

Switched M 521

Chapter 521: Emergency Situation

"Aunt Lin, Uncle Qin, is anyone home?"

Through the window, a young man could be seen standing at the doorway, looking anxious.

Lin Chuxia recognized the young man; she had met him that morning, Wei Bing, the son of Sister-in-law Gong and Minister Wei.

Wei Bing graduated from university this year and was assigned to work in the city, returning to stay with Minister Wei and his wife.

Qin Yang went outside to greet him and came back shortly afterward.

"Sister-in-law Gong suddenly fainted. I'm driving her to the hospital. You stay home."

Upon hearing this, Lin Chuxia stood up as well, "I'll come with you to check on her."

Since they arrived in Yan City over a year ago, both in work and in life, Minister Wei and Sister-in-law Gong had been very supportive of them.

Qin Yang knew his wife's personality well. He grabbed a thick coat for her to put on, took her hand, and, grabbing the car keys, headed out.

The company had a car, but they were the only family in the compound who owned one.

Since Wei Bing didn't go to the company but came directly to them, it was clear this was urgent.

By the time Qin Yang drove Lin Chuxia and Wei Bing to Minister Wei's house, Sister-in-law Gong had already woken up.

Seeing Qin Yang and his wife come with their son, she said, "You see, this is just an old issue of mine. Why did you trouble them to come all the way here?"

She apologetically said to Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang, "I'm fine, just felt a little dizzy suddenly, sorry for dragging you along."

Minister Wei was still worried, "What dizziness? I called you so many times just now, and you were unresponsive."

Wei Bing, who had been away studying for the past few years, didn't know how serious his mother's condition was. His eyes reddened, "Mom, let's go to the hospital to check it out."

Lin Chuxia also said, "Yes, Sister-in-law, Minister Wei and Wei Bing are worried about you. The car is outside. Going to the hospital for a check-up will give us peace of mind."

"Look, even Lin is saying this. Stop being stubborn. You're making me worry even when I'm at work," Minister Wei persuaded, his eyes full of concern.

Sister-in-law Gong glanced at her husband and finally nodded.

Minister Wei and Wei Bing were definitely going to accompany her, so Lin Chuxia decided not to go along.

The car space was limited, and two people sitting at the back would be more comfortable.

Qin Yang personally drove them to the hospital, while Lin Chuxia returned home first.

It wasn't until the evening that Qin Yang came back.

Sister-in-law Gong's condition was still quite serious, and she was kept under observation at the hospital.

Lin Chuxia hadn't realized Sister-in-law Gong's health was so serious. She felt guilty for having asked her to help with bringing coal suppliers home that morning.

The next day, after breakfast, she went to the grocery store to buy some snacks, milk powder, and canned goods, planning to visit Sister-in-law Gong at the hospital.

She had already asked Qin Yang about Sister-in-law Gong's room in the morning, so when she arrived at the hospital, she went straight to the inpatient department.

Passing by a room, she seemed to see a familiar figure.

She took a step back and peered through the half-open door, and indeed, it was someone she knew.

"Jia Liang, what are you doing here? Who's sick?"

Jia Liang was standing by a hospital bed, seemingly feeding the person there.

When he heard Lin Chuxia's voice, he turned around, and Lin Chuxia saw the person on the bed he was blocking.

"Big Sister? What happened to you?"

Neither of them expected to run into Lin Chuxia there.

Jia Liang, however, was calm, holding his bowl and speaking plainly, "Mr. Lin, Juanzi has a fever and a cough that hasn't subsided for two days. Last night it got worse, so we came to the hospital, and the doctor recommended an IV. I had her hospitalized for comfort."

Qin Juan was embarrassed and didn't know what to say. With Jia Liang feeding her right in front of Lin Chuxia, she couldn't eat.

"I can do it myself; it's not like I have a broken hand or foot. How could I not handle a bowl?"

Listening closely, there was a hint of reproach in her words, and her face was a shade of red.

"I'm fine here, and the store is busy. We can't both be stuck here, so you should head back quickly."

She pushed Jia Liang while giving him looks, fearing he might say something shocking.

Lin Chuxia had lived two lives; what couldn't she see?

Her big sister's attitude towards Jia Liang was noticeably different from before.

She intentionally said, "Looks like I came at the wrong time, interrupting your breakfast. Still, Big Sister, don't rush Jia Liang back to the store. I only came to the hospital to visit a friend—I didn't know you were here. It makes it seem like I'm an unkind boss who won't allow an employee to be taken care of while sick. Never mind, I'll leave so I'm not in the way."

"Hey..."

Qin Juan tried to explain, but Lin Chuxia had already turned and left.

Jia Liang, holding the bowl, smiled, his eyes full of warmth.

Qin Juan glared at him angrily, "You're still laughing? Now you've let the sister-in-law misunderstand."

"Misunderstand what? Someone as smart as Mr. Lin sees everything clearly. Juanzi, don't test me anymore. I've set my heart on you for this life. If you don't want to remarry, then I won't either. This way is fine as it is."

Qin Juan sighed helplessly, "Jia Liang, you don't have to do this. I've been divorced, with a child, I don't deserve your goodness to me."

Jia Liang laughed softly, "Juanzi, you're mistaken. I, Jia Liang, am not a good person. You should know, I've even spent a few months in jail. Otherwise, why else would I be this age and still unmarried? Who would want to marry someone who's been in jail? If we're talking about suitability, it's me who doesn't deserve you."

He looked at her again, "Do you despise me for having been in jail?"

"I don't," Qin Juan replied almost instinctively.

She knew about Jia Liang's past but she had eyes and a brain.

In the year and more they've been together at Qin's Restaurant, Jia Liang has shown responsibility and maturity in his work and filial piety towards Aunt Jia. To Qin Juan, Jia Liang is a real man, far superior to Zhang Wenbin.

Sure, at first, when he said he listened to his mother, Qin Juan thought Jia Liang was like Zhang Wenbin, only listening to his mother blindly and being foolishly filial.

But she later realized that Jia Liang's listening was different from Zhang Wenbin's listening.

Moreover, Aunt Jia was not a selfish person like Mrs. Zhang.

No person is without mistakes, and correcting them is what's important.

What's more, Aunt Jia had talked about their struggles back then, and Qin Juan had never looked down on Jia Liang because of his past.

Jia Liang chuckled, "Then let's not get married, here, eat."

Qin Juan reluctantly opened her mouth to eat the spoonful of food offered to her.

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After seeing Sister-in-law Gong, Lin Chuxia returned to Qin Juan's hospital room.

By this time, Jia Liang was no longer there; only Qin Juan remained, getting her IV.

Lin Chuxia first inquired about her illness. Knowing it wasn't serious, her eyes began to study her closely.

Qin Juan felt uncomfortable under her gaze, urging her to leave.

But Lin Chuxia didn't go, "Big Sister, tell me what's on your mind now. I see Jia Liang looks at you like a hunter with his prey, not letting go easily. I still stand by my word, whatever your choice, we will support you."

Chapter 522: Can't Bear to Hide from Him Anymore

Qin Juan sat dazed for a moment, then gently spoke, "I just think he deserves someone better, how can I..."

"That's enough with just your words, Big Sister," Lin Chuxia guessed what she wanted to say and interrupted her, "Big Sister, you're great. Don't underestimate yourself. Not to mention anything else, you're beautiful, gentle, and considerate, and you're also top-notch at managing the restaurant. A woman who can handle both the drawing room and the kitchen, how many can compare? Jia Liang choosing you means he has good taste. For someone of his burly stature, I feel he's not quite suited for you."

"Xiaxia, how can you say things like that," Qin Juan reminded with dissatisfaction, "Jia Liang is quite good. The shop relies on him for management. I've learned all of these from him."

Qin Juan had never found Jia Liang lacking. On the contrary, interacting with him was comfortable. Despite his burly appearance, he was actually very meticulous.

She really just felt unworthy of him, and she hadn't considered it before.

Since she hadn't considered it, she didn't want to give him false hope. Even her nephew understood this principle; how could she not understand?

She just hadn't expected that avoiding him would hurt him.

Ever since Jia Liang said those things when Ningning was sick, for some reason, Qin Juan couldn't bear to avoid him anymore.

Lin Chuxia looked at her without speaking, just smiling with pursed lips.

Qin Juan finally realized something, her face turning red as she awkwardly looked out the window.

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At the hospital, during the afternoon school pickup time, Lin Chuxia went to pick up Ningning from school.

