

Weak B 611

Chapter 611: Are You Going Against the Heavens?

Kang Li's beautiful fox eyes curved into crescents, firmly denying it.

Gazing at his delicate little wife, Luo Yanqing's eyes full of doting and helplessness, he hooked his lips, gently shook his head, and the next moment, he leaned over to Kang Li's ear and whispered something. Kang Li's cheeks instantly flushed with color, and she irritably glared at Luo Yanqing.

This scene was clearly seen by Xu Chunxia, as it was only dusk and not completely dark yet. However, due to the distance being a bit far, Xu Chunxia naturally couldn't hear what Kang Li and Luo Yanqing were saying.

As Kang Li and Luo Yanqing's figures completely vanished from view, Xu Chunxia's eyes almost brimmed with hatred and jealousy. She clenched her fists, her expression turning completely ferocious.

But in a blink, she returned to normal, the speed of her change of expression was undeniably quick.

"You still know to come back!"

Mrs. Xu, upon seeing Xu Chunxia enter the living room, started berating her, "Brainless thing, all your life never accomplishing anything but only causing failures. You've completely lost face for me and your father!"

"Mom calls me a loser; what are you then? Aren't you a woman? Isn't my sister-in-law a woman? Since we're all women, if I'm a loser, so are you all!"

Carrying resentment and reluctance upon returning, and being chastised and cursed by her own mother as soon as she entered, Xu Chunxia could no longer endure it, and her temper suddenly exploded:

"Kang Libao and I were very close initially, if it weren't for you constantly whispering in my ear, advising how I should take advantage of Kang Libao, praising Zhou Weimin constantly, teaching me to use Kang Libao to curry favor with Zhou Weimin, and to steal Kang Libao's marriage from her,

If it weren't for your incessant badgering, would I have shamelessly done those things, leading to Kang Libao cutting off our relationship without considering our feelings? And now I have lost my reputation, you put everything on me. Do you call this being a mother?"

Faced with Xu Chunxia's reproach and questioning, Mrs. Xu could no longer keep up appearances; she lunged at Xu Chunxia, attempting to slap her, but Xu Chunxia easily dodged. Mrs. Xu, unable to stop herself, fell forward, not only missing but also heavily toppling to the ground.

"Chunlai, have you gone against the heavens?"

Xu Chunlai dropped his chopsticks, stood up, and walked over to Xu Chunxia, attempting to slap her, only for Xu Chunxia to duck, preventing her brother's success. Then, Xu Chunxia grabbed a small stool by her feet and smashed it on Chunlai: "self-indulgent laziness, who do you think you are? Xu Chunlai, I tell you, I, Xu Chunxia, will no longer let you randomly beat and scold me like before!"

Dressed in light summer clothes, Chunlai was squarely hit by Xu Chunxia with the stool, and immediately clutched his side in pain, cursing Xu Chunxia as he moaned.

"Chunxia, if your big brother is seriously hurt because of you, don't blame me for divorcing him and taking our son back to my parents' house!"

Wang Xinger glanced at Xu Chunxia, her eyes filled with disdain and scorn: "Although I haven't been in this family long, I've heard plenty from your brother about your deeds. If you had any sense, could a few words from others compel you to act so foolishly? In my opinion, you landing up like this is purely your own doing!"

"What it's like being me, what business is it of someone not of our family!"

Xu Chunxia glared angrily at Wang Xinger: "Xu Chunlai is lazy, and by marrying you, this family got yet another lazy person. What else can you all do besides eating, drinking, and sleeping?"

Chapter 612: How Will You Know If You Don't Try?

"Chunmei, Chunxia, and I work for work points; do you think it's just to support you? I'm telling you, Xingxing, if you and Chunlai think about continuing to strut around in this house and freeload, you're dreaming!"

Xingxing didn't get angry at all; she sneered, "That's not for you to decide." After finishing the last of her corn porridge, Xingxing put down her utensils, stood up, and went back to check on her son, looking utterly unbothered, as if she hadn't a care in the world.

"Enough with the fuss, let's talk properly," Father Xu said, ignoring Mrs. Xu who sat on the ground crying a river of tears and regardless of his eldest son stomping beside him, he looked emotionlessly at Chunxia: "Did Sister Li Bao agree to your request?"

At these words, Chunxia's gaze turned to her younger sisters Chunmei and Chunxiang; seeing them nod at her, indicating they had told their parents about her pleading with Kang Li, her feelings became extraordinarily complicated.

