed a lot of her physical and mental energy.

The Lin Family wasn't worth her extra emotional labor.

She had always believed that energy is conserved. If you expend too much energy on too many people, you won't have time to deeply reflect on your own life.

Maintain your own Qi and spirit, and refuse to deal with worthless people and issues.

When your spirit isn't overly consumed, your efficiency in doing things and your luck in achieving success will increase.

This was also a lesson she learned from her past life.

Seeing that she indeed wasn't affected, Qin Yang finally relaxed.

"If anyone from the Lin Family comes again, I'll take care of it for you. If I'm not around, I'll have my elder brother help you."

Lin Chuxia cracked a smile, "It's not so exaggerated, I can handle it myself."

She was no longer that ignorant little girl who did whatever her mother said.

When you're in the game, it's easy to be confused, but if you step back and look at the problem, you can solve anything.

Qin Yang was still worried, "Anyway, I won't let anyone bully you, not even your family."

"Okay."

Lin Chuxia didn't want to talk about the Lin Family anymore and changed the subject.

"How did you get here? Did you go to see your master?"

He now goes every other day to Old Sir He for acupuncture treatment.

"I'll go later, let's head to a place first."

Lin Chuxia followed Qin Yang to Qin Family Village, thinking he was taking her home, but instead, they turned a corner to the southern part of the village and stopped in front of a vacant lot.

Qin Yang pointed at the vacant land ahead, "This used to be the collective livestock shed. Our village are vegetable farmers, and we used to keep a lot of livestock for transporting the produce. After the land was divided among individuals, the livestock were also split up, leaving this patch empty. What do you think?"

Lin Chuxia was still bewildered, "What do you mean, 'what do I think'?"

"Don't you want a plot of land? Is this big enough for you? Plus, there's the strip in front of it, used to be for foraging, to grow alfalfa for the livestock, that's included too."

Lin Chuxia finally caught on, but... she only mentioned it to him yesterday, and he sorted it out so quickly?

No wonder he left early in the morning.

She looked again at the vacant land ahead, not just a brief glance this time. She observed the location, the size, every inch and every foot, the more she looked, the more her eyes brimmed with unstoppable surprise.

"It's so big, how much land is there?"

"About seven or eight acres, we'll measure it later."

This number really startled Lin Chuxia.

She wanted a big plot, but she only meant a slightly larger area, not this big.

"How did you convince the villagers to give me such a big piece of land?"

To be honest, her words yesterday were half true, half false, she just wanted to act spoiled with Qin Yang.

Usually, she's been handling everything on her own, so when someone is willing to share the burden, it's hard not to show a vulnerable side.

She didn't expect him to accomplish it so quickly.

"Aren't you short on people? I promised the village to give them at least 20 workers' positions, but we set the criteria for selection. The village chief agreed to give me the land after hearing this."

Truly a college graduate, such a keen mind.

What's most attractive to farmers, of course, is earning a wage as workers.

20 positions, enough to persuade the village chief and the Secretary to convince the villagers to give up the land.

And building the factory in their own village, hiring local people, is also a great achievement for the village cadres.

"Besides, the village also wants to set up a chicken farm. The village chief discussed with me that when the time comes, could they be considered first as a supplier, which I also agreed to. Moreover, they are short on funds to build the chicken farm in the village, so the chief asked if they could sell the land to us, 1000 yuan per mu. I found the price unreasonable since there were no fixtures on the land, so I offered them 800 yuan per mu instead."

Lin Chuxia was almost speechless, "Qin Yang, how are you so capable?"

Not only did he solve the land issue for them, but also the worker and supplier issues.

If they weren't outside, Lin Chuxia would be so excited that she'd want to hug him.

Qin Yang's lips curled into a slight smirk as he watched his wife's happy demeanor, then suddenly leaned in to whisper in her ear, "So, will there be a reward tonight?"

Thinking of last night, Qin Yang felt a tingling sensation of anticipation inside.

Chapter 155: Qin Yang, I Truly Love You to Death

Lin Chuxia looked around quickly and kissed him, "I absolutely must have it, Qin Yang, I truly love you to death."

Qin Yang stopped abruptly, then his face burst into a smile, even his deep eyes lit up with bright, passionate light.

She said she loves him.

Although he knew it might just be his wife speaking impulsively in her excitement, he was still overjoyed.

Lin Chuxia walked around the empty space. In the future, this land would be hers.

Although the deal spoken of now was not the same as an actual transaction, since collective land could not be sold, there were unwritten rules, and if the village agreed, it would not change.

After twenty or thirty years when the urban village development began, she would own all the compensation for this land.

Thinking about such immense wealth, Lin Chuxia felt utterly delighted within.

Seeing her so happy, Qin Yang also walked around with her, "The village hopes that the payment can be made in these few days. How much do you still have? If it's not enough, I can help you borrow."

"Borrow? This land will cost at least 6,000 yuan, where are you going to borrow it from?" Lin Chuxia asked him curiously.

6,000 yuan was not a small sum, and Qin Yang's salary, even though considered high, would take almost ten years to accumulate that amount.

"There's always a way. Let's see how much you're short."

Ever since he came out of the brigade headquarters, he had been thinking it over.

He would first get an advance on some of his salary from his unit, where his colleagues all made good salaries, and he should be able to borrow some, as well as from the minister, who had a high salary.

Far away in the Northwest, Minister Wang suddenly felt a chill on the back of his neck, looked at the weather outside, and sighed, "It looks like it's going to snow again," wondering why it was suddenly so cold.

Seeing him really planning to borrow money, Lin Chuxia laughed, "You fool, are you not afraid that I will lose all the borrowed money, and then you will be surrounded by your creditors?"

