

Weak B 1311

Chapter 1311

Luo Yanqing frowned slightly and said, "If they really lose their minds over a couple of idle comments, that's just how they'll be for life. If that's the case, you don't need to spend any more effort on them."

"What are you talking about?"

Kang Li glared, "There's a saying: 'With a stepmother comes a stepfather.' But as this stepmother, I haven't done anything to the kids, yet as their father, why do you seem to have the tendency to become a stepfather?"

"You are falsely accusing me." Luo Yanqing's fiery eyes had turned into grievance: "I just don't want you to raise ungrateful jerks." After a brief pause, Luo Yanqing rolled over to lie back on his side of the bed and drew Kang Li into his arms, saying:

"Even birth mothers don't treat Luo Mingrui and the others as well as you do. Although I am not home every day to watch, the growth of Luo Mingrui and the others,

and what I've seen during my breaks at home, clearly tells me what you've sacrificed for the family and for Luo Mingrui and the others. I also know how much you love them,

and as long as they are not heartless or completely wooden, they won't be swayed by idle comments."

Kang Li nuzzled her forehead against the man's chest, feeling a warmth in her heart. She gently curved her lips: "But Ruirui and the others are still young, and they're smart. They've known since they were little that I'm not their real mom, so naturally, their personalities might be a bit sensitive.

If I hadn't given birth to Bun and the others, idle comments wouldn't impact Ruirui and the others at all. But now the situation is different—there are people who can't stand others being well and will surely use nasty stepmother remarks to stir things up with our kids, hoping to watch the chaos unfold.

Even if, on the surface, Ruirui and the others aren't influenced by such gossip, internally they might overthink. They would worry, feel scared, because suddenly having the possibility of losing their happiness after having it could make them anxious, which could easily distract them during their studies."

After Kang Li finished speaking, Luo Yanqing remained silent for a long time.

"Alright then, listen to me—when you return home, clearly express my attitude to Ruirui and the others. Of course, also show your attitude to the kids too. This way, they'll feel secure, feel loved and will not stumble in their studies or be influenced by others' opinions."

Kang Li truly cares for Ruirui and the others, truly loves them. There's no doubt about it. Even with her own Bun and the others now, in her heart, all the kids are the same—they are both hers and Luo Yanqing's children.

On a broader scale, even for Xiao Loh En, in Kang Li's heart, there's no distinction between them and Ruirui.

Children are little angels; they come into this world to be loved. Otherwise, as parents, why bring them into the world at all?

Of course, some children are born under less expected circumstances, but is it their fault?

"Why are you so wonderful?!"

Luo Yanqing sighed lightly as he kissed Kang Li's forehead.

"Am I really wonderful?"

Kang Li lifted her eyes with a smile and asked.

Luo Yanqing smiled in his eyes and affirmed with a "Hmm."

"Then you should thank yourself."

Kang Li's bright eyes sparkled with humor, seeing the man's puzzled expression, she couldn't help but laugh softly.

"Thank myself?"

Luo Yanqing couldn't quite figure it out.

Kang Li: "Yes, you should thank yourself. Want to know why?"

Luo Yanqing tilted her chin and kissed her, his message clear. Before long, Kang Li said, "Because you treat me well!" The instant smile on Luo Yanqing's handsome face faded when he heard Kang Li continue, "But there's one more thing..."

"What is it?"

Before Kang Li could say more, Luo Yanqing asked.

"Ruirui and the others are so well-behaved, I have no reason not to like them. With this affection, of course, I want to give them the best!" Kang Li's voice was soft and smiling, and after listening to her words, Luo Yanqing tightened his embrace: "Luo Mingrui and the others are lucky to have you as their mom. If they dare to be unfilial in the future, watch how I reprimand them!"

Lightly pinching the soft flesh at the man's waist, Kang Li said, "I trust the kids I raised. They are definitely good children, no need for you to step in and teach them."

"I know, but I don't want you to suffer even a tiny bit of grievance."

Luo Yanqing's calm yet magnetic voice sounded incredibly gentle.

"Silly, who could make me suffer?"

As Kang Li spoke, she kissed the man's lips, and at that moment, the man turned passive into active.

Soon, the room was filled with pink bubbles...

Chapter 1312: Part 2

For the next three days, Bun and the other two will be watched over by Cai Xiufen, Captain Kang, and Jiang Hongfa, while Kang Li, accompanied by Luo Yanqing, drives to various malls for a shopping spree.

Every time she returns from shopping, she comes back with big bags and boxes; after all, Kang Li isn't short on money, especially with her convenient father and grandfather giving her lots of money.

There's no worry about financial strain at all.

Once all the gifts are bought, Kang Li categorizes and organizes them, and labels the gift's receiver on the packaging with post-it notes. Everyone she keeps in her heart will receive gifts brought back by Luo Yanqing, Captain Kang, and Cai Xiufen.

As the days go by, only three days are left before Luo Yanqing and Captain Kang return home, making Kang Li feel a bit melancholic.

“Are you reluctant for me to return home?”

The moonlight shines brightly through the soft and elegant floor-length curtains into the bedroom, with the light gently flowing like water, full of poetic charm.

After a tender moment of love, Luo Yanqing takes Kang Li to the bathroom to freshen them up, and back in bed, Luo Yanqing notices Kang Li feeling a bit off and couldn't help but ask.

“You're about to leave, and so are mom and dad. I'm feeling a bit sad.”

In the man's tight embrace, Kang Li's voice is a little muffled: “Time flies too fast.”

“Yeah, time indeed flies. But you need to study, and I need to work, so we have to part temporarily, and there's no substantial reason for mom and dad to stay here. When the time comes, the relevant departments here will directly send them back to our country... Don't worry, once you finish your studies and return home, our family can be together forever.”

Gently comforting his wife in his arms, Luo Yanqing's eyes are full of tenderness: “If you miss mom and dad, you can call them often, or write letters often.”

