

## Switched M 66

Chapter 66: Wants to Pamper Him

Wang Cheng just listened to this. Even a vegetable farmer wouldn't need three or four board carts. Their vegetable station can't even dispatch that many carts a day.

He quickly picked out another two carts with good frames. Lin Chuxia rode away on the better one first, and the rest were to be pushed over by someone else later, who would also settle the payment.

Li Jian spoke up quietly from the side, "Not afraid we'll go back on our word? Maybe you should leave something as security here?"

He was teasing her about what happened the first time she bought a board cart.

Lin Chuxia said, "Brother, are you pointing out my shortcomings again? Show some respect for me in front of Brother Wang."

Li Jian and Wang Cheng laughed heartily.

Li Jian teased her about the way she called him Brother, and then Brother Wang; the closeness and distance were immediately clear.

Wang Cheng envied Li Jian for having such a sister. He had been to Lin Chuxia's Bun Shop and knew she was no ordinary woman. He had heard that Li Jian had gotten Station Chief Yang's favor partly because of his sister.

How come he hadn't gotten to know Lin Chuxia earlier?

Unaware of what the two men were thinking, Lin Chuxia rode the board cart straight back to the Bun Shop.

Sun Bingnan, seeing her ride another board cart back, excitedly circled around the cart, "Chuxia, where did you get this cart from?"

Lin Chuxia patted the cart seat, "Sun, when you have a moment, check thoroughly if there's anything wrong with this cart. This will be your exclusive ride from now on."

Currently, Sun Bingnan was in charge of purchasing for the Bun Shop. In the future, the purchase of cooked food will need to be separate from here, so this cart came just in time.

His eyes lit up upon hearing this, "I have time right now."

"Even if you have time, don't fuss over this right now. You and Pang Yongli go to the vegetable station, find Wang Cheng at the storage, give him the money for the cart, and also push the other two carts back here."

There were actually two more carts.

Sun Bingnan agreed cheerfully, called Pang Yongli, withdrew the money from the account, and they went to the vegetable station.

Lin Chuxia left one of the slightly older carts in the small courtyard of the Bun Shop. The men at the shop were used to heavy work, so fixing it up was not a problem.

She pushed the other cart back to the Qin Family and gave it to Qin Han.

Selling vegetables using a board cart is indeed more convenient than using a bicycle. Last time she pushed a cart back, Qin Han had circled around it several times, clearly liking it.

Men are truly peculiar creatures; any kind of vehicle is hugely attractive to them.

At that time, riding a bicycle was quite cool; having a board cart was comparable to later when people rode motorcycles—it also gave a sense of superiority.

When Qin Han heard the board cart was for him to use, he was flustered, "This... Sister-in-law, how much is the cart? Let me go get the money for you."

"If you talk like that, Big Brother, you're being too formal. I just took the opportunity to get two extra carts; you just ride it as you need," Lin Chuxia responded.

Qin Han understood what she meant. His sister-in-law bought an extra cart for business, but currently, it was not needed, so she left it at home for him to use. There would come a day when the business grows that she would need it back.

Even so, he was getting a great deal.

Qin Han did not insist on paying and gratefully thanked her.

This cart was in a similar condition to the one Lin Chuxia originally brought back; the frame was fine, but the wheels had been neglected for so long they were flat, and the boards were a bit damaged.

Qin Han started fixing the cart in the courtyard, while Lin Chuxia carried a bag of apples and some snacks to Mrs. Qin's room.

Mrs. Qin saw what she was holding and chided, "How many times have I told you not to waste money on us? We have plenty to eat and drink at home; we're living well. You're not finding it easy to earn money; you should save it for yourself."

Ever since the Bun Shop opened, Lin Chuxia rarely came home to eat, but she often brought food for them.

Lin Chuxia placed the items on the table, "If I buy it for you, just eat it. It's not worth much. Is Dad not back yet?"

"Your dad has gone to harvest fennel. I said I'd go with him, but he said it wasn't much work and not worth two people, so he asked me to stay home and watch the kids."

After their tomato plants were transplanted, Mr. Qin planted fennel, and now the Bun Shop was using their homegrown fennel. This season, fennel was expensive, so it saved the Bun Shop quite a bit on groceries.

Lin Chuxia asked about the situation in the fields and told Mrs. Qin that if things got too busy to speak with her, the shop now had more staff, and she could come over to help at any time.

Mrs. Qin nodded in agreement; her daughter-in-law was methodical in her ways, and following her arrangements was always right.

Suddenly remembering something, she went to the drawer and took out a letter and a remittance slip.

