

## Chapter 1061: A Whole New Level Of Respect

“That would take years. It’s too early for you to say that.” Mrs. Lu smiled as she placed the mold in the sink to wash it. She turned to Jiang Yao and said, “Xingzhi said that you wanted to make cookies, so he found the mold in the box to wash it for you. You can use it later. The kitchen is small, so I’ll go out to the living room. If you need any help, come out and call me.”

Mrs. Lu then exited the kitchen to make a place for the young pair.

Lu Xingzhi waited for Mrs. Lu to leave before returning his attention to Jiang Yao’s tummy. He did not heed what Mrs. Lu had to say about what would happen in the next few years. He believed that if he worked hard enough in those few days, he would be able to solve the child’s problem.

“You go out too. You’ll be a hindrance here!” Jiang Yao shoved Lu Xingzhi, who was two steps behind her, aside. She took the lead by herself. She could not stand Lu Xingzhi’s eyes, which blazed like X-rays on her tummy. His fiery glance was as though his daughter was already inside his stomach.

Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi had already agreed not to tell their families that they were expecting children shortly. They would not inform their family until they had confirmed that she was pregnant. If she were truly pregnant, she would take a leave of absence from school. She only needed to show up for the exams at the end of the semester.

Lu Xingzhi realized Jiang Yao did not require his assistance. After being rejected by Jiang Yao, he cleaned his hands and exited the kitchen. When he returned to the living room, the few people there were still talking about Jiang Yao’s cookie-making.

Everyone, except Lu Yuqing, was looking forward to it. After all, it was Lu Yuqing who had spent the most time with Jiang Yao. She knew that Jiang Yao was someone who never entered the kitchen.

“Why are you willing to come out?”

Mrs. Lu asked when she saw Lu Xingzhi come out of the kitchen alone.

Lu Xiaoxiao smiled and answered, “Auntie, do you still want to ask? “I’m sure my sister-in-law is annoyed by her brother’s clumsiness.”

Lu Xingzhi did not react as he should have after being teased by Lu Xiaoxiao. Instead, he was texting on his phone while lounging on the sofa with his long legs. He eventually went to the courtyard to make a phone call.

It was not difficult to make cookies. Jiang Yao emerged from the kitchen after more than an hour. She made the simplest type of cookie. It was a shape she created with her quick hands without the use of any props.

The delicious smell of milk filled the living room when the freshly cooked cookies were removed from the oven. Lu Yuqing’s eyes widened when Jiang Yao appeared with a plate.

“Well done, Jiang Yao. I’m impressed!” Lu Yuqing recognized the fragrance as soon as she smelled it.

“Sister-in-law, is that a pile of dark chocolate cookies?”

Lu Xiaoxiao inquired, pointing to the pile of dark alphabet cookies that had been plated separately.

Jiang Yao laughed and embarrassedly touched the tip of her nose. "Well, I did not have good control over the time and temperature the first time."

Then, Jiang Yao said, "Don't eat it. The taste is very bitter. Leave it for your brother to eat them."

Jiang Yao's words made Lu Xiaoxiao hold the pillow and giggle. "Sister-in-law, you really know how to dote on people!"

"Where is he?"

Jiang Yao had been looking for Lu Xingzhi since she came out of the kitchen. She knew that Lu Xingzhi did not believe that she could cook, so she could not wait to show off to Lu Xingzhi. In the end, she came out with some cookies. Everyone was excited, but she could not see him.

"I was on the phone in the yard," Lu Xiaoxiao replied. Then, she snatched a cookie and put it into his mouth. Before he swallowed it, he gave Jiang Yao a thumbs up. "Delicious!"

### **Chapter 1062: Specially Reserved For You**

"You guys eat. I'll go to the courtyard to have a look, but don't eat too much. It's time for lunch later." Jiang Yao put the plate down and went to the courtyard.

As soon as she came out of the house, the wind in the courtyard nearly froze her. However, she was too lazy to go back to the house to put on her coat, so she stretched her body and looked for Lu Xingzhi in the courtyard. Then, she found Lu Xingzhi under the grape tree.

Lu Xingzhi was talking on the phone with his back toward her. Jiang Yao had an evil plan. She tiptoed closer to Lu Xingzhi, ready to scare him. Just as she was about to pat his back, Lu Xingzhi suddenly turned around with the phone in one hand, and the other hugged her waist and carried her into his arms.

