

Weak B 461

Chapter 461: Envy

Cai Xiufen stood up and said to Mrs. Qi with a smile, "I will come by with my husband again."

"You and Older Brother Kang are always welcome to visit."

Song Xuan was playing the erhu in the room, so Mrs. Qi did not call her eldest grandson to see off the guests with her. She escorted Kang Li and her party to the gate of the courtyard, watched them gradually walk away, and then turned back into the courtyard.

At the kindergarten gate.

Before the gate even opened, the twins spotted their mother at the front of the line of parents, jumping up and down with joy, shouting "Mommy" repeatedly.

Kang Li raised her index finger to her lips and "shushed" them, and the two immediately quieted down and stood obediently, waiting for the gate to open and to follow the teacher's instructions to line up.

"Grandpa, Grandma, I'm going over to little aunt's side," little Luo Minghan said.

Captain Kang and the two others were not standing with Kang Li but were waiting at a clearing beside the kindergarten gate for Kang Li to pick up the twins. Kang Yiyang was getting a bit impatient and couldn't resist the urge to join his little aunt and wait together.

Captain Kang nodded, "Hmm."

Kang Yiyang immediately beamed with joy.

"Little aunt," he called out softly as he walked up to Kang Li.

"Here they come. Look, those two little ones in the front line of class one, that's Hanhan and Vivi." Kang Li pointed at the twins and introduced them to her great-nephew with a smile.

"Mommy, Mommy!"

The twins, thinking their mom was talking to them, again started jumping excitedly. Upon seeing Kang Yiyang, Ming Han turned his little eyes and asked in a milky voice, "Are you Hanhan's cousin?"

"...Yes, I am Hanhan's cousin!"

Kang Yiyang paused briefly, then flashed a bright white smile, happily grinning at the two little buns.

"Then are you Vivi's big cousin?"

Ming Wei asked adorably.

Kang Yiyang replied, "Yes!"

Ming Wei immediately covered her little face, looking extremely shy. She said to Song Xiaoran standing behind her, "Ran Ran, Ran Ran, did you see that? The super handsome big brother is my big cousin!" not forgetting to sneak a peek at her big cousin through her fingers.

"Vivi, I'm so jealous of you! Your mom and dad are super good-looking, your brothers Luo Mingrui and Luo Minghan are also super good-looking, and now even your cousin is super good-looking too. Why aren't my dad, mom, and brother good-looking, eh?"

Ming Wei's eyes widened. "Who says that? Aunt Wu is pretty, and Vivi thinks she looks very good!"

"Really? Vivi, do you really think my mom is pretty?"

Song Xiaoran looked at her friend earnestly.

Ming Wei, "Of course it's true, I'm an honest baby, I don't lie!"

Song Xiaoran was still a bit upset, "But I'm still very jealous of you. Aunt Kang is Teacher Lizi, and you get to listen to Aunt Kang tell wonderful stories every day, while I can only hear them once a week..."

"It's twice! You see my mom on TV on Saturday night, that's one time, and when my mom records the show on Sunday, that's the second time. Ran Ran, we're both in the middle class now, you need to learn to count!"

"I can count, I just forgot that I can see Aunt Kang and hear her stories also on Sundays."

The kindergarten gate slowly opened, and the children began to come out one by one.

"Hello Teacher Lizi!"

As expected, Kang Li found herself surrounded by children in the middle. In order not to hinder other parents from picking up their children, Kang Li greeted the children with a smile and quickly, along with her great-nephew, picked up the twins and hurried over to her parents.

"Grandpa, Grandpa!"

The twins, upon seeing Captain Kang, clearly had not forgotten that he was Grandpa. Both were ecstatic and repeatedly called out, with Ming Han even reaching out his hands towards Captain Kang, "Grandpa, hug, Hanhan missed Grandpa so much!"

Chapter 462: Surprise

"Grandma! Vivi knows this must be Vivi's grandma, hello Grandma!"

Ming Wei was in her mother's arms, the little girl looked towards Grandma, her eyes immediately turning into crescents.

Cai Xiufen was equally delighted, she took the little girl from Kang Li's hands: "So you're Vivi, such a beautiful girl!"

"Hello, Grandma, I'm Hanhan!"

At this moment Ming Han introduced himself to Grandma: "I'm Mom's good boy, Grandma, my full name is Luo Minghan!"

Cai Xiufen smiled warmly: "Grandma knows, your full name is Luo Minghan, Vivi's full name is Luo Mingwei, Grandma has remembered for a long time!"