"Look at my memory, Yangyang sent a letter and also mailed his wages."

Lin Chuxia glanced at the remittance slip—50 yuan. He had both listened and not listened to her words.

She had written to him last time telling him that she had started doing business and was not short of money, asking him to keep his wages for his own use.

For a grown man to only keep three yuan for pocket money, Lin Chuxia felt it was suffocating just to think about it.

This month he had kept 10 yuan for himself but still sent most of it back.

"Yangyang also wrote a letter home, he won't be coming back for Mid-Autumn Festival. Ever since he started working, he hasn't come back for Mid-Autumn Festival. Throughout the year, he only manages to come back for a few days during the Spring Festival. I thought this year would be an exception, but it turns out he is still so busy."

Mrs. Qin was worried her daughter-in-law might have objections to her son not coming back for Mid-Autumn Festival and explained.

Lin Chuxia actually knew about the situation—a workaholic, it was already good enough that he could come back for the Spring Festival.

Mrs. Qin asked her when she would visit her parental home, as per their local custom, one should visit their parents' home during festivals like the Spring Festival and Mid-Autumn Festival.

Lin Chuxia considered for a moment, "I'll go back in a couple of days."

She didn't dwell too much on the matter and went on to tell Mrs. Qin about inviting Old Master He to their home for Mid-Autumn Festival.

The Qin family knew that Lin Chuxia had found herself a master, an elderly person with no family to rely on.

Mrs. Qin said with a smile, "That'll be lovely, the more the merrier. Even though Yangyang is not home, your master should meet the family."

"When there's a chance, in the future," said Lin Chuxia.

Mrs. Qin thought so too.

After discussing these matters, Lin Chuxia went back to her room to read the letter.

Last time, Lin Chuxia had told Qin Yang about the situation of the shop in her letter. Although she didn't disclose her financial details, she reassured him that the business was doing well and she was making daily revenue because she was worried he might be concerned about her facing difficulties starting her business.

This time, the letter surprisingly covered two pages of paper. The beginning expressed his regrets and guilt for not being able to come home for the Mid-Autumn Festival, followed by some trifles about his workplace, which were also the reason for the inability to fall behind in the projects.

The end of the letter inquired about her business affairs.

Arriving at the last part, Lin Chuxia smiled again.

Half a page, every line expressed his concern about her business but also his lack of confidence in her.

He talked about the viciousness of people, advising her to be more cautious, and even shared a story of a woman entrepreneur who was cheated both financially and romantically. He was worried she might take it personally, emphasizing several times that he wasn't referring to her but was just telling a story.

If she hadn't spent a few days with him and knew that Qin Yang was different from the man she knew in her previous life, she would never believe these were his words.

The mention of his elder brother's letter indicated that his brother must have misunderstood something during his visit to her shop, making Qin Yang so concerned about her.

She had to admit, feeling this worried about her was rather nice.

Lin Chuxia took the calendar and flipped through it page by page.

The cooked food business would be operational in the next couple of days. It was a week until Mid-Autumn Festival, and Qin Yang's birthday was at the end of October. By then, the new staff should be trained, and the cooked food business would be running smoothly.

Since he couldn't come back, she would go to visit him, to celebrate his birthday with him, to give him a surprise.

It would also save him from worrying at work.

The image of Qin Yang waving at her vigorously from inside the train as he departed came to her mind.

That sometimes absent-minded man was always extraordinarily careful with her.

Lin Chuxia also wanted to spoil him a

#### Chapter 67 Ready-to-Eat Food Officially Available

The courtyard was renovated, and all kinds of equipment were in place, so the cooked food production was immediately underway.

Lin Chuxia personally led Su Wensong, Pang Yongli, and the couple Ma Yingzi in this work.

Initially, their cooked dishes mainly featured pork, including pig's head meat, liver, lungs, heart, large intestines, and stuffed intestines, as well as braised pig's trotters.

These only required purchasing offal from the pork shop for processing, which had low cost, substantial profit, and were easy to get started with.

The most critical task here was the cleaning.

Lin Chuxia had already explained the process to several people in advance. Su Wensong had seen how Lin Chuxia prepared cooked dishes, so he had a good idea of what to do, while Pang Yongli and Ma Yingzi were a bit apprehensive.

Looking at the piles of offal, they were unsure where to start.

In their rural area, almost no one was willing to handle these things. Could Boss Lin really make a business out of this?

Then they saw their boss, whose skin was even fairer and prettier than city folk, personally get to work cleaning the large and small intestines, flushing out the pig's lungs with water, all without any hesitation.

