

The 80s 1241

Chapter 1241: Fulfilling the Two-Year Promise

On the second day of August, it was Luh Kai's wedding day. Since the banquet was held at Joy Soon Loy, it was also the first large-scale banquet hosted by Joy Soon Loy Restaurant. Doing it well would bring prestige to the restaurant, making it an exceptionally auspicious day.

Therefore, to showcase Joy Soon Loy Restaurant's capabilities to all the guests, Cheng Su and her team started preparing early, ensuring that everything from the dishes to the service would help establish the restaurant's reputation with a bang.

Now that it was already August, Cheng Su had some free time, so she returned to Joy Soon Loy Restaurant early to help oversee everything. Since Qi Taiguo was in the army, and she wouldn't be back for cooking today, Cheng Su brought Xiao Yun to the restaurant.

"Auntie is very busy with work today, so is it alright if you play by yourself here, Xiao Yun? Did you bring your books and homework?" Cheng Su asked with a smile, after bringing her to the office to sit down.

Xiao Yun rummaged through her backpack, pulled out some books and homework, and shook her head slightly, saying, "Auntie, you go ahead and work. I'm fine here by myself."

"What a good child. Then you stay here, and in a while, I'll have someone bring you some snacks," Cheng Su said, patting her head.

Xiao Yun hesitated a bit, "Auntie, aren't those meant to be sold? You should keep them for selling, I'm not hungry!"

Cheng Su's heart softened. No wonder she felt such affection for her; the child really was endearing. So she said, "Auntie doesn't need to worry about a couple of dollars. Alright, read your books. Reading more is good!"

Xiao Yun sweetly acknowledged.

Originally, she didn't like reading much. Back in her hometown, she didn't have much time for it either, because after school, she had to help with household chores and take care of her younger brother.

After coming to Qing City, at Cheng Su's Household, without television, when Cheng Su had free time, she would read. So Xiao Yun also followed suit, finding suitable books for herself, and gradually got used to it.

Xiao Yun watched as Cheng Su walked to the office door and gave a few instructions to a staff member. She couldn't help but smile. Auntie treated her really well, and she was so capable. She thought to herself that she must learn to be like Auntie someday.

Cheng Su had snacks and tea sent to the office, then began inspecting various places, from the head chef, to the dessert section, to the restaurant floors, and then the logistics.

"Have the tables been counted? We have fifty tables and chairs, make sure there's not one missing, or else we'll have to rush to buy some last minute." Cheng Su asked Qiulan, who was following her and taking notes.

"They've all been counted! We have an extra ten sets."

Cheng Su nodded, having extras was good, in case more guests showed up unexpectedly, they could be prepared.

"What about the bowls and plates?" Cheng Su asked as she checked the green plants in the corridor beside the private rooms.

"There are enough as well."

"Good. Hold a brief meeting with the staff again in the afternoon, make sure every post is well arranged, no mistakes, this concerns the face and capability of our restaurant. If we do well, people will have confidence to book banquets here in the future!" Cheng Su stopped and smiled at her, "In the future, if locals say hosting a banquet at Joy Soon Loy is a high-status thing, then you'll have face, and the restaurant will have face."

She had said before, she wanted to create a renowned restaurant, from a small restaurant in 1985 to the large restaurant it is today, it had only taken two years. She had fulfilled her promise to Old Song, to build a restaurant comparable to He Fa Ji within two years.

Now, she had achieved it. The reputation of the restaurant was growing louder, but it was not enough. She wanted her restaurant to become a hugely renowned establishment, making people feel that hosting meals here was prestigious. Only then would it match her ambition.

Chapter 1242: It's Not Easy for Anyone

Qiulan listened to Cheng Su's words, and couldn't help but feel stirred in her heart, her throat also a bit choked: "I know, I can't relax either!"

Cheng Su patted her on the shoulder, and said: "Speaking of which, back when it was just the two of us running Joy Soon Loy, busying about, buying, chopping, cooking, selling food, all done by ourselves, how tough were those times!"

Qiulan recalled those days, wasn't it just like that?

"Look at it now!" Cheng Su pointed at the coming and going customers and waiters, and said: "Now we don't have to do it all ourselves, there's a clear division of labor, the level has gone up more than a notch, and the girls below all call you Sister Lan, isn't that something?"

Qiulan shook her head, choked with emotion: "It's not easy, Sister Su, these two years, it hasn't been easy for me, and even harder for you. Sister Su, I'm grateful to you, you gave me such a platform."