"Grandpa, put me down, I can walk by myself!"

Not wanting Grandpa to tire himself out, Ming Han squirmed in Grandpa's arms, indicating he wanted to walk home on his own, but Captain Kang didn't put the little fella down. Seeing this, Ming Han looked towards his mother: "Mommy Mommy, Grandpa will get tired holding me, Hanhan wants to walk home by himself!"

Hearing this, Kang Li said with a laugh to her father: "Dad, just put him down, we're not far from the compound."

"Then Grandpa will hold your hand as we walk."

After putting the little one down on the ground to stand, Captain Kang ruffled Milk Bun Ming Han's hair.

"Okay!"

Xiao Ming Han agreed, gripping one of Grandpa's fingers, while his elder cousin held his other hand, skipping and jumping along the way.

"Grandma, Vivi can also walk by herself!"

Xiao Ming Wei also refused to let Grandma hold her any longer.

On the left was Mom, on the right was Grandma, with the little girl walking in the middle, happily singing a nursery rhyme taught by Mom, a smile never leaving her face.

...

With Dad and Mom and her elder nephew by her side, Kang Li's days were both happy and blissful. Not to mention other things, just the cooking and picking up the kids from school were all taken care of by her own parents and nephew, completely freeing Kang Li from worrying about these chores.

She woke up to meals ready, then just lounged about, because no matter what household chore Kang Li wanted to do, someone was always there to help.

For her, this was a sweet burden.

The reason?

She couldn't just lie around waiting for meals in front of her parents, but with no other choice, Kang Li resorted to acting coquettishly around her mom, at least trying to help out a little with cooking.

As for picking up the three little ones from school, Kang Li was completely out of the picture.

Today was a weekend, and after breakfast, Kang Li packed what they needed for a day out and set off with her parents and elder nephew, plus the three kids for a joyful departure from home.

At every scenic spot, Kang Li made sure to take photos as mementos for the older and younger members of the family, and with Kang Yiyang learning how to photograph, he naturally took several shots of his aunt, Kang Li, too.

A bit past noon, Kang Li took her own parents, Kang Yiyang, and the three little ones to a nearby state-owned restaurant for a lavish lunch.

"Dad, Mom, do we continue sightseeing, or should we go home to rest and then accompany me to North City TV Station?"

As they left the state-owned restaurant, Kang Li asked her parents.

"North City TV Station? What's there to do? Is that a place we can go?"

Cai Xiufen asked three questions in succession, yet there was a hint of curiosity on her face.

"Auntie, can we really go to North City TV Station?"

Kang Yiyang was utterly curious, his eyes sparkling with excitement, obviously eager to see North City TV Station.

"Grandma, Grandpa, and Big Cousin, my mom is a TV host! We can go to the TV station and look around, none of the uncles and aunts there will say anything!"

Little Warm Man Ming Han raised his milky voice, explaining away Grandma and Big Cousin's doubts in one sentence.

"A TV host?!"

Captain Kang and his wife both showed surprise,

Chapter 463: A Bit Lost

Alright, Kang Yiyang was in agreement, and all three of them turned their attention to Kang Li. Seeing their gazes, Kang Li smiled and said, "A friend asked me to lend a hand—essentially, to host a children's program, telling stories to kids in a nutshell."

Xiao Ming Wei said with great pride, "The children really like Mommy, they all call her Teacher Lizi and say they super love Teacher Lizi!"

"Mommy tells stories really well, and my classmates also really like Mommy's show!"

This was Min Rui's voice.

Team Leader: "Then if we go there, will it disrupt your work?"

His daughter was truly amazing, capable of hosting a TV program. Thought Team Leader, and without waiting for Kang Li to respond, he couldn't help but ask again, "Can we watch the program that you host on our TV at home?"

"That might be difficult, but Dad can have Yiyang give it a try later. By the way, can our house receive broadcasts from North City TV Station?"

As Kang Li spoke, her gaze fell on her nephew.

Kang Yiyang: "Yes, we can receive it, and the quality is quite good."

Kang Li: "Then later you can search for the children's channel of North City TV Station."

Kang Yiyang: "Mhm."

After setting the plan to visit the TV station in the afternoon, Kang Li and her group did not spend much time outdoors.

"Auntie..."

Upon returning home, Kang Yiyang scratched his head and approached Kang Li, saying rather uneasily, "Auntie, I want to ask... do you think I could participate in that musical instrument solo competition? You know, I can play the flute and the erhu..."