And those dirty looking offal, after being cleaned by the boss with a special method, looked pink and white, clearly giving a sense of achievement.

"I'll wash this one, boss. Let me know if the way I handle it is alright," Ma Yingzi said as she took some offal and started cleaning it as taught by Lin Chuxia.

In the few days since Ma Yingzi arrived, Lin Chuxia had inquired about her with Sun Lanlan. She was quick and efficient at work and also very observant. Now, looking at her work, she indeed had a knack for it.

It can be said that the rural folks, as long as they are down-to-earth in their daily lives, are beyond reproach in their work.

Ma Yingzi was meticulous in her cleaning, and Lin Chuxia could hardly find fault. She simply assigned tasks to everyone: Su Wensong took care of the pig's head and trotters, while the couple Pang Yongli and Ma Yingzi handled the rest, and she herself prepared the ingredients for stuffing intestines and seasonings for stewing meat.

For stuffing intestines, the main ingredients were minced meat, starch, green onions, ginger, and other seasonings.

The Bun Shop was already using a large amount of minced meat; with the additional sausage-stuffing task, the consumption of minced meat further increased. Lin Chuxia increasingly missed the meat grinders from later times.

Once the meat was all cleaned, what remained was stewing.

In the large pot, bubbles gurgled, containing various seasonings and Lin Chuxia's secret spice pack. Soon, the whole courtyard was filled with the aroma of meat.

Ma Yingzi and the others couldn't help but inhale deeply; they had never smelled such enticing stewed meat fragrance.

Lin Chuxia asked Su Wensong to watch over the pot of meat, and she took Ma Yingzi with part of the cleaned raw meat to the Bun Shop.



Ma Yingzi was puzzled, "Boss, I think we could add a lot more meat into that pot. Why not stew it all together?"

Today being the first day of cooking the dishes, Lin Chuxia was controlling the quantity.

Lin Chuxia lifted her chin, "What do you think of the stewed meat's aroma?"

"It smells great," Ma Yingzi replied without hesitating, just the smell alone could make one salivate.

"How far do you think that aroma can spread? Can it drift to our Bun Shop?"

Ma Yingzi's eyes lit up, "Boss is clever."

Their cooked dishes were to be sold together with buns at the Bun Shop. Even the most delicious cooked dishes didn't have their aroma spread as far as while the meat was stewing.

That was Lin Chuxia's point. When they reached the back kitchen of the Bun Shop, they threw the meat into the pot to stew, added the seasonings, and by the time the aroma of the meat wafted out, it was just about mealtime.

The Bun Shop was already bustling around mealtime, and now with that overpowering fragrance in the air, everyone couldn't help but look around for the source.

"What's that smell? It's so good."

"The scent is coming from the bun shop, but it doesn't smell like meat buns. I've never smelled this before."

"Xiao Sun, does your bun shop have some new delicacy?"

Some clever customers have already started asking Sun Lanlan.

Sun Lanlan had received instructions from Lin Chuxia to bring a large tray of freshly cooked dishes to the window, straight from the pot stewed on the other side of the courtyard.

"This is our bun shop's new product, a secret cooked dish. Today is the first day it's available, and you can not only try it for free but also purchase it at a 20% discount."

Speaking of this cooked dish, generally, it's eaten cold, but honestly, the flavor when it's fresh out of the pot is truly exceptional.

Steaming hot, tender and succulent, just one bite fills your mouth with the fragrance of meat.

Lin Chuxia had also instructed Ma Yingzi to keep the pot of cooked food simmering on low heat in the store, to ensure it stayed fragrant.

The old lady queueing up at the window for buns couldn't resist asking, "Can we really try it?"

"Yes, you can try it," Sun Lanlan brought out a plate full of various sliced cooked dishes, with toothpicks on the side.

The old lady grabbed a toothpick to poke a piece of pork head meat but failed to pick it up on her first try, it was that tender.

She managed to pick it up after trying a couple of times and put it in her mouth, her eyes widened as she said, "Mmm, delicious, fragrant and tender, not greasy at all, give me half a pound of this."

When selling products, ten words from the seller are not as convincing as one word from a customer.

This old lady was a regular customer living nearby. Seeing her buy it, people queued up behind her asked, "Aunt Li, is it really that tasty? You're not shilling for them, are you?"

"What are you talking about? Haven't you ever had a bun from Qin's? With their reputation, do you think I need to shill? Don't believe me, try for yourself."

Lin Chuxia came over as well, "Yes, the aunts and uncles, ladies and gentlemen in line, you can all have a taste. It's okay if you don't buy any. Just try it and give us more suggestions."

