

## Switched M 581

Chapter 581: How Did He Get Rich?

"President Li, you're so bad..."

The woman said coquettishly, teasingly resisting while her slender, fair arms rested on his shoulders, her passionate red lips closing in.

Li Guangyuan was about to taste the flavor of her lipstick when suddenly a cold voice sounded, "Li Guangyuan..."

The voice was calm and without waves, yet it carried a chilling coldness, seemingly capable of freezing him to the bone.

Li Guangyuan shivered and opened his eyes, only then realizing it was just a dream.

Setting aside that voice, Li Guangyuan could still feel the sensation of warm fragrance and soft jade in his arms.

Those women's bodies are so soft, and they smell so good, and when they call me President Li, their voices are gentle and soft, like little cat paws scratching at my heart.

Li Guangyuan didn't get up but lay there, staring at the ceiling.

So this is the life of the wealthy, huh? Being rich is really nice; no wonder everyone wants money.

But money is really hard to earn, and the money he painstakingly earns always ends up being taken by his mom to give to others.

Wait, how was he wealthy in the dream?

Li Guangyuan tried hard to recall, thinking of the overflowing money box and the bustling shop.

What kind of business was his shop doing?

At that time, he was focused only on the money box and didn't pay attention to the business inside the shop.

Heaven was clearly hinting at him how to make money, so why didn't he pay attention?

Li Guangyuan was full of regret.

Next time there's a chance, he must carefully see how the money is earned.

While he was thinking, there was a commotion outside the door, along with his son calling him daddy.

Li Guangyuan sat up quickly, saw Lin Jiayi had returned with his son, and then lay back down again.

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After Lin Jiadong left, Lin Chuxia went to Old Sir He's place.

Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia both wanted Old Sir He to go to the Qin Family's for New Year, but Old Sir He insisted on not agreeing, stating bluntly that being alone is peaceful and free.

Lin Chuxia could somewhat understand Old Sir He's thoughts, but seeing the old man all alone in the small courtyard still made her feel quite uneasy.

Just as she entered the house and was seen by Old Sir He, he began to scold her without hesitation.

"During the festive season, instead of staying home properly, you're running around everywhere? Where's Qin Yang? How could he let you out alone?"

Lin Chuxia placed the delicious food she brought from home on the table.

"Master, I'm not a china doll, why do I need someone to watch me wherever I go? This is called infringing on personal freedom, you know?"

Old Sir He glared, "I don't know, what, are you going to arrest me? Why are you running around in such cold weather?"

"I wanted you to spend Spring Festival with us, but you wouldn't. I think you just want me to run around back and forth."

Lin Chuxia knew Old Sir He was concerned about her and deliberately spoke in jest.

Old Sir He knew this girl was intentionally giving him trouble, thinking that if she does so on the first day of the year, it'd be a good omen; this way she'd trouble him all year.

He stopped bantering with her, "When are you going back to Yan City after the New Year?"

"Master, you've only been here for a few days and already want to go back? You were so against going to Yan City initially, have you forgotten so soon?"

"I haven't forgotten, but the acupuncture for Minister Wei's spouse still needs to be continued; the next acupuncture is on the eighth. I'm thinking if you're busy, just send me back first, since treating patients can't be interrupted halfway. Unlike doing other things, especially if it's about tuning up someone's body; if it's finally going smoothly, interrupting it would ruin all previous efforts."

So that's the matter.

Lin Chuxia thought for a moment and then directly said, "We'll go back together on the seventh. The mall and restaurant are almost ready to open."

Perfect timing for Qin Juan and Qin Jianjun to join them.

"Alright, you handle the arrangements."

Old Sir He, having finished talking, couldn't resist the smell of the food. He took some wine and started drinking with the meat Lin Chuxia had brought.

After a while, Qin Jianjun also came over.

He was surprised to see Lin Chuxia was there too and greeted her, then placed the good food and drinks he brought from home on Old Sir He's table.

He planned to stay with Old Sir He for the night but ended up being impatiently chased away by Old Sir He.

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After the fifth day, the New Year was pretty much over.

If it were previous years, the celebration might continue for a few more days, at least until the Lantern Festival on the fifteenth day of the first lunar month.

Nowadays in Qin Family Village, they cultivate vegetable greenhouses, so even during the festive days, some families still need to take care of their greenhouses.

Once the fifth day is over, everyone started getting busy again.

That's how off-season vegetable greenhouses are: the earlier you plant, the earlier you earn money.

Everyone already tasted the benefits last year, so this year they were even more motivated.

On the seventh day, Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia tidied up simply, brought along Qin Juan and Qin Jianjun, and went to the small courtyard to pick up Old Sir He, setting off lively back to Yan City.

Minister Wei is a local, and the family spent the festival in the apartment complex for families.

Upon hearing Lin Chuxia and the others had returned, Sister-in-law Gong and Minister Wei promptly went to visit.

Ideally, since Minister Wei is not only older but also Qin Yang's boss, Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia should pay a New Year visit to Minister Wei's home.

However, Minister Wei was grateful to Lin Chuxia, so upon hearing they returned, he couldn't wait to drop by.

After undergoing Old Sir He's tune-up, Sister-in-law Gong looked vastly different.

After this New Year, her face visibly gained some flesh, and even her hair seemed denser and shinier than before.

"You can tell Sister-in-law celebrated the New Year well, huh? Minister Wei must have bought you plenty of meat, right?" Lin Chuxia teased.

Sister-in-law Gong laughed and gently touched her cheek, "It actually has nothing to do with Old Wei buying meat or not. In the past, we also bought a lot of meat during the festival, but I couldn't eat oily food due to my poor appetite. Forget fatty meat, I didn't even dare eat more than a bit of lean meat. After Old He tuned up my body, this year during the festival, the aroma of meat enticed me so much that I started with one or two pieces, then three or four. Now for each meal, not eating much of them, but eating a few pieces of chicken, fish, lean pork is no problem. You know, for many years I haven't been able to enjoy the taste of food, but recently I find meals increasingly delicious."

Not only does she eat more, but she also feels more energetic.

In the past, she was always sluggish and had no energy, unwilling to take even a step.

Now her energy level is so high that she could even stay up on New Year's Eve later than her Old Wei.

Minister Wei pointed at Sister-in-law Gong and said, "You don't know, your sister-in-law used to eat like a cat, just a few bites. Now her appetite is almost as big as mine, and if this keeps up, I'm worried the ration tickets won't be enough for us."

That remark had everyone laughing heartily.

Sister-in-law Gong gave him a displeased glance, "You better not complain about me eating too much. Once my body fully recovers, I'll find a job, earn my own money, and won't rely on you."

Chapter 582: Happiness Is Built on Financial Security

"Look at you, look at you, she's about to sing the song of the liberated serfs."

Minister Wei said this, but you could tell they were genuinely happy.

Knowing Old Sir He was back too, the two of them felt at ease, praising Old Sir He's medical skills.

Seeing that Lin Chuxia and the others hadn't packed up yet, the two wisely bid them farewell.

Just after they left, Jiang Hong and Li Wei arrived, bringing sausages and cured meats from their hometown.

Jiang Hong wanted to help Lin Chuxia tidy up as soon as she arrived, but how could Lin Chuxia let her help? She pulled her aside to chat instead.

They spent this Chinese New Year at the residential compound, even bringing the old master back from the hometown.

But the old master didn't stay long and went back on the fifth day.

The old lady originally wanted to go back together too.

Li Wei and Jiang Hong both work here, and the child could almost be weaned off milk and start eating solids after about a week.

They thought of taking the child back to the hometown together, letting the old couple take care of the child.

But Li Wei and Jiang Hong both refused.

Not to mention Jiang Hong disagreed, Li Wei wouldn't agree either.

Li Wei, having grown up in the mountains, was well aware of the huge difference between rural and urban children.

He has the ability to give his child a new starting point, so how could he let his son live a blind life in the mountains like him?

When they eventually get the chance to see the world beyond the mountains, still blinded.

Not to mention both he and Jiang Hong are working and earning, they have this capability.

Even if he was earning alone, he would still take care of the child by his side.

Lin Chuxia fully supported the couple's decision, praising them for their vision, making them beam with joy.

