

## The 80s 961

### Chapter 961: Mom Is a Bad Woman

Qi Fenglian was about to leave when Zhang Jisheng and the others came back. As soon as she saw him, Qi Fenglian's eyes turned red with anger and hatred burst forth.

"Fenglian, you're back!" Zhang Jisheng greeted her with a wry smile, his face full of scratches.

Mother Zhang saw Qi Fenglian and felt anger bubbling inside her. She had been kind enough to help her take care of her child, but Qi Fenglian was ungrateful. Just for such a trivial matter, she wanted to divorce her son. What an ungrateful person.

However, it was Zhang Jisheng who was in the wrong first, so Mother Zhang held back her anger and didn't explode, though her gaze was unfriendly.

Qi Fenglian glared fiercely at Zhang Jisheng. Seeing her timid daughter nearby, her heart ached as she called, "Xiao Yun!"

Xiao Yun saw her and hid behind her grandma. She had been listening to Zhang Jisheng these past few days, understanding that if her mom came back, she would take her away, and there would be no more dad.

Qi Fenglian saw her daughter like this, her face changed, and she forced a smile, saying, "Xiao Yun, what's wrong? Don't you recognize mom anymore?"

"You want to take me away," Xiao Yun said in a low voice.

Upon hearing this, Qi Fenglian, without fully understanding, glared at Zhang Jisheng, "What did you say to our daughter? How could you be so heartless!"

Zhang Jisheng's eyes flickered.

Qi Fenglian then looked at her son with her mother-in-law and walked over to untie her carrier.

Mother Zhang instinctively dodged and looked at her warily, "What are you doing?"

Was she really going to take her grandson away?

"I want to see my son and you're not letting me?" Qi Fenglian's hands hit air, and the look she gave Mother Zhang was fierce, as if she were going to devour her.

Mother Zhang said, "You can see him, but you can't take him away."

Qi Fenglian sneered inside, taking Baobao. The child sucked his fingers, staring at her blankly, and she couldn't help but feel a sourness in her heart.

The child was her life; how could she possibly give him up?

Qi Fenglian held the child tightly in her arms and looked at Zhang Jisheng, saying, "Zhang Jisheng, say whatever you want about me outside. We are definitely getting a divorce. I want nothing from this family except for the two children; I must take them both."

"In your dreams!" Mother Zhang shouted, reaching out to grab the child, "You leave and pack your bags; the children are part of the Zhang family, so don't even think about it!"

Qi Fenglian dodged her hand, sneering, "Part of the Zhang family? I thought your daughter's child was more of a Zhang family member. You scoop out my son's formula to feed your grandson; this is what you do for your bloodline? How dare you speak!"

Mother Zhang's face turned red, and she said, "Anyway, you can't take the children away!" She turned to Zhang Jisheng, "Jisheng, what are you doing standing there? Get Xiao Bao back! If anyone takes my eldest grandson, I'll take their life!"

Zhang Jisheng walked over.

Qi Fenglian glared at him, "Zhang Jisheng, don't you dare!"

"Fenglian, isn't it enough that I admit my mistakes? For the sake of the children, can you forgive me this once? I beg you!" Zhang Jisheng knelt down.

"Jisheng, are you crazy, kneeling to her!" Mother Zhang shrieked.

Kneeling to heaven, kneeling to earth, kneeling to parents; Zhang Jisheng, kneeling in front of a woman, is he insane.

"Stay out of this!" Father Zhang pulled Mother Zhang aside, looked around, and picked up a stick to hit Zhang Jisheng, "It's all your fault, you disgrace, what kind of a mess have you made? Ruining the family, I'll beat this wretch to death."

Mother Zhang saw her son being hit and rushed over, "You old fool, why are you beating our son? Are you also going crazy?"

The child was once again frightened by the commotion and started to cry loudly.

The Zhang family descended into chaos, with chickens flying and dogs jumping. Xiao Yun ran up to Qi Fenglian and started hitting her with her little fists, "Boo, boo, mom is a bad woman!"

## Chapter 962: Courting Death

Qi Fenglian could hardly believe her ears, staring blankly at her daughter, not even noticing that her son was taken away by the grandmother. She only looked into her daughter's eyes, which were filled with panic and resentment.

This daughter hated her, hated herself!

Qi Fenglian stepped back in shock, incredulously looking at her, "Xiao Yun, what did you say?"

"You're a bad woman, you want to take my brother and me away and sell us, you're not a good mom!" Xiao Yun said fearfully.

Bang!

Qi Fenglian felt as if something sharp had shattered her heart into pieces, bleeding and hurting so much that she couldn't control herself.

