

The Hunter 761

Chapter 761: Greed

Unlike Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran, Li Yan, who was in the capital, was in a desperate situation.

Li Yan thought that after Pei Xuanxin entered school, she would be one step closer to the rich life she dreamed of.

However, after living in the capital for a while, Li Yan realized that she was wrong.

Although Pei Xuanxin brought back his salary every month, this salary couldn't support her expenses at all.

She couldn't even afford a beautiful silver hairpin. She could only return the silver hairpin to the shopkeeper reluctantly.

What made Li Yan even more desperate was that in the beginning, Pei Xuanxin would give her his salary and let her take care of everything at home.

However, Pei Xuanxin's salary was quickly spent. When the family really needed money, they couldn't take out any money.

In a fit of anger, Pei Xuanxin put away his monthly salary himself. Every day, he only gave Li Yan the money for buying groceries.

Li Yan was very annoyed.

She didn't want to cook or sweep the courtyard.

Li Yan couldn't understand why Li Xiaoran could live a good life and become a noble after marrying Pei Xuanxin.

But why was it different after she married Pei Xuanxin?

What had gone wrong?

Just as Li Yan was feeling puzzled, she saw a servant pacing in front of her house.

"Who are you looking for?" Li Yan walked forward and asked.

"Excuse me, is this Pei Xuanxin's family?"

Li Yan nodded and replied, "That's right. This is Pei Xuanxin's family. I wonder why you're looking for my husband?"

As soon as he heard Li Yan call Pei Xuanxin her husband, the servant quickly placed the basket in front of him in Li Yan's hand.

"Madam Pei, my master asked me to give this to Mr. Pei! Please accept it!" With that, the servant put down the things and ran away.

Li Yan was about to ask when her gaze landed on the basket.

After picking up the basket, Li Yan felt the heavy weight in her hand.

No matter what was inside, Li Yan felt that she had profited.

Li Yan quickly picked up the basket, opened the door, and went home.

As soon as she closed the door, Li Yan eagerly pulled open the cloth covering the basket.

The golden ingots stunned Li Yan.

To be honest, she had never seen so many gold ingots in her life!

Overjoyed, Li Yan quickly covered the golden ingots with the cloth cautiously.

After looking around and making sure that no one saw her, Li Yan carried the basket into the house with a smile.

Mrs. Pei had recovered a lot, but she could only walk around the courtyard for the time being.

Seeing Li Yan return with two baskets, Mrs. Pei couldn't help but say, "Daughter-in-law, our family isn't very rich now, so we should save as much money as we can!"

Mrs. Pei had some objections about Li Yan!

Most women tidied up the home so that her man could work without worries.

However, Li Yan, who came from the countryside, didn't act like someone from the countryside at all.

She wasn't thrifty. Instead, she caused trouble all day long.

Seeing her argue with her son over money all day long, Mrs. Pei started to dislike her daughter-in-law.

Although Mrs. Pei was very grateful to Li Yan for marrying her son when he was down and out, why did their life change after that?

If she had known that Li Yan was so lazy and spendthrift, she wouldn't have let her son marry her back then.

Mrs. Pei didn't want her son to feel upset, so she gave advice to Li Yan occasionally, but she didn't dare to be too harsh, for fear that her daughter-in-law would cause trouble again.

With the gold ingots in her hand, Li Yan was in a good mood.

"Mother-in-law, don't worry! Our family's life will get better and better in the future! I'll cut some meat later! Now, I'm gonna go buy meat!"

"You want to buy meat?! Do you have enough money?" Mrs. Pei asked hesitantly.

"Mother-in-law, my husband leaves early and comes back late all day. He's already so tired that he's lost weight. No matter what, he has to nourish his body!" Li Yan said with a smile.

Mrs. Pei felt sorry for her son, so when she heard Li Yan's words, she didn't object anymore.

"Alright, take the money and buy some meat!"

With Mrs. Pei's permission, Li Yan carried the basket into the house happily.

Because there were a lot of gold ingots in the basket, Li Yan looked around. After confirming that no one was following her, she carried the basket containing the gold ingots to the room where she and Pei Xuanxin lived.

After closing the door and window, Li Yan lifted the cloth over the basket.

Previously, she had only taken a cursory look. Now, Li Yan held every ingot of gold in her hand and weighed them.

Afraid that these gold ingots were all fake, Li Yan even took a bite of them.

As expected, it was soft. It must be authentic gold ingots.

After confirming this, Li Yan smiled.

Previously, she was worried about what to do if she didn't have any silver in her hand, but in the blink of an eye, someone came and stuffed a basket of gold ingots to her.

The heavens had helped her achieve her wish.

Li Yan wrapped these gold ingots in cloth happily and wandered around the house.

She had to find a safe place to hide the gold ingots.

After thinking about it, Li Yan simply took out a small crock and placed the gold ingot in it.

After that, Li Yan packed some sand in the crock, buried the gold ingot, and placed it under the bed.

After doing all this, Li Yan left with the money in satisfaction.

There was still a lot of money left from helping the young masters of those two rich families, so Li Yan didn't use the gold ingots. Instead, she went to buy things with the leftover money in her hand.

This action saved Li Yan from a crisis.

When Pei Xuanxin returned, he smelled the aroma of meat.

When he walked in, he saw his mother resting in the courtyard with her eyes closed.

“Mother, did Yan'er buy meat today? Where did she get the money from?”

Mrs. Pei said, “I don't know! Something good might have happened today! I saw my daughter-in-law smiling when she came back from buying groceries. Later, she even said that she wanted to nourish your body, so she ran out to buy a large piece of meat! ”

Pei Xuanxin felt that this matter had happened too suddenly.. This wasn't like

Li Yan at all!

Chapter 762: Abnormality

There must be something fishy about this. Recalling what Li Yan had done in the past, Pei Xuanxin became vigilant.

However, this time, Li Yan hid the gold ingot very well. Moreover, she didn't show any abnormality in the next few days, so Pei Xuanxin didn't find anything unusual.

Later on, after Pei Xuanxin became busy with work, he couldn't care less about this matter.

Unfortunately, that slight negligence caused him a lot of trouble.

At first, Li Yan was very careful.

She didn't dare to tell Pei Xuanxin about the gold ingots, but she was also worried that the person who gave her the money would find Pei Xuanxin and tell him about this.

Li Yan had already made up her mind. As long as Pei Xuanxin asked about this, she would say that she didn't know.

Anyway, no one had seen the servant give her the basket.

To be on the safe side, Li Yan took out the basket and cloth containing the gold ingots and secretly burned them in the stove.

Since Pei Xuanxin didn't ask about this, as time passed, Li Yan relaxed.

When she thought that it was safe enough, she began to think about the gold ingots.

After they arrived in the capital, the house they lived in was rented. It was small and inconvenient.

However, Pei Xuanxin's previous salary could barely support them, so it was impossible for them to change to a bigger house.

