

Weak B 411

Chapter 411: No Guilt

Now, unable to get by on her own, she suddenly remembers the son she abandoned from a young age. To be honest, if he were the eldest of the Luo Family, he would never forgive the heartless woman who threw him away.

Even if she were his birth mother, no matter how destitute or miserable she was now, he would not forgive her, nor would he let her take any advantage of him.

Let alone pay money to help some distantly related half brothers marry their wives.

That's what Meng Xingping was thinking; it showed that he knew everything. But in the end, he wasn't a Luo—he wasn't that elder brother of the Luo Family... He was Meng Xingping, the seed of the Meng Family, about to take advantage of the Luo Family elder brother, and he was part of that.

Thus, Meng Xingping wouldn't pretend to be someone who sees things clearly, after all, he would be the beneficiary. Why would he bite the hand that fed him and feel sympathy for a brother who only shared half his blood?

He wouldn't!

Yes, Meng Xinping knew he wouldn't sympathize with the elder brother of the Luo Family. He needed him to dig into his pockets, to help him marry a wife to warm his bed, to bear him two 'Big Fatty' boys!

So, guilt? There was none at all.

The reason why Meng Xingping and his brothers knew about the shady deed their mother committed when she was young came from Wang Guilan herself. She frequently brought up the money she had taken from her ex-husband's family in front of the men in her house, saying if it hadn't been for that, they would have been blown away by the Northwest winds a long time ago.

Once or twice didn't matter, but every time Wang Guilan quarreled with the men at home, she never failed to mention her past actions, intent on making sure they knew how much she had sacrificed for the family.

As a result, from a young age, Meng Xingping and his brothers were incessantly reminded and thus fully aware of just how coldhearted their old mother could be!

"Do you think you need to teach me?"

Wang Guilan rolled her eyes and then glanced out the window like a thief, lowering her voice to say, "Before everything is settled, don't you go blabbing about this outside, even to your second brother—that... Wait until we're on our way to North City to tell him what to do, to keep it from the whole family. You never know who can't keep a secret and might let things slip. Especially your sister-in-law, she's quite the schemer!"

She hadn't been home for a few days and had already captured the heart of the eldest, turning him against his own mother, constantly stirring up trouble about splitting the family.

Pah! Dream on!

The sons she had raised, the ones she spent money on to marry off, instead of thinking about helping their brothers get married, only dreamt of leading their own happy little lives. Well, they could wait, wait until the day she died, then they could have what they wanted!

Meng Xingping nodded, also whispering, "Mother, what excuse shall we use to go to North City tomorrow?"

"Just say I'm not feeling well, and you and your second brother are accompanying me to the big hospital in the city," Wang Guifang casually concocted an excuse. Hearing this, Meng Xingping immediately laughed 'heh heh' and said, "Mother always has many ideas."

"Stop with the flattery!"

Wang Guilan was very disdainful of her foolish son. After some thought, she said, "If we really find that worthless son, I plan to stay at his place and not come back. When the time comes, I'll make him give you and your second brother more money, ask him for more coupons and certificates, and then you can go back to the village..."

Before she could finish, Meng Xingping interrupted his mother, "No! Mother can't abandon us. If you stay with the eldest brother of the Luo Family, who will be the matchmaker for me and second brother, and Fourth Brother? Mother, you are the Sea-calming needle of our house—we can't be without you!"

Chapter 412: A Move Made Purely in the Heat of the Moment

“Sea-calming needle? Do you think I don’t know that the thing in the Monkey King’s hand is called ‘Jingu Bang’?” Wang Guilan scoffed and said with a sneer, “Your mother doesn’t have that kind of power; otherwise, I wouldn’t have brought such an inhuman scourge into the house for your eldest brother!”

“I don’t care, if mother doesn’t come back with us, second brother and I will split the money we got and go to town to eat out every day, as for Fourth Brother and the rest, let them starve to death at home!”

Meng Xingping’s words were simply giving up.

Wang Guifang glared at him furiously, “You dare?!”

“I dare. Since we all are born of mother, and she no longer plans to look after us, why should I care about whether Fourth Brother and the rest live or die?”