But from afar, she saw Jia Liang waiting at the gate, and Little Ningning, upon seeing Jia Liang, hopped and skipped over to him.

She had known Ningning got along well with Aunt Jia, but didn't expect her to get along so harmoniously with Jia Liang too.

Mind you, Jia Liang's appearance is not the kind kids typically like. Many children hide behind their mothers at the sight of him.

After Qin Juan's divorce, Ningning had become more cheerful, but only with those she was familiar with.

With unfamiliar people, she still exercised caution.

It was clear that Jia Liang and Ningning usually got along well.

Jia Liang turned and saw Lin Chuxia, greeting her awkwardly.

"Mr. Lin, since Juanzi hasn't been around, I didn't trust leaving the child with others. But don't worry, I've arranged everything at the shop."

How could Lin Chuxia blame him for this?

"With you caring for the child, we feel assured. You're doing the right thing. No matter when, our Ningning is the most important."

Ningning heard Lin Chuxia's words and smiled happily.

"Uncle Jia, my Aunt Lin loves me the most."

"Yes, I like Ningning the most."

Lin Chuxia caressed her little face and took her hand to the car.

Seeing Jia Liang still standing there, she tilted her head, "Get in the car, aren't you heading to the hospital?"

Jia Liang grinned, "Yes, today Juanzi is discharged, and I planned to pick Ningning up to take her."

"Perfect, I'll join you."

In the car, Lin Chuxia felt she needed to clarify some things with Jia Liang, or else this straightforward guy would always treat her as his boss.

"My big sister has had a tough life before. Jia Liang, thank you for taking good care of her. Although we will always stand by her side unconditionally and support her decisions, it doesn't stop me from backing your pursuit of her."

Jia Liang chuckled, meeting Lin Chuxia's gaze through the rearview mirror, quickly expressing his determination.

"Don't worry, Mr. Lin. I'll definitely treat Juanzi and Ningning well, and see them as my life."

Little Ningning curiously asked, "Why do I need Uncle Jia's life? I like Uncle Jia, but I don't want his life."

Lin Chuxia burst into laughter.

"Alright, then I'll wait to see your skills and performance. Hope you achieve your desires."

Hearing Lin Chuxia's words, Jia Liang's smile broadened.

He knew the position Qin Juan held in Lin Chuxia's heart. Now that he had Mr. Lin's approval, he'd essentially won over the Lin Family.

His pursuit of his future wife seemed bright.

Upon arrival at the hospital, Qin Juan had already packed up and was complaining as Jia Liang entered.

"I've said countless times that I'm fine alone. The shop's so busy, you shouldn't be running back and forth..."

Just then, Ningning ran in from the back, "Mommy, Mommy, I'm here with Uncle Jia and Aunt Lin to take you home. Are you well now?"

Qin Juan spotted Lin Chuxia behind Jia Liang and her face instantly turned red. She coughed formally before saying to Ningning, "I'm all better, thank you for coming to take Mommy home."

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After installing the phone, Lin Chuxia called Su Wensong, asking about the heating situation for Old Sir He.

When Lin Chuxia left An City, she had already instructed Su Wensong to help take care of Old Sir He.

Old Sir He and Granny Su were old acquaintances. Even without Lin Chuxia's involvement, Su Wensong would still help.

Now, everything was managed even more thoroughly.

"Rest assured, Mr. Lin, the heating issue at Old Sir He's place has been arranged. I sent someone to install the radiators, hauled in two tons of coal recently, and just helped light the stove today. The old man said he can manage the stove himself and complained I'm too meddlesome."

Hearing this, Lin Chuxia could imagine Old Sir He's grumbling look and chuckled softly.

"My mentor is like that. Despite his complaints, he must be secretly pleased. With the heating on, I feel relieved. Otherwise, I'd worry if he were handling coal at home by himself."

In recent years, living conditions improved, and many households started using coal for heat. Every year, cases of carbon monoxide poisoning were reported.

When spring arrived, Qin Liang and his partner suffered from carbon monoxide poisoning, which scared Lin Chuxia greatly.

Su Wensong agreed, "Indeed, elders enjoy lively company once they reach a certain age. Like my granny, though exhausted from caring for kids, she's still happy. Others might want her to rest, but she prefers being active herself. Some children's concern makes elders happy, while others can't get it right."

Guessing the situation from his words, Lin Chuxia asked, "Did my mentor's daughters visit him again?"

Initially thinking Lin Chuxia didn't know, Su Wensong didn't hide it anymore.

It turns out it had to do with Xiyang Food Factory. Old Sir He's second daughter's husband previously worked at Ancheng Food Factory, and after the factory was integrated into Xiyang Food Factory, some employees needed to pass evaluations there, including He Caixia's husband.

Her husband failed the evaluation.

Chapter 523: Pregnant?

He Caixia didn't know from where she found out about the connection between Lin Chuxia and Xiyang Food Factory, so she wanted Old Sir He to help pull some strings.

Old Sir He certainly didn't want to handle her, but as a result, He Caixia caused trouble at home every day, making Old Sir He unable to live peacefully.

"But don't worry, Mr. Lin, I've warned them today that He Caixia's husband will absolutely not be hired by Xiyang Food Factory. No matter how much she causes trouble, it won't work. Even if Old Sir He pleads for help, the factory has its own rules."

Additionally, today Su Wensong also learned that He Caixia's husband was the person who pretended to be Sister Chuxia's brother-in-law that day.

If not for the relationship between He Caixia and Old Sir He, Lin Chuxia, being Old Sir He's apprentice, wouldn't be wrong to call her husband brother-in-law.

Yet Old Sir He's two daughters had severed ties with him during his hardest times, and now that they find him useful again, they've both stuck back.

Su Wensong came from that time, having long seen through the coldness of human nature, and he hates the faces of these people the most.

At that time, he was not polite at all, directly driving He Caixia and her husband out.

Lin Chuxia, still worried after hanging up the phone, called over to Huamei Mall and asked Qin Jianjun to come home when he had time.

That evening Qin Jianjun came over, and Lin Chuxia made a nice meal for this nephew to reward him well.

During this period at Huamei Mall, Qin Jianjun has grown rapidly.

Not only can he handle sales on his own, but he also accompanied a trip to Rong City to restock last time, and Wang Tianxue was full of praise for him.

Lin Chuxia didn't have any other matters, she just wanted his help in searching for a house, preferably close to their home.

In fact, she could go herself, but now just thinking about this makes her a little apprehensive, feeling lazily reluctant to run around.

Probably because it's cold, that's the reason she doesn't want to go out.

Qin Jianjun didn't say a word, and he really is capable of getting things done. In less than a week, he found two small courtyards nearby, one for rent, one for sale.

Lin Chuxia, still sticking to the principle of buying rather than renting, bought the house for sale and asked Qin Jianjun to find someone to refurbish it and install heating.

On the weekend, Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang went back to An City to prepare to bring Old Sir He over.

Old Sir He was quite happy when he saw Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang coming over, but when he heard they wanted to take him to the city, he pulled a long face.

"I've told you, I'm not going anywhere. A golden nest or a silver nest is not as good as my straw nest at home. I'm fine right here, look how warm my room is, I haven't had enough of this newly installed heating yet."

Seeing Lin Chuxia's determined attitude, Old Sir He directly leaned against the radiator and played stubborn.

"I see you're not having enough comfort, it's that you haven't been annoyed enough by them," Lin Chuxia also directly put on a stern face, "Aren't you fond of heating? The house in the city has long been equipped with radiators. If you don't listen to me this time, I won't care for you anymore."

Old Sir He, who usually joked with Lin Chuxia, rarely saw his little apprentice put on such a serious face.

This stern look from Lin Chuxia actually made him feel a bit guilty.

"You you you..." For a long time, he couldn't manage to say that he didn't need her to care for him.

He glanced at Lin Chuxia, then at Qin Yang beside her, finally venting his frustration on him.

"What kind of husband are you, letting her come and go in this cold weather? I just knew something was off with her complexion today, she probably caught a cold on the way back."

If he hadn't said anything it'd be fine, but once he did, Old Sir He noticed more and more that Lin Chuxia's complexion wasn't quite right.

"Come over here, let me check your pulse."

"I don't have any illness, just follow me to the city and my complexion will naturally improve."

Lin Chuxia just took it as Old Sir He making a lousy excuse.

Old Sir He slightly frowned, "Quit your banter, sit over here."