Kang Li: "What's stopping you? This afternoon, your auntie will sign you up at the TV station."

Cai Xiufen: "Kang Li, can Yangyang really participate in that competition?"

Team Leader: "If it's not possible, don't force it."

Kang Li: "Dad, Mom, let me put it this way, as long as you are no older than 17 years and can perform a solo on a traditional instrument, you're eligible to sign up."

"But... Yangyang's going to turn 18 in half a month..."

As soon as Cai Xiufen stated this, the living room fell into an unusual silence.

After a while, Kang Yiyang spoke up, "It looks like I won't be able to participate after all. Auntie, just ignore what I just said!"

Kang Li: "Are you very disappointed, Yangyang?"

"I'm a bit disappointed but not that much. After all, they have their rules, and since my age is over the limit, there's nothing to be done about not participating."

With the end of his words, Kang Yiang seemed to relax completely and returned to his cheerful and sunny self.

"Alright, there's really nothing to it. After all, there will be more and more opportunities for similar competitions in the future. If Yangyang can't participate this time due to the age restriction, but if a suitable opportunity comes along next time, your auntie will certainly let you know!"

Smiling, Kang Li stood up, "I'll go get the erhu. Now, Yiyang will play a tune for us as if he were in the competition. What do you think?"

Locking her eyes onto her nephew, Kang Li continued, "Your auntie will also play a piece, and we'll see who does better. Your audience will be your grandparents and Ruirui, the three of them."

"Great."

Kang Yiyang nodded with a smile.

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Big cousin, you've got to give it your all, my mom plays the erhu really well!"

Kang Yiyang: "Alright, your big cousin will definitely bring his best!"

Min Rui: "I want to join in the contest between big cousin and Mom too."

Xiao Ming Wei clapped her hands, "Yes, yes!"

Team Leader and his wife exchanged looks, their eyes full of relief. They had been quite worried about their grandson having a hard time, but seeing Kang Yiyang's spirits genuinely lifted, they were much relieved.

Chapter 464: Let It Go

After all, from childhood to adulthood, Kang Yiyang had never experienced setbacks, and if because of something casually mentioned today, it would have an adverse effect on his psyche, that is something Captain Kang and his partner did not want to see.

This was their first grandchild, and it can be said that they held great expectations for the child's future.

"Mommy, big brother is also going to participate in the competition with big cousin!"

When Kang Li came out of the study with her erhu, she heard Xiao Ming Wei's cute, milky voice. She was initially startled, then smiled and said, "Alright!"

"Should big cousin go first, or should I go first?"

Min Rui looked towards his older cousin.

Kang Yiyang: "You are younger, so you go first."

Min Rui nodded his small head and sat down on the small armchair his mother had placed in the center of the living room.

Kang Li handed the erhu to the little one: "Go for it!"

Min Rui's face was taut, and he nodded seriously.

"The piece I am going to play for everyone is 'Two Springs Reflect the Moon'!"

Standing up, Min Rui held the erhu and bowed to his audience which included Grandma, Grandpa, Mom, big cousin, and his younger brother and sister.

The twins clapped "papa papa" enthusiastically.

Kang Li and Captain Kang smiled and followed with applause.

Sitting back in the small armchair, Min Rui posed himself properly and began to play the erhu with practiced movements.

After hearing just a short segment, Captain Kang's face showed surprise.

Kang Yiyang listened attentively, and after Min Rui finished playing, he praised directly, "Ruirui played really well!"

"Thank you, everyone, for your applause!"

Min Rui stood up again and bowed to his audience.

"Now it's my turn."

Taking the erhu from Min Rui's hands, Kang Yiyang also played 'Two Springs Reflect the Moon'. When he had finished, the applause in the living room was quite loud.

Kang Li: "Yangyang, you played wonderfully!"

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Big cousin played super well!"

Xiao Ming Wei: "Big brother and big cousin both played amazingly!"

"Actually, I did not play as well as Ruirui. When I was as young as Ruirui, I fumbled through this piece, unlike Ruirui who just played so pleasantly and beautifully, and Ruirui probably has not been learning for very long, but his skill is quite exquisite!"

Kang Yiyang said very sincerely.

Min Rui shook his head, his face serious: "I did not play as well as big cousin; I can tell for myself."

Kang Yiyang patted the child's head, smiled, and said, "You are a child, and big cousin is already a big kid, we are actually not comparable." He paused for a moment, then looked at Kang Li, "Little aunt, actually, even if I participated in the competition, I probably wouldn't win any awards."

