

Weak B 1661

Chapter 1661

"Could it be that you did something to betray me?" Old Master Feng's expression turned cold. Upon hearing this, Fang Su immediately shook her head, "No. I... I just went to Shuimu University."

"You went to find Comrade Xiao Kang." It was not a question; Old Master Feng's tone was declarative, then he asked, "Why did you go to find Comrade Xiao Kang? Have you forgotten what I said before?"

Fang Su was already feeling unwell, and being questioned twice in a row by Old Master Feng, she couldn't help but let her anger rise. Moreover, the recent discovery of her stomach illness had been troubling her quite a bit. It was no wonder that the long-suppressed resentment from the bottom of her heart poured out all at once: "I'm sick and need surgery, but the surgery costs are high, so I thought I'd go to my daughter to borrow some. Isn't that okay?"

"...What illness?"

Old Master Feng's expression was a bit dazed.

"Stomach cancer! I have stomach cancer!"

Fang Su almost shouted: "Now what do you have to say? Since marrying you, I've been the housekeeper of this family, trying to please you and the kids you had with your previous wife, ignoring my own son so much that he now hates me like an enemy. But what have you and your sons given me in return?"

The eldest respects me on the surface but never truly accepts me, the second and Fourth Brother don't even pretend to, treating me like a stranger,

And Fourth Brother even mocks me whenever he opens his mouth. Third brother Feng Lu likewise doesn't care about me. Tell me, did I owe Old Feng's family in a past life, that I'm fated to serve your whole family and gain nothing in return?"

As she spoke, the bitterness in Fang Su's voice deepened: "Marrying you means I'm your wife, and the child I bore is naturally also yours. But in your eyes and heart, only the top four matter, treating Feng Yi as if he were invisible,

While I was like bewitched, learning from you to neglect my own son, letting your other children bully and humiliate him, eventually foolishly driving my own son away from home. Now I've got stomach cancer and need surgery, what do you say we should do?"

"If surgery is needed, get the surgery. If we need to supplement nutrition, then let's do that."

Old Master Feng responded.

"The money though? Don't think I don't know what you did on New Year's Eve last year, calling the eldest, second, and Fourth Brother to the study. Our family did have some savings before, but your hospital expenses depleted a lot, and I had thought the remaining funds were enough for our retirement. But you actually gave over half of what was left to your sons. Did you think of me then? Did you think of Feng Yi?"

"Why get so angry? Even if my money isn't enough, the eldest and second, upon knowing you need money for surgery, will surely help out."

Old Master Feng's words prompted Fang Su to scoff, "Go ahead then, call your sons. The doctor did say that my illness can't be delayed, especially if it's confirmed as malignant cancer. I'm afraid my life won't be saved."

At these words, Fang Su finally realized the doctor's words to her, realized the potential malignancy of her stomach ailment, realized that this malignant cancer cell spread might mean she won't live much longer.

And so, Fang Su's face turned pale in an instant, staggering back a couple of steps.

"I don't want to die! Old Feng, I don't want to die, hurry and contact your sons to gather money, I need to go to the hospital for surgery!"

Talking rapidly, Fang Su suddenly stepped quickly toward Old Master Feng, squatting down to grab his hand, "You won't just watch me die, will you? Old Feng, speak up!"

"Is it benign or malignant?"

Old Master Feng asked.

Fang Su: "I don't know, I don't know yet."

Old Master Feng: "Don't be nervous, whether malignant or benign, as long as it's not in the late stage, there's a chance for cure."

Fang Su: "You're not deceiving me?"

"If you don't believe me, you can ask the doctor," Old Master Feng said, "Tomorrow I'll accompany you to the hospital, and as for the surgery money, we'll just use the family's."

Fang Su: "Using the family's, then how will we live afterwards?"

"My monthly pension is enough for our expenses."

Upon hearing Old Master Feng say this, Fang Su asked, "Then what about your medicine money? You can't do without medicine now; if there's ever a break, it'll affect your health." Pausing slightly, Fang Su thought of Feng Yi sending money to the family since March this year, she said: "My son has already sent us several months of support money; why haven't your other sons made a move?"

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"Lady Fang, is it your heart that's hard, or is it mine? You are my mother, and he is my father, yet neither of you has ever cared for me. You let Feng Xiao and his brothers bully and humiliate me, and when someone needs to take the blame, you think of me. Treating me this way, doesn't your heart ache as parents?"

"I, I and your dad... we..."

Fang Su was at a loss for words, and after a moment, she said, "But we all know we were wrong!"

"It's too late. And I don't need your remorse or any compensation."

After these words, Feng Yi stepped toward the living room door, standing under the eaves, not giving Fang Su another chance to chime in.

Inside the living room, Fang Su was angry for a moment before she could only leave.

She walked out of the living room, glanced at Feng Yi, and said, "I'll tell your dad."

Feng Yi didn't respond.

Watching Fang Su's figure exit the courtyard gate, Feng Yi withdrew his gaze, hearing footsteps coming from the living room. He turned to look at the door, seeing Kang Li and Luo Yanqing come out.

"Sister, brother-in-law, where are you going?"

"The kindergarten is about to let out, so we're going to pick up Bun and the others," Kang Li replied with a smile, then said, "Xiao Han is resting in the guest room upstairs, your room is next to Xiao Han's. Why don't you go up and lie down for a bit?"

Feng Yi: "I'll go with you to pick up the three little ones."

Kang Li shook her head, "There's no need, you go rest, my brother-in-law and I will bring Bun and the others back shortly."

"Listen to your sister."

Luo Yanqing gave Feng Yi a word, then held Kang Li's hand, and the couple walked toward the gate.

Once the two figures disappeared outside the gate, Feng Yi returned to the living room. His lips were tightly pursed, he stood in the center of the living room for a moment, then stepped onto the second floor.

"If you're tired, just sleep for a while."

The guest room door was half-open. Feng Yi saw Shu Han sitting on a chair casually flipping through a book, not lying on the bed. He couldn't help but say something.

"I don't feel that tired. My sister insisted I rest, so I can only stay here."

Shu Han smiled and closed the book.

Feng Yi casually closed the door, sat on the edge of the bed, and looked at Shu Han for a moment before saying, "I've told you before about my relationship with my family, do you remember?"

"Yes."

Shu Han nodded.

