

Switched M 661

Chapter 661: Fully Prepared

Sun Bingnan was getting a beating from his dad in front of Lin Chuxia and Zhuang Jingshu, while he covered his head and begged for mercy.

"Dad, give me some face in front of Mr. Lin."

"Give you face? Have you given me face lately? Do you know how people in the village laugh at me?"

Sun Bingnan felt wronged, "When we first planted peach trees, I didn't ask you to make grand promises, and it wasn't me who told you to boast, so why blame me?"

Village Chief Sun was so angry he wanted to hit him again.

Lin Chuxia smiled with pursed lips, honestly, Third Brother Sun does keep his word.

At first, he said his dad was too boastful, and wanted to give him a little lesson. He didn't expect it to almost make the old man depressed.

Village Chief Sun also knew this wasn't the time to argue with his son. He looked at Lin Chuxia with bright eyes, "Chuxia girl, do you really have a sales channel?"

"Oh, Dad, you heard it just now. Wang Cheng has some channels, but yellow peaches don't sell well in our market here. We can't sell that much even when trying to sell far..."

The light in Village Chief Sun's eyes dimmed again.

The yellow peaches on the two hills were planted for Lin Chuxia. If Lin Chuxia had a channel, she would definitely sell her peaches first.

Her peaches weren't even sold out yet; how could she possibly care about others?

Lin Chuxia poured a cup of brewed tea for Village Chief Sun and Sun Bingnan, and another cup of herbal tea for Zhuang Jingshu, then glanced at the two men.

"During this period, while I was in confinement after childbirth, no one told me about the situation at home. Third Brother, how much of our peaches have been sold, and how much is left? How are the fruit trees of the villagers bearing fruit?"

Sun Bingnan estimated for a moment and said, "Our peach trees were strictly managed according to the book and the technicians from the Forestry Bureau, and we used chicken manure from home during spring. From blossoming to bearing fruit, the process was early; not only are there many fruits, but their appearance is better too. However, only about two thousand pounds have been sold so far, about half. In comparison, the villagers' trees are a little worse; only a few families' trees have fruit, not many fruits either, just a few hundred pounds per family, mostly not exceeding a thousand pounds, and because they're hard to sell, they haven't sold much..."

Lin Chuxia listened while lightly tapping her forefinger on the table.

"So, go back and put aside other matters in hand first; in our village, purchase the yellow peaches according to the market price of hairy peaches, hand over the purchased yellow peaches to Wang Cheng. If they can be sold elsewhere, let them be sold. If not, bring them to Su Wensong and distribute them as benefits to the employees of Xiyang Food Factory, Bun Shop, and all employees of Xiyang."

Sun Bingnan laughed upon hearing this, "Mr. Lin, have you forgotten how many employees we have? If we really give benefits to employees, the villagers' peaches wouldn't be enough to distribute."

Xiyang Food Factory now has nearly a thousand people, five pounds per person is nearly five thousand pounds, not to mention employees from other places.

This year the peach trees just began bearing fruit, so there aren't that many.

Lin Chuxia raised her gaze calmly, "Didn't Wang Cheng say his channel can't even consume our peaches? Let's do it this way, if it's not enough, use ours to make up for it. If there are leftovers, bring them to the city; there are plenty of restaurants and malls here with many employees."

Sun Bingnan sucked his teeth in surprise and glanced at his dad, then Zhuang Jingshu again, but couldn't help asking.

"Mr. Lin, sis, be honest with me, did you make me plant these peaches on a whim? Let's talk about the thousands of pounds of peaches this year; how will you handle double the production next year?"

With no sales channel, it wouldn't be feasible for employees to eat peaches instead of meals.

Most importantly, for this year, management, medicines, chicken manure, all cost money.

Village Chief Sun also looked over.

Although Lin Chuxia's solution can alleviate the immediate crisis, stopping people in the village from scolding him.

But if they end up eating the peaches they planted, wouldn't that be a joke?

He hoped the road to prosperity through yellow peaches would gain some reputation for the village.

What's the result?

They worked hard planting peaches to sell them, only to consume them themselves?

Good to say, but it doesn't sound good.

Lin Chuxia was confident, "Don't worry, there will naturally be sales channels next year."

Sun Bingnan sat upright, eyes brightened, "Have you already thought it out? Did you plan this when telling me to plant peach trees?"

Lin Chuxia nodded, "I plan to open two more production lines in the food factory next year. I've discussed with Director Xu from the machinery factory; he can help me get equipment for making canned fruit. By then, we can have two production lines for yellow peach cans. I didn't expect our fruit trees to be managed so well, bearing fruit this year with so much yield, so I made you worry."

She thought yellow peach trees generally bear fruit in three to four years; plus, getting pregnant and giving birth this year caught her off guard.

Village Chief Sun slapped his thigh excitedly, "I knew our Chuxia girl never does anything unreliable, and it's just you boy, acting clueless."

He smiled brightly suddenly.

Sun Bingnan looked at the sky speechlessly.

How was he clueless in doing things? He returned to the village to plant yellow peaches following Lin Chuxia's directions.

He went to the Northwest to investigate and learn for several months, and brought back such good fruit tree seedlings; what about that was unreliable?

It was his dad that knew Lin Chuxia asked him to plant the fruit trees and started urging everyone to plant fruit trees without inquiry.

Now that the fruit trees are bearing fruit, he panics blindly.

"Uncle, go back and tell all villagers who planted yellow peach trees that Xiyang Food Factory will purchase all yellow peaches next year. Let them manage properly, and strive for good yield next year."

After Lin Chuxia spoke, she smiled again.

"As long as the fruit trees are managed well, I am confident we'll achieve advanced status within three years."

Village Chief Sun didn't expect Lin Chuxia to remember this thought of his, now feeling rather embarrassed.

"I... actually just wanted to do something real for the folks, whether advanced or not, as long as everyone benefits, I don't care."

"Dad, you can say those things to others, but Chuxia is not an outsider. Your tiny schemes might fool others, but not us?"

Sun Bingnan mercilessly exposed, making Village Chief Sun want to hit this punk again.

Lin Chuxia saw Village Chief Sun losing face and directly offered a way out.

"Uncle Sun's thoughts are good, not wanting to be a general doesn't make a good soldier, and not striving for advanced won't make a village chief a leader. Uncle Sun, rest assured, manage the peach trees in our Daqing Mountain Village well, and Daqing Mountain Village will definitely become a benchmark in our county."

One sentence, concerning face and substance, warmed Village Chief Sun's blood through his veins.

Chapter 662: Living on Northwest Wind

"Chuxia is still the one who understands me. To be honest, seeing Qin Family Village getting rich with the help of Xiyang, I'm getting anxious. Speaking of which, Qin Family Village is your in-laws' place, but Daqing Mountain Village is your parents' home. We're the closest..."

As he said this, his eyes suddenly landed on Zhuang Jingshu nearby, and he remembered Lin Chuxia's connection to the Lin Family, so he laughed awkwardly.

"No matter what others think, this will always be your parents' home, and our Daqing Mountain Village committee will always support you."

"I know," Lin Chuxia said, not minding at all.

Lin Chuxia wanted to keep Sun Family father and son for dinner, but Sun Bingnan declined, saying he wanted to take his father to the city for a look around, and then they had to go back to harvest the yellow peaches.

But Village Chief Sun was no longer in the mood to wander around the city; his heart had already returned to the village.

Muttering and urging Sun Bingnan to hurry home, the peaches on the trees couldn't wait.

Once she sent the two away, Lin Chuxia turned around and saw her daughter pouting and looking at her pitifully. Clearly, the little one was hungry.

She had been so busy talking to the Sun Family father and son earlier.

Qi Qi was usually breastfed by Lin Chuxia. It was only that first day, when the milk hadn't come in, that she had a few formula feeds.

Later, after tasting the sweet breast milk, she refused to drink formula, preferring plain water if she was hungry.

Lin Chuxia quickly took the child and went inside to breastfeed.