In the end, Li Wei pulled Qin Yang aside, whispering mysteriously to him.

Lin Chuxia occasionally overheard a few words and knew they were discussing work, so she left them to it and asked Jiang Hong about her work.

The mall's opening was on the eighth, and Wang Tianxue was even hosting a small opening ceremony, Jiang Hong asked Lin Chuxia if she wanted to join in.

Lin Chuxia wasn't interested in such festivities, but she was quite concerned about matters at the restaurant.

Nowadays, Qin's Restaurant had established its footing in Yan City, and the conditions for opening a branch were ripe. At the beginning of the year, Jia Liang also mentioned it to her, and the two hit it off.

Around the Chinese New Year, shops and houses were mostly vacant, and before the holiday, Jia Liang had already set eyes on a two-story shop, conveniently located, with one in the south of the city and another in the north, perfect in terms of geography.

Qin's Restaurant opened on the sixth, and according to previous years, business would be cold before the fifteenth of the first month, even breakfast bun buyers were few, making it perfect to use this time for the new shop's renovation.

After Li Wei and his wife left, Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang tidied up the house while making dinner.

Lin Chuxia mentioned her plan to visit the restaurant the next day.

Since the last incident had frightened Qin Yang, whenever Lin Chuxia went out, she would inform him.

Qin Yang had no intention of confining Lin Chuxia at home, only reminding her to stay safe, that she could always call his office if anything happened at the restaurant.

Lin Chuxia then thought of Li Wei and his mysterious whispering for some time.



"Why does Li Wei want you to send gifts to the boss? Should you? If you need to, I'll buy some tomorrow on my way back."

She was not opposed to these things, as workplace interactions and social exchanges are common, especially during festive seasons.

Li Wei probably understood Qin Yang, knowing he wasn't someone who valued worldly affairs, which is why he gave him the heads-up.

But Lin Chuxia soon realized she had misunderstood.

"No need for now," Qin Yang shook his head, "Li Wei saw that Feng Dajun was sending things to the boss, so he mentioned it to me. No need to dwell on it, I'll handle work matters myself."

He understood Li Wei's meaning, but some things simply didn't require such means.

"Alright, as long as you have a clear idea."

Lin Chuxia didn't inquire further.

The two finished dinner and rested early.

The next day, after breakfast, Lin Chuxia drove her Jeep to Qin's Restaurant.

Jia Liang was unsurprisingly not there, and Qin Juan was holding down the fort at the restaurant.

Seeing Lin Chuxia come over, Qin Juan knew it was about the new restaurant.

"Jia Liang had already informed me yesterday, he's going directly there today. He's scheduled the carpenter and mason, should be able to start in a few days."

Qin Juan felt a bit for Lin Chuxia, "Don't worry about this side, no need to run back and forth, if there's something, we'll come to you. After all, Jia Liang has experience, and if he follows the current restaurant model, there should be no problem. If you have other requirements, I'll let him come find you."

"I'm not at all worried, I could entrust things to him before, now that we're about to become family, I'm even more at ease," Lin Chuxia said with a laugh.

Qin Juan's face blushed slightly from the teasing, but thinking about their upcoming marriage, she accepted Lin Chuxia's jesting with ease.

Lin Chuxia then asked her, "How's the house preparation on that side? With Jia Liang busy with the store, will it affect your wedding plans?"

Qin Juan replied nonchalantly, "Marry a chicken, follow the chicken; marry a dog, follow the dog. Since I've chosen him, even if we continue renting, I'm willing, aren't Hou Xiaobao and Liu Na doing quite well too?"

"Sister, you can't think like that, while emotions are important, more important is the partner's ability and economic foundation. Over time, emotions may fade, and what's left in daily life all requires financial support. Life without money is full of trivialities, happiness is supported by money."

Qin Juan's eyes widened slightly. She didn't understand her sister-in-law's reasoning, why would she think like that?

She knew her sister-in-law's character; otherwise, if outsiders heard her, they'd think she was all about money.

But upon reflection, what was wrong with her sister-in-law's words?

She knew too well how petty life could be without money.

Back at the Zhang Family, Zhang Wenbin gave her a fixed allowance monthly, and Mrs. Zhang and Old Master Zhang always had various demands, forcing her to stretch every penny, yet still garnering the family's dissatisfaction.

Zhang Wenbin complained about her spending habits, and Old Master Zhang and Mrs. Zhang felt the meals lacked finesse and care.

Ultimately, it all boiled down to financial issues.

Lin Chuxia was merely reminding Qin Juan not to be weak and incapable in life as she once was.

Of course, Jia Liang wasn't Zhang Wenbin.

Before Qin Juan could fully respond, Lin Chuxia added with a smile, "I trust your judgment this time, and I absolutely won't allow Jia Liang to wrong you."

Qin Juan smiled slightly, still tinged with a bit of shyness...

#### Chapter 583: A Joyous Occasion

"It really won't be a grievance. As soon as he got back yesterday, he couldn't wait to take me to see the new house. It's not far from where we used to live. The house is already renovated, and some new furniture has been placed in. He even asked me what I wanted and promised to add it all."

This surprised Lin Chuxia.

"Wow, Jia Liang sure moves fast, doesn't he?"

If I remember correctly, when the two families discussed the wedding before the Spring Festival, he only then proposed buying a house.

"Yes, he bought it right after we returned from our hometown," Qin Juan confirmed her thoughts.

Jia Liang is a quick mover. As soon as he returned from proposing to the Qin Family, he started organizing to buy a house.

Perhaps he'd planned it all along, because he quickly purchased a small courtyard with four rooms. Although the restaurant hasn't been renovated yet, he finished renovating his little courtyard first.

"Alright then, I can confidently prepare the dowry for our older sister."

Lin Chuxia clapped her hands, feeling relieved.

Jia Liang was someone she approved of, and the older sister was family to Qin Yang.

When comparing the two, of course she sided more with her older sister. She didn't want her sister to be wronged in any way.

There were fewer construction projects in the first lunar month, allowing Jia Liang to find plenty of workers for the renovation.

The renovation at the restaurant progressed very quickly. By the 20th day of the first lunar month, it was almost complete, and the equipment for the hall and kitchen was gradually put in place.

After the renovation, it needed to air out for a few days. Lin Chuxia simply gave Jia Liang some time off, allowing him to focus on wedding preparations.

By the end of the first lunar month, Lin Chuxia also gave Qin Juan time off and brought Qin Jianjun back to Qin's Restaurant, allowing him to fully manage its affairs, so that the previous two managers could have a perfect wedding.

After Qin Juan's leave started, Lin Chuxia accompanied her in the city to buy quite a few dowry clothes, which were kept at her place.

Previously, the Jia Family and the Qin Family had discussed it and decided that since getting married from the Qin Family Village was too far, Qin Juan would get married from Yan City.

Once everything in the city was almost prepared, Qin Juan returned to Qin Family Village for a visit.

The family also prepared a lot of dowries for her, and according to their local customs, when marrying off a daughter, a feast is held at home.

On the 30th day of the first lunar month, Qin Yang and Lin Chuxia returned to Qin Family Village to find their home bustling with activity.

Several large stoves were set up in the yard. Some stoves were simmering meat, others were heating oil, and the master chef was frying beancurd puffs and fritters in large batches.

There were also two large stoves with half-person-high steamers, one steaming buns, and the other steaming mung bean jelly.

Don't ask how Lin Chuxia knew; just passing by the steamer, she caught the aroma of the mung bean jelly.

Lin Chuxia immediately couldn't take another step.

Ever since she had symptoms of morning sickness, she didn't enjoy greasy foods much.

But mung bean jelly was something she loved since childhood, and you don't see it often except at village banquets.

It's not that it can't be made normally, but it never tastes like the ones steamed at large gatherings.

Seeing her eyes longingly fixed on the steamer, Qin Yang knew what was going on.

His wife used to enjoy experimenting with food but was never a glutton.

At most, she considered making good food a hobby.

Since becoming pregnant, she's turned into quite the foodie, craving whatever she fancies at the moment.

If she can't get it, she really can't sleep.

"What do you feel like eating?"

Qin Yang glanced around at the busy chefs, then looked at the big pots.

"Do you want stewed meat or fried tofu?"