"I can give you the platform, but you have to stand on it." Cheng Su said with a smile: "Keep pushing forward, you're only twenty-one now, as long as you are willing to learn and fight, your future achievements will far surpass this small manager position."

Qiulan was excited, nodding her head vigorously.

"Alright, after just a few words, you're tearing up, so promising!" Cheng Su couldn't help but tease her, then remembered Old Song's inquiry, and said: "Right, you and Xiao Jiang..."

"Sister Su!" Qiulan blushed, stomped her foot playfully.

Song Xiaojang used to have a secret crush on her, but it later turned into an open affection, especially after he learned that two young men in the kitchen had an eye on Qiulan, he couldn't hold back anymore, his crush became overt, just shy of declaring this girl was his, and no one else could snatch her away.

"I think Xiao Jiang is not bad. You know, this restaurant, they also have a share of stock in it, the family background is quite decent. You are familiar with each other, working in the same place, knowing each other well. As for Old Song, well, you know, he's an unremarkably kind and open-minded person, where could you find such a father-in-law?" Cheng Su sincerely said: "We women, having a job is economic independence, then finding someone understanding to live with, and maybe someday have a child, that would be perfect!"

"If you keep talking, I might just ignore you!"

"Alright, alright, I won't say anymore, as long as you know it in your heart. I just think Xiao Jiang is quite nice, give it some thought." Cheng Su patted her on the shoulder, and brushed past her as she walked away.

Qiulan bit her lip where she stood, then chased after her.

After thorough checks everywhere, once the lunch session was over, none of the restaurant staff took a break, they all got busy, setting tables, spreading tablecloths, placing wine glasses and dishware.

On the second floor, in the middle of the hall was a walkway for the bride and groom, laid with a red carpet, flanked by pink balloons arranged in threes. At the entrance, an arch made of balloons and roses and lilies stood, looking very beautiful.

In the center of the main seating area, a large red Chinese character for happiness was on the red silk, inscribed with "Lu Xie Union", with two ball knots and colorful ribbons hanging from it.

As for the banquet tables, aside from dishware, wine glasses were also set up, and each table had pre-ordered drinks.

At the entrance on the first floor, there was a table covered with red silk for guest sign-ins, with a large sign next to it reading "Lu Xie Union", similarly adorned with pink balloon flower arrangements.

With such an elegant setup, even the young girls in the restaurant couldn't help but marvel at its beauty and grandeur, each envisioning for themselves a wedding banquet like this one day would be a dream of prestige and style.

Chapter 1243: A Dignified Wedding Banquet

Having arranged the wedding banquet venue, Cheng Suxin took another look inside and out, feeling satisfied. It finally has a modern touch.

Luh Kai arrived with his entourage and was momentarily stunned, his gaze at the smiling Cheng Su somewhat complicated.

"How is it, groom? Are you pleased? Happy with the results?" Cheng Su asked with a sly smile.

"Why go to such lengths? This must have taken a lot of effort." Luh Kai felt touched and said, "I'm moved!"

Cheng Su laughed, "Love deserves a sense of ceremony. As both a shareholder and a good friend, of course, I want to make your wedding splendid. It's also about the face of our restaurant."

Saying this, she extended her hand, "Luh Kai, congratulations on your marriage!"

"Thank you!" Luh Kai held her hand, only releasing it after a long time.

Cheng Su then presented a gift, "This is your wedding gift. I'm afraid I'll forget it amidst the chaos later!"

Luh Kai received it. The gift was well-wrapped, and he didn't look inside. He expressed gratitude again solemnly and handed it to the wedding attendant to keep safe.

Cheng Su proceeded to explain the wedding itinerary to him. Upon learning that the emcee was Cheng Su herself, Luh Kai's emotions grew even more complicated, yet there was a subtle joy.

With her witnessing the wedding, it also marked the end of his elusive thoughts. From now on, his responsibility and love belong to another woman.

At five o'clock, the bride Xie Minyi was brought over. She didn't have time to tour the venue, and first went to the room Cheng Su arranged to touch up her makeup and outfit before greeting guests with Luh Kai.

Standing together, they made a handsome couple. Luh Kai handed the gift from Cheng Su to Xie Minyi. She was a bit surprised, then passed it to her bridesmaid to store.

Cheng Su came over once more to offer congratulations before heading off to work. Although also a guest, she had to manage the restaurant's affairs.