Zhuang Jingshu followed behind, chatting, "Later, let Zhuang Yang take a look at domestic fruit canning production lines for you. If that's not possible, he can source one abroad. Abroad, there are glass jars, metal cans, and juice production lines, and drinking juice is very popular there."

Lin Chuxia, while nursing her child, thought for a moment, "Let's stick with domestic production lines for now. Although foreign lines are advanced, they are too costly."

"You don't need to worry about that, dear. I've got you," Zhuang Jingshu was reluctant to let Lin Chuxia worry about money.

Lin Chuxia was amused, "It's indeed nice to have a wealthy mom. No wonder people scramble to recognize one. But I still plan to use domestic lines."

Lin Chuxia wasn't shy about accepting what Zhuang Jingshu offered. It's just, at present, the standard of living of ordinary citizens is limited domestically.

Once imported equipment is used, production line costs and packaging costs will rise, and so will the market price, making such products potentially unsuitable for the domestic market.

"I plan to start with two ordinary production lines, primarily producing canned yellow peaches, followed by canned hawthorns, and apple cans as demand requires. Once Xiyang Food's canned products dominate the market, then I'll consider introducing foreign equipment for high-end products. As of now, I aim to integrate Xiyang Food into ordinary people's daily lives."

Zhuang Jingshu nodded continuously after hearing this, "Your idea is correct."

Just now, she couldn't stand seeing Lin Chuxia calculate money, but from a business perspective, who doesn't consider costs?

Her eyes landed again on little Qi Qi, "This little girl, she sure is picky. Ultimately, she'll suffer for it. I'll ask Zhuang Yang to send over some infant formula from abroad so we can see if she can drink it. Otherwise, if you need to go out for something, the little one would go hungry."

That hit exactly what Lin Chuxia had on her mind.

She had just come out of confinement, and everyone was considerate, trying not to bother her.

But with so much under her care, she couldn't stay home watching the child all the time. If she needed to step out for even a short while, the little one would indeed starve.

"Thank you, Mom. You always think ahead."

Zhuang Jingshu's eyes were full of warmth, "Why be polite with me? Child, you never have to thank me."

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At the same time, the Sun Family father and son exited the residential area and rushed toward Daqing Mountain Village.

Sun Bingnan complained while driving the tractor, "Dad, it doesn't take that long to look around. We've come all the way to the city, and besides, I'm starving; we should have at least eaten."

"Eat, eat, eat. All you know is how to eat. Open your mouth facing forward."

"Why open my mouth facing forward?"

"To drink the northwest wind, aren't you hungry? Just drive faster, and the stronger wind will fill you up faster."

Sun Bingnan: "....."

Fine, his dear father was still holding a grudge that he didn't share the peach selling channel with him.

Knowing he was in the wrong, Sun Bingnan refrained from arguing with his old father and drove the tractor rattling back to Daqing Mountain Village.

As soon as they entered the village, they saw a few people from afar, among them someone pushing a bicycle. The bike's basket was thinly covered with peach tree branches, and at a glance, it was full of peaches.

There were few households in Daqing Mountain Village who grew fruit trees; only a few had pear and apricot trees before.

Those who grew peach trees were the ones who planted yellow peaches with the Sun Family the other year.

Village Chief Sun recognized the person, it was none other than Old Qian, who had been most enthusiastic in responding to the call to plant yellow peaches and had planted the most in the village.

Old Qian was patient, and his fruit trees were well managed. When the County Forestry Bureau technicians came to their village, they specifically praised Old Qian.

This year, Old Qian's fruit trees bore a fair amount of fruit. What should have been a joyous occasion became a worrying matter when the peaches couldn't sell.

The people surrounding Old Qian were also known to Village Chief Sun, all were villagers from Daqing Mountain Village.

Especially the man gesticulating boastfully, wasn't he Lin Yongqiang from the second branch of the Lin Family?

"What did I say back then? The village chief indulges his son, willing to spend money on his son's whims, that's their business. Which family in Daqing Mountain Village can compare with the village chief's? Three sons, even if the third one is a spendthrift, aren't there the two elder sons to fall back on? Yet you all didn't believe it."

"Old Qian, I didn't say this back then without reason. Your little bit of money would have been better saved for your son's marriage than listening to the village chief. It's his fault for dragging others down. Having a son at such a ripe age, with your whole family depending on you alone to work the fields. It's not easy to earn money, is it? Just to save face for himself and his son, he involved others financially."

Old Qian sighed, "That's not entirely true. We all agreed to this. The village chief was looking out for everyone."

"Agreed? If his son hadn't brought over two truckloads of peach trees, would you have planted yellow peaches? Why did the village chief announce through the loudspeaker to plant yellow peaches? To get rid of the peach trees his son brought and couldn't sell. Is that looking out for everyone? It's for the sake of his son. Look, you've all worked hard raising these trees for two years, and now you're selling the fruit. Do they care? If you ask me, don't take those peaches home, take them to the village chief's house and make them responsible."

Chapter 663: Cheating Everyone?

"Luckily, I was cautious and didn't follow in planting," said the man next to him. "Otherwise, it would have wasted two seasonal harvests in the fields."

"Exactly, Old Qian, I think you should cut down the trees. Cut them now and you can still plant a season of cabbage. Even if the fruit trees grow well, they won't make money, and your family can't survive on thin air," someone else advised him.

Old Qian sighed heavily and took a few peaches from the basket to share with everyone.

Unable to sell them, he might as well let everyone enjoy, gaining some goodwill.

A few people took the peaches and began to express sympathy for Old Qian, offering him ideas one after another.

Lin Yongqiang straightforwardly started cursing the village chief. "If you ask me, this matter shouldn't end like this. When the village chief shouted over the loudspeaker for everyone to plant peach trees, everybody followed his call. Now that the peaches can't be sold, we have to demand an explanation from him."

"Right, Old Qian, gather others who planted peach trees. This matter must be addressed by the village chief. Don't be afraid; the eyes of the masses are sharp. Everyone will support you."

"Exactly, the village chief's family has money and can afford losses, but the rest of us are honest farmers. We can't let ourselves be taken advantage of like this..."

As people voiced their opinions, someone secretly went to call other peach tree growers, planning to confront the village chief together.

Lin Yongqiang stood in the back of the crowd, hands behind his back, with a faint smile.

They must have a good discussion with the village chief, and it would be best to drag Lin Chuxia into this.

Why does the Sun Family now act so arrogantly in the village?

Aside from the title of village chief, isn't it because their chicken farm has made both sons rich?

He used to wonder how they could suddenly raise so many chickens without a word.

Raising that many chickens requires a lot of money. Moreover, how do you sell them once they're grown?

After a while, it became clear that the brothers were sending all the chickens to Xiyang Food Factory.

Lin Chuxia obviously belongs to the Lin Family. Under her, there are also sons and daughters, yet she's not close to them. Instead, she gets along with the Sun siblings.

What has his sons and daughters done wrong to her?

This time, he wanted to show her that outsiders can't be relied on.

While they were chatting, someone keen-eyed saw the village chief and his son driving a tractor into the village.

Lin Yongqiang immediately said, "Look at them, with so many peach trees, selling them clean every day. Maybe they have a way but won't tell you."

These words sparked discussion among villagers, whether they had peaches or not.

Sometimes, the village chief couldn't sell their peaches, which they knew. But every time Sun Bingnan took peaches out, he came back with empty baskets, which some had witnessed.

"Let's go ask the village chief."

Soon, Sun Bingnan's tractor was surrounded by villagers.

Although surrounded, no one wanted to take the lead.

Seeing them become mute before the village chief, Lin Yongqiang cursed them inwardly as cowards, deserving to be duped.

The village chief stood on the tractor, scanning the villagers. Most of them were peach tree growers, he knew.

He was about to announce good news, since everyone was here, it wouldn't hurt to make them happy.

But when his gaze landed on Lin Yongqiang, he swallowed his words and pretended not to know anything.

"Did everyone just come back from the fields? It's getting late, why not go home for dinner?"

Seeing the village chief's smile, some felt guilty.

