

Weak B 1651

Chapter 1651

Cai Xiufen emphasized, "Don't just brush off what I'm saying, dealing with me with empty words."

Hearing this, Kang Li realized that her current attitude must have seemed too casual, so her grandmother was feeling insecure, and therefore intensified her tone, urging her to be sincere and not dismissive.

Thinking this, Kang Li cleared her throat and said earnestly, "Mom, don't worry, I'll keep what you said in mind. I'm definitely not dismissing you."

"It better be this way!"

With a light hum, Cai Xiufen said, "I'm going to make dinner."

"Mom, you have a rest, I'll go."

Before Cai Xiufen could stand up, Kang Li jumped up nimbly and headed toward the door of the living room.

Yet, Cai Xiufen didn't remain seated, shaking her head helplessly, she stood up to go to the kitchen and help Kang Li.

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After dinner, Min Rui and Ming Han were responsible for washing the dishes. In the living room, Kang Li and Luo Yanqing accompanied Captain Kang chatting with the elderly couple, while Ming Wei and Bun gathered in Ming Wei's room reading books.

Well, saying it's Ming Wei's room, it's actually also Guoguo's room, because in their home in the compound, Guoguo and her sister Ming Wei live together.

And Bun and Tangyuan undoubtedly live in the same room with their brothers Ming Rui and Ming Han.

Furthermore, at this moment Ming Wei and the four of them said they were reading books, but actually, Ming Wei was narrating a picture book to Bun and the three others.

It's not that Bun and the three others can't understand; it's that the three want to hear their sister Ming Wei tell stories.

Next door at Wen's family.

Wen Yue and her two sisters were surprised that their father, Wen Siyuan, suddenly returned home today, but what shocked them even more was that Wen Siyuan and Su Man had gone through the divorce proceedings.

Curious inside, yet none of them asked Wen Siyuan anything directly, not until after dinner when Wen Yue and her sisters cleaned up the kitchen and were called to the study by Wen Siyuan; they then collectively looked at Wen Siyuan, hoping to learn something from their father before them.

"You must already know."

Wen Siyuan wasn't asking, he was making a statement.

"On our way back from school and entering the compound, my second sister and third sister heard two or three rumors about our family." This was Wen Yue's voice; she met Wen Siyuan's gaze and asked, "Dad, have you really divorced?"

"Yes."

Wen Siyuan nodded.

"Good riddance, that woman put a green hat on Dad; staying in our family would just bring shame to all of us," Wen Yi was straightforward by nature, especially after starting middle school, she could be described as a little spicy. If anyone crossed her, she was sure to snark back.

Wen Yu, the youngest sister among the three, was more introverted, but at this moment, she couldn't hold back saying, "Divorce is good, this way Aunt won't keep arguing with Dad, making our home a mess."

To what Wen Yue and her sisters said, Wen Siyuan's reaction was to give Wen Yi a deep look, and then he spoke, "About Pengpeng's mother... since you guys already know, Dad won't say more here. This time calling you to the study, Dad wants to tell you that from now on, our family will be you three sisters plus Dad and Pengpeng living together..."

But before he could finish his words, Wen Siyuan was suddenly interrupted by Wen Yi, "Dad, you're not planning to find someone else?"

"Not going to."

Wen Siyuan gave a definitive answer.

Seeing that he wasn't joking, Wen Yue and her sisters were momentarily stunned.

"You're grown up now, and Dad is busy with work, there's no need to add more people to the family, otherwise... it might cause grievance for you and Pengpeng." At this point, Wen Siyuan paused briefly, then Fang Xu continued, "Dad knows Pengpeng's mom made you suffer quite a bit, but you were all little back then; having no woman at home to take care of you definitely wasn't doable. Perhaps you resented Dad a lot, but Dad doesn't blame you, after all, it's Dad's poor judgment that brought such a person into our home..."

Seeing Wen Yue and her sisters simultaneously with reddened eyes, Wen Siyuan felt overwhelmed with guilt inside, but he didn't stop speaking, and continued:

"Now that Pengpeng's mom has left our family, Dad will return to work at the unit tomorrow morning, leaving only you four siblings at home; Dad hopes you can take care of yourselves,

also take care of Pengpeng... no matter what, Pengpeng and you three sisters are all Dad's children. Maybe before, you didn't quite like your brother due to that woman, but Dad knows you're all good kids, otherwise, you wouldn't have given Pengpeng a bowl as you cooked and even helped wash Pengpeng's clothes."

Wen Yi snorted, speaking with a hint of pride, "We did that for Dad's sake!"

Chapter 1652

"Then Dad thanks you all! Of course, Dad also thanks you three sisters on behalf of Pengpeng." Wen Siyuan had a light smile on his face, and his father's gaze fell on Wen Yue: "You are the eldest sister, in the future, your younger brother and sister will be under your care. If any of them misbehave, just tell Dad, and Dad will have your back."

Wen Yue didn't respond, she asked, "Can I trust you?"

"..." Wen Siyuan was momentarily speechless, unsure what Wen Yue meant, until he heard her say, "Are you sure you won't find another one?"

"Don't worry, Dad will keep his word."

Wen Siyuan's expression was serious: "With you four siblings, Dad has a family. We live together, just right; there's no need to add more people."

After two divorces, he inevitably became the focus of gossip among those around him. The first time he chose to end a marriage and marry Su Man, he was determined never to let it end in divorce again. Now looking back, one could say he slapped himself in the face.

But being humiliated is actually nothing compared to being cuckolded.

Still... he regrets not being like the neighbor, Luo Yanqing, who had a partner found by his boss. That's genuine regret.

In other words, until now he regrets being blind and soft-hearted back then, listening to his mother's words, and marrying Su Man through a family-arranged blind date.