Now that Li Yan had gold ingots, she wanted to live in a better place.

However, it would be difficult for her to explain the source of this money.

In the end, greed overcame her rationality. Li Yan felt that she should buy a house and live in it herself.

In the future, even if Pei Xuanxin discovered that she had taken the gold ingots and abandoned her, she could have her own place to stay.

The more she thought about it, the more Li Yan felt that this was feasible. Therefore, when she went out to buy groceries every day, she secretly searched for a house to buy.

Li Yan really found a place.

It was said that this house had been bought by a businessman.

The businessman had spent a lot of money to repair it, but before he could move in, something unexpected happened, so he could only sell the property to pay off his debts.

Li Yan happened to come over and bumped into the seller. Then, she bought this house through the broker.

After getting the key, Li Yan bought a new lock and changed out of the old one.

After that, Li Yan walked to her house with a happy expression.

Now, she had a house in the capital!

The next step was to buy fields or farmsteads, or buy a shop to do business.

It had to be said that during this period of time in the capital, Li Yan had broadened her horizons. Therefore, after she obtained money, she planned to buy some shops and farmsteads as well. When the broker heard that Li Yan wanted to buy a farmstead and shop as well, he immediately became enthusiastic.

For the next few days, Li Yan spent a lot of money and bought many shops and a farmstead. Because she didn't know how to run it, the shop was rented out.

As for that farmstead, after she bought it, she would let the farmstead continue to be managed by the same people. She just needed to go over and take a look from time to time.

Li Yan did these things behind Pei Xuanxin's back.

However, there was no such thing as an airtight wall in this world!

Li Yan's every move had been seen by many people.

One day, when Pei Xuanxin went to work, he was called aside by a colleague.

"Pei Xuanxin, I think you're a down-to-earth person, so go back and investigate where your wife got the money to buy a house, shop, and farmstead. If you don't figure this out, I'm afraid you'll be in trouble!" Pei Xuanxin was shocked when he heard his colleague's words.

"Brother Yuan, what do you mean? Please enlighten me!"

Seeing that Pei Xuanxin was at a loss, his colleague lowered his voice and brought him to the side.

"Let me ask you, has anyone come to your house to send you anything since you took office?"

"No! No one has looked for me. No one has sent me anything!" Pei Xuanxin said.

"Don't answer with such certainty. Go back and ask your family! Hurry up and return anything they accepted! The capital is full of schemes. If you don't even know who the other party is, but you dared to accept his things, you won't even know how you died in the future!" The colleague reminded, "Even if you didn't accept it, your wife might have accepted it! Otherwise, where did your wife get the money to buy a house, shop, and farm?! Hurry up and go back to investigate!"

When Pei Xuanxin heard his colleague's words, his heart skipped a beat and he had a bad feeling.

At this moment, Pei Xuanxin could no longer sit still. He cupped his hands and thanked his colleague before rushing home.

As Pei Xuanxin's colleague watched Pei Xuanxin leave, he shook his head.

"She has probably accepted their money already! Sigh, a good official is ruined now! Therefore, one should always marry a virtuous wife!"

Pei Xuanxin rushed home, but Li Yan wasn't at home at all.

Pei Xuanxin poured himself a cup of tea to calm down before going to see his mother.

“Mother, has anyone come to our house recently and given us any gifts?” Pei Xuanxin asked softly.

Mrs. Pei shook her head when she heard Pei Xuanxin’s words.

“I’ve been sitting at home. No one has come to visit, let alone given us gifts!

Son, what happened?”

When Pei Xuanxin heard that his mother hadn’t received anything, he immediately heaved a sigh of relief.

“What about Li Yan?” Pei Xuanxin recalled his colleague’s words and asked again, “Did Li Yan accept anything?”

When Mrs. Pei heard her son’s words, she pondered over it carefully.

“I don’t know! My daughter-in-law has been very secretive recently. She goes out to buy groceries for the entire morning and stays out in the afternoon. I often can’t find her!”

At this point, Mrs. Pei suddenly thought of something.

“Son, by the way, do you remember the time when my daughter-in-law suddenly bought a lot of meat to eat? That day, my daughter-in-law clearly only brought one basket out, but she brought two back. Later on, she ran out to buy a lot of meat. I thought we had two baskets at home, but when I went to look for the baskets later, I only saw one. I don’t know where the other basket went!”

“Later, I asked my daughter-in-law, and she said that the basket was broken, so she burned it! At that time, I felt that something was wrong.. We had just bought the basket, so how could it be broken?!”

Chapter 763: Parting Ways

Upon hearing his mother’s words, Pei Xuanxin became more and more suspicious.

“Then where did Li Yan go today?”

Mrs. Pei said, “I don’t know. She said that she went out to see if she could find any work. It’s been four hours since she went out. I wonder if she can find a job or not!”

Pei Xuanxin’s heart sank even more, making him feel suffocated.

Pei Xuanxin planned to ask the brokerage.

If Li Yan wanted to buy a house or shop, she would definitely look for a broker.

He only needed to ask the broker. Then, everything would be clear.

With this in mind, Pei Xuanxin rushed to the dental shop.

When Pei Xuanxin came out of the brokerage again, his expression was very gloomy.

Although Li Yan didn't reveal her identity, the broker had investigated Li Yan's identity.

Therefore, as soon as Pei Xuanxin entered and revealed his identity, someone immediately answered everything he asked.

At this moment, Pei Xuanxin realized that Li Yan had actually done so many things behind his back.

After returning home, Pei Xuanxin sat in the courtyard and thought about it calmly.

After Li Yan returned from her shop, she saw Pei Xuanxin sitting in the courtyard. Her legs immediately went limp and she walked over guiltily. "Why are you back so early today, husband?"

"If I hadn't come back so early, I really wouldn't have known that you were even busier than me," Pei Xuanxin said.

When Li Yan heard that it was because of this, she immediately smiled awkwardly.

"I just want to go out and see if there's anything I can do to earn some money to supplement the family's expenses!"

Pei Xuanxin turned around and looked at Li Yan.

Pei Xuanxin could see what was wrong.

He and his mother didn't look very healthy.

On the other hand, Li Yan was glowing and radiant. From the looks of it, she was eating well and living a comfortable life.

They were all family, so why was there such a big difference?

One had to know that before this, Li Yan was the same as them. Why did she seem to have changed so much in such a short time?

However, the house, shop, and farmstead Li Yan had bought were worth a lot of money.

Where did Li Yan get so much money from?

Could it be from someone else?

For some reason, Pei Xuanxin remembered what his mother had said previously.

"What was in the basket you collected?" Pei Xuanxin suddenly asked.

When Li Yan heard Pei Xuanxin's words, she subconsciously replied, "Gold ingots!"

As soon as he said this, Li Yan immediately reacted and her eyes widened as she looked at Pei Xuanxin.

"No, no, they were just veggies!"