He embraced Jiang Yao fully, but she did not think it was strange. Lu Xingzhi was a soldier, after all. If he did not notice that she was so close to him, he would have died many times when he went out on missions.

Lu Xingzhi was on the phone with Zhou Weiqi as he held the person in his arms with one hand. He noticed that Jiang Yao had come out to look for him without a jacket. He ended the call with Zhou Weiqi hurriedly and immediately took off his coat and wrapped Jiang Yao tightly.

"It's so cold. Why did you not put on a jacket when you came out of the yard? Are you a three-year-old?" Lu Xingzhi put the phone back into his pocket and scolded Jiang Yao.

"I'm too lazy to go upstairs." Lu Xingzhi kept Jiang Yao warm. "Go back inside; my biscuits are ready! I saved some for you."

Lu Xingzhi did not expect Jiang Yao to make any decent biscuits, but when he saw Jiang Yao's smug look, he raised his eyebrows and thought that he had underestimated his wife's cooking skills.

It was freezing in the courtyard. The two of them did not talk much and quickly ran back to the house.

When Lu Xiaoxiao saw Lu Xingzhi enter the house, she shouted, "Brother, come quickly! Sister-in-law left a biscuit for you! It's different for the rest of us!"

Even though he was not in high spirits, Lu Xingzhi's mood was quite good, so he walked a little faster.

When he saw the pile of biscuits that Lu Xiaoxiao was pointing at, his eyelids twitched. "Why is mine so black?"

"Because it's the first time I've burnt it," Jiang Yao answered honestly.

"You left it for me because it's burnt?" Lu Xingzhi looked confused.

Jiang Yao did not say anything; she wanted to nod, but Lu Xingzhi seemed a little unhappy, so she changed her words. "How about I bring it back to my mom's house for the pigs..."

Then, Lu Xingzhi's face darkened.

When Jiang Yao said she would bring them home for the pigs, Lu Xingzhi picked one and ate it.

Mrs. Lu and the others laughed so hard that their stomachs hurt, while Jiang Yao suppressed the smile on her lips.

She did not do it on purpose. She did not expect Lu Xingzhi to take a bite even though he knew that they were burnt. She had meant to bring them home to feed the pigs.

Lu Xiaoxiao held the plate and started to distribute the biscuits. "These are for me, these are for Sister, these are for my dad, and these are for Uncle and Auntie."

After she divided half of the biscuits, Lu Xiaoxiao took the portion that belonged to her and put it in a glass bowl before she continued to distribute it.

"These are for Sister-in-law's eldest brother and wife, these are for Sister-in-law's parents, and the remaining burnt portion for Brother and Sister-in-law's pigs!"

### **Chapter 1063: The First Time**

"Our Xiaoxiao is still the smartest!" Second Uncle Lu's eyes narrowed into a line as he was too happy.

Well, his daughter's pain was not in vain.

"Your sister-in-law also has a second brother!" Mrs. Lu reminded Lu Xiaoxiao.

At first, she thought that Lu Xiaoxiao had forgotten about that. Unexpectedly, when Lu Xiaoxiao heard about Jiang Lei, she glared at them and spat, "Why should that idiot eat? Eating won't make him smarter!"

After she scolded Jiang Lei, Lu Xiaoxiao carried her bowl and left happily. She said that she wanted to bring them home and would come back for lunch later.

Jiang Yao thought Lu Xingzhi would struggle with the cookies for a while, but she did not expect him to pack all the burnt portions and go back upstairs.

After Mrs. Lu went back to the kitchen to make lunch, Jiang Yao thought for a while and decided to follow him upstairs. Even though she felt that Lu Xingzhi would not be so petty and get angry, that guy was quick to jealousy. He might get insecure because of the allocation issue.

When Jiang Yao returned to her room, Lu Xingzhi stood on the balcony as he ate a biscuit. It was as if he did not know how cold it was; he took off his coat and gave them to her. He also did not know that he would put on another one when he returned to his room.