To be fair, Sun Jian Country has been the leader here for over a decade, always considerate of the villagers.

When it came to planting peach trees, he made it clear over the loudspeaker, urging voluntarily.

Confronting the village chief now seemed inappropriate.

In the crowd, some began to back down, even thinking of accepting losses.

What use was facing the village chief? They had planted more than anyone else.

Lin Yongqiang recognized the villagers were giving in again, and couldn't help but shout among them.

"Village chief, are you selling peaches again? Your peaches sell for a good price, but you can't neglect the villagers. Everyone followed your lead in planting fruit trees. Now that the trees are planted and you don't help sell them, aren't you misleading us?"

The village chief, standing high, saw Lin Yongqiang right away, even though he spoke softly.

Since encouraging fruit tree planting, Lin Yongqiang had been instigating discord among villagers. Today, thanks to Chuxia, he solved a major problem; otherwise, whether he could remain village chief was uncertain.

"Misleading everyone?" The village chief repeated this question, glancing at other villagers. "Does everyone think Sun Jian Country would do such a thing?"

Silence enveloped the crowd, no one willing to be the spokesperson.

Lin Yongqiang cursed them again as useless. "Chief, who would dare say it? Though timid, isn't it obvious? When you urged planting peach trees, I said the peaches weren't recognized here. You pushed people into fire pits for your son, didn't I prove right? Let Old Qian say, those baskets of peaches haven't sold for days, aren't they going to spoil at home? Isn't that misleading everyone?"

"Lin Yongqiang," Village Chief Sun directly named Sun Yongqiang, "Since planting yellow peaches, you've been instigating discord, now encouraging tree cutting before they yield fruit. I recall you didn't plant peaches, why are you more anxious than us peach growers? What do you want?"

"Me... What can I want? I feel hurt seeing everyone's peaches rotting, afraid you'll suffer."

Village Chief Sun sneered, "You care so much, how about I let you be village chief for a bit?"

After speaking, he looked at everyone, "The yellow peach seedlings were brought back by my son after months of research, a superior variety. At the start, I sought everyone's opinions on voluntary planting. However, I'm not saying I won't care for everyone. I merely wish to remind us, we shouldn't jump to conclusions or follow ill-intentioned people. Our Daqing Mountain Village should unite, striving together for prosperity."

"Nice words, but they're worthless if unsold."

Lin Yongqiang whispered among the crowd.

Village Chief Sun glanced at him but didn't argue, loudly saying, "Everyone's concerns are mine. I've noticed the low peach prices. Today, my third child and I went to the city, where we've negotiated with Xiyang. From today, there's no need to struggle at the market. The village peaches will be purchased at ten cents per pound, collected by my third child. After picking, you can deliver directly to my house."

Chapter 664: Reliable

"Really?" Someone in the crowd exclaimed, "Village chief, why didn't you mention such a good sales channel before? I've been worried sick."

The village chief continued to smile, "It's not that I didn't mention it, you all know that the boss of Xiyang is Lin Chuxia. She was in confinement recently, and I saw that everyone's peaches just came off the trees, so I wasn't in a rush to tell her. It's my fault."

"How can it be the village chief's fault? It's important for Chuxia to be in confinement."

"Oh, I said it, the village chief does things reliably, we don't have to worry."

"Old Qian, why are you still standing there? Soon your peaches can be delivered to the village chief."

"Ten cents, isn't the best hairy peach on the market only ten cents?"

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Sun Bingnan sat on his tractor, listening to people's discussions, secretly sneering.

Half a day ago, his father was also worried to the point of having gray hair.

Does his dad do things reliably? It's his son who does things reliably.

Then looking at Lin Yongqiang in the crowd, his face was long, he clenched his fist and said, "Village chief, the peaches this year can be taken by Xiyang, but what about next year? Don't forget, this year's peaches have just come off, next year there's still more coming, solving this year doesn't solve next year, it's equally pointless."

Village Chief Sun gave him a faint glance, coldly humming in his heart, just waiting for this comment.

He then smiled at the villagers, "Regarding this matter, I was originally planning to broadcast it to everyone with a loudspeaker in the afternoon. Since it's been asked now, I'll give everyone a heads-up. We've already partnered with Xiyang Food Factory. It's not just this year's peaches; Xiyang Food Factory will purchase the yellow peaches every year from now on, so we will never have to worry about selling peaches again. Mr. Lin from Xiyang said they hope everyone manages the peach trees well, the more the better, she will take as many as you have."

The crowd immediately erupted.

The collaboration with Xiyang means every year they have a buyer, removing the anxiety about selling their yellow peaches.

As farmers, they grow grains and vegetables, not worried about growing them, but worried about selling them.

Often after busying themselves for a season, they can't sell them for a good price.

If Xiyang wants them, then what are they worried about? Just manage the fruit trees well, which is what they excel at.

"Village chief, is it still time for me to plant a few more acres of yellow peach trees now?"

"It's not too late, it's never too late to plant."

Chuxia already shared that once the yellow peach canning production line starts, they want as many yellow peaches as possible.

He has one hundred percent trust in Chuxia's ability.

Village Chief Sun's final gaze landed on Lin Yongqiang, "Anything else to say?"

Lin Yongqiang's face turned red, unable to utter a single word for a long time.

He remained silent, while Village Chief Sun continued, "If you have any opinions on me as a village cadre, you can openly bring them up. If you have the skills to sit in the village chief's position, I'll think more of you. Unable to do proper work, just stirring up discontent among the people behind their backs, don't blame me for not showing leniency."

Now Lin Yongqiang's complexion not only turned red, but also alternated between blue and purple, unable to stand another moment, he turned and walked home.

Village Chief Sun coldly hummed at his back, then turned to the crowd, "Disperse, go home and eat. If anyone's peaches are ripe, start picking them in the next few days, don't let the fruit ripen too much, making it difficult to transport."

"Got it, village chief, we're going to pick now."

"Village chief, we'll follow your lead, wherever you say go, we'll go."

"Old Qian, why are you still standing around? I remember your fruit trees bear a lot of fruit, hurry and pick them, picked peaches mean money."

"Exactly, Old Qian, better keep an eye on your plot, guard against any peach thieves."

Old Qian no longer showed any worry, smiling with wrinkled face, "Don't worry, my Shuanzi is guarding in the field."

Everyone left, Village Chief Sun waved his big hand, telling his son to drive home.

That spirited look made him seem younger by years.

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Lin Yongqiang hurried home, feeling more and more unsatisfied as he thought on the way.

The Sun father and son claimed they went to the city today, but who can they find in the city other than Lin Chuxia?

But clearly Lin Chuxia is one of the Lin Family.

Not a single benefit was gained by the Lin Family, instead the Sun Family gained money and favor.

If Lin Chuxia would just help his second uncle a little, wouldn't need to suffer Sun Jian Country's indignity, maybe the village chief position would really be his, Lin Yongqiang's.

He was thinking this when someone approached him.

It was Lin Guangshan's wife, Chuxia's mother.

Mother Lin saw Lin Yongqiang and greeted him with a smile, "Second uncle, I was just about to come find you, why don't you come over to our place and sit for a while."

Lin Yongqiang definitely wasn't intending to sit at their place now, everyone knows the conflict between Lin Chuxia and that family.

This family, acting like decent people? When seeing someone's rich biological mother, they pushed their own child out to recognize her.

Now, who in the village doesn't talk behind their backs?

"What do you want to talk to me?"

Mother Lin looked around, "This isn't the place to talk, come over, I cooked a few dishes, you and Guangshan can have a drink."

In the past, even if he didn't want to be involved with this family, considering her enthusiasm, Lin Yongqiang might have gone.

But today he was insulted, he had no intention of showing face to Mother Lin.

"If you have something to say, say it directly, otherwise I'm going home for dinner, we have food at home."