"Who told you such nonsense? Who was it?" Qi Fenglian's voice was sharp as she suddenly looked at Zhang Jisheng and lunged at him, "Zhang Jisheng, you're not human, you bastard, it's not enough to harm me, you have to harm our daughter too, bastard."

She straddled him, scratching wildly. Poor Zhang Jisheng had just gotten some scratches on his face from his mother-in-law, and now Qi Fenglian added a few more, making him cry out in pain.

"Quick, pull her away, get this lunatic off!" Mother Zhang shouted anxiously, calling to the old man.

Father Zhang did not move, only mumbling, "What a sin, a perfectly good family, really a sin!"

There was chaos in the Zhang family, and the situation wasn't good in the Qi family either.

Mother Qi kept cursing, while Father Qi remained silent with a dark face, thinking about how to end this situation.

"... Taiguo said he'll come back to help Fenglian resolve this issue. How are they going to resolve it? Is he really going to help his sister sue the Zhang family and get them a divorce?" Mother Qi said with a terrified face.

"Mom, brother-in-law went too far this time, if they want to divorce, let them divorce, we're not afraid of the Zhang family." Qi Jianguo said angrily.

Mother Qi snapped at him, "What do you, a child, know? Go, go, go study in your room."

Qi Jianguo was sullen at once, while Qi Fengping was doing her nails on the side, glanced at him, and continued humming a song.

"This matter depends on how Fenglian thinks, also consider Taiguo's opinion." Father Qi finally said after a while.

"Do you actually support their divorce?" Mother Qi glared, "Are you crazy? How big can this issue be, if Zhang Jisheng admits his mistakes, that's it. Divorce isn't a joke, I don't agree!"

"If they truly can't live together anymore, forcing them to stay is no different from being enemies. What can you do if you disagree, isn't it the kids who will suffer?" Father Qi glanced at her, displeased.

"This is not a huge issue; what man doesn't make mistakes? Just endure, and it'll pass." Mother Qi said firmly.

Divorcing just because the man went whoring, how can that be such a big deal, divorce is not something pleasant to hear about.

Qi Jianguo suddenly heard crying coming from outside the door, stood up and said, "Dad, Mom, it seems big sister is back!"

Father Qi and the others stood up.

Qi Jianguo was the first to rush out, followed by Father Qi and the others, and as soon as they stepped out, they heard crying; it was indeed Qi Fenglian who had come back.

Qi Fenglian came in, disheveled and dirty, her eyes swollen red, crying. As soon as she saw her parents, she collapsed on the ground, sobbing loudly, "Dad, Mom, the Zhang family is bullying me too much, I can't go on living, I don't want to live anymore!" Saying this, she lowered her head and rushed towards the wall.

Misunderstood by her daughter, bullied by her in-laws, and unable to win her children back, Qi Fenglian felt utterly despondent, thinking that death might release her from it all.

After much difficulty pulling Qi Fenglian away, amid scolding and beating, hearing her broken sobs, Father Qi's voice also trembled as he ordered Qi Jianguo, "Go, call your big brother, ask him to come back and handle this!"

#### Chapter 963: Someone from the Qi Family

Qi Taiguo angrily hung up the phone, his chest heaving, and his face extremely gloomy, the anger emanating from him made Cheng Su feel frightened.

"What did Jianguo say?" Cheng Su patted his back.

"Big sister wants to kill herself." Qi Taiguo uttered a few words.

"What!" Cheng Su was shocked and hurriedly asked, "Is she okay?"

Qi Taiguo shook his head, "She's okay, they stopped her."

"What on earth happened? Why all of a sudden..." Cheng Su breathed a sigh of relief and immediately asked.

"It's the Zhang family!" Qi Taiguo gritted his teeth and said, "They somehow blackened big sister's name in front of Xiao Yun, and Xiao Yun called her mom a bad woman, claiming she's going to sell them off."

Cheng Su let out a curse and angrily said, "Is Zhang Jisheng even human? To say such things, he's worse than an animal."

She had heard of some people speaking ill of their ex-spouses after divorce, even in front of their children, causing the children to be filled with hatred and resentment at a young age, viewing their biological parents like enemies.

Baobao is still young and doesn't understand, but Xiao Yun is almost eleven or twelve, an impressionable age. If they deliberately instigate negativity about Qi Fenglian in front of her, it would definitely shatter the image of her mother in her heart.

And hasn't it worked already?

And for Qi Fenglian, who sees her two children as her life, Xiao Yun saying such things is like stabbing a knife in her heart, isn't it?

The pain that's unbearable in this world is when your own child sees you as an enemy and stabs a knife in your heart with their own hands.

No wonder Qi Fenglian couldn't take it anymore. She's worked so hard all her life for her children, and with Xiao Yun's misunderstanding, she's naturally heartbroken.