Kang Li raised an eyebrow: "..."

Kang Yiyang's cheeks turned slightly red: "I have listened to Xuan Xuan play 'Two Springs Reflect the Moon', and he plays it noticeably better than me."

Kang Li: "Not bad. Then do you know where your weaknesses lie?"

Kang Yiyang nodded: "I know."

Kang Li: "Then, when you have time, practice more and improve your skills."

Kang Yiyang: "I will."

Captain Kang: "Song Xuan does indeed play very well; how long has that child been learning?" The question was undoubtedly directed at Kang Li.

"A little over a year. It was shortly after I arrived in North City that Xuan Xuan started learning from me."

Kang Li smiled: "Speaking of which, Xuan Xuan has a particularly good musical sense; this can be said to be his talent. Learning to play the erhu with me, in a short time, he was able to master playing techniques, and usually, after about two runs, he could play a piece exceptionally well."

"Looking at it this way, that child is indeed impressive!"

Captain Kang nodded his head.

Cai Xiufen: "I feel that Song Xuan plays about as well as our Yangyang and Ruirui."

Chapter 465 To Learn

Captain Kang: "That's because you don't understand it."

Cai Xiufen: "I don't understand it, but you're so capable!"

Kang Li laughed: "Okay, Mom, now let me play 'Horse Racing' for everyone."

As soon as the notes began, Captain Kang was so excited that he stood up, and Kang Yiyang stood up as well. The grandson and grandfather both had shock in their eyes.

Well, even Cai Xiufen, who didn't understand the music, was excited.

The music was powerful, the melody beautiful and unrestrained. Watching her precious daughter play with such seriousness and concentration, her sprightlier spirit shining in her eyes, Cai Xiufen repeatedly wiped away tears.

She was just so happy!

Her Kang Li could play the piece so well, her daughter was just amazing!

After the piece ended, the applause in the living room lasted for a long time.

"Little aunt, I think the way you played 'Horse Racing' is the most beautiful I've ever heard!"

Kang Yiyang was extremely excited: "Hearing little aunt play, I felt like I was standing on the great grasslands, witnessing the jockeys racing their horses, and the herders celebrating the grand occasion of the horse races. It was incredibly invigorating!"

"Even better than your dad!"

Captain Kang, full of pride, said: "You have been in North City for over a year, it looks like you've put a lot of effort into the erhu!"

Kang Li smiled shyly: "Well, I've been idle at home, and it so happens your son-in-law had this erhu at home, so I often took it out to play for a bit. I didn't expect to receive such praise from you today, Dad. I'm so happy I could almost fly to the heavens!"

"My daughter is amazing, not something you old man can compare to."

Cai Xiufen glared at Captain Kang, her face also filled with pride.

Milk Bun Ming Han blinked her starry eyes: "Mommy Mommy, can you play another piece, please? Hanhan wants to listen, and Grandma, Grandpa, and big cousin definitely want to as well!"

Min Rui: "Mommy, 'Unrestrained'!"

Xiao Ming Wei nodded and echoed: "Mom, play 'Unrestrained.' It doesn't matter if we don't understand, as long as it sounds good!"

"Okay."

Kang Li's fox-like eyes brimmed with a smile; she gave a light nod of her head.

How capricious life is, to brew a pot of life's joy and sorrow.

Traversing countless waters, crossing myriad mountains, the road ends in a vast crowd...

As Kang Li played, the living room once again became silent.

Kang Yiyang listened quietly, feeling that the piece had a profound artistic conception, its melody beautiful and melodious. Listening to it made him feel an urge to cry.

"Little aunt, could you teach me this piece?"

As soon as Kang Li ended the last note, Kang Yiyang immediately spoke up, his gaze sincere: "I really like the 'Unrestrained' you played, little aunt. While listening, I felt like my whole being had calmed down. The entire piece has a beauty and an indescribable sadness to it, but it's also emotionally touching, very moving!"

Kang Li composed herself and smiled, nodding: "Okay, little aunt will teach you."

"Kang Li, that piece you just played, why does it make my heart feel a little sad!" Cai Xiufen dabbed the corner of her eyes, then looked towards her precious daughter.

Upon hearing this, Kang Li thought carefully about her words, then simply recounted the story hidden within the piece.

Captain Kang: "The story is nice, and so is the piece, but listening to it makes one feel downhearted!"

Kang Li smiled and said: "The title of the piece is 'Unrestrained,' and 'unrestrained,' just taking it literally, means without any fetters, but behind being unrestrained lies the deepest of ties."