Mother Lin was not pleased with his tone, but she had to swallow it as she needed help, still smiling she said, "It's like this, Jiayi's been telling me she misses her child lately. The girl was upset with Guangyuan back then, that's why she divorced. Now that some time has passed, her anger has cooled, after all, the child is her own flesh and blood, how could she leave the child with a stepmother? Guangyuan also came looking for Jiayi recently, I can see the two kids still have feelings, so why not just fulfill them. I'd like to ask you to go to Xiaoqingshan Village."

She wants to remarry?

"Sister-in-law, you can bring this up, but I have no face to mention it to the Li Family. Why Jiayi divorced in the first place? Daqing Mountain Village and Xiaoqingshan Village are so close, the Li Family wouldn't have been unaware. How can they just remarry now? Sister-in-law, you better find someone else, I can't go."

Going to the Li Family now would be asking for humiliation.

Mother Lin understood, but what else can she do?

A divorced daughter living at home is problematic, finding someone new isn't easy.

Matchmakers have come around, suggesting old bachelors.

One of them was even older than her, infuriating her to the point of chasing the matchmaker out. The matchmaker even accused her of being insensible, saying Jiayi would be lucky just to find a husband given her circumstances.

She knows Jiayi's reputation has been ruined, but no matter how bad, she wouldn't marry off to an old bachelor.

Li Guangyuan had previously visited looking to remarry Jiayi, so why not just remarry?

After all, they do have a child between them.

Chapter 665: The Child Is Missing

Since mentioning remarriage requires a mediator, and no one in the village was willing to handle their affairs, they had no choice but to approach Lin Yongqiang.

Firstly, he is Jiayi's elder, and he has enough sincerity.

Secondly, the two families have always had a good relationship.

Unexpectedly, Lin Yongqiang directly refused.

"Second brother, you can't say that. In a family, disagreements are inevitable. Previously, it was just a tiff between the young ones. Jiayi is someone you watched grow up; you can't bear to see her separated from her child, can you?"

"Don't try to put the blame on me, sister-in-law."

Lin Yongqiang snorted coldly, directly piercing the matter.

"What on earth is going on with your family? Chuxia is such a sensible child, if she were to be my daughter, I would be overjoyed. But what have you done? You've taken advantage of others' kindness and failed to treat their daughter well. And then, when they came knowing the family had money, you pushed your own daughter out to recognize her biological mother, completely disgracing the Lin Family. Now look what's happened - trying to gain something only led to losing everything, resulting in the divorce of your own daughter and the flight of your adopted one. Speaking of it, with Chuxia's capability, if you treated her well, even without looking at that wealthy biological mother, wouldn't you be at an advantage? With Jiayi having such a sister, could her position in her in-laws' home not be solid? People walk their own paths."

Mother Lin's face turned alternating shades of pale and green from anger, having been frustrated over her eldest daughter recently, and now being scolded directly by the second branch of the Lin family pushed her over the edge.

"I say, old two, if you're not going to involve yourself then don't, why speak sarcastic words? Don't think I don't know, back when Chuxia was doing well in school, you two didn't shy away from ridiculing her behind her back. Did you give that poor girl even a morsel to eat or drink?"

After speaking, Mother Lin turned and stormed back home.

Every single one of them, opportunists.

Back when Jiayi acknowledged that Zhuang family, those two clung to her like plasters, and now pretend they don't recognize her at all.

Pah!

Seeing her mother return, Lin Jiayi stretched her neck to look behind her, "Where's my second uncle? Have you talked to him? When is he going to the Lin family?"

"Go where? Your second uncle thinks it's shameful and doesn't want to go."

Hearing this, Lin Jiayi was stunned. If her second uncle didn't want to go, who else could be the mediator for her?

"Mom, what do we do? I can't bear to part with Genbao; he's my own flesh and blood. Once there's a stepmother, there's a stepfather, too. I can't let Genbao live with a stepfather and stepmother..."

She certainly didn't want to marry an old bachelor.

Mother Lin, troubled as well, didn't want her daughter marrying someone unworthy again.

Compared to others, Li Guangyuan was still the best choice.

"What's the use of crying, at worst we'll just go ourselves, saying we're there to see the child. Didn't Li Guangyuan come to you with the child before? We'll say we're there to see the child, it's not disgraceful."

Lin Jiayi nodded randomly, "Right, I'm just there to see my son. Isn't Li Guangyuan going to give the son to me? This time we'll bring Genbao back."

With her son in her hands, would she still fear Li Guangyuan not remarrying?

After all, he is the root of the Li family.

Before Lin Jiayi could muster the courage to go to Xiaoqingshan Village to see the Li Family, Li Guangyuan came to her first.

Seeing Li Guangyuan, Lin Jiayi and Mother Lin felt both nervous and excited inside.

The mother and daughter exchanged a glance, each seeing the calculation in the other's eyes.

Although Daqing Mountain Village and Xiaoqingshan Village were close, Lin Jiayi substituting for Lin Chuxia to recognize her birth mother hadn't been broadcasted, so perhaps...

Li Guangyuan indeed didn't know about this mishap. He had returned to his old profession, traveling to the county every day to sell vegetables, leaving him no time to hear such gossip.

Today he had just delivered vegetables when his mother had someone call him back from the village.

Upon entering, he saw Li Dongmei, her face bruised and swollen from a beating.

This wasn't the first time his second sister had been beaten, but it was the worst she'd ever been. It was said the whole family had hit her together.

His mother was persistent, cursing Zhang Wenbin's family.

Not only was she cursing the Zhang family, but she was also cursing him for being useless.

Useless? Since the divorce, all the money he earned had been given to his mother for his second sister.

Moreover, did he not know what kind of person his second sister was?

If she treated her in-laws and husband properly, would she be beaten?

Sure enough, upon asking the reason, the second sister had argued with her mother-in-law over the child, pushing her to the ground, which led to Zhang Wenbin and Old Master Zhang hitting her.

Mrs. Zhang had injured her waist and needed money for treatment. If she didn't get the money, Zhang Wenbin would divorce her second sister.

He didn't want to deal with the second sister's messy affairs, but if she really got divorced, their family's reputation in the village would be completely ruined.

As for the money, he didn't have enough of it on hand, so he had no choice but to visit the Lin family.

"Come in and sit down," Lin Jiayi offered Li Guangyuan a way in.

Li Guangyuan was still thinking about how to start the conversation when he glanced at her.

It was then he noticed that Lin Jiayi looked different than he had seen her last time.

It wasn't that she was more ostentatious; rather, her clothes were much simpler. Her permed waves were tied back, and her bold red lipstick was gone.

For some reason, this one look reminded him of her when they first met, suddenly warming his heart.

It seemed she didn't truly have no feelings for him at all.

Li Guangyuan suddenly felt more confident.

Once inside, he coughed lightly, "It's been a long time since I've seen Genbao, I came to see the child."

Since her attitude towards him had softened, remarrying first was still best.

Once remarried, wouldn't her money also become his?

By then, she would voluntarily pay to prevent Li Dongmei's divorce and the ensuing disruption.

Hearing this, Lin Jiayi looked at him in confusion, "Child? Isn't Genbao with you? I was just about to ask you, why didn't you bring the child? I miss Genbao too..."

"The child isn't here with you?"

Before Lin Jiayi could finish, Li Guangyuan stood up abruptly, his voice rising a few pitches.

Lin Jiayi frowned, "Why would he be here? Didn't you take the child during the divorce?"

Her face changed too, "The child isn't at your place? Where did you take the child?"

"I should be asking you, the last time I brought the child to you, where did you take him?"

With that, both of them simultaneously recalled what happened that day.

Lin Jiayi didn't want the child, and Li Guangyuan had left him at the Lin family's front door.

"Didn't you bring the child in?"

"Didn't you take the child away?"

They both spoke at once and then their faces simultaneously changed color.

If neither had tended to the child, then where did the child go?

"Ah—"

Lin Jiayi shrieked and lunged forward, "Li Guangyuan, you lost the child, give me back my son..."

"Smack—"

A slap landed on Lin Jiayi's face, "The child went missing at your place, give me back my son, Lin Jiayi. If you don't return my son, it won't end between us..."