A flash of disappointment crossed her eyes, and she withdrew her gaze from them and turned to Father Xu, saying, "Kang Libao said she needs to think about it."—a lie Chunxia fabricated to avoid being sold off by her desperate parents.

After all, with hope in the air, the parents wouldn't easily consider pushing her out the door like an animal for sale.

During this time, she could always think of a way to get Kang Libao to agree to take her away from Aoli Village!

Before going to bed at night, Chunmei and Chunxiang both looked at their Third Sister, Chunxia; Chunmei asked, "Third Sister, did Sister Li Bao really say she would consider helping you?"

However, Chunxia didn't answer; she asked, "Why tell our parents?"

Chunmei knew what her sister meant; she bit her lip and hesitated to speak. Unexpectedly, Chunxiang, feeling somewhat regretful, said, "Mom and Dad didn't see you come back; they asked me and Fourth Sister, and I just couldn't keep it in..."

"Third Sister, don't blame Sixth Sister," Chunmei spoke on behalf of Chunxia. "Our parents had already planned this, and moreover, Mom openly talked about it at the dinner table before you came back."

"Then you all might be disappointed," Chunxia's eyes filled with indignation, and she said, "Kang Libao refused; I even knelt before her to beg, and still, she wouldn't nod in agreement."

"What should we do then?"

Chunxiang looked frightened: "If Mom and Dad find out, then Third Sister, you..."

"Sister Li Bao is kind and easy to talk to; she shouldn't be so heartless!" Chunmei interjected, uncertainty flickering in her eyes. Finally, she said, "I'll go to Sister Li Bao later and plead with her to see if she can take Third Sister with her when she leaves."

Chunxia had little faith that Chunmei would really help her: "You..."

"Third Sister, we are sisters; helping you is like helping myself," Chunmei said, glancing at Chunxiang. "I can't just watch Third Sister be thrown into a fire pit and wait for myself and Sixth Sister to follow the same old road."

After a prolonged silence, Chunxia looked dejected: "Kang Libao has changed; she... she's not the same as before. Going to her might end up just like it did for me."

"How would we know without trying? Look, I'll go see Sister Li Bao tomorrow," Chunmei said, yawning, "Let's sleep; I'll do my best to plead with Sister Li Bao to do this favor for you, Third Sister."

The next day.

Luo Yanqing gave Wang Yue a bundle of money and coupons, then with a couple of reminders, watched as Wang Yue and Li Jun each drove a car, taking Third Brother Kang to the county town to buy ingredients needed for tomorrow's feast.

It should be noted that yesterday afternoon, Captain Kang had contacted Fourth Brother Kang, asking Fourth Brother Kang to take a couple of days off work to accompany Third Brother Kang on the purchase trip today.

Chapter 613: Getting Straight to the Point

As for Big Brother Kang, Captain Kang arranged for him to get in touch with the master chef in charge of preparing the banquet meals, and to take Kang Yichen and Kang Yihong to the chef's home to collect pots, dishes, cutlery, tables, and benches.

By midday, Cai Xiufen suddenly said to Kang Li, "Tomorrow, you should wear your bright red dress."

"Ah?"

Kang Li blinked her fox-like eyes, "Do I have to wear it?" She wasn't particularly fond of bright red clothing, but a week before Min Rui and the others began their summer vacation, her mother insisted she accompany her on a trip to the department store. She naturally didn't protest.

But to her surprise, her mother dragged her straight to the women's clothing counter, zeroed in on a bright red dress, had the sales clerk fetch her size, and promptly paid for it with money and coupons.

So this was what she had been waiting for!

Kang Li felt like crying but had no tears.

"Li Bao, your expressions are so colorful!"

Third Sister-in-Law Kang, with her pregnant belly, was teasing Kang Li on the side.

"Third Sister-in-Law!" Kang Li feigned grievance, "I don't want to wear a red dress."

"Why not? Tomorrow's banquet is essentially compensating for your own wedding celebration, your brother-in-law said it himself. Since it's your big day, naturally you should dress more festively."

Third Sister-in-Law Kang's face was filled with smiles, completely unaffected by Kang Li's pitiful act.

Cai Xiufen said, "I hope that you and Yanqing will live a bright and prosperous life. Be good, listen to your mother, and wear that red dress tomorrow."

Kang Li made a bitter face, "Mom, aren't you being a little superstitious?"

"Superstitious about what?" Cai Xiufen rolled her eyes, "In the city or the countryside, which bride doesn't wear red clothes when she gets married?"