Pei Xuanxin sneered when he heard this.

“Gold ingots? A basket of gold ingots seems to be a lot!”

When Li Yan heard Pei Xuanxin’s words, she immediately panicked.

“Husband, listen to my explanation!”

“Then explain!” Pei Xuanxin said coldly.

For some reason, when he saw Li Yan’s face, Pei Xuanxin thought of Li Xiaoran, whom he had once seen.

At this moment, he was even thinking that if he had married Li Xiaoran instead of Li Yan, such a thing definitely wouldn’t have happened.

“Husband, I didn’t want to hide it from you. I was just afraid that you would criticize me. After I accepted it, I realized that it was filled with gold ingots. I wanted to return it, but I couldn’t find that person anymore! Later, I became greedy, so I took these things for myself!” Li Yan explained. “Where are the gold ingots?” Pei Xuanxin asked again.

As soon as he said this, Li Yan frowned.

“I spent them all. I bought a lot of shops and farmsteads. There’s none left!”

“You only bought shops and a farmstead?” Pei Xuanxin sneered when he heard Li Yan’s words.

At this point, Li Yan still wanted to hide it from him.

“You only bought shops and a farmstead? You didn’t buy a house?”

When Li Yan heard Pei Xuanxin’s words, she immediately had a bad feeling.

However, she still wanted to deny it, so she nodded. “Yes, I only bought shops and a farmstead!”

“Li Yan, do I give you the feeling that I’m very stupid and easy to fool? Do you know how much trouble these gold ingots will cause me? You didn’t even tell me that you were collecting things behind my back. You bought a house outside, but you still lied to me. What are you doing? Are you preparing to kick me and my mother away so that you can live your own life?” Pei Xuanxin mocked.

When Li Yan heard Pei Xuanxin’s words, her mind buzzed.

Pei Xuanxin knew about her buying a house.

Or could it be that he actually didn’t know at all?

At this moment, Li Yan’s mind was filled with this matter and she didn’t notice that Pei Xuanxin’s expression was turning darker and darker.

Seeing that Li Yan was still hiding it from him and didn’t want to confess, Pei Xuanxin was immediately disappointed.

What kind of wife had he married?

Why was Li Yan's initial beautiful appearance getting more and more blurry? In its place, there was a scheming and mean woman.

"Li Yan, do you think you can still hide it from me? Hurry up and take out what you collected. Where did you hide those gold ingots? Hurry up and find them!" Pei Xuanxin said coldly.

Upon hearing Pei Xuanxin's words, Li Yan bit her lip indignantly.

"Why should I take it out? That's my money! Let me tell you, Pei Xuanxin, this money is my own money. Don't even think about taking it back! These gold ingots were given to me by someone!"

When Pei Xuanxin heard this, he was immediately amused.

"You think these gold ingots are for you?"

Li Yan said righteously, "That's right. Since it was delivered to me personally, it's a gift! This is my own dowry. It has nothing to do with you! I can spend my own money however I want!"

When Pei Xuanxin heard this, he immediately sneered. Suddenly, an idea popped up in his mind.

"Since you value this money so much, live your own life! I'll give you a divorce letter now! From now on, we'll go our separate ways!"

Li Yan was furious and shouted, "So be it! Do you really think I was willing to marry you? If I hadn't married you back then, I would have been the consort today!"

"Alright, I'll give you back your freedom now and see if you can become the consort!" Pei Xuanxin sneered and stood up to go to the study.

Soon, the divorce letter was written.

Before the government office closed, Pei Xuanxin called Li Yan to the government office to file a report.

After half an hour, the two of them came out of the government office and parted ways!

Chapter 764: Destined

Li Yan didn't go to the Pei family's house after leaving the government office. She didn't even want to get her clothes anymore. Instead, she returned to her own house.

Now that she had her own house, a shop, and a farmstead, and gold ingots in her hand, she didn't have to worry about food or clothes. There was no telling how comfortable her life would be in the future. The things she left in the Pei family's house were for them.

Thinking of this, Li Yan felt smug.

Fortunately, she was smart back then. After buying the house, she transferred the gold ingots to the new house.

Early the next morning, Pei Xuanxin packed Li Yan's things and asked someone to send them over.

Pei Xuanxin's neighbors quickly found out about his and Li Yan's divorce.

Pei Xuanxin didn't hide anything and told them that Li Yan had accepted someone else's things. He said that from now on, he had nothing to do with Li

Yan.

It was precisely because of Pei Xuanxin's decisiveness and boldness that he dodged the bullet.

Half a month later, a huge corruption case happened in the capital.

The emperor was furious and asked someone to investigate this matter thoroughly.

Many officials were found to have accepted bribes and sent to prison.

Pei Xuanxin was no exception.

After knowing that her son had been captured, Mrs. Pei fainted from fear.

Pei Xuanxin had no choice but to ask the neighbors to help take care of his old mother.

The surrounding neighbors knew that Pei Xuanxin had been implicated because of what Li Yan had accepted previously, so they all sympathized with him and agreed to help him take care of his mother.

At this moment, Li Yan was still living her rich life. She even hired a maid and an old servant.

When she found out that Pei Xuanxin had been imprisoned, she even gloated and said that he deserved it.

Unfortunately, she had no idea that her good days were over.

After Pei Xuanxin was captured, he told the authorities everything he knew.

After the higher-ups confirmed that what Pei Xuanxin said was the truth, they let him go.

Firstly, Pei Xuanxin didn't know who had given him the things.

Secondly, Pei Xuanxin had never seen or taken these things.

Thirdly, Pei Xuanxin had never used money for bribery. Moreover, that money had fallen into the hands of Pei Xuanxin's right from the beginning.

Therefore, on account of Pei Xuanxin's diligence, the officials only removed him from his official position and let him leave.

Pei Xuanxin was safe, but Li Yan was captured by the officials.

Not only were the gold ingots confiscated, but the house, shop, and farmstead she had bought had also been confiscated.

Li Yan returned to her original state and became a person with nothing.

Even the servants she had hired had stolen their indentures and run away.

Although Pei Xuanxin no longer had an official position, his former superior admired him very much. Thinking about how he was already divorced, he wanted his illegitimate daughter to marry Pei Xuanxin.

As long as Pei Xuanxin was willing to be his son-in-law, he could help Pei Xuanxin get reinstated.

After Pei Xuanxin received the hint from the higher-ups, he thought for a day and night before finally agreeing to this marriage.

After all, he had studied hard for so many years. He didn't want all his years of hard work to be ruined because of Li Yan.

Besides, he was no longer the ignorant official he used to be.

With such a father-in-law, his official career would be much smoother in the future.

When Li Yan wanted to go back and look for Pei Xuanxin, she learned that Pei Xuanxin had already moved away.

After that, when Li Yan saw Pei Xuanxin again, he was wearing a groom's wedding dress and riding a horse to marry a new person.