“How can you eat something so disgusting?” Jiang Yao shrunk backward. On the one hand, she was terrified by Lu Xingzhi’s expression of delight at the food, and on the other, the cold wind almost blew her away. Then, she repeated the words that Lu Xingzhi had said to her. “Are you a three-year-old? You don’t even know how to wear a jacket when you come out.”

“Other than the burnt taste that’s a little bitter, it’s actually not that bad.” Lu Xingzhi pulled Jiang Yao out of the door. Then, he took a slice from the jar and handed it to Jiang Yao. He brought it to her lips. “Do you want to try it too?”

Jiang Yao quickly shook her head. She had tried it when it was freshly baked, and it had tasted terrible. How could it be as good as he said?

“Yes, I still can’t bear to eat it.” Lu Xingzhi took it back and ate it himself. His voice was full of laughter. “I’m a man who can resist the cold, but you’re different. If you have a child, you’ll freeze your daughter if you don’t wear more clothes.”

Jiang Yao rolled her eyes. “You can rest assured that your daughter won’t be frozen because your daughter is not in my stomach right now!”

“That might not be the case. What if my daughter is better than other children?” Lu Xingzhi was very confident.

Jiang Yao glanced at Lu Xingzhi and decisively chose not to talk nonsense with him. Instead, she reached out and snatched the jar from his hand. “Don’t eat anymore. If you eat too much, you won’t be able to taste anything else except burnt taste. I’ll make you something else in the afternoon. I still want to try making cakes. I find that making desserts is a lot more fun than cooking!”

Lu Xingzhi nodded, but he still snatched the jar back from her. “I won’t even give a single one to your parents’ pigs. These are all the results of your first cooking. I have to keep them all by myself.”

Jiang Yao did not quite understand what Lu Xingzhi meant, but he said another sentence. “I’m your first man.”

Lu Xingzhi bent his back slightly as he said that. His lips were almost close to Jiang Yao’s ear, and his eyes were as cunning as a wolf’s. “I’m also the only man in your life. I wanted all the cookies you made for the first time. I’m going to demand all of your firsts from now on.”

Jiang Yao was stunned for a few seconds, and her face suddenly turned hot. “Then you can keep hugging them!” Then, she immediately pushed Lu Xingzhi away and ran downstairs.

She really did not expect that he could think of so many things from those biscuits. Was that man’s brain filled with all those dirty thoughts?

## Chapter 1064: That's Different

After lunch at home, Lu Xingzhi drove Jiang Yao to the city in his second uncle's car. He bought a lot of gifts before going to Jiang Yao's parents' house.

Just like Mr. and Mrs. Lu, Mr. and Mrs. Jiang did not know that Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao were home. When they heard a car from the courtyard, they looked out and were surprised to see Jiang Yao getting out of the front passenger seat. Then, they saw Lu Xingzhi.

"Jiang Jie! Wang Xian! Jiang Lei! Yaoyao and Xingzhi are back!" Mrs. Jiang shouted into the house. She immediately threw the broom in her hand and ran out to fetch her daughter and son-in-law. "Why did you two come back all of a sudden? Why didn't you tell us sooner?"

"Dad, Mom, I brought Yaoyao back to celebrate the New Year as I have some off days," Lu Xingzhi said. "I did not come back the year I married Yaoyao. I had no time that year, so I had to come back personally no matter what."

"Hey, you're a soldier. You're different from others. We understand!" Mrs. Jiang really understood Lu Xingzhi's identity, but when she heard that Lu Xingzhi had taken the time to come back for the New Year, she was moved and happy.

That meant that Lu Xingzhi valued her and her family.

"It's good that you're here. You even brought so many things. Yaoyao already sent many New Year gifts when she came back last time," Mr. Lu added.

"That's different." Lu Xingzhi carried all the bags to the door. When he saw Wang Xian come out, he took the initiative to greet her. "Sister-in-law."

That was the first time Lu Xingzhi and Wang Xian had officially met. When he married Jiang Yao, Wang Xian had not been engaged to Jiang Jie yet, so she was not considered a member of the Jiang family and did not attend the wedding. After that, he did not have many opportunities to meet Wang Xian.

However, he knew that his wife liked her sister-in-law very much, so he treated Wang Xian with a little more respect.

Wang Xian was a quiet person. She smiled at Lu Xingzhi, addressed him as her brother-in-law, and then went into the house to make tea.