Zhang Jisheng, to act like this, is undeserving of being a father!

"I should have killed Zhang Jisheng in the first place!" Qi Taiguo said vehemently.

Cheng Su said, "Don't say things like that, what does the family say?"

"Dad hopes I'll go back and help sort things out. I've already told work I need a few days off to go back. But taking leave this time means I can't take time off to go back for New Year's!" Qi Taiguo said.

"It's okay, this matter with big sister is more important. Should I go back with you tomorrow?" Cheng Su said.

Qi Taiguo thought for a moment and said, "You're good with words. If you're willing to go back, it would be good to go with me and perhaps you could talk some sense into big sister and Xiao Yun."

Cheng Su's emotional intelligence is high, with her persuading Xiao Yun, maybe they could clear up the misunderstanding.

But Qi Taiguo still prioritized her willingness, knowing that since the issue earlier this year, she's kept her distance from the family, especially his mother.

"What do you mean 'willing' or 'unwilling'? Big sister is in trouble, and as her family, of course, we need to support her, or else the Zhang family would think our Qi family has no one!" Cheng Su sneered.

Hearing her refer to them as 'our Qi family,' Qi Taiguo couldn't help but feel a warmth in his heart and said, "Mm, thank you!"

"What's there to thank for? We're not outsiders." Cheng Su glared at him and said, "In my opinion, the Zhang family is good at acting up, especially Old Lady Zhang. You should be mentally prepared. We need to prepare ourselves too, so that the Zhang family has nothing to say."

"Mm!" Qi Taiguo's eyes were deep and serious; to deal with the Zhang family, he needed to employ some tactics.

And what holds the Zhang family back? What's Old Lady Zhang's weakness?

Qi Taiguo's eyes narrowed, and a glint of cold light shot out, so intense it was hard to look at directly.

#### Chapter 964: No Need for Thanks Among Family

Given that it's already the end of the year and the twelfth lunar month, Qi Taiguo taking leave at this time is awkward, and this time, after taking leave for the New Year, he probably won't be able to go back. If Qi Taiguo doesn't go back for the New Year, then I have to consider whether to return for the New Year myself. So, Cheng Su decided to simply take the New Year's gifts and go back.

In a rush, Cheng Su got up early in the morning to go to the city and bought a big pile of New Year's gifts, hurried home to pack, and made phone calls everywhere to arrange matters. When Qi Taiguo returned, the two hurriedly went to the bus station to catch the bus.

Now in the middle of winter, with short days and long nights, by the time they returned to Huangtian Village, it was already completely dark.



Qi Taiguo took all the things, not forgetting to hold Cheng Su's hand, and said, "Be careful, there's snow and ice on the ground; it's very slippery."

Cheng Su looked and indeed saw a thin layer of ice, with the surroundings covered in a blanket of white snow.

"So cold." Cheng Su's teeth chattered, and she hissed, blowing hot air into her hands.

The hometown is colder than Qing City; sitting in the car didn't feel it, but as soon as they got off, the chill came from all directions, making them shiver uncontrollably.

"It might snow soon," Qi Taiguo looked at the sky, pulling her along, "Let's hurry!"

"You're holding so many things, no need to pull me; go ahead, I'll follow behind!" Cheng Su said.

"Then be careful!"

They chatted as they walked forward, and it wasn't long before it started snowing indeed. Passing by some households with dogs, the dogs barked as they walked past.

At the Qi family home, a sense of desolation loomed.

"...Oh, Dad, Big Brother is back!" Qi Fengping jumped up.

Father Qi listened intently and indeed heard Qi Taiguo calling at the door; he quickly stood up, and Mother Qi, with quick steps, had already gone out to open the courtyard door.

With a creak, the door bolt opened, and seeing her eldest son, Mother Qi was overjoyed.

"Mom, we're back!" Qi Taiguo shouted.

"Good, good, come in quickly."

Cheng Su followed behind Qi Taiguo, calling out to Mother Qi, "Mother!"

Mother Qi's smile stiffened, and she said, "Come inside; why so late?"

"A bit of a delay!" Qi Taiguo said as he entered the house.

The family greeted each other upon meeting, and when Father Qi saw Cheng Su had also returned, his smile grew wider, and he repeatedly instructed Qi Fengping to get some hot water for them to wash their faces.

"Is it snowing outside again? Taiguo's wife's face is turning purple from the cold; come over here next to this brazier to warm up." Father Qi pointed to the brazier under the table, where a cloth was wrapped around it, so sitting there, one could warm their hands and feet and definitely not feel cold.

Seeing Cheng Su indeed did not look good, Qi Taiguo's heart ached, and he quickly pushed her over.