This man hates trouble the most, but now he was willing to make a big hassle for her.

Qin Yang was fearless, "In that case, wouldn't we be sharing weal and woe?"

Watching his eager look, Lin Chuxia rolled her eyes. Does he really want her to lose money?

"I'll go back and check the books first. I should have a few thousand in the account."

Aside from supporting the shop's operations, she should have nearly three or four thousand yuan on the books. She had earned 1,000 yuan as a design fee for creating vacuum packaging machines for the machinery factory and used it to purchase the mountain top, but Qin Yang had also given her more than 2,000 yuan.

All in all, she should have enough money to buy the land, but the expenses after purchasing the land would be greater.

Building a factory, buying machinery, raw materials, each of these required money, and no small amount at that.

With the New Year approaching, she had to repay the 3,000 yuan loan guaranteed by Li Jian and borrowed from the bank earlier; she had to ensure Li Jian could have a worry-free festival.

Thinking about it, money was needed everywhere; the bigger the plate, the more money required.

She looked up at the tall man beside her, smiling like a sly fox.

"Spit it out, what are you scheming now?"

Qin Yang didn't need to think to know that her scheming once again involved him.

But being able to help his wife, he would be happy to do whatever she wanted.

Only he knew the sense of defeat felt by a man, seeing the Bun Shop when he got off the train.

He wasn't chauvinistic, yet he wanted to protect his wife from the weather, and he didn't want his wife to bear all the pressure alone.

Now, being able to work for his wife, he found joy in it.

"Qin Yang, I want to use the Bun Shop to get a bank loan, I need a guarantor."

Last time the loan was secured with the bun shop by the train station, this time using the storefront in the city should allow for a bigger loan.

"Alright, I'll go be your guarantor."

Qin Yang agreed without hesitation, also thinking that his wife was clever, indeed bank loans are more convenient than borrowing from individuals.

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Meanwhile, at the Lin Family in Daqing Mountain Village.

Lin Jiayi had come yesterday and hadn't left, waiting at home for news from Mother Lin.

She could hardly wait until she saw her mother returning and immediately went out to greet her.

"Mom, how did it go? Is that bun shop owned by that damned girl Lin Chuxia?"

Mother Lin doesn't ride a bike, and although she took the bus to the county, she also walked quite a bit, leaving her legs sore from the journey.

She went straight into the house and poured herself a cup of water to drink first.

Lin Jiayi was extremely anxious, "Mom, come on, talk to me. I heard that there are two Qin's Buns Shops owned by the same boss, is it that damned girl?"

Finally catching her breath, Mother Lin shook her head, "It's not her, the shop is owned by the Qin Family, she's just helping out there; the boss should be Qin Yang's older brother."

"Impossible, how could the Qin Family open a shop?"

Qin Han and Zhang Guilan are shrewd enough, but they only know how to farm, the couple spent their whole lives farming.

Not just them, even their son was a farmer too.

Mother Lin got irritated by Lin Jiayi's reaction, "Why impossible? I asked around before I came back."

She had inquired secretly from the shop's staff, who exactly was in charge of the bun shop.

The employee pointed clearly at Qin Han saying, Qin Han is the shop manager, he has a say in everything that goes on in the shop.

"Regretting it now? I told you, such a good marriage with the Qin Family is hard to come by even with a lantern, but you, on the other hand, had to fall for that pauper Li Guangyuan, kept saying he would make it big in business. Where is this big business of his? Instead, Qin's Buns Shop is doing quite the business. If you'd married Qin Yang, would you still be suffering in poverty at home? Look at that dead girl Chuxia, she doesn't have to worry about anything, still gets to eat the choicest foods."

Even if she didn't take care of the business, working in the bun shop every day, there would be endless meat buns to eat.

Lin Jiayi knew this all too well, thinking about how she had to budget to buy a meat bun for herself, whereas Lin Chuxia easily had more than enough meat buns to eat, her face twisted in a hideous scowl.

Even the pride of being pregnant was utterly squelched.

"Did you ask her for money? How much did you ask for? 300 or 500? You should've directly asked for 1,000, you're her mother, it's only right for her to honor you if she's living well."

Li Guangyuan selling vegetables for several months still isn't enough to cover expenses, if they had the money, they too could run a decent business.

With Li Guangyuan's capabilities, they could quickly surpass the Qin Family and crush those people and Lin Chuxia underfoot.

At the mention of this, Mother Lin became even angrier.

"Don't even mention it, I did want to ask for it, but you don't know, that damn girl's man has come back too, at that time, it was like he wanted to devour me."

Thinking back on Qin Yang's demeanor then, Mother Lin shivered again.

After all, she is Lin Chuxia's mother, and Qin Yang's mother-in-law, what sort of attitude was that?

She had given her daughter to him, what's wrong with asking for a few hundred yuan?

"Qin Yang came back? How is that possible?"

Lin Jiayi felt the world had turned surreal.

In her previous life, Qin Yang couldn't make it back home more than twice a year, she clearly remembered, during the year they got married, Qin Yang didn't even come home for the New Year holiday, and it wasn't until after the first month of the lunar year that he returned with a child in tow.

"Why isn't it possible, I wouldn't recognize that dead girl's man? But I don't know what happened, he's lost an arm, probably became disabled and got fired from his workplace."

Chapter 156: Company Bylaws

"Broken arm?"

Lin Jiayi clearly remembered that Qin Yang had never suffered any injury or broken any arms or legs in his previous life.

Her excitement gradually calmed down.

It seemed that even the heavens were fair, perhaps it was because of Lin Chuxia that he ended up breaking his arm.

Thinking back to the Bun Shop, she also remembered that on that day it was indeed Qin Han and Zhang Guilan in the shop, and Lin Chuxia only arrived later.