"That Lady Fang is my mom, but I... but I would rather not be her son."

Feng Yi's mood seemed slightly depressed. "When I mentioned my relationship with my family before, I didn't explain the reasons. Now I can tell you..."

Even walking for myself was a problem. Just when I thought that Brother Mo and I might die in the woods, it was Sister Kang Li, that's my sister, who appeared before me. She was visiting my brother-in-law's workplace, heard cries for help from the woods, and ventured in alone.

She took us to the hospital, helped us with the admission procedures, and bought life necessities for our hospital stay. After we were discharged..." Perhaps he had said too much in one breath, Feng Yi's mouth was dry, and his voice sounded a bit hoarse.

"I chose to enlist, and under my sister's supervision, I squeezed out time to study high school textbooks, preparing for the college entrance examination that could come at any time. My sister bought revision materials for Brother Mo and me so we could get into college, and she gave us a copy of her study notes. With our efforts and my sister's help, I got into a command school and Brother Mo got into Shuimu University. My sister, on the other hand, was the national perfect score top scholar."

"I can say that the fact that I am where I am today is largely due to my sister's help. To be honest, I admire my sister a lot. She completed two majors in just a year and a half, graduating with perfect scores. She then studied abroad, obtaining dual doctorates in less than three years."

Shu Han was utterly shocked, but quickly, that shock turned into admiration and excitement. She said, "Your sister is truly amazing!"

"Yes, she really is amazing."

Feng Yi nodded, then said, "But you would never imagine that when my sister was born, she was abandoned by my biological mother in a trash bin at a town health clinic. If she hadn't been fortunate enough to be found by her adoptive parents and raised with care, she would have turned into bones long ago."

"Your sister and you have the same mother but different fathers?" Before today, Shu Han had heard Feng Yi mention a sister. At that time, she assumed it was a full sibling, and Feng Yi hadn't specified, only saying he had a sister who treated him very well, and mentioned his poor relationship with the family.

He didn't elaborate on that, and Shu Han hadn't asked.

Not until just now, when Feng Yi recounted his past experiences, mentioned that Kang Li had saved him and Mo Yan, and brought up Kang Li's name, did Shu Han realize Kang Li's surname was "Kang," different from Feng Yi's.

"Yes."

Feng Yi nodded, but didn't elaborate on Kang Li's background, then said, "I'll take you to meet Brother Mo later. Even though we aren't related by blood, our bond is stronger than that of siblings."

Shu Han smiled and nodded, "Sure."

Feng Yi then continued the story he had been sharing, "My biological mother abandoned my sister nearly thirty years ago, and coincidentally found out that my sister was the child she had discarded. She thought of recognizing her, but as you saw earlier, my sister has no intention of acknowledging my biological mother.

Now, encountering me at my sister's place, she wants me to return to the Feng family. This certainly isn't out of maternal love; she likely has some ulterior motive."

"What do you think? Are you going to go back and see?"

Shu Han asked.

"By tomorrow, even if I don't return, my father will surely come looking for me." Feng Yi smirked, with sarcasm in his tone, "In my father's eyes and heart, there's only the four children his ex-wife gave him. To him, I'm completely superfluous. However, as a son, I'll fulfill my filial duties."

"And the money? Don't think I don't know about last New Year's Eve, when you called the eldest, the second, and Fourth Brother to the study." Fang Su's face was exceptionally unsightly. "The family had some savings, but your hospitalization cost quite a bit, and what was left I had thought was enough for us to retire. You went ahead and took more than half of what's left to give to your sons. Did you think of me then, did you think of Feng Yi?"

"Why are you getting so angry? Even if the money in my hand isn't enough, if the eldest and the second find out you need money for surgery, they'll surely help."

Once Old Master Feng said this, he heard a cold laugh from Fang Su, "Fine, then go call your sons now, the doctor said it, my illness can't be delayed. Especially if it turns out to be malignant cancer, I might not even keep my life."

As she spoke, Fang Su finally realized what the doctor had told her. She realized the lesion in her stomach could be malignant, and once those malignant cancer cells spread, what awaited her wouldn't be long.

Then, Fang Su's face instantly turned pale, staggering as she stepped back two steps.

"I don't want to die! Old Feng, I don't want to die, quickly contact your sons to gather money, I need to have surgery as soon as possible!"

Chattering away, Fang Su suddenly rushed forward before Old Master Feng, she squatted down and grabbed Old Master Feng's hand, "You wouldn't just watch me die, right? Old Feng, say something!"

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The main course for dinner was small white steamed buns with sweet red bean and glutinous rice porridge. There were five dishes: shredded pork with garlic sauce, braised fish, home-style tofu, stir-fried greens with mushrooms, and spicy sour shredded potatoes.

Feng Yi knew Kang Li was a good cook, but after several months, he finally tasted Kang Li's cooking again, and it made Feng Yi drool with anticipation. After tasting Kang Li's food, Shu Han couldn't stop praising it, making Kang Li grin from ear to ear.

Tasks like washing the dishes naturally fell on the shoulders of the two men.

"Brother-in-law, you're so lucky to have married someone like my sister, who is both a goddess in the living room and a master in the kitchen!"

Feng Yi said as he washed the dishes at the sink, his voice dripping with envy.

Luo Yanqing glanced at him and said calmly, "Yes, marrying your sister is indeed a blessing for me."

"That's it?"

Not hearing more from Luo Yanqing, Feng Yi couldn't help but ask, "Is that all?"

"What do you want to hear?"

Luo Yanqing raised an eyebrow.

"Shouldn't brother-in-law express more gratitude in front of me? Like how happy you are to have married my sister, or how touched you are each time you eat the food she makes, and..."

Before he could continue, Luo Yanqing interrupted softly, "Even if I wanted to express anything, it would be in front of your sister."

"Brother-in-law, are you looking down on me?"

Feng Yi's voice was filled with a sense of aggrievement: "I'm my sister's real brother and your dear little brother-in-law. Don't you think it would be better to flatter me rather than have me complain to my sister?"

"Flatter you?" Luo Yanqing glanced out the window and said lightly, "There should still be about an hour until it gets dark."

"Brother-in-law, are you implying I'm daydreaming?"

Feng Yi asked with a bitter face.

"It's good you know."

Luo Yanqing didn't even look at Feng Yi; he continued drying the dishes Feng Yi had already washed.