Kang Li's mood slightly improves as she looks up at the man, a glint of slyness in her eyes: "What about when I miss you?"

"You can call or write letters."

With his elegantly shaped chin lightly resting on the forehead of the girl in his arms, a smile plays on Luo Yanqing's lips: "We've recently taken quite a few photos. If you miss me, you can look at my photos more often. I'll do the same, looking at your photos every morning and evening to make each day go quickly and ease the longing."

"You smooth talker."

Kang Li teasingly scolds the man, then says: "Take more photos of me and the buns back so when you send letters, remember to send some photos of Ruirui and the others. This way, when I'm free, I can teach Bun, Tangyuan, and Guoguo to recognize their big brothers and sisters through the photos."

"Alright."

Luo Yanqing willingly agrees.

"Before summer vacation, remember to arrange for Ruirui's overseas procedures so that when Mr. Jiang goes back to handle business, I will have him bring the children."

“Will Xiao En go too?”

“If Uncle Loh and Aunt Li feel comfortable, then bring Xiao En along.”

“Sure, I’ll do as you say.”

“Once going abroad becomes easier in the future, I’ll bring all my nephews abroad to have a good time.”

“They might not need their little aunt to bring them.”

“I know what you’re trying to say. Isn’t it because they’ve become successful and can go abroad for study or travel on their own?”

“Don’t you want your nephews to succeed?”

“Your words are heartless; I wish for my nephews to succeed more than anyone else, so that Old Kang’s Home will certainly rise in the future!”

Kang Li speaks with spirited enthusiasm, giving the man a proud look.

Luo Yanqing laughs: "In my view, Old Kang's Home is already rising."

"Not quite yet."

Kang Li humbly replies.

"How can you say that? Didn't you and the others get into college that year? Nowadays, Old Kang's Home has seven college students, and all four from the eldest brother's house.

This year, the eldest from the third brother's house will take the college entrance exam, which is a sure path to enter university. Next year and the year after, the college students from Old Kang's Home will appear one by one.

This is a matter of pride, not just in the countryside but also in the city. Not to mention our nephews are entering college at a young age, showing how promising they are. Who can say this rural family hasn't risen?"

"You exaggerate a bit!"

Despite speaking modestly, Kang Li's eyes are filled with pride and joy.

She really didn't expect her nephews to be so academically ambitious, competing as if in friendly rivalry, putting effort into studies without needing reminders, and having plans for their learning.

Chapter 1313

Alright, she should have thought that it's actually the power and effect of being a role model.

After all, the year she took her college entrance exam, her big nephew Kang Yiyang, his brothers Kang Yichen and Kang Yihong, and her little brother Kang Guoan all got into university, not to mention they were all admitted to prestigious schools.

Last year, Fourth Brother from the eldest brother's family and the oldest from the second brother's family, the two cousins, skipped grades to take the college entrance exam and also achieved good results. However, one is studying at a prestigious school in Hu City, and the other in a key university in their hometown's provincial capital.

Next, it will be Second Brother's second child and Third Brother's eldest child's turn. Anyway, as someone said, in the coming years, graduates from Old Kang's Home will appear one after another.

Not all of them will go to the top prestigious schools, but at least there's no issue about getting into university.

To take a step back, even if one doesn't make it, there's nothing to worry about.

Reason?

In every profession, there are outstanding people. It's not just university education that leads to success. Moreover, with the elders in the family starting up businesses, those nephews who fail to get into university can completely do what they like with family support.

Of course, the prerequisite is to stay on the right path.

In this way, they won't waste their youth and will live up to themselves!

"Not exaggerated at all." Luo Yanqing gently pinched Kang Li's pretty nose, his Phoenix Eyes overflowing with doting: "With that little look of yours, your heart must be full of pride!"

"You saw through that, your eyes are really sharp!"

Kang Li laughed and casually changed the topic: "Austin asked me to ask you for a favor."

"Mentioned it the day before yesterday?"

Luo Yanqing retracted his smile: "What can I do for him?" He's someone who does research, doesn't have much in the way of interpersonal connections.

"He wants you to find out some information about Shen Yun."

As soon as Kang Li said this, Luo Yanqing frowned: "They were once married. Did they really not contact each other after divorce?!"

Kang Li couldn't help but laugh: "Don't get worked up. Before divorcing Shen Yun, Austin promised he wouldn't appear in front of Shen Yun and their son anymore. Based on this, they haven't had any contact in recent years.

Now Austin wants to investigate our country's market, and thought of visiting his son in passing. But to save time, he mentioned this to me, although he hadn't expected that I wasn't familiar with Shen Yun, so he thought perhaps you could find out more about Shen Yun and his son Jian."

Luo Yanqing felt aggrieved: "You don't know her well, do I know her well?"

Kang Li laughed awkwardly: "Alright, alright, don't feel aggrieved. I'll call Austin tomorrow, tell him Shen Yun is remarried, and suggest he go directly to Shen Yun's parents' home, perhaps Shen Yun's parents can help arrange a meeting so he can see his son."

"..." After a while, Luo Yanqing spoke: "Let's do it that way."

"Look at how anxious and aggrieved you were just now. Why, has Shen Yun come to you again?"

Kang Li teased, noticing the man's expression became uneasy, couldn't help but joke: "Did I hit the nail on the head?"

"No."

Luo Yanqing shook his head: "If she dares to come near me, I wouldn't mind making her lose face publicly."

The fact is, when Shen Yun heard about Kang Li going abroad for further studies, she was skeptical, and about a month before Luo Yanqing went abroad, although she didn't directly approach Luo Yanqing, her look always became strange whenever she saw him.

Once, Luo Yanqing noticed, and met Shen Yun's gaze, and at that moment, he felt disgusted.

He felt Shen Yun was restless and shameless, to have such dirty thoughts towards him despite being married.