Speaking of that couple, they weren't good people either, especially Zhang Guilan, who was more calculating than anyone else.

In the past life, because Qin Yang was able to earn a salary, the couple never brought up splitting the family. Later when Qin Yang brought back a child, they immediately raised the issue of division.

The old folks of the Qin Family were biased towards the eldest.

Clearly, including the child, she and Qin Yang made up a family of three, yet at the time of division, they were only given land for two, while the Eldest Son of Qin Family got land for four, and by the end of the year, the grain given to the in-laws couldn't be any less.

If it weren't for her maternal family's support, and her own resilience, she would have been devoured to the bone by that unscrupulous family.

Lin Chuxia must have used some fox-like tricks to seduce Qin Yang, but if she wanted to compete with the Eldest Son of Qin Family, she was probably still too green.

"Is that just it? That three hundred yuan from the beginning might have been taken by her, who else would come to our house to steal money? I've asked Jiadong, and it definitely wasn't him, Mom, you can't let it go like this. You're her mother, you gave birth to her and raised her, now it's only right for her to spend money to support you."

Mother Lin nodded vaguely, she knew this was the case, but preaching filial piety had no effect on that man, she didn't know what to do.

It was evident that Qin Yang genuinely protected Lin Chuxia, that infuriating girl.

.....

As time waits for no one, after discussing with Qin Yang, Chuxia prepared the paperwork and went to the bank the next day to process the loan.

She first repaid the imminent three thousand yuan loan.

Then, she took the paperwork and applied for a new loan.

These days to get a loan, having good credit wasn't enough, there had to be collateral.

Fortunately, their Bun Shop was quite famous in Ancheng County now, so even the re-application for a loan was approved rather swiftly.

This time, Lin Chuxia directly took out a loan of twenty thousand yuan, not only to cover the current land cost, but also the construction of the factory and initial investment.

Twenty thousand yuan was a lot, but if everything went smoothly, they should be able to pay off the loan in half a year.

Upon receiving the money, the two of them went straight to the village chief's house.

The village chief, over fifty, was also surnamed Qin, named Shusen.

The Qin surname was originally prominent in Qin Family Village, and the village chief's family was distantly related to Qin Yang's family, but they had become distant by Qin Yang's father's generation.

The village chief always had a high regard for Qin Yang, the first college student from Qin Family Village after the national college entrance exam was reinstated, and even from a prestigious university.

At that time, their village was highlighted by the township; the day the acceptance letter came, they celebrated with gongs and drums, which brought honor to his face as the village chief.

Now that Qin Yang was building a factory in their village, when he reported it to the township the day before, the township chief praised their Qin Family Village leadership team for their high consciousness, seizing the breeze of reform and opening up, and keeping up with the times.

In reality, he didn't have such awareness; it was Qin Yang who had approached him.

Even his previous idea of starting a chicken farm in the village was inspired by watching the Qin family's shop selling roasted chickens, wondering if they could use their chickens on the merit of being fellow villagers.

However, he had only mentioned this to a few village cadres, everyone thought it was feasible, but no one had the guts to speak up, so it was left hanging.

As a result of Qin Yang's arrival, everything was settled, and it can be said that the Qin Family's action had benefited the entire populace of Qin Family Village.

So when Qin Shusen saw Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia, he was exceptionally enthusiastic.

He quickly notified someone to call the other village cadres.

As the end of year approached and there was no more work in the fields, every household was hibernating at home, preparing for the New Year.

In a short while, the Secretary and the accountant arrived.

Lin Chuxia, having married into the family only six months ago, was not familiar with the village cadres, so Qin Yang made a special effort to introduce them to her.

And seeing Qin Yang's actions, the village cadres also realized that the person in charge of the food processing factory that the Qin Family was planning to start was probably right here.

After all, Qin Yang had a job and spent limited time at home.

Even if he was orchestrating everything, it would be his wife who dealt with future contacts.

They became even more enthusiastic towards Lin Chuxia.

The village chief coughed and began to discuss business.

"The piece of land we talked about this morning, the one I told you about earlier, it's over seven mu and a little more, but I think it's not very regular in shape, and it's not really suitable for building a factory. So I was thinking about giving you those few jujube trees at the corner that belong to the collective too. That way, you would have a little more than eight mu and two points of land. What do you think?"

Qin Yang said nothing but looked towards Lin Chuxia.

Lin Chuxia spoke up promptly, "That sounds great, Uncle Qin has thought things through thoroughly. To be honest, we checked out that piece of land this morning and were planning to discuss this very issue with you. Now it's perfect."

Hearing this, Qin Shusen silently breathed a sigh of relief.

They hadn't mentioned the jujube trees yesterday, but later, after discussing it with a few people at the collective's office, they realized those trees hadn't been producing much fruit anyway. Keeping that piece of land was a waste, it wouldn't suffice for dividing residential land among the villagers. So they thought it would be better to give it all to the Qin family lad, and perhaps ask for more money in return.

He was actually a bit worried the other party might refuse when he brought it up.

Now, he stopped looking at Qin Yang and directly negotiated with Lin Chuxia.

"So according to what we agreed on yesterday, the price is 800 yuan per mu. For eight mu and a bit over two points of land, that would be 6560 yuan. Then there are the six jujube trees. Although they don't bear much fruit, they are still public property. What do you think..."

"Let's make it an even number and say 40, what do you think, Uncle Qin?"

Qin Shusen slapped his thigh, "That's settled, then. Qin Ming, did you bring the cash? I'll go get the official seal."

That's why it's different when you deal with people who do big things. Just yesterday, the director of public security said his brother wanted those jujube trees and offered the village 10 yuan.

He dared to offer only 10 yuan.