Cheng Su herself indeed felt unbearably cold, her hands and feet placed inside the cloth, feeling the warm heat; she finally felt like she was coming back to life—it was really too cold.

"Old lady, make another brazier, put it in Taiguo's room, and also warm their bedding; otherwise, after not sleeping for so long, moisture will accumulate, and it won't be warm!" Father Qi instructed Mother Qi again.

"Need you to say it? I took it out to bake in the sun during the day today." Mother Qi snorted.

Only then did Father Qi smile with satisfaction.

Cheng Su listened and said, "Thank you, Dad, thank you, Mother!"

"Why thank family? Your mother-in-law usually cleans your room too; it's not dirty, rest assured and stay!" Father Qi, intending to create a bond, wanted the daughter-in-law to feel comfortable and said some nice words.

Cheng Su still said thank you.

Mother Qi glanced at her and didn't say anything, only fussing over her son; she managed their room only for her son, not anyone else.

"Where is the big sister?" Qi Taiguo glanced around but didn't see Qi Fenglian.

Chapter 965: I Must Divorce

When Qi Fenglian was mentioned, everyone's smiles disappeared.

"She's been crying and fussing all day, only just fell asleep." Mother Qi gestured towards Qi Fengping's room with her mouth and asked, "Taiguo, is this all true? That scoundrel Zhang Jisheng is really that bad? Fenglian keeps saying she wants a divorce!"

Qi Taiguo's expression turned serious.

"Fenglian herself said it, how can it be false? Stop talking about it now, the kids haven't eaten yet, go and heat up some food for them first," Father Qi instructed, "Fry a few eggs as well."

Only then did Mother Qi remember that Qi Taiguo and the others just got back and hadn't eaten yet. She quickly went to the kitchen to arrange the meal. Her daughter was important, but her son was even more important.

"Dad, I think Eldest Sister is right to choose divorce. Zhang Jisheng is useless; he's just scum. Eldest Sister is still so young, if she continues with him, how will she endure the coming decades?" Qi Taiguo said.

Father Qi said nothing; instead, he took out some tobacco and rolled a cigarette, his movements slow as if pondering something.

Seeing this, Cheng Su understood that the Qi family didn't really support Qi Fenglian's decision to divorce.

Qi Taiguo was no longer the reckless young man he used to be. He had been through battlefields, schemes, and intrigues. He knew that his father had concerns.

"Dad, do you not support Eldest Sister's divorce?" Qi Taiguo asked with a frown.

Father Qi finished rolling his cigarette, licked the end of the paper with his tongue to stick it onto the cigarette, and then took out a match to light it.

After taking a puff, he said, "Divorce isn't as easy as just talking about it. Especially for a woman, especially since your eldest sister has two kids. If she gets divorced, will she get the kids? Even if she does, can the three of them make it? A woman with two kids, life will surely be tough. Does your eldest sister have the temperament for it? How will she manage in the future, can she foresee that?"

Hearing these words, Cheng Su and Qi Taiguo realized Father Qi's concerns; after all the talking, it boiled down to the fear that Qi Fenglian would have no support in future.

"Remarrying with kids is difficult too, but your eldest sister will never abandon her kids. I'm afraid she might regret it later." Father Qi added.

"Dad, I'm not getting married again." Qi Fenglian came out of the room; clearly, she had heard all of Father Qi's earlier words.

"Eldest Sister." Cheng Su stood up to greet her.

"It's really troublesome for you both to come back," Qi Fenglian's eyes reddened when she saw Cheng Su and her younger brother, "It's all my fault for troubling you."

"Eldest Sister, we're all family, why talk like outsiders? We're your family; how can we just stand by and watch you be bullied by your in-laws?" Cheng Su disagreed with her words.

Qi Fenglian wiped away her tears and said, "I remember it!" Then she looked at Father Qi and said, "Dad, I've thought it through. Even if I divorce and take the kids with me, I won't get remarried. Raising the kids till they're grown, I'll have something to rely on. There's no need to look at the Zhang family's faces or be slaved away by them without any gratitude. Anyway, having a husband now feels like not having one, so why continue to wrong myself?"

Father Qi frowned.

"Dad, I must bring the kids back. It's only been a few days, and Xiao Yun's already been taught that way by them. The Zhang family is stabbing me in the heart!" Qi Fenglian cried, "How can such a family be a refuge? It's just a suffocating grave. I must get this divorce."

Mother Qi came in carrying the food, almost dropping the tray when she heard these words.

#### Chapter 966: The Jinx Has Arrived

This night, the lights of the Qi family stayed on until late at night, as the family discussed Qi Fenglian's matter, reaching a unanimous decision: to divorce and fight for custody of the child.