"Mom, that's where you are mistaken; not all brides in the city wear red clothes to their weddings, and in recent years, it's been fashionable for newlywed couples to wear green uniforms on their wedding day."

"In this hot weather, you want to wear that and not die of heat?" Rolling her eyes again, Cai Xiufen said, "There's no room for debate; you must wear that red dress I bought for you."

Puffing her cheeks, Kang Li ultimately couldn't outstubborn her mother and nodded, "Alright, to make you happy, I promise to wear it tomorrow."

Suddenly, Kang Yihang burst in like a little cannonball, running back from the entrance of the courtyard with his short legs. Upon seeing Kang Li, he said in his childish voice, "Auntie, someone's looking for you!"

Kang Li ruffled the little guy's head and smiled, "Do you know them?"

Kang Yihang stood up straight, confidently saying, "I know, it's Aunt Chunmei from the Xu family!"

Hearing this, Kang Li frowned slightly, then nodded, "Auntie knows, you can let her in."

"Okay!" Kang Yihang cheerfully responded and ran out of the hall.

Before long, Xu Chunmei appeared before Kang Li, "Sister Li Bao."

Kang Li hummed in acknowledgment and said, "Let's go to my room." Xu Chunmei hurriedly nodded.

They entered the room one after another, and Kang Li looked at Xu Chunmei indifferently before getting straight to the point, "I know why you're here, but I'm sorry, I can't help your Third Sister."

"Sister Li Bao..."

Xu Chunmei was taken aback; she hadn't expected Kang Li to be so direct, leaving her no room to maneuver.

"You're aware of what your Third Sister has done. I'm the kind of person who takes revenge on the spot and doesn't hold grudges long term. Since I cut off my friendship with her, her affairs have nothing to do

with me anymore. What's more, her current predicament is of her own making; she has no one else to blame. As for you, I see you as clever, so I'll give you a piece of advice,

Chapter 614: A Hint

"As long as you think clearly and consider the consequences before acting, the road ahead of you won't be too difficult to walk."

"Thank you, Sister Li Bao, for your guidance, but... but can't you really help my Third Sister? In the last two years, my mom at home has mentioned to my dad more than once about finding an old man who can afford a decent bride price or a fool for her."

"Do you know about the Women's Federation in the Commune?"

"...I've heard of it."

"If your parents dare to sell you and your sisters off like goods, you can certainly seek justice from the comrades at the Women's Federation in the Commune."

"Sister Li Bao, would the comrades at the Women's Federation really care about this sort of thing?"

"You could go to the Commune and find out for yourself."

At this point, Kang Li paused, then added, "Perhaps in two or three years, everything might change. If you can hold on until then and not be married off by your parents, you should have the chance to see the outside world and even earn and spend your own money."

"Will there really come a day like that?"

"Think about the days before our country was founded and how each household lived after its establishment. If there's going to be any more changes in the future, I wouldn't find it strange at all. Also, it doesn't hurt to learn more characters."

"You taught my Third Sister to read and do arithmetic before, and when she came home, she taught me everything without changing a thing."

"Looking at this, your Third Sister does have some brains. Alright, go back now. Remember what I've told you, and don't do anything thoughtless like your Third Sister, veering off course step by step."

"I understand."

Xu Chunmei nodded and turned to walk toward the door.

"Chunmei..." With the original owner's memories, Kang Li thought Xu Chunmei was quite a good girl and couldn't help but want to say a few more words. Turning around, Xu Chunmei looked at Kang Li: "Sister Li Bao?"

"I'm aware of your family's situation, but as long as you can stand on your own, you shouldn't suffer too much."

Hearing Kang Li's words, Xu Chunmei's eyes began to moisten slightly, and she nodded firmly this time: "Sister Li Bao, thank you. I know all you've said is for my benefit, and I'll keep it in my heart."

Kang Li's lips curved into a slight smile: "Alright then, take care on your way."

Xu Chunmei murmured an "Mhm" and didn't linger any longer.

"What did that girl Chunmei come to see you for?"

Upon arriving in her mother's room, Kang Li was asked by her mother. She didn't hide anything, recounting how she had stopped Xu Chunxia on her behalf the day before and the purpose of Xu Chunmei's visit.

Upon hearing this, Cai Xiufen's expression darkened: "Where does that girl Chunxia get the nerve to ask you for such a favor?!"

"She's just a girl with muddled thoughts, and I certainly didn't say a single good word to her," Kang Li laughed softly, a faint arc forming at the corners of her lips: "But Chunmei seems like a good person. I hope she'll remember what I said to her today."