Fourth Brother was sixteen, Fifth Child was thirteen, and Sixth Child had just turned ten. The three of them were close in age, and he couldn’t handle them all!

Moreover, he was only eighteen himself, he hadn’t even brought a wife home yet, where would he find the energy to take care of his younger brothers?

“Your mother really owes you all!”

Wang Guilan regretted it to death, had she known the family would be so poor she would have never been so keen to have sons.

Now look, all the sons she had bore took after their father, not one resembled her in appearance.

They couldn't be considered ugly, but to say they were good-looking, one could only use the word "well-put-together" to describe them.

Unlike the dead child she had with that short-lived ghost of the Luo family, his looks inherited all the best traits from her and his father, wherever he went, who wouldn't compliment "this child is really handsome"!

North City.

Early that day, Kang Li led her eldest son Min Rui by hand, watching the kindergarten teacher take the twins inside, then she withdrew her gaze and guided Xiao Ming Rui across the zebra crossing to the opposite side of the road following traffic rules.

To prevent the three kids at home from running a red light one day, Kang Li often reminded them during their daily pick-ups and drop-offs of traffic rules like "stop at red, go at green".

"Bye-bye, Mommy!"

Approaching the school gate, Xiao Ming Rui suddenly stopped, turned his head to look at his mother, and waved his hand.

“Bye-bye Ruirui!”

Kang Li’s eyes brimmed with laughter, her expression gentle as she waved back at her eldest and reminded, “Pay attention in class, okay!”

“Mm.”

Xiao Ming Rui nodded vigorously, feeling both happy and warm to see his mother waving back with a smile. He shifted his gaze from her and resolutely entered the school gate.

And Kang Li didn’t turn to walk back across the zebra crossing until Min Rui’s figure disappeared from her sight. However, as Kang Li reached the sidewalk on the kindergarten side, a woman’s anxious voice tinged with panic rang out, “Catch the thief! Catch the thief! My wallet’s been stolen!”

The woman had just gotten off the bus, and the thief had stolen her wallet in the moment of disembarking by squeezing past her towards the door, snatching the wallet on the way.

The woman hadn’t realized her wallet was stolen until an auntie behind her quietly alerted her after the thief squeezed off the bus.

That is what Kang Li was witnessing now.

A carefree young man with a bulging pocket was running for his life, followed by a woman in her thirties, slightly plump, gasping for air as she chased behind him, calling out, "Catch the thief!"

Seeing the thief getting further and further from the robbed woman, Kang Li acted on impulse, taking off one white shoe and flinging it at one of the thief's legs.

The next moment, a thud of the heavy object hitting the ground resounded!

Chapter 413: Isn't This Too Absurd?

The thief lay on the ground, groaning in pain continuously, clearly having fallen quite hard.

A kind-hearted elder worried that the thief might get up and run again, so he pinned him to the ground, immobilizing him.

"Thank you! Thank you so much, comrade, I really appreciate it!"

The lady who had been robbed pulled her wallet out of the thief's pocket and helped Kang Li retrieve her white shoes, repeatedly thanking Kang Li.

“No worries.”

For Kang Li, this was just a minor episode in the day’s events. Seeing the kind-hearted man and woman hand the thief over to the nearby police station, Kang Li just smiled and didn’t follow them.

However, one person had watched Kang Li’s actions closely, eyes filled with amazement, thinking she was truly talented.

Nearly a hundred meters, no, definitely a hundred meters away, the young girl had effortlessly hit the thief’s left calf with just one shoe.

This... this is real talent!

When Kang Li put on her shoes and was about to leave, a middle-aged comrade immediately got out of a jeep parked by the roadside.

Yes, this was indeed the person who had been observing Kang Li attentively, Loh Sheng by name.

“Young comrade! Young comrade, please wait!”

Kang Li’s beautiful brows furrowed slightly, her fox-like eyes full of confusion as she looked at the middle-aged comrade blocking her path. His eager gaze made Kang Li even more puzzled.

But she could tell that this person meant no harm, and the eagerness in his eyes was not due to her looks, but rather something else about her.

Gathering her thoughts, Kang Li asked, “Do you need any help?”