Kang Yiyang: "Grandpa, the piece little aunt just played might make one feel sad, but that in itself shows how good the piece is. I really like the feeling it gives me—sad and lonely yet emotionally stirring. If you think about it carefully, it also feels warm."

Chapter 466: Do You Know Who He Is?

Min Rui sat in a row with others, all holding their cheeks in their hands, listening intently to what the elders thought about the tune.

"Brew a pot of sorrow and joy to mourn the young man, the bright moon remains unchanged, so why feel melancholic? It would be better to traverse winds and waves freely, and harmonize a song across the horizon!"

Kang Li whispered slowly. Meanwhile, Kang Yiyang repeatedly memorized the line his aunt had mentioned in his mind and repeated it aloud, "Brew a pot..."

At that moment, someone knocked on the courtyard door.

"It must be the TV station's car!"

Kang Li spoke and then left the living room. She soon returned, "Dad, I've spoken with the driver. You, Mom, and Yiyang take Ruirui and the others. I'll change my clothes and be out shortly."

With that, Kang Li went to the bedroom.

The TV station's car was spacious, and the family didn't feel cramped sitting inside.

Upon arriving at the TV station and before the recording started, Kang Li viewed the premises with her father, mother, older nephew, and the three kids, accompanied by Wu Yue.

When it was time for Kang Li to start recording, Captain Kang, his wife, and Kang Yiyang were placed by Wu Yue in an area the cameras couldn't reach, watching Kang Li recording the show.

Time trickled by, and as the program neared its end, Wu Yue made an "OK" gesture, signaling the end of today's recording.

"Uncle, Auntie, let me tell you, ever since little sister Li became the host of our program, it's been incredibly popular with children everywhere. Those bags of letters I showed you earlier were from children writing to little sister Li..."

Wu Yue beamed with a smile. As Kang Li approached, she began to shamelessly flatter Kang Li in front of Captain Kang and Cai Xiufen.

"Our Li Bao has always been beloved by everyone, both adults and children alike. As soon as they see Li Bao, their faces light up with joy, fondness spilling over,"

Cai Xiufen, her eyes brimming with affectionate smiles, looked at her precious daughter and told Wu Yue, "Plus, in our area, people from the surrounding villages all say that my Li Bao is a Fairy Girl..."

"Mom! If you keep going, I'll have to find a hole to crawl into!"

Kang Li, her face flushed with embarrassment, cut off her mother to prevent her from going on endlessly with her praises.

"Auntie, little sister Li is getting shy!"

Wu Yue teased Kang Li.

"This child has always been thin-skinned, Auntie will stop here to avoid her getting upset with me once we get home!"

Cai Xiufen smiled at Wu Yue, then shifted her gaze back to Kang Li, "Are we heading back now?"

Kang Li nodded, "Yeah."

The group left the recording studio.

"Uncle, you and Auntie take the kids to the car first. I want to chat a bit more with little sister Li."

Wu Yue said this as she helped open the car door.

Min Rui: "Grandma, Grandpa, big cousin, we'll wait for mom in the car."

Captain Kang readily agreed, and he and Cai Xiufen got in the car.

"Yiyang, you carry Ruirui and the others in."

Cai Xiufen looked at her eldest grandson and spoke.

Kang Yiyang nodded.

"Did you see that?"

Wu Yue stood beside Kang Li, touched her arm, and whispered to her best friend.

"What do you mean?"

Kang Li wasn't quite sure what Wu Yue was referring to.

"I mean the man we saw when we left the recording studio. Do you know who he is?"

Wu Yue's expression looked mysteriously excited.

Kang Li's tone was light, "I don't know."

Just a somewhat good-looking guy, no big deal, right?

"That Mr. Xiao, with the last name Jian, was transferred here from a cultural department in the county below. He currently is the head of our station's program operations."

Chapter 467: Is This Strange?

Rumors say he's not yet thirty but became a widower two years ago, with a four-year-old daughter at home... Oh, and I heard that Director Xiao is about to remarry, and the woman's background seems quite extraordinary, not to mention her personal conditions are pretty good, too. However, the woman is divorced, with a four-year-old son."

Wu Yue shared the gossip she had heard with Kang Li.

Kang Li: "You sure did some digging, but how does this concern us?"

"It doesn't have much to do with us, but don't you think he's handsome? His temperament is also quite impressive, don't you agree?" Wu Yue nudged Kang Li's arm again, her expression in Kang Li's eyes, deeply felt somewhat indescribable.