Cai Xiufen: "Of that entire family, only Chunmei seems to have a plan."

"Mama, Mama, big brother and second brother went to play by the stream with cousin and they didn't take me!" Xiao Ming Wei ran into the room from outside the door, her voice full of grievance.

Kang Li's eyes twinkled with amusement: "So you want Mama to take you to find your big brothers?"

"Yes, yes, yes." Xiao Ming Wei nodded her tiny head rapidly, her large grape-like eyes looking up adorably, "Can we, Mama?"

"Okay, Mama will take you now." As Kang Li spoke, she said goodbye to her mother and took the little girl's hand as they both left the house.

Aoli Village was at the foot of the mountain. It was now a little past nine in the morning, and the weather wasn't too hot yet, but—

Chapter 615: 615: The Whole Big Family Really Gathered Together

Even at high noon, as the wind blows down from the mountains, one feels cool as long as they're not standing directly under the blazing sun.

"I'm taking Vivi down to the stream at the foot of the mountain for a walk, would you like to come along?"

After breakfast, Luo Yanqing followed his father-in-law, Team Leader Kang, to the village committee office. There, he read a few newspapers before standing up to take his leave from Team Leader Kang and headed back home by himself. As he just stepped into the courtyard, he heard Kang Li's invitation and without thinking, nodded his head, "Sure."

Kang Li holding Xiao Ming Wei's hand, with Luo Yanqing walking on the other side of Kang Li, the two adults and one child made their way toward the small stream at the base of the mountain.

"Once you see it, you're going to love the foot of the mountain; it's filled with wildflowers of every color, the stream water is so clear you can see right to the bottom. Not only are there little shrimps, but there are also fish swimming about. If you're lucky, you might even catch a fish that weighs two or three, even four or five pounds."

"Mommy, Mommy, Vivi wants to catch fishy!"

"Alright, Mommy and our Vivi will go into the water and catch fish together." As Kang Li spoke, she suddenly stopped and said to Luo Yanqing, "Vivi and I will wait for you here. You go back home and get the camera."

Luo Yanqing was always ready to fulfill his young wife's requests: "Alright."

"Mommy, are you going to take photos for Vivi?"

"Smart."

“Then Mommy has to take pictures of Daddy and the big brothers, and also yourself and cousin, and everyone!”

“Sure.”

With “Dwen Dwen” providing unlimited film rolls, Kang Li could take as many photos as she wanted, and since she could develop them herself without any cost, why not make the whole family happy?

Luo Yanqing was quick to return, well, to be honest, he hadn’t been very far from the house when he walked out with Kang Li and Xiao Ming Wei.

“I forgot to tell you, Guosheng and his family have already arrived in the county town.”

A few days ago, Kang Guosheng had called and learned from Team Leader Kang that Kang Li and her family were coming home. Coincidentally, he was just preparing to take leave to visit his family, having not been back to his hometown to see his parents and relatives for three whole years. As luck would have it, he heard from his father that his sister Li Bao was coming home too. Without hesitation, he told Team Leader Kang that after dropping off Gusheng’s kids at the Shu Family, he would bring his wife and children back home.

Indeed, four of them had taken the train two days prior and had arrived at the small station in the county town that morning, a little after eight, nearly nine, and immediately found a public phone to call the village committee office.

And Luo Yanqing just happened to be sitting in the village committee office at that time. After Team Leader Kang hung up the phone, he naturally learned from his father-in-law that his brother-in-law's family would soon be arriving in the village.

"Let's take this opportunity to take a family portrait."

Guosheng's older brother and his wife were also supposed to return from the county town that day. With the arrival of Guosheng's family, the extended family would be truly gathered in full!

It was the perfect opportunity for a grand family photo shoot, and it had to be done!

Luo Yanqing had no objections.

The mountain breeze was gentle and cool. As Kang Li and Xiao Ming Wei walked hand in hand with Luo Yanqing towards the foot of the mountain, they heard the familiar sound of laughter.

"It's big brother, second brother, and cousin's voices!"

Xiao Ming Wei's eyes twinkled with excitement, and she longed to break into a run straight to the stream.

The willows swayed by the stream, with wildflowers of various colors sprinkled among the lush green grass. The water murmured, its surface dotted with unevenly sized, strangely shaped, and remarkably smooth stones.

Standing by the stream, Kang Li took the camera from Luo Yanqing's hand and snapped several pictures, "click, click..."

"Mommy, Mommy, I'm going to play!"