Lin Chuxia also took out the contract she had prepared in advance; several village cadres took turns reviewing it, and all felt there were no issues.

Two copies of the contract were made, with the village chief and the Secretary signing and affixing the official seal, and Lin Chuxia signing too. She then took out the fresh and warm official seal of Xiyang Food Company that she had just received yesterday and stamped it on the document.

Seeing the bright red company seal, Qin Shusen felt somewhat excited. He thought it would be Qin Yang or Lin Chuxia signing and using their fingerprints, but it turned out to be the company seal.

"Qin Yang's wife, can I discuss something with you?"

"Go ahead, Uncle."

Qin Shusen glanced at the Secretary and said with gritted teeth, "Since your Xiyang Food Company is building a factory in our village, could it be considered as our village's enterprise? Don't worry, the village won't interfere with management, we just want the name..."

"Uncle, you're too modest. We are villagers of Qin Family Village, and the factory is using Qin Family Village land. If it's not a village enterprise, what is it? Plus, once the factory is up and running, we'll still need the support from Qin Family Village's folks and our village cadres."

Hearing this, Qin Shusen and the others were instantly pleased. Having such a factory in the village, regardless of whether the chicken farm succeeds or not, the award for the advanced collective of the county next year would undoubtedly be theirs.

Chapter 157: Her Man is Always So Innocent

There's also the previously agreed upon employment issue, with 20 positions being mentioned, but if the villagers come to apply, as long as they are diligent and capable, there's no reason why the factory wouldn't hire them.

So many benefits indeed.

Lin Chuxia noticed the satisfaction of the group and she couldn't help but sigh at how simple and sincere the common people are these days, even though she also benefited greatly.

Compared to the crafty businesspeople she encountered in her previous life, these village cadres seem endearingly naive.

She glanced at her wristwatch, realizing it was almost mealtime, "Uncle, after keeping everyone busy all day, if you have time, why don't we sit together for a while? My older brother, Qin Han, also wanted to come by today, saying he hadn't had a good chat with you all in a long time. He's just been tied up at the Bun Shop, probably scratching his head in frustration right now. You should come by and check out our place, try some prepared dishes. After the factory is built, it'll be producing these foods."

Qin Shusen smiled broadly, his face honest and simple, "Then we must give it a try."

When he spoke, the secretary and the accountant had no objections, and the group headed to the Bun Shop together.

Nowadays, the second floor of the Bun Shop has two private rooms, arranged for the convenience of friends and acquaintances.

The Bun Shop already had dishes for accompanying drinks, and with just a few cuts, there were several plates of prepared and cold dishes. Zhang Guilan also fried up a few hot dishes, filling a whole big table, and the alcohol was also of good quality.

Qin Han has always had a good capacity for alcohol, and he was even more relaxed among familiar faces.

The village cadres were very satisfied with the meal, and when they left, their steps were a bit unsteady, patting their chests proudly, repeatedly assuring everyone that if there was anything in the future, they just needed to speak up to the village.

After seeing off the group, Qin Han ran his hand through his hair, his face wearing a smile.

To be honest, he had never felt so valued by the village cadres in the village as he did today.

Today was not just about giving the village cadres face; Qin Han also felt immensely proud.

He planned to go back and have a good talk with his parents – he had exerted himself, drinking at the same table with the village cadres and receiving a lot of praise from the older generations.

This kind of treatment was formerly something only his second brother would receive.

He took another glance at Lin Chuxia. At the dinner table, he also learned of the big project his sister-in-law and his second brother were undertaking.

Building a factory, and in their own Qin Family Village, no less.

He could imagine the status the Qin Family would have in the village in the future.

This sister-in-law truly brought glory and honor to the Qin Family.

"By the way, Chuxia, I saw that the order Xiao Wu brought back was quite large; are we short-staffed right now?"

These past days, the people who went out had been returning, as they were marketing in the nearby cities and the feedback was quick.

Due to people being pulled away for other tasks, there weren't many left at the small courtyard, just enough to supply the daily sales of the two shops.

"No need to worry. I've spoken to the village chief and tomorrow 5 more workers will come. I will be personally overseeing them," Lin Chuxia had already planned.

She definitely wanted to personally oversee the use of machines and the assignment of staff for the first batch of goods before she could feel at ease.

As for manpower, the village chief was more than eager to offer their people for the job.

It was getting late; if not for the presence of several village cadres, the Bun Shop would have closed already.

Qin Han suggested that Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia go first, while he and his wife stayed behind to clean up before heading back.

By evening, small snowflakes had started to drift down, and now the ground was covered with a white layer.

The once dim streetlights now shone particularly brightly on the snowy ground.

Qin Yang wanted to push the handcart, but Lin Chuxia stopped him, "Let's take a walk."

"Sounds good."

Qin Yang came back to her side, looked at her delicate face, put on her cotton hat for her, adjusted her scarf, and finally took one of her small hands and tucked it into his coat pocket.

Lin Chuxia smiled through her eyes as she let him fumble, his large hands warm and dry, just like him, providing strength and warmth.

She looked at the snowflakes falling from the sky, her heart filled with peace.

"What are you thinking about?"

Qin Yang was not used to her being so quiet.

"I'm not thinking about anything," she looked at him, "Before my mind was full of things, but today all of a sudden there's nothing. If I really had to say something, Qin Yang, it's really nice to take a walk with you like this."

Qin Yang immediately showed a smile, as if the directness and gaze from her made him shy, his gaze darting around as he glanced at the surroundings, "Lin Chuxia, I've always wanted to take walks with you like this," to walk with her for a lifetime like this.

Lin Chuxia laughed too, amused that her man was always so pure-hearted.