“Could we find a place to talk? Young comrade, I assure you I am not a bad person. By the way, let me introduce myself. My last name is Loh, and my first name is Sheng...”

From his name to his workplace, his position, and his responsibilities, Director Loh thoroughly introduced himself to Kang Li.

“My name is Kang Li, we can talk right here.” Moving to the side of the road, Kang Li stopped and looked towards Director Loh. She vaguely guessed what he might say, but she really did not want to think that way.

Director Loh said, “I guess you might already know what I’m about to say. In fact, I indeed want to invite you to join...”

Fearing Kang Li’s refusal, Director Loh almost rushed through his proposal, his expression earnest and sincere as he added, “For the sake of our country’s sports industry, for our nation to stand proud internationally, I hope you won’t reject my invitation!

"Next year, next year our country will have a sports delegation participate... This will be our country's first time participating in such a grand competition, Comrade Kang, you see..."

"I'm afraid I have to disappoint you. Firstly, I don't have time to train, and secondly, I'm not capable enough to compete in such events." Wasn't she just someone who threw a shoe at a thief? How could she suddenly be seen as a promising athlete by the leaders of the sports department?

With her slender arms and legs, what could she possibly do in a sports team?

Director Loh earnestly pleaded, "Xiao Kang, the issue of your job transfer, our department will take care of it. If you have any problems in your life, our department can also help you resolve them. You won't have to worry about anything!"

"I just threw a shoe, Director Loh... Honestly, I really don't understand. I just threw a shoe at a thief, how, in your eyes, did that make me a promising athlete? Isn't this just a bit absurd?"

Kang Li really wanted to laugh, but she understood,

Chapter 414 Kang Li Self-Mockery

Director Loh was discussing a serious topic with her, and if she laughed, it would be disrespectful to him.

"Comrade Xiao Kang, in my eyes, what you just threw wasn't a shoe, it was a discus, a javelin, a shot put. Your movement was fast, fierce, and accurate! I think with your aim, you could participate in shooting or archery competitions. To be honest, with you on the team, I can already see gold medals waving at our country!"

By the end of Director Loh's remarks, which bordered on humorous, Kang Li couldn't hold back and snickered. She said,

"Director Loh, don't be fooled by my youthful appearance, but I'm married with three children to look after. One of them is in first grade at elementary school, and two are in middle class at kindergarten. On weekdays, I take care of the children at home, and on weekends, I go to North City TV Station to record a children's program."

"Do you really think that someone as lazy as me, who's used to loafing around, is cut out for joining your sports team? Is it suitable for me to train with you all day long?"

Director Loh looked surprised, "How old are you this year, having three children with the eldest in first grade, which means seven years old, right?"

"The children are my husband's with his late first wife. I'm nineteen this year, and our oldest kid just turned seven at the end of August." Kang Li's lips curled into a smile, and she continued softly, "You see, given the situation at home, I really can't leave. Besides, I'm not in great health and absolutely incapable of doing any kind of strenuous exercise."

Director Loh frowned, "How could a young girl like you marry a man on his second marriage? Did you face some difficulty that left you with no choice but to... marry him?"

"I married my husband of my own free will."

Kang Li smiled, whispering the name of the compound, and then said, "Now you see, Director Loh? My husband is incredibly busy with work. He hasn't taken a break or come home once since the Spring Festival. If I agreed to join the sports team, not to mention what would happen to my job at North City TV Station, just considering my children alone, they would lose care, and that's absolutely not okay."

Director Loh fell silent. After a long pause, he said, "Let's do this, get in the car with me and take a look at our training grounds. We'll talk about the rest later."

"Is it possible not to go? Director Loh, did you miss what I just said? I have been in poor health since I was a child..."

Kang Li stood still.

"You look quite healthy to me."

Although she was pale, in a sort of sickly way, the ease with which the young girl had thrown a shoe a hundred meters away, in his eyes, seemed practically effortless.

Kang Li pursed her lips and said nothing.

Director Loh: "Xiao Kang, the honor of the country is above everything else. Don't worry. Once you visit our training base, whatever we discuss later will certainly not involve you abandoning your husband and children to focus solely on training. What do you say?"