It was the first large banquet!

After five o'clock, guests began to arrive one after another, registering. Naturally, wedding attendants guided them to their seats with corresponding seating charts.

Luh Kai's father had passed away, leaving only his mother, who naturally placed great importance on her only son's wedding. Seeing the venue setup and hearing guests' whispered praises, she felt tremendously proud and gave infinite thanks to Cheng Su.

Around six o'clock, Qi Taiguo arrived, and Luh Kai immediately went up to greet him.

"Congratulations!" Qi Taiguo, looking rugged, extended his hand and smiled.

"Thank you!" Luh Kai introduced his wife and planned to personally escort him to his seat.

"You're busy, no need to worry about me. My niece is still upstairs in the office; I'm going to visit her. Cheng Su will take care of me." Qi Taiguo said hurriedly.

Luh Kai had no choice but to let him go. As he watched him ascend, the wedding attendants nearby asked who he was, noting his imposing presence.

"He's the husband of the hotel's owner, someone from the military district, a deputy battalion commander," Luh Kai said with a smile.

The crowd was amazed, saying, "You should introduce us later!"

Nowadays, given the chance, everyone aims to connect with influential figures. Even without deep relationships, just showing one's face is beneficial. Networking is all about building connections, right?

Luh Kai agreed with a smile.

Meanwhile, Xie Minyi's female wedding attendants were full of admiration for her. Marrying well, the grandeur of the wedding, her husband being elegant and handsome, and knowing influential people—how could one not be envious?

Seeing the admiration in her friends' eyes, Xie Minyi's vanity momentarily flared, making her smile more gently as she nestled close to Luh Kai, feeling grateful to Cheng Su without needing to mention it.

Chapter 1244: An Instant Hit

Qi Taiguo first found Cheng Su, who was busy instructing people on adjusting the sound system. Seeing him, she said, "I'm still busy here. Xiao Yun is in the office, go bring her down quickly, we're about to start the banquet, I have to keep busy here!"

Qi Taiguo saw her face looked quite normal, so he nodded and headed to the office.

Only when the guests were all seated did the wedding banquet officially begin. Cheng Su had already briefed Luh Kai and the others on the entrance sequence, and they were all waiting at the entrance of the second floor.

Cheng Su cleared her throat and slowly began, "August brings golden autumn, intoxicating scenery, on this joyful day, Joy Soon Loy Restaurant happily welcomes the joyous union of Mr. Luh Kai and Ms. Xie Minyi, now inviting the newlyweds to enter..."

She herself started the applause, followed by an eruption of clapping all around. Luh Kai, holding Xie Minyi's hand, appeared shyly on the red carpet, slowly walking forward.

"...Two families united, a contract sealed, a blessed union forever, perfectly matched. Look at this day, the crabapples are abundant, osmanthus is fragrant, so fitting for marriage, wishing the couple prosperity and many children in the future..." Cheng Su's gentle voice slowly resonated as the newlyweds entered.

This wedding speech made the guests pause for a moment; Xie Minyi was a teacher, some guests were colleagues, while Luh Kai had quite a few eloquent friends, who were all surprised and amazed at the speech.

"Wishing Mr. Luh Kai and Ms. Xie Minyi eternal unity and a life together till old age."

The newlyweds arrived at the main stage as Cheng Su's wedding speech concluded.

"Great, excellent!"

Someone stood up and began clapping; whether this was praising Cheng Su or the newlyweds was unknown, but the applause was even more enthusiastic than before.

Cheng Su livened up the atmosphere, asking Luh Kai how he met Xie Minyi and his feelings about it, then handed him the microphone.

"Thank you all for coming to attend Minyi and my wedding today. I am very delighted and it is unforgettable. Minyi and I were once colleagues..." Luh Kai fully cooperated, speaking for a while before handing the microphone back to Cheng Su.

Of course, the bride couldn't be left out, but she was shy, only saying thank you a few times and expressing her feelings briefly.

Considering the era, Cheng Su didn't go too far but told a few anecdotes that kept everyone laughing. She also took the opportunity to promote the restaurant's mooncakes: "Today the restaurant blatantly borrows Mr. Luh's wedding to advertise some of our products. Everyone sees the mooncakes on the tables, right? You've tried them! We have various styles, and with a wedding invitation, you can enjoy a fifteen percent discount!"

After some lively moments, the dishes began to be served, and Cheng Su handed the venue over to Qiulan, sitting next to Qi Taiguo herself.