Chapter 666: Happiness

Days passed by, and the weather gradually became cooler.

Probably because of the spiritual spring water, Lin Chuxia's milk supply was very good, making it easy to soothe little Qi Qi after eating and drinking.

Usually, she spent most of her time sleeping, even starting to sleep through the night.

Zhuang Jingshu looked at the little one sleeping soundly on the bed and sighed, "Just like when you were little, clearly a thoughtful little girl."

Although Lin Chuxia was placed in the care of Old Madam Lin shortly after birth and didn't finish her confinement, she was indeed easy to care for back then.

She always remembered that tiny little person.

.....

The first thing Qin Yang did when he returned from work was to check on his daughter.

These days, his daughter's little face was soft and white, her hair dark, and her limbs looked like little lotus roots. Whenever she saw her dad, she would smile widely, making him never tire of looking at her.

Perhaps sensing her father's presence, Qi Qi moved her small arms and sleepily opened her eyes.

While other children might cry out when they wake, Qi Qi would first blink her big eyes to observe her surroundings, only crying out to signal when she couldn't see anyone.

Upon seeing her father, there was no need to signal anymore; she waved her little arms to greet him.

Qin Yang swiftly picked her up, squatted by the chamber pot to help his daughter with her business, wiped her dry with soft cotton cloth, and wrapped her in a diaper before laying her back down.

The little one thoroughly enjoyed her father's thoughtful service, laying there babbling in baby talk with her mouth puckered.

At this moment, Qin Yang babbled back at his daughter in nonsensical words, a stark contrast to the cool and aloof Deputy Minister Qin others saw.

Sometimes Lin Chuxia would look at this Qin Yang and find it hard to recall how he used to be when she first saw him.

Noticing his wife's gaze, Qin Yang smiled and asked, "What are you looking at?"

Lin Chuxia brought the sun-dried diapers to the bedside and folded them one by one.

"I'm planning to visit the mall and the garment factory."

The garment factory had been running smoothly for several months, initially consulting her on important matters only.

Since the baby was born, Wang Tianxue had taken over everything to let her focus on postpartum recovery.

Zhuang Jingshu even assigned Zhuang Yang to the garment factory to work with Wang Tianxue and Jia Liang on the factory matters.

Zhuang Jingshu's purpose was simpler; Lin Chuxia shouldn't strain herself postpartum.

Back then, she fell ill due to not having proper postpartum care, and she wouldn't let her daughter suffer the same pain.

Even after the confinement, Lin Chuxia wasn't allowed to worry about these matters; she had to have a full two months of rest.

Lin Chuxia knew that Zhuang Jingshu was doing this for her good, and with Zhuang Yang's overseas management experience, along with Wang Tianxue and Jia Liang, she truly had no worries.

Now, having completed two full months of recovery, and with the garment factory on track, she felt she had to make an appearance as the boss.

Besides, it was important for her to personally witness the results of her factory.

Qin Yang knew she'd been itching to go, but hesitated, "What about Qi Qi? Can Mom handle it alone? Should I take a day off?"

"No need, I talked to Mom, and she said it's no problem. The formula milk brother bought is something Qi Qi really likes, so she can drink that when she's hungry."

"Mom's really been a huge help," Qin Yang genuinely marveled, "Xiaxia, let's spend the Mid-Autumn Festival here. I've already talked to the family; Qi Qi is still small, no need to fuss with travel."

Lin Chuxia smiled, "Okay, then we'll celebrate here."

Now that Qi Qi was over two months old and they had a car, going back to their hometown for Mid-Autumn Festival was only a little over an hour's drive—hardly a fuss.

Qin Yang was just being considerate of her and her birth mother.

"Xiaxia, actually I'm very grateful to Mom and brother, not just because they help us with Qi Qi."

"I know, I also feel very lucky."

Lin Chuxia glanced at Zhuang Jingshu, who was in the yard feeding Yuan Bao.

In the past two months, she truly felt her mother's care and love—an irreplaceable emotion.

She was fortunate to have met Qin Yang, to have met the Qin Family and her mentor, and now she had both her mother and brother, and a child.

She was truly very happy.

.....

Knowing that Lin Chuxia was coming to the garment factory for an inspection, Wang Tianxue waited at the gate early.

Seeing the familiar Jeep from afar, she waved at it excitedly.

"Chuxia, finally you're here. How have you been? You look like you've recovered well."

Lin Chuxia hadn't seen Wang Tianxue in a while, and upon seeing her, she felt a surge of guilt.

"I've recovered well, how about you? Didn't I tell you to delegate tasks and not handle everything by yourself?"

It hadn't been long, but she'd clearly lost weight and her skin had gotten darker.

But her energy seemed fine.

Wang Tianxue nonchalantly swept her hair, her short hair slipping out from behind her ear, exuding a spirited air.

"This garment factory, although Walson invested, is the result of our combined efforts. You were on maternity leave, so I have to keep a close eye on things. We can't let all our hard work go to waste. Oh, where's your child? It's been so long since I saw Qi Qi; how's the little girl doing?"

Mentioning her daughter, Lin Chuxia's face softened, "She's doing well, eating and sleeping well. My mom is watching her now."

Wang Tianxue knew that the "mom" Lin Chuxia referred to was Zhuang Jingshu, not Mother Lin.

She sighed, "It's true what they say about blood being thicker than water. I once felt sorry for you, knowing your family situation back then. It seemed like despite having everything, you'd face

drawbacks. Qin Yang and the Qin Family were perfect, and you were diligent, yet stuck with a biased mother—who knew there was such a story behind it."

"I never would have thought either."

Lin Chuxia never expected Mother Lin's bias to stem from this.

In the past life, nothing was mentioned about her not being a Lin Family member even until death.

Wang Tianxue glanced at her, seeing her calm demeanor, and continued, "Honestly, I'm really happy for you. Even though you distanced yourself from the Lin Family, you gained a mother who loves you. I haven't interacted much with Ms. Zhuang, but it's evident that she sincerely cares for you."

Lin Chuxia nodded.

She observed everything that Zhuang Jingshu did over the past two months, particularly understanding her more after becoming a mother herself.

Wang Tianxue sat in the passenger seat, pointing at the large letters above the gate, "How does it look? Quite stately, isn't it?"

The golden letters shone brightly in the sun.

When Qin's Buns Shop opened, the letters were inscribed with the help of Granny Su.

Later, when Su Wensong became the director of Xiyang Food Factory, Granny Su also helped with its lettering.

Chapter 667: Wang Tianyu

After finalizing the name for the clothing factory, Lin Chuxia boldly asked Su Wensong to get another inscription from Granny Su.

Of course, what she found hard to speak of made Granny Su quite happy.

She even asked Sun Lanlan to privately tell Lin Chuxia that her handwriting was no longer appreciated by anyone. She was glad Lin Chuxia appreciated it, making her feel useful and not old. She told Lin Chuxia to feel free to ask her for help with such matters in the future, so she could still feel of value.

Lin Chuxia certainly wished for nothing more.

Entering the factory, looking at the rows of spacious and magnificent buildings in the distance, Lin Chuxia asked, "How's the funding?"

Wang Tianxue chuckled softly, "Isn't it a bit late for you to ask about that? Such a big clothing factory is already built, and you ask me about the funding? To be honest, we didn't use much of our own funds; it was all provided by Walson. You've got some strong backing this time."

Lin Chuxia glanced at her with a smile.

However, since Wang Tianxue hadn't mentioned anything about the funding, she had already thought about it.

When they initially signed the cooperation agreement with Walson, it was clearly stated that Walson would provide funding and part of the technical support, while the rest would be managed by Lin Chuxia and her team.

The entire layout of the clothing factory was designed personally by Lin Chuxia. During construction, there were two changes, during which Wang Tianxue also had face-to-face discussions with her.

"Recently, Bai Qifeng and city leaders have visited our clothing factory several times. Speaking of Bai Qifeng, he really has some skills, and it wasn't for nothing that you supported him so much before. Our factory reaching this level owes a lot to the green lights he's given us."