Many customers who had known Lin Chuxia since the time she set up her stall chuckled, "To give Boss Lin suggestions, that would just mean making more delicious dishes."

"That's right, with Boss Lin's cooking skills, she'd be more than capable of running a restaurant."

With older customers giving praise, Lin Chuxia greeting them, the small shop was busier than ever, whether it was folks lining up at the window to buy buns or those dining inside, everyone couldn't resist trying some of the cooked dishes.

A 20% discount was a big deal; if you didn't buy today, you'd miss out on this bargain later.

And the prices were truly affordable: stuffed intestines for one yuan, pork head meat and trotters for one yuan and twenty cents, pork heart, liver, and intestines for one yuan and fifty cents; even if that seemed expensive, pork lungs were sixty cents per half kilo, cheaper than eating meat.

In the shop, you could have a mixed platter; one platter of cooked dishes including different kinds, fifty cents a plate, enough to satisfy any craving.

Sun Lanlan usually worked alone at the window selling buns, but now she was too busy to cope, so Ma Yingzi went over to help weigh the cooked food, while Granny Sun and Sun Bingnan attended to the customers inside. The small shop was thriving like never before.

Everyone was busy until two in the afternoon; the buns had sold out almost completely, and the cooked food had been sold out half an hour before.

Not completely sold out, though, as there was still a small pot stewing in the back kitchen, but the fire had been put out now.

The staff hadn't had lunch, so Lin Chuxia had Pang Yongli stir-fry two hot dishes and scooped out some of the cooked food from the pot to slice it, complemented by some unsold cold dishes and porridge. Everyone just grabbed whatever they wanted to eat, including buns to their liking, gathered around a table for a meal.

Sun Lanlan grabbed a slice of the cooked food, "Hmm, delicious, Chuxia, I knew you were good at cooking, but I didn't realize you were this good. You've been hiding your skills for so many years."

Sun Lanlan was her close friend and knew her well. Lin Chuxia didn't bother to explain, just said, "If it's tasty, eat more. The cooked food is better when it's cooked on high heat."

The pot in the store had been on for too long, and the dishes were so tender they almost fell apart. While delicious, this kind of cooked food couldn't be sold at a high price.

#### Chapter 68: She's Not Afraid of People, She's Afraid the Other Isn't Human

She then addressed everyone else, "Brother Su, later on, distribute some of the cooked food from the pot. It has been a tough day, and it's all thanks to everyone's efforts that our cooked dishes sold so well on the very first day. This food is a reward for everyone."

When Lin Chuxia finished speaking, everyone was polite in their words, but they were genuinely delighted inside.

Especially Pang Yongli and Ma Yingzi, who had been jobless since returning to the city and had little savings. To save money, they had been eating cornmeal, with one pancake split into three meals, and only their child could eat wheat flour, meat had not been touched for a month.

Now they not only had salaries, but the shop provided lunch every day with white flour buns, and today they even got some meat to take home to satisfy their son's cravings. They hadn't dared to dream of such good days.

At that moment, both of them unanimously decided to work hard. The boss wasn't stingy, and they knew they had to give a lot more to reciprocate the kindness of their employer.

After arranging the work at the Bun Shop in the afternoon, Lin Chuxia returned to the small courtyard.

Now in the courtyard, she had a separate office all to herself. She took out paper and started drawing plans from memory.

She had surveyed the market, and currently, the small meat grinders available were all manual. The electric ones were only the large types used in food factories, which were unaffordable and unfit for use in their Bun Shop.

She urgently needed a domestic electric meat grinder. Since it was unavailable in the market, she had to come up with a solution herself.

Busy with this task until a voice distracted her; it was Sun Lanlan's voice in the courtyard. She then put down her pen.

It was already dark.

Sun Lanlan and Sun Bingnan had finished work and returned to the courtyard for rest, where their dormitory was located. Seeing the light in Lin Chuxia's office, Sun Lanlan knocked and came in.

"Why haven't you left? It's already dark and you haven't had dinner, have you? We were just about to cook some noodles, come eat with us."

Lin Chuxia hadn't realized it was so late and, being alone for dinner if she went back, accepted their invitation and ate dinner with the Sun siblings.

Just after dinner, the room suddenly went dark—it was a power outage.

Electricity supply was still underdeveloped in the country, and even cities experienced outages. It was normal in rural areas, where power was stable only during holidays.

This was exactly why many small household appliances couldn't become popular.

With high costs and restricted use, Lin Chuxia knew this situation would soon improve.