"Master, don't interrupt, don't think you'll get away with this by changing the subject..."

Lin Chuxia was about to say more, but Qin Yang could no longer sit still.

Seeing Old Sir He's serious demeanor, he also got worried about his wife's health.

"Let the master check your pulse first, he didn't say he wasn't going to the city, you shouldn't be too anxious either."

Qin Yang personally helped Lin Chuxia sit in front of Old Sir He.

Lin Chuxia reluctantly stretched out her hand, "First, let's say after the pulse check you pack your things, and we'll leave in the afternoon."

Old Sir He had already placed his hand on her wrist, and within just a few seconds, he lifted his gaze to look at her, a smile fleeting across his lips.

Lin Chuxia didn't miss that smile and believed more than ever that Old Sir He was up to something.

"Master, you're already at this age, isn't it boring cooped up at home every day? Isn't a change of scenery better? I know you're used to living alone, I won't let you stay in the same yard as me when we get there. I've already bought you a separate little courtyard not far from us. If you want to cook for yourself, you can; if not, just come to mine. Also, the city is much more lively than our Ancheng County. If it really doesn't work out, you can go eat at Qin's Restaurant. They have not only meat buns but all sorts of stir-fried dishes, and you'll never get tired even if you eat there every day..."

Seeing Old Sir He still not speaking, Lin Chuxia directly withdrew her hand.

"Hey, Master, speak up, don't just check my pulse. Didn't you say last time that you'd check Qin Yang's pulse? I'm as strong as an ox, check him instead."

Pulling Qin Yang over, Old Sir He turned another direction to sit, "No need to check."

"Why not check?"

Though she also thought Qin Yang's health was fine, if they didn't have children, it was her fate being childless.

But with Old Sir He's medical skills here, letting him have a look wouldn't hurt.

Treat diseases if you have them, keep fit if you don't.

Old Sir He lifted his gaze lazily to glance at her, "I'll go with you to the city."

"Master, don't make more excuses... wait, you agreed to go with me to the city."

Lin Chuxia thought Old Sir He was refusing to check Qin Yang's pulse as a ploy to avoid going to the city, but she was unprepared for hearing this sentence.

Old Sir He nodded nonchalantly, "Going, no way not to, she's been over a month's pregnant, cluelessly not knowing anything. If I don't personally oversee things, I'm afraid my precious grandson will be mistreated by you."

Lin Chuxia was still completely in the dark, what precious grandson?

Qin Yang was already gripping Lin Chuxia's hand excitedly, "Xiaxia, you're pregnant? When did this happen?"

Lin Chuxia was stunned for a moment, blankly asking back, "I'm pregnant, when did this happen?"

Old Sir He closed his eyes, really couldn't bear to look at these two fools.

At this moment, Lin Chuxia also realized, no wonder she's been feeling tired and lazy lately, she thought it was just the cold weather.

Chapter 524: Allow Yourself to Go a Little Crazy Sometimes

And Qin Yang thought the same, looking apologetic, "Sorry Xiaxia, I was too careless."

His wife must be feeling unwell.

He heard that being pregnant is a tough thing.

Lin Chuxia shook her head, "No, I actually feel good, it's just that I've been a bit low on energy lately."

"That's also because I didn't pay attention to you, my fault."

"It's really not your fault, I didn't even notice," she's always been irregular, so she didn't pay much mind to it.

"How could that be..."

"You two," Qin Yang was about to say something but was interrupted by Old Master He's voice.

The old man, pointing at the door, "Get out, both of you! Come back once you're done being mushy."

Lin Chuxia: ۞.۞.۞

Qin Yang: བླ་མ་ལྟོས་

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Having heard that Lin Chuxia was back, Su Wensong also found some time to come over.

Upon hearing the news, Sun Lanlan came along too.

Sun Lanlan hadn't seen Lin Chuxia for a long time, and upon seeing her, rushed over to give her a big hug.

But before she could touch even the corner of her clothing, the man directly blocked her.

Sun Lanlan looked at Lin Chuxia with a face full of grievance, "Xiaxia, look at your man, just one hug, what's the matter? How did he become so petty."

Lin Chuxia smiled with pursed lips.

How could Qin Yang be petty? Ever since he learned she was pregnant, he's treated her as precious as a panda.

Lin Chuxia was happy inside and wanted to share the good news with her best friend.

Holding Sun Lanlan's hand, she said, "Don't blame him, he's just a bit nervous. Lanlan, I'm going to have a baby."

"What did you say?" Sun Lanlan widened her eyes.

Lin Chuxia repeated it again.

This time Sun Lanlan heard clearly and happily jumped right up, even happier than when she had her own baby.

She knew how much Lin Chuxia loves children, and how much she wants one of her own.

"How many months? When did you find out? Then why did you come back here, if there's anything you tell us, let Wensong handle it, or at least there's me, you quickly sit down, do you have any symptoms..."

This stance, is even more exaggerated than Qin Yang.

Originally, Sun Lanlan had a whole belly full of words to say to Lin Chuxia after not seeing her for so long, and now there was even more to say.

She was eager to pass on all her pregnancy and parenting experiences.

Knowing that Old Master He had already agreed to go to Yan City, Su Wensong was relieved.

Seeing his wife holding onto Mr. Lin without letting go, he suggested having lunch at the old man's place.

The old man was about to go to the city, a gathering with everyone would be lively.

Su Wensong and Qin Yang were responsible for buying the groceries, and meanwhile, they'd bring Granny Su and their son over.

Old Master He started packing willingly.

Other things were easier to talk about, he had several pots of plants, some to be left to Lady Su Senior, and some he intended to take along.

Lin Chuxia still wanted to help the old man pack, but was disliked for doing so, she eventually gave up and whispered with Sun Lanlan.

A lot has happened in An City recently, and there've been significant changes in Sun Lanlan's family.

Her eldest brother and second brother raised chickens and made money, all built new houses.

The new houses weren't built in the old residence but at the foot of the mountain.

The henhouses were renovated, and Sun Family's eldest and second brother plan on increasing the number of chickens next year.

Under the Sun Family's lead, many households in Daqing Mountain Village also started raising chickens.

Village Chief Sun was filled with joy every day, hoping one year he could vie for a position as an outstanding village cadre.

Lin Chuxia knew Uncle Sun's personality; he was a proactive village cadre who considered the folks.

After finishing talking about family matters, Sun Lanlan suddenly changed the subject, "Have you been in contact with the Lin Family?"

"Jiadong went to the city for exams a while back, no other contact really, what's up? Did something happen with the Lin Family?"

Nowadays, Lin Chuxia had contact only with Lin Jiadong, her brother, barely getting involved with the others.

Earlier, Mother Lin mentioned keeping away from home, fearing seeing her living well while her elder sister struggles would be unsettling.

Lin Chuxia knew Lin Jiayi's nature and didn't want much entanglement with that family, and with Mother Lin's word, she hadn't returned for over a year.

What surprised her was that Mother Lin didn't act like before, asking for money and calling her unfilial at every turn.

It turned out people must express their aggression.

Once aggression is suppressed, yielding leads not to reconciliation, but rather to the other party's relentless advance.

If one does not know how to defend their interests, no one would take you seriously.

Even in social interactions, nobody favors someone who silently bears and suffers passively.

In matters of interest, nice people who come without costs are often scapegoated or sacrificed.

More importantly, psychologically speaking, if one's aggression isn't expressed outward, it turns inward attacking oneself.

Making one low in energy, lacking vigor, emotions unstable.

Actions become hesitant with less drive.

The heart is filled with dissatisfaction, grievance, anger.

People who suppress aggressiveness usually develop psychological and physical issues, it's hard to see liveliness in them.

So, you must bravely say no, protect boundaries.

Do not fear conflict with others.

Allow yourself to occasionally go mad, do what brings comfort.

In this life, Lin Chuxia adopts this stance towards the Lin family, in turn, the Lin family complied.

Sun Lanlan holding Lin Chuxia's hand, lowered her voice, "It's not about the Lin family acting up, it's about that sister-in-law of yours' in-law family. I don't know if you remember Li Hongmei from Xiaoqingshan Village, a year younger, your sister's elder sister-in-law."

Lin Chuxia nodded.

Of course, she knew Li Hongmei; even if not in this lifetime, she spent a lengthy time knowing her in the previous one.

Sun Lanlan continued, "I heard Li Hongmei went missing. She hasn't been found yet..."