Suppressing the envy he felt towards Luo Yanqing, Wen Siyuan said, "You guys go see Pengpeng, keep him company for a while, Dad is a bit worried about your brother."

Wen Yue: "Then we're going out."

Wen Siyuan: "Mm."

The study door was opened, and Wen Yue and her two sisters walked out, then Wen Yue closed the door.

As time ticked away, Wen Siyuan stood by the window, looking out at the serene night. Unconsciously, he was flooded with a mix of emotions.

Both engaged in scientific research, yet he was far less outstanding than the neighbor. Both experienced a second marriage with three kids, but their post-marriage lives were completely different.

Now, like the first, his second marriage concluded with divorce. But the neighbor's life was like honey.

Unlike him, repeatedly wearing the cuckold's hat from the person beside him.

At this thought, Wen Siyuan couldn't help but feel some despondency, believing that life has brought him too much disappointment.

However, what he didn't know was that his first marriage was actually happier than Luo Yanqing's, with a wife who loved him wholeheartedly, needing no concern about household matters. In contrast, Luo Yanqing was cuckolded by Feng Lu even before marriage, and once more afterward, with none of the three kids being his.

Comparatively, Wen Siyuan seemed to have played a great hand poorly.

Luo Yanqing, with the chance of reshuffling, played a trump card!

The quiet night was serene, the hazy moonlight cool as water flowing over the ground. Kang Li, having washed up, lay in bed and asked Luo Yanqing, "You're back today, are you taking leave again this month?"

"Normal leave."

Luo Yanqing replied.

Kang Li gave a soft "oh."

Luo Yanqing stretched his arm, holding his wife in his embrace, and asked gently, "What's up? Anything you want to tell me?"

"It's not a big deal. If you're on leave, let's take Mom and Dad and the kids out for a walk, just for a day out." Listening to Kang Li, Luo Yanqing immediately agreed and said, "You decide where to go."

Kang Li: "You've only got two days off, definitely can't go too far. Either visit a known landmark or look around the outskirts, what do you think?"

Luo Yanqing: "I'll do whatever you say."

Looking up, Kang Li gazed at the man with playful eyes: "Do you really listen to me so much?"

Luo Yanqing's Phoenix Eyes held a smile: "Always, don't you know?"

"Let me think."

Kang Li pretended to ponder.

Luo Yanqing chuckled: "Then you should think hard."

Kang Li teased: "If I tell you to go east, you'll never go west; if I tell you to hit a dog, you'll never chase a chicken, is that right?"

Unexpectedly, Luo Yanqing felt nothing odd about this and laughed: "Yes, exactly that."

Kang Li joked: "Henpecked husband?"

Luo Yanqing gave a soft "mm."

Kang Li continued to tease: "A whipped ear?"

Luo Yanqing gave another "mm," saying, "Isn't it the same?"

At this moment, Kang Li buried her head in his chest and laughed out loud.

She couldn't hold her laughter.

Luo Yanqing heard her laugh and followed with a low chuckle.

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Chapter 1653

Both Luo Yanqing and Wen Siyuan took Director Song's private car and returned to the research institute together with him the next day at dawn.

After breakfast, Kang Li dropped Min Rui, Ming Han, and Ming Wei off at school, then drove the three little buns to kindergarten.

Life continued calmly and warmly for quite a while, just like usual, but suddenly, a person who had been quiet for nearly three months started causing trouble in front of Kang Li.

"Alright, alright, I'll speak properly." Kang Li chuckled, recounting how Su Man went to Shuimu University to stir things up today to Cai Xiufen, ending with: "Your dear son-in-law heard about it from my godfather and rushed to Shuimu University, worried something might happen to me."

"Has she gone insane?!" Cai Xiufen said angrily, "Repeatedly causing trouble for you, does she think our family is easy to bully?"

"Mom, let's not get upset. She didn't manage to get any advantage from me." Kang Li said, "I guess she went out of her way to find me today and make such a scene due to some major shock; otherwise, she wouldn't come to our university with a swollen face and armed with a knife."

"Are you crazy? She had a knife, why would you meet her?"

Cai Xiufen said, terrified: "If something happened to you, how would your dad and I carry on?"

"But I'm fine, right?"

Kang Li smiled and said, "The department head came to our home looking for me; if I didn't meet her, then if she really jumped off the window, many would say I was cold-hearted. The fifth floor isn't very high, but even if she survived, she'd probably break an arm or leg."

"That's her own reckless disregard for life; what does it have to do with you!? Don't be a fool, don't be impulsive again. I don't want my daughter to get involved because of an outsider."

Cai Xiufen glared at Kang Li. "Remember that?" she asked.

"Remember, remember, I will handle things in a way that guarantees my safety before solving them."

The bright eyes were filled with laughter, Kang Li nodded repeatedly.

Cai Xiufen emphasized: "Don't just treat what I say casually and only pay lip service."

Upon hearing this, Kang Li knew she was being too casual and her mother was worried, thus she stressed her tone to ensure her attitude was serious, not dismissive.

With this in mind, Kang Li cleared her throat seriously, "Don't worry, Mom, I will keep what you said firmly in mind, and this is absolutely not me brushing you off."

"It better be that way!"

Cai Xiufen snorted lightly, "I'm going to make dinner."

"Mom, take a break, I'll do it."

Before Cai Xiufen stood up, Kang Li quickly got up and stepped towards the living room door.

But Cai Xiufen didn't stay idle; she shook her head, got up, and went to the kitchen to help Kang Li.

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After dinner, Min Rui and Ming Han were responsible for cleaning up the dishes. In the living room, Kang Li and Luo Yanqing were chatting with Captain Kang and his wife, while Ming Wei and the three buns were gathered in Ming Wei's room reading books.

