

Weak B 151

Chapter 151: Unpredictable Overwhelmed with regret after she had chased out the onlookers from the courtyard, Xiao Feng raised her hand and gave her son, Wang Xiaochao, several hard slaps on his bottom.

It vented the frustration that had been festering inside her heart!

Being harshly beaten by his own mother, Wang Xiaochao opened his mouth wide and cried out loud.

Watching her son in this state, Xiao Feng no longer soothed him with gentle words as before; instead, the more she looked at her foolish son, the more she felt she had been deeply wronged!

“Whether you’re scared or not, just know that you have your godmother and godfather behind you, and in times of trouble, we will not tolerate anyone’s unfair treatment.”

After being set down by Song Xuan, Milk Bun Ming Han stood steadily on the ground. Mrs. Qi glanced at the pair, one large and one small, then she grabbed Kang Li’s hand, and with earnest and serious intent, she spoke a sentence.

Upon hearing this, Kang Li smiled and nodded, “Good!”

Mrs. Qi said, “Then godmother will take Xuan Xuan back with her.” This was her daughter, Qi Fang, who was kind-hearted and smart, and so beautiful that she just couldn’t get enough of looking at her!

Kang Li responded, "Mm." As she watched Mrs. Qi lead the young man away, Kang Li's eyes turned reflective and filled with warmth.

No one knew how lonely she felt when she had inexplicably appeared alone in this world.

Yes, she thought to herself that since she was here, she should adapt, and she did so calmly, thinking that no matter the circumstance, she could live well, but... but coming to another world meant she was truly far away from her family of the past, distant from everything she knew. In other words, there were no familiar family members here, none of the things she was accustomed to, and everything and everyone around her was completely foreign.

Even though the parents and her brother and sister-in-law from the Kang Family in Aoli Village, her extended family, treated her well, she knew the affection and care they offered were meant for the original soul of this body, not for her, the outsider.

It had been over a month since she became the youngest daughter of the Kang Family in Aoli Village. During this not so long yet not so short time, she couldn't say she had made any friends...

Even the System didn't know she was an outsider soul; it wasn't the person it was supposed to lock onto.

Therefore, she truly was a solitary existence here.

Perhaps she was being a bit melodramatic for not considering Luo Yanqing and the three little ones as people who cared for and valued her, but was she really being melodramatic?

Luo Yanqing, a man she had only known for about ten days, and even though they were husband and wife, supposedly the most intimate relationship in the world, there still wasn't much affection between them, one could even say there was none at all.

His demeanor was indeed indifferent. Even if she saw a slight ripple in his eyes because of her, it still left her uncertain about whether he had developed any romantic feelings for her.

In such a situation, she couldn't consider him her own.

As for the three little ones... she wasn't their biological mother, after all. For now, perhaps they instinctively sensed the kindness emanating from her and felt some dependence, but who could tell when they would truly accept her as their stepmother?

In her daily life, in every day that she spent in this world, she seemed to treat people with gentle courtesy, yet her heart guarded a hidden detachment.

The reason for this was nothing more than the fact that her heart remained detached, floating outside of this world.

It wasn't that she didn't want to settle down, but she hadn't yet found the place to do so. Therefore, she seriously and diligently tried to integrate into her current home and into the lives of Luo Yanqing and the three little ones.

But she also knew that if someone were to betray her deeply during her integration into this family, she would leave without a second thought.

And today, she felt as if her heart was finally about to find a solid ground to land on, a sensation that Mrs. Qi had given to her...

Chapter 152 Kang Li: Where Is His Heart? She could feel the other's kindness toward her, a fondness just for her, for the "core" belonging to her, Kang Li, within this body, and not because of her identity as the cherished youngest daughter of the Kang Family in Aoli Village. They liked her and showed her benevolence for who she was.

Of course, Kang Li didn't rule out that Mrs. Qi's kindness toward her had a little to do with her current face, but then again, her own looks completely surpassed those of the original owner of the body she now possessed, let alone her spirit, which lent an extra charm if not for her arrogant, assuming she didn't have it.

Kang Li, the youngest daughter of the Kang Family in Aoli Village, was at best a pretty but naive sweetheart.

As her thoughts turned to this, the corners of Kang Li's lips curved into a faint smile involuntarily. She greatly admired the sharpness Mrs. Qi revealed unintentionally, who could even see the indifference and aloofness hidden beneath her gentle and affable exterior.