"Really?" Lin Chuxia thought of Bai Qifeng and smiled, "Seems like I should find some time to sit down with him and properly thank him."

"Yes, it's necessary. After all, for our factory's future development, we'll need the support of this Director of the National Development and Reform Commission's Office."

After saying this, the two glanced at each other and laughed like two little foxes.

Wang Tianxue first took Lin Chuxia around the factory.

Thanks to Walson's investment, their clothing factory was quite large, which made Lin Chuxia feel both impressed and have a different kind of emotion in her heart.

In her past life, she and Wang Tianxue had owned a clothing factory.

Due to funding issues, the factory wasn't very big, but they put all their energy into it.

Later, as business improved, they dreamt of expanding the factory's production scale and creating their own brand.

But before they could implement it, something happened with Xiao Long, and Wang Tianxue embarked on a path to find her child.

Without Wang Tianxue as a partner, Lin Chuxia also didn't expand the factory's scale.

In the early design stage of the factory before her, she incorporated all of their previous concepts.

This is why her design proposal resonated perfectly with Wang Tianxue.

It's something deeply ingrained in both of them.

With Wang Tianxue carrying it out, it would surely go smoothly.

Now that the factory was in production, Wang Tianxue first took Lin Chuxia through the workshop before returning to the office.

"How is it? Satisfied? These clothing designs and samples are the first batch of products from Xiyang Clothing Factory, which will be our factory's showcase and market capital."

Lin Chuxia had already seen some finished products in the workshop.

She had seen some of these designs before, which were the most popular styles on the market.

She picked out two design drafts she hadn't seen before.

"Are these two styles in production?"

Wang Tianxue took a look, "Oh, these are the designs submitted by the design department yesterday, haven't passed the review yet. Once submitted, all designs need to go through senior management approval before entering production."

"What do you think of these styles?" Wang Tianxue picked out a few more from the pile.

Lin Chuxia first glanced at her, seeing the sparkle in this woman's eyes, indicating there might be something special about these design drafts.

Lin Chuxia looked more seriously.

Upon close examination, these design drafts were indeed quite good.

If she weren't a reincarnator, just by looking at these drafts, she'd only think the designs were novel and bold.

But being a reincarnator, she knew the popular elements of the coming years.

These design drafts, though not capturing all the trendy elements, certainly grasped many essentials.

"The designs are bold, the styles are novel. If produced according to these designs, they should be welcomed by the market."

Lin Chuxia's comment was conservative.

Wang Tianxue nodded in agreement, "I think so too. To be honest, this is the new designer I hired, fresh out of college."

"A college student?"

Lin Chuxia was somewhat surprised.

In current times, hiring a college graduate straight out of school is extremely rare.

Wang Tianxue didn't keep Lin Chuxia in suspense.

"I have some personal interest in this, so today I called you over for another reason, which is to let you meet two people. Whether you find them suitable, it's up to you. If you don't like them, you don't have to keep them, no need to consider my feelings."

Lin Chuxia grew more and more curious as she listened.

"What kind of relationship do we have? You entrusted me with the factory recruitment back then. Your call on who to hire or not hire, why are you making me look?"

Wang Tianxue smiled, grabbed two sheets from the drawer, and handed them to Lin Chuxia.

"Have a look at the information on these two people first. If they are suitable, I'll let you meet them later."

Lin Chuxia just glanced at the names and squinted her eyes.

Wang Tianyu!

"Wang Tianyu graduated university?"

That young man Lin Chuxia remembered, when she helped him on the bus and thus got to know Jia Liang and the others.

Though a small act, he kept it in mind.

Since the opening of An City Bun Shop, that boy had quietly supported her all along.

Later, he became friends with Tianxue, and during holidays, he'd come to Yan City to help them out.

In Lin Chuxia's eyes, Wang Tianyu was like Lin Jiadong, both like her younger brothers.

"Your memory! If Tianyu knew, he'd be sad," Wang Tianxue teasingly pointed at her, "He graduated this year. He didn't follow school assignments; as soon as he received his diploma, he came looking for me. Not only did he come, but he brought his girlfriend along. Look, the design drafts you just saw were designed by his girlfriend. I think her designs are quite good, so I've decided to hire her. As for my brother, I'm still figuring out what position suits him. This kid is determined to work for you. He asked me to find out where your future work focus will be. He said wherever you are is where he will be, and he's willing to do anything."

Chapter 668: Working Together

Lin Chuxia looked at his resume, with a slight smile at the corner of her lips.

"Did he really say it like this to you? Did he ever consider working in the same company as his girlfriend? What if I'm not here, and he has to follow me everywhere? What about his girlfriend then? That young girl followed him without caring about a stable job."

Wang Tianxue pinched her brow, "That's why I showed you this. These two are giving me a headache, but Tianyu said that Jiang Ting doesn't mind; you'll see when you meet them."

Lin Chuxia's curiosity was genuinely piqued, wanting to meet these two people.

Jiang Ting was in the design department. Wang Tianyu hadn't arranged specific work for her, so she was just doing miscellaneous tasks every day. Wang Tianxue had him run errands for her, being on call.

In a short while, the two walked into the general manager's office.

Wang Tianyu was in front, with sparkling eyes when he saw Lin Chuxia, "Mr. Lin."

After greeting, he turned to introduce Jiang Ting, "Tingting, this is the Mr. Lin I told you about."

Lin Chuxia's gaze fell on Jiang Ting from the moment they entered.

Not tall, slender frame, wearing a white base layer with a light brown knitted cardigan over it, flared jeans on the bottom, and white canvas shoes.

Her long hair was tied in a ponytail, skin fair, single eyelids, a small nose, and a moderately sized mouth.

The whole person resembled a little sister next door, with a scholarly aura.

In Lin Chuxia's impression, having interacted widely, most design students tend to have flamboyant personalities.

Especially after she saw Jiang Ting's design earlier, such a bold style, she never expected it from such a person.

Without prior mention, Lin Chuxia would have thought she was a reserved teacher, perhaps teaching Chinese.

Lin Chuxia observed Jiang Ting while Jiang Ting was also observing Lin Chuxia.

Upon Wang Tianyu's introduction, she bowed slightly and said, "Hello, Mr. Lin."

"Hello, I've just seen your design drafts. You have an intuitive understanding of the fashion market's development. Both Tianxue and I are optimistic about you. Is there anything you're not accustomed to at the company? Or anything you need? Feel free to voice them. Since you gave up a stable job to choose Xiyang, Xiyang absolutely won't let you down."

Jiang Ting didn't expect Lin Chuxia to be so enthusiastic. She had been continuously observing Lin Chuxia, despite Wang Tianyu mentioning her multiple times before. Jiang Ting believed she'd be a woman even more astute and imposing than Wang Tianxue.

Yet, the woman before her felt very gentle, radiating a maternal glow.

If Lin Chuxia knew Jiang Ting's thoughts, she would definitely say she got it right.

Having just given birth and in the nursing phase, going out without makeup or dressing up, both in appearance and inner spirit, she indeed exudes maternal vibes.

However, Lin Chuxia's words shocked Jiang Ting pleasantly, so she waved her hands repeatedly, "Mr. Lin, President Wang treats me very well. Currently, I'm very satisfied with my work, and I'll work hard to prove with action that Xiyang's choice was correct."

Lin Chuxia extended her right hand, "Alright, let's work together."

Jiang Ting quickly shook Lin Chuxia's hand, looked excitedly at Wang Tianyu beside her, then glanced at Lin Chuxia, with a flushed face.

Interactions between people often need a connection.

Lin Chuxia's impression of Jiang Ting was very favorable, so she straightforwardly asked about the current situation in the design department.

Their clothing factory mainly targets the mass customer base, not needing too much novelty and innovation in styles.

Before their brand grows, following mainstream trends and relying on the market is fundamental.

An unknown new brand that starts with innovation isn't necessarily on a dead-end path, but in this era where people's living standards are limited, focusing on staying warm as the mainstream approach won't work.

However, a brand without innovation and characteristics is also non-competitive.