Kang Li barely perceptibly twitched the corner of her mouth, rather speechlessly said, "Comrade Wu Yue, have you forgotten that you are a married woman? Have you also forgotten you're a mom?"

"What's the big deal? I'm just purely admiring, I don't have any specific thoughts."

Wu Yue, unabashed, pressed Kang Li, "Come on, tell me, what do you think of him?"

Kang Li directly gave the other party an elegant eye-roll: "Not much!"

Hearing this, Wu Yue was initially shocked, then soon realized: "That's true, with your husband's looks and temperament, it's hard for any other man to catch your eye!"

At this, Wu Yue seemed to think of something, and again leaned in close to Kang Li, whispering: "Don't you think Director Xiao looks a bit familiar?"

Kang Li shook her head.

Wu Yue: "I guess you haven't looked closely."

Kang Li: "Say what you want, I'm waiting to go back."

Wu Yue: "Are we friends or not? If yes, then stop rushing me."

Kang Li: "..."

"I'll tell you, I found that your daughter Ruirui's eyebrows and eyes look especially like Director Xiao's, and even the mouth looks about seventy percent similar!"

"Is that so strange?"

"Don't you find it strange?"

"Similarities exist in objects, resemblances are found in people, and moreover, in this world, there's no short supply of people who look very much alike yet have no blood relation."

"That may be, but I just find it quite a coincidence, you don't know. When I first saw Director Xiao half a month ago, I thought he looked familiar, then I thought of your Ruirui."

Kang Li was genuinely at a loss for words this time: "You have quite an imagination. Alright, if there's nothing else, I'm going to get into the car."

Wu Yue: "What's the hurry? Spare me two more minutes, will you give a gift when Director Xiao has something going on?"

"I'd rather not."

Kang Li shook her head.

Wu Yue: "Why not?"

Kang Li: "Not acquainted."

Wu Yue: "What if everyone at the TV station gives a gift, won't you participate?"

"I don't even know Director Xiao, why should I definitely go and give him a gift?"

As she spoke, Kang Li pried off Wu Yue's hand from her arm and walked towards the car door: "I'm leaving, you should go back inside; it's windy out, don't catch a cold."

Three days had passed since that recording session.

"Comrade Kang, are you off to buy groceries?!"

Around 7:30 in the morning, as Kang Li walked into the courtyard carrying a basket of fresh ingredients, a male voice greeted her. Out of politeness, she looked at him with a smile: "I'm sorry, but who are you...?" Do I know him? She wondered.

Feeling awkward inside, but Kang Li's face showed no trace of discomfort.

"My surname is Xiao, my name is Jin, I was recently transferred to North City TV Station, it's quite normal for Comrade Kang not to know me."

Xiao Jin, the Director Xiao whom Wu Yue had mentioned to Kang Li earlier, indeed had good looks,

Chapter 468: I Didn't Suffer Much

And with a gentle temperament, he made others feel as if they were bathed in the spring breeze when he spoke. Tall and slender, even pushing a bicycle did not compromise his presence. He said, "However, when I first arrived at the station, I heard that a host from the children's program, Kang Li, was quite popular among the children."

Kang Li replied, "It turns out to be Director Xiao, you flatter me!" In fact, the moment she heard him mention her name, Kang Li had realized who he was.

But why would he appear in the compound?

And it seemed like he lived inside the compound...

Kang Li was puzzled, yet a polite smile remained on her face as she said, "Last weekend when I went to the station to record a program, Comrade Wu Yue even introduced you to me, saying that Director Xiao has strong work capacity and is a good leader. But at that time, I only saw you from a distance, so I didn't recognize you just now. I'm sorry!"

"Comrade Kang, there's no need for such formality."

Xiao Jin smiled and said, "That'll be it then, Comrade Kang, see you later, I need to head to the station."

Kang Li nodded: "Goodbye."

Watching him push his bicycle out of the compound, Kang Li retracted her gaze, thinking of making a trip to the Song Family because she felt it was a bit odd for Director Xiao to appear in the compound.

Well, to be precise, it was a bit coincidental.

Song Family.

"Godmother."

Carrying a basket of vegetables into the living room, Kang Li greeted Mrs. Qi with a cheery smile and then said, "I bought too many vegetables today, how about I share some with you? And this pork is very fresh, I'll go to the kitchen later to slice some for you and Xuan Xuan to cook with."

"Don't bother."

