

Switched M 311

Chapter 311: Marrying a Virtuous Wife Prospers Three Generations

Li Guangyuan didn't speak, and walked past her into the yard.

Tian Cuihua closed the door again and chased after him to ask, "I noticed you closed your vegetable stand quite early today. What were you up to? Thinking about some other business?"

"No," he turned around and embraced her.

Tian Cuihua was taken aback and then laughed, "Aren't you out of confinement? What's wrong, they still won't let you touch?"

"Cuihua, stop mocking me, I feel terrible inside."

Hearing his muffled voice, Tian Cuihua didn't say much more.

How to describe this man? She didn't care whether he felt bitter or not, as long as he was useful.

He must have had things pent up inside, because the man exerted an unusual amount of energy.

It continued from the afternoon until the evening turned dark.

If Erdan hadn't run back home crying hungry, it might have gone on longer.

With her buttons fastened, Tian Cuihua rarely asked, "What's gotten into you today? Didn't we move past the previous issue? Did those debt collectors come again?"

These days, aside from money matters related to food and drink, there wasn't much else of significant concern.

Moreover, Li Guangyuan's mouth was bruised, clearly indicating he'd been hit.

Li Guangyuan lay sprawled on the bed looking at the ceiling, his eyes vacant as he spoke, "Have you heard about Lin Chuxia from Qin Family Village?"

"Who hasn't heard of Lin Chuxia? Aren't Qin's Steamed Bun Shop and Xiyang Food Factory both owned by her family? I heard she's even younger than us, but she manages all Qin Family's affairs, and their elder brother and sister-in-law only handle one of the bun shops. The capable take on more duties. You could say the Qin Family has accumulated a lot of good karma for marrying such a daughter-in-law. They say a good wife brings prosperity for three generations, but marrying someone like her means more than just prospering three generations."

At this, Tian Cuihua couldn't help but think of the gossip that was the focus of the market these past few days.

"I heard that the Old Food Factory is vying with Xiyang Food Factory. The Old Food Factory has been here for twenty or thirty years. I remember when it was in its heyday, and the employees had such good benefits. When I was a girl, I thought about marrying someone from the Old Food Factory just so I wouldn't have to worry about food and drink. How long has it been since Xiyang Food Factory was established? How could it surpass the Old Food Factory? But, if Xiyang Food Factory really overtakes the Old Food Factory, then I must say I really admire Lin Chuxia. She's truly a heroic woman among women, making us proud."

Suddenly, Li Guangyuan sat up, "Heroic woman among women, making you women proud? I think she's been left with no choice. Her man is not by her side, and the Qin Family doesn't take care of things, always pushing her to the forefront. If you ask me, her marrying into the Qin Family turned out to be really unlucky."

Tian Cuihua didn't understand where Li Guangyuan was coming from, "Her marrying into the Qin Family was unlucky? Marrying into which family isn't unlucky, into your Li family?"

Li Guangyuan clenched his fist tightly. If she married into the Li family, he would never have let her face these issues alone.

Tian Cuihua scoffed, "Can you not look down on us women? Do you really think all women are like the one in your family, just waiting for a man to stand out? In this new era, we women can hold up half the sky too. I truly admire Lin Chuxia and one day, I'd like to run a big business like her, and be a respectable female boss."

Li Guangyuan didn't want to listen to Tian Cuihua anymore and turned over to get out of bed.

"Hey~ just leaving like that?"

Li Guangyuan didn't respond to her, pushing his bicycle outside, with Tian Cuihua's voice echoing in his head.

"I really admire Lin Chuxia, truly a heroic woman among women."

"The more capable, the more responsibilities. How much good karma has the Qin Family accumulated? Marrying Lin Chuxia as a daughter-in-law."

"Marrying a wise wife ensures prosperity across three generations. Marrying Lin Chuxia is not just about prospering three generations..."

Then again, Lin Chuxia's cold eyes and her unmistakable look of disgust appeared in his mind.

"A gofer, you think you're worthy?"

"Stay away from me in the future, otherwise I'll beat you every time I see you."

Until she entered the house and Lin Jiayi suddenly exclaimed, bringing him back to his senses.

"What happened to your face? Weren't you just out selling vegetables? Who hit you?"

After saying that, she suddenly smelled the faint scent on Li Guangyuan's body – a scent she knew all too well – and she grabbed him.

"Where have you been that you come back so late? Were you messing around with that widow again? Li Guangyuan, I've already borne you a son, yet you're still entangled with these unscrupulous women. Do you have any conscience? If you don't explain things to me today, I'm not letting this go."

Lin Jiayi grabbed his collar and started scratching and clawing at him.

She thought that having his son would let them live a good life, but to think he was still fooling around with other women – how could she accept this?

A stinging pain spread across his face, and Li Guangyuan felt blood; the woman in front of him showed no signs of stopping.

"I didn't, stop it!" Li Guangyuan shouted coldly.

But why would Lin Jiayi listen to him? In their struggle, she saw marks on his body. How furious must he have been?

Ever since they had the baby. There had scarcely been any intimacy between them.

Each time, he was distracted and hardly looked at her face.

Now, just thinking that another woman had gotten the upper hand infuriated Lin Jiayi even more; she was determined to give this man a lesson.

With a slap, her hand struck Li Guangyuan's face, hitting right at the swollen corner of his mouth.

The sharp pain overwhelmed Li Guangyuan, and he couldn't hold back anymore; he swung his hand back and hit her hard...

.....

Guo Zhenyi agreed to assist Village Chief Qin with the issues between the Old Food Factory and Xiyang Food Factory, telling Village Chief Qin to wait for an update.

But the waiting stretched on for two days without any news.

The village chief grew restless and decided to inquire about the situation in town again.

This time, he planned to bring Lin Chuxia along; whether it was doable or not, they needed to have a clear conversation.

Yet before they could seek the mayor, someone approached Lin Chuxia first.

The manager of the Old Food Factory, Liu Guoyi, arranged to meet Lin Chuxia at the State-Owned Restaurant.

After days of turmoil, this meeting wasn't unexpected to Lin Chuxia.

Su Wensong and Qin Wu almost simultaneously said, "Mr. Lin, I'll go with you."

"No need for you all to come; Xiao Wu, you are still in charge of the factory production, Old Su, you come with me."

The meeting was scheduled for noon. The employees of the Old Food Factory had been circling Xiyang Food Factory for a couple of days now. Although there hadn't been any clashes, there were no signs of withdrawing.

Production in the factory hadn't stopped, but with a third of the workforce, everyone had to work overtime extensively, which was exhausting in the long run.

Thus, this matter needed to be resolved soon.

When Lin Chuxia and Su Wensong arrived at the State-Owned Restaurant, Liu Guoyi was already leisurely drinking tea inside. Lin Chuxia recognized the person sitting next to him, Li Kai.

He was the one who initially instigated Chen Chunhua to steal the seasoning packets from Xiyang Food Factory, though there was no evidence back then.

Today, Liu Guoyi deliberately brought Li Kai along, clearly intending to provoke.

Chapter 312: Better to Take a Loss Early

Lin Chuxia placed her bag to one side, and Su Wensong tactfully pulled a chair out for her.

"Sorry to have kept Director Liu waiting."

Liu Guoyi poured tea for himself with drooping eyes, his voice lazy, "Mr. Lin is still so busy, no wonder Xiyang Food Factory could stand toe to toe with the Old Food Factory in less than a year."

"Director Liu, you're misunderstanding me. We're all in the business of running factories, how can it be called standing toe to toe? I can understand if individual employees see it that way, but now with the policy getting more relaxed and even strongly supporting private enterprises, Director Liu, being in charge of a factory, must be aware of this news, right?"

Liu Guoyi lifted his eyelids, his gaze coldly shifting to Lin Chuxia.

To say that he had underestimated this woman when asking for the secret recipe, but now that things had come to this pass, with almost no one else to turn to, and yet she could still be so defiant.

Liu Guoyi didn't think she was so naïve as to be unaware of what was happening.

He set the teapot aside, his voice cool, "No matter when, the policy is there to serve the people. Mr. Lin is still young; it's understandable that you're not clear about some things. Bumping into a few snags and

facing some losses, with time, you'll come to understand. To face losses earlier rather than later isn't necessarily a bad thing."

Lin Chuxia didn't want to discuss these unproductive matters with him and cut to the chase, "Are the employees from the Old Food Factory still gathered at the entrance of my Xiyang Food Factory? What's this supposed to mean? Does Director Liu really think such tactics will bring down Xiyang Food Factory, or do you think I truly have no other options?"