And she didn't mind it.

She sent warmth her way, revealed sincere smiles, gave her a sense of security, and wanted to be her support... What a wonderful person, wasn't she?!

Godmother — Mrs. Qi!

"Mommy, what are you thinking about?"

Milk Bun Ming Han suddenly raised his little milky voice.

Pulled back from her thoughts, Kang Li smiled and spoke softly, "Mommy is thinking about what we're having for lunch."

Xiao Ming Wei said, "Noodles and egg-egg and the red-red persimmon."

Kang Li understood and nodded, "So you want to have tomato and egg noodles. Then, ask your brother and sister if they agree, and if they do, we'll have that for lunch today as you suggest."

"Brother? Vivi?"

Xiao Ming Han grabbed his brother's hand and peered at his sister held by their mother's other hand, his bright eyes blinking, filled to the brim with hope.

Min Rui nodded.

Xiao Ming Wei hummed haughtily but eventually bobbed her little head.

In truth, she wanted the white-white rice, but since her second brother asked her, she'd make a concession this once!

The house was quiet. With a slight frown, Kang Li glanced toward Luo Yanqing's study, then led the three little ones back to their bedroom to fetch clean clothes and helped them get dressed.

Before heading to Wang Xiaochao's house, or more accurately, while washing their faces, hands, and wiping their arms and legs, Kang Li re-tied Xiao Ming Wei's bun.

"Play in your room for a while, and when lunch is ready, Mommy will call you."

"Okay."

After instructing the three little ones, Kang Li stepped out of their room and gently closed the door behind her.

"Knock knock knock!"

Now, she stood outside Luo Yanqing's study.

She knocked for quite some time but received no response from inside. Kang Li tried the door and was surprised to find it unlocked. With a little force, it swung open.

"Luo Yanqing..."

Just as she called out the man's name, Kang Li paused, seeing him seated behind his desk, deeply engrossed in writing or sketching something on paper.

He was so focused that he didn't even notice someone entering the study.

Kang Li's lips tightened slightly.

What was she supposed to say about this man?

His kids had gotten into a fight with other children, and the unreasonable parents of the other child had come to their doorstep, causing a commotion and demanding so-called medical fees. As the father, he didn't inquire about the cause, didn't stand up for his children, but instead settled the matter by handing out twenty dollars to send them away.

As if that wasn't enough, he didn't even check their injuries or apply medicine for disinfection; he just made his own kids stand as punishment.

Where was his heart?

Breathing in, exhaling, and repeating several times, Kang Li suppressed the surge of anger in her heart, approached, and looked at the paper filled with formulas and densely packed data that the man was working on.

Chapter 153 My Man? The man's pen scratched rapidly across the paper, finishing one sheet and grabbing another blank one to continue his calculations.

Indeed, intuition told Kang Li that the man was most likely working out something.

For a long while, there was no reaction from the man, not even a glance downward.

Kang Li wanted to call out to him, to vent the anger in her heart, but after hesitating repeatedly, she turned and left the study.

Inspiration sometimes bursts forth in an instant, and she knew what mattered. She understood and greatly admired those who could immerse themselves fully in their work, forgetting everything around them, caught in the focus of their minds. She also felt that men who concentrated on their work had a certain charm.

However, although she understood and appreciated him, and was nearly mesmerized by his unintentional charm, it couldn't dissipate the anger towards the man that had arisen from the miserable state of the three little ones earlier that day.

Hmph!

She decided that until he showed some remorse, she would refuse to speak a word to him.

The delicious tomato and egg noodles were ready, and the three little ones ate unhappily. And yet, at this time, someone was still busy in the study.

Sighing silently to herself, Kang Li was instantly full of regret, wondering how she ended up owing the man anything. Look at her, serving him his meal right before his eyes.

She tapped her fingers on the desk a few times. With no response, Kang Li tapped again with more force until she finally saw the man look up from his busy work with a detached gaze.

Pointing to the bowl of rice, Kang Li remained silent.

Seeing this, Luo Yanqing paused, but did not move to eat for a long while.

Kang Li frowned, tapping the desk as a reminder.

This time, Luo Yanqing finally took action. He first tidied the sheets of paper covered in dense data to the side of the desk, then moved the bowl of rice closer to himself.