Well, it's called Ming Wei's room, but it's actually also Guoguo's room, because in the home on this side of the courtyard, Guoguo lives together with his sister Ming Wei.

The three buns, Tangyuan and Guoguo, were undoubtedly sharing a room with the two brothers, Min Rui and Ming Han.

Also at this moment, Ming Wei and the four little ones say they are reading, but Ming Wei is actually telling the three buns stories from her picture book.

It's not that the three buns can't understand, they just want to hear their sister Ming Wei narrate the stories.

Meanwhile, over at Wen's family.

The three Wen sisters were surprised that their father Wen Siyuan came home today, but they were even more surprised to hear that he and Su Man had processed their divorce papers.

Curious at heart, none of them asked Wen Siyuan anything until after dinner when the Wen sisters cleaned up the kitchen. They were called to the study by Wen Siyuan, where they all looked at him, eager to hear something from their father sitting in front of them.

"You all know, right?"

Wen Siyuan wasn't asking; he was making a statement.

"As soon as we got home from school, the second and third sisters heard a couple of gossipy remarks about our family outside." This was Wen Yue's voice, meeting Wen Siyuan's gaze and asking, "Dad, did you really get divorced?"

"Yes."

Wen Siyuan nodded.

"Good riddance! That woman embarrassed Dad, so staying in our house would make us all look bad." Wen Yi's temperament is somewhat straightforward, especially since entering junior high she could be called a little pepper, anyone who touches her, is bound to be snapped at.

Chapter 1654

Wen Yu is the youngest of the three sisters, and though she's usually introverted, at this moment she couldn't help but say, "Divorce is good, this way Auntie won't argue with Dad anymore and make our house a mess."

Regarding what Wen Yue's three sisters said, Wen Siyuan reacted by glancing deeply at Wen Yi. Then, he spoke, "About Pengpeng's mom... since you already know, I won't say much more. I'm calling you to the study now because I want to tell you that from now on, it's just you three sisters, Dad, and Pengpeng living together..."

Before he could finish, Wen Siyuan was abruptly interrupted by Wen Yi: "Dad, you're not planning to find someone else?"

"I won't find anyone else."

Wen Siyuan affirmed.

Seeing that he didn't seem to be lying, Wen Yue and the other sisters were momentarily stunned.

"You're all grown, and Dad's busy with work. There's no need to bring someone else into the family, lest... lest you and Pengpeng suffer grievances." At this point, Wen Siyuan paused briefly, then

continued, "Dad knows Pengpeng's mom made you suffer a lot, but back then you were all young. Having no woman at home to take care of you definitely wouldn't work. Maybe you blamed Dad a lot, but Dad doesn't blame you, after all, it's Dad who couldn't recognize people clearly, bringing such a person into our home..."

Seeing Wen Yue and the sisters' eyes collectively redden, Wen Siyuan's heart filled with guilt. Yet, he didn't stop speaking and continued:

"Now that Pengpeng's mom has left our family, Dad will return to work at the unit tomorrow morning. At home, it will just be you four siblings. Dad hopes you can take good care of yourselves,

and take good care of Pengpeng... No matter what, Pengpeng and you three sisters are all Dad's children. Maybe because of that woman you didn't like your brother much in the past, but Dad knows you're all good kids. Otherwise, you wouldn't have given Pengpeng an extra bowl while cooking or helped him with his laundry."

Wen Yi snorted, speaking with a tone of arrogance, "We did it for Dad's sake!"

"Then thank you! Of course, Dad also thanks you three sisters on behalf of Pengpeng." Wen Siyuan smiled gently, and his gaze fell on Wen Yue: "You're the eldest sister. In the future, you'll be in charge of your younger siblings. If anyone misbehaves, tell Dad, and Dad will stand up for you."

Wen Yue didn't reply directly. Instead, she asked, "Can I trust you?"

"..." Wen Siyuan didn't immediately comprehend what Wen Yue meant, but then he heard her say, "Are you sure you won't find someone else?"

"Don't worry, Dad will stick to his word."

Wen Siyuan earnestly replied, "With you four siblings, Dad has a family. Living together as a family is just right, no need to add anyone else."

Having been divorced twice, he inevitably became the subject of gossip. Previously, when he first decided to end the marriage and married Su Man, he vowed never to reach the point of divorce again. Looking back now, it's like he slapped himself in the face.

But compared to being cheated on, slapping himself isn't much.

However... he regretted not getting a partner through his superiors, like Luo Yanqing next door, that's undeniable.

In other words, he regrets being blind and soft-hearted back then, listening to his mother's words, and marrying Su Man through a family-arranged blind date.

Suppressing his envy for Luo Yanqing, Wen Siyuan said, "You guys go check on Pengpeng, have a good talk with him, Dad is a bit worried about your brother."

Wen Yue: "Then we'll be going."

Wen Siyuan: "Okay."

The study door opened, and the three Wen sisters walked out, with Wen Yue closing the door behind them.

As time ticked by, Wen Siyuan stood by the window, gazing at the tranquil night outside, a myriad of emotions rising within him unwittingly.

Both of them were involved in research, yet he was nowhere near as outstanding as the one next door. Both had remarried with three children, but their post-marriage lives were completely different.

Now, his second marriage ended the same way as the first, concluding in divorce, but next door... life seemed as sweet as honey.

Unlike him, repeatedly cuckolded by the person beside him.

As his thoughts wandered to this point, Wen Siyuan couldn't help but feel a little despondent, sensing that life dealt him too harsh a hand.

Yet he didn't know his first marriage was actually happier than Luo Yanqing's, with a wife devoted to him, leaving him nothing to worry about at home. In contrast, Luo Yanqing was cheated on even before marriage by Feng Lu, and another after marriage, and none of the three children were his.

In comparison, Wen Siyuan practically turned a winning hand into a mess now.