"You see, the young comrade is too impatient," Liu Guoyi turned to Li Kai with a smile, and then looked back at Lin Chuxia.

"Didn't I quickly set up this meeting after hearing the news? Honestly, I had only just been informed, so I had Li Kai send word down the line for people to either go back to work or go home. I didn't expect, much to my embarrassment, that now no one listens to me anymore. If Mr. Lin has any good ideas, I'm all ears."

Lin Chuxia looked at Liu Guoyi coldly; he was certain they had no options left.

Indeed, after so many days of turmoil, they were practically out of options.

Facing Liu Guoyi's cocksure demeanor, Lin Chuxia refused to bow her head.

Liu Guoyi also knew - young people are spirited, so he would offer her a way out.

"I stand by what I've said: Mr. Lin is young and might not see or think through some things. You have to consider, everyone needs to eat. If one tries to break someone else's rice bowl, what could come of it is anyone's guess, right? In my opinion, it might be best if both sides took a step back. That way, it's good for you, good for me, and good for everyone."

"How do you propose we both take a step back?" Lin Chuxia asked.

Seeing that Lin Chuxia had spoken, Liu Guoyi gave a faint smile, as if everything was under his control.

He poured a cup of water from the teacup and pushed it in front of Lin Chuxia.

"That's right, that's the spirit. Doing business is about harmony and prosperity. The Old Food Factory has a history of several decades, and if Mr. Lin wants to get into the food business, that's not a problem either. Wouldn't banding together for mutual warmth be nice? Ancheng County is only so big; we can't be smashing each other's rice bowls from the outset. In my view, the current situation is easy to solve: as long as Xiyang Food Factory stops the production line of the beef sauce. Of course, we won't let you suffer any losses either. To set up a production line for a private enterprise like yours isn't easy, and I know you've invested a lot of money. As long as you agree, I'm willing to pay exactly what you invested in the entire production line, and even the workers on your production line can be absorbed into our food factory. You won't lose a penny."

Lin Chuxia let out a faint smile, "You mean even the beef sauce recipe should be handed over to you?"

Liu Guoyi heard the sarcasm in Lin Chuxia's words and his smile immediately withdrew, releasing the authoritative pressure of one who had long held power, his voice dropping a few notches.

"I say, Lin, have you ever heard the saying 'a wise man submits to circumstances'? As a woman who has managed to bring Xiyang Food Factory to this point, I respect you as a capable person, but after all, you're still too young. You must understand that an arm can't twist a thigh, and I wouldn't demand the beef sauce recipe for nothing – I'll pay 3,000 yuan for it."

"What if I don't sell? Director Liu, you said it yourself, we both take a step back. You want me to take a step back and dismantle the entire production line. To which step does Director Liu wish to retreat?"

Lin Chuxia looked at his somber expression, her mockery unhidden, "Director Liu wouldn't think just calling your Old Food Factory's employees back is considered taking a step back, would you? I might be young, but I'm not a three-year-old child. If Director Liu can't show enough sincerity, then don't talk terms with me. As for smashing other people's rice bowls, Xiyang Food Factory has never done such a thing and doesn't need to wear such a big hat. The market is for equal competition, and I'd like to see if an arm can twist a thigh."

After she said this, Lin Chuxia stood up and walked out without a word of courtesy.

Su Wensong cast a cold glance at Director Liu and Li Kai, protectively following right behind Lin Chuxia.

Liu Guoyi looked at the half-finished cup of water with a grim face.

Li Kai said from the side, "This woman is really tough to deal with, Director Liu. What do we do now? I heard that Xiyang Food Factory still kept some workers to work overtime and produce, and it seems it won't affect their orders for a while."

"So what? Contact those few clients and leak out the current situation at Xiyang Food Factory. It might not affect them in the short term, but what about over time? I refuse to believe she has that much ability."

I had thought a few days of setbacks would be enough; it seems the young still need to be taught a lesson.

"Keep surrounding them; I don't believe those people in the factory are made of iron."

Meanwhile, outside the State-Owned Restaurant, Lin Chuxia took a deep breath.

She had expected Liu Guoyi would make some demands, but not so audacious.

His terms were beyond excessive, practically saying to annex Xiyang Food Factory.

Of course, she also knew that Liu Guoyi had the arrogance to do so. After all, even Guo Town had given no response, and it seemed that they had no other choice but to endure the Old Food Factory.

In his eyes, she was just a peasant turned private entrepreneur.

Su Wensong also thought of this and frowned deeply, "Mr. Lin, what should we do next? This morning, I discussed with Qin Wu that we could just open another gate for the factory, to see how many more people they could bring to encircle us. The village chief also said that he would organize villagers to prevent them from entering the village, but this could inevitably lead to a conflict."

Now the other side did not worry about a conflict; they even hoped for it.

Once a conflict occurred, the handle would be in their hands.

"No need for now. Old Su, you go back first; I'm heading to the Market Supervision Bureau."

Liu Guoyi was so certain she was out of options? She would just have to use her arm to twist his thigh.

Chapter 313: This Time I'm Going to Fall

Lin Chuxia went to the Market Supervision Bureau to find Li Jian.

In recent days, Li Jian had heard some about the conflict between the Old Food Factory and Xiyang Food Factory, but he didn't take it to heart.

After all, previously Lin Chuxia had told him that Xiyang Food Factory's new beef sauce production line was targeting the Old Food Factory.

He had been wanting to find Lin Chuxia for a drink these last few days to get the news, and just then, Lin Chuxia came looking for him.

Li Jian poured a glass of water for Lin Chuxia and asked with a smile, "How is it? Has the Old Food Factory thrown in the towel this time?"

Lin Chuxia looked at him unhurriedly and said, "Don't mention it, Brother Li, this time I'm going to be in trouble."

The smile on Li Jian's face stiffened and he became serious at once, "What happened?"

In his memory, Lin Chuxia was not someone to easily admit defeat.

He had witnessed her journey, Lin Chuxia's abilities and boldness were more than enough just to deal with the Old Food Factory.

Working at the Market Supervision Bureau, he was all too aware of the Old Food Factory's current state—it wouldn't be an overstatement to call it an empty shell.

Lin Chuxia recounted to Li Jian the recent blockading of Xiyang Food Factory by the Old Food Factory employees and focused on how the police station and township leaders had handled the situation.

She also didn't hold back on telling him about Liu Guoyi from the Old Food Factory asking to meet with her today.

Upon hearing this, Li Jian's brows furrowed, "Are the workers from your factory still at the police station?"

"They are, they've been there for three days now. They say it's to 'understand the situation', but who needs to understand for so many days?"

Li Jian quickly realized where the problem lay and understood the reason Lin Chuxia had come to him.

"Director Feng is in the office right now, I'll take you to see him."

Li Jian decisively took Lin Chuxia directly to Director Feng's office.

Director Feng had had contact with Lin Chuxia even when he was the deputy director, and he was one of the parties involved when the Old Food Factory first came to Lin Chuxia wanting to buy her recipe for cooked food.

At that time he was sent by the director, and he had a lot of respect for Lin Chuxia, the young girl.

Later, when Xiyang Food Factory was established, he personally attended its inauguration, and in a way, he had watched this young girl grow up step by step.

Knowing that Lin Chuxia was here for a reason, Director Feng put aside his work and listened attentively.

He thought the girl might have some new ideas—after all, the Market Supervision Bureau was also overseeing them—but instead, it was another matter with the Old Food Factory, and such an issue at that, his whole demeanor turned serious.

"This is too outrageous. What is Liu Guoyi trying to do? He's old enough to know better than to use such tactics on a woman—doesn't he feel ashamed?"

What he really wanted to point out was the person behind Liu Guoyi, simply because of Liu's seniority, was he allowed to act with impunity, causing market disorder?

"Lin, don't worry, we will definitely seek justice for you."

He glanced at his watch; it was getting late.

"Go back now, tomorrow I will take you to meet County Magistrate Bai."

Speaking of which, he was only at the same level as Liu Guoyi, and even though the Old Food Factory was within the jurisdiction of the Market Supervision Bureau, clearly Liu Guoyi had backing.

Lin Chuxia breathed a sigh of relief – with Director Feng stepping in, things should be much easier now.

In fact, when she received the Good Samaritan award, Lin Chuxia had also met County Magistrate Bai.

She had considered going directly to County Magistrate Bai, but after all, their acquaintance was too brief.

If it were regular work, it would have been fine for Lin Chuxia to directly approach County Magistrate Bai.

To proceed knowing that Liu Guoyi had backup would not be a wise choice.