"Honestly, I didn't expect to build a factory so soon, I was thinking about opening a few more Bun Shops before, preferably all over the country. Now with Xiyang, I'll probably be stuck in the small county of An City for the next year or two. But Qin Yang, did you think about the possibility of me losing money when you took out the loan today?"

Twenty thousand yuan was not a small sum in an era that had just begun to advocate for becoming millionaires. She remembered when she mentioned borrowing twenty thousand yuan, Qin Yang had merely paused for a moment before agreeing.

"I thought about it," Qin Yang was honest, he indeed had a moment of surprise when she made that bold move, "But so what? Since it's something you want to do, I support it. Just go ahead and do it. Even if one day you truly lose everything, even if you are deep in debt, you don't have to bear any burden, Lin Chuxia, I will provide for you, I will help you repay the debt."

Looking at his deep brows and eyes, Lin Chuxia couldn't help but raise her hand, stroke his eyelashes, and knock the snowflakes off them, laughing softly, "Fool, aren't you afraid I'll incur a huge debt that you'd never be able to pay off in your lifetime?"

"I'm not afraid, that would mean you would never leave me, and we would share our joys and sorrows."

Seeing his cheerful demeanor, Lin Chuxia sighed, "You really are a fool."

How could someone be so foolish?

In her previous life, even when she and Li Guangyuan were starting to succeed, when faced with major decisions, that person would unhesitatingly choose his own interests.

Yet the man before her, with just one word from her, was willing to bet his lifetime.

"Qin Yang, rest assured, I won't let you have to repay any debts."

The man she had set her mind on was destined for a life of bliss, not for repaying debts.

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The next morning, the people sent by the village chief arrived at the Qin Family's home, led by the village chief himself.

Five people, two men and three women, all in their twenties.

One of them, Lin Chuxia had seen the day before, the daughter of the village chief, Qin Yufeng. Although she wasn't familiar with the others, she could guess that they also had good relations with the village cadres.

Mrs. Qin knew several of them and, while the village chief was exchanging pleasantries with Mr. Qin, she pulled Lin Chuxia aside.

In a low voice, she said, "Would it work to have these people go to your place? That's the village chief's daughter, those two are the Party Secretary's nephew and niece, that one is the Public Security Director's cousin... what if they can't really do the work?"

If they really can't work, employing them would hinder her daughter-in-law's business, but not hiring them would offend the village cadres.

Lin Chuxia reassuringly patted Mrs. Qin's hand, "Mom, don't worry, it should be fine."

Chapter 158: Worship

We agreed earlier that whether the workers can be used or not was up to their discretion, and with only five people involved, even if these five aren't suitable, the village chief wouldn't tear his relationship over 15 more spots.

Besides, they want to build a factory in the village, and anyone with a brain should understand what it means for her to demand these five people in advance.

The village chief and the party secretary aren't fools who would dig their own graves.

Hearing her say this reassured Mrs. Qin.

Sending people over wasn't delayed, Lin Chuxia took five people straight to the small courtyard for processing cooked food.

Aside from Su Wensong, the others have returned.

Most of them came back with orders, big and small, knowing their Mr. Lin was going to make big moves.

This morning Jia Liang and Hou Xiaobao went purchasing together on a tricycle, buying three times the usual amount.

When Lin Chuxia brought the newbies over, she first emphasized safety issues during processing, as well as food hygiene.

Then, according to the current personnel distribution, each veteran worker was assigned one or two new workers, and they started hands-on training right away.

There isn't much technical skill involved in cleaning cooked foods.

They were pressed for time and couldn't afford to conduct systematic training; they could only identify and correct issues during the work process.

Lin Chuxia was onsite the whole time, and veteran workers like Pang Yongli and Ma Yingzi were already very proficient in preparing the cooked foods.

When the first batch of cooked food was done and had cooled down, it moved on to the packaging process.

Lin Chuxia gathered everyone in front of the food packaging machine and demonstrated the usage of the machine personally.

When the first smoked chicken came out of the package, seeing the Xiyang Food label on it, everyone present was thrilled.

Especially the veteran workers; Hou Xiaobao clapped until his hands were sore without even noticing.

"The basic operation is like this, who wants to give it a try?" Lin Chuxia asked after the demonstration.

"I'll do it," Hou Xiaobao was the first to raise his hand.

It has to be said, Hou Xiaobao indeed had some talent in mechanics; he drove the tricycle most proficiently, fast and steady.

The food packaging machine was easy to operate, and he handled it without any hesitation.

"Not bad," Lin Chuxia generously praised, "Who else wants to try?"

Although there were divisions of labor, it was best if everyone could operate the machines.

She looked towards the few new workers, who hesitated and nudged each other until finally Qin Yufeng timidly raised her hand, "Can I give it a try?"

"Yes."

Hou Xiaobao stepped aside for her, Qin Yufeng sat down and thought for a moment about the operation process she had just seen, then went ahead.

Although not as adept as Hou Xiaobao, she completed the task methodically.

"That's also very good!"

In half a day, everyone became familiar with the use of the machine.

Near noon, Lin Chuxia held a small meeting for them, like a motivational conference, which fired everyone up.

Lunch was eaten in the courtyard, stewed vegetables made in a big pot by Pang Yongli, served with bought buns and rolls.

In those days, it was considered very good food, as most families only ate stewed meat during New Year or when having guests.

Asking the children what they wanted to eat, they would instantly say steamed buns with stewed meat.

This was a work meal, free of charge for them to eat as they pleased.

The veteran workers were already accustomed to it, but the new workers of today had never imagined they'd receive such treatment.

Lin Chuxia served herself a bowl of vegetables and grabbed a couple of buns, seeing that a few new people were sitting together, she also walked over.