"Missing? How could she go missing, could it be hiding due to family troubles?"

Lin Chuxia didn't quite believe it, she saw Li Hongmei in Yan City not too long ago.

Although she didn't know why Li Hongmei went to Yan City, based on what she knew, it certainly wasn't a sudden disappearance.

Sun Lanlan hesitantly shook her head, "Specifically, I heard from my sister-in-law, Li Hongmei for some reason set fire to her in-law's house. Her husband went to Xiaoqingshan Village's Li Family to demand a divorce, only to find out Li Hongmei hadn't returned home after the fire. The Li Family realized she truly messed up and thought hiding away a few more days would be better. Until recently when Li Dongmei was about to marry, Old Mrs. Li considered fetching the eldest daughter back, but found none among relatives or friends saw Li Hongmei. Ever since that day, the Ma family hadn't seen her either. Given Li Dongmei's wedding approaching, the Li family didn't rush to find her, they waited to have Li Dongmei married off before letting Li Guangyuan search. Now there're missing person notices plastered

everywhere by the Li family, especially at train stations, so I heard. They also reported to the police, yet there's no news. People say Li Hongmei was captured by traffickers."

Chapter 525: A Fitting Match

"Isn't that a bit too much?"

Li Hongmei, that self-centered opportunist, is probably enjoying herself somewhere.

Once she's spent all her money, she'll naturally come back.

Lin Chuxia doesn't believe Li Hongmei would be caught by traffickers.

"Li Dongmei got married?" Lin Chuxia is rather interested in this.

"Huh, you don't know about this?" Sun Lanlan's eyes sparkled, noticeably more excited.

"Let me tell you..."

Sun Lanlan relayed to Lin Chuxia about Li Dongmei's premarital pregnancy, and how the man's family, because she was pregnant, refused to send the promised household goods — aiming to get something for nothing.

As soon as she heard the last name Zhang, Lin Chuxia knew she hadn't seen wrong that day; these two indeed got together.

Lin Chuxia found it interesting.

No one knows better than her how determined Li Hongmei and Li Dongmei were to marry city men.

But Zhang Wenbin, that rotten guy, Li Dongmei couldn't see through him, and Lin Jiayi, who reincarnated, surely knows.

Seems like her good sister is eager to watch the spectacle too.

Li Dongmei and Zhang Wenbin?

Quite a match.

No surprise knowing it was Zhang Wenbin.

This is exactly the kind of thing the Zhang Family would do.

"How do you know so much about this?" Lin Chuxia was curious.

Given the Zhang Family's nature, even if they did something like this, Zhang Wenbin should have kept it under wraps, it shouldn't be all over the streets.

Sun Lanlan chuckled, "The reason I know so clearly is because of your good sister, oh by the way, don't think about going back to your parents' home soon, it's quite chaotic there now, can't go back."

Lin Chuxia nodded, "Not going back."

Getting her assurance, Sun Lanlan continued, "You have no idea how bizarre the Li Family is. The Zhang Family didn't give the promised goods because Li Dongmei was pregnant, but instead of going to the Zhang Family to vent their anger, they asked Li Guangyuan to pay to buy those goods for his sister as dowry. They said Li Dongmei without those things can't stand tall in the Zhang Family, don't want the daughter to suffer grievances, said the dowry must be added, Li Guangyuan has made some money selling vegetables these years, he cares for his sister, Old Mrs. Li asked him to buy it, he surprisingly agreed without a second thought, he's about to use all his savings, but Lin Jiayi is not having it, almost fighting to death with Li Guangyuan..."

Lin Chuxia could imagine that scene.

Not to mention that Lin Jiayi was selfish by nature.

Li Guangyuan is her husband, the money her husband earns naturally belongs to both of them, and it's not unreasonable for Old Mrs. Li to ask them to add to Li Dongmei's dowry.

After all, when a sister marries, it's expected for older brothers and sisters-in-law to contribute a part to the dowry.

The problem lies in Old Mrs. Li opening her mouth as wide as a lion.

These days those goods are not easy to buy, equivalent to asking for a car and a house in later years.

Li Guangyuan's money in Lin Jiayi's eyes is hers, how could she possibly give it all to buy dowry for her sister-in-law?

And on Old Mrs. Li's side, one is an adopted son, one is a biological daughter, naturally, she won't let the biological daughter suffer.

"And then?"

Lin Chuxia knew Li Guangyuan's character, an eye only for his mother and sister due to his mother's manipulative influence.

Wasn't sure if Lin Jiayi's temperament gained any upper hand during the confrontation.

"And then?" Sun Lanlan exaggeratedly widened her eyes, "You wouldn't guess, I didn't either. It's said people in the countryside prefer boys over girls, but this is the first time I've seen someone prefer girls over boys. Old Mrs. Li saw Lin Jiayi and Li Guangyuan having a big fight, and Li Guangyuan was a bit hesitant, even threatened that if Lin Jiayi kept interfering, they might get divorced. You won't believe

how the Daqing Mountain Village and Xiaoqingshan Village talk about Old Mrs. Li now, everyone has something to say."

Lin Chuxia sneered inwardly, this is truly something Old Mrs. Li could do.

In her eyes, Li Guangyuan, the adopted son, is just cattle and horses for the Li Family, contributing to their household.

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Daqing Mountain Village, Lin Family

Mother Lin watched her grandson flipping through boxes tirelessly, and said to Lin Jiayi on the bed, "I say, you've stayed at your parents' house for quite some time now, what's with staying at your parents' house all the time?"

Lin Jiadong is already in junior year of high school, if he doesn't get into college after senior year, it's time to start settling down and talk about marriage.

Need to know having an older sister who frequently stays at her parents' house, no family's daughter would want to marry in.

Lin Jiayi was cracking melon seeds on the bed, said indifferently, "Why can't I stay at my parents' house, I don't want to go back to that home, I get angry as soon I get back there, Li Guangyuan just listens to his mother, doesn't he? Doesn't he want me to get divorced? This time I'll grant him that, let him go with his mother."

Thinking about all her hard-earned money being snatched away by her sister-in-law; she didn't even have those goods when she got married, Lin Jiayi wished she could tear Li Dongmei's face apart.

If she had known earlier, she wouldn't have given Li Dongmei that idea, let the Zhang Family looked down on her and make her suffer for a lifetime.

Mother Lin raised her voice a few levels upon hearing this, "What divorce? Where would you go after divorcing? Let me tell you this first, your brother hasn't got married yet, don't embarrass me with this disgraceful act."

"How am I embarrassing? Don't you know what Li Guangyuan's mother has done?"

Lin Jiayi has never heard her mother speak so harshly before, her eyes instantly reddened.

"I know, so you're annoyed with me? In your eyes, Jiadong is the most important, but I'm your daughter too. Don't you know what life I'm living now? Fine, if you really think I'm embarrassing, I might as well die, then I won't come back to trouble you..."

Lin Jiayi said as she was about to land and get dressed, Mother Lin felt the words were too heavy too.

Her daughter's temper has been fierce since childhood, any harm, she would surely be heartbroken.

"Look at your temper, I'm just thinking if you get divorced and have a child, life would be hard, still thinking for you."

She persuaded Lin Jiayi back to the bed, and softly said, "Anyway, Li Guangyuan is capable. Old Mrs. Li can only live a few more years. When she closes her eyes, won't it all be up to you? But we also can't let this matter pass, let your brother deliver a message to Li Guangyuan when he returns for the weekend, summon him so your father can talk to him properly, about whose money it is going forward."

"That's more like it," Still Lin Jiayi frowned at this point, "Even if you say it, it's useless, his mother says a word, even if the money is with me, it can get deducted, Isn't it obvious this time."

"Then it's easy, if you have money in the future, give it to me, I'll save it for you."

Lin Jiayi's eyes flashed at the words, "We'll see, but also let dad handle it, we won't divorce, but he can't listen to Old Mrs. Li anymore, otherwise, I really don't want to live the life with him, just thinking that loser, I'm irritated looking at him."

Lin Jiayi unwillingly admitted it, understood now, in the past life, Li Guangyuan was respected as President Li mainly because of Lin Chuxia's support.

Otherwise, he would be selling vegetables all his life.

In the end, she was deceived by Lin Chuxia.

Mother Lin was also deeply regretful, "Back then I thought Li Guangyuan was no good, but you insisted he was capable. Speaking of capability, wasn't college student Qin Yang more capable? You were bewitched, and insisted on marrying Li Guangyuan. Now look, only seeing the second having a good life, and he's a heartless ingrate, wouldn't support the family at all..."

