

Weak B 651

Chapter 651: Don't worry, I'm here!

"Alright, then I'll sing another one for you, listen closely..." Kang Li cleared her throat and began to sing again, "The waters of Honghu Lake, waves upon waves, the banks of Honghu are my hometown, with each year stronger than the last..."

Unbeknownst to them, or who started it, they all started singing along with Kang Li.

The group returned home in high spirits.

After breakfast, Kang Li whispered something to Luo Yanqing, and then, the two of them slipped out of the house unnoticed.

"Let me take it."

Luo Yanqing, his voice laced with indulgence and helplessness, reached out to take the basket from Kang Li's hand, "Really not going to say anything to your family?"

"My dad saw it."

Kang Li curled her lips, "By now, my mom probably knows too. Since she didn't come after us, it means she agreed to let me go up the mountain."

"Aren't you worried about the danger?" Luo Yanqing's eyes twinkled with mirth, "I am quite powerless, you know."

"No worries, I'm here!" Kang Li slapped the man's shoulder and straightened up, "I am a strong person, protecting you is a piece of cake."

Luo Yanqing let out a low chuckle. His gaze towards Kang Li was almost drowning. Feeling his eyes on her, Kang Li couldn't help but flush.

To hide her discomfort, she deliberately glared and lifted her chin, a face full of haughtiness, "What, you don't believe me?"

"Not at all,"

Luo Yanqing shook his head.

"Since you believe I can protect you, tell me, why are you laughing?" Saying this, Kang Li pinched Luo Yanqing's waist and muttered, "Am I that funny? Really, you just like laughing at me for no reason."

"I think my wife is cute,"

Luo Yanqing lowered his voice and whispered in Kang Li's ear.

"Don't stand so close to me, people will gossip if they see."

Kang Li pushed the man and huffed lightly, her tone haughty, "You're the cute one, your whole family is cute!"

"That's right, my whole family is cute."

Luo Yanqing's eyes were filled with laughter.

Kang Li: "Shameless."

Luo Yanqing: "Why don't you pinch and see?"

"I don't need to pinch to know," Kang Li glared at him, "Compared to before, our Professor Luo has really changed a lot."

Luo Yanqing: "Changed because of you, and for you."

At his words, Kang Li felt undeniably sweet, but her gaze held a teasing glint, "Are you flirting with me?"

"What do you think?"

Luo Yanqing didn't answer, his gaze tender and the corners of his lips curling into a faint smile as he looked at Kang Li. Their eyes met, and almost instantly, Kang Li's gaze shifted away, "I don't know." A demon, the man was simply a great demon, with that look, that smile, who could resist?!

"If you don't know, then you don't,"

Luo Yanqing shook his head with a smile.

He knew Kang Li was just shy!

"By the way, you should ask your parents and older brother what they think about letting Yichen join the army. If they agree, I can help with that."

Kang Li was silent for a moment upon hearing Luo Yanqing's sudden suggestion.

Luo Yanqing: "What's wrong?"

Kang Li: "Are you sure you can manage it?"

"Your man has that much ability. Besides, I can't be outdone by an outsider, right? Previously, Yiyang's job was secured by your friend's help, and now that Yichen has finished high school, he can't just keep working for work points with the family forever and let things drag on."

"But what if he can take the college entrance exam in a couple of years?"

"That won't have any impact."

"Then... I'll ask my parents and my older brother and sister-in-law what they think, and I'll also see what Yichen himself wants."

Chapter 652 Kang Li's Opinion

"Ask away, and once I have an answer, I'll make a call to handle this immediately."

"Luo Yanqing."

"Hmm?"

"Have I ever told you that you're great?"

Kang Li had never expected Luo Yanqing, the busy man, to still think of her family and worry about the future of her nephews.

Amusement laced Luo Yanqing's voice, "Aren't you saying it right now?"

Kang Li, "Have I ever told you that you're really good to me?"