Cheng Su had been on the road for most of the day, and after joining the discussion, she was already exhausted and sleepy. It was a relief to have settled the matter, she washed up, and fell asleep as soon as she got into bed.

Qi Taiguo felt a pang of distress as he watched her, and he lay down beside her, covering her with a thick cotton quilt; although Cheng Su's body was still cold, in her sleep, she sensed the warmth and moved closer.

That warmth came from Qi Taiguo, the human furnace.

Knowing she was sensitive to cold, Qi Taiguo embraced her, still pondering over Qi Fenglian's situation, and eventually fell asleep.

The next day, after breakfast, the whole family was ready to accompany Qi Fenglian to her in-laws' to discuss the divorce matter.

An impressive entourage arrived at Gaotian Village where the Zhang family lived, and seeing Qi Taiguo with a face colder than a killing god, they instinctively shrank back.

Some remembered what Zhang Jisheng had said before and knew that there would be excitement at the Zhang family, so they flocked over.

Early in the morning, Zhang Jisheng woke up feeling his eyelids twitching violently, filled with unease, as if something was about to happen.

Soon, he understood why he felt uneasy!

They came! Qi Taiguo, the star of calamity, had arrived!

When Zhang Jisheng saw Qi Taiguo, his face turned even paler, his legs weakened, trembling, he subconsciously touched his neck, as if recalling a nightmare.

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Both Father Zhang and Mother Zhang were at home, and upon seeing the entourage of in-laws, their brows furrowed.

"Where are my daughter and son!" Qi Fenglian stepped forward and asked Zhang Jisheng.

He didn't reply, so Qi Fenglian went straight into the house to search.

"What are you doing, what are you doing?" Mother Zhang was the first to shout.

Qi Taiguo kicked a small stool blocking his path, that solid wooden stool was kicked away to bounce against the wall before crashing down, immediately shattering into pieces.

The expressions of the Zhang family changed.

"Brother, you..." Father Zhang stepped forward, enduring fear.

Qi Taiguo didn't even look at him but glanced at Cheng Su, saying, "Go help big sister pack."

Cheng Su nodded and entered the house.

"What are you trying to do?" Mother Zhang screamed sharply.

"Zhang Jisheng, do you remember what I told you before? You haven't forgotten what you've done, right? This is the divorce agreement, sign it, and we can all live peacefully from now on." Qi Taiguo coldly said to Zhang Jisheng, throwing out a piece of paper.

Divorce!

Zhang Jisheng's face turned deathly pale, his legs gave way, and he fell to his knees, trembling lips unable to speak.

Seeing this, Father Zhang approached Qi's father, taking out a cigarette: "In-laws, we're all family here, if there's a misunderstanding, can't we just talk it out? Why make such a scene? Think about the two children's faces. Whatever demands you have, just bring them up, and we'll do our best. Jisheng, come here!"

With a pale face, Zhang Jisheng glanced at Qi Taiguo, and tremblingly kneeled towards Father Qi, saying: "Father-in-law, I, I am sorry."

Father Qi sighed inwardly and said, "Jisheng, you've made mistakes, and grave ones. It's said that it's better to meet and part on good terms; since it can't work out, don't force it. Even if you and Fenglian

can't be husband and wife, with the children involved, you will always be their father. Later, if you want to see the children, you'll be able to come."

Upon hearing this, Zhang Jisheng and his family knew things were bad; the Qi family was determined to help Qi Fenglian break away from the Zhang family.

"Grandson, Baobao, what are you doing? Old man, Jisheng, come quickly, the children are being taken!" screamed Mother Zhang.

#### Chapter 967: Bullying the Weak Right Before Your Eyes

With a loud scream from Mother Zhang, everyone looked over, and it turned out that Qi Fenglian was already coming out with Baobao in her arms, followed by Cheng Su holding Xiao Yun.

Nobody knew what Cheng Su had said to Xiao Yun, but at this moment, Xiao Yun was very quiet, her lips tightly pressed together, and tears welling up in her eyes.

Mother Zhang rushed forward, ready to snatch the child from Qi Fenglian's arms, crying out, "You slut, put my eldest grandson down, you're not allowed to touch my eldest grandson!"

Qi Fenglian turned to dodge.

Qi Taiguo was already standing in front of Qi Fenglian, glaring fiercely with a menacing aura, "I dare you!"

Mother Zhang turned pale with fright, then looked at Xiao Yun, saying, "Xiao Yun, come here, come here, your mother is crazy, she's not a good woman."

"Shut up!" Cheng Su scolded, "Is that how you talk to a child? What are you trying to mislead the child into thinking? It's really absurd."