Lin Jiayi turned away, didn't want to hear these words at all.

Chapter 526: Don't Call Me That

The Qin Family was overjoyed upon hearing the news of Lin Chuxia's pregnancy.

Especially Mrs. Qin and Zhang Guilan, who kept giving numerous reminders to Lin Chuxia.

If Zhang Guilan hadn't just finished her confinement, Mrs. Qin would have insisted on going to the city with the young couple to take care of Lin Chuxia.

Zhang Guilan didn't mind at all and wholeheartedly agreed.

In the end, it was Lin Chuxia who calmed them both down.

Probably due to her good health, Lin Chuxia didn't have any reactions after getting pregnant except for being sleepy.

She could eat, drink, and sleep without any issues and didn't need any special care.

Besides, there were Qin Yang and Old Master He.

Back at home, as soon as it got cold, the village's vegetable greenhouses started getting busy again.

The farming supply store always needed someone to watch it, Qin Han was experimenting with a strawberry greenhouse, and with two kids at home, they needed some help.

Even so, Mrs. Qin brought them a lot of things, reminding her to take care of her health and nutrition.

After leaving the Qin Family, Lin Chuxia went to visit Old Master He.

Old Master He was ready to go, and the Su family hadn't left yet, as they wanted to see him off.

Making it such an official affair made Old Master He a bit uneasy.

He said to Granny Su, who was holding the little great-grandson, "Look at you all, making it seem like I won't be able to come back. Don't think it's over just because you're seeing me off. Wait till my dear grandchild is born, I'll definitely bring him back to compete with you."

Granny Su gave him a sideways glance, "Phooey, phooey, phooey, stop jinxing it. I'll be waiting for you to come back and compete with me."

Despite his casual words, Old Master He looked back at the small courtyard with eyes full of reluctance.

Lin Chuxia hadn't seen that expression in his eyes for a long time.

She also remembered how he had looked at a photo for a long time while packing.

She knew why he didn't want to follow her to the city in the past.

The attachment in his heart couldn't be let go.

"Master, don't worry. Even if you go with us to Yan City, I'll make sure everything here is taken care of. No matter what, we can't have someone sneak into our home," she said deliberately.

Old Master He glanced at her, "What is there to steal in this worn-out place?"

"How could there not be? This little home is worth a fortune. If you don't mind, I do, because these will be mine someday," Lin Chuxia said as if it was only natural, which made Old Master He smack her on the head.

"Alright, you little rascal. You've had your eyes on my things all along, haven't you?"

"Ouch..."

Lin Chuxia wasn't prepared and was hit solidly.

She rubbed her head and shrank her neck, looking at Old Master He with a grievance, filled with accusation.

"What do you mean I'm eyeing them? Didn't you say so before? When you went to see your old friends, you even told me to take care of everything because it would all be mine. Now you're going back on your word?"

Old Master He awkwardly touched his nose, as he did indeed say that before.

"Are we going or not? I'm getting in the car first."

Avoiding Lin Chuxia's gaze, he climbed into the Jeep.

Yet this banter indeed improved Old Master He's mood.

Sitting in the car, he watched Lin Chuxia detail her instructions to Su Wensong to keep an eye on the house. Even if he was busy, he should send an employee over regularly.

Su Wensong reassured her that he would swing by before and after work from now on.

The Su Family wasn't far from this place, and passing by on the way to work wasn't out of the way.

At this moment, all of Old Master He's hesitation vanished.

This little apprentice of his understood him best.

"Go back now, Lady Su Senior. Take good care of yourself. Without me around, make sure you listen to the kids," he shouted to Granny Su through the car window.

Granny Su waved her hand, "Don't worry about me, I don't need your concern. But you, make sure to listen to the kids."

As the car gradually drove farther away, and the figures behind the car along with the small courtyard disappeared, Old Master He finally turned around.

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Upon reaching the city, they first settled Old Master He in.

Old Master He's small courtyard was less than a kilometer away from their residential compound, even within walking distance.

Qin Jianjun indeed took care of everything efficiently. The small courtyard was not only warm and cozy, but all necessary items were well-equipped.

From large items like tables and chairs to small ones like a teacup or a pair of scissors.

Even the kitchen was equipped with all the pots and pans needed.

Knowing that Old Master He was coming over today, Qin Jianjun even took the time to turn on the heating, making the room warm and cozy as soon as they entered.

"Master, settle in first. If there's anything you still need, let me know, and I'll get it for you," Lin Chuxia said as she unpacked Old Master He's luggage.

Old Master He didn't expect his apprentice to be so considerate and thorough.

Though he knew she had her subordinates do these things, if it weren't for her attention, they wouldn't have done such a good job.

He placed his cherished potted plants in the room and waved his hand.

"Alright, just take care of yourself. You're not alone now. Later, call your nephew over so I can take a look at him."

Lin Chuxia had already mentioned earlier that Qin Jianjun had arranged most of this.

She was thinking of having dinner here with the old man tonight, and nodded, "Sure, I'll have Qin Yang call him over and pick up some groceries on the way."

Qin Yang was busy tidying up things at home. Before going to fetch Qin Jianjun, he reminded, "Leave these for me to handle when I get back. Just chat with Master meanwhile."

Lin Chuxia knew he treated her like a treasure.

"Got it, nagging. You've told me this several times today."

Qin Yang smiled helplessly, glanced inside, saw Old Master He still tending to his plants, and leaned over to check on Lin Chuxia's forehead.

It was still where Old Master He had hit her. Earlier in An City, he already massaged it for her while Old Master He wasn't paying attention, but was still worried.

Lin Chuxia stifled a laugh and whispered, "Actually, it doesn't hurt that much. Master wouldn't really hit me hard."

"Mm," Qin Yang replied while massaging her again.

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In the evening, not only did Qin Jianjun come over, but Houzi also followed, knowing Old Master He had arrived.

After Lin Chuxia moved to Yan City, Old Master He asked Su Wensong to look after things in An City.

Whenever there was something on Old Master He's side, Su Wensong would send Houzi over.

Over time, Houzi and Old Master He became well acquainted.

With a cheerful and likeable personality, Houzi won over Old Master He, who, despite his stern face, enjoyed lively company, and the two got along well.

Houzi brought meat and fish, while Qin Jianjun and Qin Yang carried vegetables, indeed buying quite a lot.

Seeing Old Master He from afar, Houzi called out "Master," but Old Master He, with a smile in his eyes, deliberately corrected, "I'm not your master. Stop calling me that."

Chapter 527: Third Wheel

"It doesn't matter if you don't acknowledge it. I'm just calling you like Mr. Lin does. You're Mr. Lin's master, which makes you our master too. Don't take it to heart; I don't need any formal apprentice ceremony or need you to teach me anything. Just consider me as an outer disciple."

Hou Xiaobao had a playful grin, completely at ease.

"By the way, Mr. Lin, Brother Liang is coming over soon, and it seems Sister Juan is coming too. Brother Liang said we should wait for him for the dishes as he'd show us his skills soon."

"How did he know the master is here? Did you tell him?"

Old Sir He's visit to Yan City was due to her persuasion; it was a last-minute decision, and Qin Jianjun and Houzi were only informed by Qin Yang later.

Houzi shook his head, "I don't know either. Mr. Qin had just arrived at the mall when I got Brother Liang's call; I thought you informed them."

While the two were chatting, Little Ningning's voice was heard outside.

Soon enough, Qin Juan led Ningning through the door, followed by Jia Liang carrying Ningning's backpack and a bag of items.

They looked very much like a family bringing a child home.

Qin Yang slightly furrowed his brow, glanced at his wife with eyes full of questions.

Lin Chuxia raised her eyebrows, her eyes filled with amusement, and without further explanation, she walked out to greet them.

"Auntie!"

Little Ningning was about to rush over to Lin Chuxia but was held back by Qin Juan.

"You can't just pounce on your auntie now; there's a little baby in her belly. You might scare him."

Ningning immediately stopped, his big eyes blinking as he looked at Lin Chuxia's belly.

He seemed genuinely afraid of scaring the baby inside.

Lin Chuxia now probably guessed how Qin Juan and Jia Liang learned the master was coming.

Jia Liang took the stuff meant for Old Sir He into the house and respectfully called him master.