"Your speech just now really stunned me, not only me but many others were amazed. Good job!" Qi Taiguo whispered praise.

Cheng Su whispered back, "I was just mimicking what I've learned."

This was what she had read in a book about wedding speeches from the Republic of China era, found them appealing, and memorized them without expecting to use them here.

"A lot of people are praising Aunt!" Xiao Yun said secretly.

Cheng Su gently poked her forehead, saying, "Quick, eat up. There's lots of delicious food today, but don't overeat, or you'll get an upset stomach!"

Xiao Yun nodded with a smile; indeed, there was plenty of delicious food she hadn't tasted before. It would have been nice if her mom and brother were there too.

Luh Kai and Xie Minyi came over for a toast: "Cheng Su, thank you."

Cheng Su returned the gesture with a smile, saying, "As friends, there's no need to thank me."

Luh Kai didn't delay, his eyes full of gratitude, moving on to the next table.

And this wedding banquet, this speech, became a topic of interest, widely used in many weddings thereafter, leading to Joy Soon Loy Restaurant's reputation skyrocketing.

Chapter 1245: Ning Ge Disappears

The Luh Kai's wedding banquet was held tastefully and beautifully. Coupled with the quality of the food and service, it received quite a good reputation and soon got two or three small banquet orders, including birthday and full moon banquets. The sales of mooncakes were also on the rise, making Cheng Su smile so widely her eyes almost disappeared.

Because nothing brings greater joy than seeing your efforts rewarded, right?

But there was one effort that had yet to see any return. That was in August, Cheng Su's period came right on time again, indicating the baby hadn't taken root.

Cheng Su was very unhappy, a bit anxious and worried. Her face didn't look good for those couple of days, even Xiao Yun noticed her displeasure and carefully tried to please her and took the initiative to help with the work.

Seeing Xiao Yun like this, and Qi Taiguo as well, Cheng Su gradually relaxed, followed Qi Taiguo's advice, started taking pills again, and went to the hospital for a check-up to make sure everything was fine.

But even so, she didn't dare to be careless, especially since it was gradually turning to autumn. She avoided cold foods entirely, even drank only warm water, and didn't drink anything cold.

As the day to visit home neared, and considering the younger brother-in-law had gotten into college, she thought it was not too much as a sister-in-law to buy him a decent set of new clothes to congratulate him on starting school. So she privately called home to ask about the younger brother-in-law's height and shoe size, and took Xiao Yun to buy him a complete outfit.

Back home, she couldn't help but show off to Qi Taiguo, but Qi Taiguo seemed a bit absent-minded.

"...Hey, I'm asking you, why aren't you responding? What's on your mind?" Cheng Su said.

Qi Taiguo mumbled, "It's nothing, I've just been training hard these days, a bit tired."

"Since autumn has come, the 'autumn tiger' is strong. Let me make you some pear and lily water to moisten your lungs," Cheng Su said. "Time flies, but what about Ning Ge? How come there's been no news from him for so long? What's he up to?"

This was what's bothering Qi Taiguo. Previously, when Ning Ge went to investigate the Loo Family's matters, he would occasionally call to exchange information, but recently, it had been almost ten days without hearing from him!

What has happened?

Qi Taiguo felt uneasy.

He didn't dare let Cheng Su find out and only said, "He said there's something to investigate on the Loo Family side, so he's quite busy."

Cheng Su paused while tidying up the clothes, frowned, and said, "Loo Family? I hope no problems arise. Is it possible that Chiang Qing was rescued again?"

"That's not the case!" Qi Taiguo shook his head. He hadn't heard of it, and it shouldn't be that easy.

Cheng Su was about to say something when the phone rang. Just as she was about to answer, Qi Taiguo said, "I'll get it."

When he answered the phone, Cheng Yaozu's voice came through: "Ning Ge is missing!"

Qi Taiguo's heart trembled, he glanced at Cheng Su and said, "I know. I'll look into it and call you back from the office."

Saying that, he hung up the phone.

"Who was it?" Cheng Su asked casually.

Qi Taiguo stood up and said, "No one, it was the company commander. He's on leave these days and asked about the new recruits. I'm going to the office to check the reports and then call him back."

Cheng Su didn't doubt him and simply responded with "Oh."

Qi Taiguo left in a hurry, his mind filled with doubt and surprise. Missing, someone as capable as Ning Ge, missing?