If it weren't for the crucial stage his project was in at that time, Luo Yanqing might have already acted against Shen Yun, driving this "fly" far from his work circle, to prevent it from buzzing around and affecting his mood one day.

"Seems she still has old feelings for you!"

Kang Li mocked.

"Idiot, who can make me feel aggrieved?"

Kang Li said, leaning towards the man's thin lips, at which point the man transformed from passive to active.

Soon, the room was filled with pink bubbles...

For the next three days, Bun and the three were left in the care of Cai Xiufen, Captain Kang, and Jiang Hongfa. Accompanied by Luo Yanqing, Kang Li drove to various malls for a shopping spree.

Every time they returned, it was with large bags entering the door. After all, Kang Li wasn't short on money, especially with her generous dad and granddad stuffing money in heaps.

There's no worry about financial strain at all.

Chapter 1314

After buying all the gifts, Kang Li categorized and placed them neatly, sticking notes on the outside packaging to mark whose it was. In short, everyone dear to her heart would receive gifts brought back home by Luo Yanqing and Captain Kang, Cai Xiufen.

Seeing the days slip by, it was only three days before Luo Yanqing and Captain Kang were to return to their homeland, leaving Kang Li feeling a bit melancholic.

"Is it because you don't want me to go back home?"

The moonlight was bright, streaming through the delicate and simple floor-to-ceiling curtains into the bedroom, casting a soft, poetic light.

After a loving moment, Luo Yanqing carried Kang Li to the bathroom to freshen up. It was upon returning to bed that Luo Yanqing noticed Kang Li's unusual mood and couldn't help but ask.

"With you and Mom and Dad leaving soon, I feel a bit uncomfortable."

Held tightly in his arms, Kang Li's voice was muffled, "Time flies too quickly."

"Yes, time does fly, but you have to study, and I have to work, so we have to be apart for now. Besides, Mom and Dad don't have a valid reason to stay here. Once the time is up, the local authorities will have them sent back... Dear, when you finish your studies and return, we can be together forever."

As he gently comforted his wife in his arms, Luo Yanqing's dark eyes were full of tenderness: "If you miss Mom and Dad, you can always call them or write letters."

Kang Li felt a little better and looked up at him with a sly glint in her eyes: "What if I miss you?"

"Calls and letters work too."

With his beautifully contoured chin lightly resting against her forehead, Luo Yanqing smiled with the corners of his mouth: "We've taken many photos recently. If you miss me, you can look at my photos. Likewise, I will look at your photos every day, morning and night. This way, the days will pass quickly, and it will ease the longing."

"Sweet talker."

Kang Li playfully chided him, then said, "Take more photos of me and the kids back with you, and remember to send some photos of Ruirui and the others when you write. That way, when I have time, I can teach the kids Tangyuan and Guoguo to recognize their older brother and sister through the photos."

"When traveling abroad becomes easier, I'll take all my nephews abroad to have fun."

"They might not need you, their little aunt, to take them."

"I know what you're trying to say. It's because they'll have succeeded on their own and might study or travel abroad."

"Don't you want your nephews to succeed?"

"That's harsh! I want my nephews to succeed more than anyone else, so they can contribute to the rise of Old Kang's Family!"

Kang Li was radiant as she spoke, giving him a proud look.

Luo Yanqing laughed, "From my perspective, Old Kang's Family is already on the rise."

"Not yet."

Kang Li was humble.

"How is it not? Counting those who got into university the same year as you, there are now seven university students from Old Kang's Family. Plus, your eldest brother's four kids all made it.

This year's college entrance exam, your third brother's eldest will participate. It's a safe bet they'll get into college. In the coming years, university students will emerge one by one from Old Kang's Home.

Not just in rural areas, even in urban ones, that's a source of pride. Especially since the nephews got into college at such young ages, showing how remarkable the kids in the family are. Who dares say such a rural family hasn't risen?"

"You're exaggerating!"

Though she spoke modestly, Kang Li's eyes were filled with pride and joy.

She truly hadn't expected all her nephews to be so studious, competing with each other in their efforts without any prodding, all with study plans of their own.

Well, she should have realized it was the effect of leading by example.

After all, the year she took the college entrance exam, her eldest nephew Kang Yiyang and his brothers Kang Yichen, Kang Yihong, along with her younger brother Kang Guoan, not only got into college but were admitted to prestigious ones.

Last year, her eldest brother's fourth child and her second brother's eldest both skipped grades to take the entrance exam and scored well, with one attending a famous school in Hu City and the other at a key provincial college in their hometown.

Next will be her second brother's second child and her third brother's eldest. Either way, as predicted, in the coming years, college students will emerge from Old Kang's Family one by one.

Even if not all get into top schools, getting into college shouldn't be a problem.

Even if one falls short, there's no reason to worry.

Why?

Because among the 360 trades, a master can appear in every trade, and college isn't the only path. Moreover, with the family's elders in business, those nephews not going to college can do what they love with family support.

The premise, of course, is to take a proper path.

Kang Li chuckled, "Don't get too excited. Before Austin and Shen Yun divorced, Austin promised not to appear in her and her son's life again. Based on this, they haven't contacted each other for years.

Recently, Austin plans to visit our country for market research, and he thought of visiting his son. But to save time, he mentioned it to me, only to realize I wasn't close to Shen Yun. So, he's hoping you could provide more information about Shen Yun and her son Jian."

Luo Yanqing felt wronged: "You're not familiar. Does that mean I am?"

Kang Li smiled awkwardly, "Fine, fine, don't be upset. Tomorrow I'll call Austin and tell him that Shen Yun is remarried, suggesting he go straight to Shen Yun's parents. They can help arrange a meeting with his son."

"..." After a while, Luo Yanqing spoke, "Okay, then."

"You seemed so anxious and aggrieved earlier. Did Shen Yun contact you again?"

Kang Li teased him when she noticed his unease, "Could it be that I guessed right?"

"No."