He was quite familiar with Old Sir He, but it had been a while since he last saw him due to spending the past year in Yan City.

Qin Juan pulled Lin Chuxia aside for inquiries. Knowing now that she was fine, and reacting well, she finally felt at ease.

"Do you want me to move back? Second brother is busy at work, and I can help take care of you."

"There's no need, big sister. Look at me—is there anything that needs caring for? You're already busy working and taking care of the kids; don't worry about me."

Lin Chuxia genuinely felt no different with the pregnancy.

If it weren't for the master noticing, she'd still be going about her business.

Qin Juan nodded; indeed, restaurant work was not like other places.

"But if you need anything, you must tell me. You wouldn't believe, this afternoon, Mom called me and talked for ages. It's the first time I've heard Mom speak so much on the phone; she's really worried about you."

Even though the agricultural store has a phone and contacting anyone is convenient.

Mrs. Qin rarely calls; even if she does, she doesn't chat for more than two minutes, finishing what she needs to say and hanging up right away.

It's because calls are expensive, and even though the family's financial situation is better now, an elderly woman who's been thrifty her whole life still finds it hard to spend.

But today, the old lady was like making free calls, repeating a sentence several times. It makes Qin Juan smile thinking about it.

"Well, now it's good, finally a child is coming."

Qin Juan held Lin Chuxia's hand tight, knowing her sister-in-law's longing for a child; their family eagerly anticipated this little one's arrival.

Lin Chuxia gently regarded her flat belly with affection.

Her baby had just come, showered with so much love that he was destined to be a happy baby.

For dinner, Jia Liang was the head chef, with Qin Juan and Houzi assisting.

Originally, Jia Liang hadn't touched a spatula. Since becoming the Bun Shop Manager, he started taking an interest in kitchen affairs.

Especially after expanding Qin's Restaurant, he was always with the two master chefs, developing a keen interest in cooking, and he had quite a knack for it.

As long as the masters gave him some pointers, he could whip up pretty tasteful dishes.

Lu Dafa jokingly said before, given Jia Liang's appearance, he was naturally meant to be a cook.

Houzi started helping out in the kitchen but couldn't find a way to fit in, so he found a chance to slip out.

Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang were organizing Old Sir He's stuff when they saw him come out with an odd expression. Lin Chuxia gestured to him.

Houzi immediately trotted over and whispered, "What's going on with Brother Liang and Sister Juan?"

He made a little gesture with his hand.

Lin Chuxia raised her eyebrow, "Can't you see?"

Hou Xiaobao honestly saw it but still found it hard to believe.

He had frequently visited here while delivering goods from An City, pitied noticing Brother Liang's attentiveness toward Sister Juan.

But he hadn't thought much of it.

Sister Juan was Mr. Lin's eldest sister. Just based on that connection, who wouldn't look after her?

Who would've thought, Brother Liang wasn't caring for her because of Mr. Lin, but for his own reasons.

Hou Xiaobao uneasily scratched his head, "That's good. If I'd known Brother Liang and Sister Juan had that relationship, I wouldn't have gone in to play the third wheel."

Qin Yang intruded, "What third wheel? Go back in and help, and call my sister to come; Xiaxia's tired."

Hou Xiaobao glanced back and forth, but in the end, he nodded under Qin Yang's imposing presence, "Alright, I'm on it."

Lin Chuxia chuckled softly, "Don't listen to him, I'm not tired, and there's no need to call big sis out."

Even if Sister Juan wasn't needed, he wouldn't dare to linger here.

Anywhere he went, he'd be a third wheel, better to go be Brother Liang's sidekick.

Hou Xiaobao left, then Lin Chuxia nudged Qin Yang, "Upset?"

Qin Yang still had a frown, "Since when? I've never heard big sis mention it; did you know?"

"Yeah," Lin Chuxia said matter-of-factly, "If you ask when it started, I suppose since big sis got divorced..."

"I'm going to talk to him," Qin Yang interrupted, putting down what he was holding, ready to walk out.

But Lin Chuxia quickly pulled him back.

"Why are you rushing?"

"What's Qin Liang to big sis? Sympathy? Pity? Big sis just escaped one hell; I can't let her jump into another. She's doing well now, doesn't have to put up with yet another man's nonsense or look after a whole in-law family. If she's struggling with Ningning, she still has me and big brother. Certainly can't let her be deceived by a man again."

Qin Yang deeply cared for big sis, recalling how he worked away from home in the past and rarely checked on family affairs, never realizing big sis had suffered so much at the Zhang Family.

Now that he's here, big sis won't let herself bend under life's hardships.

"Do you really think big sis's current situation is another hell?"

Lin Chuxia slightly lifted her chin, directing him to glance towards the kitchen.

In the kitchen, Jia Liang was stirring up something on the stove, with Qin Juan assisting beside him.

Jia Liang was about to grab something when Qin Juan preemptively handed it to him.

Jia Liang grinned broadly, saying something to Qin Juan, while she shot him a mocking glance.

That gaze...

Qin Yang wasn't naive; he could certainly recognize the affection in big sis's eyes.

Chapter 528: He Listens to His Wife

Big sister turned to wash the vegetables, and because the two were far apart, this time Jia Liang's voice was heard clearly by them.

Jia Liang asked big sister to leave the vegetables, and he would wash them later, as the water was cold in winter and he didn't want big sister to touch the cold water.

"Jia Liang told me that he indeed had feelings for big sister when she was getting a divorce, and he did feel that big sister was in a difficult position at that time. But his affection for big sister wasn't a momentary impulse, nor was it sympathy or pity. Maybe his initial thoughts were simple, just wanting to give big sister a home, but later he only wanted to see big sister happy."

She glanced at Qin Yang briefly and continued, "You know big sister's temperament. In the past, her marriage with Zhang Wenbin was family's decision, and she has always been obedient and sensible since childhood, never going against the family's decision. But after divorcing Zhang Wenbin, she wanted to live for herself once. Initially, she didn't plan to be with Jia Liang, but Jia Liang's sincerity moved her. Qin Yang, big sister is only 30 years old, she has the right to pursue her happiness and the right to be loved. Family companionship after all is not the same as companionship with a partner. I think we should respect her and bless her. Although Jia Liang has his flaws, he is someone worth relying on. I believe big sister's judgement won't be wrong this time."

She has known Jia Liang for a long time and already understands his character well.

At the same time, Lin Chuxia also knows that since Jia Liang became the manager of Qin's Restaurant, there have been not a few young waitresses who have shown admiration for him.

Even back in An City, when Jia Liang's job was stable, Aunt Jia tried to set him up with someone through a matchmaker.

But he refused all of them, and only when he met Qin Juan did he become deeply affectionate.

Even when rejected, he didn't give up.

He doesn't easily accept women's advances, and doesn't want to casually marry a woman, showing his responsibility towards emotions.

Such a person may not be easily enlightened, but once enlightened, he will be incredibly good to the one he loves.

Facts have proven she chose the right person, and Jia Liang's dedication has also moved big sister.

Jia Liang is sincere and righteous, does things earnestly and responsibly, and is trustworthy.

Lin Chuxia sincerely hopes the two will come together.

Qin Yang also looked towards the two in the kitchen; he agreed with his wife's words and also trusted his wife's judgement, though thinking about big sister being targeted by another man made him feel a bit uneasy.

"Then I'll talk to him later."

Lin Chuxia reached out and held his big hand, "Talk about what? Since big sister hasn't talked to us yet, let's not intervene first, or it will make big sister feel embarrassed. Let's wait for them to break the window paper themselves. You're just a young brother-in-law, don't be too anxious."

Qin Yang pursed his mouth, showing obvious displeasure.

But he had to listen to his wife's words!

The dinner was very sumptuous, with Jia Liang showing his skills to everyone, truly using all his abilities.

Braised carp, sweet and sour ribs, oil-braised prawns, braised pork...

Even the vegetables meant to neutralize the greasiness were cooked with flair.

Lin Chuxia had every reason to suspect that Jia Liang was indirectly showing goodwill to his future brother-in-law.

Having good culinary skills is indeed a bonus point when looking for a wife.

Old Sir He couldn't stop smiling, looking at the table full of dishes, and Hou Xiaobao even bought two bottles of wine, pouring it out for everyone.

Qin Juan and Lin Chuxia didn't drink, they drank beverages with Little Ningning instead.

Hou Xiaobao was the life of the dining table atmosphere, and after pouring the wine, he stood up to toast Old Sir He, "Welcome Master to Yan City, I toast to Master!"