Luo Yanqing, however, played his cards perfectly after getting a chance to reshuffle!

In the stillness of night, with the hazy moonlight cool as flowing water, Kang Li, having washed up, lay in bed, asking Luo Yanqing, "Since you're back today, will you still take a break this month?"

"I'll take the regular leave."

Luo Yanqing replied.

Kang Li responded with an "oh."

Luo Yanqing stretched out an arm, pulling his wife into his embrace, softly asking, "What's the matter? If there's something, tell me?"

"It's nothing major. If you're taking a break, let's take our parents and the kids out for a visit, like a spring outing." Hearing Kang Li's suggestion, Luo Yanqing agreed immediately, saying, "You decide where to go."

Kang Li: "You only have two days off, going far isn't possible. We could either visit some famous spots or head to the outskirts. What do you think?"

Luo Yanqing: "It's all up to you."

Raising her eyes, Kang Li looked at him playfully, "Do you really listen to me that much?"

Luo Yanqing's eyes, akin to inked Phoenix Eyes, smiled: "Always have, don't you know?"

"Let me think."

Kang Li feigned contemplation.

Luo Yanqing chuckled: "Then think it over well."

"If I tell you to go east, you'd never go west. If I tell you to hit the dog, you'd never chase the chicken. Is that how it is?" Kang Li teased, her face serious yet playful.

Unexpectedly, Luo Yanqing found nothing wrong with her words and laughed, saying, "Exactly, that's it."

Kang Li teased: "Henpecked?"

Luo Yanqing gave a soft "mm."

Kang Li continued teasing: "Scared of your wife?"

Luo Yanqing gave another "mm" and said, "Isn't it the same?"

At this moment, Kang Li buried her head in his chest and couldn't help but burst into laughter.

She couldn't hold back her laughter.

Hearing her laughter, Luo Yanqing also let out a low chuckle.

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The next morning, as dawn broke, Luo Yanqing and Wen Siyuan rode in Director Song's special car, returning to the research institute with Director Song.

After breakfast, Kang Li took Min Rui, Ming Han, and Ming Wei to school, then drove the three little buns to kindergarten.

The days continued for a long while in the usual peaceful yet warm manner. But on this day, someone who had been quiet for nearly three months suddenly jumped in front of Kang Li, causing trouble.

"That's her own disregard for life, what's it got to do with you?! Fool, from now on, don't be reckless anymore. I don't want my daughter getting into trouble because of an outsider."

Cai Xiufen glared at Kang Li, asking, "Remembered?"

"Remembered, remembered, from now on I will handle things while ensuring my own safety first."

Chapter 1655

"Is that so? Then I'll help you call Old Mr. Feng." Kang Li's expression was indifferent as she took out an address book from the drawer under the coffee table, found the Feng family's landline number, and picked up the receiver to dial.

Seeing this, Fang Su frowned tightly, "What do you want to ask?"

"I'll ask if Old Mr. Feng has money to pay for your surgery expenses and if he has money to buy you nutritional supplements for recovery after your surgery."

Facing Fang Su's gaze, Kang Li looked innocent.

"Do you really have to make this call?"

Fang Su's face looked as if she was constipated, difficult to bear.

"I'm just trying to do a good deed. Don't you want me to help with this?"

Kang Li's eyes were as clear as could be, and very sincere, she said, "You've come to me here, laid bare your predicament, if I don't help you clarify this, and it delays your surgery, it would be extremely detrimental to you."

"You..." Fang Su knew Kang Li was difficult to talk to, and knew that Kang Li had no feelings for her biological mother, yet she didn't expect Kang Li to be so impervious.

Clearly, she had already lowered her stance and voiced her difficulties, and the response she got was the dead girl was going to call the Feng family. Was it possible that she didn't care at all about carrying her for ten months and the tough birth she went through?

"Lady Fang, just say it, do I need to make this call?" Kang Li's face showed resolve, "If you say it's not necessary, I'll immediately hang up the phone."

Fang Su pressed her lips and quietly looked at Kang Li for a while before asking, "Do you really feel no affection at all?"

"Do I and Lady Fang have something called affection?" Kang Li's voice was calm, and before Fang Su could answer, she continued: "Yes, you indeed went through a tough ten months of pregnancy to give birth to me, but after that, you chose to abandon me, and that action is enough to erase those ten months you carried me."

After a moment of pause, Kang Li added, "You should think back, when you abandoned me, given my physical condition, you surely thought my chances of survival were almost zero... No, back then you must have thought I was bound to die, right?"

Fang Su remained silent, which in Kang Li's eyes was tantamount to consent. She laughed, "That's right, a baby who was diagnosed by doctors as very hard to raise and needing meticulous care, being abandoned in a trash can in the restroom by her biological mother, would need a miracle to survive.

And after learning about my origin, you surely never considered I would survive, never thought I was the child you abandoned back then. Since that's the case, why seek a reunion with me? Why repeatedly appear before me and speak of things that don't exist?"

"But no matter what, we are mother and daughter!" Fang Su showed a pained expression, "You are flesh of my flesh, my blood flows through your veins. Now that you are living well, you don't want to acknowledge your biological mother, does that make sense?"

"Lady Fang, no need to say much to me, if you must recognize me, go find the court, and if the court mandates that I must recognize you as my biological mother, then we can have a good talk."

With a cooler expression, Kang Li put the receiver back on the landline and said, "If there are no objections, Lady Fang, you can leave now."

Fang Su stood still and then changed the subject: "Does Feng Yi know about your relationship with him?"

"What difference does it make if he knows or not? Is this any of your concern?"

Kang Li sat upright and just saw Fang Su freely sit on the sofa opposite her, slightly frowning, then heard her say, "Feng Yi calls you sister, obviously he's aware of the relationship between you and him."