Xiao Ming Wei slipped off her sandals and socks, waved to her mom, and cautiously stepped into the stream.

Chapter 616: Snapshot

"Mom, it feels so good, come join us!"

Turning her head to call out to her mom in a milky voice, Xiao Ming Wei bent down to play with the water.

The creek wasn't deep, only reaching up to Xiao Ming Wei's calves.

Kang Li: "Mom will get in the water in a bit, you be careful not to slip!"

Xiao Ming Wei: "Okay!"

"Auntie, are you taking pictures of us?" Kang Yiyu saw his dear aunt with a camera in her hand and asked excitedly.

Kang Li nodded with a smile.

Kang Yiyu: "Then can Auntie take more pictures of me?"

Kang Li: "Of course." Seeing the other nephews looking over, she added, "I'll take lots of pictures of each one of you."

"Auntie is the best!"

The younger nephews each gave Kang Li cheesy compliments with a laugh.

The older ones didn't say anything, but each one of them had a grin showing their big white teeth.

And today, no one in the family had gone to work, a decision made by Captain Kang who felt that his precious daughter didn't come home often, and this time she was bringing her husband and three little grandsons, so why not let the whole family relax for a couple of days to enjoy time together.

The moment Captain Kang made the decision, everyone in the family, from the top down, was utterly thrilled.

Not having to work and getting to eat good food at home—such days were nothing short of blissful!

Kang Li took many photos of her little cubs and a bunch of nephews, then sneakily snapped several pictures of Luo Yanqing.

"You're very photogenic."

Realizing his little wife had taken pictures of him without a word, Luo Yanqing felt a bit uncomfortable, but at her compliment, he curved his lips in a smile: "You're photogenic too."

"Thanks for the praise!"

With a chuckle, Kang Li handed Luo Yanqing the camera: "I'm off to play for a while."

With a smile in his eyes and an incredibly doting tone, Luo Yanqing responded, "Go on."

He imitated her and, when Kang Li was unaware, took up the camera to take a series of candid shots of her.

In the end, he sat on a large rock, his gaze tender as he quietly watched Kang Li play with the younger ones in the creek.

Time flew swiftly, and as it neared eleven o'clock, Kang Li waved her hand: "Alright, time to head back home!"

"Time to go home! Time to go home!"

The little ones shouted at the top of their lungs, clambering out of the creek, drying their feet, slipping on their shoes, and followed behind Kang Li and Luo Yanqing, chattering all the way home.

From a distance, Kang Li and Luo Yanqing looked like mother hens leading a flock of chicks of various sizes along the path.

By a stroke of luck, just as Kang Li and her group were about to reach the front gate of the courtyard, Kang Guosheng's family also approached the entrance, carrying big and small bags.

"Second Brother, Second Sister-in-law, you're back!"

With a beaming smile, Kang Li greeted Kang Guosheng and his wife.

"Auntie!"

Kang Yikai and Kang Yihao, the brothers, called out to their dear aunt with a smile.

"Little Kai and Haohao have grown so tall, well done!" Seeing the two nephews approaching, Kang Li patted their heads, her smile both warm and lovely.

Feeling his aunt pat his head, the 14-year-old Kang Yikai was a bit embarrassed, while the 10-year-old Kang Yihao didn't mind at all and even rubbed his head against his aunt's palm.

Grinning like a little mouse who had sneaked some lamp oil.

He loved his pretty aunt, as beautiful as a fairy girl, and it had been three years since he last saw her at his hometown. He found his aunt to be many times prettier than before!

"Second Sister-in-law, are you expecting again?"

Looking at He Hui, Second Brother Kang's Wife, with her belly slightly protruding, Kang Li asked with a smile.

"Yeah, a little over three months now."

Chapter 617: 617: Sour

He Hui's smile radiated pure bliss.

"Congratulations, Second Sister-in-law, and also congrats to my Second Brother who's going to be a dad again!"

As Kang Li spoke, she glanced at Second Brother Kang, making the tough guy seem somewhat uneasy.

"Second Brother, Second Sister-in-law."

Before Kang Li could make introductions, Luo Yanqing and his wife Kang Guosheng greeted them.

The moment He Hui saw Luo Yanqing, her eyes lit up, and she purposefully asked Kang Li, "Li Bao, this is your brother-in-law, huh?"

"Yes, his surname's Luo, first name Yanqing. Second Sister-in-law calls him Little Luo or Yanqing," replied Kang Li, smiling.