"Where's Second Brother?" Jiang Yao did not see Jiang Lei and asked casually.

"He always comes home at midnight during the holidays. After lunch, he just went back to sleep." Mrs. Jiang complained about him.

"I'll go wake him up," Jiang Yao said as she walked around the courtyard. Then, she picked up dried dogstail grass from the courtyard corner before heading to Jiang Lei's room.

When her mother saw the way Jiang Yao acted, she immediately burst into laughter. "She's been holding back in dealing with her second brother. She's already so old and still making a scene, like when she was young. Isn't she afraid that people would laugh at her?"

"We're a family. Who could laugh at her?" Jiang Yao's father did not feel that there was anything wrong with what Jiang Yao was doing. He thought that girls should be like Jiang Yao, who could do as they pleased. When she grew up, she would still cause a ruckus with her older brothers, like when they were young. The two older brothers and their younger sister should stay close after their parents were not around. Only then would they care more about their younger sister in the future.

Jiang Lei's room was not locked from the inside. Jiang Yao pushed her way into the room. She swung the dogstail grass with her hand and swept it across Jiang Lei's face. When she saw Jiang Lei raise his hand to wipe his face and turn his body to continue sleeping, she changed directions and did it again.

After repeating it a few times, Jiang Lei finally woke up leisurely. When he opened his eyes, he was shocked to see Jiang Yao's magnified face. "F\*ck! Where did you come from? Didn't you go to the army?"

Jiang Lei quickly sat up and rubbed his eyes. When he looked closely and saw that it was really Jiang Yao, he was dumbfounded. "When did you come back?"

#### **Chapter 1065: What Nonsense Are You Talking About?**

"We've just arrived. Xingzhi is back too. We came back to celebrate the New Year!" Jiang Yao threw the dogstail grass outside the door and laughed with her hands on her waist. "Are you hiding during the day and acting like a bat at night? Mom said that you only come home at midnight all the time. What did you do? Did you secretly go to look for Yang Gaoshu?"

"I haven't seen her since Eldest Brother got married. She came to see me a few times, but I haven't seen her," Jiang Lei quickly explained. "I just went to play mahjong with my friends who're back on vacation."

"Don't tell me you're gambling?" Jiang Yao thought that Jiang Lei would not have fallen into gambling because of his previous problem.

"What nonsense are you talking about?" Jiang Lei raised his eyelids and rolled his eyes at Jiang Yao. "Do you think I'm so useless?"

"That's the case with Yang Gaoshu." Jiang Yao nodded seriously.

"Don't talk about her." Jiang Lei sighed. He had to give in to Jiang Yao. If he did not explain it clearly, with her personality, she might really get to the bottom of it, so he resigned himself to his fate and explained it to her. "I've been thinking about doing some business for the past few days. The profits of my factory are getting worse. It's either that factory or this factory all day long. I'm getting a fixed salary. It's meaningless."

After he said that, Jiang Lei told Jiang Yao to go out and told her that he needed to change his clothes. Jiang Yao waited for Jiang Lei at the door for three minutes before he got dressed and came out. "My friends are in the tea business," he said as he followed her to the central room. "They're all in the north. They've made quite a lot of money in the past two years. I played mahjong with them and asked them

how they did business so I can learn from them. So don't look at me like I'm only playing mahjong. I'm actually trying to do business."

Jiang Yao was stunned. She was a little surprised. She did not expect that Jiang Lei would want to do business after he ended his previous relationship.

The only difference was that he used to be in the business too. He did business from the north to the south and from the south to the north. Later, he simply began trading in exports. It seemed like he was eyeing the tea business.

"Are you planning to go to the north to do the tea business?" Jiang Yao thought that it was a good idea. "Tea from the south is especially popular in the whole country and the whole world. I agree with your idea! If you want to go to the north, I recommend you go to Yuan City, Jindo City, and Jin City!"

Yuan City is basically under Lu Xingzhi's control, while Jin City and Jindo City were basically under the control of Lu Xingzhi's brothers. Therefore, if Jiang Lei wanted to go to those three places, he could make use of Lu Xingzhi's connections. If Jiang Lei wanted to start a business, it would definitely be as smooth as flowing water.