It wasn't that Lin Chuxia thought the world was too sinister or people too complex, but it's a reality that "too clear of waters hold no fish"—no matter the era, that's just how it is.

Having rested at home for the night, the next day early morning, as soon as Lin Chuxia got up, someone came to her house.

Lin Chuxia recognized the visitor as an employee of Xiyang Food Factory and a villager from Qin Family Village.

During these days, some employees stayed in the factory to work, while others were blocked outside.

The visitor was one of those who were blocked outside. Although they were barred from the factory, they went to the entrance of Xiyang Food Factory every day to confront the people from the Old Food Factory.

"Mr. Lin, you should quickly go take a look. There are a lot more people outside Xiyang Food Factory today, and it looks like they are trying to break in," the visitor said, panting.

At the same time, the loudspeaker of Qin Family Village also broadcasted the village chief's voice: "Elders and comrades of Qin Family Village, pay attention, all able-bodied adults please immediately head to Xiyang Food Factory, please immediately head to Xiyang Food Factory..."

Lin Chuxia's face darkened, "Let's go and have a look."

Mr. and Mrs. Qin followed her out, but Lin Chuxia, concerned about the chaos at the scene, asked them to stay home and wait for news.

However, Mr. and Mrs. Qin refused, "Don't worry, we won't hold you back. With such a serious incident, we can't sit still at home; please let us go and see."

Knowing the two were sensible, Lin Chuxia didn't stop them anymore and rode her bicycle ahead to Xiyang Food Factory.

Before she reached the factory, she could hear the orderly chanting.

"Give us back our orders, give us back our livelihood..."

"Xiyang Food Factory is not leaving us a way out. We will definitely not let them have it easy."

"We want to eat, we need a way out..."

"Yes, we want to eat, we need a way out, give back our orders..."

Outside the gates of Xiyang Food Factory, there were no longer the same people from before. There were a good hundred or so in the uniforms of the Old Food Factory, and there were villagers from Qin Family Village, as well as workers in Xiyang Food Factory uniforms.

Sun Guodong, the public security chief of Qin Family Village, and Sun Liangdong, the security director of Xiyang Food Factory, both brothers, organized the able-bodied youth of Qin Family Village and the workers of Xiyang Food Factory to stand ready and vigilant against the people from the Old Food Factory.

If previously the people from the Old Food Factory were blocking Xiyang Food Factory to prevent them from producing,

now the purpose of these people was even more obvious—to smash Xiyang Food Factory and end their production once and for all.

Some spotted Lin Chuxia, knowing she was the general manager of Xiyang Food Factory next to Su Wensong, pointed at her, and shouted loudly, "She's the general manager of Xiyang Food Factory, it's she who let Xiyang Food snatch our livelihood, we are not done with her."

The village chief was not far away. Realizing the situation was bad, he quickly gestured to the villagers near him to protect Lin Chuxia.

Lin Chuxia could have resisted, but clearly, this was not the time to fight. There were too many of them, and if a fight broke out, the consequences would be disastrous.

She knew that because she rejected Liu Guoyi's demands yesterday, today had escalated to this situation; this was pressure meant to make her yield.

Protected by the villagers of Qin Family Village, Lin Chuxia quickly made it to the entrance of the food factory and discreetly handed Su Wensong a piece of paper with a phone number written on it.

Chapter 314: She Was Still Too Naive at the Time

"Go make this call to Li Jian, tell him that Xiyang Food Factory is besieged, and I'm trapped inside the factory."

Su Wensong knew that Lin Chuxia had gone to find Li Jian yesterday, although he didn't know how their negotiation went. Without uttering another word, he took the phone number and went to make the call.

Seeing him leave, Lin Chuxia turned to address the employees of the Old Food Factory, speaking loudly, "Everyone, please calm down. I want to ask if there is a leader among you? If there is a leader, I hope we can negotiate calmly and rationally."

"Don't listen to her, we have no leaders. We're just here to fight for our livelihoods," someone in the crowd shouted.

As his words ended, others echoed, "Right, we don't have leaders, we are acting on our own initiative."

"Xiyang Food Factory is not leaving us any way to live; we have no choice but to come here and seek an explanation."

"Right, give us back our orders, give us our livelihoods..."

Lin Chuxia glanced at the first person who spoke and continued, "No one is depriving you of a livelihood. It's your actions right now, making a scene at the entrance of Xiyang Food Factory, that are cutting off your own livelihoods. Your current behavior has already violated public security regulations and is illegal. I advise you to go back as soon as possible. If there is a problem, find a proper channel to express it. Making a big fuss won't solve the problem."

"Don't listen to her. If she has the guts, let her call the police. It is them, Xiyang Food, who do not provide a way for us common people to live. Even if the police come and arrest people, it should be them from Xiyang Food Factory being arrested."

"That's right, if you don't leave us a way to live, we won't let this go."

Lin Chuxia looked over again and saw it was the same person speaking first.

And this person seemed to understand very well that the police wouldn't arrest them.

Lin Chuxia narrowed her eyes slightly and directly targeted him, "This comrade thinks the police won't arrest you even if they come. I simply don't understand. The duty of the police is to maintain social stability and clamp down on all who violate laws and disturb public order. The behavior of you employees from the Old Food Factory has already severely affected social stability. How can you be so sure that the police won't arrest you?"

The man felt caught off guard by Lin Chuxia's direct focus on him and hesitantly glanced around before forcing himself to maintain a composed rebuttal.

"How have we affected social stability? I think it's your Xiyang Food Factory stealing other people's orders that left so many of us without food, that's what's affecting social stability."

He finished speaking and even instigated the people around him.

"Everyone, am I right?"

"Exactly, that's the point. You stole our livelihoods first, and that's why we came to seek justice."

"Stole your orders? Stole your livelihoods?" Lin Chuxia looked at the crowd and questioned back, "Every order of Xiyang Food Factory is signed normally with the clients and has contracts. What does that have to do with your Old Food Factory? As for stealing your livelihoods, if you can't hold onto your own livelihoods, that's your problem. What do you mean 'stealing'? To put it another way, you eat from the Old Food Factory's pot, and my employees eat from Xiyang Food Factory's pot, everyone minds their own. If your food becomes diluted, you come and meddle with others' food and think you're justified?"

The people from Qin Family Village and the employees of Xiyang Food Factory present were already displeased with these intrusive behaviors of the people from the Old Food Factory.

Hearing Lin Chuxia's words, they also spoke out indignantly, "Exactly, if you have the ability, sign orders with the clients too. If clients don't want to cooperate with you, it's your own problem. What does it have to do with Xiyang Food Factory?"

"Our ready-to-eat meals and beef sauce produced by Xiyang Food Factory taste good, and customers like them, that's our credit. It's a free market; people buy what they want. It's just you who don't know how to improve production. The food tastes bad, and you still expect customers to be forced to eat it?"

"Relying on your secure jobs to bully people? That's utterly shameless. Such an 'iron rice bowl' like yours is bound to shatter sooner or later."

Of course, the employees of the Old Food Factory knew that they couldn't get orders because the ready-to-eat meals and beef sauce produced by Xiyang Food Factory tasted better.

Even some of their employees stopped eating the meat sauce from the Old Food Factory, preferring to buy from Xiyang Food Factory at the same price.

But they couldn't admit such a fact; admitting it meant the Old Food Factory would stand no chance at all. They'd be squeezed out of business by Xiyang Food Factory sooner or later, and these employees would really lose their "iron rice bowls."

Seeing the shifting expressions in the crowd, Lin Chuxia glanced towards the direction of the village entrance.

She was stalling for time.

These people meant no good, obviously here on a mission, and Lin Chuxia knew that no matter what she said, they wouldn't be easily dispersed.

As expected, a murmur ran through the crowd following what some villagers had said.

"Nonsense, our days were just fine without your Xiyang Food Factory. It's you who snatched away our livelihood."

"Fellow workers, don't listen to them. As long as Xiyang Food Factory exists, our Old Food Factory will never find a way out. They're here to cut off our financial path."

"Let's fight them! If we can't live well, neither will they."

As a few people spoke up, the crowd grew even more agitated.

Someone with sharp eyes spotted the cars at the village entrance and loudly declared, "The public security officers are here, they've come to stand up for us, don't be afraid, let's take on Xiyang Food Factory!"

Seeing the vehicles at the village entrance, the people seemed to gain courage and swarmed towards Xiyang Food Factory.

The villagers from Qin Family Village and the employees from Xiyang Food Factory weren't pushovers either. Some tried to stop them, some tried to block them. Soon, they were scuffling with the workers from the Old Food Factory, resulting in a chaotic scene...