Upon hearing that, Kang Li secretly rolled her eyes: So why ask? Are you bored?

"Kang Li, you don't need to acknowledge me, but you must help persuade Feng Yi to return to the Feng family."

Fang Su's tone clearly indicated that she thought it was only right.

"Why should I? I don't owe you anything. Besides, Feng Yi is an independent individual, he has his own ideas, and whether he wants to go back or not, is for him to decide, I simply cannot influence his thoughts."

For a person who doesn't care for her own son, solely focused on pleasing her stepchildren, saying to drive the real son out of the house means driving him out, now wanting this son back, is this how a mother should treat her own child?

Kang Li sneered in her heart: Self-righteous, do you think children are like dogs, summoned and dismissed at will?

Even if so, don't dogs have tempers too?

Fang Su: "Feng Yi listens to you."

"What does that prove?" Kang Li's face showed not a shred of emotion as she said, "Ever since I accidentally saved Xiao Yi, I have only regarded him as a little brother, never thought of making him obey me, and I indeed have never directed or demanded him to do anything, and so it remains. If you want Xiao Yi to return to the Feng family, then talk with him yourself, and please don't involve me."

Chapter 1656

"Are you quite happy?"

Fang Su suddenly said.

"Happy about what?"

Kang Li looked utterly bewildered.

"My daughter doesn't acknowledge me, my son doesn't acknowledge me, and I'm sick. You think this is karma." Fang Su stared at Kang Li without blinking, trying to detect any odd expression on Kang Li's face.

Unfortunately, she saw nothing.

Kang Li lightly shook her index finger, saying indifferently, "You're overthinking. I have my own principles; I won't kick someone when they're down, nor will I gloat behind their back."

Fang Su looked directly into Kang Li's eyes, noting that Kang Li's gaze was steady and unwavering. Her heart was a mix of emotions at the moment: the person in front of her was clearly her daughter, even sitting there she seemed to radiate, but in her eyes, there was no space for her biological mother, none at all.

Because she couldn't see any ripple caused by her presence in Kang Li's eyes.

Does she regret her actions back then?

Fang Su didn't know; she only knew she couldn't endure hardships and just wanted a good life.

"How is your dad?"

"Hmm?" Kang Li picked up her cup and took a sip while glancing at Fang Su upon hearing her words.
"Thank you for your concern, Lady Fang. My dad is perfectly fine."

Fang Su's face showed a flash of discomfort, and she quickly added, "You don't need to talk to me like that. I know there's no future for your dad and me, and I have no intention of seeking him out."

"Lady Fang has come to terms with it, that's good."

Kang Li's tone was light, devoid of visible emotion.

"Is Feng Yi's partner the one he goes out with?"

Fang Su shifted the topic back to Feng Yi.

"Lady Feng can ask Xiao Yi herself if she wants to know." Kang Li checked the time on her wristwatch. "I need to pick up my child soon, should Lady Fang be leaving now?"

"I need to have a good talk with Feng Yi."

Which implied she wouldn't be leaving immediately.

While Kang Li's expression didn't change, her words were still sharp: "Are you planning to wait at my place until Feng Yi returns?"

Fang Su remained silent, but her decision not to move was an indirect response.

"Since Lady Fang plans to wait here, let me ask you a few questions, if you don't mind?" Kang Li met Fang Su's gaze, her eyes calm and serene, yet seemingly able to penetrate Fang Su's innermost thoughts.

Fang Su took a long moment to respond.

Finally, Kang Li asked directly, "There's a societal bias against stepmothers, many see them as inherently bad, yet Lady Feng is a good stepmother, almost too good. Can you explain why? Why would you neglect your biological children and focus solely on your stepchildren? What is your thinking behind this?"

"..."

Fang Su opened her mouth but struggled to utter a word.

"Even though it was the stepson who hurt someone over a romantic dispute, why did Lady Fang falsely accuse Xiao Yi before the police officers, wanting your own son to take the fall for your stepson?"

"..."

"When Xiao Yi finally came back from the farm, why did you say such hurtful things and drive him out of the house?" Kang Li steadfastly stared at Fang Su. "Is it difficult to answer, Lady Fang?"

"You are a stepmother too, so you should know how hard it is to be one. I just wanted to secure my position, so that Feng Yi could live more comfortably at home."

Fang Su finally spoke, and Kang Li chuckled aloud at her response, "Is that so? Yet you framed Xiao Yi, making him take the fall for your stepson; how do you explain that?"

"..." Fang Su frowned, thinking Kang Li was meddling.

"You're generous with others, fulfilling this noble stepmother's role, but have you considered the deep harm you're inflicting on Xiao Yi with your actions?"

Kang Li's clear voice carried a slight chill: "He was only sixteen that year, how could you bear to falsely accuse Xiao Yi, how could you bear to watch him being taken away by the police officers?"

During his time on the farm, did you ever go to see him? No, you never did, and when Xiao Yi finally returned home after completing his term, you showed loathing because he seemed dirty, because his leg was crippled, and you felt he embarrassed you, so you drove your own flesh and blood out of the house.

Lady Fang, if you were Xiao Yi, what would you think after being treated this way by your mother?"

Fang Su: "It's all in the past now, I think there's no need to bring it up again."

"Some things can fade away with time, but some things won't be forgotten because of the passage of time, especially the harm a mother causes to her own child. It will only leave a scar in the child's heart that never truly goes away. Once touched, causing the scar to peel, it will become bloody again, painfully piercing to the core!"

Chapter 1657

Ignoring the change in Fang Su's expression, Kang Li continued: "Lady Fang, I hope you clearly remember that some wounds, once inflicted, take a lifetime to heal! As a mother, you have caused Xiao Yi countless harm from childhood to now. From Xiao Yi's perspective, if you ask which member of the Feng family hurt him the most, without a doubt, it would be you, his mother. Do you know why?"