Lin Chuxia stretched out a finger white as a scallion and pointed to the side steamer, "I want something from inside here."

"Buns?"

Had his wife's tastes suddenly become so basic?

The scallion-white fingertips waved, "No, it's mung bean jelly in here."

Just then, an auntie walked over, laughing, "Yangyang's wife has quite the nose. This pot is indeed mung bean jelly, which will be a cold dish at tomorrow's banquet. But mung bean jelly tastes best hot. When it's freshly steamed, you can never get enough of it."

Lin Chuxia swallowed hard and looked at the auntie with sparkling eyes, "Right, right, don't you think so too, Auntie?"

The auntie, a close relative of the Qin Family, discreetly glanced at Lin Chuxia's belly and smiled as she asked, "Craving this, are you? It's almost done. Why don't you go inside and rest? In a bit, I'll have Yangyang bring it to you."

Lin Chuxia wrung her hands and bashfully said, "Since it's almost done, I'll just wait here."

The auntie chuckled at her expression and turned to Qin Yang, "Your wife is just like I was when I was pregnant, craving things immediately. But you're lucky; today you can get whatever you want, not like back in our day when we couldn't get what we craved."

After speaking, the auntie shouted over a few people to the chef in the distance, asking if the steamer was ready.

That chef glanced at his watch and shouted back to the auntie, "Alright, it's ready to come out."

The auntie waved Qin Yang over, "Yangyang, give me a hand. Let's take out two steamers at a time and let them cool on the side so your wife can have some first. Pregnant women do get hungry easily."

Qin Yang called over Little Zhuangzhuang, handed him the items he was holding, and asked him to take them inside.

He rolled up his sleeves and went to help the auntie lift the steamer trays.

These large steamers were only used during village banquets.

They were common to the entire village.

They were as big as ten-yin pots, and the steamers had handles on both sides, so they could be lifted directly by their handles.

The auntie directed Qin Yang to lift the two topmost layers together first.

They didn't rush with the rest, smiling at Lin Chuxia, "Go over there and grab some bowls and chopsticks; what's in these two trays is good."

Lin Chuxia happily agreed and ran to the side to get bowls and chopsticks.

The auntie took the chance to praise, "Yangyang, you married well indeed. It's like bringing a golden phoenix into the Qin Family Village, not just marrying a wife. You're like the parasol tree in our village."

Qin Yang smiled and nodded, humbly accepting the auntie's compliment.

When Lin Chuxia returned, the auntie opened the steamer lid, releasing an enticing aroma.

It turned out to be Lin Chuxia's favorite rolled noodle mung bean jelly.

This mung bean jelly is rolled with noodles and steamed, delicious and easy to carry.

The auntie gave Lin Chuxia an entire strip.

Handing the bowl to Lin Chuxia, she then had Qin Yang help her remove the other steamers from the pot.

By the time Qin Yang and the auntie finished, Lin Chuxia had already eaten half a strip.

The freshly steamed mung bean jelly was hot, but luckily it cooled quickly in the cold weather.

Even so, she was eating while puffing out her cheeks to blow on it.

Qin Yang helplessly grabbed her arm, "Let's go, eat inside."



Mrs. Qin and Zhang Guilan were busy preparing the dowry for Qin Juan.

They had already made new bedding for her—two sets each of red and green, both thick and thin.

And various small items were purchased long before Qin Juan returned from the city.

Chapter 584: How Can There Be Such Adorable Human Cubs?

Each one was tied with a red string to peanuts dyed with rouge and had double happiness characters cut from red paper pasted on it, looking incredibly festive.

The house was bustling, busy until late at night, but today was just for preparations.

The first day of February is the formal day for the bride's side.

Early the next morning, the Qin Family members all woke up early, and the neighbors who came to help also arrived early.

Right now, holding banquets in the village involves the help of all the folks.

The managers and others arrived almost at the same time, directly assigning tasks.

Qin Shusen, who has been the village chief for many years, has considerable prestige, and most families in the village would invite him over to manage affairs when holding banquets.

Qin Shusen directly pointed out a few people, "You young guys, go borrow tables, you two go help set up the accounting table over there, and you women, go to the head chef's and help with the vegetable preparation..."

Isn't it said that weddings and funerals in this era are celebrated lively?

No matter what the occasion, holding a grand banquet means everyone gets involved.

Everything is borrowed from each family, even the bowls and chopsticks are gathered from various homes.

The men and women chatted and laughed, completing tasks, all while needing to dress nicely.

Compared to dining directly at a hotel, this has more of a personal touch.

By 11 in the morning, preparations were almost complete, and the courtyard was set with tables, with eager children already surrounding them, just waiting for Qin Shusen to give the word to start the feast.

There was no need for Lin Chuxia to help here, she just needed to find a quiet corner and watch the excitement.

She hadn't seen such a lively scene in ages, not even when Little Yaoyao had her full month celebration was it as lively as today.

Watching the kids holding their chopsticks at the ready, and when the dishes were finally placed on the table, dozens of chopsticks dashed forward in unison, clearing the plates in an instant, she couldn't help but cover her mouth and laugh.

She suddenly recalled the time when someone in the village held a banquet during her childhood, and it was the same as now, gathered around the table.

Lin Jiayi sat in the middle, with her and Lin Jiadong seated to her left and right.

Probably thinking that with them around, she'd be able to eat more.

After all, at home she was the one who dominated, whatever she said was how things went.

But when the dishes arrived, Lin Jiayi wanted to show off, while she and Lin Jiadong simply ate without hesitation.

By the time Lin Jiayi reacted, that plate of food was already gone, and she hadn't taken a single bite.

She got angry but no one cared, when the second plate came, they continued with it just like the first.

Thus, after missing the first two plates, Lin Jiayi couldn't care less about being angry.

When the third plate arrived, she pulled it directly in front of herself, not letting anyone touch it.

She even claimed that since she missed the first two plates, this one was all hers.

But so what? At home she may dominate, but outside, others wouldn't indulge her.

One of the older kids at the table grabbed her hair with one hand and took the dish with the other, placing it back in the middle of the table.

Once again, Lin Jiayi didn't get to eat the third plate.

Back then, every family was poor, even if throwing a big banquet, there weren't many dishes, three plates and most of the feast was covered.

Lin Jiayi didn't eat a single bite, cried and complained to Mother Lin, while she and her brother stuffed themselves full.

Back then Lin Chuxia thought Lin Jiayi was a bit silly, with a heart even smaller than a needle's eye, incapable of anything but being bossy and throwing tantrums.

The cries of several children brought Lin Chuxia back from her thoughts.

Little Zhuangzhuang held a bowl out to Lin Chuxia, "Auntie, I brought you some good food, all of it I grabbed, Auntie, eat some."

"And mine is for the little brother," Niuniu said beside him, holding up half a bun.

Lin Chuxia knew that by "little brother," she meant the child in her belly.

Her mom's belly grew big, then she had a little brother, so the little girl thought anyone with a big belly would give birth to a little brother.

Lin Chuxia took their food with a smile, affectionately patting their little heads.

How can there be such adorable human children?

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The house was lively all day, and by three or four in the afternoon, most of the guests had left.

The Qin Family loaded all the tidied-up items onto the car and headed grandly to Yan City.

Jia Liang and Old Mrs. Jia had already moved to the new house, but didn't vacate the lease on the old place, it was cleaned and kept ready for the Qin Family to stay during the wedding days.

This act changed Mrs. Qin's view of Jia Liang.

Previously she disliked how rugged Jia Liang looked, worried he was as rough as he seemed, incapable of caring for others.

But now, all these arrangements made Mrs. Qin truly understand that appearances can be deceiving.

Jia Liang is genuinely attentive and trustworthy.

Lin Chuxia worried they might not fit so many people, considering having Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin stay at the residential compound.

Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin refused, preferring to live nearby, with only a wall separating them from Qin Juan's courtyard, making things convenient.

They were rather worried about Lin Chuxia's house being chaotic these days and her not resting well, fearing she might not handle it, they quickly urged her to return home to rest.

Lin Chuxia and others didn't say much, went home, had a bath, and went to bed early.

She had promised Qin Juan that she would do her makeup the next morning.