When Li Jian, Bai Qifeng, and Feng Kaiwei arrived at the scene, they were met with this disorder.

Fortunately, Li Jian had notified the county's public security bureau upon his arrival, and the officers began to shout orders through megaphones.

Instead of calming things down, however, the situation became even more chaotic with their attempts, forcing the officers to step in. They had more personnel and quickly got the situation under control.

Lin Chuxia had already noticed Li Jian and Director Feng, as well as Bai County by their side.

Especially Bai County, who had an ashen face watching the scene unfold.

Meanwhile, the crowd controlled by the officers was taken aback; weren't they only supposed to arrest people from Xiyang Food?

Several Old Food Factory workers were forcefully made to kneel on the ground, with the leader trying to say something to the officers, only to be firmly subdued.

Lin Chuxia had been well protected by the village chief and the others; even when someone approached, with Lin Chuxia's capabilities, she wouldn't let them touch her, and the village chief and others did not let her face any danger.

Lin Chuxia was surprised by Bai County's arrival; indeed, she had asked Wensong to call Li Jian hoping for reinforcements.

She hadn't expected Director Feng to come, yet Bai County arrived too.

Seeing Bai County, Lin Chuxia silently pursed her lips; these days had been too tough.

Despite being reborn, she was not omnipotent, especially against someone like Liu Guoyi, who had both the roots and the means.

At this moment, she felt too inexperienced.

She approached Bai County, hiding her full resentment and unwillingness. With every word clear and distinct, she questioned, "Bai County, you've seen it all. Now that the market is open and there are policies to back it up, when I manage my factory, first, there's no malicious competition breaking market laws; second, I haven't violated any laws or regulations; and third, there's no tax evasion. The Old Food Factory doesn't restrain its own employees, even incites them to cause trouble at our factory, disrupting the market order. I must ask our leader, is this the protection for private enterprises that's talked about up top?"

Chapter 315: Hit His Face

On the way here, County Magistrate Bai had already understood the situation, and now he was being questioned by Lin Chuxia, his old face turned red with embarrassment.

Back when he awarded Lin Chuxia the bravery award, he had affirmed her achievements.

Now, aren't the actions of his subordinates essentially a slap in his face?

"Lin, you should have come to me directly at the beginning, this is the dregs within our team, we didn't clean up in time, it's our problem."

No matter how much it's said now, it doesn't help the matter, County Magistrate Bai directly arranged, "Take those troublemakers from the Old Food Factory back for an investigation, and also summon Liu Guoyi immediately to see me, and from the police station, release the workers from Xiyang Food Factory!"

A series of arrangements caused the villagers from Qin Family Village and the employees from Xiyang Food Factory to cheer instantly.

"County Magistrate Bai, you truly are a magistrate in the clear sky."

"County Magistrate Bai stands up for us, Xiyang Food Factory is saved."

The employees of the Old Food Factory were dumbfounded, everyone turned to look at the man in the middle.

"Old Liu, didn't you say they wouldn't arrest us? What should we do now?"

"Old Liu, I followed you here, I have elderly and children at home, I can't afford to go to jail."

"Old Liu, think of something quickly, ask the factory director to save us immediately."

Liu Guohui was utterly disheartened.

What could he do, couldn't he see that even the County Magistrate had come?

He had never expected things to turn out this way, originally thinking by helping his cousin with this matter, his cousin could later secure him an official position.

Now, it seems he can't even keep his job.

Soon, it became quiet in front of the Xiyang Food Factory.

The present issue was resolved, but behind it were intricately complex matters.

County Magistrate Bai assured Lin Chuxia that he would not let the Xiyang Food Factory's production be impacted again, and that he would also properly handle the matter with the Old Food Factory.

After everyone left, Lin Chuxia took Qin Wu, drove the factory's 121, and personally went to the police station to pick up people.

The police station had already received the notice, when Lin Chuxia and her team arrived, the 7 workers from Xiyang Food Factory were already waiting in the lobby.

"Fourth Aunt!"

Seeing Lin Chuxia, Qin Jianjun was the first to stand up and shout.

The others also called out to Mr. Lin.

Lin Chuxia scanned the people, seeing that although everyone looked a bit haggard, there were no other issues, she nodded.

The responsible police officer quickly helped her with the formalities.

When everyone left the police station, it was nearing noon, the autumn was crisp and the sun was extraordinarily bright.

Qin Jianjun let out a long sigh, "The air outside is indeed fresher."

Lin Chuxia patted his shoulder, "Were you scared this time?"

Among these people, Qin Jianjun was the youngest.

Qin Jianjun shook his head, "I'm not afraid, I haven't done anything illegal or disorderly, the upright need not fear a crooked shadow, they started the trouble first, even if they arrested us it's a false arrest, I believed that fourth aunt would get us out sooner or later."

Qin Wu, standing to the side, lifted his hand and tousled his head, "Kid, all you think about is your fourth aunt."

Qin Jianjun laughed, "Of course, I believe in fourth aunt."

The joking eased the atmosphere, Lin Chuxia glanced at the time and said to the others, "Thank you all for your hard work these days, let's find a place to eat first, then you all get a day off to rest well and catch some sleep. Everyone here suffered for the factory this time, to compensate, each of you will receive an additional 50 yuan bonus this month."

With Lin Chuxia's words, the spirits of everyone present were lifted.

"Mr. Lin, this is what we should do."

"The factory is facing troubles, and as employees of Xiyang Food Factory, of course we need to confront them promptly."

"Exactly, they were the unreasonable ones first; if this happens again, I will still rush forward."

...

"Alright, no more talk, let's go eat."

At Lin Chuxia's command, 7 people climbed aboard bus 121, with Qin Wu driving straight to Qin's Bun Shop.

Qin Han already knew the outcome at Xiyang Food Factory, and seeing that everyone was picked up, he was completely relieved.

He called the waiter over to get food for everyone.

Their commotion was not small, and at this moment, Qin's Bun Shop was also at its busy mealtime, with many people sitting in the hall.

These people did not purposely lower their voices.

These days, the issues between the Old Food Factory and Xiyang Food Factory were also the focal points of discussion among everyone.

Now seeing employees in Xiyang Food Factory uniforms, the diners all perked up their ears to listen to the fuss on this side.

The people from Xiyang Food Factory did not disappoint them. In just a few words, everyone learned that county leaders intervened in the matter between Xiyang Food Factory and the Old Food Factory.

County Magistrate Bai personally ensured justice for Xiyang Food Factory, and the previously arrested employees were also released.

What does this mean?

The county leaders have high hopes for Xiyang Food Factory; what the Old Food Factory did was purely bullying.

Now, even more people supported Xiyang Food Factory and Qin's Bun Shop.

.....

At the same time, Qin Wen took a day off today just because he saw so many people gathered at Xiyang Food Factory during work and wanted to know the situation firsthand.

After waiting and waiting without hearing much news, he had no choice but to send his wife out to inquire.

Being a county employee, naturally, he wouldn't go about asking people like an old gossip.

After a long wait, he finally heard from Ma Suyun and immediately couldn't sit still, taking several steps forward, "How was it? Did they fight? Was Lin Chuxia beaten up?"

Ma Suyun also ran quite far, and initially, she didn't believe the news she heard. After asking several times and getting the same answer,

She was thirsty and agitated, taking a sip of water before saying, "Don't mention it, I heard county officials came and took away all those from the Old Food Factory, and even had Lin Chuxia go to the police station to pick up people. It seems Lin Chuxia might turn the tables."

"Impossible," Qin Wen simply did not believe this outcome.

Ever since Qin Jianjun was arrested, he had been following this issue closely.

Not for anything else, but because his own son was arrested. His big brother didn't trust him, his own sibling, but trusted Lin Chuxia. He just wanted to wait for Lin Chuxia's downfall, to show his brother who really had his best interests at heart.

Moreover, Xiyang Food Factory snatched the business of the Old Food Factory. With so many of the Old Food Factory's employees out of work and struggling to even distribute wages.

Looking at these people who used to have secure jobs just a few years ago now in such plight, Qin Wen felt the sorrow of the saying 'one feels sorrowful when a neighbor suffers'.

He didn't want Lin Chuxia to have an easy time and hoped that the Old Food Factory could protect its interests and emerge victorious.

That way, there would still be hope for his own future.

"Who did you ask for this information, it can't be true, right? Didn't you ask more people?"

"How could I not ask? I not only asked several people but also secretly went to Xiyang Food Factory's side to look; there wasn't a single person from the Old Food Factory left, only Zhuzi's mom and others were waiting at the factory gate, seemingly waiting for Lin Chuxia to come back with the people."