"Brother-in-law, does my sister know you have such a sharp tongue? You don't leave any face for others when you speak, especially since I'm your brother-in-law." Feng Yi glanced at Luo Yanqing, and his resentment was almost palpable.

"Your sister once said that face is earned by oneself, not given by others."

A clear and detached voice calmly flowed from Luo Yanqing's throat.

Feng Yi: "It's really discouraging! Brother-in-law, I feel like you're not very friendly to me."

Luo Yanqing: "Then keep feeling that way."

Feng Yi initially wanted to find something for his brother-in-law to do but ended up getting completely outmatched effortlessly, leaving him heartbroken.

After tidying up the kitchen, the two went into the living room.

"Where's my sister and the others?"

The living room was empty, prompting Feng Yi to ask Luo Yanqing.

"Either they're taking a walk in the yard to digest their food, or they've gone next door."

That 'next door' undoubtedly referred to Old Lady Li's home.

"Brother-in-law..."

Feng Yi called out to Luo Yanqing.

"Speak."

Luo Yanqing looked at Feng Yi with a calm expression.

"My sister is a good woman; you must treat her well for the rest of your life." Feng Yi's expression was serious, and Luo Yanqing responded with a look that said, "Do you really need to tell me that?"

"During the Chinese New Year, I heard the story of your previous partner who faked her death to escape; you kept this from my sister until that woman appeared in front of her, and she found out she was still alive,

rumor has it she wanted Ruirui and the others back. Brother-in-law, speaking of which, she's trouble you attracted, and I hope you can completely solve it, not let her appear at will and bother my sister.

Of course, I'm not suggesting you do anything illegal like kill, but I just want you to make sure she doesn't show up again in my sister and the kids' lives."

It's not that Feng Yi is overthinking, but he knows Feng Lu's character pretty well, even if not entirely; she is not someone who behaves.

If she wants to create trouble, there's certainly no doubt about it.

With someone like that around, with my sister's good temper, she'd eventually have to resort to her fists.

Well, Feng Yi, so far, doesn't know Kang Li has used force more than once.

"I've spoken with your father; if Luo Mingrui's biological mother causes trouble with our family again, the rest of her life will be spent in the desert."

"That place indeed needs large-scale tree planting, and the wind and sand are strong, quite suitable for your previous partner to live there."

Feng Yi's tone was flat as he said, "Your job doesn't allow for much downtime, but whenever you are at home resting, pay more attention to my sister. She has to care for so many kids on her own, even with Uncle Kang and aunty helping out, dealing with the kids' studies and mental health is still a lot for her."

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"I know your sister works very hard, so when she's at home resting, I try to take on as much as I can so she can have more time to relax," Luo Yanqing said, just as footsteps echoed from outside the living room door.

"Is Comrade Kang Li at home?"

It was Feng Wei's voice.

Indeed, it was Feng Wei, who went to the Feng family's big house after work to pick up Old Master Feng and drove all the way to Shuimu University.

At this moment, he was standing outside the living room door, pushing Old Master Feng who was sitting in a wheelchair.

"What brings you here, the two of you...?"

Luo Yanqing got up and walked to the living room door, seeing Old Master Feng and Feng Wei standing there, he couldn't help but glance back at Feng Yi before saying, "Come in and sit." Since they were already at the door, he couldn't be so rude as to turn them away or send them off directly.

After all, no matter what, the man in the wheelchair was a senior, someone who had contributed to the country and the people. Even if his impression of the man wasn't great, he could only maintain polite appearances for now.

But as Feng Yi saw Feng Wei pushing Old Master Feng into the living room, his face immediately darkened, although he said nothing.

"Are you Xiao Yi?"

Both Old Master Feng and Feng Wei were surprised at the current Feng Yi.

It wasn't that Feng Yi looked intimidating; rather, his appearance had changed significantly from before, making him seem like a different person.

His features were sharply defined, his expression stern, sitting with the typical posture of a soldier, radiating maturity and calm restraint at a glance.

Very different from the timid and introverted boy they had in mind.

"Don't recognize me?" Feng Yi pulled up a corner of his mouth, "Have the two of you just forgotten what I look like, or is it hard to believe what I've become today?"

"Xiao Yi, seeing you follow in dad's footsteps, big brother is very happy, and dad is too, right dad?" Feng Wei said casually, meeting his gaze, Old Master Feng nodded towards Feng Yi, "I heard your mother say you became a soldier, it made me happy back then."

"We're not familiar, so please address me by name, or just call me Comrade Feng."

Feng Yi said this to Feng Wei, then turned his gaze to Old Master Feng, "The year I was kicked out, I said I severed ties with the Feng family, and later when you found me, I repeated it — there would be no more relation between me and the Feng family. Why do I remember this, but you don't? Or are you just pretending to be oblivious?"

Old Master Feng wasn't the slightest bit angry upon hearing this. He said, "A single stroke can't write two 'Feng' characters; no matter what, you're still a part of the Feng family, one of dad's children. Moreover, the past is already behind us, you're a sensible child, and dad hopes you won't keep clinging to the past.

Besides, your brothers have realized their mistakes long ago; we're a family, and harmony is the most important thing, right?"

Feng Yi was about to speak when Luo Yanqing said, "Take your time talking, I'll go to the study to handle some work." With that, Luo Yanqing went upstairs to the second floor.

Luo Yanqing wasn't in the habit of listening in on other people's family matters.

After he disappeared around the upstairs corner, Feng Yi's cold and low voice broke the silence, "Family? The family that Mr. Feng refers to does not include me."

"Xiao Yi, I know you still mind those things from childhood. Let me say something you might not like to hear: your second brother and the others did tease you a lot back then, but big brother knows they meant no harm. After all, you're also dad's child. You and I, and your second brother, third sister, and fourth brother, we're all siblings..."

"If you know I don't like it, then why say it?"

Feng Yi interrupted Feng Wei, sneering, "Before I left the Feng family, you didn't see me as a brother, so I hope now, and in the future, you'll continue not to see me as one."

His gaze shifted to Old Master Feng, "Ever since I can remember, I never felt you saw me as your son, so please maintain your original attitude because, in my heart, you are no longer my father. However, I won't shortchange the support I owe you a single penny, on that, you can rest assured."