Early the next morning, while it was still dark, Lin Chuxia crawled out of bed, startling Qin Yang beside her.

Checking the time, he realized it was just after 4 o'clock, "It's still early, you can sleep a bit more, it's just doing makeup, if necessary, let Jia Liang and the others wait a bit."

But Lin Chuxia didn't want to sleep, rolling her eyes at him, "What do you know? Today is elder sister's big day, I have to make sure she looks beautiful as she gets married, gives her an unforgettable wedding, it cannot be ruined because of me, get up, get up."

Seeing she really didn't want to sleep, Qin Yang got up too.

When they got to elder sister's place, the Qin Family and Wang Tianxue were already up, the lights on in the house and the courtyard, all bright.

Qin Juan had already dressed in new clothes, which Wang Tianxue specially selected for her.

A red small suit with a red sweater underneath, a red coat on the outside.

Even the shoes were big red leather ones.

"I'm here, I'm here."

Lin Chuxia hurriedly stepped, putting down the things she brought on the table.

"Elder sister, today I'm going to make you look beautiful, so you become the prettiest bride."

Several people around Qin Juan gave her space, watching her apply makeup.

Occasionally uttering light sighs.

Wang Tianxue said, "I told you, makeup should be left to Chuxia, Juanzi, you look truly beautiful today, suddenly feel like Jia Liang isn't worthy of you, I almost hate to see you get married."

As she spoke, her voice became choked.

To say Qin Juan remarried, the one most reluctant to part would truly be Wang Tianxue.

Their backgrounds are similar, both women who divorced bringing children.

Also, during Wang Tianxue's just divorced period, it was Qin Juan who comforted her.

When she most needed companionship, it was Qin Juan and Ningning who stayed by her, giving her a home warmer than kin, far beyond mere family.

## Chapter 585: How Could There Be Such a Wonderful Thing in This World?

Qin Juan stood up and hugged her, "Tianxue, you will always be my good sister. I will often come back for a short stay with you, just don't find me annoying then."

"You've said it, so I'm holding you to it," Wang Tianxue replied.

As they were speaking, a commotion came from outside; the bridal party had arrived.

Jia Liang borrowed a small car, with Houzi as the driver. Also coming along were Lu Dafa, who got along well with Jia Liang, and Su Wensong, who had come specially to attend the wedding.

Seeing Qin Juan dressed up, Jia Liang was visibly astonished.

The corners of his once joyful mouth almost reached his ears, and he looked so silly it was almost unbearable to watch.

The wedding was held at Qin's Restaurant.

The restaurant was closed for the day, not because there were many guests, but because family should take such liberties.

The entire wedding took place in a joyful and lively atmosphere. Seeing Qin Juan and Jia Liang come together happily made Lin Chuxia and the Qin Family feel relieved.

During the wedding, Lin Chuxia gave them a wedding gift — a set of keys, one large and one small.

These two keys were not new; even the strings on them were worn out.

Jia Liang, upon seeing these keys, froze on the spot.

Lin Chuxia directly handed the keys to him, "I thought about tidying them up, since it's a gift. But later, I felt you might prefer them as they were, and perhaps Big Sister has some thoughts. I figured it would be best to let you handle it yourselves. An City is our root. Maybe one day, I might want to go back to An City. It wouldn't do for you not to have a place to stay there."

Jia Liang finally reacted, hurriedly refusing, "Mr. Lin, this is too valuable. I was foolish back then, trusting the wrong person, and I should bear the consequences myself. I can't accept this."

"Who said I'm helping you clean up that mess? You made the mistake; of course, you should take responsibility. This is a wedding gift from me to you, unrelated to anything else, and it's not just for you."

She turned to Qin Juan and said, "Big Sister, later take this house deed to the housing authority and change the ownership to your name."

Qin Juan didn't understand what Lin Chuxia and Jia Liang were hinting at, but she always listened to her sister-in-law, "Alright, I'll do it later."

Old Mrs. Jia also craned her neck over and, upon seeing what Jia Liang was holding, exclaimed, "Isn't that the key to our house? Didn't you sell the house and give the keys to them? How come the keys are with you? Did they lose them and you found them? You should return them to the owners, since we know them."

Jia Liang couldn't hold back his laughter, "Mom, Mr. Lin bought our house back then, and she's giving it back to us as a wedding gift for me and Juanzi."

Old Mrs. Jia's eyes widened in shock, "Oh my, how can such good things happen? Marrying a wife and getting a house? Liangzi, the wife you married..."

She didn't know what to say, but she understood clearly. If Jia Liang hadn't married Qin Juan, even if the house was bought by Mr. Lin, it wouldn't be given to them so easily.

Jia Liang is working under Lin Chuxia, earning a salary. It's just as it should be; it's only right.



Jia Liang doesn't owe Lin Chuxia anything, and likewise, Lin Chuxia doesn't owe Jia Liang anything.

If anything, it is they who owe Lin Chuxia, as Jia Liang taking the right path and having his current success is thanks to Lin Chuxia's support.

The house gift is meant for the sister-in-law; it's the maternal family's way of showing support for the bride's family.

They just didn't expect Lin Chuxia to be so considerate.

Back when they sold the house, it was out of necessity. Did she regret it? Yes, she truly did.

Living in a rented house was one thing. Even after the son bought a new house recently, in her dreams at night, she still dreamt of the home she had lived in for over thirty years.

She never thought that one day, that home would truly return.

"Liangzi, later you should burn some paper offerings and light incense for your father and ancestors. Meeting Mr. Lin and marrying Juanzi is because of your ancestral blessings, fortune you've cultivated over eight generations. Treat Juanzi well in the future, or I'll be the first to teach you a lesson."

Jia Liang nodded heavily, assuring everyone, "Don't worry, Mom. You won't need to teach me; I'll take care of it myself."

.....

The night breeze gently swayed the treetops.

The light from inside the house cast flickering shadows in the yard, as if dancing gracefully in the wind.

The guests had long departed, leaving only the family sitting at the dining table for dinner.

Since her husband passed away, Old Mrs. Jia initially ate meals with her son.

At some point, her son stopped coming home for meals even when it was dinnertime.

She used to wait, but gradually she stopped.

Even though her son mended his ways over the past two years, he rarely came home for dinner due to his busy work schedule.

She had gotten used to eating by herself.

At this moment, however, the table was full of people.

Yes, at the square Eight Immortals' table, each place had a person, making Old Mrs. Jia forget to serve herself any food.

A tender voice chimed in, "Grandma, please have some vegetables."

Then a chopstick full of vegetables was placed in her bowl.

Old Mrs. Jia looked at the little girl, who was as delicate as a flower bud, and nodded happily, "Yes, Grandma will eat."

"Mom, would you like some more porridge?"

Qin Juan noticed that Old Mrs. Jia hadn't moved her chopsticks for a while and, seeing her porridge almost finished, asked with concern.

"Yes, a bit more, please."

Old Mrs. Jia hurriedly drank the last mouthful of porridge from her bowl.

Jia Liang reached out to take the bowl, but Qin Juan, being closer, picked it up first, "I'll get some more for Mom. You eat; you didn't seem to eat much at lunch either."

Jia Liang felt warmth in his heart, and before he knew it, Qin Juan had already turned around with the bowl to get more porridge.

His mouth unconsciously spread into a grin, and he watched her back for a long time without turning away.

When she came back with the porridge, he was still dazedly staring at her.

Qin Juan felt embarrassed by his gaze and secretly glared at him.

Facing her look, Jia Liang only felt more cheerful instead of embarrassed.

Old Mrs. Jia observed this exchange, and as she accepted the porridge bowl from Qin Juan, she also smiled with joy.

Smiling and smiling, her vision blurred.

She tugged at her sleeve, turned her face to one side, and discreetly wiped her eyes.

Little Ningning, not understanding why the adults were smiling, noticed Old Mrs. Jia's expression and asked in confusion, "Grandma, why are you crying?"

Old Mrs. Jia quickly replied, "Grandma isn't crying; Grandma is happy. From now on, Ningning can eat and sleep with Grandma every day, and that makes Grandma happy."

Little Ningning immediately beamed with joy too, "I also like eating and sleeping with Grandma. Grandma, I'll be with you every day from now on."