Among the people detained that day, besides Qin Jianjun, there were also several villagers from Qin Family Village.

Qin Wen's eyes lit up, "What did Zhuzi's mom and the others at the factory gate look like? Didn't they have any complaints?"

Ma Suyun shook her head again, "Couldn't tell."

Chapter 316: Display

Qin Wen gritted his teeth in hatred, "She really has nine lives, to make such a turnaround with the Old Food Factory's mess. Isn't she just a woman from the countryside? What skills can she have? To think she could even persuade the county leaders to help her out? I bet she's got some unsavory tricks up her sleeve. Didn't you say before that her relationship with Su Wensong is unclear?"

Ma Suyun's eyes also flickered with malice, "You really can't be sure. How come nobody has managed to do anything after so many days? I've heard the village chief even went to see the town head. If she really had that much capability, this would have been resolved long ago. Maybe she's been finding connections these past few days. No wonder though, she was born beautiful, and her man isn't home..."

As she said this, Ma Suyun suddenly paused, "Right, when I was coming back just now, I think I saw your fourth brother Qin Yang returning."

.....

After everyone had their fill, Lin Chuxia personally saw them back to Xiyang Food Factory.

The news of the county leadership's involvement with the Old Food Factory and Xiyang Food Factory had already spread far and wide, and everyone knew that someone at Xiyang Food Factory was taking charge and that the detainees would soon be released.

The family members of the detained were all waiting at the entrance of Xiyang Food Factory, excitedly advancing towards their returned relatives.

Of course, this excluded the family of Qin Jianjun.

Qin Jianjun watched as his colleagues' parents stepped forward to greet their children, some even shedding tears, as he looked around in a daze.

He finally spotted his younger brother, Qin Jianshe, emerging from the shade of a wall.

Qin Jianjun moved forward with some emotion, "Did mom and dad send you to pick me up? Are they too busy with farm work to come?"

It was understandable; with such a big incident at the food factory, his parents should be helping his aunt with all the running around, so the farm work must have been delayed.

Now that things had been resolved, his parents, always good at managing their life, must be making up for lost time in the fields.

The considerate Qin Jianjun didn't wait for an answer from Qin Jianshe and continued, "Actually, there's no need for family to pick me up; having my aunt is enough. But it makes me happy that you are so concerned about your big brother."

Qin Jianshe looked at his brother, blinked, and spoke with a puzzled face.

"Brother, are you daft from being locked up for days at the police station? It wouldn't even take half an hour to crawl home from the food factory, and you want mom and dad to pick you up?"

Qin Jianjun was taken aback, "Aren't mom and dad working in the fields?"

"No way, they're at home taking a nap."

"Didn't you come to pick me up?"

Qin Jianshe looked disdainful, "Why would I pick you up? I just came to watch the excitement."

Qin Jianjun: "..."

I guess that's where brotherhood ends, then.

"Pfft!"

Lin Chuxia and Qin Wu couldn't hold back their laughter any longer, despite being his elders and not supposed to mock the younger ones.

Qin Liang and Qian Chuncao trusted Lin Chuxia completely with their son; they weren't worried about him even when the incident hadn't been resolved, let alone now that it had.

Qin Wu finally managed to suppress his laughter and seriously stepped forward, patting Qin Jianjun on the shoulder, "You kid, isn't it enough that your aunt and Uncle are personally picking you up?"

Qin Jianjun snapped out of his sadness, chuckling, "Of course it's enough. It's just that I've been cooped up for so long, I needed to liven up the atmosphere now that I'm out."

Afterward, he disdainfully pursed his lips at Qin Jianshe, "This is adult business; what's a child like you doing here adding to the chaos?"

Now it was Qin Jianshe's turn to question his life choices.

Lin Chuxia couldn't help but smile until her eyes bent into crescents.

"Xi Xia!"

A man's voice suddenly came from behind, and Qin Jianjun and Qin Jianshe's eyes lit up, "Uncle!"

Lin Chuxia also turned around, only to see Qin Yang approaching from a distance, his face full of concern.

"Are you alright?"

Qin Yang came up and gave her a thorough look-over.

Chuxia looked at the sweat on his forehead and didn't know where he had hurried over from, she quickly comforted him, "I'm fine, everything has passed."

Qin Yang was not comforted.

The moment he got off the train, he heard that there had been chaos at Xiyang Food Factory. After getting home and not seeing Lin Chuxia, he grew even more anxious. He rushed over before even listening to his parents' explanation.

"With such a big incident, why didn't you call me?"

His tone was a bit stern, and his heart was also unsettled.

His wife has been handling the business all by herself from the start, bearing everything alone, as if in her eyes, her husband was just a decoration.

No, not even a decoration.

Decorations are placed at home, and can be seen every day.

Lin Chuxia blinked innocently; she hadn't even thought of calling Qin Yang. She was just used to dealing with everything alone in her previous life.

She also knew that this incident had blown up a bit too much, and if Qin Yang hadn't found out, it might have been fine, but since he had, such concealment was indeed improper.

Looking around, her tone softened, "Mr. Qin, could you give some face to Mr. Lin in front of the colleagues?"

Only then did Qin Yang realize that this was in front of a crowd, "Sorry, I was just too anxious. Is everything handled? Is there anything I can help with?"

Qin Jianjun and Qin Jianshe, the two brothers, watched their fourth uncle and fourth aunt interact and couldn't help but make faces at each other.

In their eyes, their fourth uncle was always calm and composed, giving a sense of distance.

And their fourth aunt, Chuxia, although amiable, was a strong and capable woman who could shoulder heavy responsibilities with decisive and efficient action.

They never expected the two of them to seem like completely different people when together.

No wonder their mother always said that their fourth uncle and fourth aunt had a good relationship.

Qin Wu touched his nose; he was close to his fourth brother, but at this moment he felt somewhat superfluous.

He raised his hand and patted his two nephews, "Let's go, you should hurry home and give your parents peace of mind."

Qin Jianjun rubbed his head, slightly unwilling, "My parents aren't worried about me, why do I need to give them peace of mind?"

Despite his words, he obediently left with Qin Wu.

Other family members who had come to meet their kin also gradually went back home.

The entrance of the factory quieted down, Qin Yang looked at Lin Chuxia, "Do you want to go check on the factory?"

Originally, Lin Chuxia planned to go to the factory and hand over matters to Su Wensong, but now that Qin Yang was back, it was okay not to go for the time being.

"Let's go home first."

Qin Yang hummed in agreement and walked home side by side with Lin Chuxia.

"What was the Old Food Factory's motive this time? The county leaders got involved, they didn't give you a hard time, did they?"

He only understood fragments on the way; even though the incident had passed, after having been in turmoil for about ten days, how could he not inquire?

"After the beef sauce production line went into production, our products took over most of the market in our distribution region, causing the Old Food Factory's market to shrink continuously. These past few days I have inquired—at present, they only have less than thirty percent of their original orders, and it's still decreasing. They are desperate now."

During the standoff between the Old Food Factory and Xiyang Food, Lin Chuxia got information from various sources.

"But this is the result I expected. The beef sauce production line was started to compete with the Old Food Factory, only I didn't expect Liu Guoyi to be so shameless."

Qin Yang turned his head, a cold glint flashing through his eyes, and mentally noted this name, "What do you mean?"

Lin Chuxia explained the conflict between the two families and the situation where only their family was taken in for "investigation."

"They said they would take them for an investigation, but they were locked up for three to four days. If Bai County hadn't stepped in, Jianjun and the others might still be locked up. After that, we didn't dare to conflict with them, taking into consideration this aspect."

At this point, Lin Chuxia let out a long sigh of relief, "Now it's better, I guess I can give Liu Guoyi a headache for a while. With the county leaders stepping in, it won't be easy to fool them."

Qin Yang sneered, "Maybe someone had interfere long before? Are you sure they will receive their due punishment?"

Chapter 317: He Misses His Wife

"Uh..."

Lin Chuxia had indeed considered that, and she could understand.

Without any substantial incident, it was usually minor punishment as a major warning, which won't hurt the bones but serves to sound an alarm.

However, after this incident, the Old Food Factory would have to think twice before taking on Xiyang Food Factory again.

After talking about the food factory, Lin Chuxia's eyes were shining brightly as she looked at Qin Yang, "Why have you come back now? Is it because there's a result regarding the job transfer?"

Qin Yang's expression softened a bit, "Yes, I've returned this time for reporting in. I planned to first come home to see, then report to the unit. After spending Mid-Autumn Festival at home, I'll start working at the new unit."