Old Master Feng: "You can't get over that hurdle in your heart?"

"It's not about getting over it; it's that I don't want any entanglements with the Feng family."

Feng Yi replied coldly.

"Blood ties cannot be erased. I admit I didn't care for you as much as I did for your brothers and sisters, but I didn't ignore you completely, right? There are reasons why I cared more for your brothers and sisters than for you, and I think you know them. But to prevent further misunderstanding, dad feels it's necessary to talk to you properly about this."

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Looking at Feng Yi, Old Master Feng remained silent for a moment before continuing, "Compared to you, your siblings lost their mother, and Dad worries..."

"Don't talk to me about this." Feng Yi interrupted Old Master Feng: "They lost their biological mother, but they have a good stepmother. I have a mom but it's like having none. Who is truly pitiful, them or me? After these years, does Old Mr. Feng still have no idea?"

Old Master Feng was choked by Feng Yi's words.

Feng Wei was similarly stifled by Feng Yi.

He glanced at Old Master Feng, deciding not to interrupt, just to quietly listen to the dialogue between Old Master Feng and Feng Yi.

"It's me, your mother, along with your three brothers and your sister, who have wronged you. But who in life can be utterly mistake-free? Since we know we have erred, we've naturally made changes. You can't keep looking at us with the same old perspective, don't you think? Besides, how long can Dad live like this nowadays?

Your mom... she has stomach cancer. Whether she mentioned it to you or not, Dad feels that, as her son, regardless of whether she told you, you should let go of the dissatisfaction and resentment in your heart and get along with the family better. What do you think?"

It regrettably seemed to Old Master Feng that he hadn't seen even a hint of emotion on Feng Yi's face, as if what had been said was carried away by the wind and left no trace.

Feng Yi's expression was indifferent: "You came here to find me, right? If there's nothing else, you can leave."

"Dad, Aunt has stomach cancer?"

Feng Wei looked at Old Master Feng in shock.

"Yes."

Old Master Feng nodded: "Tomorrow, I'll accompany your Aunt to the hospital to ask the doctor about the surgery." He didn't plan to discuss the surgery expenses with Feng Wei here.

"Got it."

The surgery would inevitably cost a lot, and Feng Wei wondered what the old man was thinking. It seemed like he should ask on the way.

"Do you want to go to the hospital with your mom tomorrow?"

Old Master Feng asked Feng Yi.

"She doesn't lack sons."

Feng Yi responded flatly.

Upon hearing this, Old Master Feng was momentarily dazed.

Feng Wei's face showed embarrassment.

After a while, he said, "Xiao Yi, I know you have always resented Aunt for being kind to me and your second brother, third sister, and fourth brother, but ignoring you, her biological son. But Aunt did that out of pity for us and gave her maternal love more to us. You are Aunt's biological son; you should try to understand and be more forgiving to Aunt for not caring enough for you."

Hearing this, Feng Yi's expression turned extremely unpleasant. He stared at Feng Wei, about to say something when suddenly, from outside the living room, Kang Li's clear voice, tinged with coldness and sarcasm, rang out: "Sir, those words are quite nice."

Before Old Master Feng could finish, Fang Su interrupted: "You're still speaking up for Feng Wei's siblings now, Old Feng. If you don't balance things fairly, I advise you not to mention going home when you see Xiao Yi, or he'll shame you with two sentences, and it's all your own doing."

"You..."

Old Master Feng's face turned cold.

"Stop with the 'You, you, you' and 'Me, me, me'. Remember to mention the surgery to the elder."

After speaking, Fang Su turned and left the study room.

Though none of the children recognized her as their mother, it was undeniable that her son and daughter were exceptionally successful. Just based on this, the one married before by the old man couldn't compare to her, not to mention she enjoyed the Feng family's fortune for twenty to thirty years, while the one before her left early, proving she was of thinner fate.

Shuimu University.

The trio of Bun was picked up from kindergarten by Kang Li and Luo Yanqing, and when they saw Feng Yi, they joyfully shouted, "Little Uncle," while Shu Han's eyes, lighting up at the sight of the trio, couldn't get enough as if she wished her eyeballs would stick to the three little cuties.

Even when the little trio was doing homework, Shu Han sat on the sofa without taking her eyes off them. Once the trio finished, she immediately scooped Guoguo onto her lap, letting Bun and Tangyuan sit beside her, telling them stories of healing and saving lives, as heard from war heroes, unable to express enough how much she adored the trio.

Feng Yi watched from the side, his gaze full of affection and amusement.

Because, in Feng Yi's understanding, Shu Han was a very spirited girl, yet today he saw another side of her.

Gentle and loving, always smiling when talking to the kids, afraid of raising her voice and scaring the three little cuties.

Chapter 1666

"Xiao Yi, you and Xiao Han take Bun and the others to wash your hands, we're about to eat."

Kang Li's voice came from the kitchen. Hearing this, Feng Yi stood up and responded loudly, "Alright!"

Originally, Shu Han and Feng Yi were supposed to help Kang Li cook in the kitchen, but Luo Yanqing didn't wait for Kang Li to say anything and directly blocked the two at the kitchen door.

Said having him assisting was enough.

Seeing this, Kang Li laughed and waved at the couple Feng Yi and Shu Han, and spoke to the three Bun kids in the living room, telling them to accompany the couple well.

"Bun, why are you and your siblings so cute?"

"Sister Han, my fourth and fifth brother grew up eating cute products!"

"Sister Han, because my fourth brother, little sister, and I are our parents' children, that's why we're so cute!"

Bun hadn't answered yet, but Guoguo and Tangyuan replied one after another. Hearing their words, Shu Han laughed out loud and said, "Yes, yes, you're absolutely right."

"It's because our parents taught us well." This was Bun's voice. He held his little face tightly and said in his milky voice seriously.

Shu Han heard this, lightly pinched his delicate, fair baby-fat face and said, "Exactly, you all being so cute is indeed your parents' credit, they taught you well!"

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The Main course for dinner was white mini flower rolls paired with red bean sticky rice porridge, with five dishes, including fish-flavored shredded pork, braised fish, home-style tofu, green vegetables stir-fried with mushrooms, and sour and spicy shredded potatoes.

Feng Yi knew Kang Li's cooking skills were good, but after several months of not tasting Kang Li's homemade dishes, Feng Yi was really craving them. And after Shu Han ate Kang Li's cooking, she couldn't stop showering Kang Li with exaggerated compliments, much to Kang Li's delight.