Upon hearing this, He Hui leaned close to Kang Li's ear, lowered her voice, and said, "Your brother-in-law is really handsome; you two are a match made in heaven."

Kang Li smiled, her gaze towards Luo Yanqing filled with tenderness. She said, "Everyone in our family is attractive."

He Hui also grinned, "Right, right, right, there's not a single ugly one in our old Kang family."

Kang Li: "I just love it when Second Sister-in-law speaks the truth." Upon hearing this, He Hui openly laughed.

A big crowd entered the yard, leaving the neighbors green with envy.

Because in Aoli Village, the Kang family was not only harmonious but also blessed with good-looking descendants, and now the whole family had two more people drawing public rations. Moreover, their only daughter married well, making life in the village even more prosperous and enviable.

"The Team Leader's second son has also come back, I heard he's now a regimental cadre."

"Where did you hear that from?"

"Mu Laosan told me."

"How does he know?"

“He casually asked Guosheng.”

“Looks like the Team Leader and his wife are really blessed!”

“Isn’t that the truth?!”

“Tomorrow the Team Leader’s house is hosting a banquet, I wonder if it’s open to outsiders.”

“Not sure.”

“Right, Guosheng’s wife seems to be pregnant again!”

“What’s so surprising about that? They already have two sons, it’s perfectly normal for her to be pregnant again!”

“True.”

“Can Li Bao really not have kids?”

Someone changed the topic.

“What does that have to do with us? Don’t be a busybody, or if someone from the Team Leader’s house hears you, they won’t let it slide.”

“I was just thinking, Li Bao has been married for two years but her belly is still flat as it was when she came back this time. It makes me recall those rumors about Li Bao’s health,” remarked Li Daniu, who stood gossiping with Wang Chunhua and The Loudspeaker, among other women.

“You really know how to bring up an awkward subject! Even though those rumors exist, none of them explicitly say Li Bao can’t have kids.”

The Loudspeaker then chimed in, “It’s just that Li Bao isn’t able to conceive easily.”

“If Li Bao can’t have children of her own for her whole life, it’s uncertain if she’ll have anyone to rely on when she’s old. Marrying well is one thing, but without your own kids, you ultimately lack a certain security,” mused Li Daniu sourly.

Wang Chunhua rolled her eyes, “You’re just being a meddler. Aside from saying that her son-in-law’s three kids each look well-off, just consider Guowei and his brothers’ kids, they wouldn’t let their aunt suffer in old age, would they?”

Li Daniu was momentarily speechless.

Indeed, Li Bao had many nephews; if they knew their aunt was destitute, they would undoubtedly care about her welfare.

Besides, Li Bao's husband clearly was a capable man, and he seemed really good to Li Bao, so how could he let his wife suffer in the future?

Chapter 618: Not Quite Beautiful

Thinking of this, Li Daniu felt increasingly sour in her heart, and at the same time, she realized that Wang Chunhua was right—she really was needlessly worrying over trivial matters.

At lunchtime, Wang Yue and Li Jun returned fully loaded.

With many hands making light work, upon hearing the car horn outside the gate, including Captain Kang, all the men, young and old, in the family came out to help move things.

"Dad, this must be my brother-in-law, right?"

Seeing Luo Yanqing, Fourth Brother Kang asked Captain Kang with a smile.

"Yes, your brother-in-law."

Team Leader nodded and then introduced Luo Yanqing to Fourth Brother Kang's couple, "This is your Fourth Brother and Fourth Sister-in-law."

"Fourth Brother, Fourth Sister-in-law, hello."

Luo Yanqing greeted the couple.

Fourth Brother Kang was very enthusiastic in response, "Hello, brother-in-law."

Clearly, he was quite pleased with Luo Yanqing as his brother-in-law. On the way back, Fourth Brother Kang had inquired about Luo Yanqing from Third Brother Kang and learned that Luo Yanqing did not look down on them villagers at all,

and was very kind to his sister Li Bao. Combined with what Kang Li had been saying over the phone in the past two years, now that Fourth Brother Kang had met Luo Yanqing in person and felt the sincerity when his brother-in-law greeted him, he was naturally warm and cordial.

In the afternoon, Kang Li gathered everyone in the family and took a family photo. Well, it was slightly regrettable without Kang Guoan and Kang Yiyang, but overall, everyone was still quite happy.

After the "family photo," Big Brother Kang turned to Kang Li, "Li Bao, take a photo of your brother and sister-in-law together."

Kang Li readily responded, "Alright!"