What exactly did he uncover in this investigation, and what has he experienced?

Chapter 1246: Dafang Reports the Crime

Qi Taiguo hurriedly rushed to the office and dialed a phone number to Cheng Yaozu, immediately asking, "What's going on? How could Ning Ge go missing?"

Cheng Yaozu recounted the recent events, from Ning Ge secretly investigating the batch of goods hidden by Shenglong to the loss of contact, and now, whether dead or alive is unknown.

Qi Taiguo's heart sank a little, and he said, "Was he on his own? No help?"

Cheng Yaozu said, "The old man provided someone who could be useful, but I don't know if he managed to find him."

"Since you provided someone, didn't you check with the people over there?" Qi Taiguo's brow furrowed deeply. The matter with the Loo Family could be temporarily set aside, but nothing should happen to Ning Ge. He's the young master of the Ning Family and an important friend to them.

If anything happens because of this, wouldn't the one who suggested the idea be...

Qi Taiguo didn't dare to think further.

"I'll go ask the old man about that person's situation." Cheng Yaozu said.

"I'll wait for your call back at the office. Don't call the house phone, don't let Cheng Su know." Qi Taiguo hastily ordered.

After hanging up, Qi Taiguo felt restless and uneasy, constantly thinking about how he would explain to Ning Gang and the Chief if something happened to Ning Ge.

Qi Taiguo felt a bit regretful.

The phone quickly rang again.

"Hello?" Qi Taiguo grabbed it quickly.

"Qi Taiguo?"

The voice on the other end was an unfamiliar man's, which put Qi Taiguo a bit on guard: "Who are you?"

"I'm Jiang Dafang!" The voice hesitated for a moment before speaking.

Qi Taiguo was startled; Jiang Dafang, the son of Jiang Conghe, why was he calling?

"Ning Ge said that if he couldn't be found, I could reach out to you in case of urgency." Jiang Dafang's voice was both anxious and slightly excited.

"Go on!"

"Jiang Conghe acted as an intermediary to hand over the Loo Family's secret dealings to me, to handle it. The Loo Family, they're smuggling contraband!" Jiang Dafang said in a deep voice.

Smuggling contraband!

Qi Taiguo stood up abruptly. As he suspected, he was right; the Loo Family and Jiang Conghe were so reckless!

Suppressing his own excitement, Qi Taiguo asked, "Where are you now? Can you speak safely?"

"Don't worry, it's very safe."

Qi Taiguo calmed himself and said, "Tell me what Jiang Conghe instructed you."

"They're in a rush to dispatch a batch of goods. The Loo Family's transport team seems to be under surveillance and isn't convenient, so they asked if I dare to transport it through my team," Jiang Dafang whispered.

"Where will the goods be dispatched from, and when?"

Jiang Dafang said, "They haven't specified yet, just told me to be prepared. I overheard the pickup location seems to be in Guicheng!"

Guicheng, Guicheng again. How could there be a large batch of contraband there? But that area is dense with mountains and forests. It's really quite hard to detect if they are hidden there, because once any movement is spotted, it's hidden deep in the wild forests, making it untraceable.

Qi Taiguo's mind raced, and he said, "Stay calm and don't let anything slip. If possible, try to get evidence of their transactions, like ledgers or something."

"I know what to do!" Jiang Dafang hesitated for a moment: "Ning Ge, where did he go?"

Qi Taiguo's heart felt heavy, and he said, "We don't know yet. I suspect he's also been obstructed by this matter. Regardless, thank you. I will make arrangements."

The presence of contraband smugglers within the territory is not something an individual can address. This matter definitely needs to be reported.

Chapter 1247: I Want to Join This Mission

After finishing the call with Jiang Dafang, Qi Taiguo sat in his seat, pressing his forehead, quietly digesting the news he had just heard.

He couldn't just casually report to his superiors since there was no evidence, and after all, Jiang Dafang was the son of Jiang Conghe, which already made him less credible.

Of course, he knew about the connections between them, but could mere words convince those above?

Ning Ge, Ning Ge, what exactly did you find out, and where are you now?

Qi Taiguo was a bit annoyed with himself, only able to sit and wait in the dark, unable to do anything, knowing full well that the Loo Family was certainly involved, but couldn't prove it.

Could he just let it go like this? Such a good opportunity!

No!

Ning Ge has already gone missing, just for this reason alone he needed to report it to Ning Gang and let Ning Gang make the decision.