Without waiting for Fang Su to respond, Kang Li directly gave the answer: "Because in that family, you are Xiao Yi's closest relative, his only reliable support.

But you didn't make yourself his support; instead, you became one of his abusers. Even if you spend a lifetime trying to make up for the harm you caused Xiao Yi, I think it would be far from enough. In such a situation, where do you get the nerve to make demands of Xiao Yi?"

"I've said those are things of the past, yet you keep bringing it up in front of me. Isn't this a way of indirectly telling me to leave?"

It's equivalent to you abandoning this son, so whether Feng Yi continues to acknowledge you as his mother is undoubtedly up to him. Not contacting you or the Feng family for years, what does that signify? It signifies that Feng Yi no longer wants to have any ties with that family or with you, so it's not surprising that he doesn't reach out to you at all."

With a clear gaze, as if seeing through all of Fang Su's thoughts, Kang Li asked, "Come on, what did you come to find me for today?"

"Kang Li, even if I've made a thousand or ten thousand mistakes, in the end, I gave birth to you; I am your mother."

Thinking of the purpose of her visit today, Fang Su's expression softened, and her voice also softened significantly: "Two days ago, I suddenly felt unwell and went to the hospital for a full-body check-up. The results showed that there is a lesion in my stomach. To cure it, surgery is required. You know, surgery and post-operative recovery can cost quite a bit..."

Before Fang Su could continue, Kang Li chuckled: "Are you trying to get me to pay for your surgery and nutrition expenses? Lady Fang, what exactly are you thinking?"

Is she really taking her for a fool?

Drowning in money with nowhere to spend, casually giving away money to a woman who abandoned "her" years ago?

Tears of pain from being hurt filled Fang Su's eyes: "Do you really hate me that much? Wishing me dead?"

"Why should I hate you? You've never been part of my life from childhood to now; where would I find a reason to hate you? Since there's no reason to hate you, how could I wish you dead?"

Kang Li said as she shook her head and continued: "Lady Fang, don't overthink it. You and I can only be considered strangers, and there's no need for you to reach out to me, considering that with the Feng family's financial background, I believe that no matter how severe your illness is, no matter how major the surgery you need, regardless of the nutritional needs after surgery, the Feng family can afford it."

"Did you misunderstand me? Kang Li, I truly had no other intention in coming to you—just hoping you could help me with my surgery. Perhaps, as you said, the Feng family used to have some wealth, but ever since your Uncle Feng retired due to illness last year, the Feng family has been much different... and I am a stepmother; those kids from the Feng family don't have deep feelings for me. It's impossible for them to fork out money for my surgery. I had no choice but to come to you for help."

Fang Su truly needs surgery. As she mentioned earlier, there is a lesion in her stomach, and through examination, the doctor determined it's cancer, but whether it's benign or malignant requires a biopsy for a conclusion.

However, it is in the early stages.

Fortunately, it was discovered early.

All things considered, Fang Su is quite laid back. Upon learning she had cancer, she was only momentarily stunned but later remained calm; otherwise, she wouldn't have thought of running to Kang Li and nagging her.

With her expression turning cold, Kang Li placed the phone back on the desk and said: "If there are no objections, Lady Fang, you may leave now."

Fang Su stood still, changing the subject: "Does Feng Yi know about your relationship with him?"

"What difference does it make if he knows or not? Does it matter much to you?"

Kang Li straightened her posture and saw Fang Su sit on the sofa opposite her, frowning slightly as she heard the other say: "Feng Yi calling you sister clearly shows he knows the relationship between you two."

Hearing this, Kang Li internally rolled her eyes: Then why ask? Is this just boredom?

"Kang Li, you may not acknowledge me, but you must persuade Feng Yi to return to the Feng family."

Fang Su's tone was blatantly matter-of-fact.

"Why should I? I don't owe you anything. Besides, Feng Yi is an independent individual with his own ideas. Whether he wants to return home or not should be his own decision. I can't influence his thoughts."

Chapter 1658 The Fourth Part

Ignoring your own son, wholeheartedly pleasing your stepchildren, saying you'll kick your own son out of the house and doing so, and now wanting this son to return to your side, is this the attitude of a mother toward her own child?

Kang Li sneered in her heart: Self-important, do you see your son as a dog, to order them around as you please?

Even so, don't dogs have tempers too?

Fang Su: "Feng Yi listens to you."

"What does that prove?" Kang Li's face showed not a trace of emotion. She said, "Since the time I accidentally saved Xiao Yi, I have only ever treated him as a little brother, never expecting him to listen to me about anything. I have never asked him to do anything, and that remains true today. If you want Xiao Yi to return to the Feng family, then talk to him yourself, please don't involve me."

"Are you happy?"

Fang Su suddenly said this.

"Happy about what?"

Kang Li looked puzzled.

"My daughter doesn't recognize me, my son doesn't recognize me, and I'm sick, do you think this is retribution?" Fang Su stared at Kang Li, trying to spot anything unusual in her expression.

However, she saw nothing.

Raising her index finger and shaking it slightly, Kang Li said calmly, "You're overthinking. I have my own principles and would never take pleasure in another's misfortune, much less push someone when they're down."

Kang Li's tone was light, devoid of emotion.

"Did Feng Yi go out with his partner?"

Fang Su steered the conversation back to Feng Yi.

"Lady Feng can ask Xiao Yi herself if she wants to know." Kang Li glanced at her watch. "I have to pick up a child soon, is Lady Fang leaving?"

"I need to have a good talk with Feng Yi."

The implication was that she wouldn't leave just yet.

Kang Li's expression didn't change, but her words were unforgiving: "Are you planning to wait at my house for Feng Yi to come back?"

Fang Su said nothing, but by sitting still, she indirectly answered.