The street lights went out too, and everything outside was pitch black. Sun Bingnan quickly volunteered to walk Lin Chuxia back home.

Lin Chuxia didn't refuse; in such darkness, she wasn't afraid of people—she could defend herself against bad intentions, but was wary of something other than humans.

She wasn't an atheist; after all, she herself was a reborn person.

Before they reached Qin Family Village, they encountered Qin Han who had come to meet her.

After saying goodbye to Sun Bingnan, Lin Chuxia thanked Qin Han, "Big brother, you've worked hard in the fields all day too. You needn't have come specifically to pick me up. The people at the shop are very nice, and if it's too late, they would have escorted me."

Qin Han shone his flashlight on the departing figure, confirming it was a man, his expression a bit somber.

Turning back to Lin Chuxia with a smile, he said, "I'd just be idly sitting at home anyway, it's kind of refreshing to take a walk."

He thought to himself – exactly because people in the shop are too kind, it makes one anxious. As the saying goes, unsolicited favors mean ill-intentions or betrayal. A weasel paying respects to a chicken is up to no good.

With the shop staff being so earnest, he had to step up. If by the next time his brother got back, what if his wife had been lured away?

His brother had asked him to take care of the family before he left; he couldn't just lose someone.

But as an uncle, he really couldn't express these concerns directly to his sister-in-law, nor did he know what exactly his brother wrote back to her, or if he had stressed anything particularly.

This was truly worrisome.

Lin Chuxia didn't know Qin Han was secretly worrying, and asked about the situation in the fields.

Qin Han also narrated everything one by one. The eggplants were ready for transplanting, and the green beans could still hold on for a bit longer. Recently, the price of green beans had risen a little, so they just needed to deliver to the vegetable station every day and it wasn't too busy in the fields anymore.

He also talked about the plans for the fields. They, as farmers, relied on the land for food, and normally wouldn't leave the fields fallow. However, Qin Han wasn't sure what to plant next; under the market economy, he had no idea what would be profitable.

Especially this latter half of the year, which had diminished their confidence in farming to almost none.

Lin Chuxia listened, and it was not until they reached the front door of the house that she suddenly said, "My Bun Shop business is on the right track now. After Mid-Autumn Festival, I want to open another branch in the county."

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It wasn't until they entered the house that Qin Han was still pondering Lin Chuxia's words. Seeing his son had fallen asleep, he woke his wife up.

"Help me analyze, what does little sister mean by this?"

He repeated Lin Chuxia's exact words.

Zhang Guilan was silent for a moment before asking him, "Do you still want to do business?"

Qin Han scratched his head, "Who doesn't want to do business? But as you said, Dad alone can't manage so many fields, and we don't have the knack for business," mentioning that not everyone has the skills and capabilities like some siblings.

Zhang Guilan also knew that if it weren't for her intervention, her husband would have long been involved in the Bun Shop business with his younger sister.

"When all the vegetables in the fields are done, let's just plant wheat."

"All wheat?" Qin Han was puzzled, "How much yield can that bring?"

Even if vegetables were not valuable, they shouldn't just give up like that. What if they got lucky?

Their land was limited, growing grain wouldn't earn much money.

"Aren't you thinking of joining little sister in her business? When little sister opens a branch, she will definitely need manpower. Let's go with little sister and sell buns, I will talk to her when the time comes."

Zhang Guilan was aware that her little sister-in-law had said this to see their reactions.

But since they had declined the initial invitation, even if the little sister-in-law was still interested, she couldn't repeat what she had said back then.

What if they were still unwilling? There needs to be some face-saving among siblings, right?

Hearing his wife's words, Qin Han suddenly saw the light, "Alright, let's do that."

He smiled, showing a big white grin, a smile of genuine joy.

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The next day, Lin Chuxia watched several people clean the offal in the small courtyard, watched them put it into the pots, personally added all sorts of seasonings, and explained the fire control to them again.

Of course, when adding seasonings, besides her secret seasoning packet, she did not withhold any information regarding when and how much of the other seasonings to add.

She couldn't always keep an eye on this aspect, she trusted Su Wensong, but even if Pang Yongli and his wife Ma Yingzi mastered the technique of cooking ready-to-eat meals, they couldn't replicate their flavor without her secret seasoning packet.

This was her magic weapon for success in her past life and the foundation of her prosperity in this life.

The seasoning packet contained powder already processed, and even with precise instruments, one could not discern what seasonings were included or the quantities used.

In her space, these kinds of seasoning packets filled a basement, and as she used them, the space would automatically replenish, saving Lin Chuxia a lot of trouble.