Luo Yanqing, "Aren't you saying that too?"

"Annoying!"

With a coy glare at the man, Kang Li quickened her pace, putting some distance between them.

Seeing this, the mirth in Luo Yanqing's ink-black Phoenix Eyes swirled as he followed suit, chasing after Kang Li with his long strides.

"Auntie! Uncle! Wait for us!"

At the foot of the mountain, just as Kang Li and Luo Yanqing were about to start ascending, they were surprised by Kang Yichen's voice from behind.

"It's Yichen."

As Kang Li spoke, she turned around and saw Kang Yichen, Kang Yihong, and Kang Yikai running toward them with big grins.

"You guys..."

Seeming to know what Kang Li was about to say, Kang Yichen flaunted a bright smile, "Grandma and Grandpa were worried about you and uncle, so they sent the three of us to find you and accompany you up the mountain."

"Let's go, auntie, uncle, let's head into the mountain," said Kang Yihong, reaching out to Luo Yanqing, "Uncle, let me carry that for you."

"No need."

Luo Yanqing shook his head.

"Give it to me, uncle, you're not used to carrying it."

After taking the basket from Luo Yanqing's shoulder, Yihong shouldered it and took the lead up the mountain.

"Auntie, my second uncle said he'd take me to join the army when we leave this time."

"What?"

Kang Li was initially startled, then she quickly asked, "Does your second uncle really plan to take you to join the army?"

"Yeah, just before we left, my second uncle was talking to my grandpa and dad about it," Kang Yichen walked beside Kang Li and asked, "Auntie, do you think joining the army is a good idea?"

Kang Li, "Your uncle just returned my call and told me to ask your grandparents and parents if they would agree to let you join the army. He said if they agree and you don't have any other thoughts about it, he would make a call to set it up."

"Thanks, uncle!"

Kang Yichen's gaze turned towards Luo Yanqing as he expressed his sincere gratitude.

Luo Yanqing shook his head, "Don't mention it." How could he forget his uncle's profession?

Kang Yichen smiled and turned his attention back to Kang Li, "Auntie, I want to go to university."

"Joining the army doesn't mean you can't go to university," Kang Li pondered for a moment then added, "However, routine training is rigorous and exhausting, so you'll probably have little time and energy left for studying and reviewing."

After a moment's silence with pursed lips, Kang Yichen asked, "Auntie, what should I do? I'm afraid if I don't go, I'll just keep waiting at home, and if several years pass by..."

Kang Yichen didn't finish his sentence, but Kang Li understood what he meant. She smiled and said, "I can't tell you the exact timing, but it definitely won't be more than three years."

After a moment of silence, Kang Yichen looked at Kang Li with full trust, "I'll listen to you, auntie, just tell me what to do."

"It's up to you, as it's your life, and no one can make decisions for you. Otherwise, if you regret today's choice one day, will we still want to see each other as aunt and nephew?"

Kang Li's bright, fox-like eyes were filled with mirth as she lightly curved her lips, "Yichen, if you aspire to wear the uniform like your second uncle, once you do, you could actually apply to a college that relates to your profession. The most important point is, it would probably be easier for you than following the masses to apply for college."

Chapter 652 Kang Li's Opinion

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Chapter 654: 654: Shocked!

Kang Li laughed and said, when suddenly, her gaze was attracted to a cluster of familiar leaves. Her fox-like eyes shone brightly as she hurried toward the leaves, "There are wild yams here!"

Luo Yanqing followed behind Kang Li, "You stand aside, I'll dig."

"Uncle, let me do it." Kang Yichen came over, took a small hoe out of his basket, squatted down, and said while digging, "Aunt, the clothes you and uncle are wearing are made of fine fabric, and it would be difficult to wash if they get dirty. For this kind of manual work, it's better for me to do it."

"And me, my clothes aren't afraid of getting dirty."

Kang Yihong, who was picking Chinese dates, called out.

“My clothes also aren’t afraid of getting dirty.”