Seeing the man begin to eat, Kang Li turned sharply and disappeared from the study's doorway in an instant.

Luo Yanqing's detached eyes flickered, feeling that Kang Li was behaving oddly—as if he had upset her?

He frowned in recollection but found nothing amiss.

All had been well during their visit to the department store, so why was she now acting like she didn't want to deal with him?

Unable to figure it out, Luo Yanqing did not dwell on it any further.

After eating, he left the study to wash his own used dishes. Then, he returned to the study to continue his work.

“Weren't things fine during dinner? What's the matter now?”

In the room of the three little ones, Kang Li tilted her head, looking at the listless children, especially when her gaze fell on the little girl, who suddenly started shedding tears like golden beans.

“Vivi, girls who cry aren’t endearing, you know!”

People say that children’s faces can change as quickly as the weather in June.

She had now seen this firsthand.

“I hate Daddy! I don’t want to see Daddy ever again!” Xiao Ming Wei sobbed softly, while Xiao Ming Rui and Xiao Ming Han next to her, although not crying like their sister, had faces full of gloom, clearly showing that they were in a bad mood.

Kang Li, having a good guess at the reason, crossed her arms and asked with raised eyebrows, “Why?”

However, not one of the little cubs answered.

Dwen Dwen: “Miss, these three cubs are in a bad mood, they need you to patiently guide them.”

Kang Li: “Weren’t they all okay during dinner?”

Dwen Dwen: “That was just a momentary distraction. Now that they’ve quieted down, they’re involuntarily remembering how aggrieved they felt when they got punished to stand by your man at noon.”

Kang Li: “My man?” She twitched her lips; she would indeed like to, but the man was as indifferent as water left to cool—if she didn’t take the initiative, he truly would not entertain even the slightest flirtation.

Chapter 154: Kang Li Demonstrates “Egg Against Stone” to the Cubs Dwen Dwen hesitated, asking carefully, “Is the young lady not happy with that man?”

Kang Li: “You know quite a bit. Go play!”

Dwen Dwen wanted to say more but ultimately remained silent, quickly retreating.

“Mommy...”

Xiao Ming Han then raised his little milk voice, “Why did daddy make me, my brother, and my sister stand in the corner as punishment?”

“What do you think it was for?”

Kang Li asked instead of answering.

Xiao Ming Han: "Because we fought with Brother Xiaochao."

Kang Li: "Pretty much."

"So, was fighting wrong?" Xiao Ming Han pouted, his eyes brimming with tears, which appeared as if they might fall from his eyes at any moment.

He was holding back, and it was very hard for him!

Kang Li: "Fighting is naturally wrong," she said, and immediately, tears began to fall from Milk Bun Ming Han's eyes, while at the same time, Xiao Ming Rui's eyes almost instantly filled with tears, and Cute Baby Weiwei cried her eyes out, her tiny body trembling non-stop.

Looking at the three little ones, Kang Li couldn't help but feel amused and sympathetic. She said, "But as long as it's not you who started hitting others, Mommy doesn't think it's wrong."

Xiao Ming Rui's eyes widened instantly.

"If someone hits us, naturally we have to fight back, but before we do, we need to consider our own abilities. If we are strong enough, then teaching the other person a lesson to make him not dare to bother us again is okay. Otherwise, we need to think of other ways; we can't be like an egg striking a stone, as we would still end up getting hurt."

Xiao Ming Han puzzled: “An egg striking a stone?”

“Wait, Mommy will show you.” Kang Li left the room of the three little ones, took an egg from the kitchen and washed it, then picked up a rock about the size of an adult’s fist from the yard and cleaned it momentarily before also grabbing a porcelain bowl and returning to the room of the three little ones.

“Look, this is an egg, right?”

She lifted the egg for the three little ones to see.

“Mm-hmm.”

The three little ones nodded their little heads.

Kang Li: “This is a stone, and this is a porcelain bowl. Touch them with your hands, knock on them, then tell Mommy your feelings.”

“Hard.”

The twins answered in unison.

“Right, they’re both hard, but this stone is harder than the porcelain bowl.” Kang Li dropped the stone to the ground, then bent down to pick it up: “You see, Mommy threw it to the ground, but it’s intact, perfectly fine. But what do you think would happen if we were to throw this porcelain bowl to the ground?”

The twins responded: “It would smash into pieces!”