On the other hand, Li Yan was already penniless and had no choice but to beg on the streets.

Everything had clearly been going well and she had already snatched Li Xiaoran's good luck. Why was everything turn out different afterwards?

She was indignant! Her fate shouldn't be like this!

The heavens seemed to have heard Li Yan's thoughts. At this moment, a man appeared in front of her.

The man stared at Li Yan and asked, "Do you want to have a luxurious life too?" "Yes, I do!" Li Yan said firmly.

The man in front of Li Yan was her last chance, so she didn't hesitate at all. She only wanted to seize this opportunity.

"Alright, as long as you're willing to do as I say, I'll guarantee you a good life and wealth! Are you willing to?" the man asked again.

"Yes, yes. If you can help me live a good life, I'm willing to do anything!" Li Yan said.

"Alright, follow me!" The man looked at Li Yan in satisfaction and gestured for her to follow.

Li Yan quickly followed and stumbled towards her last hope.

Luo Cheng was writing in the study when a messenger pigeon flew in.

Luo Cheng took out the note from the messenger pigeon's leg and smeared it with a potion, revealing the words.

After Luo Cheng read the contents of the note carefully, he immediately sneered.

He really didn't expect to receive such good news!

However, to Luo Cheng's surprise, Li Yan and Pei Xuanxin divorced so quickly, and Pei Xuanxin actually married someone else.

This was good. It would save him the trouble of thinking about people he shouldn't.

As for Li Yan, Luo Cheng had expected her to end up like that.

She had ill intentions and never contributed anything, but she wanted to reap the gains. How could there be free lunch?!

Fortunately, he married Li Xiaoran back then and didn't marry Li Yan.

Otherwise, who knew how much trouble Li Yan would have caused him?

However, when he saw the news that someone had taken Li Yan away, Luo Cheng narrowed his eyes.

For some reason, Luo Cheng felt that this matter wasn't a good thing for them.

At night, Luo Cheng told Li Xiaoran about these two people.

Li Xiaoran wasn't surprised.

With Li Yan's personality, nothing good would come from it.

Did Li Yan really think that by snatching her marriage, she could live a good life?

Li Yan wasn't her.

No matter what environment she was in, she could rely on her own abilities to live a good life. Was Li Yan the same?

No!

Li Yan only knew how to take things instead of contributing, and she definitely wouldn't change her ways.

Therefore, everything was predestined right from the beginning.

No matter who Li Yan chose, as long as her personality didn't change, she would never have a good ending!

"Xiaoran, I keep feeling that the man who took Li Yan away has ill intentions. I have a feeling that Li Yan will definitely cause trouble for us in the future!" Luo

Cheng said..

Chapter 765: What Gift Is Suitable?

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she immediately laughed.

"Husband, you make it sound like Li Yan didn't cause trouble for us in the past! Don't worry too much. We'll deal with whatever comes our way. Let's do our own thing! As

for Li Yan, as long as she dares to come, we can beat her up!” When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s words, he immediately laughed.

That’s right. Now, they were no longer afraid of anyone’s harm.

They had the ability to protect themselves, so they were no longer that easy to bully.

Li Xiaoran didn’t take it to heart because she knew very well that as long as she lived a good life, Li Yan wouldn’t let go of her jealousy.

Why did she have to make herself uneasy all day long for an irrelevant person?

What she had to do was live a good life and work hard to live a better life.

This was the best way to take revenge on Li Yan!

What Li Yan couldn’t get was what she had always had!

This was enough!

As long as Li Yan was unhappy, Li Xiaoran would be happy!

Therefore, Li Xiaoran fell asleep in a good mood.

Good sleep was very important. The next day, Li Xiaoran woke up early and even ran a few rounds in the courtyard with Luo Cheng.

When Luo Cheng saw Li Xiaoran’s excited expression, he asked with a smile, “What has made you so happy that you took the initiative to train with me?” When Li Xiaoran saw Luo Cheng’s curious expression, she smiled.

“You know the reason! I’m happy because Li Yan is unlucky!”

Luo Cheng was amused when he heard that.

“If I had known that you would be so happy that Li Yan was unlucky, I would have made her suffer long ago!”

Li Xiaoran explained, “No, no, no, this is different! Although I’ll be happy if you punish Li Yan, I’ll also feel disgusted. A despicable person like Li Yan isn’t worth our effort to deal with so as not to dirty our hands. However, if the heavens make Li Yan unlucky, I’ll naturally be very happy! This means that the heavens are as good at judging people as me!”

This was the first time Luo Cheng had heard such a novel reason. Then, he said happily, “Hasn’t the heavens always been on your side? Otherwise, how could you have such good luck? Li Xiaoran, you’ve been in cahoots with the heavens since long ago!”

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she was amused.

“I don’t know if I’m in cahoots with the heavens, but we are definitely in cahoots!”

As soon as she said this, Luo Cheng laughed.

Li Xiaoran thought of something and suddenly asked, “By the way, Mao Dao and Sisi are about to get married. What should we give them?”

Luo Cheng thought for a moment and said, “Have you prepared the dowry?”

Li Xiaoran nodded and said, "I've prepared a set of jewelry for Sisi. When I went to the capital previously, I already bought a lot of jewelry. One of them is very suitable for Sisi!"

"Then let's send a big gift when they get married!" Luo Cheng said.

Li Xiaoran muttered, "Father and Mother want to give them a bed! Let's not make the gift too big!"

Luo Cheng pondered over it.

"Then why don't we hire someone to make a wedding dress for them?!"

Li Xiaoran felt that this wouldn't do, so she shook her head.

"Forget it, forget it. I won't get any good suggestions even if I ask you. I'll think about it myself!" Li Xiaoran said.

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran's words, he was amused.

To be honest, he really wasn't good at giving gifts!

It was great that Li Xiaoran finally let him off!

After Li Xiaoran ate breakfast, she planned to ask Old Madam Jin.

After all, Old Madam Jin was much more knowledgeable and experienced! After Old Madam Jin learned of Li Xiaoran's intentions, she was immediately amused.

"You! You just want to give your cousin something practicable, so you feel troubled. Actually, the best gift for a woman is to give her some good living security. Your cousin married into a farming family, so it's impossible to give her servants, but you can give her something she needs."

"What she needs is money. Should I send a pile of gold or silver ingots over?" Li Xiaoran said.

When Old Madam Jin heard this, she shook her head.

"If you give her these at this time, you'll harm her.

Don't give her any shops or businesses either. It'll cause her trouble!" Li Xiaoran was stunned when she heard Old Madam Jin's words.

That's right. If she gave her cousin these things, she would really cause trouble for her cousin.

"There's a saying that goes, it's better to teach people how to fish than to give them fish. Of course, what you should give her isn't teaching her how to do business, but guidance on how to deal with certain things! To put it bluntly, make her stronger!"