Kang Yikai didn’t want to be outdone, for their family’s treasured aunt, how could he let her do the work? And since uncle was aunt’s husband, his primary task was to ensure her safety. Besides, with them being nephews, they naturally shouldn’t stand idle either, making the guest exert himself.

“You guys, any good fabric can be cleaned if it gets dirty, as long as you use the right cleaning method. Besides, the clothes that your uncle and I are wearing aren’t special at all and are not at all precious,” Kang Li said.

Even so, Kang Yichen didn’t hand over the hoe, and before long, he had dug up quite a few wild yams.

It turns out that wild yams are a type of wild fruit that grows on the ground, looking similar to tomatoes, and usually found in clusters.

So once you find them, there is certainly a generous amount.

“Aunt, uncle, try one first.”

Kang Yichen picked up two wild yams, cleaned the skin with his hands, wiped them again with leaves from the wild yam vines, and then handed them to Kang Li and Luo Yanqing.

“So sweet!” Kang Li didn’t put on airs; she took the wild yam from her nephew and bit into it without a second word. Instantly, her whole mouth was filled with sweetness. She turned to Luo Yanqing, her bright fox-like eyes brimming with laughter, “Isn’t the taste of this wild yam fragrant and as sweet as honey?”

Luo Yanqing nodded, “Yes, very sweet and very fragrant.”

“Aunt, let’s continue walking forward.”

After lining the bottom of the basket with some wild yam vines, Kang Yichen placed the wild yams on top of the vines and called for Kang Li and Luo Yanqing to leave.

“Big brother, put these Chinese dates into the basket too,” Kang Yikai said as he and Kang Yihong came over to Kang Yichen’s side. The two placed the dates they’d picked into the basket, clapped their hands, and called for Kang Li and Luo Yanqing to head elsewhere.

Unexpectedly, at that moment, Kang Li raised her index finger to her lips and “hushed,” then bent down to pick up several small stones, tiptoed forward a couple of steps, and aimed at some nearby bushes. With swift motions, she threw two small stones.

The next moment, a wild chicken flew out from the bushes, but simultaneously, there was a faint noise coming from inside the bushes.

“Look, what’s this?”

In just a few strides, Kang Li picked up two wild chickens from the bushes.

“Uh...”

Kang Yichen stood astonished, his eyes wide and mouth agape.

Even Luo Yanqing, seeing the two dead wild chickens in Kang Li’s hands, took a while to come back to his senses.

“Stunned, are you?”

Kang Li curved her lips into a smile, “That was nothing. Wait and see, I’ll catch us a few wild rabbits later. Today at noon, our family will have a good feast.”

Kang Yikai was the first to snap back to reality, scurrying over to Kang Li’s side, “Aunt, let me carry them for you.” Watching the young boy’s servile attitude, Kang Li couldn’t hold back a chuckle.

Chapter 655: Should we go take a look?

"The head has burst open, all bloody. Just put it in the basket," he said as he tightly wrapped the wild chicken with vines to prevent the smell of blood from attracting any big predators.

Alright, as long as they don't venture deep into the mountain, the chance of encountering any big predators is almost zero.

But one can never be too sure. If by chance a big predator roams out from the deep mountain and smells the blood, then they'd be out of luck.

After repacking the basket, Kang Li and his group walked and observed. By mid-morning, the basket was already full.

And indeed, Kang Li had caught three wild rabbits.

Like the wild chicken before, they were plump and meaty.

"Let's head down the mountain," he said.

As the sun grew stronger, Luo Yanqing's crisp and magnetic voice flowed from his lips. Hearing this, Kang Li promptly replied, "Okay."

"You all heard him, right? Your uncle said it's time to head home, hurry up and follow."

Kang Li looked towards his three nephews and called out.

Kang Yichen, Kang Yihong, and Kang Yikai responded in unison.

"Auntie, how did you learn to hit wild chickens and rabbits with stones so accurately?"