Ningning knew that after her mom married Uncle Jia, she wouldn't be able to sleep with her anymore.

But she wasn't afraid; she was already a big kid and wouldn't be scared to sleep in her own room.

#### Chapter 586: Underestimating This Man

But today Grandma Jia told her that she could sleep with Grandma Jia, just like when they took naps together during the summer vacation, so she wasn't scared anymore.

"Oh, oh, alright, Grandma likes Ningning the most."

After dinner, Old Mrs. Jia thought about cleaning up the dishes herself and let those two get inside quickly.

Before she could make a move, Qin Juan had already picked up a bowl, and her son followed by grabbing chopsticks and even took the bowl from Qin Juan's hands.

"The water's cold, let me wash it."

Old Mrs. Jia saw her usually rough and careless son showing some tenderness and stopped trying to do the chores herself. She took Little Ningning by the hand and headed to her room.

"Ningning, let's go, Grandma will tell you a story in the room."

Little Ningning was instantly overjoyed; she loved listening to stories from Grandma Jia.

Once everyone left, the room was suddenly left with just the two of them.

Although Jia Liang and Qin Juan met almost every day, perhaps because of the day, Qin Juan's face suddenly felt a bit warm.

Jia Liang became awkward too, "Uh, you go wash up first, I'll be done here soon."

Qin Juan didn't even look at her and turned to leave the kitchen.

The cold wind helped cool her flushed face a bit.

There was hot water boiling on the stove. She'd washed off her makeup in the afternoon, and now she just brushed her teeth and poured some hot water to wash her feet.

Just as she finished washing her feet, Jia Liang had finished tidying up the kitchen and came in.

Seeing Qin Juan wiping her feet, without a word, he picked up the footwash water.

"Hey..."

Before Qin Juan could react, he was already carrying the basin of footwash water out, naturally going to dispose of it for her.

An unusual feeling stirred in Qin Juan's heart.

She knew Jia Liang was different from that person before, but she didn't expect this...

She stopped her thoughts, realizing that comparing Jia Liang to that person was an insult to Jia Liang.

The past was in the past, and she believed she would be happy in the future.

After disposing of the foot basin, Jia Liang finished washing up at lightning speed and entered the room to find Qin Juan already lying in bed.

She lay properly on the inside of the bed, her jet-black hair spread across the pillow.

His heart was pounding, as if it wanted to leap out the next second.

He took a few steps forward, appearing calm, but his eyes were filled with urgency.

"Juanzi, I'm turning off the lights."

Qin Juan gave a soft response, and Jia Liang pulled the light string to the bedside, laying it between the two pillows, then turned off the light.

The room instantly went dark.

There was no moon tonight, but the faint starlight streamed in through the gaps in the curtains, casting a thin veil over the room.

With the loss of vision, the other senses became more sensitive.

Qin Juan felt the gentle shake of the bed, and beside her, Jia Liang's rustling as he removed his clothes.

As his silhouette approached, her heart began to beat wildly.

Jia Liang pulled open the quilt and got in, and after lying still for a moment, clumsily pulled her into his embrace.

Just as he imagined, she was soft and fragrant.

Qin Juan didn't resist; she wasn't some naive little girl and found Jia Liang's awkwardness rather amusing.

She felt his hot breath spraying onto her ears, gradually moving to her face.

She was just about to laugh at him for taking so long to find his way, when suddenly a weight like a mountain pressed down on her.

"Juanzi, Juanzi..."

His voice was husky and deep, leaving her no chance to respond.

Later, he became even more impatient and unrestrained...

Qin Juan silently sighed; it seemed that in some ways, men are inherently dominant.

She had underestimated this man.

.....

Lin Chuxia originally wanted to give Jia Liang and big sis a few days for their wedding, but the two refused.

The new store needed to be set up quickly, and big sis was also concerned about the restaurant work.

With everyone's diligent efforts, the second branch of Qin's Restaurant officially opened after half a month.

By now, it was already the end of March, the time when all things are awakening.

Lin Chuxia's belly had already started to show. Wearing lighter clothes made her pregnancy even more evident.

As the owner of Qin's Restaurant, she needed to attend the opening ceremony.

Qin Yang knew her personality and even if pregnant, she wouldn't let herself be confined at home entirely.

Fortunately, the weather had warmed, unlike the icy and snowy roads of winter.

After carefully instructing her once more, he helped tie her shoelaces and then sent her out.

Lin Chuxia paused at the door, and Qin Yang asked, "Did you forget something?"

Lin Chuxia shook her head, placing his big hand on her belly.

Just as Qin Yang was about to ask what was happening, he felt a soft nudge against his hand.

Unlike the past when the feeling was fleeting, this time he felt it clearly.

"It's really kicking me. Is this baby turning over?"

"He knows he's going out to play, so he's happy," Lin Chuxia casually said.

The first time she felt the fetal movement, Lin Chuxia found it fascinating.

But when the pregnancy was still early, only occasionally could she feel it. Trying to let Qin Yang feel it often ended in vain.



Whenever they timed it right, the fetal movement was still too faint. Only she, being the mother, had the keen sensitivity, while Qin Yang barely felt a thing.

Yet for them, it was a joyful experience, feeling and interacting with this little life.

Recently, Lin Chuxia felt the baby moving more noticeably, so she took Qin Yang's hand to let him feel it.

She didn't expect the little guy to be so cooperative.

Qin Yang's gaze softened as he gently stroked her belly, "Be safe out there, call me if anything comes up."

"Okay."

.....

Lin Chuxia was very familiar with the opening ceremonies after years of involvement. She knew the process like the back of her hand.

Today, she only made a brief appearance and participated in the ribbon-cutting. She left the speechmaking to Jia Liang.

The new branch of Qin's Restaurant was fully entrusted to Jia Liang, while the old store was managed by Qin Juan.

This arrangement, however, caused the newlyweds to be temporarily separated just after marriage.

Luckily, Jia Liang cleverly chose a location for their new home between the two stores, so their work schedules wouldn't differ much.

As she returned from the store and was about to reach home, she saw someone pacing back and forth at the entrance.

From a distance, she saw Lin Chuxia approaching.

"Sister-in-law, are you waiting for me?"

Sister-in-law Gong saw her belly and didn't dare rush her, simply saying, "I do have something to ask you."

"Let's talk inside the courtyard."

Lin Chuxia opened the courtyard gate and invited Sister-in-law Gong into the house.

Sister-in-law Gong seemed quite anxious. Once inside, she didn't beat around the bush and directly asked, "Lin, I heard that your master doesn't easily see patients. I wonder if it's true. You see, Old Wei has a friend who's sick, and it seems even more serious than my case. He's being treated at our City Hospital, and as you know, our medical facilities only treat the symptoms but not the root cause..."

During the time she received treatment from Old Sir He, she hadn't seen him take on other patients and had heard from some details that Old Sir He was indeed selective about seeing patients.

#### Chapter 587: The Patient

Sister-in-law Gong was grateful to Lin Chuxia. During this period, when people noticed her improved complexion and inquired about her prescription, she hadn't divulged it.

She feared troubling the elderly.

According to Lin's situation, the elderly weren't in need of money for medical treatment.

This time, it was only out of necessity that she came to inquire.

Lin Chuxia understood and directly asked, "What's the situation with the counterpart? I'll check with Master first."

She knew Old Sir He was now less resistant to seeing patients; whether he could examine or not, she still wished to seek the elder's opinion.

Sister-in-law Gong said, "I don't know the specifics very well; I just know the individual's identity is somewhat special. An old classmate of Old Wei Government learned about my wellness management and came knocking. It's said the patient is an expatriate who has been living abroad for years; now their health is poor, possibly with some unfulfilled wishes. Thus, they dragged their ailing body back to the country but didn't get better before ending up in the hospital, where the original plan was that she invest in our Yan City."

So, from any aspect, no one wanted the person to just die like this.

If the person passed, no one could fulfill her wishes, and the investment plan would end in vain.

Now that the market is open and attracting investment is encouraged, the city government didn't want the golden opportunity to be lost halfway.

After listening, Lin Chuxia raised her eyebrows; an expatriate, huh? This deserves Master's attention.

It's contributing to the hometown.

Lin Chuxia and Sister-in-law Gong agreed, and then she found time to visit Old Sir He.

