

The 80s 365

Chapter 365: The Zhong Family's Compensation

Chiang Qing sought out Taiguo to ask for his help as a porter, but Taiguo didn't tell Cheng Su, partly because he felt there was nothing worth mentioning, and partly to avoid unnecessary trouble—his wife was extremely jealous!

As these lower-level nurses moved into the family compound, some changes occurred. There were more people playing matchmaker, all for their own brothers or young soldiers they favored.

Another change He Xing noticed herself was that people who usually chatted with her now seemed to be avoiding her.

Upon inquiring discreetly, He Xing found out that rumors of her having stolen Cheng Su's skirt were spreading within their circle.

This was unacceptable. Once, upon overhearing the gossip about herself, He Xing adamantly denied it aloud, even challenging Cheng Su to produce evidence. Yet, to others, her protests seemed a bit overdone.

Whether her denial was bluster or not, He Xing knew the truth. She didn't dare confront Cheng Su directly because she knew the reality all too well. If Cheng Su were to get tough and bring the shop owner to confront her face to face, she would lose face completely.

Helpless, she could only watch as she was ostracized, filled with regret. Why had she given in to greed and taken that skirt?

Then, a few days later, Taiguo unexpectedly brought back twenty yuan for Cheng Su, saying it was from Platoon Leader Zhong, as compensation for Cheng Su.

Furthermore, Platoon Leader Zhong said He Xing would go down to her hometown for the New Year and not return after the festival; she would stay at home to take care of the elderly and children.

In other words, they weren't letting He Xing come back.

Cheng Su said to Taiguo, "Whether it's Platoon Leader Zhong's decision or not, she wouldn't be able to stay on her own accord. As the saying goes, 'A lie told a thousand times becomes the truth.' With how thick-skinned she is, she might have managed, but Platoon Leader Zhong certainly couldn't bear it."

Whichever husband's wife commits such an act would feel ashamed. Who would want to hear that his wife is a thief, to be pointed at when walking outside? How could that feel good?

As for He Xing's husband, she knew him to be a reserved and shy man, not much of a talker, and seemingly honest. As for matching with He Xing, it was not about whether they were suitable for each other, their personalities complemented each other.

"It's good that she's going back. The compound will be quieter, with less gossip. People used to say she gossiped too much, always saying things about others. Platoon Leader Zhong tried to talk to her about it several times, but she wouldn't listen," Taiguo said, holding a military book, looking somewhat regretful, "Platoon Leader Zhong is honest and upright; it's unfortunate he ended up with such a wife."

Hearing this, Cheng Su turned her head to look at him with a smile that was not quite a smile.

"What's up?" Taiguo felt a bit uneasy when he saw her expression.

"That sounds so familiar. Didn't someone say the same about you back in the day?" Cheng Su teased, raising her eyebrows.

Taiguo coughed, touched his nose, and said ingratiatingly, "Now everyone says that I, Taiguo, am fortunate to have married a wife who can make money and cook delicious meals."

Cheng Su made a dismissive noise, "Don't sweet-talk me; I remember everything."

While speaking, she looked up at the calendar and let out an "Ah!"

Taiguo jumped, "What's wrong?"

"Nothing, just come home early for dinner tomorrow. I'll make something delicious," Cheng Su said with a swift change in her eyes, smiling.

Taiguo was somewhat puzzled but nodded in agreement.