"A hundred shots, a hundred hits, it's really amazing!"

"With Auntie's skill, she could definitely win a gold medal and bring glory to our country in international competitions," he said.

Walking behind Kang Li and Luo Yanqing, Kang Yichen casually asked Kang Li, his little aunt, this question, soon after Kang Yikai started his flattering praise for his dear aunt, and following his words, Kang Yihong also started his flattery for the family's darling.

"You two are outdoing each other with your flattery," Kang Li said with a smile, looking at Kang Yikai and Kang Yihong, then turning to Kang Yichen, she added, "Back in North City when I had nothing else to do, I would sit in the yard and play with throwing stones. I never expected to develop the skill you mentioned of never missing a target."

Kang Yichen gave a thumbs-up, "Auntie, you're awesome!"

"Exactly, Auntie is amazing! To have trained to never miss a target by throwing stones is super cool!" Kang Yihong also gave a thumbs-up, his eyes full of admiration, utterly seeing his dear aunt as his idol.

Kang Yikai: "I want to learn this 'never miss' skill from you, Auntie. You have to teach me, okay?"

Kang Li: "As long as I have the time, teaching you is no problem, but you don't have enough strength. Even if you learn my skill, you might not be able to knock down wild chickens and rabbits with pebbles."

Kang Yikai: "I don't care, I still want to learn."

Kang Li: "Alright, alright, I'll start teaching you from today."

Kang Yikai was so happy that he jumped up. Seeing this, Kang Li shook her head and laughed, "Don't jump around on this mountain trail. If you're not careful, an accident could happen."

As she said this, no accident occurred, but the group suddenly froze and directed their gaze towards a nearby bush.

Kang Yikai: "Auntie, I think I heard a cat's meow."

"It's not a cat's meow. I think it sounds like a baby's cry," Kang Yihong said, directing his gaze towards Kang Li and Luo Yanqing, "Auntie, uncle, what do you think?"

Kang Li: "... " After a long silence, Kang Li asked Luo Yanqing, "Should we go take a look?"

"It's the cry of a baby, faint but I'm certain," Luo Yanqing's lips slightly curled, his brows furrowed in thought for a moment, "Let's check it out. If it turns out I'm right, we simply can't ignore it, after all, it's a human life."

"I'll go take a look."

Kang Yichen volunteered.

"Big brother, don't. You've got the basket on your back. It's not convenient. I'll go," Kang Yihong called out to his elder brother, Kang Yichen, and then he stepped toward the bush from where the faint cry of the baby emanated.

Chapter 656: Not Far Off

A few moments later, Kang Yihong cried out, "Auntie! Uncle! Come over here quickly!"

"This..."

Kang Li and Luo Yanqing walked over to Kang Yihong, their faces immediately turning grim. Kang Li said, "I'm afraid this baby was abandoned here shortly after being born."

It was indeed an infant, a tiny baby with dried blood on its head and neck, its eyes still unopened.

"Auntie, what should we do now?"

Kang Yihong asked Kang Li.

"Taking it home directly... might not be without trouble, but if we leave it here unattended, I fear the little one might..."

Kang Li stopped midsentence, her brows furrowed in thought. After a moment, she said, "Put the child in a carrier basket and take him back to our house for now. Make sure no one sees anything unusual on your faces."

To abandon a newborn on the mountain must mean that the mother had resolved herself to let the child die.

It wasn't that Kang Li wanted to think that way, it was evident from the situation; other than a tattered garment wrapping its body, there was nothing else beside the child.

"Understood, Auntie."

Kang Yichen and the others nodded.

About twenty minutes later.

Upon returning home, Kang Li took the infant out of the carrier basket, and instantly, aside from her, Luo Yanqing, and Kang Yichen, Kang Yihong, Kang Yikai, the rest of the family was stunned.