Kang Li: Moral kidnapping?

As if he had read something in her eyes, Director Loh hurried to explain, "You mustn't misunderstand, I, Old Loh, have never thought of morally kidnapping a young girl like you. I simply think you're talented and believe that after you join the sports team, you could win several more gold medals for our country in next year's competitions. It's that straightforward."

With a quiet sigh, Kang Li spoke up, "Let's go, I'll accompany you to have a look."

Dwen Dwen excitedly came online, "Miss Sister, Miss Sister! I suggest you join the sports team, but you don't have to participate in daily training, after all, you have the talent,"

Chapter 415: Shocked by Kang Li!

Moreover, when you get the gold medal and stand on the podium listening to the national anthem, don't you, miss, want to experience that feeling?

Also, when Miss gets a gold medal, our countrymen will be very happy, and in that case, won't happiness points flood in like a tide? Just thinking about it makes me feel delighted!"

Kang Li: "Do I have the strength?"

Dwen Dwen: "Power Pill, Miss, haven't you forgotten? Though it's somewhat underwhelming considering your current weak body, sports like javelin, discus, shot put, shooting, and archery won't require much effort from you!"

Kang Li: "You sure have a lot of nerve! And besides, aren't you supposed to be a childcare System, getting happiness points from kids? What does that have to do with the happiness of the nation's people?"

Dwen Dwen: "Aren't kids part of the nation's people? When they see their own country's athletes winning gold medals, the kids will be thrilled, and happiness points will surge toward us from all directions! Moreover, I never said that the adults' happiness points are useless to us..."

Kang Li: "I just want to be a salted fish!"

Dwen Dwen: "It's not like you have to train every day."

Kang Li: "That sounds nice. I already found it troublesome to agree to help Wu Yue by going to the TV station to record a show once a week, and now you want me to be an athlete, too. It seems like you just want to go against me, not wanting me to be a salted fish."

Dwen Dwen: "I'm not, Miss, please don't wrong me. I'm your favourite Dwen Dwen, how could I possibly oppose you? Winning glory for our country is a great thing, if you don't believe it, tell your brother-in-law, tell the old masters at home, tell your brothers, and see what their attitudes will be." The voice was aggrieved.

Kang Li: "You may leave."

Dwen Dwen let out an “Oh,” and slipped away without a trace from Kang Li’s sea of consciousness. But just before disappearing, Dwen Dwen’s eyes were full of shrewdness, which Kang Li entirely failed to notice.

Sitting in Director Loh’s car, Kang Li looked out of the window, her expression quite solemn.

She felt her life was gradually veering off the path she had set for herself. Sigh, is it because she’s too soft-hearted? Because of her soft heart, she agrees to Wu Yue’s request to become a children’s show host; and again, because of her soft heart, she was talked into something by Director Loh...

All right, she had to admit that the factor of happiness points was involved.

Of course, she hadn’t forgotten about affection value either, but obviously, affection value was harder to obtain than happiness points; otherwise, Dwen Dwen wouldn’t keep mentioning happiness points and seldom speak about affection value.

After all, “affection” refers to the feelings between family members. Compared to acquiring happiness points, its scope was much narrower, and she certainly couldn’t go around doing and saying things in other people’s homes to increase their affection index just to reap her own needed affection value.

If she did that, she would undoubtedly be considered a madwoman!

Therefore, the affection value that Dwen Dwen had obtained was probably coming from her own little family, Director Song’s family, and the Old Kang’s Home.

The reason?

Over this past year or so, she had been interacting more frequently with members from these three families.

Kang Li had thoroughly understood one thing, that whether it was affection value, happiness points, or life points, they all required her personal involvement to obtain...

Thinking this way, Kang Li couldn't help but twitch the corner of her mouth. Shouldn't she have understood this principle from the start?

She patted her forehead lightly and thought to herself: I've really been living in a blur!

Half an hour later.

Director Loh was shocked, or rather, was shocked time and again by Kang Li,

Chapter 416: Did They Encounter a 'Monster'?

All the leaders and coaches of the sports team were equally stunned by Kang Li.

The athletes who were training felt even more astonished, thinking, “Am I really this bad?”