Tasks like washing the dishes naturally fell on the shoulders of the two male comrades.

"Brother-in-law, you're truly lucky to marry my sister, a 'Fairy Girl' who dazzles in the living room and shines in the kitchen!"

Feng Yi washed the dishes at the sink while sourly saying this.

Upon hearing this, Luo Yanqing glanced at him casually, "Hmm, marrying your sister is indeed my good fortune."

"That's all?"

Feng Yi didn't hear any further words from Luo Yanqing and couldn't help but ask, "That's it?"

"What do you want to hear?"

Luo Yanqing raised an eyebrow.

"Doesn't brother-in-law need to express your feelings in front of me, like how happy you are after marrying my sister, or how moved you are every time you eat my sister's cooking, and..."

Before he could finish, Luo Yanqing interrupted him calmly, "Even if I have to express my feelings, it would be in front of your sister."

"Brother-in-law, are you looking down on me?"

Feng Yi said with a hint of disappointment, "I'm my sister's own brother, your precious little brother-in-law, don't you think it would be better to try and curry favor with me instead of me complaining to my sister?"

"Curry favor with you?" Luo Yanqing glanced out the window and said indifferently, "There's probably about an hour until it gets dark."

"Brother-in-law, are you saying I'm dreaming?"

Feng Yi asked with a distressed face.

"Good to know."

Luo Yanqing didn't even look at Feng Yi as he wiped the dishes Feng Yi had cleaned.

"Brother-in-law, does my sister know you're sharp-tongued? You speak without preserving any dignity for others, let alone for me, your little brother-in-law." Feng Yi glanced at Luo Yanqing, his eyes nearly brimming with resentment.

"Your sister has said that dignity is earned, not given by others."

In a clear voice devoid of any emotion, the words slowly emerged from Luo Yanqing's throat.

Feng Yi: "That's really a blow! Brother-in-law, I feel you're not very friendly to me."

Luo Yanqing: "Then continue feeling that way."

Originally wanting to stir up some trouble for this brother-in-law, Feng Yi ended up feeling quite heartbroken after being effortlessly crushed by the other.

After tidying up the kitchen, the two went into the living room.

"Where's my sister and the others?"

Seeing no one in the living room, Feng Yi couldn't help but ask Luo Yanqing.

"Either strolling to digest in the courtyard or gone next door."

The next door undoubtedly referred to Old Lady Li's home.

"Brother-in-law..."

Feng Yi called out to Luo Yanqing.

"Go ahead."

Luo Yanqing's expression was indifferent as he looked at Feng Yi.

"My sister is a good woman; you must treat her well all your life." Feng Yi's expression was serious, and Luo Yanqing, hearing this, directly gave him a "You needed to say that" look.

"During the Chinese New Year, I heard that your previous partner faked her death to escape. You kept this secret from my sister until the woman appeared in front of my sister, and she realized that woman was still alive.

It's said she wants to take back Ruirui and the others, brother-in-law. Ultimately, that problem was brought by you. I hope you can completely solve it, so she doesn't just pop up whenever she wants.

Of course, I'm not asking brother-in-law to do illegal things like murder. I'm just hoping brother-in-law can keep her out of my sister and the kids' lives."

Feng Yi's concerns weren't without reason, even though he wasn't entirely familiar with Feng Lu's nature, he knew Feng Lu wasn't someone who would stay put quietly.

If she wanted to cause trouble, it would undoubtedly happen.

With someone like her around, his sister's good temper would eventually lead to punching.

Alright, up till now, Feng Yi didn't know Kang Li had resorted to using force more than once.

"I've talked with your father; if Luo Mingrui's biological mother causes trouble for our family again, she'll spend her later years on the Gobi Desert."

"That place does need extensive tree planting, and the yellow dust is heavy—suitable for your former partner to live there."

Feng Yi's tone was unwavering as he said, "Your work is so demanding with little rest time, but whenever you're home, pay more attention to my sister. Although Uncle Kang and Auntie are helping to look after the kids, my sister still has to worry about their education and mental health."

"I know your sister works very hard; when I'm home resting, I do try my best to take on extra tasks so your sister can have more time to rest," Luo Yanqing replied just as footsteps sounded from outside the living room door.

"Is Kang Li at home?"

This was Feng Wei's voice.

Indeed, it was Feng Wei. Before he got off work, he took the Old Master Feng from the Feng family's compound, driving all the way to Shuimu University.

At this moment, he stood outside the living room door, pushing the wheelchair occupied by Old Master Feng.

"You two are..."

Luo Yanqing stood up and walked to the living room entrance, seeing Old Master Feng and Feng Wei father and son, he couldn't help but glance at Feng Yi before saying, "Come in and sit," as they were at the door, he couldn't be impolite to turn them away or rudely send them off.

After all, regardless of his perception of the old man, sitting in the wheelchair was an elder who served the country and its people, so he could only maintain surface-level politeness.

On the other hand, Feng Yi's face darkened immediately upon Feng Wei pushing Old Master Feng into the living room, though he said nothing.

"You're Xiao Yi?"

Both Old Master Feng and Feng Wei were surprised to see Feng Yi now.

It wasn't that Feng Yi was intimidating; the changes he underwent compared to before indeed made him seem like a different person.

Chapter 1667

"Eldest, a person must have a conscience. Although I married your aunt back then, my original intention was to take care of you and your three siblings..." Old Master Feng, wise with age, could easily detect Feng Wei's reluctance. He said with a stern face, "And since your aunt became part of our family, regardless of her reasons for treating you siblings well, ultimately, you all benefited."

"I know."

Feng Wei replied.

"You'd better genuinely understand it." Old Master Feng's voice was emotionless: "To be honest, ever since I married your aunt, knowing that you lost your birth mother, I was concerned that having her own children might make her neglect you, so I asked her not to have children in the short term, to which she agreed."

Later, when Xiao Yi was born, I was still worried that you might feel neglected, so I basically ignored Xiao Yi's matters, treating the family as if it were still just the four of you. Perhaps this created an illusion for your aunt that I disliked Xiao Yi, leading her to also overlook his presence."