To make clients remember them, they need to work on quality while having distinguishing features.

Lin Chuxia and Wang Tianxue initially positioned Xiyang clothes into two segments.

One targeting the mass market, the other aiming for high-end.

Of course, targeting the mass market doesn't mean a continuous price war; they intend to highlight quality as their distinguishing factor.

They clearly understand that no single product or service can satisfy everyone, and low prices aren't the core competitive advantage of a brand.

No one will like cheap goods without value; capturing this psychology of people.

Targeting mass groups, they focus on quality.

Targeting high-end groups, apart from emphasizing quality, style is even more important.

For this segment, market positioning in pricing should target slightly higher groups.

With this approach, not only can they make clients quickly remember Xiyang, but they can also significantly save on post-sale costs.

Wang Tianxue excelled in this area, and currently, the design department has two designers: one she painstakingly recruited from an established clothing factory, the other being Jiang Ting.

And currently, the division of work between the two is very clear.

Lin Chuxia nodded with confidence in Wang Tianxue's arrangement.

After finishing discussing Jiang Ting, Lin Chuxia's gaze shifted to Wang Tianyu.

The shy and inexperienced young man from before had not yet lost all his innocence but had begun to show the appearance of an adult man.

Had it not been for the silly smile when his gaze met hers, he would be considered a handsome young man.

From what Wang Tianxue said, Lin Chuxia understood the gist, so she asked him, "Heard from your sister that you're dissatisfied with the work she's arranged for you? Tell me, what do you want to do? Plus, your college major doesn't seem to fit with our clothing factory."

Wang Tianyu chuckled, "Mr. Lin, I didn't come to the clothing factory for a major fit; I just wanted to follow Mr. Lin. I believe following Mr. Lin, I can learn skills."

Lin Chuxia raised an eyebrow, "What, following your sister won't teach you skills? Your sister has far more skills than I do; the whole clothing factory's success is due to her."

Wang Tianxue quickly stepped aside, "Oh, please don't, I wouldn't dare claim credit for that."

Wang Tianyu also stepped away from his sister a bit but continued, "My sister is indeed amazing, but I still want to follow Mr. Lin; even if it means running errands for Mr. Lin, I'll do it. Sister Chuxia, please let me follow you."

After Wang Tianxue's divorce, every holiday, Wang Tianyu would come to visit his sister and niece.

Especially in the first two years post-divorce, their parents blamed Wang Tianxue for divorcing quietly, ignoring her, leaving Wang Tianyu to comfort his sister.

Lin Chuxia remembered how it was like this in her previous life too; after Wang Tianxue's divorce, Wang's family almost severed ties with her, not recognizing her as their daughter.

Wang Tianxue hustled alone, selling goods on the street, living a tough life.

Lin Chuxia heard she had a brother working out of town, rarely returning home, but her initial business funds received his support.

That brother was her solitary emotional attachment in that family.

Chapter 669: Never Forget Those Who Dug the Well When Drinking Water

This lifetime, Wang Tianxue divorced a few years earlier. Although Wang Tianyu didn't receive financial support from her in business, the emotional comfort he provided was far more important than money.

After multiple visits, he had become familiar with Lin Chuxia.

Now, calling her Sister Chuxia in such a tone, Lin Chuxia could hardly keep her stern expression.

"Really, anything from running errands is okay? Just don't go back on your word later."

"I won't, I won't. A gentleman's word is as good as gold. Ever since Sister Chuxia went to school, I've always had a goal in my heart: to study hard and, once accomplished in my studies, to work alongside you. Even though those things back then might have seemed insignificant to you, they meant a lot to me... Don't worry, Sister Chuxia, I will definitely work hard alongside you."

Lin Chuxia patted his shoulder, "Those were just small matters, you shouldn't burden yourself with them. If you remember them for a lifetime, how do you expect Jia Liang and Houzi to feel?"

Wang Tianxue couldn't help but laugh, "Chuxia, you know what? Recently, when Jia Liang was busy here, that day Tianyu came by, he saw Jia Liang and was almost scared but Jia Liang didn't even remember who he was."

Lin Chuxia thought that scene must have been quite amusing.

Wang Tianyu was embarrassed, but he also noticed that those who stole from him had turned a new leaf. Two of them were working with Lin Chuxia, and another had become Lin Chuxia's brother-in-law.

He wasn't lamenting their twisted fates; rather, he grew even more impressed with Lin Chuxia.

A bunch of society's dregs and outcasts found their way under Mr. Lin, starting fresh and achieving something in their careers.

He wasn't scared when he saw Jia Liang, he was shocked.

The man was nothing like the delinquent he remembered from back then; knowing he was Wang Tianxue's brother, Jia Liang even greeted him.

His demeanor didn't have any of that delinquent vibe; he carried the air of a true leader.

He spoke with great tact, and though his words were a bit inappropriate, they felt oddly comforting.

Lin Chuxia was looking for an assistant to help with errands, and Wang Tianyu's arrival was timely.

So, just like that, the matter was settled.

After the two left, Lin Chuxia sincerely thanked Wang Tianxue.

"Oh, why thank me? It's also their own choice. Plus, I trust our clothing factory and your ability. I even told Jiang Ting straight, choosing our clothing factory was her best decision."

Such confidence.

Lin Chuxia certainly shared that confidence, but she gave a gentle reminder.

"You might want to casually disclose a bit about Jiang Ting's background, and show her more care."

"You mean... afraid she'll be bullied?"

Lin Chuxia nodded, "This girl's designs have a lot of talent, and she has a keen eye for fashion trends. If she continues this way, she'll be a sharp weapon for our clothing factory. You mentioned the other designer was poached from an established clothing factory. Employees like them sometimes tend to be arrogant. I'm not worried about them being proud; I just fear they might direct that pride against their colleagues."

Wang Tianxue immediately understood.

Though Jiang Ting is a college graduate, she's still a new girl in society, with a thin skin and no work experience. Such people are easiest to bully and most likely to be bullied.

"You genuinely reminded me. With Jiang Ting's personality, if bullied, she probably wouldn't even speak up."

Though both were recruited with high salaries, in the eyes of Lin Chuxia and her team, they still discerned between close and distant ties.

This is what social interaction is all about.

Wherever there are people, there's society; wherever there's society, social interactions are important.

This isn't just a place where having competence is enough.

Of course, regardless of the job, competence is the fundamental truth and basis for standing firm in this industry.

But someone who doesn't understand social dynamics will only get what's due to them.

Whether they gain more than that depends on their understanding of social dynamics.

The seasoned fashion designer was given a commendable salary to join the team, and their relationship was built on a mutual recognition of a fair transaction.

As for Jiang Ting, a fresh graduate, her willingness to abandon assigned work and join them speaks to a rare and valuable commitment.

She came along with Wang Tianyu, placing her trust in him.

Whether it's Wang Tianyu's sister Wang Tianxue or Sister Chuxia, whom Wang Tianyu is willing to follow, they would naturally ensure the young girl retains her trust in Wang Tianyu.

Lin Chuxia spent three days getting acquainted with the operations of the clothing factory.

Currently, Wang Tianxue is fully in charge of the factory. While she may not be perfectly adept, with a bit of guidance from Lin Chuxia, it's not a problem.

The first batch of clothing samples from the factory was sent by Wang Tianxue to her cousin in Rong City. Within a week, they received seven orders, and none were small.

Plus, since they have their own clothing market, the factory's performance year-end is secured.

Her cousin even specifically reminded Wang Tianxue that if there are new designs in the factory, they must be the first to get them, or they might disown her as their cousin.

While she said it like that, their market initially thrived solely thanks to her cousin's tremendous support.

The cooperation over the past year or so has also been quite harmonious.

Now that they've established a clothing factory, the first taste of success should naturally be shared with family.

Never forget those who helped you when you were starting out.

And within the entire Rongcheng Wholesale Market, their cousin's stall is something they've witnessed firsthand.

Though it sounds like she's asking for favors, in reality, she's helping them.