The main thing was to come back and inform his wife to get ready, so she could move to the city with him.

Lin Chuxia's smile on her face became brighter and more charming, "Oh right, if you hadn't mentioned it, I would have forgotten it's almost Mid-Autumn Festival. After the festival, I'll arrange the company's affairs and then go to the city to find you."

"Okay."

Qin Yang couldn't take his eyes off her brows and eyes; he missed his wife.

Yet, looking at his wife busy with work all day long, she probably didn't have time to think about him.

But thinking about living together in the future and being able to see each other every day filled Qin Yang with great satisfaction.

When they returned home, Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin were slaughtering a chicken. With the food factory conflict resolved and with Qin Yang's return, Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin felt they needed to celebrate.

Seeing the pair enter the house together, Mrs. Qin said with a smile, "Tonight I'll make the chicken stew with mushrooms that Xiaxia likes to eat. Do you have any other requests? Tell me, and I'll go buy groceries."

Mr. Qin wanted to ask about the food factory matter but was stopped by Mrs. Qin.

"The kids have been busy all day, let them go back to the room and rest first. Everything's resolved in the end. You can ask later."

Then, she eagerly looked at the two, waiting for them to say what they wanted to eat.

Lin Chuxia looked towards Qin Yang, "I'm okay with anything, what do you want to eat?"

Qin Yang wasn't particularly picky about food. Moreover, his mother's cooking was just so-so. He was keener on eating what his wife cooked.

But thinking his wife must have been overwhelmed these days, and considering they would live together and he could eat her cooking every day, there was no rush.

So he said, "Mom, you decide. I'm good with anything."

Mrs. Qin was not pleased, "What do you mean, anything is fine? How am I supposed to do the grocery shopping?"

"How about braised pork?"

Lin Chuxia knew that Qin Yang loved braised pork, and besides, who didn't love it nowadays?

"That works."

Now Mrs. Qin was satisfied.

A fluffy touch brushed against his thigh, and there was Yuan Bao, wedging in between the two with its stainless steel food bowl, looking up at Qin Yang with a face full of expectation.

Qin Yang, when he had just come back, was enthusiastically circled by Yuan Bao, who after a couple of rounds, ran back to its kennel.

Because he was so eager to find Lin Chuxia, he hadn't even pet Yuan Bao.

Seeing Yuan Bao now, he reassuringly rubbed the dog's head, "Yuan Bao."

After patting the dog's head, he looked towards Lin Chuxia again, "Are you tired? Do you want to go back to the room and rest?"

Before Lin Chuxia could reply, Yuan Bao squeezed in between them again and nudged, pushing its stainless steel bowl across the floor toward Qin Yang.

Qin Yang glanced at the half-plucked chicken that his parents were handling, and as if by telepathy understood, "Yuan Bao, we can't eat this chicken now. Wait until it's cooked, and the chicken feet are yours."

Yuan Bao seemed dissatisfied, snorting and shaking its head, then it pushed its food bowl toward Qin Yang, right up to his feet.

Qin Yang had no choice but to negotiate with it, "How about I give you a raw chicken head to eat?"

Lin Chuxia was almost laughing herself rich. Yuan Bao wasn't wanting to eat chicken at all, it clearly wanted Qin Yang to notice its award.

Afraid that the misunderstanding would continue and that Yuan Bao would hold a grudge against Qin Yang.

She tugged at his sleeve, and Qin Yang looked over, puzzled.

At this point, he truly didn't understand what Yuan Bao was up to.

Lin Chuxia pointed at her chin, "That's the award from the police station for Yuan Bao. It helped the police solve a case, so they made this specially for it."

Qin Yang suddenly realized, squatting down to hug Yuan Bao's head and spoke with a very exaggerated tone, "Is that so, Yuan Bao? You're truly amazing, truly a hero."

At that moment, he also realized what pet's food bowl was this brand-new stainless steel one, with the word "Hero" engraved on it.

Even if his wife was great at making money, she surely hadn't been this extravagant before.

So, it turns out that Yuan Bao had won it itself.

Now that the male master finally understood, Yuan Bao wagged its tail and carried its food bowl, turning around twice on the spot.

Lin Chuxia: "..."

Qin Yang: "..."

The two were shoed back to their room by Mrs. Qin to rest. Noticing the luggage on the floor, Lin Chuxia asked casually, "You said you're coming back this time to report to the city, when is your report due? Are you going before or after the Mid-Autumn Festival? It seems like Mid-Autumn is just four or five days away."

After prattling on for a while without hearing the man behind her reply, Lin Chuxia turned her head to see him looking at her with deep, lingering eyes.

"What's wrong?"

Lin Chuxia thought Qin Yang might still be upset that she hadn't told him about the food factory in advance and smiled as she went to pull his hand.

Qin Yang pulled her hand in turn and sat on the bed, his voice indifferent, "What's this about Yuan Bao solving a case? Aren't you planning to tell me the details?"

The smile at Lin Chuxia's lips stiffened for a moment - was this man too perceptive?

She glanced up at the ceiling unconsciously, "There's not much to say, it's just that Yuan Bao's sense of smell seems to be very keen. Officer Sun found it smart and borrowed it for a bit, and who knew it really helped solve a case."

"Is that really so?"

Lin Chuxia really wanted to nod and say yes when she heard the man speak again, "Then what about your title for the act of righteous bravery? I really hadn't expected that my wife is already a hero for acts of bravery."

Lin Chuxia: "..."

Why does this sentence give me the creeps?

Lin Chuxia stood up, wrapped her arms around Qin Yang's neck, her voice soft and sweet, "Qin Yang, I didn't feel anything when we lived in different places in the past, but lately, when I rest by myself, I always feel lonely, I miss you so much. I'm so glad you'll be transferred back here soon, I'm truly happy."

"Lin Chuxia," Qin Yang pulled apart Lin Chuxia's arms, "Sugar-coated bullets don't work on me, tell me what's really going on?"

Heaven knows what he felt when he walked past the Bun Shop at the train station, casually picked up a newspaper, and saw the information on it.

His heart skipped a beat in that instant.

Honors for acts of bravery are supremely glorious, but for loved ones, it means that the person closest to you has faced a life or death danger.

The world admires heroes, but for family, life safety and health are the most important.

He doesn't want Lin Chuxia to be a hero, he just wants his wife to be his only.

Knowing she couldn't avoid it any longer, Lin Chuxia had to tell Qin Yang about the rescue of Chen Ping.

Chapter 318: Do Not Treat Me as a Stranger

"Really, it's not as dangerous as you think, and besides, I know how to protect myself, Yuan Bao was also by my side, and Yuan Bao was a great help."

Lin Chuxia tried to simplify things, but Qin Yang's expression just kept getting worse.

Finally, he grabbed her shoulders and kissed her directly.

He was afraid that if she spoke more, he would be infuriated to death.

"Lin Chuxia, Lin Chuxia, this actually happened before you went to the Northwest, and you're only telling me now," after he saw it in the newspaper.

If he hadn't coincidentally seen that day's newspaper, would this woman have continued to keep it from him?

Today, Qin Yang felt the most severe sense of defeat in his over 20 years of life.

He had never felt so failed in his life, and as a husband, he felt utterly devastated.

He wasn't a qualified husband; whenever his wife faced danger or difficulty, he wasn't there for her in time, he didn't even have the right to know.

Lin Chuxia felt that her mouth would definitely swell from continuing like this, she repeatedly begged for mercy.

"Qin Yang, I was wrong, I was truly wrong, I won't dare do this again, I might break the skin..."

Finally, Qin Yang stopped his actions, his eyes red as he stared at her, "Xiaxia, don't torture me like this anymore, I'm your husband, don't treat me like a stranger."

Lin Chuxia, touching the corner of her mouth, then soothingly touched Qin Yang's face, "Why would I treat you like a stranger? The act of heroism was truly an accident; the situation was urgent, and when those criminals saw me, even if I didn't react, I might have been killed to be silenced. It was also self-defense to save Chen Ping, the matter with Xiyang Food Factory..."

Okay, she really did forget to tell Qin Yang about the Xiyang Food Factory and Old Food Factory.

After all, distant waters can't quench immediate thirst; Lin Chuxia was used to handling things alone and never even thought of involving Qin Yang.

Lin Chuxia leaned in and kissed the corner of his lips, "I promise I won't do this again, and we don't have to live apart anymore, you can supervise me, okay?"

Qin Yang sighed, wrapping his arms around his small wife.

With such a wife, what could he do?

That night, Zhang Guilan also returned from the city; she had just heard about the incident between the Old Food Factory and the Xiyang Food Factory and was furious, cursing in the courtyard.