Luo Yanqing shook his head, "If she dares come near me, I wouldn't hesitate to embarrass her in public."

The truth was, after Shen Yun heard Kang Li was going abroad for further studies, she held doubts. In the month before Luo Yanqing went abroad, although Shen Yun didn't approach him directly, her gaze turned odd every time she saw him.

Luo Yanqing once noticed it, and when their eyes met, he felt nothing but disgust.

He found Shen Yun restless and shameless, still harboring inappropriate thoughts towards him despite being married.

If it weren't for a critical stage in his project at the time, Luo Yanqing might have already taken action to drive this fly away from his work circle, lest it buzz around disturbing his peace.

"Looks like she's still stuck on you!"

Kang Li's tone was teasing.

"Good."

"Looks like she's still stuck on you!"

Kang Li's tone was teasing.

"Good."

If it weren't for a critical stage in his project at the time, Luo Yanqing might have already taken action to drive this fly away from his work circle, lest it buzz around disturbing his peace.

"Looks like she's still stuck on you!"

Chapter 1315

Speaking neither too fast nor too slow, Kang Li always wore a smile as she roughly recounted the situation with Shen Yun.

Of course, she did not mention any messy details.

Like how Shen Yun returned to the country to entangle Luo Yanqing, and even after several years, still harbored unrealistic fantasies about Luo Yanqing despite being married.

"...I believe what you're saying, but from my understanding of Jian's mother, she probably doesn't care much about Jian."

After a long silence, a light phrase slipped from Austin's lips.

Hearing this, a slight look of doubt appeared in Kang Li's clear eyes: "Since you think your ex-wife might neglect Jian, why did you give the child to her during the divorce and agree to not appear in her and Jian's lives again?"

Austin felt a bit bitter as he replied, "Jian's mom and I got together under the influence of alcohol. Simply put, she wasn't with me out of love but because she felt obliged after losing her virginity to me and had to register the marriage with me.

You know, in matters like this, girls are at a relative disadvantage, and Jian's mom is a conservative girl. She cried incessantly afterward, feeling as if the sky was falling down.

Watching her cry, I felt guilty and proposed marriage, thinking we could try to live together. If we really couldn't develop feelings and she couldn't persist, I'd unconditionally agree to a divorce.

At the beginning of our marriage, we got along relatively well, but as time passed day by day, Jian's mom easily lost her temper and would lash out at me whenever she saw me.

Thinking that she was in a foreign country and now my wife, I tolerated her in every possible way, telling myself that things might get better once we had a child.

But that was just my wishful thinking. My one-sided hope. After giving birth to Jian, Jian's mom became even more temperamental than before, throwing fits at home when things didn't go her way, scaring the child so much that he didn't dare go near her.

When Jian was about to turn three, his mom finally confessed she wanted a divorce, wanted to return to her own country, and demanded that I give up custody of Jian,

saying Jian was a part of her, and she had to have him by her side. If not, as her husband, I would be taking her life. She cried, begged, and in the end, I had no choice but to agree for her to take Jian away."

After listening to Austin, Kang Li was silent for a while before she spoke: "You need to be prepared."

"Prepared? For what?"

Austin asked, puzzled.

Kang Li didn't hold back and straightforwardly said: "Jian is very introverted; when playing with other kids, he usually doesn't speak or participate and just quietly watches from the side."

"..." Austin was stunned for a moment before he asked, "Jian isn't being bullied by other kids, right?"

"I haven't seen it happen, but whether he has been bullied or not, you can ask him when you see him."

Kang Li was being truthful, as she indeed hadn't witnessed anything in the courtyard. As for Jian's situation in kindergarten or elementary school, she hadn't heard anything from Hanhan or Vivi, so there's a chance the child is simply introverted by nature, not because he's being bullied.

"I... I'll catch a flight over there tomorrow..." Austin was saying this when something seemed to come to his mind, and he asked, "Do you have time next?"

Before Kang Li could respond, he continued, "I want to buy some toys and clothes for Jian, but I don't know what to choose. If you have some time, could you come to the mall with me?"

"Let's go."

Kang Li stood up, but when Austin stood up, she said, "Wait a moment, I'm going to say hi to my grandfather and Aunt Fu."

With these words, Kang Li left the living room.

About three or four minutes later, footsteps came from the stairs, and Austin looked up: "Ready to go?" Kang Li descended the stairs and nodded with a smile.

"Let me carry that for you."

Seeing the bag in Kang Li's hand, Austin extended his hand.

Kang Li shook her head, politely declining: "No need."

"Ride in my car."

Austin opened the car door, inviting Kang Li inside.

"I'll drive myself; it'll be more convenient afterward, and it saves you the trouble of driving me back."

She lightly shook her head and drove a white compact car out from the garage: "Lead the way," she said to Austin while looking out the window.

"Alright."

Despite his complex emotions, Austin managed to respond with a smile.

It should be noted that the white compact car Kang Li was driving was specially bought by Jiang Boya for his beloved daughter Kang Li.

Chapter 1316:

After more than half an hour, their car slowly came to a stop in a large mall parking lot.

Getting out of the car, Kang Li looked natural and chatted with Austin as they walked into the mall entrance.

“Does this outfit fit?”

“Jian and my second kid are about the same height and build, buying this size should definitely be no problem. Not long ago, my spouse and I came to this mall to buy clothes for the kids, and we picked out the same style for my second child, but the color was different.”

“Then let’s buy it.”

In the children’s clothing section, having picked out several outfits for Jian, they moved to the children’s shoe area. According to Jian’s age, they selected a pair of black leather shoes and two pairs of sneakers. Kang Li said, “It’s okay to buy shoes a little bigger.”

Austin nodded.

If the shoes are big, they can be worn when his feet grow.

“Let’s go to the toy section.”

Kang Li beckoned Austin to follow, and following the mall’s signs, they arrived at the children’s toy sales area. Kang Li said, “Boys like toys like cars and airplanes, while girls like...” Speaking in a gentle tone, Kang Li looked at the toys on the shelves, telling Austin about boys’ and girls’ preferences for toys.