Old Sir He was uninterested in whom he was healing or the patient's identity; he wasn't moved by the notion of contributing to his hometown.

At his age, he only wished to live spontaneously.

In the past, he had lost hope for life, his sole thought being...

Until he met the young apprentice, who made him feel there was fun in life, leading to a zestful existence.

His current life's focus was watching over her living well and those who treated him kindly.

If the young apprentice said it was doable and needed help, he would assist resolutely.

After returning from Master, Lin Chuxia conveyed information to Sister-in-law Gong.

After all, the situation sounded quite urgent.

The next day, Minister Wei specially took leave and went with Lin Chuxia to bring Old Sir He to see the patient.

In the car, Minister Wei said, "The patient isn't in the hospital right now. Originally, the doctors recommended admission for treatment, but how can our medical level compare with abroad? She couldn't get cured abroad either, and according to her, the ailment has been for a long time. After losing hope abroad, she thought she'd utilize the remaining time to accomplish her wishes."

Lin Chuxia didn't delve into the counterpart's wishes but voiced her caution beforehand.

"Since such good medical conditions abroad couldn't cure her, my Master might not have any better solutions either."

"I understand, but that friend knows my wife managed her health well, so it's worth trying; even if it reduces her pain a little, it's considered our best effort."

Lin Chuxia understood and aimed to give the counterpart a good impression, boosting confidence in her investment in Yan City.

The counterpart currently stayed in the government's guesthouse; Minister Wei brought people there with prior arrangements, and his friend was waiting with the patient.

At the guesthouse, Minister Wei personally opened the car door for Old Sir He.

Once the elder got out, he respectfully invited him to walk ahead.

He sincerely respected and appreciated Old Sir He.

His wife's transformation after Old He's treatment astounded him.

Her health had improved, her spirit boosted.

Daily, she tidied the house till spotless, growing several pots of flowers.

After work, there were delicious, steaming meals, and she even knitted him a new sweater.

He reminded her some chores could wait for him, as he was accustomed to doing them over the years.

His wife instead said she felt inexhaustible energy now, cleaning these tasks uplifted her mood.

She even mentioned, if restricted from chores, she'd find a job, even dishwashing at a restaurant, just showcasing indolence.

Her healing changed the entire atmosphere at home.

To put it bluntly, they owed gratitude to Old Sir He and Lin Chuxia.

Lin Chuxia followed them out of the car, walking behind the group.

Inside the guesthouse, the government official awaited in the hall, a junior official welcoming them.

"Minister Wei, is this the Old Sir He you mentioned? Please come this way; the chief waits for you all here." They led the group to a side room.

The junior officer knocked on the door, led the group through; instantly, there were greetings exchanged between men and Minister Wei.

Lin Chuxia found the voice familiar and gave a slight pause upon seeing the man.

The counterpart seemed equally surprised to see her, "Lin, this is..."

Lin Chuxia pointed beside her at Old Sir He, "This is my Master, I'm here accompanying him today."

The person was Bai Qifeng, the chairman of the NRDC.

Bai Qifeng first extended his hand to Old Sir He, then turned to Lin Chuxia, "I didn't expect you to be so talented with such an adept Master, if I'd known, I'd have sought you sooner."

"What, you two know each other?"

Minister Wei didn't realize Bai Qifeng and Lin Chuxia were acquainted.

"Why not? Old Wei, you forgot where I was transferred from; back in An City, Lin helped me solve many challenging issues."

Director Wei had a moment of clarity; Bai Qifeng had been based in An City, hometown of both Lin Chuxia and Qin Yang was Ancheng County.

"Since they're familiar, it simplifies things. Old Bai, I briefed Old Sir He about Ms. Zhuang's situation during the journey; is there anything else you want to add?"

Speaking of the patient, Bai Qifeng toned down his cheerfulness.

The conversation was more earnest, given his connection with Lin Chuxia.

"Ms. Zhuang investing in Yan City was fortuitous; her visit was primarily for personal matters, specifics of which remain undisclosed by her and won't be pursued by us. However, due to her health concerns and local environment, she fell ill upon arriving in Yan City; the hospital's treatment prognosis was severe, suggesting life-threatening consequences if not treated promptly. Current advice pointed out two options; finding a better treatment plan or returning to her original country for her regular doctors' care. Ms. Zhuang had little interest in returning, aware that her end might be near, hence her return for unfulfilled wishes. As for better treatment means, besides the capital, this locale offered no alternatives, which Ms. Zhuang refused, thus inviting Old Sir He's intervention."

Chapter 588: Zhuang Jingshu

Old Sir He nodded, it was the same as what Minister Wei had said on the way.

In summary, it's like treating a dead horse as if it's alive. If it can be treated, treat it. If not, it's fine.

"Take me to see the patient."

Having made everything clear, Bai Qifeng didn't delay and led Old Sir He and Lin Chuxia to the adjacent room.

After knocking twice, the door was opened by a young man, who looked like he was in his early thirties.

Upon seeing Bai Qifeng and an old gentleman behind him, he knew who they were.

He politely said, "Director Bai, please come in."

His gaze finally landed on Lin Chuxia.

Earlier, Bai Qifeng had mentioned inviting an old Chinese medicine practitioner to see their chairman, which he knew, but he hadn't expected the practitioner to have a young pregnant woman with him.

Judging by her position next to the old practitioner, she should be the practitioner's child or assistant, so he didn't stop them.

Lin Chuxia met his gaze with a slight nod, and the man also nodded back at her.

This room was a suite, and the patient was in the inner room.

The man led them to the entrance of the inner room and greeted the person inside.

Upon hearing the response, he led them inside.

Lin Chuxia followed behind Bai Qifeng and her master, looking around the room as she walked.

She had previously stayed at guesthouses, so she knew the conditions of guesthouses from that era.

This was likely the most luxurious room in all of Yan City, not only was it a suite, but the furnishings inside were also very refined.

The bed in the room was a newly popular Simmons mattress.

On the bed, a woman was leaning against the headboard, reading a newspaper.

The woman had maintained herself well; just looking at her hair and skin, she seemed to be in her early forties.



She was also very beautiful, and even with a heavy air of illness, it didn't diminish her mature charm and elegance in the slightest.

Yet, she clearly remembered that Minister Wei had once disclosed that the woman was already in her fifties.

Seeing the woman like this, the man first walked over briskly and took the newspaper from her hands, with a slight hint of disapproval in his voice.

"Chairman, you need to rest now. If you want to read the reports, let me read them to you. The doctor said you shouldn't exhaust yourself."

The woman took off her gold-rimmed glasses and smiled nonchalantly, "It's not as exaggerated as they say, and reading these newspapers myself is more interesting. I haven't read such newspapers for so many years, I didn't expect the country's development to be so good now. If I don't read more, I won't recognize it anymore."

By this time, she had also spotted Bai Qifeng and the people behind him.

"Director Bai, thank you for your hard work again."

"It's my duty. Ms. Zhuang returning to support national construction, we have the responsibility to take care of Ms. Zhuang's health."

After saying that, he introduced Old Sir He, "This is the old Chinese medicine practitioner I mentioned to you before."

Zhuang Jingshu extended her arm and smiled at Old Sir He, "It's been a very long time since I last saw a Chinese doctor. Thank you for your trouble, sir."

Old Sir He nodded and didn't say much, sitting on the chair beside the bed, earnestly feeling her pulse.

As soon as he touched her wrist, his brow furrowed, and he glanced at Zhuang Jingshu.

Zhuang Jingshu smiled and asked, "Is my body beyond saving? To be frank, when I was abroad, they provided many treatment plans, even wanting to replace some parts of my body, which I refused. I don't trust those, what's mine is mine. If I am to trust anything, I believe more in our country's Chinese medicine. But it was impossible to find one abroad, I thought when I returned home..."

The unspoken words were understood by everyone present.

Old Sir He had finished checking the pulse, "Your body is indeed quite troublesome. I'll write a prescription for you to take for a few days, and then we'll proceed with the next step of treatment. As for what level it can be nursed back to, that depends on your fortune."

Zhuang Jingshu seemed well-acquainted with the etiquette, smiling as she expressed her gratitude, "Thank you, sir."