After a while, Cai Xiufen snapped back to reality, pointing at the obviously weak infant in Kang Li's arms and asked, "Where did you find this?" Before Kang Li could respond, Cai Xiufen added, "Why do you keep picking up everything? What if someone is plotting against you? How would you deal with that?"

Elder Sister-in-law Kang: "Li Bao, what exactly is going on with this child? You better tell us quickly, don't worry Mother on your account."

"Mom, it wasn't Auntie who picked him up and brought him home. We found him in the brush on the mountainside as we were descending. At that moment, Auntie, Uncle, Third Brother, and Yikai all heard the sound of a baby crying from the bushes,

so we went to check, and then... then Auntie said to quietly bring the child home first, after all... after all, this is a human life, we couldn't just leave him there, could we?"

Once Kang Yichen had finished, Kang Li nodded towards the family, "That's roughly what happened."

"This morning, Elder Loh's granddaughter died, she passed away before dawn."

Team Leader, suddenly interjected.

Upon hearing this, Elder Sister-in-law Kang's expression changed, and a hint of speculation appeared in her eyes. She looked at Team Leader, "Dad, you don't mean to say..."

However, Team Leader said nothing.

Third Sister-in-law Kang then spoke, "I think it's highly likely." Her gaze fell on Elder Sister-in-law Kang as they looked at each other, obviously both having guessed something.

"Elder brother's family, you and Third Brother's family, what riddles are you playing?"

Cai Xiufen's brows were tightly furrowed as she stared decisively at Elder Sister-in-law Kang and Third Sister-in-law Kang.

"Mom, let's wash the baby first and give him some formula, otherwise, I fear the child might not make it." As Kang Li took the infant out of the carrier basket, she also quickly checked the baby's pulse.

She found the baby extremely weak. It was likely that he hadn't eaten anything since birth, not even a sip of water. Honestly, it was the baby's good fortune to have met their group of five.

Otherwise, he could have been eaten by wild animals in the mountains or simply starved to death.

Elder Sister-in-law Kang: "We don't have formula for infants at our house."

Kang Li: "Luo Yanqing, go get the formula that Hanhan and Vivi drink for Elder Sister-in-law. Actually, I'll go instead..." Handing the child to her mother, Kang Li left.

A few minutes later, she returned with a bottle of milk,

Chapter 657 Things Are Not Simple

Behind her, Elder sister-in-law Kang was carrying a basin of warm water, and the two of them, one after the other, entered the room where Captain Kang and his wife lived.

Cai Xiufen carefully cleansed the child in her hands, then took the baby bottle from Kang Li, just as Kang Li said, "Mom, the temperature is just right."

"I got it, you always find things to fuss over when there's nothing to worry about."

While giving her treasured daughter a stern look, Cai Xiufen sat cross-legged on the kang, holding the little infant.

Perhaps because he was so hungry, the little one drank greedily from the bottle.

"Look how well-behaved this child is, how could anyone have the heart to just abandon him in the mountains?"

Second Brother Kang's Wife suddenly spoke up.

"Second sister-in-law, things aren't as simple as you say."

Third sister-in-law Kang sighed and shared her speculations, and after finishing, she said, "That young girl might not have been as pretty as our Li Bao, but she was nonetheless exceptionally beautiful. She didn't like talking much or wandering around; she just worked silently behind her grandparents every day. Now she's gone at such a young age, it truly is pitiful."

Cai Xiufen turned her gaze toward Captain Kang, "Is that how the third brother's wife told the story?"

Captain Kang, "Old Man Loh and his wife came to our place last winter, and they brought only one granddaughter with them. The girl looked to be about the same age as our Li Bao. Seeing Loh and his wife weren't in good health, I offered them some help. At the start of this year, I went to see the elderly couple, and they clearly weren't acting right. I wanted to ask what happened to see if I could help out, but Old Man Loh and his wife didn't say anything; they just kept sighing. Later, gossip started spreading in the village, saying Loh Xue was with child, until we heard she was too sick to get out of bed and the rumors slowly died down."