Mrs. Qi shook her head: "I bought plenty of vegetables yesterday, and I have enough for today. I also bought some pork, cooked it into minced pork and have it ready!"

Stopping Kang Li from going to the kitchen, Mrs. Qi said, "Sit down, there's something I wanted to talk to you about. I didn't expect you to come over so early today."

"What a coincidence, I also have something to ask you, Godmother."

Kang Li looked surprised, then smiled warmly, "Then Godmother, you go first."

Mrs. Qi said, "Actually, it's all just gossip, but the incident of Luo Yanqing's biological mother coming to the compound... you know it very clearly, it was Shen Yun who orchestrated it all. Because of this, your godfather had a serious talk with Shen Yun, suggesting she remarry soon or have the organization help her find someone, otherwise, if it's discovered that Shen Yun continues inappropriate behaviors, she'll be directly transferred by the institute..."

At this point, Mrs. Qi's expression soured, "Li Bao, I'm sorry, if it wasn't for Godmother being too unobservant, Shen Yun wouldn't have made things so ugly."

Kang Li smiled, "Liking someone isn't something others can control with mere words, and I would never think less of you for it. Besides, Comrade Shen met Luo Yanqing while she was studying abroad, so her feelings for him started early, not only from the day she visited Godmother's house.

Besides... Luo Yanqing didn't even know Comrade Shen; it was all unrequited love on her part, confusing her and bringing my nominal mother-in-law to North City, just to cause me some trouble!

Godmother, this really isn't your fault, please don't blame yourself.

Also, I don't think I've told you this yet? Luo Yanqing was very angry about that matter. When Shen Yun found him, he immediately slapped her twice. In the whole affair, I certainly didn't suffer any loss!"

"Your godfather told me over the phone; he said Yanqing didn't leave Shen Yun any dignity, and just slapped her twice. If he hadn't arrived at that moment and taken Shen Yun away, who knows what more might have happened."

Chapter 469: Have I Ever Heard You Say That?

Mrs. Qi said, shaking her head, Fang Xu said, "I really can't figure it out. Even if you like someone, once you know they have a family, you should hold back your feelings. It's best to bury those feelings deep in your heart instead of brazenly showing them off, putting yourself in the position of a clown."

Kang Li: "I agree with what godmother said. You don't know, but before Comrade Shen provoked my mother-in-law to come to North City, she visited my home during a vacation. As soon as we met, she acted like we were old friends and flaunted her superiority in front of me, in and out of the conversation."

Mrs. Qi: "What did you do?"

Kang Li: "I wouldn't take it, not letting her belittle me without resistance. A simple 'Big Sister Shen' made her immediately back down, suffocated and unable to speak for a long time."

"Big Sister Shen?"

Curiosity showed in Mrs. Qi's eyes.

Kang Li smiled sheepishly and said, "Comrade Shen was flaunting her life abroad in front of me, keeping dragging the topic to Professor Luo, aiming to tell me how close she and Luo Yanqing were overseas, mocking me for just being a high school graduate, and calling me 'sister-in-law' repeatedly.

I found it funny, so I called her Big Sister Shen, saying I graduated from high school at seventeen, married Luo Yanqing at eighteen, and am just nineteen this year. And since Comrade Shen was smart enough to be sent abroad for advanced studies by the country, she immediately caught my implied meaning. You can't imagine how vivid her facial expression was!"

Mrs. Qi laughed and exclaimed, "You girl, you are really mischievous. That was clearly pointing out that Shen Yun is older!"

"Exactly, I was pointing out her age. No matter what she said, I responded with 'Big Sister Shen,' and as a result, she got so annoyed with me and I left her standing in the yard, forcing her to leave on her own."

"Shen Yun and Yanqing are the same age. She isn't as pretty as you, doesn't have your charisma, she just studied a few more years than you. That's it, yet she flaunts her superiority in front of you. I really don't know what she's thinking."

Which woman doesn't care about her age?

Shen Yun, clearly a high-intelligence talent, yet clueless when it comes to relationships.

Turning up at someone's door and bringing up someone's lover in front of a young girl, is this something a sane person would do?

"Maybe she was blinded by love! If someone like that could come to their senses in time, all would be well in the future. Otherwise, it's likely there's no bright future to speak of. After all, someone constantly preoccupied with love, where would she find the energy to pursue a career?"

Hearing Kang Li say this, Mrs. Qi nodded in agreement, then she said, "Looking at the current situation, Shen Yun seems to have come to her senses."

"Could it be... could it be that she's remarried?"