Several people knew Lin Chuxia was the boss, and they seemed a bit cautious when she came over.

Lin Chuxia asked with a smile, "Why such serious faces? Are you not welcoming me to join you for lunch?"

Everyone suddenly laughed.

"No, not at all."

"Mr. Lin, please take a seat."

Qin Yufeng moved aside to make space for her.

Lin Chuxia casually sat down with them, "How is it? Getting used to the work? Is it dirtier and more tiring than farm work?"

"How could that be?" A handsome young guy opposite her denied, "What's dirty and tiring about this job? I've been helping in the fields since I was eight, back when the brigade was planting vegetables, we were applying fertilizer by hand..."

"Eh... Sun Liangdong, we're eating..." someone immediately objected.

Sun Liangdong scratched his head and laughed, "I'm just saying to Mr. Lin that this job isn't dirty at all, and definitely not tiring."

Lin Chuxia knew this person, the deputy director of public security's cousin, twenty years old, and a middle school graduate.

From what she observed this morning, he was a very shrewd person.

Although others objected to what Sun Liangdong said, none of them really minded the dirtiness of the job.

The vegetable farmers in Qin Family Village had almost all been doing farm work since childhood and none of them really minded getting dirty.

Lin Chuxia chatted with them about other things and gradually, the conversation opened up and became more relaxed.

Speaking of which, Lin Chuxia and they were about the same age, and with Lin Chuxia intentionally echoing them, she soon learned that they were indeed selected through the village selection.

In Sun Liangdong's words, they came here with a mission.

The village chief said that they were the first batch of workers from the village, and upon their departure, he repeatedly emphasized that they should work hard. Only if they performed well would other villagers have the opportunity to come out and work.

They could be said to be the pioneers.

Everyone felt very proud of being selected and wanted to do a good job to earn honor for their village.

How should I put it, at this moment, their collective consciousness was still very strong.

While they were talking, Qin Yang pushed open the door and walked in.

Little Yuanbao, upon seeing him, was the first to rush over, wagging his tail and circling around him, appearing even more eager than when it saw Lin Chuxia when she brought the newcomers.

Even more than how it behaved around Lin Chuxia on normal days.

Lin Chuxia couldn't help but wonder if the introduction she gave about Qin Yang that day was too formal, making Little Yuanbao forget whose pet it really was?

Qin Yang had just come back from Old Master He's place and hadn't eaten yet, so Lin Chuxia served him a bowl of food.

Qin Yang had been practicing using his left hand due to an injury to his right hand, and now he was very adept at using chopsticks with his left hand.

The people from Qin Family Village knew Qin Yang; when he was admitted to university, the village celebrated with gongs and drums.

At that time, they were all elementary students. Almost every teacher used Qin Yang as an example to inspire them, and they had grown up under the halo of Qin Yang.

Sitting closely next to Qin Yang now felt like being at a fan meeting.

Sun Liangdong couldn't even bother to eat, his eyes fixated on Qin Yang.

With such intense gaze, Qin Yang couldn't ignore it even if he wanted to. He looked up and met those... uh, very straightforward eyes and asked calmly, "What's up?"

Sun Liangdong nodded earnestly, "Second Brother Qin, I just want to know if the village's food factory in the future belongs to you or Mr. Lin?"

Qin Yang frowned slightly, what kind of question was that? Lin Chuxia was his wife, weren't hers and his the same?

He looked at Lin Chuxia, who, stifling a laugh, leaned in and whispered, "They seem to really admire you."

Qin Yang touched his nose, feeling uneasy, and also aware that the fuss over his university admission back then was quite big.

Chapter 159: Sense of Belonging

"The food factory is part of the Xiyang Food Company. I have a job and Mr. Lin is responsible for the food company."

Sun Liangdong's eyes suddenly lit up. Qin Yang, Xiyang, isn't that Second Brother Qin's food company? Naturally, his daughter-in-law should be managing it.

Seeing his reaction, Qin Yang couldn't help but ask, "Is that so important?" Isn't getting a salary the most important thing? Who cares about who provides the money.

However, Sun Liangdong resolutely nodded, "It matters a bit."

Lin Chuxia found it amusing and also asked the others, "Do you guys care about this too?"

The others chuckled, and Qin Yufeng, clearly bolder, said, "It's not that we care too much, but we feel that Second Brother Qin is really impressive, and it makes us proud to work with him."

Qin Yang was about to say how proud and honored one should be to work with Lin Chuxia, who is much more remarkable than him.

But Lin Chuxia cut him off, "I feel the same way," she glanced at Qin Yang and blinked.

Faith is the inner strength of people, giving them a sense of belonging.

Qin Yang is their faith, and she is proud—the part of Xiyang originally belonged to Qin Yang.

In the afternoon, the new workers had already mastered their tasks, and Lin Chuxia reassigned their roles.

There were three people on one food packaging machine, working on an assembly line, the others continued to process cooked food products.

Lin Chuxia had been supervising the yard for three days, and everything had basically settled into a routine.

During this period, Su Wensong also returned, bringing good news. Thanks to Xu Changping, they had gained favor and secured a batch of orders from several factory canteens.

They also agreed that if the taste is good and the workers like it, they would place another batch of orders near the end of the year as a Spring Festival benefit for the employees.

Before Lin Chuxia could fully digest the good news, Li Jian showed up.

Seeing Lin Chuxia, the first thing he said was, "Such a big matter, and you didn't even mention it. I only found out through Wang Cheng today that you guys had a falling out with the food factory."

Lin Chuxia brewed him a cup of tea, "If I had told you, what could you have done? Our Bun Shop is located right opposite the food factory's sales point. Sooner or later, we would have faced them."

But she didn't expect the food factory, in order to compete, would use such tactics that wouldn't please either side.