Day in and day out, they trained, yet they couldn’t even outperform a little girl who had never trained before. She easily broke records, and not just any ordinary records, but world records.

Uh...

Had they encountered a “monster”?

It was incredibly shocking!

As soon as Kang Li arrived at the training field mentioned by Director Loh, she decided to use Dwen Dwen’s method to exempt herself from daily training. Thus, whether it was javelin throwing, shot putting, or discus throwing, she recalled the throwing actions and body movements of athletes she had watched at the Olympics before coming to this world.

If the standard for action was a perfect score of ten, Kang Li could achieve more than nine.

And Kang Li didn’t know that to the people watching from outside, her movements appeared not only standard but also exceedingly graceful.

“This person looks good, making everything she does look good too!”

That was the inner voice of many male and female athletes.

When she moved to the shooting range, after a demonstration by the coach, Kang Li was practically an expert, hitting the bullseye repeatedly. In fact, she didn't really need a demonstration given the elite education she had received in her original world. Activities like shooting, archery, and horse riding were part of her upbringing since childhood, and she strived for perfection in each.

During her leisure time, she treated these activities as a way to relieve stress and entertain herself, frequently visiting specialized venues to practice.

"Xiao... Xiao Kang..." Director Loh's voice trembled, overwhelmed with emotion and almost out of control. He asked Kang Li, "Are you sure... sure you haven't learned before? And never practiced?"

At that moment, Kang Li felt a bit uncomfortable but didn't show it, saying, "I did have some exposure to shot put during junior and senior high school, but as for training, I really haven't."

Director Loh, "So, you mean to say you've really never engaged in any other sports?"

Kang Li, "I just watched how the coach did it and imitated it once."

"That's true talent, national talent. Good child, state any condition you have; our unit will definitely meet it as long as you join our sports team and perform well for our country next year. Whatever your conditions are, we will agree!"

This was the promise made to Kang Li by the top leader of Director Loh's unit.

However, they didn't expect Kang Li to say merely, "I can join the sports team and participate in next year's competitions and the pre-competition training camp, but I will not come for daily training. Additionally, I can only join the training camp for at most half a month, as my family situation is special, which I've discussed with Director Loh."

The top leader of Director Loh, "Is that all?"

Kang Li nodded lightly, "Yes, just that."

"Nothing else?"

"No."

"No requests regarding salary, housing, or anything?"

"No. Other than what I mentioned, everything else can be arranged by the state."

"Alright, I agree!"

The top leader of Director Loh concluded decisively.

Kang Li smiled, "Then I will return home."

"I will arrange a car to take you, and once your entry procedures are processed by our unit, we will call you. By the way, your salary will continue as usual, and if it's inconvenient for you to come and collect it, I will instruct Director Loh to have someone deliver it to your home."

Kang Li waved her hands, "No need, no need. I haven't come for training, so there's no need for you to pay me a salary." It was hard enough for athletes who trained every day, and it didn't seem right for her to earn the same salary while sitting at home.

Besides, she didn't lack money.

"This is according to the regulations, not special treatment."

Chapter 417: Wanting to Watch Kang Li's Excitement

"No matter what, I'm not going to take the salary," Kang Li said, nodding to the various leaders gathered around her and then to Director Loh before striding out of the training ground.

Director Loh said, "Director Wang, I'll walk Xiao Kang out."

"Go ahead, use your car to take Xiao Kang all the way home."

"Alright, I'll follow the car and see Xiao Kang off."

The unit actually had just two cars. Since Director Loh was responsible for scouting sports talents for next year's world competition and had been travelling frequently, the leadership had allocated a car for his personal use.

...

"Just stop here."

When the car neared the compound, Kang Li asked the driver to stop. After getting out, she waved to Director Loh, "Please go ahead with your work. It's just a short distance ahead, and I'll be home in no time."

Director Loh eventually got out of the car and said, "You have a landline at home, right?"

Kang Li: "Yes."

Director Loh: "Then leave me your landline number, so it's convenient for the unit to contact you if there's anything."

Kang Li nodded, took the pen and notebook Director Loh handed her, and jotted it down in one go.