She squatted down again, brushed back Xiao Yun's hair, and said, "Xiao Yun, good child, you must remember, the person in the world who loves you most is your mother. She would risk her life for you



and your sibling. Xiao Yun, you are an understanding child, don't you remember how your mother used to behave?"

Xiao Yun seemed half-understanding, looking at her, then at Qi Fenglian, seeing her mother nodding at her with gentle eyes, she looked again at her grandmother.

At this moment, Mother Zhang's gaze was as if it had been poisoned, scaring Xiao Yun to hide behind Cheng Su.

Cheng Su smiled faintly.

Mother Zhang simply sat on the ground, slapping her thighs and acting up, "Someone, come quickly, someone is trying to take my child! Oh dear, an official thinks he's something, just because he's an official he thinks he can snatch other people's grandchildren and tear families apart!"

Qi Taiguo's temple veins bulged, his eyes glaring at Mother Zhang as if he wanted to eat her alive.

The villagers surrounded the Zhang family to watch the commotion.

"In-law, do you really want to carry on like this?" Father Zhang's face was livid.

Father Qi glanced at Zhang Jisheng, who was looking down with a drooped head, and said, "A melon forced off its vine is not sweet."

"Jisheng already knows his mistake, won't you even give him one chance?" Father Zhang exhaled deeply, then said, "If you are determined to divorce, fine. But the child cannot be taken; the child must stay with the Zhang family."

"On what grounds?" Qi Taiguo said coldly after hearing this, "What qualifications does your Zhang family have to raise a child? What qualifications does Zhang Jisheng have to be a father? What ability does he have to parent?"

Father Zhang pressed his lips together, "The child has the Zhang surname, whether there are qualifications or not, it's not for you to decide. You're the elder brother-in-law, indeed you're an official, but this is a matter of the Zhang family!"

Qi Taiguo sneered, "The Zhang family matters I certainly will not interfere with, but I do care about Qi Fenglian's matters. Are you determined to keep the child? Then let a judge decide!"

Father Zhang's face changed, and before he could speak, Qi Taiguo continued, "I wonder if the judge will award the child to a father who is jobless, lacks virtue, and has criminal conduct!"

As he spoke, his gaze glared over at Zhang Jisheng.

Zhang Jisheng's body shuddered, not daring to lift his head.

Mother Zhang wailed even louder, talking about the strong oppressing the weak, hearing this, Qi Taiguo kicked a plate of clothes flying, walked over to Mother Zhang, and squatted down.

"You, what do you want to do?" Mother Zhang trembled, not daring to meet Qi Taiguo's eyes.

"Isn't Zhang Jiguang a teacher at school? Doesn't your son-in-law run a shop? You say I bully the weak, fine, do you believe I can make Zhang Jiguang no longer a teacher, make your son-in-law unable to do business? Make your daughter-in-law get out of the supply and marketing cooperative!" Qi Taiguo said ominously.

If they accuse him of bullying, then he'll show them what bullying means!

"You, you..." Mother Zhang looked at him in terror, not daring to curse anymore.

## Chapter 968: Resolute

To deal with someone, you must first know their weaknesses, and Mother Zhang's weakness is her youngest son, Zhang Jiguang, and her daughter, Zhenzhu, something Qi Taiguo had long learned from Qi Fenglian.

Mother Zhang is biased, always favoring her youngest son and them.

So he seized on her weak point, her vulnerability, willing to attack this woman with children for the sake of his elder sister.

Call him cold-blooded, call him despicable, shameless, that's right, he is despicable, but he's only doing it for his family, nothing more.

For his family, he is willing to do anything.

Upon hearing Qi Taiguo's threat, Mother Zhang didn't dare make a sound. Who weighs more in her heart, her eldest son or her youngest, she knows well.

Is it worth destroying her youngest son's future entirely for the sake of her eldest son?

Mother Zhang didn't dare to gamble. She knows that the person before her would do as he says because Qi Taiguo has already become a high-ranking official, whereas the Zhang family has nothing at all.

Mother Zhang couldn't wait any longer.

Qi Taiguo was satisfied, but he also felt a somber pity for Zhang Jisheng and for his elder sister.

He knew the old folks in this family were biased, but he didn't know they could be biased to this extent; at critical moments, they were always the ones who got abandoned.

"Zhang Jisheng, we have been husband and wife, I will take good care of the child and won't stop you from seeing him, take care of yourself." Qi Fenglian hugged her son tightly, looking at Zhang Jisheng with a calm face.

Zhang Jisheng rushed forward, knelt in front of her, and pleaded bitterly, "Fenglian, don't go, I beg you not to go. You've said it too, we've been married for over ten years, can you really bear to do this? I

made a mistake just once, only once, and you're so heartless not to give me a chance? Fenglian, I beg you, I will change, I'll never dare again."