Saying this, Captain Kang let out a long sigh, "This morning, as soon as I opened the courtyard door, I saw Old Man Loh standing there, which gave me a start.

He then informed me that his granddaughter Loh Xue was gone and asked me to help find a place to dig a grave to bury her. Following Old Man Loh into the room they were living in,

I was immediately hit with the stench of blood. Later... later, Elder Loh's wife sobbed and said her granddaughter died in childbirth, it was a case of one death and two lives lost."

"But this child was clearly born alive!"

Elder sister-in-law Kang glanced at the infant in Cai Xiufen's arms, her eyes filled with confusion.

Big Brother Kang, "Perhaps the child's origins were dubious."

"What do you know?" Glancing at Big Brother Kang, Elder sister-in-law Kang said, "Even if the origins were dubious, they let their own granddaughter give birth to the child, so why couldn't they raise him by themselves?"

"Enough, let's not talk about that now. Father, you decide what to do now. We can't just keep this child here with unclear origins, if we really keep him, who knows what the villagers will say."

Furrowing her brows, Cai Xiufen was at a loss for a moment.

Kang Li, "Is it possible that this child isn't the one born to Loh Xue?"

"The cloth wrapping the child when you took him from the basket is Old Man Loh's, I've seen him wearing it," Captain Kang said, and with this, everyone present understood.

The child was definitely born to the granddaughter of Old Man Loh.

Frowning in thought for a moment, Kang Li, "Father, is there no one else in the Loh family?"

Captain Kang, "When chatting with Loh, I heard him mention that he had only one son, but the son had fallen on the battlefield years ago. His daughter-in-law struggled on with their only daughter for two years but eventually couldn't hold on. She left the child with the grandparents and remarried."

Chapter 658 Support

After listening to what Captain Kang had to say, Kang Li unintentionally glanced at Luo Yanqing, seeing the man pursing his lips with an indecipherable expression. She was about to say something when unexpectedly, Luo Yanqing spoke up, "Dad, when Li Bao and I leave, we will take the child with us."

"Yanqing, I disagree with your decision! You know Li Bao is in poor health. Even if she has gone through the herbal treatments prescribed by the doctor you introduced, to ask her to..."

With a cold expression, Cai Xiufen found herself in stark disagreement with what Luo Yanqing had said. However, Luo Yanqing knew he had been misunderstood and quickly explained, "Mom, you've misunderstood. I didn't plan to raise the child. Just like you said, Xiao Li's health isn't great, and taking care of three kids is already difficult for her. I couldn't possibly add to her burden."

"Then what do you mean?"

Everyone, including Kang Li, turned their gaze toward Luo Yanqing.

"I want to send him to Langcheng Welfare Institute. After I turned eight, I lived there. Director Nie of the welfare institute is a very good person, and the staff there are also incredibly loving and patient. The child would be able to live a stable life there."

As Luo Yanqing said this, he transferred his gaze to Captain Kang, "Dad, please relay a message to those two elders. If they change their minds and want to claim the child, they can go to Langcheng Welfare Institute. Before Xiao Li and I take the child away, please also ask if that elder would like to give the child a name."

Captain Kang asked, "...Are you sure you want to do this?"

Before responding to Captain Kang, Luo Yanqing asked Kang Li, "Xiao Li, if you do not agree, I will not interfere with this matter." Kang Li shook her head, "Let's do it as you suggest."

She knew this man must have thought about his own past.

Father killed in war, mother remarried, grandmother and grandfather passed away due to illness, abandoned in the welfare institute by uncle and aunt... Although the little one they found had a slightly different story, he was also a pitiful child.

Mother died in childbirth, father unknown, paternal grandfather killed in war, paternal grandmother remarried... For some reason, great-grandfather and great-grandmother were unwilling to take care of him, and abandoned him in the mountains to fend for himself.

Kang Li was certain that in her husband, Professor Luo's mind, there must be four words: "Related by common experience!"