Li Jian took the tea and grumbled, "If you had told me, I could have come to watch the excitement right away. Now, I had to hear it from someone else."

Lin Chuxia: "..."

She was speechless.

Li Jian took a sip of tea, curious like someone eager for gossip, "Tell me, how far have things gone? I heard you guys are producing packaged cooked food. Are you planning to sell it abroad?"

Lin Chuxia rolled her eyes, "You've already dug up so much yet you're still asking me. But you're here just in time. I was looking for you. The loan you guaranteed before has been repaid, so you can have a worry-free new year."

"Nice, girl. I was worried you'd be overwhelmed by the food factory, and I'd be stuck with the loan. Seems I worried too much. The loan has been repaid, and it looks like the food factory hasn't done much to you."

"It's not that I earned a lot, but I found another guarantor and took out an even bigger loan," she lifted her chin slightly, smiling as she watched a man walk in from outside.

Li Jian felt goosebumps rise from her smile.

In his memory, Lin Chuxia was an incredibly capable tomboy; suddenly acting so girly was just too much for him.

Looking at the man wearing a long black coat matching Lin Chuxia's, even the scarf was the same, no need to guess—her husband working abroad had come back.

"I really can't stand it, and it's a good thing I'm spoken for."

How refreshing.

"When did this happen? You never mentioned it before."

"Just recently, my family arranged a blind date for me. Things felt right so we settled it. I'm giving you this invitation; you and your husband should come over for the wedding banquet."

He took out an invitation from his bag and placed it on the table.

"Sure, I'll definitely come to your wedding."

Li Jian didn't want to sit here and be fed their lovey-dovey talk, so he finished the water in his cup in one gulp. "I'm leaving. I'll have Su Wensong swing by my place, I have something for you."

In front of Lin Chuxia's husband, Li Jian thought it inappropriate to ask her to come see him.

"What is it?" asked Lin Chuxia.

"You'll know when you get there. It should be useful to you."

Unable to get an answer, Lin Chuxia did not press further. She packed two bags of each of their packaged ready-to-eat products, a whole big bag full.

"Try our packaged products and see how they differ from before. Let us know if there's anything that needs to be improved. Don't hold back on the suggestions."

Li Jian laughed, "Do we really need this much just to give feedback?"

"Quit the chatter. Take it, it's packaged. The shelf life is one month, so you can eat it slowly."

After seeing off Li Jian, Lin Chuxia was about to head back to her office when someone courteously greeted her, "Mr. Lin!"

Chen Chunhua was standing there with a careful look.

Lin Chuxia nodded slightly, "Here to chat with Sister Ma again?"

"Yeah, I'm off today, just came to check on things. Don't worry, Mr. Lin, I'll just watch from the side and won't disturb Yingzi's work."

Lin Chuxia nodded and without further comment, went straight back to her office.

Not until the office door was closed again did Chen Chunhua breathe a sigh of relief.

Ma Yingzi, busy with her tasks and without looking up, said, "I think it's better if you don't visit here too often. Regardless of anything else, I'm still working, and it wouldn't be good if Mr. Lin sees."

"I don't think Mr. Lin is that kind of petty person. Plus, Yingzi, you're doing so well now, Mr. Lin won't criticize you," Chen Chunhua said with a smile.

"What's so great about what I'm doing? Mr. Lin is the truly capable one."

"How can you say you're not capable?" Chen Chunhua disagreed, "Look at how influential you are in this courtyard. All the newcomers listen to you respectfully, and I heard Mr. Lin even put you in charge of them. You're a leader now, isn't that impressive?"

Ma Yingzi corrected her, "Mr. Lin just asked me to guide the new workers."

"That means they have to listen to you."

Finding it hard to make her understand, Ma Yingzi stopped arguing and continued her work.

Chen Chunhua looked around, leaned closer to Ma Yingzi, and whispered, "Yingzi, you guys are really short on staff here. What if I talk to Mr. Lin about me coming over too?"

Ma Yingzi paused, "You have a good job at the Bun Shop. Why insist on coming here? Plus, those machines aren't for everyone to operate."

Mr. Lin's newly hired employees were literate and some even had a high school education.

Chen Chunhua, like herself, barely knew a bucketful of big words. This place might not suit her.

Moreover, as for the tasks Mr. Lin assigned, she didn't want to be the one to bring Chen Chunhua into this.

Unaware of Ma Yingzi's reluctance, Chen Chunhua continued, "I won't work with them. I'll just follow you, do whatever you do. You could teach me more. Right now, among everyone, it's you and Yongli who are most skilled at making these ready-to-eat foods, really nailing the cooking times."

Chapter 160 It's Really a Good Thing

"Chunhua might say some unpleasant things. Since we're working for others now and earning their pay, we should do as they tell us. Whatever they ask us to do, we do it."

Chen Chunhua noticed that Ma Yingzi's complexion wasn't too good and let out a forced laugh, "I was just saying. If it's not okay, then it's not okay. Aren't we good friends? I wanted to work with you. I won't say it again, okay?"

Ma Yingzi was about to bow her head and continue working. Chen Chunhua sat silently for a while, and seeing that she truly had upset Ma Yingzi this time, had to sheepishly leave.

Chen Chunhua thought, after a conversation like that, she'd take a hint and back off. Unexpectedly, she came again the next day.

But this time she didn't bring up asking Ma Yingzi to help her with transferring job positions, and instead chatted idly about this and that of the Li Family.

"Don't you have work today? I remember you had a day off yesterday. You can't be off again today," said Ma Yingzi, puzzled.

Chen Chunhua felt embarrassed, "I thought about what I said yesterday and realized there were some mistakes in my words. You're right, since we're working for Boss Lin, we certainly should listen to the boss' arrangements. I swapped shifts with someone specially to come here and apologize. Please don't hold it against me."