Kang Li's sharp fox-like eyes stared unblinkingly at Mrs. Qi, who nodded. Kang Li exclaimed, "That was fast! Did she find someone herself, or did my godfather's organization set her up?"

Mrs. Qi: "Her family made the arrangements. Just yesterday, the two of them registered for a marriage certificate, and immediately after, the man moved into our compound with a four-year-old daughter."

"That man's name is Xiao Jin, and he works at North City TV Station, right?"

Kang Li already had a clear answer in her heart.

Mrs. Qi, surprised, asked, "How did you know?"

"Godmother, I work at North City TV Station. Every weekend I go to record a program. I'm the host of a children's channel segment."

"Have I heard you mention this?"

"I'm sorry, godmother, I don't know if I've mentioned it to you, but I thought it was a minor matter, maybe... maybe I just forgot for the moment, I didn't..."

Chapter 470: Is This Related to Our Work?

Kang Li moved to sit next to Mrs. Qi, smiled apologetically, leaned on the other's arm, and said in a delicate voice with a giggle, "Godmother, please don't be mad at me. If I really didn't tell you, that means I must have forgotten, I definitely didn't mean to keep it from you!"

"Alright, alright, your godmother isn't as forgiving as you make it sound." With a mix of helplessness and indulgence, Mrs. Qi tapped Kang Li's nose and said, "So, you and that Comrade Xiao are colleagues now."

"Yeah." Kang Li nodded. "I just found out myself."

Mrs. Qi raised an eyebrow: "..."

Kang Li then recounted the incident of running into Xiao Jin when she came back from buying groceries, finishing with, "If he hadn't greeted me first, I wouldn't have even known who he was. After he left the courtyard, I felt the coincidence was a bit odd, so I thought I'd come over and ask you, godmother, to see if you knew this Comrade Xiao Jin."

"How is it a coincidence?"

Mrs. Qi asked with a smile.

Kang Li: "I was at the TV station over the weekend, and a friend of mine just told me about a new Director Xiao at the station, saying he was good in this way and that, but he's a widower. Then my friend suddenly changed the subject, saying that he was about to remarry soon,

and mentioned that the woman comes from a good family background and her personal situation is also quite favorable, but she's a divorcee, with a four-year-old son. And here we are, I ran into him in our courtyard this morning, and couldn't help but think about what my friend had said, and got a bit carried away with my thoughts."

Mrs. Qi: "You're very observant!"

Kang Li: "Isn't that being sensitive?"

"How could that be called sensitive? At most, your imagination is quite rich, allowing you to quickly connect one thing with another."

"So godmother is complimenting me!"

"Of course, I am praising you, no need to be modest."

Both looked at each other and laughed simultaneously.

At the same time, outside the research institute's staff canteen.

"Professor Luo!"

After breakfast, Luo Yanqing, with one hand in his pocket and the other holding his cleaned lunchbox, was about to step onto the path leading to the dormitory area, when a woman's voice called out from behind him.

Frowning, Luo Yanqing paused briefly in his step, then prepared to continue walking, but the person behind him quickly caught up and called out again, "Professor Luo, could you wait a moment? I have a couple of words to say to you."

Stopping, Luo Yanqing faced her as she approached and met his gaze, speaking expressionlessly, "Please be quick."

Shen Yun gave a strained smile: "You're really that reluctant to see me, to talk to me?"

Luo Yanqing's lips tightened, his gaze towards her exceptionally cold.

"Actually... there's not much to it, I just... I just wanted to tell you that I registered the marriage yesterday with the person my family introduced to me. His name is Xiao Jin, two years older than me, working at North City TV Station..."

Seeing Luo Yanqing's impatience in his eyes, Shen Yun seriously apologized to him, saying, "I was in the wrong for the trouble I caused you before. I'm telling you today about my remarriage just to put your mind at ease, so you know that I won't do such thoughtless things again. If you see Comrade Kang, please also pass on my apologies to him. That's all, goodbye!"

After speaking, Shen Yun immediately turned and walked away.

Luo Yanqing stood there for a moment before continuing on his way.

Unexpectedly, Wen Siyuan caught up with him in a few quick steps. He glanced at Luo Yanqing and then casually asked, "Has Teacher Shen remarried? Does Group Leader Luo know?"

Luo Yanqing: "Does it have anything to do with our work?"

Wen Siyuan: "Not at all, I was just being nosy with some idle chatter." Slowing down, Wen Siyuan let Luo Yanqing walk ahead for a distance before continuing at a normal pace.