Half an hour passed in the blink of an eye, and Kang Li and Austin walked out of the mall.

Austin put the large bags and packages into his car’s trunk and then took the bags from Kang Li’s hands: “Thank you!”

“No need for thanks, we’re friends after all.”

Kang Li smiled and said goodbye to Austin: “You should go back quickly and organize the things you want to take.” Saying this, she waved her hand: “Goodbye.”

Austin nodded: “Goodbye.” Watching Kang Li’s car drive away, he finally looked away.

It’s easy to see a hint of desolation in his eyes.

...

Back home.

Luo Yanqing, Captain Kang, and Cai Xiufen had just returned to the compound from their flight when they heard the sound of an argument from next door at the Wen's family. Just after that, Wen Siyuan shouted angrily, "You're crazy!"

"What's going on?"

Cai Xiufen asked Captain Kang.

"There's an argument next door."

Big Brother Kang replied casually.

"I know, I'm asking why they're arguing." Cai Xiufen looked at Captain Kang in frustration, feeling that Captain Kang couldn't understand what she meant. Unexpectedly, Captain Kang heard this and was similarly frustrated, saying, "How would I know what you don't know?"

"Grandma, Grandma, I'll go out and see what's happening for you."

Ming Han said with a cheeky smile and then ran out of the living room.

"I'll go out and see for Grandma too." Ming Wei said and was about to chase after her brother Ming Han. Seeing this, Luo Yanqing said, "Sit tight."

Ming Wei responded with an "Oh," and somewhat reluctantly sat beside Cai Xiufen.

"Are you unhappy now?" Cai Xiufen asked the little girl. Unexpectedly, Ming Wei shook her head, then sneaked a glance at Luo Yanqing and whispered, "No."

"Alright, watching the spectacle isn't a good thing. Sometimes, if you're not careful, you might end up causing an accident yourself. Your dad is doing it for your own good."

Cai Xiufen comforted the little girl.

"But my second brother ran out."

Ming Wei puffed out her cheeks, speaking with a hint of grievance: "Dad always talks to me and big brother and second brother with a stern face. I'm scared to look at him."

“Your dad is just like that, he doesn’t like to smile, but it’s not intentional to put on a stern face for us.” With a loving expression, Cai Xiufen pointed at the pile of luggage in the center of the living room, asking the little girl, “Don’t you want to see what your mom bought for you?”

Ming Wei’s eyes lit up immediately, nodding vigorously: “Grandma, I want to see!”

“Wait for a bit, when Grandma takes a break, we’ll take out the things one by one that your mom bought for you.” Saying this, Cai Xiufen saw Ming Han running back into the living room.

“Can’t you walk properly?”

Luo Yanqing looked at Ming Han: “How many times has your mom told you not to keep running around? What if you bump into someone or fall down yourself, what would you do?”

“I’m wrong.”

Standing properly, Ming Han opened his mouth gingerly, suggesting, “How about I go to the corner and reflect for half an hour?”

Yet, Luo Yanqing said nothing, merely looked at him quietly.

Feeling a bit tense, Ming Han obediently said, “I’ll do it right away.”

But before heading to the wall, he cast his gaze at Cai Xiufen: "Grandma, Uncle Wen wants to divorce Auntie Su, but Auntie Su disagrees. In front of Uncle Wen, she took a lot of pills, and now Uncle Wen has taken her to the hospital. I heard Aunt Xu and Teacher Loo say that if Auntie Su doesn't get her stomach pumped in time, she could die."

Chapter 1317

As Ming Han's voice faded, the living room became so quiet you could hear a pin drop.

"Luo Minghan, half an hour."

Min Rui's voice suddenly rang out, breaking the silent atmosphere.

"Got it."

Ming Han responded.

He knew his brother was reminding him to go reflect on his actions by facing the wall.

"Ruirui, you and Grandma open these suitcases, Grandma will sort the things inside." Cai Xiufen didn't discuss Su Man swallowing pills; she stood up from the sofa and walked over to the pile of baggage in the center of the living room.

Luo Yanqing: "Mom, let me help you."

"You go rest, I have Ruirui helping me, I'll slowly sort it out, it's not anything urgent." Cai Xiufen said as she waved her hand at Luo Yanqing.

"Grandma, I'll help you with Big Brother."

Ming Wei came to Cai Xiufen's side.

Cai Xiufen smiled and nodded: "Here, these are letters your mother wrote to you." Taking out four letters from the luggage, Cai Xiufen handed them to Ming Wei: "For Xiao En, let your Little Uncle take it over later."

"Then I'll keep Xiao En's safe first, and when Little Uncle comes home next weekend, I'll give it to him." Saying this, Ming Wei handed the other two letters in her hand to Min Rui and Ming Han.

However, the three siblings didn't immediately open the letters to read them; instead, they carefully folded the letters and tucked them into their pockets.

"Wow! The dress and little shoes Mom got me are so pretty!"

Seeing the little dress and shoes Cai Xiufen took out of the suitcase, Ming Wei happily jumped and bounced.

"Here, these are yours, take them to your room and tidy them up. Your mom said the books she bought for you, you need to read seriously, and if there's anything you don't understand, ask your big brother."

Min Rui and his siblings had been learning foreign languages with Kang Li since they were young; now, they can easily read children's and youth versions of foreign books.

"Grandma, I'll listen to Mom, and ask Big Brother if I don't understand."

Ming Wei said cheerfully and then took her gifts to her room.

"Ruirui, these are yours." Taking out the things Kang Li bought for Min Rui, Cai Xiufen handed them over, and gave Ming Han's things to her eldest grandson: "Help Hanhan take his things to your room and tidy them up."

Min Rui nodded: "Okay."

Today is Saturday, there are still two classes in the afternoon, and it's almost one o'clock.