After arranging everything, Lin Chuxia returned to her office. She shuffled through the clothes in her space and pulled out a set of understated professional attire, paired with a white shirt.

Chapter 69: The target for is the machinery factory

The shop opened that day, and she took out a set of clothes from her space to attend the opening ceremony. It was the second set of clothes she took from her space. Although these low-key and conservative clothes had no significant difference across eras, the fabric of the clothes was still noticeably exceptional.

After a while, she really needed to go shopping at the mall. It was better to not use the items from her space if possible. Even if she needed to use them, it had to be on a suitable occasion. These good items were not available in a small county town.

In her previous life, she had risen from setting up a street stall to becoming a big business, relying not only on her intelligence but also on her caution and prudence. No matter what, she believed in keeping a low profile personally but being high profile in her actions.

After getting ready, Lin Chuxia took the blueprint she spent half of the previous day drawing and left the house.

Her target this time was the machinery factory.

The customer who first bought her steamed buns had come to the shop a few times since then. Lin Chuxia knew early on that he was an employee at the machinery factory, his surname was Xu, and some people called him Director Xu.

Having such a title and often representing the machinery factory on business trips must mean that he held a high position at the factory.

Ancheng County had several powerful factories, and the machinery factory was one of them.

Located in the southern part of the city, it covered a large area.

When Lin Chuxia cycled to the machinery factory during work hours, the main gate was closed, leaving only a small side door open. Shielded by a fence-style large iron gate, the straight path was densely covered by towering trees on both sides, adding a touch of solemnity.

Lin Chuxia pushed her bicycle to the small door, where someone immediately popped their head out of the gatehouse, "What are you here for?"

"I'm looking for your Director Xu," Lin Chuxia said.

"Director Xu Changping?" the gatekeeper asked again.

Lin Chuxia nodded and took out a box of cigarettes from her bag, placing it on the gatehouse's window, "Yes, Director Xu. He hasn't been on a business trip recently, has he? I came in a hurry today and didn't contact him in advance. I'm just worried he might be out on another trip."

The gatekeeper first glanced at the box of cigarettes, then at Lin Chuxia dressed in a small business suit, which made her look like one of those officials, and his face immediately brightened with a smile.

Besides, she directly asked whether Director Xu was away on business, implying she must be familiar with him.

"Director Xu is here. I saw him this morning and even greeted him. Go on in, his office is the second door in the third row on the right. If he's not in his office, he must be in the workshop. You can find him in the workshop area, the second to last row on the left. He often goes there."

"Alright," Lin Chuxia replied with a smile, pushing her bicycle through the gate.

The gatekeeper watched her till she was far away before retracting his head, while someone inside voiced their dissatisfaction, "Why did you tell her so much?"

The gatekeeper raised the box of cigarettes in his hand, "I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I didn't say a couple more words," having been a gatekeeper at the machinery factory for so long, he had never seen anyone so generous as to give a whole box of Phoenix cigarettes straight away.

Meanwhile, Lin Chuxia had already found Director Xu Changping's office following the gatekeeper's directions. When she saw the words "Production Department" on the office doorplate, a smile flashed across her eyes.

What good luck.

The current state-owned factories had the production department as one of the core departments, encompassing both production and technology sections.

Whether Director Xu was in charge of either, Lin Chuxia had found the right person.

She knocked on the door and waited until she was invited in before pushing the door open.

She didn't rush in, and only after seeing that Xu Changping was alone inside, she greeted the person with a smile and walked in.

"Director Xu, I am Lin from Qin's Bun Shop; do you remember me?"

Xu Changping nodded; he had a good impression of this girl who had bought his steamed buns several times. How could he not recognize her, but he didn't understand why she had come to the machinery factory.

Lin Chuxia took out the prepared cooked food and smiled, "Recently, our bun shop started offering cooked food, and we're giving back to some of our regular customers. You were my very first customer, and I was hoping you would visit these past few days. I was waiting left and right but didn't see you coming, yet I couldn't let it go. I always feel that the success of the bun shop is inseparably linked to the kickstart you gave me. I am quite superstitious, so I really wanted to make sure I personally delivered it to you, hence my daring visit."

A saying goes, you don't hit a smiling face. Xu Changping doubted that Lin Chuxia's visit was just for this simple reason, but her words were fine-tuned, and he didn't fuss about it.

He waved his hand, "Boss Lin, you are too polite. I appreciate the sentiment, but I won't accept the items."