"Do you really not need me to take you a little further?"

After taking back the notebook and pen from Kang Li, Director Loh asked.

"It's less than fifty meters, I can walk back easily."

With that, Kang Li waved her hand and walked towards the entrance of the compound.

In the afternoon.

Having woken up from a short rest, Kang Li brewed herself a cup of tea, reclining lazily yet elegantly in the wicker rocking chair, gently swaying.

She sat watching clouds roll by, listening to the sound of blooming flowers.

Looking at the osmanthus tree planted in the corner of the courtyard last year and watching petals blown off by the wind onto the branches, Kang Li stretched out her hand and caught a yellow-white blossom, her lips curling into a slight smile. She looked at the fallen flower, then pinched it between her fingers to play with.

The atmosphere around her was serene and peaceful, and Kang Li liked this feeling very much. She didn't feel too lonely in such an environment at all.

However, she didn't know that trouble was approaching.

"Comrade, you're so kind-hearted; you're sure to be blessed!"

"It's nothing but a slight effort, aunty. There's no need to be polite with me. Besides, you're Professor Luo's mother. Since you've found our compound and I happened to meet you at the entrance, I couldn't let you and your two big brothers just wait there. As for blessing or not, our country is now vigorously advocating the removal of feudal superstition. Even living in the countryside, you might have heard this slogan, haven't you?"

"Yes, yes, in our village, like in the city, we constantly denounce feudal superstition. I was wrong just now, not thinking before I spoke. Please don't take it to heart, considering I'm a rural woman who hasn't seen much of the world!"

"You can rest assured, aunty. Not to mention that my spouse has good relations with your son, even if my family and your son's family weren't next-door neighbors, I wouldn't take offense over such a remark. After all, you're bestowing blessings on me. How could I be the kind of person who doesn't appreciate kindness?!"

Su Man led the way for Wang Guilan and her daughters with a pleasant expression, though inside she was extremely disdainful of the three country bumpkins. The reason she had brought them into the compound was nothing more than to watch Kang Li's spectacle.

To tell the truth, Su Man had no idea that the esteemed Professor Luo actually had a rural mother and two brothers with seemingly little education.

Chapter 418: Intentional Guidance

And she could tell that Professor Luo's old mother and brothers were not the easy sort to deal with, so why not enjoy the hustle and bustle of the family next door?

Okay, actually, what she really wanted to see was the commotion involving Kang Li, that woman.

Anyway, Professor Luo wasn't around, so there was no need to worry about offending him.

"Comrade, you really have a way with words. If my daughter-in-law were as easy to talk to as you, fellow female comrade, that would be just perfect," Wang Guilan said with a somewhat restrained smile.

But her eyes kept darting to Su Man's face, keen to observe any changes in expression, to gauge how easy the daughter-in-law she was about to meet would be to handle.

A calculating flash crossed Su Man's eyes, and she feigned surprise: "Auntie, don't you know?"

“Know what?”

Wang Guilan didn’t understand.

“Your son, comrade Luo Yanqing, his current wife is the one he remarried...”

“What? Comrade, what are you saying? Has my son been divorced or what?”

“No, no, Professor Luo didn’t get divorced. His previous wife died in childbirth, so, Professor Luo married Comrade Kang to bring into the family.”

“Oh my! My poor grandchild, oh, how could he lose his mother at such a young age? How can he have a good life under his stepmother’s care?”

Wang Guilan immediately pulled a long face, muttering as if she was on the verge of tears.

Su Man’s expression changed slightly: “Auntie, not all stepmothers harbor malicious intentions.” She kindly offered to show the way, yet this old woman’s remark managed to insult her as well, what a lack of discernment.

“Who says? In my old eyes, there’s not a single good stepmother!”

Wang Guilan declared with a dark look on her face.

Meng Xingping stammered as he spoke: “Mom... you... you can’t say that.”

“Why not?” Wang Guilan glared at her son with irritation.

Meng Xingping: “You also married into Dad’s family later on, in the eyes of my Brother Qingdong and Sister Honghong, you’re their stepmother too.” Ah! Mom really doesn’t think before she speaks, saying there’s not a single good stepmother?