Qi Taiguo had just reached for the phone when it suddenly rang.

He immediately grabbed it. This time, it was Cheng Yaozu.

"There's news." Cheng Yaozu said, "Ning Ge went to find the person the elder talked about and took two people with him. He's found out what the batch of goods is."

"It's black market goods!" Qi Taiguo said heavily.

Cheng Yaozu was taken aback: "How do you know?"

"And then? Where is he now?" Qi Taiguo did not answer but asked back.

"They were discovered, this person was covered by Ning Ge and escaped back to deliver the message. Ning Ge is probably captured by them, but whether he's actually caught, he doesn't know," Cheng Yaozu said.

Qi Taiguo's heart sank again: "Where were they discovered?"

"Guicheng South County," Cheng Yaozu said, "according to this person, they first traced the goods from Guangcheng, and then followed the trail to Guicheng."

Qi Taiguo immediately looked at the map behind him, found Guicheng, then saw South County, dense forests, even more than last time on the border, couldn't help but narrow his eyes.

If Ning Ge was truly caught, then what about his life and death?

"Did the person get any evidence?" Qi Taiguo asked again.

"There are some photos of loading the goods."

Great!

Qi Taiguo said, "You must protect this person, especially the negatives of the photos, I'll report this to Chief Ning immediately."

"Alright!"

Qi Taiguo hung up the phone, glanced at the time on his wrist, and then dialed Ning Gang's office.

Ning Gang was just about to leave, picked up the phone as it came through, hearing Qi Taiguo's voice on the line, he sat back down: "What's the matter!"

Qi Taiguo first shared his suspicions about the Loo Family, then detailed their investigation into the Loo Family, and also mentioned the matter with Jiang Dafang, finally talking about the recent calls.

Ning Gang's complexion turned serious, he stood up quickly: "Ning Ge is missing?"

"Yes." Qi Taiguo said somewhat guilt-ridden, "Chief, I'm sorry!"

It was because of his idea that led Ning Ge to investigate in this way.

Ning Gang took a deep breath and exhaled, speaking slowly: "This is a national affair!" After a pause, he asked, "Are the photos in the hands of the Cheng family now?"

"Yes!"

"I'll arrange for someone to retrieve them, if it's true, then..."

If this were true, then they couldn't just sit idly by, as it concerned national interests, this smuggling of black market goods was a capital offense.

Ning Gang was about to hang up when Qi Taiguo stopped him.

"Is there anything else?"

Qi Taiguo, clutching the phone, said, "Chief, if there's a mission this time, I hope I can join."

He had long wanted to take action against Jiang Conghe and the Loo Family, always waiting for an opportunity, now the chance was here, Ning Ge had already vanished, life or death unknown, he absolutely couldn't just watch, even if it meant sacrificing his life.

Ning Gang was silent for a moment, then said: "Alright!"

Chapter 1248: A Master of Scheming

Ending the call, Ning Gang pondered for a while, made several calls, issued some directives, and then called Ning Ge's boss, Pan Gongnian.

Pan Gongnian was completely shocked to receive Ning Gang's call, and his face turned pale upon hearing his instructions. After hanging up, he quickly issued several orders to halt all current work, focusing all efforts on investigating the Chiang and Loo families, and sent someone to Guicheng to find Ning Ge.

Meanwhile, someone secretly rushed to Guangcheng by plane.

All of this was carried out urgently, hidden from the Chiang and Loo families.

Simultaneously, the Loo family had just seen off Chiang Conghe and his son.

Lu Zhenhua looked at Elder Loo, barely daring to breathe, but couldn't help speaking: "Dad, handing it over to that brat, can it work? He's a greenhorn who's never been involved in our business. If he messes up... Anyway, I don't trust him."

"You think I trust him?" Elder Loo sneered, "Your brother-in-law, dumb as a pig."

"Then Dad, why..." Lu Zhenhua couldn't understand Elder Loo's intentions, if he didn't believe, then why use him to transport goods.

Elder Loo sighed deeply, saying, "There's no choice; they're pressing hard, if we don't send it over, our business is done. In this trade, the biggest fear is a lack of trust. Half our family relies on this; we must be cautious."

Lu Zhenhua still didn't quite understand.

"Chiang Conghe wants to elevate his son, eventually pulling the Loo family out of the way, by proposing to let Jiang Dafang's company transport this batch of goods—both taking a share and introducing him to the trade." Elder Loo sneered, "A wishful thinker, does he take me for a dead man? Cough, cough, cough..."