Jiang Lei initially thought that Jiang Yao would think of him like his parents, who believed that he would only mess around if he did not do anything significant. He did not expect that Jiang Yao would actually agree and even give him advice.

"Yaoyao, are you serious?" Jiang Lei was suspicious. "I told you, I'm not joking with you. I'm seriously considering this matter. If I think it's feasible, I will quit my current job after the New Year and go to the north to explore."

"Who is joking with you?" Jiang Yao nodded. "I really do think that your idea is excellent. Young people should have the spirit to explore. What if you'll have a bright future in two years?"

"As expected of my younger sister. I didn't waste my effort in doting on you! If I really make a name for myself, I will buy you whatever you want." Jiang Lei smiled happily. She was the second person in his family to support him after he proposed going to the north to do business.

### **Chapter 1066: Moving In Positive Direction**

Jiang Jie, his older brother, was the first. Jiang Lei felt even more motivated now that Jiang Yao had backed him up.

"If my wife wants a luxurious house or a famous car, I will buy it for her. There's no need for you to do that." Lu Xingzhi stood in the corridor of the central room and said lightly, "Besides, my wife can afford it herself."

Jiang Lei did not expect Lu Xingzhi to hear his words, so he smiled a little embarrassedly. It sounded a little exaggerated. After all, he was just a poor kid who had nothing.

Mr. and Mrs. Jiang were angry again when they heard Jiang Lei's words. They scolded Jiang Lei in front of Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao, "Look at you! How long have you been working and now you want to change your job? If you keep doing this, which boss in the country will be brave enough to hire you in the future? You are not young anymore. Can't you do something more reliable?"

“Mom, I agree with Second Brother’s idea.” Jiang Yao knew that Jiang Lei had not convinced her parents.

The older generation thought differently than the younger generation. The older generation always believed that the most important thing was to do a good job that could support the family. They always felt that it was unrealistic to go out and work. It was so far away from home. If money were so easy to earn, everyone would go and earn it.

Jiang Yao had no idea how Jiang Lei persuaded his parents in the end before she was reborn into the world. Perhaps he had been depressed for a long time. When his parents saw that he was determined to find something to do, they were overjoyed, and they probably did not care where he was going or what he was going to do at the time.

“Dad, Mom, I’m the same as Yaoyao. I agree with Xiao Lei’s venture to the north.” Jiang Jie followed up promptly to help Jiang Lei. “Xiao Lei is still young. It’s not a loss for him to venture out for three to five years. Even if he really can’t do anything, it’s still fine for him to come back to work. If he goes out to explore and work hard, it can also temper his unreliable character. There’s no harm in it. After all, he’s a man. It’s only good for him to go out and see more of the world.”

Even Jiang Jie wanted to go out if it were not for the fact that he had to provide a stable life for his wife after they were married and that he was the eldest son and had to take care of his parents’ future.

However, he was different from Jiang Lei; the burden on his shoulders was heavier than Jiang Lei’s, so he did not dare to take a break. He could not face the possibility of failure, so he chose to take another path.

“Oh, right! Yaoyao, after the New Year, I’m going to transfer to the town government,” Jiang Jie told Jiang Yao.

“Really? Congratulations, Eldest Brother!” Jiang Yao was delighted. It seemed that many things had changed, and they were all changing for the better. Jiang Yao was not worried about which department Jiang Jie would be in or if he would be put in a difficult position.

Jiang Jie was her brother, and Jiang Yao was the daughter-in-law of the Lu family and Lu Xingzhi’s wife; it was not a bad thing for Jiang Jie to work in the town’s government.

“It’s good that Eldest Brother wants to work for the town’s government.” Lu Xingzhi nodded. Jiang Jie had a stable personality, so he was suitable for official government work. “Eldest Brother, there are still many opportunities while you are young. Remember to improve your education. That will only be good for you in the future.”

“I know,” Jiang Jie replied with a smile.

When their parents heard their eldest son’s words and saw that Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi seemed to agree with him, they asked Lu Xingzhi, “Xingzhi, you’re knowledgeable. Tell us, do you think Jiang Lei’s idea is reliable?”

Lu Xingzhi’s army was in the north. He also studied and lived in the north. Therefore, Mr. and Mrs. Jiang felt that Lu Xingzhi knew the north better than anyone else.