He sympathized with the little guy, so, he wanted to send the little one to the welfare institute where he had once lived, to give him a chance at life.

Kang Guosheng stated his position, "I support my brother-in-law. No matter what, the child is a martyr's descendant. If we had not encountered him, it would have been another matter, but now that he has appeared before our family, we must ensure he survives!"

"I have no objections."

Big Brother Kang shook his head.

Third Brother Kang shook his head as well, "I have no objections either."

Following them, Elder sister-in-law Kang, Second Brother Kang's Wife, and Third sister-in-law Kang also expressed their stances, having no objections and supporting Luo Yanqing's approach.

"You old fool, why are you looking at me? I'm not so incompetent as to be confused. If none of you have objections, then naturally neither do I. We'll do as Yanqing said."

Cai Xiufen rolled her eyes, clearly annoyed at Captain Kang, and retorted, "What I said before was out of concern that Yanqing might make an impulsive decision without considering our Li Bao's physical condition."

Luo Yanqing said, "Mom, rest assured, Xiao Li's health is more important to me than anything!"

"Mom knows you're a good man and that you care for Li Bao. Mom was also in the wrong just now, I was too quick to judge you without letting you finish speaking. Don't hold it against me," she said.

She admitted her mistake, Cai Xiufen was not one to lose face even in front of her son-in-law.

Chapter 659: Displaced Anger

Aoli Village lies to the north, specifically at the foot of a nearby mountain, where several thatched cottages stand; one of which used to be home to Old Man Loh, his wife, and their granddaughter Loh Xue. However, from today onward, only Old Man Loh and his wife would remain.

"Was it not found, or has it already been..."

Gazing at his tearful, heartbroken wife, Old Man Loh, holding back his own pain, moved his lips and finally spoke.

His voice sounded extremely harsh, every word permeated with sorrow and grief.

"I... I left him right there, but when I went back to look, there was nothing in the bushes... Do you think he might have..."

The old lady speaking was Old Man Loh's wife, named Li Qinfang. The elderly couple had weathered many storms together until today, never having quarreled or raised their voices about anything, except for their granddaughter.

Their bond was indeed very strong.

But it was because of their granddaughter, a rift had formed over the past year, even leading to almost a fallout before dawn today.

It wasn't until Old Lady Li said she would go and find the child born to their granddaughter that the atmosphere between them had somewhat eased.

Unexpectedly, more than an hour later, Old Lady Li returned home pale-faced, empty-handed, wiping her tears.

Upon seeing this, Old Man Loh felt his heart sink instantly.

Yet, after a long while, he still held onto the last strand of hope, wanting to hear what he wished from his wife, but alas, the hope was in vain.

"Were there any bloodstains around?"

Holding back his profound sorrow, Old Man Loh asked his wife.

Hearing this, Old Lady Li hesitated for a moment before shaking her head, "No, I didn't see any. Old man, if that's the case, could the child have been taken by someone?"

Not bothering to wipe her tears any longer, Old Lady Li's eyes showed a glint of hope, but her expression quickly turned to one of deep pain as she shook her head again, "That place... It's usually deserted, old man, it was my fault,

I shouldn't have been harsh because Xuexue kept from us the identity of the child's father, refusing to tell us till her last breath... I just heartlessly abandoned the child on the mountain."

As she spoke, Old Lady Li burst into inconsolable tears, "But I was too angry then too... You know how gentle our Xuexue was... Taken advantage of without clarity, and by the time we realized she was with child, although we were upset, we didn't mistreat Xuexue, we just wanted her to explain what exactly had happened...

Xuexue kept it from us, determined to keep the child in her womb. To avoid village gossip, she stayed in this house for months... I was angry with her, frustrated with her, but I couldn't bring myself to scold or hit her,

Watching her struggle to give birth to that child... her life hanging by a thread, I asked her to give up the child within her, but old man, she wouldn't give up that cursed child, she would rather give up her own life,

and in giving birth to that cursed child, as she lay dying, I asked her who the child's father truly was, thinking of sending him away afterwards, but Xuexue just opened her mouth and didn't say anything before she passed away."