Lu Zhenhua quickly helped him get comfortable, asking: "Then Dad, you still agreed..."

"I agreed so that the kid would distract those watching us. Haven't you heard of the tactic to openly repair the plank roads while secretly marching to Chen Cang?" Elder Loo said.

Lu Zhenhua thought for a moment: "Is that your strategy, Dad?"

"Chiang Conghe wants to elevate Jiang Dafang; let him try, it helps us divert attention." Elder Loo spoke two more sentences before coughing again.

Lu Zhenhua suddenly realized: "Dad, your plans are always brilliant!"

"Having done this business for years, our family has earned enough. Chiang Conghe wants to pave the way for his son, but, as he said, it's time we retired!" Elder Loo snorted with a cold laugh: "But retiring doesn't mean handing it to him for his son; no way. I want him to know, without our Loo family, he's nothing!"

"Dad, you mean this is our last deal?" Lu Zhenhua asked.

Elder Loo nodded: "I don't know if it's because I've grown old and timid, but I feel uneasy. It's time to retire; neither you nor Shaojun are meant for this line of work. We've earned enough; focus on legitimate business and as long as you're not too foolish, it should last several generations."

Lu Zhenhua blushed, mumbling: "Dad, I'm not capable." Then paused and continued: "What about sis..."

"Take better care of her afterwards; Chiang Conghe is unreliable, just privately give her money." Elder Loo had a dark expression, then asked: "How is Qingqing? Have you checked!"

Hearing this, Lu Zhenhua felt uneasy; he hadn't checked but didn't dare admit it, so said: "I checked; everything's good, Chiang Conghe didn't deceive us, she's doing well."

Only then did Elder Loo nod reassuredly, completely unaware that the "well" according to Lu Zhenhua meant Chiang Qing was living in hell!

Chapter 1249: Chiang Qing Surviving in Hell

Chiang Qing, who Lu Zhenhua said was living a good life, never felt so miserable. Some time ago, she was indeed in hell, but at least she could still see the light of day.

Now, aside from high walls, she was surrounded by all kinds of crazy patients. She was merely surviving in this hell.

In the eyes of others, she was also a mental patient, crazy, so they injected her and made her take medicine.

Chiang Qing had been a military doctor, and she had seen psychiatrists before. She knew what these drugs were and that if she took them, her 'madness' wouldn't get better; in fact, it would worsen. Yet, these people, just like that Doctor Zhong, said it was for her own good!

How ridiculous!

Even after taking them, she'd end up like those people outside, half-crazy and incoherent, or in a fully mad state, stabbing glass shards into her own abdomen?

Chiang Qing dared not take them. She couldn't take them. She didn't want to die, not in such a miserable way.

Therefore, she had to act very obedient and quiet to avoid suffering and be able to leave here alive. Once she's out, she would definitely, definitely make all those who sent her here pay with their lives.

However, not taking the medicine couldn't stop the injections from being pushed into her body, which left her in a bit of a daze.

How long has she been here? A month? Two months, or even longer? She couldn't remember.

Why hasn't anyone come to get her out?

Chiang Qing stared blankly at the window, gazing at the crescent moon outside. The cold moonlight cast on her face was ghastly pale and terrifying.

No one would come to get her out, right? Jiang Conghe, he was the one who sent her in here, that old bastard!

She couldn't rely on anyone. She had to rely on herself, only herself!

Chiang Qing gripped the iron bars of the window tightly, grinding her teeth.

Lu Shufen woke up with a start from the sofa. Looking at the empty living room, she felt a sweaty forehead. She just dreamt of Qingqing, Qingqing in a hospital room, gripping the iron window, saying she hated her.

How could this be?

She wanted to call Qingqing. She missed her daughter!

The sound of the door opening came, and voices followed. She turned her head—it was Jiang Conghe, back, talking to Jiang Dafang beside him.

Lu Shufen immediately erupted in anger!

"At this time, what's he doing here?" Lu Shufen pointed at Jiang Dafang and angrily questioned Jiang Conghe.

As soon as she saw Jiang Dafang, she would lose control emotionally, thinking of the deceased ex-wife. This mother and son would always haunt her, making her feel disturbed at the sight.

Because of them, she had suffered so much shame.

Jiang Dafang, seeing this, said, "I should leave now. I'll come to your office tomorrow!"