“Exactly, remember when we were eating, Weiwei accidentally knocked her bowl to the ground and it broke in half, right?”

The twins nodded vigorously.

“Now that you know which is harder between the porcelain bowl and the stone, now Mommy will use this egg for another demonstration. Watch closely~”

She placed the porcelain bowl on the desk, steadied it with one hand, and held the egg high with the other right above the bowl. The next moment, the egg slipped from her hand, and with a ‘bang’, the originally intact egg shattered in the bowl, the egg yolk and whites spilling out of the shell.

“Mommy dropped the egg into the bowl to avoid waste, but you see, when the egg hit the porcelain bowl, it cracked and spilled. If I had dropped it on the rock, can you imagine what would have happened?”

“It would be smashed to smithereens!” Xiao Ming Wei said in a milky voice, “Mommy, the eggshell is so thin!”

Kang Li nodded: "Yes, it's very thin."

Chapter 155 Kang Li: It's not that I want to speak well of someone, it's... Xiao Ming Han tilted her head and thought for a moment, her eyes suddenly lit up, "Mom, I understand why you said we can't hit an egg against a rock!"

"Vivi understands too," Xiao Ming Wei added in a soft voice.

Kang Li looked at Min Rui, "And what about Ruirui?"

Min Rui nodded.

"Mom, since an egg can't hit a rock and we're not strong enough to beat Xiaochao, what should we do?" Xiao Ming Han asked.

Seeing the eagerness in the little one's eyes, Kang Li smiled. She gently touched the child's head and said with a smile, "Think about it yourself. What would you do in such a situation?"

After a long silence, Xiao Ming Han didn't make a sound, and Kang Li didn't rush her. To her surprise, the child actually came up with a solution, saying, "Find mom, I will run home to find mom! Or else, I'll see if there are any adults nearby so they can help scare the bad brother away for Hanhan!"

"Our Hanhan is so clever!"

Kang Li gave the little one a thumbs-up.

Xiao Ming Wei suddenly said, "A wise man does not eat the loss in front of him."

Kang Li was taken aback and then laughed, "Who taught that to Vivi?"

"I heard the big brothers say it when I was playing outside."

Cute Baby Weiwei was a little shy, "Mom, is what Vivi said correct?"

Kang Li nodded and gave a thumbs-up, "Smart!"

Seeing that his younger brother and sister had both shared their opinions, Min Rui moved his lips, looked into Kang Li's smiling eyes, and said, "A gentleman takes revenge; it is never too late even after ten years."

Kang Li was momentarily stunned, then smiled and said, "Ruirui is awesome, what you said is similar to what Vivi said. Do you understand what it specifically means?"

“Hmm,” Min Rui nodded, “Xue Chong said, ‘A gentleman takes revenge; it is never too late even after ten years’ means a person should be patient and good at waiting for the right moment because the right moment isn’t something you can find just anywhere. So, for things like vengeance, even waiting for ten years isn’t too late.”

Xue Chong, Kang Li knew, was a young neighbor from next door.

“Ruirui is awesome!” Giving a thumbs-up, Kang Li praised and then asked, “Now tell me, was it right or wrong for Dad to punish you by making you stand by the wall?”

The three little ones were silent. After a while, Bun Han raised her voice, “Dad felt that we shouldn’t hit an egg against a rock?”

Kang Li replied, “That’s part of the reason. After all, you are still young, and even combined, you can’t beat that big brother, and instead you might get hurt. Dad is partly angry that you act without thinking about the consequences, and partly concerned that the other person might harm you. So, he punished you by making you stand by the wall, to make sure you remember today’s incident and to prevent you from rushing into a fight without thinking in the future.”

It wasn’t that Kang Li wanted to speak well of someone, she just didn’t want the cubs to be disappointed in their dad. Besides, that someone punished the three cubs as a father worried for their safety.

After all, no matter how you look at today’s incident, Min Rui and his two siblings were no match for the nine-year-old boy Wang Xiaochao.

Let alone the height difference, just the opponent's robustness meant that if they really got into a fight, the three little ones definitely wouldn't have an advantage.

Moreover, Wang Xiaochao was almost a head taller than other nine-year-old boys. If he hadn't tripped and fallen, resulting in a lost tooth, Kang Li estimated that the three cubs would have suffered more injuries than they did.

That someone must have realized this and so punished Min Rui and his sisters.