Once Big Brother Kang and his wife stood ready at the entrance of the main house, with a "click," Kang Li pressed the shutter and casually said, "Chenchen, you and Yihong, Xiao Heng stand next to your parents, and your aunt will take a photo of your family." Then, she told Big Brother Kang and his wife, "Big Brother, Sister-in-law, please sit on the chairs."

Upon hearing this, Big Brother Kang agreed, "Okay."

"Ah! It's a bit of a shame without my big brother here."

Kang Yiheng stood next to his Third Brother Kang Yihong, sighing a bit like an old man.

"When Big Brother comes back, we can take another group photo."

This was Kang Yihong's voice.

After taking pictures of Big Brother Kang's family, Kang Li called out to Kang Guosheng and his wife, "Second Brother, Second Sister-in-law, hurry up, it's your turn!" After taking the couple's photo, it was time for the family of four's photo.

Following this pattern, Kang Li impartially helped both Third Brother Kang's couple and Fourth Brother Kang's couple take photos, also capturing each of their family's "family photo."

"Now, whoever wants a solo photo, better line up quickly." Looking at her nephews, Kang Li's clear and bright fox eyes were full of laughter.

At this moment, Kang Yichen suggested, "Aunt, can we go take photos by the creek?"

Kang Yihong and the others vocally agreed.

"Alright, as you wish, but you'll have to wait a moment," Kang Li said with a smile, nodding. Then, she asked Big Brother Kang and other siblings, "Big Brother, does anyone among you want to have a solo photo?"

Big Brother Kang obviously wanted one, but he was worried about Kang Li's film supply, "Do you have enough film? Tomorrow you still need to take photos of you and Yanqing."

"I brought plenty of films with me when I returned." Kang Li looked at her siblings with a smile and said, "Let's do this, I will take a solo photo for each of you. Later, I will develop the photos and send them back to your old home."

Big Brother Kang replied, "That must cost you quite a bit, doesn't it?"

Kang Li said, "Big Brother, don't underestimate your sister, okay? I also earn a salary in North City,

Chapter 619: Little Smart Aleck

"And I've also earned quite a bit from writing, not to mention your brother-in-law's salary is not low, so spending a little money here and there is no big deal. Besides, taking photos is about preserving memories, not about spending money recklessly."

"Then let's take the photos," Big Brother Kang said and walked under the old locust tree in the yard. "Can I stand here for the shot?" Kang Li nodded, "Yes." After finding the right angle and clicking the shutter, Kang Li said, "Alright."

After taking individual photos of the brothers and sisters-in-law, Kang Li and Luo Yanqing once again led the way like mother hens, guiding Min Rui, Kang Yichen, and a handful of nephews towards the foot of the mountain.

Along the way, many grandchildren from Third Uncle Kang and Big Uncle Kang's families joined them.

Latter, it can be said that Kang Li spent the entire afternoon taking photos, thankful for Luo Yanqing's help, otherwise, Kang Li's arms would hardly have been able to lift.

Why?

After taking individual and group photos of Grandpa Kang and Grandma Kang, when Big Uncle Kang expressed a desire for a family portrait, Kang Li agreed without hesitation.

Who knew this would lead to Third Uncle Kang also joining in. Thus, to maintain harmony within the Old Kang's Home, Kang Li obliged everyone in both Big Uncle Kang's and Third Uncle Kang's families by taking individual as well as small family and couple portraits.

They went through quite a bit of film.

Before bed that night, Luo Yanqing massaged Kang Li's arms, his inky-black Phoenix Eyes brimming with concern, "Does it hurt a lot?"

"A bit."

Kang Li replied.

"Daddy, Daddy, let me help massage Mommy too."

Milk Bun Ming Han crawled over to his mother and helped massage her other arm.

"Were you pretending to be asleep just now?"

Kang Li's lips curved slightly, raising an eyebrow at Milk Bun.

"I wasn't, my eyes were just a bit tired, but I'm fine now!" Milk Bun Ming Han blinked his shiny, large eyes, shaking his little head, as if to say "Mommy, look into my eyes, they're full of sincerity!"

"Little cunning devil."

Kang Li laughed aloud.

Hearing this, Milk Bun Ming Han displayed a big smile without saying anything.

"Mommy, let me help massage your legs."

Xiao Ming Wei was lying next to her brother Ming Han, and seeing that he was no longer pretending to sleep, she couldn't pretend any longer either. She opened her eyes and crawled next to her mother to earnestly massage Kang Li's legs.

Min Rui didn't speak but kept up with the actions.