Qi Fenglian's tears flowed down, and she said, "It's not because you made this one mistake, but because you lack the responsibility of a man. Over the years, I've persevered with you for so long, but to this day, I still don't see any hope; Zhang Jisheng, it's not because of your mistake that I want a divorce, but because I see no hope. I am deeply disappointed in you."

Indeed, maybe what he did wasn't such a big deal—she bit her lip, perhaps she could bear it and get through it—but the real reason she wanted a divorce was because there was no hope, only deep despair.

"Fenglian, I will change. Whatever you ask of me, I will do it. I will change." Zhang Jisheng started crying and, seeing his daughter, quickly said, "Yunyun, hurry, beg your mom not to leave; otherwise, you won't have a dad!"

Xiao Yun suddenly started crying, and Cheng Su quickly held her and comforted her in his arms.

Qi Fenglian was quite disappointed; even at this moment, he still wanted to use the child.

"Let's go!" Qi Fenglian resolutely turned and left.

Cheng Su followed closely behind.

"Once you've read this agreement, just sign it, and go to the civil affairs bureau in the next two days to complete the procedures," Qi Taiguo coldly looked at Zhang Jisheng.

Zhang Jisheng blankly watched as Qi Fenglian walked farther and farther away, and shouted, "Qi Fenglian!" However, that person didn't turn back, and he couldn't help but burst into tears.

The onlookers watched the drama unfold, unable to hold back their murmurs, saying things like it's too ruthless, too harsh.

Qi Taiguo swept a cold gaze over, then followed after Qi Fenglian and the others.

As soon as they left, Mother Zhang called out, "Let her go, let her leave. She's taking two burdens with her, I wonder who will want her in the future. Jisheng, don't cry, later on, your mother will find you another wife, and have ten or eight grandchildren for you. What man is afraid of not finding a wife?" Yet how her words sounded so strong yet weak.

"Shut your mouth and go inside, haven't we lost enough face already?" Father Zhang, with a dark face, pulled Mother Zhang and the others into the house,

#### Chapter 969: The Ones Suffering Are the Children

Qi Fenglian cried all the way back to the Qi family. From this point on, when she completely cut ties with her husband's family, she became a person without roots. From now on, she truly could only rely on herself.

Mother Qi naturally sighed continuously, holding Xiao Bao and scolding her: "What's the use of crying? Who told you to leave, it was you who wanted to act up. Getting a divorce, it's the children who are wronged, and it's the children who suffer. What are you going to do with the two kids in the future?"

Xiao Yun leaned next to Cheng Su with a face full of panic, pressing her lips together without speaking.

Seeing this broke Cheng Su's heart. Mother Qi had a point; when adults divorce, it's the children who suffer, it's the children who endure the hardship. That's why many people compromise for the sake of the children, even if it means arguing for a lifetime, living together for a lifetime, still not separating for the children's sake.

Cheng Su went to Mother Qi to take Xiao Bao, then pulled up Xiao Yun, bringing them both into her own room.

She pulled out a bag of candy and stuffed it into Xiao Yun's hand, saying, "Xiao Yun, Aunt bought these especially for you, why don't you try them and see if they're good?"

Xiao Yun obediently sat on the bed, lowering her head and pressing her lips together without moving.

"What's wrong? Doesn't Xiao Yun like candy?" Cheng Su asked with a gentle smile.

Only then did Xiao Yun raise her head. The little girl's eyes were filled with tears as she looked at Cheng Su with tearful eyes and asked, "Aunt, grandma and dad say mom is a bad woman, is she? Will she not want Xiao Yun and brother, will she sell us?"

Upon hearing this, Cheng Su cursed Old Lady Zhang and Zhang Jisheng half to death in her heart. People who say such things aren't good people.

"Of course not. Xiao Yun and your brother are so lovely and well-behaved, how could mom bear to leave you? You see, isn't she bringing you back to grandpa and grandma?" Cheng Su said.

"Then why do they say that about my mom?" Xiao Yun asked again.

Cheng Su thought for a moment and then said, "In the world of adults, there are always lots of complicated matters that children don't understand. They slander Xiao Yun's mom because of their malice. Xiao Yun needs to know what's right and wrong, and learn to discern whether what grandma and dad say is true. When they say such things, you have to think, is mom really like that? How did mom treat you and your brother before? Then you'll know if what they're saying is right!"

Xiao Yun bit her lip, thinking for a while, "Then, are they really getting a divorce?"

"Does Xiao Yun not want mom and dad to divorce?"

Xiao Yun nodded and said, "There's a classmate in our class whose mom and dad also got divorced, and everyone says her mom doesn't want her anymore."