If the factory's products get dispatched from her cousin's stall, they're bound to reach every corner of the country.

From the next day on, Lin Chuxia had a shadow.

Wang Tianyu followed alongside her, reporting on what he learned about the factory during his time there and attentively listening to Lin Chuxia and Wang Tianxue's plans for the factory and the southern market.

He spent nearly a month at the factory, thinking he knew it inside and out.

Upon listening, he realized he had only seen the surface; merely the factory before his eyes.

Once again, he felt that following Lin Chuxia was the best decision he ever made.

Even if he had to run errands for her his whole life, it would be worth it.

And Lin Chuxia indeed intended to promote the young man, as she would need him to represent her in many matters in the future. The more he knows about the company, the easier it would be for her as the boss.

As she said before, although she has a lot of work in this lifetime, she doesn't plan to focus all her energy on work.

Previously, it was all about her family and Qin Yang; now, it's also about her daughter, Qi Qi... and her mother.

In her past life, she relished the wealth and status brought by career success; in this life, she hopes even more to have family and love alongside her.

After a productive day, on her way home, Lin Chuxia saw a long line outside a shop from a distance.

The car took a turn and parked in an empty space nearby, joining the end of the line.

Chapter 670: So Sweet

About twenty minutes later, it was finally her turn.

After buying everything, she then drove back home.

As soon as she entered the door, Yuan Bao heard the noise and came out to greet her.

Circling around Lin Chuxia, wagging his tail and leading her inside.

He ran into the room and to the side of the bed, looking affectionately at the little one on the bed, even motioning with his mouth for Lin Chuxia to look.

Qi Qi was awake at this time, lying on the bed without crying or fussing, waving her small hands and kicking her little legs, looking at the big red flower on the ceiling.

The window was open, and a gentle breeze came in, causing the big red flower to sway back and forth.

Her big eyes followed it moving back and forth, full of vitality.

"You're back?"

Zhuang Jingshu's eyes shifted from her granddaughter to Lin Chuxia as soon as she walked in.

She smiled and got up to take her bag.

Lin Chuxia hung her bag on the coat rack herself and handed over the things she was carrying with her other hand.

"I saw chestnuts for sale on the street when I was coming back. I heard they're fresh off the tree this year, so I bought some. Try them, see if they're good."

Zhuang Jingshu took the chestnuts, feeling their heaviness and warmth in her hand.

But no matter how heavy and warm, they couldn't outweigh the importance of these chestnuts in her heart.

Recently, during a casual chat, she mentioned how, as a child, she loved sugar-roasted chestnuts, and her daughter remembered her words.

"Alright, let's eat together."

After Zhuang Jingshu finished speaking, the little Qi Qi on the bed made a sound, and she smiled, "Our Qi Qi wants to eat too."

Lin Chuxia went to the other room to wash her hands and quickly went to hold her daughter.

After not seeing her for a while, the milky scent on her daughter brought an indescribable sense of satisfaction.

She had plenty of milk, and in just half a day, she was full of it.

Little Qi Qi probably smelled her mother, and her small mouth opened and closed, nuzzling into her embrace, clearly very hungry.

Zhuang Jingshu, to ensure she could relax as soon as she got home, estimated the time and around the time Lin Chuxia was about to return, she would only give a little warm water to Qi Qi even if she was hungry, and wouldn't give her formula.

This was something Lin Chuxia often marveled at, as her mother, no matter how much she loved Qi Qi, seemed to pale in comparison.

As she was thinking this, a peeled chestnut was brought to her lips, and she looked up into Zhuang Jingshu's loving eyes.

Lin Chuxia smiled slightly and opened her mouth to eat the chestnut, which was sweet.

"Do you need to go out again tomorrow?"

Lin Chuxia nodded, "I've gotten a rough understanding of the situation at the garment factory. I plan to check out the mall tomorrow, and I've hired an assistant. After the mall, I'll stop by the restaurant, and maybe even take a look at the property in An City."

"It's fitting to find an assistant in your situation, but it needs to be done step by step. Back then, Zhuang Yang worked under me for over a year before everything was steady. If you're okay with it, let Zhuang Yang guide you."

"That's great. I was also thinking of having him learn more. The kid just graduated from college and lacks social experience, but I'm afraid my brother might be too busy."

If Zhuang Yang could teach Wang Tianyu hands-on, she'd be relieved.

"What could he be busy with? Even if he is, he should prioritize your matters."

Zhuang Jingshu replied with a smile.

Zhuang Yang was indeed quite busy these days, but it was all with tasks she'd assigned him.

The construction at the vegetable stand had already begun, and Zhuang Yang spent most of his time overseeing it there.

Originally, it was meant to be a surprise for Lin Chuxia. If Zhuang Yang really brought along that assistant, the news might not stay hidden.

But Zhuang Jingshu wasn't too bothered, having spent these past few months with Lin Chuxia, she'd realized her daughter was different from what she imagined.

She was nothing like a girl in her early twenties, with mature thoughts and a practical, hardworking nature.

"By the way, your mother-in-law called this afternoon. They're coming over for Qi Qi's hundredth day."

In a few days, little Qi Qi would be a hundred days old, certainly worth celebrating.

"I'll set aside those two days then. We'll celebrate together as a family."

"Alright."

Qin Yang returned from work, surprised to see Lin Chuxia at home.

After such a long break, now that she resumed work, she'd been coming home late these days.

Upon asking, he found out the matters at the garment factory were almost settled, and she planned to visit the mall tomorrow.

Qin Yang was already a bit numb to the many enterprises his wife handled.

Sometimes, he really admired his wife but was also afraid she'd overwork herself.

Fortunately, she always knew to delegate tasks, balancing her time effectively.

Lin Chuxia, coming back early with ample time, planned to make dumplings.

Recently, while recuperating at home, Lin Chuxia, with nothing much to do, planted a small patch of baby bok choy in the yard.

Now the baby bok choy had grown about a hand's length, just right to eat.

Egg and baby bok choy dumplings were Lin Chuxia's favorite.

As soon as the dumplings were out of the pot, Lin Chuxia's stomach started growling.

Zhuang Jingshu quickly took two empty plates to help her cool down a plate of dumplings.

With a fan in one hand, she expressed concern, "You should have had a pastry first as a buffer. During breastfeeding, you're eating for two, so you get hungry quickly. Here, this plate has cooled."

Lin Chuxia picked up a dumpling, took a bite, and chewed it contently, smiling, "I just wanted to eat these. When I think of dumplings, pastries don't smell appealing at all, and they take up space."

Zhuang Jingshu laughed along, "Then eat more. If you like them, I'll make them for you again in a few days. Even if you love something, you shouldn't have it too often."

"Mmm mmm..."

Lin Chuxia kept responding, her mouth continuously busy.

Qin Yang, after preparing the second batch, sat down to eat with them.

He overheard the conversation between the mother and daughter and found his gaze growing tender toward his wife.

In the evening, after Lin Chuxia fed Qi Qi, Qin Yang took her over, burping her and coaxing her to sleep.

Once little Qi Qi fell asleep in the cradle, he quietly slipped into bed.

"Mom has been a tremendous help at home."

"Yes, I once thought managing with a child alone was feasible. Now I see, I overestimated myself."

Even though she was just a small baby, taking care of her was truly challenging.

During pregnancy, she kept thinking of delivering the baby soon to ease her burden.

But once the baby was born, she realized it was easier when the baby was still inside her.

"Oh, by the way, my family called, and they'll be coming for Qi Qi's hundredth day. We'll just set a table at home then."

"Okay."

Qin Yang's gaze on Lin Chuxia grew suddenly dark as he realized soon their daughter would be a hundred days old.

It seemed their intimate moments still remained in single digits.

He leaned in slowly.

Lin Chuxia felt the warmth of his breath by her ear, turned her head slightly, just to see his dark eyes.

"Xiaxia..."

The deep murmur had an indescribable allure. Before Lin Chuxia could react, she was enveloped by his presence, only managing to utter a few words through her teeth, "Light... turn off the light..."