Old Sir He couldn't correct his title, and was too lazy to correct it.

Moreover, Old Sir He discovered that everyone in this room, except Qin Jianjun who was of a lower seniority and called him Grandpa He, all others followed the young apprentice and called him Master.

Having heard "Master" so many times, Old Sir He surprisingly felt a sense of having students everywhere.

In the past, he also thought of accepting a few more apprentices to pass on his skills.

But in the end...

Now these children in front of him have fulfilled his wish, even though these apprentices have nothing to do with Chinese medicine, yet their "Master" call gives him a deep sense of satisfaction.

It's as if this old man, who everyone despised, was not living so badly.

That night Old Sir He drank quite a bit, and was somewhat intoxicated.

Hou Xiaobao, worried, wanted to stay and take care of Old Sir He, but was disliked by him instead.

In Old Sir He's words, he found him too chatty, talking too much, disturbing his peace.

Old Sir He also knew the children were worried about him, pointed a finger, and kept Qin Jianjun back.

"This child's temper suits me, this house's arrangement suits me, an old man like me wouldn't live in such a big courtyard, and your fourth aunt said you're living with others in the employees' dormitory?"

Qin Jianjun showed great respect to Old Sir He, nodded and replied, "Yes."

"Then do you mind me, you wouldn't mind living with an old man, would you? If you don't mind, you can move here and live with me as a companion."

Qin Jianjun instinctively looked at Lin Chuxia, and Lin Chuxia smiled, saying to him, "No need to look at me, consider your own wishes, living anywhere is fine. Even if you refuse Master, Master won't be upset."

Old Sir He snorted, "I'm not that petty."

Qin Jianjun chuckled, "Then I'll live with Grandpa He, it's close to my school and my workplace."

Most importantly, he's now living in a shared dormitory, with four people in a room.

Every night he wants to study a bit longer after school but it's inconvenient, fearing disturbing others' rest.

Living with Grandpa He here, he could have a room to himself.

"Then it's decided. Tonight you stay with me here, move your stuff over tomorrow."

After saying this, Old Sir He waved to everyone, telling them to leave.

Having tossed around all day, he was sleepy.

With Qin Jianjun here, neither Lin Chuxia nor the others were worried, they all walked out together.

Headed to the car, Houzi called out to Lin Chuxia, "Mr. Lin, do you have time next month on the 6th?"

"What for?"

Lin Chuxia looked at him, seeing his embarrassed face, finding it quite fresh.

"Well... I've started dating Nana, met her parents a few days ago, they're quite satisfied with me. We're getting engaged on the 6th next month. You know I don't have many relatives, so I want Brother Liang and Mr. Lin to be my witnesses then."

Lin Chuxia widened her eyes in disbelief, "You and Nana? When did this happen? You've been so quiet, really doing big things without a word?"

Hou Xiaobao chuckled, "I really have to thank Mr. Lin for transferring me here, that's how I met Nana..."

Seeing him about to start a lengthy discussion about his love story, Qin Yang directly pulled Lin Chuxia into the car.

"It's cold, get into the car quickly."

Lin Chuxia: ㄟ^ㄟ^

Hou Xiaobao just opened the conversation box: ㄟ^ㄟ^

There are plenty of opportunities to learn about such things, but his wife's health is important now, she can't catch a cold.

Hou Xiaobao came by bike, Qin Juan and Jia Liang walked over.

After settling Lin Chuxia in the car, Qin Yang opened the back door, letting Qin Juan and Ningning get in, sending them home first.

Throughout the whole process, he didn't even give Jia Liang a glance.

Chapter 529: When Will You Make Me Official?

Qin Juan glanced at Jia Liang behind her, and Jia Liang gave her a reassuring look.

"You and Ningning take the car. It's cold, don't let the child catch a chill. I'll walk a bit since I ate a little too much for dinner."

Qin Juan looked at Jia Liang and then at her second brother, finally nodding her head.

Lin Chuxia almost burst out laughing.

She rolled down the car window and said to Jia Liang below, "Get in the car."

Jia Liang chuckled and opened the car door to get in.

Qin Yang looked at him once in the rearview mirror before refocusing and starting the car.

The atmosphere in the car was slightly quiet for a moment, so Lin Chuxia directly found a topic.

"When did Houzi and Nana happen? How come I didn't hear a thing?"

Jia Liang knew about this.

Ever since Houzi had a girlfriend, he often ran to Jia Liang's house and bragged to him.

"Honestly, I didn't expect it either. It probably started in Rong City. Houzi stayed there for a while, and later Liu Na was also sent there. With back and forth interactions, I don't know how they ended up having feelings for each other, but when they came back, Houzi started boasting to me."

"Houzi's a sweet talker and knows how to take care of people," Lin Chuxia said with a smile.

She knew Liu Na was resistant to relationships because of Feng Zhong, so reaching her heart was not an easy task.

However, Lin Chuxia thought back to some scenes when they first went to Rong City. Perhaps Houzi had set his sights on the girl back then.

Jia Liang added, "That's true. Once they confirmed their relationship, Houzi went to the Liu Family to propose. The Liu Family seemed to look down on Houzi a bit. Still, that guy was sensible and didn't mind the Liu Family's attitude. He constantly visited them, which gradually changed their opinion. They agreed to the match, and recently Houzi has rented a small courtyard, planning to get married there."

"Sincerity moves mountains. That's how you pursue a wife," Lin Chuxia said meaningfully, "Houzi's spirit is worth learning from."

Jia Liang was momentarily taken aback, then grinned.

Very soon, they arrived at Qin Juan's small courtyard. After they got out of the car, Qin Yang took his leave with the others.

Qin Juan watched the car drive away before turning to walk Ningning back inside.

Just as she was about to open the courtyard door, she heard Jia Liang's voice behind her, "Juanzi."

Qin Juan opened the door for Ningning to find Wang Tianxue inside, then turned to look at the man behind her.

Jia Liang took a step forward.

The moon was very round and bright tonight.

It lit up the ground, clearly showing the features of the person across.

His eyes were fixed on Qin Juan intensely. He swallowed and continued, "When... when will you make me official?"

Qin Juan knew that today's matters with Houzi might have spurred him on, but she didn't expect him to be so direct.

For a moment, she didn't know how to respond. She glanced around nervously, "I-I don't know what you're talking about..."

"You know, Juanzi, are you having second thoughts again? But it's okay, I'll wait for you, no matter how long it takes. I'll only recognize you in this life, even if you don't make it official. Just seeing you every day is satisfactory for me, as long as I don't say anything to upset you..."

The towering man appeared flustered, making Qin Juan's heart inexplicably soften.

This was completely different from the Manager Jia usually seen.

"I'm not upset. Just give me some time to think about how to tell my family."

She never considered remarriage, and now having accepted Jia Liang's feelings, Qin Juan still felt a bit embarrassed and didn't know how to talk to her parents about it.

"How about... I just go to your house to propose, and you don't have to worry about anything? I'll talk to your parents myself." At this point, Jia Liang sounded a bit aggrieved, "Your brother's glare today was quite piercing. If this continues, I'm worried your younger brother might hit me early..."

"Ah, what nonsense are you talking about," Qin Juan said, annoyed and shyly hitting his arm, "What younger brother, the second brother has a good temper and is very sensible. He wouldn't hit at random..."

The latter words fell silent as Jia Liang took her soft little hand, and Qin Juan's face turned red...

A cloud drifted across the sky at some point, covering the bright moon.

It seemed as if the moon was also shy and hid away.

.....

Jia Liang looked at the door that had been closed for a while now, rubbing his fingers, he hummed a little tune as he walked home.

As soon as he entered the house, a shadow behind the door startled him.

"Mom, what are you doing here in this cold weather, standing like a doorman?"

Old Mrs. Jia huffed, "Being a doorman is useless. I want to be a matchmaker."

"Being a matchmaker is a bit difficult," Jia Liang thought seriously, "You only qualify to be called 'old'. I hear the matchmaker is supposed to be a man. Aging is easy, turning into a man, well, that might be impossible for you in this lifetime..."

"Impossible, impossible, impossible..." Old Mrs. Jia was so angry she slapped him several times on the shoulder.

"If you had shown some spirit, would I need to want to be a matchmaker? Houzi is about to marry his wife. He's only been in the city a few days? And you? The good girl is right beside you, and you don't even know how to woo her. How did I give birth to such a useless son? Holding hands makes you so happy. If you bring her home, wouldn't you be able to hold hands every day? And not just hands, you..."