At this, Old Master Feng let out a long sigh: "In such a situation, you siblings likely followed my lead, not treating Xiao Yi as a brother. Reflecting on it now, the way you bullied Xiao Yi in your youth really went too far."

"Dad, is there any point in saying this now?"

Feng Wei's face didn't look good: "We siblings were wrong, but what's done is done, we can't reverse time, can we?"

"I want you to understand that in our family, you siblings and I as your father truly wronged Xiao Yi and his mother. Now, that Xiao Yi doesn't want to return to the Feng family or acknowledge us is because we went too far back then. It's not Xiao Yi's fault that he wants to distance himself from us.

But when it comes to the matter concerning your aunt, neither I nor you siblings can shirk responsibility. We must care about her survival, understood?"

"..." Feng Yi was silent for a while before he said: "It's about raising funds for the surgery, right? Since you mentioned it, neither I nor the Second Brother or Fourth Brother would ignore it."

Thinking about the success Feng Yi had achieved in recent years, and Kang Li's background, Feng Wei's thoughts involuntarily changed.

——Helping the stepmother Fang Su with the surgery costs might bring Feng Yi and Comrade Kang closer.

In such a rapidly changing world, having more connections can always be handy in the future.

Moreover, as he saw it, although Feng Yi had distanced himself from the family and didn't want to return, the blood ties were undeniable; besides, Comrade Kang was the only daughter of Mr. Jiang Boya, and even though she didn't acknowledge her biological mother, she couldn't deny that she was born from her stepmother.

And whether it's Feng Yi or Comrade Kang, they could certainly easily cover the surgery costs for his stepmother Fang Su. So, instead of being stingy about the stepmother's surgery costs, he and the Second Brother and Fourth Brother might as well be straightforward and each bear a share and pay for the stepmother's surgery. It might just leave a good impression on Feng Yi and Comrade Kang.

It would make talking easier when they meet in the future.

After weighing the pros and cons, Feng Wei felt much more at ease and no longer resisted Old Master Feng's request that the brothers contribute to Fang Su's surgery costs.

After taking Old Master Feng home, Feng Wei called Feng Kai and Feng Xiao separately from Old Master Feng's study, said goodbye to Old Master Feng and Fang Su, and drove back to his own home.

"Big brother, is there something urgent you couldn't say over the phone, that you had to call me and Second Brother here?" As soon as he entered the door, Feng Wei heard Feng Xiao's voice. He looked up at Feng Xiao, then glanced at Feng Kai, and said, "Let's go to my study." He handed his briefcase to his wife and motioned for Feng Kai and Feng Xiao to follow. The three of them walked into the study one after the other.

Feng Wei's wife felt puzzled but didn't think much of it. She glanced at the closed study door and put Feng Wei's briefcase away in the bedroom.

In the study.

"What? Dad wants us to pay for that woman's surgery? I disagree!" Upon hearing Feng Wei mention that the stepmother Fang Su had stomach cancer and needed surgery, and that their father wanted them to pool money, Feng Xiao immediately exploded with anger and said furiously, "That woman isn't our real mother. Why should we pay for her surgery?"

Three years ago, Feng Xiao returned to work in North City, undoubtedly because Old Master Feng used his connections to arrange the transfer. Nowadays, Feng Xiao's demeanor is more composed compared to when he had to leave North City with He Xue sticking to him, but as the saying goes, 'A leopard can't change its spots.' Therefore, when faced with matters affecting his own interests, this Fourth Brother of the Feng family still couldn't avoid getting agitated.

Chapter 1668

"Why do you say that?" Feng Wei gave Feng Xiao a cold glance. "Aunt is indeed a stepmother, but don't you know how she treats us? Now that she's sick and needs surgery, from any perspective, we should contribute to her surgery expenses."

Feng Kai looked down as if he was deep in thought; he didn't say anything.

"That woman is good to us for a reason, and besides, it's only right for her to be good to us. Moreover, she eats from our house, lives in our house — how does that all count?"

Feng Xiao countered Feng Wei's words, placing his hands on his hips and pacing back and forth in the study. He continued, "He Xue hasn't worked for so many years. I'm supporting five mouths on my own.

Where would the money come from to pay for that woman's surgery?" Back then, He Xue registered for a marriage certificate with Feng Xiao while pregnant. To avoid gossip, the two followed Old Master Feng's arrangements and moved to a regional city. Since He Xue wasn't used to working outside, she could only stay home to take care of the children, which led to continuing to give birth to more little ones for Feng Xiao.

So far, they've had three children — two sons and a daughter.

"Aunt is dad's wife, and her food and accommodations are taken care of by dad."

Feng Wei's words rendered Feng Xiao speechless, and Feng Wei continued, "Because she had to take care of dad and the four of us siblings, Aunt almost completely neglected her own son, leading Feng Yi to become estranged from Aunt and even sever ties with the Feng family. Do you think we should cover the surgery expenses?"

"It's not like I was the one who made Feng Yi cut ties with the family; it was that woman who drove Feng Yi out years ago." Feng Xiao asked sullenly, "Is there still no news of Feng Yi after all these years?"

Feng Wei: "What, are you feeling guilty now?"

"What am I guilty about?"

Feng Xiao flared up again, glaring at Feng Wei, "Big brother, make yourself clear!"

"Fourth Brother, Feng Yi hates the Feng family; he hates everyone in our family, especially the incident where he took the blame for you back then." Hearing this from Feng Wei, Feng Xiao muttered, "I didn't ask him to take the blame for me; it was that woman..."

"Alright, that matter has been turned over; you don't need to say anything more." Feng Wei waved his hand, then spoke of Feng Yi, "Fifth Brother not only enlisted but also passed the college entrance exams to attend a command college; after graduation, he returned to his original unit to develop his career. His future is promising.

Also, Fifth Brother has a half-sister. She's quite extraordinary, and her biological father is a prominent figure in the business world. Before calling you, I drove dad over to her place. Feng Yi recently came back to North City on leave with his partner; they're staying at her place. Do you understand the reason I called you here now?"

Feng Xiao replied straightforwardly, "I don't understand."

Feng Kai nodded slightly, "Big brother wants us to ease the relationship with Fifth Brother; it would be best if we could get to know Fifth Brother's half-sister."

"Fourth Brother, did you hear that? Your second brother's mind works better than yours." Feng Wei glanced at Feng Xiao, "In life, more connections mean more paths. Someday we might need to seek help from them. Even if we don't use this connection, can you guarantee that our next generation won't need it?"