Then she looked towards the young man beside her, "Zhuang Yang, help the gentleman with paper and pen."

The man named Zhuang Yang hurriedly placed paper and pen on the table.

Old Sir He gave Lin Chuxia a faint glance.

Lin Chuxia understood immediately and stepped forward willingly.

Old Sir He dictated, and she wrote. Once finished, Lin Chuxia handed the prescription to the man.

Zhuang Yang took the prescription but looked troubled, glanced at Zhuang Jingshu, then at Old Sir He, "So, what should I do next?"

He seemed a bit embarrassed after saying that, "I'm sorry, I've lived abroad since I was young, and I'm really unfamiliar with this matter... Please guide me a bit."

Lin Chuxia took back the prescription, "I'll help you get the medicine, you probably don't know how to boil it either, right?"

"Boil the medicine?"

Seeing the man's clear eyes...

Alright, it seems she still has to do it.

Helping others to the end, Lin Chuxia said, "Well, I'll get the medicine. Each dose of this medicine is boiled twice, taken in three parts. I'll boil the medicine and then you can take it back and let Ms. Zhuang take it on time."

Zhuang Yang immediately beamed, "Thank you very much."

Zhuang Jingshu had forgotten that traditional Chinese medicine required this process. Seeing Lin Chuxia's pregnant belly, she couldn't help but ask, "Isn't this too much trouble for you? I could have the guesthouse staff take care of it."

By then, giving a bit more money should work.

She knew that with Chinese medicine, the process could end with the prescription, leaving the rest to get and boil the medicine oneself.

"I'd better do it, boiling the medicine isn't like other things, it requires careful attention to the heat."

In the eyes of those present, Lin Chuxia, as Old Sir He's apprentice, was certainly professional in this aspect.

Since she said so, there was no more argument.

Zhuang Yang discussed it with Zhuang Jingshu, grabbed his car keys, and went out of the guesthouse with Lin Chuxia and the others to get the medicine from the hospital's Chinese pharmacy.

During this era, individually owned pharmacies didn't exist. In the city, to buy medicine, one went directly to the hospital or health center, where both Chinese and Western medicine departments were available.

After buying the medicine, they went straight to Old Sir He's place.

When moving from An City to Yan City, among Old Sir He's belongings were two medicine pots.

At the time, she didn't understand and had poked fun at her master, saying that despite not treating people, he couldn't bear to part with those two medicine pots.

Later, she realized that even the pot for boiling Chinese medicine had its significance—the longer it was used, the more it was used, the more valuable it became.

As the saying goes, a medicine pot lasts for a hundred years.

Those two medicine pots were left behind back then because people didn't understand their value and didn't see a reason to destroy them.

Arriving home, Lin Chuxia skillfully went into the kitchen and took out Old Sir He's medicine pot from the very back of the cupboard.

Though the house was heated with radiators, a coal stove was also lit for convenience in cooking.

Lin Chuxia then uncovered the coal stove.

First, she cleaned the medicine pot, then poured a packet of medicinal herbs into the pot to soak in cold water.

Old Sir He hadn't said a word since she took over the task of boiling the medicine.

But now, he stood with his hands behind his back, watching her work.

Chapter 589: Did a Blind Cat Really Find a Dead Rat?

Originally, she thought she would find the medicine pot and put it directly on the open flame, just like she usually did for his bone broth.

Unexpectedly, she even knew to soak the herbs in cold water.

Thinking about it carefully, the Qin Family's health has been quite good, except for Mr. Qin for whom he had prescribed a few doses of traditional medicine, the others didn't seem to have any ailments.

Could it be that she learned it when Mr. Qin's medicine was being brewed?

But he remembered she was busy selling her meat buns at that time, barely home all day, so there was no way she could have boiled the medicine.

Was it a blind cat stumbling upon a dead mouse?

As her mentor, he certainly hadn't taught her this.

Just as he was thinking, Zhuang Yang indirectly asked Old Sir He's question.

He simply asked Lin Chuxia, "Isn't it enough to soak them, aren't we supposed to brew traditional medicine?"

If soaking it is enough, tell him how long to soak it for next time so he can do it himself for the chairman without bothering Mr. Lin.

"Of course not," Lin Chuxia arranged the herbs in the medicine pot so they were fully submerged in water, "Before brewing traditional medicine, it should be soaked. The prescription this time is ordinary, soaking in cold water for about half an hour is enough. This maximizes the efficacy of the herbs when brewed."

Upon hearing this, Zhuang Yang became interested, "You say ordinary medicine needs to be soaked for about half an hour, are there any that are not ordinary?"

Lin Chuxia nodded, noticing Old Sir He watching them closely, she realized the old man wanted to test her knowledge.

Lin Chuxia indeed had some understanding of brewing traditional medicine, but not from reading the medical books given by her master.

The medical books given by her master were treasures; such trivial matters weren't even recorded in them.

Her experience in brewing traditional medicine mostly came from her own past lifetime.

In her past life, he developed a chronic condition from going into the river, and she drank a lot of traditional medicine to try for a child.

Later, when hope was lost, and she gave up on having a child, her body still needed conditioning.

Her skill in brewing medicine developed naturally from enduring illness.

Under Old Sir He's watchful eyes, she patiently explained to Zhuang Yang, "As I mentioned earlier, this time the prescription is ordinary. For decoctions that release the surface and dispel heat containing lightweight ingredients like Honeysuckle, Chrysanthemum, Pueraria lobata, or ephedra, they only need to soak for about 20 minutes. Too long of a soak can cause the active ingredients in some surface-decoction herbs to volatilize, affecting treatment. Also, herbs with nourishing and energy-supplementing effects, with a harder texture like dragon bone or oyster shell, should be soaked longer, for one or two hours, to extract all their medicinal properties."

Zhuang Yang, trying traditional medicine for the first time, widened his eyes in disbelief, "Dragon bone? Are there really dragons? Can oysters be used as medicine? Also, when I got the medicine in the hospital, I saw lots of strange things; can these really cure diseases?"

Lin Chuxia smiled slightly, "With so many questions at once, I don't know where to start."

"Then... start with the first question. Are there really dragons? The chairman says we Chinese are descendants of dragons, the heirs of dragons, so if dragons are our ancestors, how can I use their bones as medicine? Even though I lived abroad since I was young and don't share this belief, it still doesn't feel right."

"Dragon bone is just a name for a traditional medicine ingredient, the fossils of large ancient mammals like the three-toed horse, *bois intermedius*, or ruminants. They possess calming and sedative, liver-soothing, color-solidifying effects, not from real dragons."

She actually wanted to add that even if he grew up abroad, his blood is the same as theirs, they are of the same lineage.

But such words might seem weightless now.

However, Lin Chuxia knew that decades later, they would all be proud of the blood running through their veins.

Zhuang Yang was greatly moved, "I didn't expect so much intricacy involved, it's thanks to Miss Xia's help, otherwise I wouldn't know what to do."

Lin Chuxia smiled slightly, sneaking a glance at Old Sir He.

Old Sir He met her gaze, snorted arrogantly, and walked back to the house with his hands behind his back.

But Lin Chuxia knew he was satisfied with her answers.

The herbs soaked for half an hour before being brewed, soon filling the courtyard with the aroma of medicine.

Zhuang Yang seemed uncomfortable with the smell and couldn't sit still.

Lin Chuxia didn't force him, "I heard it's your first time back in the country, and you haven't toured Yan City. You don't have to keep watch, come back in about an hour to pick up the medicine."

Zhuang Yang, as if relieved from a burden, quickly said, "Then I'll go have a look around, sorry to trouble Miss Xia with the medicine."

"It's my duty."

After all, knowing she could brew the medicine properly, the consultation fee was generous, covering this task.

After Zhuang Yang left, Old Sir He came back out from the house with his hands behind his back.

Seeing Lin Chuxia watching the medicine pot, he muttered, "Clumsy fool, needing to watch over medicine brewing, don't tell others you're my apprentice, it's embarrassing. Move aside, I'll watch it myself to avoid you burning the medicine and ruining my reputation."

Lin Chuxia playfully responded, "Master, it's just the two of us here, you don't have to be so stubborn. Just say you're concerned about me being tired, I won't tease you for it."