Seeing that she had come to her senses, Ma Yingzi also smiled, "You don't need to apologize to me. It's good that you understand. Just do your job well in the store."

Chen Chunhua was someone she had brought in. Ma Yingzi didn't expect her to outperform, only hoping that she'd work effectively, not letting the boss down for providing the job opportunity.

Noticing that Chen Chunhua was still sitting there without leaving, Ma Yingzi frowned slightly, "I'm really okay, you should go back to work if you have to. If you swapped shifts, then go home and rest."

Chen Chunhua glanced at the bustling people in the courtyard, nodded, and said, "Then I'll leave. Don't be mad at me anymore, just take it as if I spoke nonsense spontaneously."

"Really, I'm not mad."

Hearing Ma Yingzi promise once more, Chen Chunhua finally felt relieved and stood up to leave.

As soon as she reached the entrance, she bumped into Su Wensong, who was walking in from outside. She greeted him with a smile, "Supervisor Su!"

Su Wensong nodded slightly, and after she walked away, he asked Ma Yingzi who was nearby, "Does she come here often?"

He had seen her two or three times during this period.

Ma Yingzi felt a jolt in her heart and quickly explained, "She comes to chat with me when she's off."

Su Wensong nodded to show he understood, then asked, "Has Mr. Lin come in today?"

"He seems to be in the office."

With that, Su Wensong headed straight for Lin Chuxia's office.

Only when Su Wensong knocked and entered Lin Chuxia's office did Ma Yingzi secretly breathe a sigh of relief.

Pang Yongli was busy doing something on the side, and when he saw no one was around, he reminded his wife, "When we work, let's not let outsiders come freely."

Ma Yingzi knew this principle, but since Chen Chunhua was one of their colleagues and Lin Chuxia had met her before without comment, she didn't object.

However, the events of the past few days did leave her a bit displeased with Chen Chunhua, and she found herself quite agreeing with her husband's point of view.

In the office, Su Wensong took out a letter from his bag and handed it to Lin Chuxia.

"Mr. Lin, take a look at this. It's from Director Li."

Lin Chuxia put down her pen, took it, and glanced at it, her eyes lighting up.

"It really is a good thing."

She had guessed the day before that the thing Li Jian had might be related to exported food.

Just as she had thought, it was indeed about some distribution channels for vegetables.

Although these channels might not be immediately onboard with their prepared foods, if managed well, they could become potential customers.

And with the relationship with the vegetable station established, it would be easier for them to develop.

"By the way, there's another piece of news. Director Li seems to be transferring, and I heard the transfer order has already come down. After the Spring Festival, he'll report directly to the Market Supervision Bureau."

He had overheard this news just before leaving the vegetable station.

Lin Chuxia was slightly startled, "That quickly?"

"Mr. Lin, did you know about this?"

"Oh, no," Lin Chuxia shook her head.

She had simply blurted it out; after all, Li Jian wasn't transferred this early in her previous life.

It was probably the butterfly effect brought by her reincarnation; she remembered that day, Vice Director Feng of the Market Supervision Bureau was quite impressed with Li Jian.

Lin Chuxia transcribed the contents of the letter onto another piece of paper and handed a copy to Su Wensong.

"See if you can run through these places before the Spring Festival. Arrange some people, and take more samples when you go."

"Okay."

Su Wensong took the list and went to make arrangements.

Lin Chuxia looked at the letter against the map for a good while, showing a satisfied smile on her face.

Next week would be Li Jian's good fortune, and she should give her benefactor a big gift.

Glancing at her watch, there was still time.

Qin Yang was getting acupuncture at Old Sir He's place today, and Lin Chuxia tidied up before heading straight there.

Upon arriving, Old Sir He was just finishing the acupuncture for Qin Yang.

The once muscular and sleek arm, weakened from a lack of exercise after the injury, was now covered in thin silver needles. Lin Chuxia felt a tinge of sadness in her nose and immense heartache.

Old Sir He noticed her expression and disdainfully pursed his lips, "Put away that look, he's not handicapped yet."

"How can I not feel it's almost the same as being handicapped? Master, are you confident that he will be able to hold a pen and write in the future?"

For a workaholic, not being able to engage in his work would be an utterly despairing and painful ordeal.

Old Sir He glared in discontent, "Are you doubting my medical skills? Let me tell you, if the day comes when Old Man He's reputation is ruined, it'll be because I took on such an incompetent disciple like you, not me. Have you memorized the things I told you to memorize?"

Lin Chuxia immediately changed the subject, "Master, I know your medical skills are superb. After you treat Qin Yang's arm like this, not to mention writing, even embroidery won't be an issue. I see the needles are all out, can we leave now?"

Old Sir He chuckled, seeing right through her, as if a monkey could run as fast as one when it came to reciting texts.

But he knew Lin Chuxia was busy with work, having heard she started some food company.

To each their own. She originally wanted to do business, and taking on a disciple was just a word from Lady Su Senior. Thinking it was good to have someone to carry on the legacy, he agreed to be called her master.

In reality, Old Sir He preferred to treat Lin Chuxia like a daughter, supporting her in doing what she loved.

"You can leave now, get dressed. You don't need to bring that suit. When you get back, do some light exercises, but don't be hasty, take it slow."

Lin Chuxia's face immediately lit up with joy.

Old Sir He glanced at her with a disapproving look, then turned to advise Qin Yang.

"Even if you do recover this time, it's a stroke of luck. Next time, you might not be so fortunate. If you don't take care of your body and, God forbid, my disciple becomes a widow, I'll definitely not let her stay so. I'll find her a better match right away."