"Why do I feel like I am Queen Her Majesty?" Surrounded by Luo Yanqing and their four children massaging her arms and legs, Kang Li's imagination went wild, and she couldn't help but burst into laughter.

Min Rui and the others naturally didn't understand the implication of Kang Li's words, but Luo Yanqing did; his lips curled up, "You are indeed the queen of our house."

"Mommy is the queen!"

Milk Bun Ming Han was the first to respond.

Then Xiao Ming Wei and her brother Min Rui nodded. Even if the three siblings didn't know what "queen" meant, it must be something good since daddy said it with certainty, and mommy wouldn't be so happy that her eyes formed crescents.

So, responding to what daddy said couldn't be wrong.

Xiao Ming Wei asked, "Daddy, what is a queen?"

"You don't know what it means, yet you echo your father, saying mommy is a queen?"

Kang Li smiled at the little girl.

Xiao Ming Wei: "Daddy loves mommy, so he must be saying something nice, Vivi supports daddy."

Luo Yanqing: "A queen is a female king who governs a country."

Xiao Ming Wei: "Daddy, does a queen run a whole country?"

Luo Yanqing: "Yes."

Chapter 620: Happiness

Xiao Ming Wei: "Then Mom is the queen of our family, and we must all listen to Mom!"

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Our mom is the boss."

"Why do I feel that our Hanhan seems a bit bandit-like!" Kang Li glanced at Luo Yanqing, smiled, and said, "However, I like this bandit vibe." Her gaze shifted to Milk Bun Ming Han, and Kang Li's eyes, full of doting smiles, asked, "Are you the top dog in your kindergarten?"

"Mom... what's a top dog?"

Milk Bun Ming Han looked puzzled.

Min Rui explained to his confused little brother, "Mom is asking if you are the boss of the kindergarten." Milk Bun Ming Han instantly blushed, waved his little hands, slightly embarrassed yet modest, "Not really, I'm just the boss among our class kids."

"Who said so?"

Xiao Ming Wei debunked, "Mom, Second Brother is the boss of our kindergarten!"

"Your Second Brother is that impressive?"

Kang Li feigned surprise.

"Yes! Second Brother is really impressive. If any kid is bullied, Second Brother will lead a bunch of kids to seek justice for that kid! Mom, Second Brother has lots and lots of friends in the kindergarten; they all especially like playing with Second Brother."

Xiao Ming Wei spoke the truth. In kindergarten, Milk Bun Ming Han was smart and spirited and very loyal, yet he never caused trouble. Hence, both kids and teachers liked him a lot.

"Our Hanhan is awesome!"

Praising the little one, Kang Li softly said, "Mom feels much better now. You all should lie back in your places, as we're about to start tonight's story." Her doting gaze swept over the three little ones before she turned to Luo Yanqing and said, "Let's sleep."

Luo Yanqing: "Okay."

Outside the window, the moonlight was bright as Kang Li's gentle and soothing voice flowed slowly through the room like water, "...one end stuck in a watermelon rind, the other end buried in the ground, happily enjoying the time under the trellis..."

Like tonight, when the family lay together, it was the second time Luo Yanqing heard Kang Li narrate stories to Min Rui's trio. Honestly, he felt the three kids were truly fortunate to receive Kang Li's meticulous care and love, as well as her unconditional affection.

If in the future Luo Mingrui's trio grew up and didn't show gratitude, he would be the first to let them have it!

Thinking back to his own childhood, his father was often away fighting for the country, and his mother... while being fairly good to him, didn't care for the three children as comprehensively as his young wife did.

Even before bedtime at night, she still narrated stories; did any other children in the compound have a happier life than theirs?

"...then he found a wooden stick in the forest to make a paddle, pushed the watermelon rind into the river, and sat inside it... Other animals watching the hedgehog's invention all gave thumbs up, praising the hedgehog as smart, and the hedgehog was thrilled!"

As Kang Li came to this part, she asked, "Do you say we should learn from the hedgehog?"

Min Rui's trio: "Yes!"

Kang Li then asked, "What else does this story teach us?"

Min Rui: "To think more."

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Brother is right!"

Xiao Ming Wei: "Thinking more will make us smarter!"

Kang Li: "Exactly, we should learn from the hedgehog. In doing anything, we should think more, so we can make wonderful new discoveries."

Xiao Ming Wei asked, "Mom, what does a hedgehog look like?"

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Sister is silly, Mom bought us that animal encyclopedia that has a picture of a hedgehog. Haven't you seen it?"