Old Sir He shot her a white-eyed look, "I'm not worried about you, I'm worried about my grandson."

"Same thing, the child is in my belly, so you worrying about the child means worrying about me. Even if you don't say it, I know your sentiments."

Old Sir He, unable to retort, simply ignored her.



Lin Chuxia stayed by his side, chatting idly with Old Sir He.

"What do you think of Ms. Zhuang's condition? Is there hope for proper treatment?"

"I'm no immortal; whether his body can be properly conditioned depends on how well he cooperates during later treatment. Even if the treatment is right, everyone's body reacts differently to medicine. Nowadays, you're learning from those officials, just wanting the illness to be cured quickly without considering that her body didn't deteriorate overnight. It takes time to heal."

Lin Chuxia knew Old Sir He disapproved of Bai Qifeng's attitude.

To doctors, a patient's condition is, of course, the top priority.

However, Lin Chuxia could understand him, "Director Bai isn't just hasty for himself. In his position, getting investments is a skill, but ultimately it benefits the people of Yan City. This Director Bai used to be the county head in Ancheng County, and had helped me, too. Initially, it was on Minister Wei's account that I asked you to treat Ms. Zhuang, not expecting it would turn out to be Director Bai. Now, I do hope Ms. Zhuang's condition improves soon – it would be a win-win."

#### Chapter 590: My Wife Is a Kind Person

Not only did Ms. Zhuang regain her health, but it also brought a major investment to Yan City.

Why not?

Old Sir He was noncommittal, "I only have so much skill, don't get your hopes too high. Her body has long been rotten."

Lin Chuxia quickly nodded. When Minister Wei mentioned Ms. Zhuang's condition earlier, she had already guessed it.

If it hadn't reached an irreversible point, how could it have become her final wish fulfilled in the country?

However, Lin Chuxia also had her own ideas.

She was confident in her master's medical skills. Even if it couldn't cure the disease immediately, it should be possible to reduce Ms. Zhuang's pain and prolong her life.

Moreover, she still had the spiritual spring water.

Just now, while brewing the medicine, she had added some spiritual spring water into it.

She hadn't put much for now; she would gradually add it based on the situation.

This was also another reason why she took on the task of brewing the medicine.

It could also be considered as contributing to the economic development of Yan City.

Just as the medicine was almost ready, Zhuang Yang returned on time.

The Chinese medicine was put directly into a thermos bottle, which kept it warm and easy to carry.

Zhuang Yang thanked her politely. He was genuinely grateful to Lin Chuxia and Old Sir He.

Previously skeptical of traditional Chinese medicine, he was now full of expectation for this thermos bottle of medicine.

Not long after, Qin Yang also came.

He knew that Lin Chuxia and Old Sir He were going with Minister Wei to see a patient today.

After work, when he found Lin Chuxia was not home, he thought she might be at Old Sir He's place.

Seeing Qin Yang arrive, Old Sir He directly shooed him away, putting on a coat and bluntly saying he was going out for a meal.

The two of them were left amused and exasperated.

On the way back, Lin Chuxia recalled her first impression of Old Sir He and couldn't help but sigh.

"Clearly, he's a gluttonous old man, yet he lived like a beggar. Not to mention dining out; back then, even basic meals might have been a problem for him."

At that time, Old Sir He was in rags, almost skin and bones, and his eyes were lifeless, only staring numbly at the train station, truly looking pitiful.

Qin Yang reached out and held Lin Chuxia's small hand, glancing at her, "My wife is a kind person."

Kind?

Lin Chuxia hadn't thought about it that way.

In her past life, she had too many regrets. Now, given the chance to live again, she just wanted to make up for others' regrets.

"Maybe I'm just destined to meet my master."

Speaking of destiny, Lin Chuxia thought of today's events.

"By the way, I didn't expect to run into an acquaintance today while visiting the patient with Minister Wei."

Qin Yang turned his head and raised an eyebrow at her.

She explained the day's events to Qin Yang, finally remarking, "I didn't expect Bai Qifeng and Minister Wei to be old classmates."

As it happened, Bai Qifeng bumped into Sister-in-law Gong, barely recognizing her due to her change. Only after inquiring did he learn that Sister-in-law Gong had such an accomplished traditional Chinese medicine practitioner here, so he wanted the master to check on Ms. Zhuang.

Qin Yang was quite surprised by the identity of the patient, "Turns out she's an overseas Chinese."

No wonder Minister Wei got personally involved.

In the current state of the nation's poverty, he understood the emphasis local governments placed on foreign investment from his position.

Lin Chuxia nodded, "She went abroad because of family matters earlier on, and in the past two years, hearing about the relaxation of domestic policies, the treatment towards them hasn't been... So she thought about returning to take a look. After all, every person away from home probably dreams of returning to their roots. She caught a cold just after returning for the Chinese New Year and fell ill."

She looked at Qin Yang and smiled, "Ms. Zhuang's arrival is highly valued by Yan City's leadership. Bai Qifeng is in charge of this area and is afraid the God of Wealth might fall ill or leave because of illness."

"Bai Qifeng is that kind of person."

Qin Yang hadn't interacted with Bai Qifeng, but he'd heard plenty about him from his wife.

When he was in Ancheng City, Bai Qifeng also strongly encouraged individual economic development.

His wife's individual business could thrive so rapidly, and it was inseparably linked to Bai Qifeng, who used to be the county magistrate of Ancheng County.

Especially when opposing the Old Food Factory, Bai Qifeng stood out and spoke on behalf of Lin Chuxia.

As for later persuading Lin Chuxia to take over the Old Food Factory, in any aspect, he was a leader who could accomplish practical matters.

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In the following days, Lin Chuxia would go to Old Sir He's place regularly, diligently acting as his little medicine apprentice.

Old Sir He was quite annoyed by her, repeatedly saying she was disturbing his peace and telling her not to come again.

Lin Chuxia knew Old Sir He was worried about her getting tired.

In fact, Lin Chuxia herself, after passing the fourth month, no longer experienced any pregnancy sickness. Aside from her growing belly and her body's increased heaviness, she didn't find anything particularly inconvenient.

Now with the flowers blooming and the snow melted, plus her own good health, she felt that moving around made her body feel even lighter.

Zhuang Yang waited every day for the medicine to be brewed. Over time, he seemed to have become immune to the smell of Chinese medicine.

Occasionally, he would squat nearby, discussing traditional Chinese medicine knowledge with Old Sir He and Lin Chuxia.

It wasn't surprising he was becoming increasingly interested in traditional Chinese medicine; having personally witnessed its wonders.

After one course of treatment, Ms. Zhuang's mental state improved significantly.

Previously bedridden and relying on a nurse's help even to get out of bed,

now not only was she able to get up and handle her own daily activities, but she also occasionally ventured out to walk in the courtyard.

After one treatment course, Old Sir He re-examined Ms. Zhuang and adjusted the prescription.

This time, the prescription included more nourishing herbs.

Though mild, these herbs gradually nourished Ms. Zhuang's long-depleted body, bringing unexpected effects despite their gentle nature.

Combined with Lin Chuxia's spiritual spring water, Ms. Zhuang's condition visibly improved in Zhuang Yang's eyes.

This day, not only did Zhuang Yang visit, but he also brought Ms. Zhuang along.

Lin Chuxia was in the yard helping Old Sir He plant vegetables. Although she called it helping, most of the work was done by Old Sir He, with her just acting as some sort of good-luck charm.

The herbs were still steeping; it wasn't time yet.

Hearing voices at the gate, she knew Zhuang Yang had arrived and was surprised at how early it was today. Then she saw Ms. Zhuang following him.

Quickly, she stood up and went to greet them, "Ms. Zhuang, what brings you here?"

"I've been so bored staying at the guesthouse every day. Seeing the good weather today, I decided to come over with Zhuang Yang. I hope we're not disturbing you and Old Master?"

Old Sir He was still squatting in the field, planting his beans, evidently undisturbed by their arrival.

In the eyes of Ms. Zhuang and Zhuang Yang, Old Sir He was an eccentric old man, yet they didn't mind at all.

In their understanding, truly skilled people always had unusual tempers.

Ms. Zhuang respectfully stepped forward and politely greeted Old Sir He.