"Why leave? What time is it now? There's still a lot to discuss with you about the preparations. Stay the night." Jiang Conghe glared at him, then turned a cold eye to Lu Shufen: "This is my home, also Dafang's home. Why can't he come?"

She and her father are becoming more domineering, less and less concerned with him. Despite today's changed circumstances, he wasn't subject to their orders and shouts anymore.

Jiang Dafang kept his composure, with no expression on his face, yet inwardly he was laughing.

The more intense the argument, the better—it could at least soothe his mother's spirit in the heavens.

"Jiang Conghe, when did it become his home? This is our home!" Lu Shufen screamed.

Jiang Conghe shouted, "This is my home. I have the right to decide who stays here. This is my son. He has the right to live here." With that, he said to Jiang Dafang, "Come, let's go upstairs to talk."

Chapter 1250: Gripping His Weakness

Watching Jiang Conghe and his son really look like a father and son, while she herself can't meet her daughter across countries, and it's hard to see Xiao Tian every day, Lu Shufen was filled with anger.

"Don't go!" She grabbed the cushion on the sofa and threw it at Jiang Conghe.

Jiang Dafang immediately blocked it, grabbing the cushion, and said: "Aunt Lu, if you're angry, take it out on me, but Dad is getting on in years, you can't treat him like this."

Jiang Conghe felt comforted inside, after all, his own son knew how to stand up for him.

But Lu Shufen was furious: "Who is your Aunt Lu, you bastard, stop pretending, I could see through your wild ambitions at a glance, everyone knows you came to ruin our family!"

"Shut up!" Jiang Conghe was enraged: "Father-in-law also met Dafang tonight, he also thought Dafang is promising, and allowed him to get involved in some of the Loo Family's business, stop talking nonsense!"

What, Dad met this bastard too and acknowledged him?

Lu Shufen was taken aback, sitting up in a daze.

"We're all family, Dafang hasn't done anything to offend you, why can't you tolerate him? He can still tolerate you all, but you're getting narrower and narrower!" Jiang Conghe snorted.

Lu Shufen felt her mind go blank.

Jiang Conghe was too tired to say more, calling Jiang Dafang to turn and go upstairs.

"Wait." Lu Shufen called again: "Where's Qingqing's phone? Give it to me, I want to talk to her!"

Jiang Conghe and Jiang Dafang's hearts both skipped a beat, turning to look at her, they said: "The hospital she's at is quite strict, why disturb her treatment? I've already talked to her today, she's doing well and asked me to send her regards to you!"

Lu Shufen frowned, feeling vaguely that something was wrong.

"Actually, Aunt Lu, instead of worrying about Chiang Qing, you might want to worry about Chiang Tian. I heard he's been getting too close to a bar girl lately and has offended someone." Jiang Dafang interjected at this moment.

Lu Shufen was taken aback, Xiao Tian offended someone?

"Who did he offend?"

Sure enough, her attention was immediately diverted.

"Who else, if not Young Master Zhou!" Jiang Dafang sneered, signaling to Jiang Conghe to go upstairs.

The two of them went upstairs and closed the study door. Jiang Conghe wiped the sweat off his forehead and said: "Luckily you're quick-witted, otherwise we would have been exposed!"

Jiang Dafang felt the same, saying: "This isn't a solution, we need to keep Aunt Lu busy with something else!"

"Let's not discuss this now, let's talk about the transportation issue, you heard tonight, didn't you, Old Master Loo is not easy to deal with. Whether you can break into this business is a litmus test." Jiang Conghe said.

"Dad, are you really getting personally involved in this business?" Jiang Dafang asked.

Jiang Conghe felt a bit uneasy and said: "Of course not, it's just signing my name on the material list, I don't know anything else."

This old fox!

Jiang Dafang cursed silently and carefully said: "Aren't you afraid the Loo family will set you up? I noticed the way the old man looks at you isn't friendly!"

Jiang Conghe snorted, saying: "They wouldn't dare, I have their pressure points in hand too!" As he said this, he opened a safe in the wall behind him, took out a ledger, and handed it over.

Jiang Dafang opened it, trying hard to hide his inner excitement: "This..."

"All the transactions over the years are in here. Son, to have someone completely loyal to you, you must hold their life at your mercy, so they won't betray you!" Jiang Conghe's eyes flashed with ruthlessness.

Jiang Dafang felt his heart tighten, the enormous amounts seemed to pierce his heart like arrows, making him feel a bit jittery, and he quickly closed it and handed it back.