Besides, paying Wang Xiaochao twenty yuan for medical expenses was probably because that someone was busy and didn't want to delay his own affairs. Therefore, when he heard that Wang Xiaochao's parents wanted twenty yuan, he didn't even think about it and compensated them.

Chapter 156 Are You Mad at Me? Alright, alright, she thought so much about and said to the three little ones without needing to dwell too much on them, as if she were just finding reasonable excuses for someone else to be punished by standing.

Thinking this, Kang Li couldn't help wanting to hold her forehead: Luo Yanqing, I must have owed you in my last life, otherwise, why would I try so hard to maintain a good dad image in front of the kids?!

Xiao Ming Han, small but cunning, exclaimed with a milky voice, "So it's really for our own good that dad makes us stand by the wall!"

Xiao Ming Wei pressed her lips together and remained silent.

Brother Ming Rui was also silent.

"Of course, dad isn't without faults," Kang Li watched the kids' facial expressions change and indeed saw all three of them simultaneously show surprise, Kang Li could tell they were mostly wondering why she was speaking ill of their father.

With a soft and doting gaze, Kang Li spoke slowly, deliberately maintaining a serious face, "Although he made you stand by the wall out of concern for you, he shouldn't have punished you to think things over by the wall before the truth of the matter was clear, without even giving you a chance to explain."

Upon hearing their feelings spoken aloud, all three little ones had eyes filled with grievance.

Kang Li clapped her hands, "Alright, go to bed for a nap, mom promises to have a good talk with your dad, make him recognize his mistake, and then offer you a sincere apology."

"Will dad do it?"

Xiao Ming Wei was rather skeptical.

Holding the little girl in her arms and sitting her on her own bed, Kang Li embraced her, her bright fox-like eyes full of seriousness, she said to the little girl, "He will, daddy is a good dad, if he knows he has made a mistake, he will definitely actively acknowledge it."

Xiao Ming Han said, "Knowing your mistakes and correcting them makes a good child, mom said so!"

"I know."

Glaring at brother Ming Han, Xiao Ming Wei lifted her chin and haughtily turned her head away.

"Alright, we've made everything clear today, now you need to get a good sleep, that's how you can stay healthy and grow tall."

Gently patting the little girl's back, Kang Li moved her gaze toward the two brothers Luo Mingrui, just to see them obediently lying in their own beds, pulling up their thin towels, and covering their bellies properly.

Xiao Ming Wei: "Mommy, Vivi wants to go sleepy."

"Okay, go ahead and sleep."

Letting go of the little girl, Kang Li stood up, and after making sure the little girl was properly tucked in, she quietly stepped out of the room.

...

Luo Yanqing was full of doubts, having finished in the study, he had been pondering why Kang Li was mad, but still, it was a complete mystery to him.

Especially since he noticed that from lunch till bedtime, she neither looked at him nor spoke to him, which made him feel inexplicably agitated.

He had never felt such emotions before.

“Are you mad at me?”

Standing by the bed, Luo Yanqing’s indifferent eyes watched his little wife who was lying in bed about to close her eyes to sleep, he wanted to know the reason, to understand why she was mad at him, what he had done wrong that had caused such a drastic change in her attitude toward him.

“I thought you didn’t realize.”

Sitting up, Kang Li gazed at the man, “Do you know why?”

Luo Yanqing was very honest, he shook his head, “You tell me.”

Kang Li: “You really don’t know?”

Luo Yanqing nodded.

“Then you better think back on what you did this afternoon! Don’t you know? Other than your own affairs, is there really nothing else in your mind?”

Pursing his lips in thought, after a moment, Luo Yanqing seemed to recall something, he said, “Luo Mingrui and the others fought with someone, I punished them to face the wall and reflect, are you... are you mad at me for this?”

Chapter 157: What do you think? “Professor Luo seems more willing to talk now.”

Kang Li scoffed, “I am indeed angry about the children.”

Luo Yanqing said, “Was I wrong?” Fighting is not right in the first place, and it led to injuries, which is dangerous. Luo Mingrui and his two siblings are too young to understand. If I don’t make them stand against the wall to reflect on their behavior, who knows if they will repeat the mistake?

“What do you think?” Kang Li met the man’s gaze and said, “When the children fought and the other parents came to our door asking for medical expenses, did you even ask how the whole incident happened?”