Old Madam Jin said, "We girls from big families will nurture some servants who are good at managing the business and loyal to their masters. These things are the most important if a girl wants to have a stable life in her in-laws' house after she marries over!"

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she was a little dejected.

“She married into the Mao family, so I can’t send maids or servants to her!”

“Think about it yourself! I’ve already said everything I have to say!” With that, Old Madam Jin stopped giving ideas.

Li Xiaoran was even more confused when she didn’t get an answer. “Why is it so difficult to come up with a gift to give?”

After returning, Li Xiaoran told Shu Ruyue what Granny Jin had said.

Shu Ruyue laughed when she heard this.

“Xiaoran, you’re being too inflexible! Actually, there are many things you can help your cousin with! It’s easy for you to do as well!”

“What do you mean?” Li Xiaoran asked.

“Think about it this way. If you were Zhao Sisi and were about to marry into the Mao family, what would you need the most?” Shu Ruyue reminded.

When Li Xiaoran heard Shu Ruyue’s words, she began to think about it.

Soon, Li Xiaoran thought of something and smiled. “I know what to give her!”

Then, Li Xiaoran went to look for Luo Ziyang.

“Ziyang, send someone to investigate everyone in the Mao family, especially their personalities and hobbies!”

Luo Ziyang smiled when he heard Li Xiaoran’s instructions.

“Madam, you’re helping Miss Zhao ask around, right?!”

Li Xiaoran said with a smile, “That’s right! I want to give my cousin a big gift, so I might as well give her this information!”

Chapter 766: Punishment

In less than two days, Luo Ziyang obtained all the information Li Xiaoran wanted.

After seeing the information, Li Xiaoran’s expression changed drastically. Then, she was glad that she had sent someone to investigate. Otherwise, her cousin might have really suffered a loss if she married him!

On the surface, the Mao family was very simple. Mao Dao had an elder sister, but she was already married. Mao Dao was the only son in the family. It could be said that the Mao family was a relatively simple family.

But in fact, that wasn’t the case.

Mao Dao’s brother-in-law wasn’t a good person. He always coveted everything in Mao Dao’s family.

Of course, he hid his greed from Mao Dao's sister, Mao Xiaoli.

The reason Mao Dao was heartbroken by his family and his family always compared him to his sister, Mao Xiaoli, was because Mao Dao's brother-in-law, Qiao Dazhi, secretly instigated it.

However, Qiao Dazhi had done it very discreetly, so people didn't notice it.

They only thought that Mao Dao's brother-in-law, Qiao Dazhi, was a reliable man.

The Mao family didn't know, but the Qiao family knew Qiao Dazhi's personality.

Luo Ziyang arranged for someone to ask around the village where the Qiao family was and found out about the Qiao family's matters.

The Qiao family had eight sons, and Qiao Dazhi was the youngest.

When Qiao Dazhi got married, the Qiao family wasn't well-off and they couldn't give him anything valuable.

Later on, Qiao Dazhi slowly understood the Mao family's situation. His family's poverty made him want to take everything in the Mao family for himself.

That was why he secretly fanned the flames and tried to benefit from the Mao family's strained inner relationship.

Unfortunately, ever since Mao Dao met Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran, everything had begun to change.

What surprised Qiao Dazhi even more was that the couple Mao Dao followed had become the prince and the consort.

Because he was afraid of Luo Cheng's faction, Qiao Dazhi didn't dare to mess around anymore.

However, Qiao Dazhi changed his strategy very quickly.

Since he couldn't take the Qiao family's things for himself, he planned to use his identity as Qiao Dazhi's brother-in-law to get benefits from Luo Cheng.

After Qiao Dazhi told everyone in their village that his brother-in-law and Luo Cheng were brothers, he became a glamorous figure in the village.

As long as they faced Qiao Dazhi, everyone was willing to compromise in order to resolve the trouble.

Everyone knew that Qiao Dazhi's brother-in-law worked for Luo Cheng, so they were a little wary.

It could be said that Qiao Dazhi had obtained many benefits for himself in Luo Cheng's name.

Li Xiaoran was very angry.

"Have you told Luo Cheng about Qiao Dazhi using Luo Cheng's name to seek benefits for himself outside?"

"I've already said it. Luo Cheng says he will listen to your arrangements!" Luo Ziyang said.

Li Xiaoran knew that Luo Cheng was being considerate of her. He didn't want to hurt their relationship because of Mao Dazhi, so he handed this matter to Li Xiaoran.

After all, this matter involved Mao Dao and Zhao Sisi, who was about to marry Mao Dao.

Li Xiaoran pondered for a moment and said firmly, "Get someone to capture Qiao Dazhi and gather all the village chiefs and villagers. Then, we'll hold a public trial for Qiao Dazhi over his crime of using Luo Cheng's name to obtain benefits. At the same time, as long as there's evidence that Qiao Dazhi has received money from others, we'll have it investigated and order Qiao Dazhi to return it! If Qiao Dazhi can't pay it back, we'll send him to work as a laborer to earn money. We'll release him when he's done paying it off!"

Luo Ziyang was a little surprised. He didn't expect Li Xiaoran not to give Mao Dao and Zhao Sisi any face at all.

"If you continue hesitating like this, I'm afraid Miss Zhao won't have a good life in the future!"

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Ziyang's words, she said seriously, "I've thought about these things! It's precisely because I've considered Mao Dao and Zhao Sisi's situation that I have to deal with them strictly! We didn't know in the past, but now that we know, we naturally have to make an example out of them! If we don't punish them at the beginning, I'm afraid others will follow suit in the future. If someone dies and there's a lawsuit, it'll bring disaster to

Luo Cheng and me!"

"Besides, I also want to use this matter to see the Mao family's reaction. If the Mao family resents my cousin because of this, there's no need to get married. Even if the Mao family holds a grudge, as long as Luo Cheng and I are around, the Mao family won't dare to bully Sisi. As long as the Mao family makes my cousin unhappy, I can bring Sisi home!"

"Besides, Qiao Dazhi was the one who caused this matter. How dare he use your husband's name to swindle people? If we don't deal with him, are we going to let him continue to swindle people in our name? I'm already being merciful by not venting my anger on the Qiao family!" Li Xiaoran said angrily.

Luo Ziyang already knew Li Xiaoran's intentions, so he nodded and did as she instructed.

Li Xiaoran thought for a moment. Although this was the right decision, she should talk to Mao Dao and Zhao Sisi first.

Coincidentally, Li Xiaoran also wanted to talk to Zhao Sisi about the Mao family.

When Li Xiaoran arrived at the shop, it was break time after the first wave of customers left.

Li Xiaoran called Mao Dao and Zhao Sisi outside. Then, the three of them went to a big rock not far away.

"I called the two of you over today because I have something important to tell you!" Li Xiaoran looked at Zhao Sisi and then at Mao Dao.