Watching our Xuexue, holding her hand, feeling her body's warmth fading... my heart was breaking, I couldn't accept that child, because of him, we lost our only granddaughter,

because of his father, our Xuexue's death was unclear and unjust, so... so I had to abandon him, to fend for himself..."

"Forget it, since he wasn't found, it means he was not meant for us, let it be, don't be too sad, we still have to carry on with our lives."

Chapter 660: Acknowledging the Mistake

Old Man Loh's heart seemed to be bleeding. He grieved for his granddaughter's death, despised the man who had taken advantage of her, and although he did not hate the child she had given life to, he also did not feel particularly fond of him. All he thought about was that as long as he and his wife lived, they would raise their granddaughter's child for as many years as they could, never considering abandoning him.

After all, some of the blood flowing in the child's veins was from the Loh family. However, he never anticipated that his wife, when he was not paying attention, would take the child and abandon him on a mountain.

He understood his wife's feelings, but he could not comprehend her actions.

A child who had been born not long ago, merely wrapped in a tattered cloth, abandoned in the mountains by his own great-grandma, how could he possibly survive?

Frankly, it was condemning the child to death!

But now that things had reached this point, what more could he say?

His wife had stood by him through thick and thin. Even when he was at his lowest, she never left him, except when it came to the child... she had gone too far, and she regretted it now. If he reproached her further and criticized her, his wife might not be able to go on living.

If that were the case, what would be the point of him continuing to live alone?

Old Man Loh was visibly pained as he stood up from the small stool where he had been sitting, his usually straight back now noticeably stooped.

Just then, the door was knocked on loudly.

"Elder Loh! Elder Loh, are you there?"

Captain Kang stood outside the door who, speaking of it, was only two years younger than Old Man Loh. Yet, when the two stood together now, one might believe they had a ten to twelve years age difference.

Since Old Man Loh's hair had almost entirely turned white, much like Old Lady Li, coupled with their poor health and the increased hardships of their lives, they naturally appeared much older.

"Yes! Yes!"

Old Man Loh opened the door, and after a moment's pause upon seeing Captain Kang, he asked, "May I know what brings you here, Team Leader?"

Captain Kang said, "Let's talk inside."

"Then... please come in."

Making way, Old Man Loh closed the door behind Captain Kang as he entered and pointed to the small stool, "Take a seat."

"Brother Loh, I have something I want to ask you and your wife."

Glancing at Old Lady Li, Captain Kang returned his gaze to Old Man Loh and said, "Your granddaughter didn't really have a tragic birthing with one corpse and two lives, did she?"

Seeing the couple's faces change and Old Man Loh starting to speak, Captain Kang raised his hand to stop him, "Just hold on, let me finish. Here's the thing..."

Honestly recounting how Kang Li, Luo Yanqing, and their three grandsons, Kang Yichen, Kang Yihong, and Kang Yikai had roamed up the mountain and found a baby boy on their way down, Captain Kang continued, "I recognized the clothes wrapping the child as something you've worn before and guessed that you and your wife didn't tell me the truth this morning..."

Old Man Loh and his wife were visibly agitated. When Captain Kang mentioned that Kang Li and the others had found a child in the mountains, the old couple were so moved that tears streamed down their faces.

"I'm sorry, Team Leader! I lied to you, and I was wrong. I hated that child deeply for his birth, which cost me my granddaughter, so I abandoned him in the mountains and told you that my granddaughter died in childbirth, 'one corpse and two lives'. I was wrong... I shouldn't have lied to you!"

Old Lady Li wept uncontrollably, yet she felt considerably relieved.

"Sister-in-law, I don't know much about your granddaughter's situation, but I can guess there must be some unfavorable factors,"