Fortunately, the issue was already resolved, and the family enjoyed a lively reunion dinner together.

Knowing that Qin Yang would soon be transferred back, Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin's smiles never stopped.

With their younger son returned, their daughter-in-law and son wouldn't have to live apart anymore.

A family united is truly perfect.

"Xiaxia, tell your master tomorrow that he should come to our house for the Mid-Autumn Festival; he's too lonely by himself."

"Okay, Mom, I understand."

After dinner, everyone returned to their own rooms.

The one who previously claimed sugar-coated bullets were ineffective suddenly changed, clinging to Lin Chuxia, with various requests, wanting her to say words of love and missing him.

Lin Chuxia cooperated with his actions while also having to bolster her verbal skills, rolling her eyes internally.

Men's mouths, deceiving ghosts indeed.

"Xiaxia~"

"Hmm?"

"I want to hear you say it again..."

"Say what?"

"Say you love me, Xiaxia, do you love me?"

Lin Chuxia internally snarked, speak if you want to speak, why stop what we're doing?

Isn't this killing me?

Her pale arms snaked around the man's shoulders, her voice soft and enticing, laced with seduction.

"Qin Yang, I love you... Mm~"

Suddenly, as if caught in a tempest, Lin Chuxia felt her soul almost flying away.

In a daze, she heard the man's low, muffled voice, "Xiaxia, love me more in the future," his tone pitifully contrasting with his actions at the moment.

Lin Chuxia felt light-headed, her gaze blurry, floating as if in a trance.

She must have heard wrong.

The autumn sun always shone especially bright. Lin Chuxia opened her eyes to find the sun already high in the sky.

Today was the weekend, and she could hear Little Zhuangzhuang's cheerful voice in the yard.

The man beside her had already disappeared without a trace, prompting Lin Chuxia to quietly curse at someone a couple of times.

Usually, she left early and returned late, practically the same as everyone else in the house.

With Qin Yang back, she had lazed in bed until now, probably leaving others guessing what they had done last night.

Her face was probably about to be completely embarrassed by Qin Yang.

Despite complaining inwardly, Lin Chuxia still got ready and stepped outside composed.

Outside, Qin Yang was talking with Mr. Qin about building a new house, a topic Lin Chuxia had mentioned in a letter, and now the two were discussing renovation plans in the yard.

Hearing the door, Qin Yang looked up and saw Lin Chuxia, his dark eyes softening with a gentle affection, "You're up?"

It took a great deal of mental preparation for Lin Chuxia not to lose her composure and she glared at him irritably.

Couldn't he just talk properly with his father and ignore her presence?

Noticing his wife's dissatisfaction, Qin Yang chuckled softly then nonchalantly continued his conversation with his father.

Lin Chuxia secretly sighed in relief. Knowing Mrs. Qin was in the kitchen, she was just about to check in when Little Zhuangzhuang ran up from a distance, Yuan Bao trailing behind him.

"Little auntie, little auntie, are you up? Little uncle told me not to speak loudly, saying little auntie was sleeping. I woke up a long time ago. Little auntie, such a grown-up still lazes in bed, shame, shame~"

Lin Chuxia: "..."

She couldn't stay in this house any longer.

After breakfast, Qin Yang planned to join Mr. Qin to find someone to renovate the house.

The house had been standing unfinished for a while, and Lin Chuxia had initially suggested they renovate together, but Mr. Qin, old-school as he was, hesitated to spend the money and thought he could handle some tasks himself.

The children were all working outside, and he was idle anyway.

Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia shared the opinion that the sooner the house was fixed up, the sooner it could be used.

Moreover, he and Lin Chuxia would soon move to the city, and getting the house in order would set their minds at ease.

Qin Yang wouldn't report to the city until tomorrow, so today was perfect for helping his father with home matters.

Lin Chuxia went to the Market Supervision Bureau to meet with Li Jian and learn about the follow-up to yesterday's events.

Li Jian was waiting for her in his office.

Upon her arrival, he poured her a glass of water, his expression far from relaxed.

"When I came here, I heard that most of the employees from the Old Food Factory detained yesterday have been released, with only a few instigators still at the police station, including Liu Guoyi's cousin. Are they only processing these few scapegoats?"

Although Bai County had intervened in the matter, allowing Xiyang Food Factory to resume normal production, pursuing accountability was another issue.

The Old Food Factory was, after all, one of Ancheng County's original fundamental industries, and Lin Chuxia worried that the issue might be sloppily handled.

If that was indeed the case, she might need to have a serious talk with County Magistrate Bai, and even visit the Discipline Inspection Commission.

Chapter 319: Caprice

Li Jian waved his hand, "It won't be that reckless. I've already ordered from Bai County yesterday to suspend Liu Guoyi for investigation, and about the City Gate Police Station, although Liu Guoyi has greeted Chief Zhou Zong, Zhou Zong's involvement in minor tampering is one aspect. But Liu Guoyi doesn't have that much influence; the fundamental reason is Liu Guoyi's deep relationship with Vice County Magistrate Duan, who was the one who promoted him in Bai County."

At this point, Lin Chuxia already understood clearly.

Although Bai County intervened, it was still his subordinates who caused the trouble, and they were the ones he vouched for.

"After all, although this incident has had a big impact, Xiyang Food Factory hasn't suffered substantial losses. Just in case, I mean only if, the outcome doesn't meet your expectations, don't take it too seriously, because after..."

Li Jian looked at her worriedly, his words trailed off, but his expression said it all.

Having lived two lifetimes, Lin Chuxia would not be confounded by such an incident.

Rationally, she knew this could be the end of the matter, but emotionally, she felt stifled.

Seeing he hadn't spoken, Li Jian continued, "Liu Guoyi is now suspended for investigation. Although he was the mastermind behind the scenes, he is quite astute and hasn't left any evidence. Eventually, his cousin will take all the responsibility, and Liu Guoyi will at most face a minor disciplinary action for negligence. At his age, with no hope for promotion, another disciplinary record is inconsequential to him. As for the others, they might not even receive a penalty, with no evidence, at most a warning."

Lin Chuxia held her cup, her fingertips slightly white, her delicate face becoming ever more cold and stern.

Finally, she slammed the cup down on the table, "This can't just be let go. Liu Guoyi has crossed swords with Xiyang Food Factory not just once. If it were fair competition, no matter the outcome, Xiyang Food Factory would accept it. But now he uses such despicable means and expects to get off scot-free, it won't be so easy. If we let him off this time, what about next time? If there's no evidence, I'll find some. If Ancheng County can't resolve this, I'll take it higher. I refuse to believe that there's no place left that will stand up for justice."

"Sister, sister, don't panic," Li Jian quickly reassured her, seeing her agitation, "Aren't I just considering the worst-case scenario? The matter hasn't concluded yet, let's just wait and see, don't add fuel to the fire."

He didn't know how things would turn out either. Today, upon hearing that Liu Guoyi was backed by Duan Shixin, he felt disheartened.

Now it was up to Bai County's decision.

But in the end, he didn't want Lin Chuxia to take that path.

Since ancient times, commoners do not fight with officials. Justice exists naturally, but the path to seeking justice is not always easy.

In his heart, Lin Chuxia has always been a wise and calm woman, knowing what to forsake and what to keep. He couldn't understand why she insisted on being so determined over this matter.

Lin Chuxia didn't know why she felt this way either. If it were her previous life, without a doubt, she would choose to compromise.

Perhaps it's because this time she has some backing, she started to act willfully.

"Thank you, Brother Li, for telling me all this. When can we expect a result? I will wait for the outcome before making a decision."

Lin Chuxia was not an impulsive person.

Li Jian secretly sighed in relief, "It should take about three to five days, and it's almost the Mid-Autumn Festival, it probably won't be so quick before then."

"Then I really appreciate Brother Li keeping an eye out for me."

No matter what, Lin Chuxia's factory was still just a small private enterprise in the eyes of these people; the barriers between the two classes aren't something that can be broken through simply by earning more money.

"Sister, you're too polite."

.....

After leaving Li Jian, Lin Chuxia went to Old Master He's place.

The Mid-Autumn Festival was a time for family reunion, and Lin Chuxia hoped her master could join them.

Also, since Qin Yang was going to work in the city, she would be moving there soon too. Lin Chuxia also wanted to bring her master along, considering that all that was left here were unpleasant memories for him.

When she arrived at Old Master He's house, she saw him packing up his belongings, and Lin Chuxia beamed with joy.