Wasn’t she counting herself in that too?!

Realizing what her son meant, Wang Guilan’s face struggled to maintain composure, and she fiercely glared at Meng Xingping, her foolish son: “You talk too much!”

“Mom, could it be that you’ve forgotten what we all agreed on the way here?”

Meng Xingsheng chimed in at this moment.

He was looking forward to getting the money and taking a wife, and he absolutely didn't allow his mother to mess things up, so he had to remind her.

"... I know, each of you talks more than the last."

Of course, Wang Guilan hadn't forgotten the purpose of her visit; she scowled at her second son and clamped her mouth shut, saying nothing more.

"Auntie, Professor Luo's previous wife left him three children, including a pair of twins, one of each sex. It seems that Comrade Kang has been taking good care of these three children but, as you can imagine, it is extremely exhausting for one person to look after three young ones. Now that you've come all the way to visit Professor Luo, why not just stay and help Comrade Kang with the children at home to lighten her burden a little."

As Su Man spoke, she sighed, and added: "Comrade Kang is physically frail, and if she were to collapse from exhaustion, I fear it would be a huge blow for Professor Luo!"

If Kang Li were to hear this remark, she would probably slap Su Man right away. Was this not a curse, and a lethal one at that?

"I'll consider it later,"

Wang Guilan replied noncommittally.

...

"Comrade Kang! Comrade Kang! You have guests at home!"

The courtyard door was knocked, and Su Man's annoying voice could be heard; Kang Li's brows furrowed deeply,

Chapter 419: You're Here to Watch the Show, Aren't You?

Rising slowly and walking leisurely toward the gate, he heard Su Man's voice drifting in again, "Auntie, rest assured; Comrade Kang is really easy-going. She will be delighted to see her mother-in-law."

Meng Xingwang said, "Why isn't my sister-in-law coming to open the gate yet?"

Meng Xingping said, "Yeah, doesn't our sister-in-law welcome us? That shouldn't be the case, as this is our first meeting... Could it be that sister-in-law holds a grudge against our mother...?"

Glancing at the old mother, Meng Xingping began to act out, "Mother, I said we shouldn't come, but you insisted on making this long trip, claiming you wanted to see my elder brother. But mother, why didn't you consider that brother and you haven't met for twenty-one or twenty-two years? He must think you abandoned him..."

"Third brother, don't talk nonsense!"

That was Meng Xingwang's voice; he timely interrupted his younger brother Meng Xingping, "All these years, our mother hasn't stopped searching for our elder brother... And— and our mother cried day and night, wishing she could find our brother immediately. Now, her eyes are almost blind from crying. If the elder brother knew about how much our mother suffered to find him, he would definitely recognize her!"

The two brothers' eyes reddened as they acted, almost moving themselves to tears.

Wang Guilan cooperated very well, occasionally pinching her sleeve to wipe her eyes, "Yanqing, oh my son, how your mother misses you..."

Inside the courtyard gate, Kang Li listened to the noise outside, her eyes cold as a fox's.

Finding their way to the gate now, huh... She didn't believe that Luo Yanqing's mother, who remarried twenty years ago, could find them here on her own.

In other words, there must be something fishy about today's act.

Turning around, Kang Li went into the living room to make a phone call, then returned to the courtyard and casually picked up a stick as thick as an adult's wrist, before she finally opened the courtyard gate.

But she did not invite anyone inside the house, instead blocking their way at the halfway-open gate.

In just a short while, a bunch of onlookers gathered near her home's gate, one face among them clearly gleeful at the misfortune.

Shen Yun...

Remembering this person who had abruptly mentioned her husband Professor Luo's birth mother, Kang Li had reason to suspect... today's family recognition act is most likely related to Shen Yun.

There was another person she equally despised.

That was Su Man!

With narrowed fox-like eyes, Kang Li focused on Su Man, "You're here to enjoy the drama, aren't you?"

"Comrade Kang, you shouldn't wrong people. I was just kindly bringing your mother-in-law and brother-in-law from outside the main gate into our compound. How does that become what you're suggesting?"

She was indeed here to watch the drama, but could she admit it?

No!

Of course, she would never admit it!