## **Chapter 1067: Let’s Go Together**



"It's reliable. He's up to the task." Lu Xingzhi turned to look at Jiang Lei and said, "Yuan City, Jin City, and Jindo City. Choose one of the three places. Those three places will ensure you have a smooth journey."

"Eh? It's exactly what Yaoyao said." Jiang Lei scratched his head. "Dad, Mom, look at Xingzhi. He thinks that my idea is feasible, so I'll resign after the New Year. In a few days, I'll go to my friend's place to get some advice and see what I need to pay attention to and where to find the goods."

Lu Xingzhi was not the kind of person who would help Jiang Lei do everything because he was Jiang Yao's older brother. He was curious about a person's abilities. If Jiang Lei had the ability, he would get someone to help Jiang Lei in the north. He would let him do business in the north without any hindrance and without being provoked. He could even help Jiang Lei with some new clients.

All of that, however, was dependent on whether Jiang Lei was capable or not. If Jiang Lei were not suitable for business, or if his temper were not good, or if his personality were not good, or if he were not brilliant. Even if he helped Jiang Lei, the man would eventually fail.

Therefore, when Jiang Lei said that he would find a friend to ask for advice and find a source of goods, Lu Xingzhi stood there without saying anything. Instead, he looked at Jiang Yao, wondering if Jiang Yao would say anything to help her brother. However, after a while, he only heard Jiang Yao say encouraging words to Jiang Lei and nothing else.

Lu Xingzhi pressed the corners of his lips, and a faint smile appeared in his heart. His wife was also quite smart.

When Jiang Lei's parents saw that Lu Xingzhi had said the same thing and heard that Jiang Lei had decided, they no longer opposed it so vehemently. Even though they were still concerned, they hoped that Jiang Lei would work hard in his hometown; however, Jiang Lei was not someone easily persuaded, so the two of them said nothing more.

It was rare for Lu Xingzhi to come home, so Mrs. Jiang told Mr. Jiang to go to the yard to catch a hen and kill it. She was ready to make a nice dinner for Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao.

Jiang Lei was full of energy. With the support of Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi, he immediately left home to find his friends. Wang Xian went to the kitchen to help Mrs. Jiang prepare dinner. Jiang Jie and Jiang Yao talked in the yard while basking in the sun as Lu Xingzhi went to the side to make a phone call.

"You've been living in the north for a few days. Are you used to it?" Jiang Jie was her eldest brother; he was concerned about whether Jiang Yao, who was afraid of the cold, could get used to life in the north. He was worried about whether she could get accustomed to the food in the north when she was there.

"I'm used to it. It's not like I just went there." Jiang Yao nodded and giggled. "I like the snow in the north. It is super beautiful. It feels excellent to see the snowy mountains in the distance when I'm in the army!"

"Winter is different from autumn." Jiang Jie smiled lightly. However, he was relieved to see that Jiang Yao did not seem to dislike the north at all. It made sense. With Lu Xingzhi's pampering of Jiang Yao, he would not let Jiang Yao live a hard life.

"If you're free, you can take Sister-in-law and Mom and Dad to Jindo City to have some fun. Go to the ancient district. The courtyard houses, as well as the places of interest, are charming. What about after

the New Year?" Jiang Yao said; she became more animated as she spoke. "You haven't gone to work yet. Isn't Second Brother also preparing to go to the north? You guys can go to Jindo City together. If Lu Xingzhi is not available, I'll go to Jindo City and show you around! Furthermore, Xingzhi also has a house in Jindo City, so it's convenient to live there. I can drive, so no matter where we go to have fun, we don't have to worry about not having a car!"

### **Chapter 1068: With Fourth Brother**

When Lu Xingzhi came back from the phone call, he heard Jiang Yao's crisp voice. He could tell that she was extremely happy at the moment. He put his phone back into his pocket and sat down on the small stool beside Jiang Yao. Her long legs seemed to be in the way, but he did not mind them at all.

"Where are we going?" Lu Xingzhi asked casually.

"I was talking to Eldest Brother about them going to Jindo City for a vacation after the new year. I will be there too. If you're not free, I can go there to accompany them." Jiang Yao smiled. "There's an airport in the city. It's a direct flight to Jindo City. It's only a few hours away, so it's very convenient!"