“Mao Dao, Mr. Luo and I already know that your brother-in-law, Qiao Dazhi, used Mr. Luo’s name to swindle people outside. Ziyang has already arranged for someone to capture your brother-in-law. He will arrange for the people from the government office to conduct a public trial of your brother-in-law in the village. After that, your brother-in-law will be sent to work to earn money to pay off his debts. There’s no room for negotiation. The reason I’m telling you now is to let you be mentally prepared!” Li Xiaoran explained what she wanted to say concisely.

When Mao Dao noticed Li Xiaoran looking at him, he had a bad feeling.

After hearing Li Xiaoran’s words, Mao Dao immediately understood and was furious.

To be honest, Mao Dao didn’t like his brother-in-law very much, since he felt that he was insincere and smarmy.

He really didn’t expect Qiao Dazhi to dare to use Mr. Luo’s name to swindle people. Who gave him the confidence to do so? Wasn’t he harming him?

“Madam, you did the right thing.. You should punish him severely! I really didn’t expect Qiao Dazhi to do this!”

Chapter 767: Returning for Help

“The reason I told you about this is because I’m worried that your sister or brother-in-law, or even your family, will cause trouble for you in the future! Your brother-in-law and I will deal with Qiao Dazhi in Chongqing. Once this is exposed, it will cause us a lot of trouble in the future. If everyone does evil in our name, won’t they be harming others?” Li Xiaoran said solemnly.

When Zhao Sisi heard Li Xiaoran’s words, she finally understood why her cousin had called her over to hear this.

Zhao Sisi said, “Sister Ran, don’t worry! I know what to do. I’m not that easy to bully. If they take their anger out on me because of this, I won’t let them bully me!”

When Mao Dao heard Zhao Sisi’s words, he immediately understood.

“Madam, don’t worry! With me around, I definitely won’t let my family bully Sisi. Besides, Qiao Dazhi did something wrong in the first place. If he takes his anger out on us because of this, we might as well abandon such a family member!”

When Li Xiaoran heard Mao Dao’s words, she was slightly relieved.

“Alright, as long as you guys are mentally prepared! I still have something on, so I’ll leave first!”

After sending Li Xiaoran off, Mao Dao thought for a moment and stopped Zhao Sisi.

“Sisi, don’t worry! If my parents have objections to you because of this, I’ll face it with you. Fortunately, when we get married in the future, we’ll live in Hele Village and won’t live with my parents. If my parents don’t understand, we’ll just send the monthly retirement money over and won’t interfere in anything else

Zhao Sisi didn’t expect Mao Dao to say that. Her heart warmed and she said with a smile, “There’s no need to be like this. After Father and Mother are old, let’s bring them over to support them in their old age! As for the situation you mentioned, I’m not afraid. I can earn money to support myself and don’t have to listen to your parents! As long as they don’t go overboard, I’ll support them until they’re old on account of how difficult it was for them to raise you!”

Mao Dao didn’t expect Zhao Sisi to be so sensible and was very touched. He secretly decided that he had to treat Zhao Sisi better in the future.

This didn’t cause trouble for the people who were about to become husband and wife. Instead, it made them even closer.

When Mao Dao returned home after he was done in the shop, he saw his sister come home with red and swollen eyes.

“Xiaoran? What’s going on? Did Qiao Dazhi bully you?” When Mrs. Mao saw her daughter crying, her first reaction was that her son-in-law had hit her daughter.

“Mother, no! Something happened to Dazhi!” Mao Xiaoli said with a sob when she saw her mother.

“Huh? What happened to my son-in-law?! Tell me quickly!” Mrs. Mao asked anxiously.

As Mao Dao watched coldly from the side, he actually already knew the situation.

It seemed that what Madam said was true. Qiao Dazhi had really been arrested for public trial.

His sister had probably come back to talk about this.

From how his sister looked in his direction a few times, it was obvious that she wanted him to plead for leniency with Luo Cheng!

Thinking of this, Mao Dao was furious.

Why didn’t they think of him when they used Luo Cheng’s name to scam people?

Now that something had happened, she came to look for him?

When Mao Xiaoli saw her brother’s cold expression, her heart skipped a beat.

Mao Xiaoli didn’t know what her husband had done at first.

As time passed, she naturally discovered some things.

Besides, the people in the village weren’t people who knew how to keep secrets, so some things were brought up.

Therefore, Mao Xiaoli guessed what her husband had done.

Mao Xiaoli guessed it, but she didn’t stop him.

After all, after Qiao Dazhi did so, their family's life improved.

Mao Xiaoli was very capable, but no matter how capable she was, she couldn't withstand having a useless man at home and many relatives dragging her down.

Therefore, after Mao Xiaoli got married, her life was very tiring.

Because she was diligent and capable, she was entrusted with many tasks at home.

She was also a human, so over time, she felt tired!

Therefore, after Qiao Dazhi did those things, the Qiao family benefited a lot and Mao Xiaoli felt more confident.

Mao Xiaoli no longer put up with the Qiao family like before. Now, she vented her emotions whenever she wanted to, and she no longer had to work so hard. Unfortunately, good times didn't last long. Why did Luo Cheng find out about this?

Not only did he know, but he also sent people over to arrest her husband for public trial and even asked them to pay the people he scammed back.

When there were benefits, the Qiao family came to take advantage of them. Once something happened to Qiao Dazhi and he needed to repay the money, all of them abandoned them.

Old Master Qiao split the family without hesitation. He didn't want to help pay off the money at all.

How could Mao Xiaoli accept this?

After Mao Xiaoli thought about it, she finally decided to look for her brother to think of a solution.

When she saw her brother's expression, Mao Xiaoli's heart sank and she had a bad feeling.

"Girl, why are you looking at your brother? Hurry up and tell me! What happened to our son-in-law?" Mrs. Mao and Mr. Mao were extremely anxious. Seeing that their daughter was silent, they urged her again.

After Mao Xiaoli composed herself, she told them everything.

After Mr. Mao and Mrs. Mao heard everything, their expressions changed and they sighed.

When Mrs. Mao looked at her youngest son and noticed the cold expression on his face, she sighed.

"This is your man's fault! Is Luo Cheng's name something he can use to swindle others? Not to mention Luo Cheng handling it impartially, even if Luo Cheng had sent someone to capture your man and beat him up before sending him back, it's only right!"

Mr. Mao kept smoking in silence.

When Mao Xiaoli heard her mother's words, she immediately cried.

"Mother, I also know that my man was wrong, but what should I do? I really can't fork out that much money. Back then, when Dazhi benefited, the Qiao family was the one who split the benefits. Why is it our family who has to bear the consequences now?!"

When Mao Dao heard this, he was so angry that he slammed the table and stood up.. He glared at his sister as he asked, "In that case, you knew about this right from the beginning?"

Chapter 768: Clear-headed Mr. Mao

When Mao Xiaoli heard her brother's words, she immediately started crying again.