No, right?! You didn’t know who was right or wrong, yet you punished Ruirui and the others by making them reflect; that was your first mistake. Then, when the other parents demanded the medical expenses, you paid without a second thought; that was your second mistake.

After that, when the children were injured, you, as a father, did not think of treating their wounds with medicine immediately; that was your third mistake. Professor Luo, do you admit to these three errors I've pointed out?"

Luo Yanqing said, "Fighting is not right."

Kang Li said, "I didn't say fighting was right, nor did I say that punishing Ruirui and the others was wrong. I am just pointing out that you made a hasty decision without knowing the truth of the matter, which caused Ruirui and the others a great deal of injustice."

Luo Yanqing's thin lips pressed tightly together.

Kang Li continued, "The cause of the incident was that the boy named Wang Xiaochao started by calling Xuan Xuan a big idiot, then called Ruirui and his siblings wild children, saying that wild children deserved to play with a big idiot, and said that I, as their stepmother, would beat Ruirui and his siblings to death... Vivi got angry and shouted at Wang Xiaochao that she and her brother were not wild children,

telling Wang Xiaochao that he was talking nonsense, but then he pushed her to the ground. Ruirui and Hanhan saw their sister being bullied and that's why they got into a fight with Wang Xiaochao.

And how could you not consider that with Ruirui and the others' small arms and legs, they are no match for Wang Xiaochao? And Wang Xiaochao clearly fell on his own,

plus he was losing his baby teeth, which led to one of his big teeth being knocked out. His mother, who happened to see this, demanded medical expenses without asking for the reason, and brought Vivi and

the others to our house, asking you for the money. Professor Luo, now that I've told you all this, how do you feel?"

Luo Yanqing admitted, "You're right, I was wrong."

Kang Li replied, "You were indeed wrong, and now that you know, I hope you will apologize to Ruirui and the others tomorrow."

Luo Yanqing said, "...Okay."

If he was wrong, he would apologize.

"Luo Yanqing, you know, Ruirui and his siblings are your own flesh and blood, and I am just a stepmother who came into their lives halfway. But since I have married you, as your wife,

I naturally treat your children as if they were my own. To be honest, when I came home at noon and saw how pitiful Ruirui and the others looked, I felt both heartache and anger,

and after I learned the reason, I thought it was necessary to seek justice for my children. We are not the kind to suffer in silence; we need to make clear what's right and wrong at home!

That's what I thought and what I did, and do you know how bright the children's eyes were? They were delighted, their eyes seemed to be filled with sparkling stars."

Kang Li didn't see it, but at the mention of Ruirui and his siblings being Luo Yanqing's own children, a shade of darkness flickered in Luo Yanqing's normally indifferent eyes.

It passed quickly, and without close attention, it was hard to notice.

"The twenty yuan in medical expenses was returned to me, and they even thought to give me five yuan, but I did not accept it. I knocked on their door to demand justice,

Chapter 158 Kang Li, You Can Talk to Me Directly "I made that mother and son apologize to me and Ruirui and his siblings! But after lunch, the kids were still tearfully feeling wronged..."

Before Kang Li could continue, Luo Yanqing interjected, "Because of me." It was not a question, but a statement.

"At least you care a bit about the kids."

It seemed that this person, though indifferent to everything other than his work, was not completely detached. The fact that he immediately connected the kids' continued grievances in the afternoon to himself upon her starting the conversation showed that he was aware, or else he wouldn't have thought of himself right after she began.

However, could he not always speak to her with such a cold, indifferent expression?!

Frowning, Kang Li's mouth twitched as she wanted to say something more to the man, but seeing his handsome, cold face and his ever-indifferent eyes, along with his reluctance to speak more, she lost the desire to continue the conversation.

Turning over, she lay on her side with her back to him, presenting a beautiful view of the back of her head to him.

Seeing this, a hint of confusion tainted Luo Yanqing's usually indifferent dark pupils.

Was she angry with him again?

Why?

Luo Yanqing felt increasingly bewildered.

"...Kang Li."

His voice, low and clear, drifted from behind her. Kang Li heard him but remained motionless and unresponsive.

Luo Yanqing pursed his lips, climbed into bed into his spot, and looked hesitant. He finally spoke again, "Kang Li, you can talk to me directly." Don't just ignore him.

But, Kang Li remained silent, even letting out soft, steady breathing sounds, signaling to someone that she had fallen asleep, requesting not to be disturbed.