Feng Wei said this while looking at Feng Xiao.

"Big brother, aren't you tired?"

Thinking only of calculations and benefits; if it were him, he'd be in a coffin long ago.

Feng Xiao secretly grumbled.

"Big brother, I'll follow your lead."

Feng Kai expressed his stance at this time.

It's just covering some surgery costs; with his family's economic capacity, it shouldn't be impossible.

"What about you, Fourth Brother?"

Feng Wei gazed at Feng Xiao.

Upon hearing this, Feng Xiao replied, "Big brother, arrange a job for He Xue. As long as she can start working soon, I'll pay." He works in the sales department of a food factory and was just promoted to deputy head of sales earlier this year. Normally, getting his own wife a job wouldn't be difficult, but the problem is he doesn't have much authority.

The most important point is that he's only been with the factory for nearly three years, and he dares not abuse his position to casually create a job for his family.

Besides, affected by the impact of reform and opening, old enterprises, like their previous snack factory's production line and food tastes, no longer hold much advantage. If there's no improvement, they might reduce staffing and production just like some others have.

To put it bluntly, it's about laying off some people to increase efficiency.

Feng Wei: "Your third child just turned two, if your wife goes to work, who will take care of the child?"

Feng Xiao: "Send to daycare!"

"Let me think about it, and I'll get back to you." Feng Wei said, then Feng Xiao's cheerful voice followed: "Alright, I'll wait for your good news, big brother!"

Chapter 1669

After a slight pause, Feng Xiao asked Feng Wei, "Big brother, who is that half-sister of Feng Yi? Since she's quite remarkable and lives in North City, maybe I know her too!"

"We have a female athlete in our country, and every time she participates in a competition, she wins several gold medals with her personal strength. She was also once the national top scorer in the university entrance exam."

"Kang Li? Big brother, is it her?"

This was Feng Kai's voice, looking at Feng Wei in shock.

"That's right, it's Kang Li, who's been frequently reported in television broadcasts and newspapers."

Feng Wei replied.

"..."

Feng Xiao was stunned and couldn't snap out of it for quite a while.

"Fourth Brother, what are you daydreaming about?"

Noticing Feng Xiao's prolonged silence, Feng Wei couldn't help but ask.

"Big brother, I... I know her, earlier I even got beaten up by her and her man."

Snapping back to reality, Feng Xiao said sheepishly.

Feng Wei raised an eyebrow: "How come you never mentioned it?"

"Getting kicked and sent flying by a woman, that's so embarrassing, how could I mention it in front of you and Second Brother?" Feng Xiao's face was awkward, "I never thought Feng Yi was so lucky to have her as a sister."

Because he had a slight crush on Kang Li, when Feng Xiao saw her photo in a newspaper once, he started paying special attention to news about her.

Behind his wife He Xue's back, he even compiled a scrapbook full of news articles and photos of Kang Li on the podium.

"Our stepmother previously found an impostor, was it actually to replace Comrade Kang's identity?"

Feng Kai asked Feng Wei.

"Yes."

Feng Wei nodded, saying, "I also heard dad say today, before Aunt married our dad, because her partner was suddenly taken abroad by his family, she gave birth to a girl prematurely, but Aunt couldn't afford to raise her, and the doctor said the child probably wouldn't live long, so Aunt... Aunt abandoned the child!"

Upon hearing this, Feng Kai sneered, "And then years later, that man's former partner arranged for someone to come back to the country to find the child, and that's how our family ended up with an impostor, right?"

Feng Wei didn't respond, which was as good as an admission.

Feng Xiao couldn't quite make sense of it, feeling as if he was lost in a fog.

"The peach replacement plan failed, but who'd have thought that the abandoned child not only survived but thrived, so that woman wanted to reconnect, but Comrade Kang didn't recognize her as her biological mother, only acknowledging Feng Yi, isn't that right?"

Feng Kai stated it clearly, and hearing his words, Feng Wei nodded, "Indeed, as you said, Comrade Kang doesn't acknowledge Aunt, but she did acknowledge Lao Wu, however, there's a connection between her and Lao Wu."

"What?"

Feng Kai was puzzled.

Feng Wei explained, "The year Lao Wu left home, he survived by picking up scrap metal, and one day when he was beaten up by some ruffians in the wild woods, if Comrade Kang hadn't happened to pass by and save him, he might not have made it.

Since then, Comrade Kang took good care of Lao Wu, treating him like her own brother despite not knowing they were half-siblings, showing great concern for him. I dare say, in Lao Wu's heart, the only person he views as family could very well be Comrade Kang!"

That was the whole truth, only Feng Wei was unaware.

Feng Xiao: "No wonder!"

Feng Wei: "No wonder what?" he looked at Feng Xiao.

"It was during the Chinese New Year I got beaten up by Comrade Kang. If that woman hadn't gone into Uncle Song's courtyard and slapped Comrade Kang without distinguishing between right and wrong, only to get slapped back,

dad wouldn't have argued with Comrade Kang to protect that woman, and I wouldn't have foolishly tried to teach Comrade Kang a lesson, only to get a flying kick from her and have her husband hold me down for a good beating!"

Speaking of getting beaten up back then, Feng Xiao felt extremely embarrassed, but he still couldn't help but praise Kang Li, "Big brother, you have no idea, that kick from Comrade Kang was so impressive. Thinking back, I feel it's an honor to have been kicked by her."

Feng Wei's mouth twitched.

So did Feng Kai's.

To think this silly brother considers it an honor to be kicked by a woman, can we even keep him around?

"Big brother... it's quite obvious that our stepmother has a terrible relationship with Comrade Kang, can we really establish a connection with her?"

Feng Kai frowned slightly, having almost lost hope in what Feng Wei previously said.

Chapter 1670

"Auntie is at fault, but the blood relationship between mother and daughter cannot be erased. Besides, Comrade Kang has acknowledged Lao Wu as his younger brother. Even though Lao Wu holds resentment towards our family, he is, after all, the child of both our dad and Auntie,

and has lived with the Feng family for over a decade. As long as we, as the elder brothers, treat Lao Wu cordially when we see him in the future, I believe his resentment will eventually dissipate. After all, hearts are made of flesh, and Lao Wu won't be so heartless as to sever ties with our family forever."