"Xiao Yun's mom would never not want you. Your mom and dad are getting a divorce because they don't love each other anymore, but even if they're divorced, they'll always be your and your brother's parents." Cheng Su said softly.

"But we won't be able to live together anymore." As Xiao Yun spoke, tears started to fall again.

Cheng Su hugged her with a broken heart, saying, "Just because you won't be living together doesn't mean you won't see them anymore. You and your brother will always be precious to them!"

"Aunt, I'm scared." Xiao Yun leaned into Cheng Su's arms.

"Don't be scared. Xiao Yun has many people who love you, like your mom, your uncle, your aunt, and your grandparents, among others." Cheng Su comforted her, but her heart felt deeply sour.

The divorce of a couple is highly damaging to children, especially for children at this age, who are most sensitive. A little carelessness or lack of love can make the child develop a sense of inferiority by themselves.

Qi Fenglian stood inside the room, listening to Cheng Su comforting Xiao Yun. Tears flowed down her face as she slid down the wall and sat on the ground, covering her face and crying silently.

#### Chapter 970: Don't Interfere

To comfort the two children and avoid making them feel more sorrowful due to the atmosphere at home, Cheng Su intentionally took Xiao Yun back to her parents' home, and also delivered some holiday gifts.

Father Cheng and Mother Cheng were very surprised to see her return. It wasn't even the New Year, so why was she back at this time?

After hearing Cheng Su explain the situation, both of them sighed heavily.

"Your older sister, always has been a woman who has faced a hard fate. We knew she had a difficult life with her in-laws. We didn't expect she'd actually divorce!" Mother Cheng sighed.

"It's an accumulation of grievances over the years, erupting all at once," Cheng Su said quietly.

Qi Fenglian's repeated disappointments had finally built up into despair, leading her to make this firm decision.

"Have they gone through the procedures already?" Father Cheng asked.

Cheng Su shook her head and said, "Not yet."

"So, there's still room for turning back?" Mother Cheng gestured towards Xiao Yun playing in the courtyard and said, "After all, there's a child involved."

"Who knows? As long as the procedures aren't completed, things can change any day," Cheng Su shrugged and said, "Even if the procedures are done, people's hearts can soften and things may change in the future."

Qi Fenglian is quite resolute now, but whether she'll soften in the future, Cheng Su doesn't know. It will be up to her to decide how she wants to proceed later. After a divorce, remarrying is still possible.

"Whatever they decide to do, don't get involved. Let them make their choices themselves," Father Cheng reminded her with a frown.

"Exactly, otherwise you'll regret it later and they might say it was you who instigated it. It's fine for Taiguo as her biological brother, but you're just a sister-in-law, and there's always that barrier. Don't give them any leverage," Mother Cheng also realized and was afraid her daughter would suffer in the future.

"Dad, Mom, I understand," Cheng Su nodded with a smile and added that she would visit her third uncle's house to deliver some holiday gifts. "Since I'm back this time, I don't know if Taiguo will have time to return for New Year. If he doesn't come back, I don't plan to return either. So, I'm taking this opportunity to deliver some New Year gifts."

"Even if he doesn't return, you can still go back. You are the eldest daughter-in-law of the Qi family, and you need to learn the family rituals and such. You can't not return," Mother Cheng disagreed.



"Alright, let the couple decide these things," Father Cheng said.

"Well..." Mother Cheng wanted to say something, but was silenced by a glare from Father Cheng and said no more.

After Cheng Su went to her third uncle's house with the holiday gifts, Mother Cheng started complaining, "It's fine if she doesn't come back usually, but not returning for the New Year and holidays, what will people say about her? Taiguo as a son doesn't matter, but as a daughter-in-law, it's difficult. And you're still defending her, hmph!"

"Didn't you notice her attitude? Clearly, she prefers to keep her in-laws at a distance. Besides, when you're married, of course, your husband comes first. If her husband is on duty for New Year, as his wife, she should be with him. Otherwise, how will they manage daily life? Everything she said was reasonable!" Father Cheng was unbothered by others' opinions.

"You're just arguing for the sake of it. I can't be bothered with you." Mother Cheng was rendered speechless by his words and turned away to handle the New Year gifts their daughter had brought back.

Cheng Su stayed at her third uncle's house for a while and then came back, not even staying to have a meal at her parents' place. Before leaving, she handed her father two hundred yuan, suggesting they should also have a phone line installed at home.

"My mother-in-law's family has already got one, making communication easier. Dad, you should get one too. That way, if there's anything, you can call me, and I can call back. We won't always have to rely on others to pass on messages, which is such a hassle!" Cheng Su said.

Father Cheng agreed it was indeed troublesome. He had wanted to do so for a while, and seeing what Cheng Su suggested, he immediately decided to arrange for a phone line installation the next day.