"I don't know why you're angry with me again, but as long as you speak up, as long as it's my fault, I'll change," Luo Yanqing said, his heart actually filled with bitterness.

He didn't understand women, even though he had been married before, he still felt alien to the demographic and thus couldn't comprehend.

Thinking back to that previous marriage, Luo Yanqing almost had no recollection of it, as if it were an experience of someone else's life.

Completely unrelated to him.

Thinking this way, it wasn't that Luo Yanqing lacked responsibility or was scum, but that first marriage seemed somewhat absurd.

Officially, it was arranged to settle his lifelong matters, but the woman he married, he had never met before the marriage. The day after their wedding, he returned to his institute to resume work, and on the wedding night... due to being forced to drink a few toasts by colleagues, he only remembered lying in bed at home and then falling into a deep sleep.

And just that night, his wife got pregnant and prematurely gave birth to Luo Mingrui a month early.

He felt nothing about this.

This might be related to his own nature or perhaps his childhood experiences, but in his heart, nothing was more important than work.

He rarely went home throughout the year, stemming from his tendency to completely forget about time when busy, forgetting matters unrelated to work, only wanting to achieve breakthroughs in research, to produce results sooner, and to contribute more to the country, living up to the nation's cultivation of him.

Even though he seldom went home during that first marriage, his wife got pregnant again after giving birth to Luo Mingrui... According to her, he did take a vacation and returned home during the conception of the second child, but...

Chapter 159 Kang Li: What is He Going to Do? Luo Yanqing's thoughts drifted to this point, and his expression unconsciously darkened.

Premature birth, an accidental fall resulted in a premature birth... Upon receiving the hospital's call, he had put down his work and rushed to the hospital, and the subsequential events... he now didn't know what kind of feelings to embrace.

The night was deep, yet Luo Yanqing had no desire to sleep. He lay on his side, silently watching his young wife, who lay beside him but with her back turned to him.

Kang Li, eighteen, a high school graduate, was well-bred, good-natured, and attractive. Her parents were still alive, and she had five brothers.

This was the information Director Song had given him about the wife his organization had chosen for him, and he had emphasized one point: since childhood, the woman had been frail, and doctors had diagnosed her with difficulty in conceiving and bearing her own children.

He understood what Director Song meant; it was to assure him that the woman would likely focus on raising Luo Mingrui and his siblings devotedly due to her difficulty in having her own children.

However, he was indifferent to what Director Song had said; his thought was to abide by the organization's arrangements.

After all, everything the organization did was for his benefit, so that he could work without family concerns.

Yet he could never have imagined that Kang Li, this girl nearly ten years his junior, his young wife, would change him so profoundly in just half a month of being together. He noticed he had really changed, became emotionally affected by her every word and action, felt irritable when she ignored him, and even began to feel like a stranger to himself.

Time seemed untrackable, and Luo Yanqing shifted from lying on his side to lying flat and eventually got up and left the bedroom.

The moment he got up, Kang Li's tightly shut eyelids twitched, and realizing the person beside her had risen, her fox-like eyes suddenly opened.

What was he doing?

Kang Li muttered inwardly.

Only when Luo Yanqing's footsteps had disappeared outside the bedroom door did Kang Li unconsciously puff up her cheeks. What was he doing? Was it because she had ignored him, and he felt uncomfortable, needing to step outside to clear his head?

Could it be the case?

If so, then all the better.

Because that would mean the efforts she had put in over the past half month weren't in vain and that she could now initially influence his mood, indicating he was indeed considering his feelings for her.

Even if, up until now, these thoughts occupied a small place in his heart, it didn't matter. As long as he harbored these feelings, she could occupy more and more space in his heart.

Let him feel soft-hearted the moment he thought of her, wanting to appear before her as quickly as possible.

With a curved smile, Kang Li's clear, fox-like eyes twinkled slightly; she had this confidence!

Luo Yanqing had sat in the study for over an hour before pushing open the bedroom door where Xiao Ming Rui and the three siblings were. He stood in the center of the room, looking at the sleeping Xiao Ming Wei by the bright moonlight streaming through the window, then his gaze shifted to Xia Ming Rui and his brother, Ming Han. Seeing Xiao Ming Han's blanket had fallen off his stomach, he instinctively stepped forward, bent down, and covered the child properly.

After straightening up, he turned and left, pulling the door shut behind him.