"Dad, Mom, I'll take Luo Mingrui and the others to school."

Luo Yanqing greeted Captain Kang and his wife, then said to Ming Han: "Go to school, and make up the remaining twenty minutes in the afternoon."

"Oh."

Ming Han responded.

"Leave the letter at home."

Looking at Ming Han's pocket, Luo Yanqing said plainly.

Ming Han paused for a moment, but nodded in the end.

Seeing Min Rui and Ming Wei coming out of their room, Luo Yanqing asked, "Where are your letters?"

"I put it in the room drawer."

Min Rui replied.

Ming Wei covered her pocket, not speaking after a while.

"Put them in the room."

Before Luo Yanqing said anything, Min Rui lightly pushed Ming Wei: "Read them after school in the afternoon."

"...Okay."

After hesitating for a while, Ming Wei sighed like a little adult, went back to the room to put the letter away, and then returned to the living room.

"Let's go."

Calling the three to follow, Luo Yanqing walked out of the living room.

After the four of them left, Cai Xiufen quickly organized the things Kang Li bought and her clothes from abroad, then chatted with Captain Kang about Su Man's pill incident.

"What do you think Comrade Su is thinking? Not living well, but seeking death, does she really think doing this will stop Comrade Wen from divorcing her?"

"Why meddle in others' business?!" Captain Kang took a puff from his smoking pipe and said, "Aren't you going to make some food, or are you expecting Yanqing to stay hungry with us?"

Min Rui and his siblings had lunch at the Song Family and returned home, just in time as Luo Yanqing and Captain Kang were entering the yard, so the three siblings stayed at home for another twenty minutes.

"Making oil-splashed noodles?"

"Yeah."

"I'll go to the kitchen to knead dough; you pull out two green onions and a few vegetables, clean them thoroughly."

"You're so fussy."

Captain Kang followed behind Cai Xiufen with his hands behind his back as she left the living room:
"Since I came to North City, when have I not lent a hand when you're cooking?"

"What's wrong with lending a hand? Aren't you eating too?"

Giving Captain Kang an eye-roll, Cai Xiufen pushed open the kitchen door.

"Can't argue with a woman like you."

Offering this remark, Captain Kang ignored Cai Xiufen, pulled out two green onions and a few vegetables, cleaned them as Cai Xiufen instructed, and placed them in the basin ready for use.

Chapter 1318 -

"Should I start a fire now?"

"Do you really need to ask me that?"

"Can't we talk nicely?"

"No, we can't."

"You woman..."

"What about me?"

The old man should just voice his grievances openly. Why say "I can't talk to a woman like you"?

Captain Kang: "... " This woman is getting more and more outrageous!

After dropping the three young ones off at school, Luo Yanqing didn't linger on the road and went straight back home. As soon as she entered, she smelled the aroma of food.

Cai Xiufen: "You're back?! Quickly wash your hands and eat."

Luo Yanqing: "Okay."

Three bowls of delicious oil-splashed noodles were placed on the table. Seeing Luo Yanqing walk into the living room, Cai Xiufen said, "Eat quickly, or the noodles will get soggy."

"Mom, you and dad eat too."

Luo Yanqing said as she picked up a bowl.

Captain Kang: "Go ahead and eat." He handed Cai Xiufen a pair of chopsticks, lifted the large porcelain bowl in front of him, and began eating the noodles heartily. They looked and smelled delicious.

That afternoon, to be precise, around four o'clock, there was some commotion in the Wen Family Courtyard next door.

"They must be back from the hospital!"

Cai Xiufen, having just finished beating the dust out of the quilts, returned to the living room and whispered, motioning towards the direction next door.

"It's their home, where else would they go?"

Captain Kang sipped his tea and said, "Don't forget, you were once the women's head. Your awareness and quality are different from ordinary women. Don't always think about watching the commotion."

"Did I ever say I was going to watch?"

Cai Xiufen lowered her voice to avoid disturbing Luo Yanqing, who was reading in the study.

"Are you sure you don't want to go see what's happening?"

Captain Kang inquired.

"Even if I did, what's the harm? There are so many people watching, will one more really make a difference?" Cai Xiufen glared at Captain Kang. "I'm no longer the women's head, so stop mentioning awareness and quality to me."

Before Kang Li could speak, he continued, "I want to buy some toys and clothes for Jian, but I don't know what to pick. If you have the time, could you come with me to the mall?"

"Let's go."

Kang Li stood up, but as Austin got up, she said, "Wait a moment, I need to say a quick hello to my grandfather and Aunt Fu."

With that, Kang Li left the living room.

About three to four minutes later, footsteps could be heard on the stairs. Austin looked up, "Ready to go?" Kang Li descended the stairs, smiling as she nodded.

"Let me carry that for you."

Seeing the bag in Kang Li's hand, Austin extended his hand.

Kang Li shook her head and politely declined, "No need."

"Ride in my car."

Austin opened the car door, inviting Kang Li inside.

"I'll drive myself, it will be more convenient for me to return later, and saves you the trip."

Lightly shaking her head, Kang Li went to the garage and drove out a white compact car. "Lead the way," she said, glancing outside the car window.

"Okay."

Austin felt mixed emotions, but still responded with a smile.

It should be said, the white compact car was specially bought by Jiang Boya for Kang Li, his precious daughter.

Over half an hour later, their cars smoothly parked in the lot of a large mall.

Stepping out of the car, Kang Li acted naturally, chatting with Austin as they walked into the mall.

"Does this clothing fit?"

"Jian and our second child are similar in height and build, so this size shouldn't be a problem. Not long ago, my partner and I came to this mall to buy clothes for the kids and we picked a similar one for our second child then, but in a different color."

"Let's buy it then."

In the children's clothing section, they picked several outfits for Jian. Then they moved to the children's shoe section, selecting a pair of black leather shoes and two pairs of sneakers appropriate for Jian's age. Kang Li said, "It's okay to buy shoes a little big."