"At first, I really didn't know! Later on, when I saw that Dazhi would take out some money from time to time, I asked him, but he told me not to interfere. Later on, the entire Qiao family got benefits. After I went out to ask around, I found out that Dazhi had obtained some benefits for himself thanks to my brother's good relationship with Luo Cheng!"

"Even if you didn't know in the beginning, why didn't you come back and tell me when you found out later? At that time, you probably only thought about collecting the money and didn't think about me at all, right? Have you ever thought about how Mr. Luo would look at me after the matter was exposed?"

Have you ever thought about how Mr. Luo might take his anger out on me in the future and never use me again?" Mao Dao was furious at his sister.

Previously, he hadn't thought about things so deeply. Now that he heard his sister complaining, he immediately thought of many things.

Li Xiaoran came over personally to explain this matter to him and said that she wouldn't let Qiao Dazhi off on his account.

On the surface, Luo Cheng and the consort didn't vent their anger on him because of this.

But on second thought, if it weren't for the fact that he was going to marry the consort's cousin, Zhao Sisi, would Li Xiaoran have vented her anger on him?

What if Zhao Sisi wasn't in the picture?

Even if he wasn't caught in the crossfire, Luo Cheng and the consort probably wouldn't think of him anymore if there was any good opportunity in the future!

If it were him, he probably also wouldn't use someone whose family would drag him down!

The possible consequences were terrifying. At this moment, Mao Dao was already filled with anger.

Mao Xiaoli was speechless. After all, she really hadn't considered how her brother would be affected once this matter was exposed.

When Mrs. Mao heard her son's words, her expression changed again.

To be honest, although Mrs. Mao had criticized her daughter and son-in-law so loudly previously, she actually hoped that her son could help.

However, after hearing her son's words, Mrs. Mao realized how wrong she was.

Luo Cheng was already very merciful for not venting his anger on her son. Her son's future shouldn't be ruined for her daughter's sake! Everyone knew that after having ties with Luo Cheng, they would be lucky. But now that such a thing had happened, could her son still be placed in an important position by Luo Cheng?

When Mr. Mao heard this, he took the last puff of his cigarette and knocked the ash out of his pipe.

"How did the Qiao family handle this matter? Where is Qiao Dazhi now?"

Since her father had asked, Mao Xiaoli wiped her tears and replied, "Dazhi has already been taken away by the officials, who said that they want him to return the money he collected. If he doesn't return it, they'll send him to work as a

laborer to pay off his debts. Now, many people in the village have taken out evidence, so we need to compensate 800 taels of silver. I have a total of 150 taels of silver. The rest of the money was taken by the Qiao family!"

"The Qiao family immediately called the village chief over to split up the family. Dazhi and I were separated, so the things we got were pitifully little. Moreover, the Qiao family also said that they won't repay the money for us!"

When Mr. Mao heard this, he was neither angry nor angry. Instead, he asked calmly, "Then what are your plans?"

When Mao Xiaoli heard this, she immediately looked at her father in confusion.

"Do you want to divorce Qiao Dazhi or continue living with him?" Mr. Mao said.

Mao Xiaoli had thought of many possibilities, but she didn't think of divorcing Qiao Dazhi.

"Divorce? If I divorce him, what will happen to my child?"

Xiao Guihua was Mao Li and Qiao Dazhi's child. She was a three-year-old girl.

"What should we do? Do you want Xiao Guihua to follow you? As long as you want, we'll help you get the child!" Mr. Mao said.

Mao Xiaoli panicked. She never expected things to turn out like this!

"Father, why get a divorce?! There's no need! As long as Father, Mother, and Brother help me think of a way and return that money, it'll be fine!"

When Mr. Mao heard his daughter's words, his gaze immediately turned stern.

"We can't fork out that much money! Don't expect your brother to borrow money from others just because of Qiao Dazhi! Not to mention whether we can borrow money, even if we can, how will the two of you repay us?"

When Mao Xiaoli heard her father's words, she immediately panicked.

"No, you won't! In the end, this debt will fall on your brother. If someone has to repay the money, it will be your brother! Because he's the one who borrowed the money, not you! And if your brother borrows money and takes on such a huge debt, do you

think the Zhao family's daughter will still be willing to marry him? Even if she's willing, will the elders in her family be willing? Don't forget that Zhao Sisi's cousin is the consort. They're very close. Will she watch her cousin get screwed over?" Mr. Mao questioned sternly.

This time, Mao Xiaoli didn't cry. Instead, she broke out in cold sweat.

Mr. Mao stared at his daughter as he said, "Since your family is ruined, you came back to ruin your brother's life? You 've already let your brother down, but now, you want to ruin his life. Do you think your mother and I can tolerate you doing this?"

Mao Xiaoli fell to the ground. Then, she covered her face and wailed.

"Now, the only thing you can do is divorce Qiao Dazhi and bring Xiao Guihua back. Have you ever thought about Xiao Guihua? If she continues to live in your current village, will the other children in the village bully her because of what Qiao Dazhi has done? If a ruthless person secretly schemes against you and your daughter, will you and your daughter be able to withstand it? Don't blame me for being harsh. I want you to consider all aspects. Divorcing him is the best solution!" Mr. Mao explained the pros and cons.

Mao Dao calmed down after hearing his father's words.

That's right. Be it in the long run or in the current situation, divorce was the best option.

"Sister, have you ever thought about how Luo Cheng would feel even if the money is repaid? For a commoner to dare to use his name to scam people, punishing him with hard labor to pay off his debts is already the lightest punishment! Even if you force us to borrow money to pay off those debts now, Qiao Dazhi won't be released!" Mao Dao said firmly due to his understanding of Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran..

Chapter 769 Qiao Dazhi's Realization

Mao Xiaoli stopped crying. Only then did she realize the seriousness of the matter.

Mr. Mao said, "Let's go! Mao Dao, for our sake, come with me to your sister's place to pack their things! Bring Xiao Guihua over too! As her younger brother, you should also tell Mr. Luo. Use Mr. Luo's name to intimidate the Qiao family and successfully let Xiao Guihua return to the Mao family with your sister! For the sake of Xiao Guihua, help your sister!"

Mao Dao agreed with his father.

He couldn't truly ignore her. After all, Mao Xiaoli was his elder sister.

When he was young, his sister had raised him.

He knew what he should do.

Mao Dao said, "I have no problem with that. It's fine as long as you think it through and are willing to divorce him! If you still want me to borrow money, I'll completely ignore you!"

When Mr. Mao heard his son's words, he nodded in satisfaction. Then, he looked at Mao Xiaoli and asked, "Daughter, what do you think?"

Mao Xiaoli had already figured it out. The most important thing now was to bring Xiao Guihua back.