The next day.

Kang Li kept silent in front of Luo Yanqing, continuing her duties as if he were not at home, which even the three children found strange; however, as kids, they couldn't manage the complexities of adult affairs.

"I didn't clear things up yesterday and punished you guys to stand; that was wrong of me. Daddy is sorry now," he apologized to the three children.

At eleven something in the morning, while Kang Li was in the kitchen cooking, Luo Yanqing took the chance to apologize to the three children for the events of the previous day.

Kang Li paused slightly but soon continued walking.

However, her lips clearly traced a smile.

Xiao Ming Han: "Daddy, you are a good daddy. Mommy said you punished us to stand by the wall because you cared about us!"

Chapter 160: Luo Yanqing Takes the Initiative to Get Closer Milk Bun Ming Han's meaning was clear, no need for apologies.

"Mom said that fighting with Xiaochao was like an egg hitting a rock, Dad punishing us to stand in the corner was to make us remember."

That was Xiao Ming Wei's voice.

Xiao Ming Han, "Dad, can you make sure to ask us if we did something wrong before you punish us in the future, okay?"

Luo Yanqing, "Okay." He nodded and touched the top of Milk Bun Ming Han's head.

"If Dad is like yesterday again, Vivi will really, really ignore Dad!"

Crossing her arms, Xiao Ming Wei widened her eyes, her cheeks puffed out like a fish blowing bubbles.

Luo Yanqing, “It won’t happen again.” Gently shaking his head, Luo Yanqing watched Xiao Ming Rui and the other two playing in the living room, then he went to the kitchen.

“I’ll chop it.” Seeing Kang Li chopping meat on the small cutting board, Luo Yanqing came forward and reached out his hand.

Upon hearing this, Kang Li’s gaze lowered—in fact, fixed on the man’s hand.

Sleek as jade, with distinct knuckles, hands like these could even be a match for a hand model’s.

Without a word, Kang Li let the man take the cleaver from her hand, and right then, she heard him say, “Apron.”

Kang Li was taken aback, then took off her apron and put it on the man.

Luo Yanqing, “I’m busy with my hands, help me tie it.”

Kang Li, “...”

Luo Yanqing, “...I’ve already apologized to the kids.”

Kang Li remained silent.

Luo Yanqing, "I know I'm not eloquent and don't understand you women comrades well, but if I did something wrong, just tell me straight."

For making dumplings at noon, Kang Li had prepared the dough around ten and selected the chives, washed them clean, and chopped them into small pieces.

Now, she was adding salt to the chive pieces and stirring to let the water come out of them before pouring the moisture away.

Busy with her hands, Kang Li maintained her silence is golden rule.

Luo Yanqing, "Do you think it's ready?"

Kang Li's lips moved slightly, as she handed him a large porcelain bowl meant for adults.

Luo Yanqing caught on, placing the minced meat into the bowl, then he turned to rinse the cleaver and cutting board at the sink.

Kang Li continued her own tasks, pouring a moderate amount of warm water into the meat, stirring it until evenly mixed, then added the chive pieces and an egg to the meat.

Finally, she added a bit of salt and pepper, soy sauce, and oyster sauce and mixed everything evenly.

After preparing the dumpling filling, she started to knead the dough on another larger cutting board.

“I’ll roll out the wrappers.”

With Luo Yanqing rolling out dumpling wrappers, they quickly had a pile of plump and delicate dumplings formed under Kang Li’s slender jade fingers.

“Mommy, mommy, the dumplings are so white and plump!”

After the dumplings were cooked, Luo Yanqing helped serve them to the family. Xiao Ming Han, looking at the round dumplings in his bowl and blinking his large, round eyes, adorably exclaimed his wonder.

“Mommy is so amazing, the dumplings look super nice!”

Xiao Ming Wei was full of extravagant praise.

“Dad played a big part too.” Kang Li smiled and said, “All the dumpling wrappers were rolled by Dad, Mom only took care of filling them.”

Xiao Ming Han, "Wow! Dad is awesome!" Milk Bun Ming Han gave his dad two thumbs up, raising his little milky voice, "When I grow up, I want to help mommy make dumplings just like Dad."

On hearing this, Kang Li's eyes filled with indulgence as she smiled, "Good, mommy will wait for our Hanhan to grow up."

"Big brother is a brown-noser, hmph!"