"Since Lady Fang wants to wait in my house, may I ask you a few questions? You won't mind, will you?" Kang Li made eye contact with Fang Su, her gaze calm and placid, yet as if penetrating into Fang Su's heart.

Fang Su didn't respond for a while.

So Kang Li asked directly, "The world holds biases against stepmothers, thinking none of them are good, but not only is Lady Feng a good stepmother, she seems overly good. Can you explain why that is? Ignoring your biological child to focus all your attention on stepchildren, what were you thinking doing that?"

"..."

Fang Su opened her mouth but didn't utter a word for a long time.

"When it was clearly the stepchild who hurt someone over a romantic matter, why did Lady Fang accuse Xiao Yi in front of the police, making your biological son take the fall for the stepchild?"

"..."

"When Xiao Yi finally returned from the farm, why did you say hurtful things and kick him out of the house?" Kang Li steadily gazed at Fang Su. "Is it hard to answer, Lady Fang?"

"You're a stepmother; you should know it's hard to be one. I was just trying to secure my position so that Feng Yi could live better at home."

Fang Su finally spoke, and upon hearing her words, Kang Li couldn't help but laugh out loud: "Is that so? But you falsely accused Xiao Yi, making him take the fall for your stepchild. How do you explain that?"

"..." Fang Su thought that Kang Li was meddling.

"You're being generous with other people's matters to enhance your greatness as a stepmother, but have you considered how deeply your actions hurt Xiao Yi?"

Kang Li's serene voice carried a hint of coldness: "That year he was only sixteen. How could you bring yourself to frame Xiao Yi, to watch him being taken away by the police?"

During his time at the farm, did you ever visit him? You didn't, and when Xiao Yi returned home with a limp and looking a little unkempt, you showed disgust, feeling ashamed of him, and you drove this biological child out of your house.

Lady Fang, if you were Xiao Yi, treated like this by your own mother, how would you feel?"

Fang Su: "It's all in the past, I don't think there's any need to bring it up again."

Kang Li laughed again after hearing her words, "Is that so? But you falsely accused Xiao Yi, making him take the fall for your stepchild. How do you explain that?"

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Lady Fang, if you were Xiao Yi, treated like this by your own mother, how would you feel?"

Fang Su: "It's all in the past, I don't think there's any need to bring it up again."

"Some things can fade with time and become fleeting, but some things will never be forgotten despite the passage of time. Especially the harm a mother inflicts upon her child, it leaves a permanent scar in the heart of this child, which, when touched, will bleed anew, and the pain will reach the bone!"

Ignoring the change in Fang Su's complexion, Kang Li continued, "Lady Fang, remember clearly that some harms, once done, require a lifetime to heal! As a mother, you've caused so much harm to Xiao Yi from childhood to now, and from Xiao Yi's standpoint, you are undoubtedly the one who caused him the most harm in the Feng family. Do you know why?"

Without waiting for Fang Su to answer, Kang Li provided the answer herself: "Because in that family, you are Xiao Yi's closest relative, the only one he can rely on.

Yet, you didn't let yourself be his support; instead, you became one of the perpetrators. Such being the case, even if you spent a lifetime trying to make up for the harm you've caused Xiao Yi, it wouldn't be enough for me. Given these circumstances, where do you get the confidence to make demands of Xiao Yi?"

"I told you those were things of the past. Do you insist on repeating them in front of me as a way to force me to leave, don't you?"

Chapter 1659

After a moment of silence, Feng Yi's deep voice sounded again: "From the time I can remember, that home has never given me joy; all I've had in my heart is the desire to leave, to leave far away... Above me, I have three half-brothers and one half-sister,

they never treated me like a brother, regularly ordering me around and bullying me at home. My parents saw this as merely children playing, even when I was injured from the bullying or crying loudly, they chose to ignore, as if they neither saw nor heard anything.

When I grew to sixteen, in my second year of high school, my stepbrother Feng Xiao hurt the younger brother of a girl due to a romantic dispute; the girl's family reported to the police. Somehow, what was said later resulted in me being accused of the assault, and my own biological mother identified me as the culprit.

As for whether my father knew the truth of this incident, I am not sure. But I was taken away by the police from my home and then sent to a farm for six months of labor reform. No one from my family accompanied me, nor did they visit me during my reform."

With slightly moist eyes, Feng Yi continued: "I returned home after six months, having been injured in the leg at the farm, due to the lack of proper treatment, the injury lingered. Upon entering the house, my biological mother saw me dressed shabbily with a crippled leg and immediately cursed at me, demanding I get out.

I had long endured enough in that home, naturally, I wouldn't stay to suffer more. So I left resolutely without taking anything, wearing only the clothes from the farm when I departed.

No one chased after me, even though my crippled leg slowed my pace. Until I exited the compound, not a single family member called me back, which shows how cold and dismissive they were of me."

Shu Han listened to Feng Yi's words and felt deeply heartbroken.

"Feng Yi, you..."

Seeing the concern in Shu Han's eyes, Feng Yi lifted his head to suppress the moistness threatening to overflow, then shifted his gaze back to Shu Han, gently shaking his head: "I'm fine. Some time after leaving home, Feng Xiao's partner unexpectedly encountered me and informed my family about my whereabouts, afterward receiving some money and coupons from my father.

I never wanted the money and coupons, but why should I refuse? It's they who wronged me, not the other way around. Besides, how could their meager money and coupons compare to the suffering I've endured outside and my own life?"

Wiping his eyes casually, Feng Yi said: "When I first left home, I was homeless, so I relied on Brother Mo. To survive, Brother Mo and I scavenged for scrap everywhere. But one day, a few hooligans cornered us in the suburbs, saying they didn't like us, forcing us into the roadside woods, and beating us... Brother Mo and I couldn't just sit there and take it, but my leg was injured, which made it difficult for me to fight back, resulting in severe injuries for both of us.