Shu Han was playing in the yard with Bun and the other two. She saw Feng Wei pushing Old Master Feng out. As they both glanced at her, she nodded lightly as a greeting.

"Are you my younger son's partner?"

As Feng Wei passed by Shu Han, Old Master Feng gestured for him to stop and asked Shu Han a question.

"If the younger son you refer to is Feng Yi, then I am indeed Feng Yi's partner."

Shu Han met Old Master Feng's eyes and replied calmly, without arrogance or deference.

"In the future, I'll trouble you to take good care of Xiao Yi. If he encounters any difficult situations outside, you can call me." As he spoke, Old Master Feng instructed Feng Wei to write down the family's landline number and give it to Shu Han.

Feng Wei nodded and took out a small notebook from his pocket. With a pen, he swiftly wrote down a series of landline numbers, including his own home number and office landline.

"These two numbers can reach me."

He pointed it out to Shu Han.

Shu Han didn't refuse, she accepted the note Feng Wei gave her: "If necessary, I'll contact you." Though she said this, Shu Han intended to listen to Feng Yi's advice.

Feng Wei: "Goodbye."

Shu Han: "Goodbye."

Watching Feng Wei push Old Master Feng out of the courtyard, seeing him help Old Master Feng into a seated position in the car, then fold the wheelchair into the car until the vehicle drove away from the courtyard entrance, Shu Han withdrew her gaze and told Bun and the other two: "Come on, let's go home!"

Like a leader of children, she soon led the three little ones into the living room.

...

"Dad, do you have enough money for Auntie's surgery?"

Feng Wei held the steering wheel as he looked ahead and casually asked Old Master Feng.

Upon hearing this, Old Master Feng spoke: "Discuss with Second and the others, and cover Auntie's surgery expenses. After the surgery, Auntie will need nutritional supplements. The money I have can only buy her some nourishment."

"I presume Second and Fourth's finances are tight, and I still need to pay for the children's education and social obligations, so I might not be able to contribute much."

Feng Wei expressed his concerns, clearly reluctant to fund stepmother Fang Su's surgery.

"Your Auntie was unfair to Xiao Yi, but she didn't wrong you. Regardless of whether you borrow or come up with another solution, make sure to pay the full amount for Auntie's surgery."

Old Master Feng felt uneasy.

Feng Wei: "Alright, I'll talk to Second and the others and see what they can do."

A slight pause, Feng Xiao asked Feng Wei: "Big brother, who is Feng Yi's half-sister? Since she's remarkable and in North City, tell me, maybe I know her as well!"

"There's a national female athlete who wins multiple gold medals every time she competes, based on individual strength. She was also once the national top scorer in the college entrance exam."

"Kang Li? Big brother, is it her?"

This was Feng Kai's voice, looking at Feng Wei in shock.

"Yes, the very Comrade Kang Li who is frequently reported on television, radio, and newspapers."

Feng Wei replied.

"..."

Feng Xiao was stunned, not recovering for a long while.

"Fourth Brother, why are you in a daze?"

Seeing Feng Xiao silent for so long, Feng Wei couldn't help but ask.

"Big brother, I... I know her, I was even beaten up by her and her man once."

Recovering, Feng Xiao awkwardly said.

Feng Wei raised an eyebrow: "Why haven't you mentioned it before?"

"Being kicked by a woman, how embarrassing is that? How would I dare bring it up in front of you and Second Brother?" Feng Xiao looked uncomfortable: "Didn't expect Feng Yi would be so fortunate to have such a sibling."

Since developing a slight crush on Kang Li, Feng Xiao paid special attention to her news after seeing her photo in the newspaper.

Behind wife He Xue's back, he specifically organized a collection of clippings, all featuring Kang Li on the podium.

"Was the impostor our family's stepmother found actually trying to replace Comrade Kang Li's identity?"

Feng Kai asked Feng Wei.

"Mm."

Feng Wei nodded and said, "I only learned today from our dad that before marrying him, Auntie gave birth prematurely to a girl because her partner was suddenly taken abroad by family, not being able to raise her and believing the child wouldn't live long, Auntie... Auntie abandoned the child!"

Upon hearing this, Feng Kai scoffed: "Years later, that woman's former partner sent someone back to find the child, and that's how the impostor appeared in our family, right?"

Feng Wei didn't respond, implicitly agreeing.

Feng Xiao couldn't quite grasp the situation, feeling as if he were lost in a cloud.

"The substitute didn't succeed, but surprisingly the abandoned child not only survived but thrived excellently, so the woman wanted to make amends, but Comrade Kang Li didn't recognize her biological mother, only recognized Feng Yi, right?"

Feng Kai articulated clearly, and upon hearing his explanation, Feng Wei nodded: "Indeed, as you said, Comrade Kang Li doesn't recognize Auntie but acknowledged Lao Wu. However, there is more history between him and Lao Wu."

"What?"

Feng Kai was puzzled.

Feng Wei explained: "The year Lao Wu left home, he survived by scavenging waste. One day he was driven into the woods and beaten by some punks. If Comrade Kang Li hadn't happened to pass by and saved Lao Wu, he probably wouldn't have survived.

Since then, Comrade Kang Li cared for Lao Wu, treating him like a real brother, unknowingly, though they are half-siblings. In Lao Wu's heart, the only person he really regards as family might be Comrade Kang Li!"

That's the complete truth, though Feng Wei doesn't fully know.

"No wonder then?!"

Feng Xiao said.'

Feng Wei: "What no wonder?" he looked at Feng Xiao.

"It's just that the year I was beaten by Comrade Kang Li, during Spring Festival, if not for that woman rushing into Uncle Song's house and slapping Comrade Kang Li without knowing the whole story, then being slapped back by Comrade Kang Li,

our dad wouldn't have argued with Comrade Kang Li to protect that woman, and I wouldn't have tried to foolishly discipline Comrade Kang Li, resulting in being kicked by her and pressed on the ground by her husband!"

Reflecting on being beaten, Feng Xiao felt extremely embarrassed but couldn't help praising Kang Li: "Big brother, you don't know how dashing Comrade Kang Li's kick was, thinking about it now, I consider being kicked by Comrade Kang Li a lifetime honor."

Feng Wei twitched at the corner of his mouth.