Lin Chuxia looked troubled, "Director Xu, I know it's presumptuous of me to come here, but being in Ancity County, I'm quite lost with no one I know. After pondering, the machinery factory, having met you a few times, seemed like my best bet, so I shamelessly came here. If you don't even accept this small gesture, I would truly feel embarrassed."

Xu Changping observed her, a sharp little business suit, different from the casual dress she wore at the train station; it was evident she had dressed up carefully.

Of course, he had no other intentions, but seeing how much effort she had put in and, as she said, thickened her skin to come here, he suspected she must have encountered some problem.

Recalling her talks about competition when they first met at the train station, Xu Changping couldn't envision what problem could be too big for her to handle.

Honestly, a girl who could run a street stall business and manage to open a shop in such a short time also impressed him.

He pointed towards a chair nearby, "Sit down and let's talk."

Lin Chuxia's eyes lit up, "Director Xu, once I explain and if you feel my request is unreasonable, you can pretend I was never here."

While saying this, she took out a blueprint from her bag and placed it on Xu Changping's desk with both hands.

"Here's the thing, as you know, my bun shop requires a lot of meat filling every day. The manual meat grinders available on the market are time-consuming and labor-intensive, so I thought of getting an electric one..."

She explained her needs and the inconvenience of the current meat grinders on the market, then pointing to the blueprint, she added, "I want a meat grinder like this one. I've looked all over Ancity County and haven't found one, nor do I know where to look. You've seen much and known much at the machinery factory, so I thought of asking you for guidance. If it's not available, I wonder if our machinery factory could produce one or two based on this blueprint. I will pay for it."

Xu Changping had already taken her blueprint at this point, and with just one look, his expression subtly changed.

Lin Chuxia's blueprint was very detailed, depicting the components, structure, and working principle of the electric meat grinder.

Xu Changping had worked on this before taking his current position. He immediately understood the blueprint. He had seen large meat grinders used in meat processing plants, but this was different.

This model was more compact, easier to operate, and more suitable for small restaurants like Lin Chuxia's.

This device, seemingly trivial, could potentially have a significant market, considering the increasing number of individual entrepreneurs coupled with the widespread use and access to electricity.

Xu Changping put the blueprint back on the desk, looking at Lin Chuxia, "Did you draw this blueprint yourself?"

Chapter 70: Deal!

Lin Chuxia nodded without feeling guilty.

Xu Changping pondered for a moment, "In that case, hand this drawing over to our machinery factory. As compensation, the factory will give you three finished meat grinders. Since you drew the blueprint yourself, you should be aware that this drawing has certain flaws and is not sufficient to manufacture a perfect machine."

Xu Changping was right; Lin Chuxia had only sketched out the basic principle of the meat grinder. She wasn't formally trained and had only provided a rough description.

"Deal!"

Her objective was achieved. As for the blueprint, even without her, such a product would emerge before long.

Xu Changping promised to deliver the first finished product to her within a week, and Lin Chuxia was very satisfied with this efficiency.

After leaving the machinery factory, Lin Chuxia did not return to the Bun Shop but went to the Department Store in the county town.

Her life had been busy since getting married, and even though she had money, she hadn't really taken the time to shop.

As things were getting busier, like today, it could happen again. People respect clothes first before they respect the person, so when going out on business, it's important to maintain a proper appearance.

Lin Chuxia's goal was clear; once at the Department Store, she went straight to the ready-made clothes counter, chose some clothes she liked, stated her size, and had them packed directly.

In one go, she bought three coats, several shirts for layering, and seeing a new trench coat from the south, she bought that too.

She also went to the shoe counter and bought two pairs of leather shoes and two pairs of cloth shoes.

The sales clerk initially didn't pay much attention to her, but by the end, her eyes were shining brightly.

No wonder, encountering a woman who could spend so much was enviable.

Lin Chuxia couldn't stop once she started shopping; no matter when, shopping was the best way for women to entertain themselves.

These clothes, compared to the haute couture in her villa, were plainer and less stylish, but being the 'best of the worst' in the Department Store also had a sense of achievement.

After shopping for nearly everything from top to bottom, ready to head home, she passed by the watch counter. The most eye-catching pair on display caught her attention.

By this time, Lin Chuxia was already famous throughout the Department Store. Salespeople on all three floors knew that a woman who spent money like water had arrived today.

The watch sales clerk, seeing her carrying many bags, knew that the God of Wealth had reached his counter.

He quickly recommended, "These watches are new arrivals at the Department Store, fresh designs from the south, a pair of men's and women's watches. Would you like to have a look?"

Lin Chuxia actually needed a watch, so she tried on the women's watch and felt pretty good about it.