"Shh, shh, shh... Mom, Mom, stop," Jia Liang quickly covered Old Mrs. Jia's mouth, cautiously looking at the neighboring courtyard, "Have mercy with your words, your son still wants face."

Old Mrs. Jia freed herself from his hand, giving him an annoyed look.

"I think you're too concerned with face, that's why you haven't settled on a wife for so long. You should learn more from Houzi; if you want a wife, what's face for?"

Jia Liang: You really are my own mother, aren't you?

.....

On the other side, Lin Chuxia tapped the man's handsome face with a playful look and asked, "Still can't figure it out? Your face looks so troubled."

Qin Yang pursed his lips, finally sighing, "It's not that I can't figure it out, I just feel like I've been too unconcerned about big sister. She just left the Zhang family not long ago, and now she's already..."

"This is normal. Men and women marrying, as long as there are no psychological issues, meeting someone they fancy, they will naturally want to approach. Look at Liu Na, she was so hurt before, but now that she's met Houzi, isn't she happily getting married too? Big sister is still young. What's wrong with pursuing happiness? This shows she's long since moved past the previous shadows. Not letting go of the past is not accepting reality. If one can't forget their ex, it only means the current one isn't good enough. I'm really happy for big sister. Oh, and for Nana as well. I have to think about preparing a wedding gift for her..."

The petite woman mumbled, and Qin Yang glanced at her sideways.

Why is it that her reasoning is always so unconventional yet so sensible?

Indeed, not forgetting the ex only means the current one isn't good enough.

The fact that big sister can accept Jia Liang, perhaps Jia Liang really did something to move her in some way.

Chapter 530: A Dog's Life Is So Hard

He trusted the person his wife liked, and he believed in her judgment.

It seemed he needed to think about what kind of wedding gift to prepare for his big sister to make her new life happier.

As soon as the Jeep stopped at the door, Yuan Bao was scratching at the door from inside.

With an eager look, as soon as Qin Yang opened the door, he bounded out from inside.

His target was directly behind Qin Yang—Lin Chuxia.

Qin Yang's face changed dramatically, took a step forward, blocked Yuan Bao, and sternly shouted, "Yuan Bao, stop!"

Not fully trusting, he grabbed the fur on Yuan Bao's back.

Yuan Bao made a sudden stop in front of Qin Yang, his dog eyes full of confusion. He looked up at Qin Yang's harsh expression and then blankly looked at Lin Chuxia.

His dog eyes had a big question mark.

Qin Yang instructed in a low voice, "Yuan Bao, from now on, no jumping on people, especially not on her."

He pointed at Lin Chuxia, insisting that Yuan Bao give some reaction.

Finally, Yuan Bao succumbed to Qin Yang's authority and reluctantly whined.

Only then did Qin Yang feel confident enough to let go of his hand.

Once free, Yuan Bao didn't charge at Lin Chuxia, but rather turned back to his dog house.

Just as Qin Yang was relieved that Yuan Bao behaved and seemed to understand him, Yuan Bao returned carrying his stainless steel dog bowl.

With a "bang," he placed the bowl in front of Qin Yang, his dog face full of accusation.

Lin Chuxia suddenly realized something and asked Qin Yang, "Did you forget to leave food for Yuan Bao when we went out?"

Qin Yang also remembered, he truly did forget.

Poor Yuan Bao hadn't eaten all day, waited so long for his owner to return, only to be scolded.

Being a dog is tough.

.....

Finally, the long-awaited baby arrived; Lin Chuxia cherished this baby dearly and compared to others, was quite obedient.

She knew the first three months were crucial for the baby's development, so even though her body didn't have strong reactions, she stopped working.

Lin Chuxia remembered Li Guangyuan's mom always loved to say "back in the day."

Back in the day when she was young, how hardworking she was, back in the day when she was pregnant, she kept working, even laboring in the fields till the moment of giving birth.

After giving birth, she continued working hard...

On one hand, she praised herself for being diligent, while on the other, she reminded Li Guangyuan, Li Dongmei to remember her hardships, subtly hinting this newcomer to the family—to not be too pampered.

It was truly killing three birds with one stone.

Lin Chuxia acknowledged that their generation indeed suffered a lot, even the current generation who got through tough times, got used to enduring hardships.

Like Xiao Wu's wife Zhou Hongmei, big sister-in-law Zhang Guilan also stopped working only when they were near delivery.

But from Lin Chuxia's perspective, she didn't think enduring hardship was a style worthy of promoting.

Under tough conditions, austerity was a virtue.

Now that her life was abundant, there was no worry about food and drink, and she had many employees to help her with work. At this point, if she were still striving hard and austere, she would be enduring hardship unnecessarily.

That's not promoting style, that's illness.

She cherished the baby inside her, wanted her to develop healthily and be born safely, so she had to take care of herself. This was what a mother should do, not try to be brave during pregnancy and use it as something to boast about.

Lin Chuxia was clear about what she wanted and needed to do; she accepted all of Qin Yang's advice, which saved him a lot of worry.

The warm winter sun was lazy, Qin Yang had prepared breakfast, and the room was still quiet.

Sure enough, the wife was still sleeping.

Her hair spread over the pillow, her small face blissfully asleep, rosy cheeks visible.

Since finding out she was pregnant, Lin Chuxia did not restrict her lazy habits anymore; she slept whenever she wanted.

If Qin Yang hadn't specifically asked the doctor, finding out that sleepiness was a normal pregnancy reaction, he would have been startled by her sleeping style.

But the breakfast was ready, so he couldn't let her sleep like this anymore.

It's cold, if he didn't wake her up for breakfast now, it would be cold by the time she woke up.

If he didn't watch over her, Qin Yang was worried if she would warm up the food before eating.

"Chuxia, wake up, have breakfast first. You can eat and then sleep more."

Qin Yang went forward, gently touched her small face, seeing her rosy appearance, his eyes softened.

His big sister recently said that his wife seemed prettier since she got pregnant, possibly indicating she was carrying a girl.

Though he thought his wife was beautiful all the time, if it were a daughter, that would be wonderful.

A pretty and delightful little girl like his wife, that thought was indeed exciting.

Lin Chuxia was sleeping soundly, felt an itch on her face, raised her hand to grab the mischief-making big hand, pulled it under her head like a pillow, and asked with her eyes closed, "What's for breakfast, honey?"

"Didn't you say you wanted fried dough yesterday? I made it, and cooked millet porridge and eggs..."

Before Qin Yang finished speaking, Lin Chuxia instantly opened her eyes, stretched out her arms to hug his neck, and used the leverage to sit up.

"Honey, you are so virtuous."

Qin Yang was almost toppled by her sudden action, quickly stabilizing himself while holding her waist, reminding her, "Take it slow."

"I can't slow down, I'm starving, food food food..."

Qin Yang shook his head with a helpless smile.

His wife now did little other than sleep and eat. She seemed to have gained a little weight.

Lin Chuxia quickly finished freshening up and sat at the table. Qin Yang had already served her porridge and was peeling an egg for her.

Lin Chuxia took a bite of the fried dough, her face full of satisfaction.

"I'm truly so happy now, getting princess treatment every day. I remember someone saying pregnancy makes you a princess for ten months."

Qin Yang placed the peeled egg in front of her and glanced at her, "Who said that?"

Pregnancy for ten months was tough, how could it be like being a princess?

He didn't understand.

Lin Chuxia smiled slightly, "Never mind who said it. I think they're wrong because I feel like I've always been a princess."

Qin Yang nodded, "Yes, my princess, what would you like to do today? I'll come back early at noon, let me know what you want to eat, and I'll buy it in advance."

Lin Chuxia took another bite of the fried dough, mumbling, "Yesterday I found a pattern from the book, I'm planning to try making a small shirt for the baby today, I'm not sure I can do it. By the way, how about using the cloth we bought together last time? I think the pattern looks good."

Qin Yang thought for a moment, "Would it be too plain?"

He remembered it being a light blue cotton cloth, and if it's for a girl, pink would look nicer.

Lin Chuxia, not knowing his thoughts, directly said, "Not plain, when the baby is born, the weather will be warm, wearing blue will look refreshing."

"Mm," Qin Yang said nothing more, just reminded her, "Take breaks when tired, making clothes can strain your eyes."

"I know, I'll be mindful."