Austin nodded.

Bigger shoes can wait until his feet grow into them.

"Let's head to the toy section."

Kang Li motioned for Austin to follow as they made their way to the children's toy section, following the mall's signs. Kang Li commented as she browsed the shelf, "Boys like cars and planes, while girls prefer..." She softly explained to Austin the toy preferences of boys and girls.

Before long, half an hour had passed, and the two walked out of the mall.

Austin placed the large and small bags into his car's trunk and then took the bags Kang Li was holding.
"Thank you!"

Luo Yanqing, Captain Kang, and Cai Xiufen had just returned to the courtyard after getting off the plane when they heard arguing next door from the Wen family. Immediately following was a shout from Wen Siyuan: "Are you crazy!"

"What's going on?"

Cai Xiufen asked Captain Kang.

"The neighbors are arguing."

Big Brother Kang replied casually.

"I know that. I'm asking why they're arguing." Cai Xiufen looked at Captain Kang, annoyed he didn't grasp her question, but to her surprise, he responded with equal annoyance: "How should I know what you don't know?"

"Grandma, Grandma, I'll go out and help you take a look."

Ming Han said cheerfully before darting out of the living room.

"I'll go help Grandma look too." Ming Wei said, planning to chase after her brother Ming Han, but Luo Yanqing intervened, "Sit tight."

Ming Wei responded with an "Oh," somewhat sullenly sitting next to Cai Xiufen.

"Already upset?" Cai Xiufen inquired, but surprisingly, Ming Wei shook her head and furtively glanced at Luo Yanqing, whispering, "No, I'm not."

"Alright, watching the commotion isn't a good thing. If you're not careful, you might get into trouble. Your dad just wants what's best for you."

Cai Xiufen comforted the little girl.

"But my second brother already ran out."

Ming Wei puffed her cheeks, speaking with a hint of grievance, "Dad is always stern when talking to me and my older and second brothers. It frightens me."

"That's just how your dad is. He doesn't like to smile, but he's not intentionally giving us cold looks." With a loving expression, Cai Xiufen pointed to the heap of luggage in the middle of the living room and asked the little girl: "Aren't you curious to see what your mom bought you?"

Immediately, Ming Wei's eyes brightened, nodding enthusiastically, "Grandma, I want to see!"

"Wait a moment. Once Grandma rests, I'll pull out each thing your mom bought for you." As she spoke, Cai Xiufen saw Ming Han rushing back into the living room.

"Can't you walk properly?"

Luo Yanqing looked at Ming Han, "How many times has your mom told you, don't rush around. If you crash into someone or take a fall, what would you do?"

"I'm sorry."

Standing formally, Ming Han tentatively said, "Should I go reflect by facing the wall for half an hour?"

However, Luo Yanqing remained silent, simply watching him quietly.

Tension rose in his heart, Ming Han quickly and obediently said, "I'll go right now."

But before heading towards the wall, he turned his gaze to Cai Xiufen, "Grandma, Uncle Wen and Auntie Su next door are getting a divorce. Auntie Su didn't agree, and then she took a lot of pills right in front of Uncle Wen. Now he's taken her to the hospital. I heard Aunt Xu and Teacher Loo say that if Auntie Su doesn't get her stomach pumped in time, she might not make it."

Chapter 1319:

"You..." Wen Siyuan stood up abruptly, his previously indifferent and composed expression completely shattered. His eyes were full of disgust as he gritted his teeth and squeezed out three words, "You're shameless!"

"Yes, I'm shameless. But what can you do to me?" Su Man became increasingly smug, filled with the satisfaction of revenge, "Still want a divorce with me?"

Wen Siyuan clenched his fists tightly, feeling so enraged by Su Man that his lips trembled.

"I'll be waiting. Once you've made up your mind, we'll go handle the divorce procedures." Leaving these words, Su Man turned around and left, feeling a weight lifted off her shoulders. Ha! Now she'll see who actually doesn't want a divorce!

At the moment she turned her back to Wen Siyuan, a cold smile tugged at Su Man's lips.

Watching her leave the study, Wen Siyuan slammed a fist onto the desk.

Damn it!

She has actually become clever... Knowing how much he values his work, she pinned such a black mark on him...

Panting heavily, Wen Siyuan felt a murderous rage rising within him.

He was well aware that once Su Man spread the words she just said in front of him throughout the courtyard, Luo Yanqing would never let him off the hook!

Even though he had no such intentions, even though he was also a victim, the fact that Su Man was his wife was indisputable.

Furthermore, Comrade Kang was an upright woman, unrelated to the couple, but due to their marital discord, her reputation would be unjustly damaged. Never mind how angry Comrade Kang herself would be upon learning this, Luo Yanqing as her husband would certainly not spare the couple, especially not him!

Besides, Comrade Kang has quite a few relatives in North City, and her parents live next door to them. Can he allow Su Man to step out of the house and slander recklessly?

Wen Siyuan's face constantly changed, and he slammed his fist onto the desk again.

The skin over his knuckles split, indicating how painful his fist must be now, but he seemed completely oblivious, with anger and resentment being the only emotions apparent on his face.

Time passed without notice as Wen Siyuan slumped into the chair, looking utterly dejected.

He loves scientific research. To get into the institute back in the days, he put a lot of effort into it. Leaving his position now, especially with a disgraceful reputation, to be honest, was something he couldn't accept!

Thinking about this, Wen Siyuan had no choice but to temporarily put aside the idea of filing for divorce. He needed time to reconsider, to see if there was a way to divorce Su Man smoothly without affecting anyone's reputation.

Undoubtedly, the so-called "anyone" clearly referred to Kang Li.

On the other side, Su Man returned to the master bedroom, like a victorious general, exceptionally pleased with herself, but shortly after, she felt extremely pitiful for herself.

To avoid divorce, using such vile means, Wen Siyuan probably despised her, loathed her even more, and found her disgusting!