"Isn't there a rule in the compound? You casually bring outsiders right to my doorstep. Comrade Su, can you tell me what you are trying to do?"

With a stern look, Kang Li scrutinized Su Man.

"How can Auntie be an outsider? She is Professor Luo's mother, your own mother-in-law!" Su Man felt justified, and thus, was not intimidated by Kang Li.

"Who told you that she is my mother-in-law?"

As Kang Li tapped the stick lightly in the palm of her other hand, she said, "My husband is an orphan, which is a fact many people are aware of. And here you are today, not only assigning my husband a mother but also two brothers. Comrade Su, I am really questioning your intentions now."

"They are Professor Luo's mother and brothers; how is that something I assigned?"

Su Man retorted with a flushed face:

Chapter 420 Stand Aside if You're Unrelated

"This auntie personally told me that her son's name is Luo Yanqing, saying she had been separated from her son for many years, and recently she had finally discovered that he was living in our compound, so..."

"Very well, you can go explain this to the police officer later!"

Kang Li ignored the curious onlookers. She fixed her gaze on Wang Guilan and her two sons, "Tell me, are you enemies or spies infiltrated into our country from abroad?"

"Daughter-in-law! Daughter-in-law, how can you wrongly accuse us like this? My son's name is Yanqing, I couldn't possibly mix it up, sob sob..."

Wang Guilan wiped her tears with her sleeve, looking very aggrieved, "This old lady has been searching for her own son for over twenty years, and now, my daughter-in-law is shutting me out. She wants to drive this old lady away!"

Meng Xingwang burst into tears, "Sister-in-law, oh! Mother has truly been searching for my older brother all these years. Please don't drive us away; once we meet my older brother, we will leave on our own!"

Meng Xingping held back his tears from falling, "Sister-in-law, are you looking down on us country folks? A child does not despise his mother's ugliness; my brother is my mother's son, and nobody can deny that!"

Meng Xingping sniffed and continued hoarsely, "Over the years, whenever my mother had the chance, she would go out searching for my older brother. She misses my brother so much... but no matter how much she searched..."

Was this a performance of hardship being played out for her, to make her feel pity and let them in?

Kang Li sneered secretly: Dream on.

"Enough, if you want to pretend to be miserable or perform a tragedy, you might as well choose another place. It's useless at my doorstep. Moreover, I'll kindly remind you that before I opened the gate, I had already called the police. I believe it won't be long before you will be taken away by the police officer. The charges I've thought of for you are either being enemies or spies. If you want to be sent to reform and never return home, feel free to continue making a scene at my doorstep."

Wang Guilan with tears in her eyes, looked directly into Kang Li's eyes and stood up straight, saying, "My son's name is Luo Yanqing, I am his mother, Wang Guilan. These two are Yanqing's brothers; one is Meng Xingsheng, the other is Meng Xingping. We come from Langcheng Township. Even if the police officer comes, we aren't afraid, they can investigate our identities! I heard you are the wife my son married later. Let me tell you, don't think just because you're married to my son, you can shut us out and think of mistreating my three grandchildren!"

"Are you Wang Guilan?"

Mrs. Qi, having learned about the commotion at the entrance of Kang Li's home, instructed her grandson Song Xuan to stay at home and read, then hurried over. She glared at Su Man, "Irrelevant people, step aside!"

Obviously, she found Su Man's presence there bothersome!

And what could Su Man do?

Despite her objections inside, she still had to move and walk away.

"I am... I am Wang Guilan, who are you?"

Seeing Mrs. Qi, Wang Guilan couldn't help feeling a bit intimidated.

"You don't need to know who I am, I just want to ask you one thing, do you have to make a scene here?"
Could it be that the Langcheng Welfare Institute had leaked Yanqing's information?

But was that possible?

Director Nie knew the seriousness of the matter and would never reveal any information about Yanqing to Wang Guilan, not a single word. So, who was behind these underhanded moves?

Mrs. Qi was puzzled.

Wang Guilan choked up, "Comrade, I'm not making a scene, I just came to find my son Yanqing! My mother and I were forced to separate..."

"Stop! Don't put on an act in front of me, I know everything about your situation clearly."