The hooligans, seeing us unable to move on the ground, worried about causing deaths, and fled the woods hastily. In the desolate wilderness, there were hardly any people around; I cried for help, but

nobody answered... I wanted to carry Brother Mo out of the woods to the hospital, but unfortunately, I had no strength in me,

even walking alone was problematic. Just when I thought Brother Mo and I would die in the woods, Sister Kang Li, my sister, appeared before me. She was visiting relatives at her brother-in-law's workplace and hearing someone calling for help from the woods, ventured inside alone.

She took us to the hospital, helped us with the admission procedures, and purchased daily necessities for our stay. After we were discharged..." Perhaps saying too much at once made Feng Yi's mouth dry, and his voice sounded slightly hoarse.

"I chose to enlist and under my sister's urging, squeezed out time to study high school textbooks, preparing for the college entrance examination that might arrive at any time. For the sake of Brother Mo and me attending college, my sister bought us review materials and gave each of us a copy of her summarized notes. Through effort and with her help, I got into the Command Academy, whereas Brother Mo was admitted to Shuimu University. My sister was the national top scorer.

Honestly, I owe much of what I have today to my sister's assistance. Truth be told, I have great admiration for my sister; she completed two majors in a year and a half, graduating with full marks in all subjects. Studying abroad, she earned a dual doctorate degree in under three years."

Shu Han was shocked beyond words, her shock quickly replaced by admiration and excitement. She said: "Your sister is truly exceptional!"

"Yes, she indeed is very exceptional."

Feng Yi nodded, then said, "But you definitely wouldn't guess, my sister was abandoned by my biological mother in a garbage can at the town health clinic right after she was born. If it weren't for my sister being lucky enough to meet her adoptive parents, who took her home and raised her with care, my sister would have long turned into a pile of bones."

"Your sister and you are half-siblings?" Until today, Shu Han had heard Feng Yi mention a sister before, thinking she was a full sister to Feng Yi, and at that time, Feng Yi didn't elaborate, only saying he had a sister who was very good to him, and also mentioned his poor relationship with his family.

Feng Yi didn't provide more details, nor did Shu Han ask.

It wasn't until earlier when Feng Yi spoke about his past experiences, mentioning how Kang Li saved him and Mo Yan, that Shu Han realized Kang Li's last name was "Kang" and not the same as Feng Yi's.

"Uh-huh."

Feng Yi nodded but did not elaborate on Kang Li's background. Then, he said, "I'll take you to see Brother Mo later. Although we are not related by blood, our relationship is closer than that of real brothers."

Shu Han smiled and nodded, "Alright."

Feng Yi continued from where he left off, "My biological mother abandoned my sister for nearly thirty years, only to unintentionally discover that my sister was the child she abandoned years ago, so she now

wants to recognize my sister. You saw earlier; my sister has no intention of recognizing my biological mother.

Now she encounters me through my sister and wants me to return to the Feng family. This certainly isn't driven by motherly love; she's most likely concocting some scheme."

"What do you think? Are you going back to visit?"

Shu Han asked.

"By tomorrow, even if I don't go back, my father will surely come looking," Feng Yi said with a mocking tone. "In my father's eyes and mind, there are only the four children given to him by his first wife; I am completely redundant to him. However, as his son, I will fulfill my duties of support."

Shu Han: "That's the right thing to do."

Feng Yi: "Since March this year, I've been sending money back home as my support contribution, to preempt any accusations of being unfilial."

"Smart!"

Shu Han praised Feng Yi.

"It's just common sense," Feng Yi lightly shook his head and said, "You should take a nap. Once my sister's three little ones come back home, you'll definitely find them delightful. If you're not well-rested, you'll regret it later."

"Is it that exaggerated?"

Shu Han widened her eyes.

Feng Yi laughed, "You'll see once you've met them."

"Even if I'm not well-rested today, that doesn't mean I can't recover by tomorrow."

"Today is today, tomorrow is tomorrow. We'll be in North City for a maximum of five days. I think even if I let you stay with my sister's three little ones for five days, you'd still feel it's far too short, not enough time."

"The more you say, the more curious I become."

"They're not only particularly good-looking but also exceptionally smart. Even now, at just four years old, they've already learned everything in the elementary curriculum, but they're not bookworms. They're charming and outstanding, truly the envy of others. By the way, once you meet my family's three older ones, you'll find they're also enviable kids. Honestly, my sister is really good at raising children; whether sons or daughters, they all carry themselves with a distinctive grace."

"I can tell, your sister and brother-in-law are clearly not ordinary people. Children raised by such parents are sure to be incomparable to those from ordinary families."

"Influenced by their surroundings, molded by the environment?"

Feng Yi quipped, raising an eyebrow.

"Exactly, that's the logic."

Shu Han laughed and nodded.

...

The Feng family.

Feeling uneasy, Fang Su returned home and didn't see Old Master Feng in the living room, so she went straight to the study.

Sure enough, Old Master Feng was sitting in his wheelchair, holding a newspaper and reading it. Upon hearing the study door open, he shifted his gaze from the newspaper and frowned when he saw Fang Su walk in, asking, "What's the matter?"

"I saw Feng Yi."

"..."

Old Master Feng was taken aback upon hearing this, then straightened his body: "Where?"

However, Fang Su did not answer, instead saying, "He doesn't want to come back with me." If the old man knew she'd gone to Shuimu University again, he might get upset.

Thinking she was still holding onto fantasies about Jiang Boya.

"I asked where you saw him."

Old Master Feng's face darkened: "Speak truthfully, don't try to avoid answering."

After a brief silence, Fang Su opened her mouth: "I will tell you, but don't overthink it."