The men's watch design was really elegant, and remembering that Qin Yang's watch had become old, buying a new watch would be a perfect birthday gift for him.

"Please make the bill for me."

Fortunately, many things no longer required tickets these days; otherwise, buying so much at once, she wouldn't know where to hunt for tickets.

The sales clerk efficiently made out a receipt for her, totalling 236 yuan for both watches.

Lin Chuxia paid the amount, wore the women's watch on her wrist, and had the sales clerk nicely package the men's watch, then left the Department Store.

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On the day Lin Chuxia returned to her parents' house, she did not go to the Bun Shop. Now that the shop has Sun Lanlan, and the cooked food courtyard has Su Wensong, even if Lin Chuxia occasionally didn't go, the shop's work would still proceed orderly.

Lin Chuxia put on the same clothes she wore on her wedding day, a pair of half-new cloth shoes, and carried a net bag containing snacks from the grocery store and two bottles of white wine.

Riding her bike leisurely, she headed to Daqing Mountain Village.



Meanwhile, in Xiaoqingshan Village at the Li Family, Lin Jiayi changed into newly bought clothes, her face beaming with joy as she urged Li Guangyuan to hurry up and leave.

Once they were out the door, Old Mrs. Li couldn't help but spit, "Such a family-ruining woman, a vixen truly."

Li Hongmei eyed Lin Jiayi's new clothes with envy, "Mom, when will you buy me new clothes?"

Li Dongmei chimed in from the side, "I want clothes like sister-in-law's too."

"What do you want? Didn't you both just make new clothes? You always want this and that without considering if it's in your fate to have them," Old Mrs. Li said to her daughters but kept her eyes on the direction Lin Jiayi left.

Li Hongmei pouted, "Can clothes made from scrap fabric ever be the same as ready-made clothes? Had I known, I wouldn't have taken the fabric; I would've wanted ready-made clothes too."

Initially, they thought they struck a great deal with Lin Jiayi's dowry but didn't expect her to buy ready-made clothes so soon.

Li Dongmei agreed, "Me too."

Seeing her mom's displeasure, Li Hongmei continued, "Mom, you really should take care of sister-in-law. It's not easy for my brother to make a bit of money selling vegetables. Her clothes cost over ten yuan, it's just too heart-wrenching, and besides, she's a married woman now, who does she dress up for every day like that?"

Old Mrs. Li knew this all too well, but her son was spellbound by that vixen - what could she do?

She always knew this bride exchange was trouble. If it were good enough, could they really match with the Li Family?

She needed to find a way to take control of her son's money; otherwise, this vixen would ruin them sooner or later.

Lin Jiayi, unaware of Old Mrs. Li's schemes, sat on the back of the bicycle discussing with Li Guangyuan what gifts to buy on their way home.

"Now that we're making money from our business, we absolutely can't be stingy. We'll buy two pounds of snacks for my mom and two bottles of wine for my dad. My little brother can be skipped; he's grown and doesn't like sweets anymore."

Li Guangyuan thought about the unsold vegetables from the night before, wondering how much was spoiled and whether the leftovers could still be sold the next day.

Subtracting the spoiled portion, and the rotten vegetables, it was like working for nothing that day.

Plus, buying the gifts for the Lin Family would mean working for nothing the whole week.

Yet, recalling his wife mentioning that they now had the capability, and they should go home to show her parents; he put aside those calculations and couldn't help but think of his wife's sister and brother-in-law.

He felt inferior upon seeing that man only once; hearing he was an office worker and a college graduate, they were worlds apart.

That was exactly why his wife's sister caused such a drama to switch brides.

He thought again of his wife's sister, seemingly honest and fairer than his wife. He hadn't expected her to be so opportunistic.

Now that he was doing business, as his wife said, they would even expand in the future. He wondered if one day, when he became a boss, whether his sister-in-law would regret her earlier choice.

Imagining his sister-in-law crying and regretting, clinging to his legs begging for refuge, Li Guangyuan felt a rush of fiery motivation, as if all his efforts had found their purpose.

"Guangyuan, did you hear what I said?"

Lin Jiayi pinched him discontentedly, bringing Li Guangyuan back to his senses.

"What?"

"I was saying, I wonder if Chuxia is visiting her parents today. My brother-in-law hardly manages to visit twice a year, leaving my sister all by herself. I don't know how she manages to live like that. No matter how capable my brother-in-law is, what good is it if they live apart? There's no real affection. If my brother-in-law finds someone else outside, my sister wouldn't even have a place to cry. She might be envying us now, living our lives together so harmoniously."