Lying on the bed, tears welled up in Su Man's eyes, and she both cried and laughed, yet not a single sound was uttered.

"How did my life end up like this?"

As she asked herself the existential question in her heart, Su Man suddenly covered her face, finally crying out loud.

Is it really as she thought, all because of that woman Kang Li moving into the courtyard?

No one provided an answer. Yes, no one gave Su Man an answer.

The next day, around eight or nine o'clock in the morning, Father Su and Mother Su arrived at the courtyard, summoned by a call from Wen Siyuan.

"Sleep, sleep, sleep. All you know is to sleep! Get up right now! Are you so idle that you just go around arguing with your son-in-law?"

Walking into the living room, they saw Wen Yue, the Third Sister, and Wen Peng. Wen Siyuan and Su Man were not present, so upon asking, Mother Su learned that Su Man was in the bedroom while Wen Siyuan was in the study. She exchanged a glance with Father Su, and the couple went separate ways, one to the study to look for Wen Siyuan, the other to the master bedroom, unleashing a torrent of criticism.

Su Man lay on the bed with her back to the door, flinching at the sound of Mother Su's voice, then remaining unresponsive thereafter.

"Did you hear me when I told you to get up?"

Seeing Su Man lying there motionless, Mother Su grew increasingly irritated. With her face tense, she stepped forward to pull Su Man from the bed, "Speak up, are you mute?"

But still, Su Man made no reaction.

At this moment, Father Su walked into the bedroom, his face dark. He closed the door behind him and, before Mother Su could speak, he briskly walked to the bed, pulled Su Man up from the bed to stand on the floor, then raised his hand and delivered two slaps.

"How did I end up with such a shameless daughter?!"

Hearing Father Su's words, Mother Su was dumbfounded, unable to comprehend Father Su's current sentiment.

Chapter 1320 (Part 2)

"Is your son-in-law short on money, needing you to set up a stall to earn money? Just to earn those few pathetic coins, you disgraceful thing, not only did you mess around with other men, but also got expelled from school. What were you thinking?"

Another two slaps landed.

Su Man had not yet recovered from the first two slaps, and now she received two more in quick succession, her face visibly swollen and red.

"What are you saying?" Mother Su grabbed Father Su's hand, urgently asking, "Manman got expelled? Are you sure? And Manman with other men... Where did you hear this from?"

"Two slaps" sounded, Father Su gave himself two slaps, then, as if losing all his strength, sighed deeply, crouched down, and said, "It's the son-in-law who told me."

Mother Su was shocked by Father Su slapping himself, and upon hearing his words, she couldn't hold back. She grabbed Su Man's arms, face full of anger: "Speak up, is the son-in-law lying?"

Su Man's arms were aching from Mother Su's grip, but she clenched her teeth and lowered her head, not saying a word.

"It seems... it seems the son-in-law wasn't lying to your dad..." Mother Su murmured, and the next moment, she started hitting Su Man: "How could you be so outrageous? Not attending a good university and running off to set up a stall? Setting up a stall would have been fine, but how did you lose your school registration and even put a green hat on your husband? Where's your face?"

Su Man stood like a wooden post, letting Mother Su's slaps fall upon her body again and again.

"What should we do now..." Perhaps tired from hitting, Mother Su sat on the bed, wiping tears: "He dad, what do you think we should do about Manman's future?"

"You're asking me what to do? I'd like to ask your good daughter now what can be done?!"

Father Su raised his head, locked eyes with Mother Su, and said word by word: "Not only did she get involved with another man, but she got pregnant with his child and had surgery at the hospital. The son-in-law found out about this last New Year's Eve..."

At that time, the son-in-law proposed divorce, but the stubborn girl refused to admit it, and because of his work dreams, he temporarily put the matter aside. But the stubborn girl, on the day the son-in-law came home on vacation, was expelled from school,

thinking she was about to graduate, she stubbornly refused to leave school, going to the school leaders and causing a scene. The leaders called to the compound here, and just as the son-in-law walked in, he received that call and had to go to the school to bring her back... But the stubborn girl did well, upon entering the house she started trouble, complaining that the son-in-law didn't speak well for her in front of those school leaders,

wanting the son-in-law to plead with her school leaders to let her go back to school for classes, where did she get the face? A week without attending classes, and rarely participating in any exams, what school would keep such a student?

The son-in-law was extremely angered, once again proposing divorce, yet the stubborn girl argued loudly and steadfastly refused, even bringing up the neighbor's female comrade, causing the son-in-law to be beaten by the neighbor's husband, and the stubborn girl herself was not spared a beating from the female comrade's sister-in-law.

As the saying goes, trouble comes from the mouth, but the stubborn girl remained unrepentant, to stop the son-in-law from filing for divorce, first scheming before him, swallowing pills, attempting suicide, fortunately taken to the hospital promptly by the son-in-law for rescue, escaping danger only to return home and have her deception exposed by the son-in-law, yet still unrelenting, taking a box cutter to slash her wrist, trying to hold the son-in-law to ransom..."

Father Su violently rubbed his face, and then continued: "The box cutter was seized from her by the son-in-law, can you imagine what that stubborn girl did next?"

Coldly and heavily, Father Su glanced at Su Man, then returned his gaze to Mother Su: "The stubborn girl was selfish, not even caring about Pengpeng's future, using unfounded accusations to threaten the son-in-law, saying if he insisted on divorcing her, she would spread word around the compound that he liked the female comrade next door."

Mother Su was stupefied, no, accurately she was stupefied hearing all of Su Man's outrageous acts, she never imagined raising such a shameless troublemaker.

After Father Su finished speaking, after a long pause, Mother Su came to her senses, and slapped Su Man again, her eyes bloodshot, repeatedly questioning: "What were you thinking? Not attending a good university, not living a good life, insisting on causing trouble before the son-in-law, are you out of your mind, or is your brain filled with crap?"