"Sure, I'll call my parents and my second uncle. The two families can go together and have some company." Lu Xingzhi thought that that was a good idea.

Jiang Jie was also tempted. He got up and went to the kitchen to discuss the matter with the people who were busy inside.

"Eldest Brother, you have a short temper too!" Jiang Yao leaned her head on Lu Xingzhi's leg and half-laid on it. She looked at the sky and teased Jiang Jie, who had already gone far away. Then, she turned her gaze back to Lu Xingzhi's handsome face above her head. She raised her hand and pinched Lu Xingzhi's face arrogantly. "You've been on the phone all day today. Are you very busy? Which little lover are you on the phone with?"

That was purely a joke. However, Lu Xingzhi's phone call was genuine. He had been at it while they were home in the morning and had been on the phone again for nearly half an hour just then. "Do you have something important to do? Should we return to the army?"

"It was just Fourth Brother." Lu Xingzhi was very disdainful of Jiang Yao's insinuation about a lover, so he immediately explained. Then, he said, "It's nothing important. I just asked someone to arrange for Chen Lanying to be imprisoned for a few months on the charge of abandoning her baby. Fourth Brother told me that the plans are nearly complete. However, since Chen Lanying is still nursing, it will only be carried out a few months later."

Jiang Yao did not expect Lu Xingzhi and the others would talk about that matter over the phone for the entire morning. Therefore, she was extremely shocked after she heard his explanation.

"I didn't even have the time to ask you how things were going with the army." Lu Xingzhi had gone to Zhou Weiqi's place to pick her up. The two of them had rushed to the airport, and they had been in public all that time. Therefore, they did not talk about these private matters. After they returned home, Lu Xingzhi had been thinking about torturing her, and she did not remember to ask about that matter.

“Chen Lanying came to the military personally to clarify the truth of the matter. Major He brought his mother with the other report, then went to my office to apologize to me. Major He’s mother should have left by the time we returned to the military.”

“So the other report was written by Old Madam He?” Jiang Yao was so shocked that her jaw almost could not close. She thought an uncultured person like that old woman would only speak ill of others behind their backs. She did not expect that she would actually do such a thing.

It was shocking that uncultured people would play tricks on others.

“Major He doesn’t know, right?” After Jiang Yao asked that, she felt that her question was unnecessary, so she asked again, “Major He doesn’t seem like a person who would do such a thing, so he definitely doesn’t know about his mother. That old woman’s methods are really endless. That day, I heard her say a few words downstairs, but I did not expect that she would do so many things the next day. “

### **Chapter 1069: The Crime Of Abandoning A Baby**

However, Chen Lanying had personally gone to the army to explain it clearly, which meant that the rumors in the army were about to disperse.

However, Jiang Yao felt extremely pleased when she heard Lu Xingzhi say that he wanted Chen Lanying to go to jail for abandoning her baby. Even if Chen Lanying went to the army to clarify the truth, she did not go willingly but was forced to go. She harbored malice from the start. Plus, she had done such a disgusting act.

It was an indisputable fact that Chen Lanying had abandoned her child. According to the law, Chen Lanying had committed the crime of abandoning her baby and should have been sent to prison. That was the law’s punishment for her.

“What about the child?” Jiang Yao was concerned about the child. With a mother like Chen Lanying, the child was the most pitiful. “Did Chen Lanying bring the child back when she went to the army?”

“No, the child was sent to the orphanage that morning. The people from the Public Security Bureau contacted Lu Weihua and called the Lu family. The Lu family said that the child belonged to the child’s mother and had nothing to do with their family. However, Chen Lanying refused to keep the child, so the child was sent to the orphanage,” Lu Xingzhi replied.

He and Jiang Yao also found it hard to understand why people would be so cruel to their children. He was still looking forward to his child’s arrival, while some people already had a child and still did not know how to cherish them.

Jiang Yao nodded and muttered, “Mom was right last night. The child might be better at the orphanage than at home.”

After she said that, she sighed. The next second, she exclaimed again, “That’s not right! If Chen Lanying doesn’t bring the child home, then there won’t be any lactation period. Why wait for a few months?”

“Chen Lanying has three days to think. If she doesn’t bring the child back in three days, she will spend a year in jail in Jin City. If she does bring the child home, then she will only be in jail a few months later.”