"Old man, why so eager this time? Can't bear to part with your disciple, eh? But you don't need to rush. Qin Yang hasn't reported there yet, and I still have some matters to handle here. Just wait a little longer, let me settle things there first before I fetch you over."

Although Jia Liang was in the city and could handle some matters when informed, Lin Chuxia wanted to take charge personally.

She knew her master's living habits best, and since she was arranging his retirement life, naturally, the living arrangements needed to be close to their own.

Now, Qin Yang's accommodation wasn't settled yet; the old man was indeed too eager this time.

Old Master He looked at her with bafflement, "What nonsense are you spouting? What am I waiting for? It's the middle of the day and you come here throwing a fit, just keep to the side and don't bother me."

Lin Chuxia was taken aback, "Aren't you packing to move in with us in the city?"

"I'm living well here, why would I move to the city with you?"

"Then why are you packing your things? Besides, didn't we agree before that I would take care of you when you are old? In a little while, Qin Yang and I will live in the city, and I don't feel comfortable leaving you here alone in Ancheng County."

Old Master He did indeed know about Qin Yang being transferred back; Lin Chuxia had spoken to him about something similar before, asking him to move to the city to live together.

"You youngsters live your own lives. I'm old now, I've lived here all my life, and I don't want anymore changes. Don't worry about my retirement, your master can still move around now, I don't need your care yet."

After packing his belongings, Old Master He asked Lin Chuxia, "Is everything settled with the Old Food Factory?"

"It's more or less settled, Xiyang Food Factory has resumed production."

Lin Chuxia didn't want to trouble the old man with her work-related issues and shifted the topic.

"Qin Yang will go to his unit in the city tomorrow to report, and he'll start working there after the Mid-Autumn Festival. I'll arrange my affairs here during this time and then will head over too. Master, think it over, if you don't come with us to the city, you won't see your adorable disciple as often."

She even made a cute blinking gesture as she spoke.

Old Master He simply couldn't bear to look, "Go on, leave, it'd be better if you're out of sight, so I don't have to tolerate you."

"Master, since when did our master-disciple relationship become so distorted? How can I be bothersome? I'm clearly clever and filial. By the way, stay with us for the Mid-Autumn Festival in a few days."

Old Master He shook his head, "No, I have to step out tomorrow, I won't be back for a few days, so I won't be home for the Mid-Autumn Festival."

Lin Chuxia frowned, "Are you going to see patients?"

Chapter 320: Qin Yang is Bullying Someone

Just now he saw that the suitcases Old Sir He packed contained his medical belongings.

Besides, Old Sir He had no relatives left, where could he possibly go when travelling far?

"You said you aren't treating people anymore, right?"

Though he had treated Mr. Qin and Qin Yang before, that was because of her connections, and indeed, Old Sir He had always adhered to his principles.

Old Sir He did not deny it, simply stating softly, "Even though my master doesn't have great abilities, I still want to protect my disciple with this old face."

"Old man, what are you talking about?"

Lin Chuxia angrily grabbed the luggage from his hand, "If we don't want to treat others, we won't do it; nobody can force you into doing something you are reluctant to do. Just stay at home comfortably, do whatever you want; I can handle my own issues and don't need anyone's protection."

From the beginning to the end, Lin Chuxia considered Old Sir He as her master without expecting any repayment.

Old Sir He looked at her with a chuckle, as if looking at a bristling little cat.

"Put away that attitude. I don't have such influence here, and no one is threatening me. It's just an old friend who is sick, I want to visit him and take the opportunity to unwind."

Though he said that, Lin Chuxia knew that the master didn't want her to feel psychologically burdened.

"Master, the problem is really resolved, and I am capable of handling it. Even if you don't trust my abilities, you should trust your own judgment; how could your disciple be stumped by such a trivial matter? I really don't want you to do anything you don't want to."

Old Sir He laughed and patted her head, "There's nothing I don't want to do. Watching you busily achieve all these things over the past two years, I suddenly feel that living aimlessly is no different from waiting for death, consider it a whim of mine."

"Then you can go after the Mid-Autumn Festival."

Old Sir He had no choice but to agree in the end.

He sighed, "If my old friend blames me later, I can only blame it on my reckless young disciple."

.....

"How could I be making this up? Someone saw it with their own eyes; don't you guys ever think, what kind of relationship do those two have? Being unrelated yet having this connection, would any of you believe it?"

"Now that you mention it, I remember during the quarrel yesterday, Factory Director Su was desperately protecting her."

"That makes your point strange. She has brought us such great benefits, shouldn't she be protected? I see the village chief protecting her too. According to you, does she have a relation with the village chief as well?"

"Who can say for sure? It might very well be true. How old is that woman? Even younger than your daughters, right? Could your daughters manage to open a factory? And with so many people in the Qin Family Village, who could get such a large piece of land from the village chief?"

"Ma San, I think you are going too far. Lin obtained the land from the village chief through a contract and a payment of money. The village chief said that our village could start a chicken farm because of the money Lin paid for the land. Lin did want a plot of land, true, but it was the village chief who asked her to buy it, and even provided 20 job slots for our village. Besides, how many people are working at the food factory now? You are being too ungrateful with your words."

"Why am I ungrateful? We are just being realistic here. Let's not talk about the village matters; let's talk about the recent issues with the old food factory, which had been troubling for many days and suddenly got resolved yesterday. Why?"

"Why indeed?" someone curiously asked.

"It's all because that woman is formidable and has ways. I heard that she managed to get the county head involved, that woman...hey hey hey..."

Qin Yang had just arrived at the village entrance when he overheard a few villagers whispering.

Initially, he didn't care, but when he heard mention of Xiyang Food Factory, he slowed down.

Until he heard this statement, Qin Yang could no longer hold back and grabbed Ma San by the collar.

"What did you just say?"

Ma San was forcibly lifted up, struggling continuously, "What can I say? It's what everyone's been saying..."

When he saw clearly who was lifting him, especially that gloomy face, he was suddenly stuck.

"Qin... Qin Lao..."

Ma San's face turned bright red, whether from strangulation or fear was unknown.

"Those words, I didn't say them, everyone else was saying that."

"Who are 'they'?"

Ma San's eyes flickered, "I... I forgot, but I truly didn't spread rumors. Everyone knows, your wife and the Factory Director Su of Xiyang Food Factory have an unusual relationship, even this affair was her and the county..."

Before he could finish, Qin Yang punched him. Ma San yelped, not daring to say another word.

But his eyes looked wronged, as if Qin Yang was bullying him.

Qin Yang didn't care about that; talking about his wife, spreading rumors about his wife was unacceptable.

He continued to punch Ma San who had no strength to fight back, just crying out in pain.

At first, the onlookers were feeling guilty, thinking about whether they should hide away quickly.

Seeing how badly Ma San was being beaten, they had to steel themselves and step forward to break it up.

"Qin Lao, Qin Yang, stop hitting him, or you'll kill someone."

"He has a nasty mouth, calm down, it's just everyone spreading nonsense, don't take it to heart."

Qin Yang scoffed coldly, "Aunt Li, Aunt Wang, if everyone said Uncle Li and Aunt Wang were having an affair, or Uncle Wang and Aunt Li were, would you take it to heart?"

The peacemakers, Aunt Li and Aunt Wang: "..."

Of course, they'd take it to heart, they'd tear those blabbermouths apart.

But Lin Chuxia has always been the village's topic, everyone was used to talking about her, whether good or bad, people always had a few words to say when gathering.

Qin Yang ignored Aunt Wang and Aunt Li, and after giving Ma San a few more punches, he stopped and warned, "If I hear you slandering my wife again, don't blame me for being unkind."

Ma San slowly got up from the ground only after Qin Yang had walked away.

The surrounding women didn't dare to come forward, even blaming him, "Look Ma San, you better stop saying such disapproved words in the future. From what I see, Qin Lao's wife is not like what you described."

"Right, don't say these words to us next time, we don't want to listen."

Talking casually about others is fine, but talking about Qin family, what if they truly offend them, and Xiyang Food Factory stops hiring their family members in the future?

After all, even if their families don't have many people, who doesn't have relatives and friends?

.....

At night, Lin Chuxia returned home; workers were already at the newly-built house in the front yard.

Sometimes they were plastering the walls or measuring window sizes, all unfamiliar faces; Lin Chuxia knew that Qin Yang must have hired masons from outside.

In this respect, Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia held a similar view; they were not short of money now, and they preferred to solve issues with money whenever possible rather than owing favors.

In the future, she and Qin Yang would live in the city, with her elder brother and sister-in-law busy with the Bun Shop, and it would be hard to repay any owed favors.