"Father, I've thought it through. I want to bring Xiao Guihua back! I have hands and feet, so I can also set up a stall on the official road to sell things! I can support us with my own hands and feet! I'll have to trouble Father and Mother to help me rent a house in the village! Even if we divorce, there's no reason for us to stay in our maiden family's home. Even if someone in the same village bullies us, with Father, Mother, and Brother taking care of us, our lives won't be that bad!"

It had to be said that Mao Xiaoli was a sensible woman.

Although she had been a little muddle-headed and greedy previously, she wasn't a bad person.

Mao Xiaoli said, "Also, give the Qiao family 50 taels of silver! The remaining 50 taels of silver will be my and Xiao Guihua's future living expenses! I don't want our relationship to be ruined! This 50 taels of silver can be considered my last act of kindness to him! However, I can't tolerate what the Qiao family has done. Even if we get a divorce, I want to expose this matter. I want to see if the Qiao family can still live a peaceful life after this!"

"Sure, but we have to resolve Xiao Guihua's matter first before doing this! The Qiao family's behavior is too despicable. We should let the people around the Qiao family see their true colors!" Mr. Mao agreed with his daughter's idea.

Just like that, Mr. Mao and Mao Dao went to the Qiao family's house overnight and brought Xiao Guihua back.

Other than some big things that she couldn't bring away, Mao Xiaoli brought all her things.

Some of them were her previous dowry, and some had been bought recently.

Other than her dowry, she would use the other things to repay a portion of Qiao Dazhi's debt. The rest of the debt could only be repaid by Mao Dazhi himself.

As his wife, Mao Xiaoli did everything she could. As for the rest, she would take things one step at a time!

Early the next morning, Mao Dao went to look for Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran.

Chapter 770: A Little Familiar

Luo Cheng was shocked when he heard the news brought back by Mao Dao.

After some thought, Luo Cheng asked someone to go to the place Qiao Dazhi had mentioned and secretly dig it out in the dead of night.

There was a crock buried under the tree and something stored in it.

These things weren't money, but several portraits.

Qiao Dazhi had liked to draw since he was young and had secretly learned to draw.

At that time, he didn't have the money to buy a pen and paper, so he drew on the sand with a branch.

He had bought a pen and paper to draw these portraits after receiving money.

The people in these paintings were very lifelike.

When Li Xiaoran brought fruits in for Luo Cheng, she immediately frowned when she saw these portraits.

Li Xiaoran pointed at one of the portraits and said, "Why do I feel that this person looks familiar?"

Luo Cheng asked curiously, 'You find the person familiar? Where have you seen the person before?'

Li Xiaoran thought about it carefully, but she couldn't think of anything.

"I can't remember, but I keep feeling a sense of familiarity! Husband, who are these people?"

"These are the portraits drawn by Qiao Dazhi. These people came into contact with him and instigated him to use my name to get money. Qiao Dazhi drew these portraits and secretly hid them in a crock before burying them under a tree in their courtyard. Originally, he kept such a trick up his sleeve for his own safety. Now, he gave me these portraits in hopes that I can protect his wife and daughter!" Luo Cheng told her what Mao Dao had said.

When Li Xiaoran heard this, she immediately said, "I really didn't expect a person who usually looks very ordinary to have such a trick up his sleeve! I wonder how realistic the portraits are. If they're very realistic, you can make the best use of it. Don't send him to do manual labor. Send him straight to the government office to draw. At least, when catching wanted criminals, with a portrait in hand, it will be easier to find the criminals!"

Luo Cheng laughed when he heard Li Xiaoran's words.

"Xiaoran, you've thought of the same thing as me! I've already sent someone to the prison to let Qiao Dazhi draw. If he really has the ability, I'm naturally willing to give him a chance. However, hard labor is unavoidable. No matter what, he has to do hard labor for three months. After three months, if he repents sincerely, I'll arrange for someone to bring him back and let him live a new life!"

Li Xiaoran felt that her husband's arrangement wasn't bad, so she didn't say anything else.

Luo Cheng's gaze landed on the portraits.

"Since you find these people familiar, why don't I call everyone over to take a look?! Perhaps we can find some clues!"

Li Xiaoran felt that this was a good idea, so she asked someone to call everyone over.

Soon, a group of people appeared in the study. Everyone who was at home was invited over.

As Jiao Hang stared at one of the portraits, his mind raced.

For some reason, he found one of the portraits familiar.

However, he had a good memory. If he had really seen this person, he definitely wouldn't forget him.

He felt that he was very familiar, but he had never seen this person before. What was going on?

"Wait, I thought of something! Wasn't this the person who instigated those three families not to sell land to us in Yun Gao Village?" Jiao Hang suddenly thought of something and shouted.

When Luo Cheng heard this, he quickly took out the portrait he had kept previously.

The man was wearing a mask, so the three families in Yun Gao Village could only see a rough outline of his features.

There was a certain person in Qiao Dazhi's portrait that as long as the lower half of his face was covered, he clearly looked very similar to the masked man.

"I was wondering why this person looked familiar, but I couldn't figure out where I had seen him before. So that's the case!" Li Xiaoran said in realization, "In that case, these people are all from the same faction!" When Luo Cheng heard this, he knew what to do.

"It seems that the same group of people are secretly hiding in the inconspicuous places around us."

"Then what should we do? Should we find these people?" Luo Ziyang asked.

Luo Cheng shook his head. "From the current situation, they don't seem to have good intentions. However, I can't figure out their goal!"

Li Xiaoran said, "Don't think too much about it. It's fine as long as we're careful when we do things. The other party will definitely give themselves away eventually! Didn't the previous land seizure and Qiao Dazhi's matter prove this? It's fine as long as we're more patient than them!"

They all nodded and left to do their own things.

Li Xiaoran turned around and saw that Luo Cheng had been staring at the portrait, so she walked over.

"Husband, what are you looking at?"

"I'm looking to see if any of the people in these portraits are people we've overlooked!" Luo Cheng replied.

When Li Xiaoran heard Luo Cheng's words, she thought for a moment and said, "Husband, why don't we bring these portraits to the shops we run and let our people see if these people have

appeared recently?! Also, we have to get someone to send these portraits to the residence! I have a feeling that as long as we do this, we will definitely find out a lot!”

When Luo Cheng heard Li Xiaoran’s idea, he took out a pen and paper.

“Then I’ll copy some now and send them to everyone so that our people can identify them!”

It took the entire afternoon to copy a few portraits.

After distributing the portraits, Luo Cheng and Li Xiaoran sat at home and waited for the news.

At noon the next day, the news was sent back.

Everyone had seen the people in these paintings.

Of course, these people didn’t appear in one place together. Instead, one or two of them appeared in each place.

“Looks like we’re really being targeted!” Luo Cheng said.

“Husband, could it be the people behind Shatai Village? Don’t forget that we still have those tracking incense on us! Although we changed the fragrance of the tracking incense and made other fragrances in large quantities to sell, as long as the other party investigates carefully, they can find out that we went to Shatai Village!” Li Xiaoran thought of something and reminded him..