Lu Xingzhi laughed. "I won't let her go back to the county jail. The crimes she committed in Jin City will be served in Jin City."

Jiang Yao understood. Chen Lanying had no one in Jin City to rely on. What if she looked for connections with the Chen family in the county to let her have a happy life while she was in jail?

Jiang Yao wanted Chen Lanying to go to jail because she despised Chen Lanying's previous acts, and Chen Lanying had gone overboard when she abandoned her child. Jiang Yao was also angry and sad about Chen Lanying's child.

Jiang Lei came back before dinner. When he was back, he was full of joy. It seemed that he had gained a lot after he went out for half a day.

The dinner with the Jiang family was very sumptuous. Before dinner, Jiang Yao remembered that she had baked cookies in her backpack. When she took them out to share with her family, Jiang Yao was teased by her family for a long time.

"I did not expect that I would be able to eat the cookies made by my sister in my lifetime," Jiang Lei mumbled as he ate. "I really did not expect that our Yaoyao could be so skillful."

"Can't you shut your mouth while eating? If I had known earlier, I wouldn't have prepared your portion, just like what Xiaoxiao said!" Jiang Yao was almost driven mad by Jiang Lei's teasing. Did that guy just beat around the bush and scold her for not being diligent enough to cook well?

However, Jiang Yao really could not say anything about it when it came to cooking because Jiang Lei's culinary skills were indeed better than hers.

When Jiang Jie was young, he stayed in town and only came back once a week. When their parents were not at home, Jiang Lei would always cook for Jiang Yao. When Jiang Lei was about 12 or 13 years old, he would often step on a small wooden stool to cook. Then, Jiang Yao would sit in front of the stove and be in charge of the fire. Occasionally, she would grab a handful of soybeans and roast them. There would be snacks for the two siblings.

### **Chapter 1070: Let's Go For A Ride**

After dinner, Lu Xingzhi drove Jiang Yao home. They had just left her parents' home, and she was in a happy mood. As she sat in the front passenger seat, she would gently hum the most popular song of the day.

Jiang Yao's singing was not good. Occasionally, she would go out of tune and forget the lyrics. However, Lu Xingzhi felt refreshed listening to her singing. She lightly hummed a tune, and the expression on her face was very gentle. The corners of her lips were relaxed into a smile. A pair of eyes that seemed to be able to speak was looking out of the window. Occasionally, they would turn around and look at his face for two seconds before moving away and continuing to sing as if nothing had happened.

Lu Xingzhi pretended not to notice that she was secretly observing his gaze. He pretended not to notice that her singing was out of tune. As he watched Jiang Yao continue to sing happily, his eyes that were looking at the road ahead were filled with a hint of a smile.

It was rare for her to be so relaxed by his side. The atmosphere was so good that Lu Xingzhi did not even want to go home right away, so he deliberately took two detours.

Jiang Yao only snapped back to her senses after a long time. Lu Xingzhi had driven for an hour, and they were still not home despite the fact that it was only a 20-minute journey. "Where are you going?"

Jiang Yao retracted her lazy posture and turned to look at Lu Xingzhi. "Don't think that I don't know that you've circled this place twice! Twice!"

She raised a finger at Lu Xingzhi and waved it in front of him. Although her mind had been wandering, it did not mean that she did not notice that the time was not right. Logically speaking, they should have been home by then.

"Well, since you're in a good mood, I'll take you out for a ride." Lu Xingzhi was not embarrassed by Jiang Yao's question. He said with a natural expression, "It's rare for me to take you out for a ride. Do you not like it?"

Jiang Yao thought about it and shook her head. "Even if there's a heater in the car, it's still not as warm as home."

She was so honest and cute that Lu Xingzhi could not say anything.

When the two of them returned home, the whole family was still watching TV in the living room. Other people's entertainment at that time was probably going to other people's houses to chat, but in the Lu family, Mr. and Mrs. Lu liked to watch the news on the TV or listen to the radio. Those appliances could not be found in other people's homes, but in the Lu family, they were very common.

"You're home? It's freezing outside tonight, isn't it? It seems like it's been frosty for the past two days, and the wind is icy." Mrs. Lu hurriedly heated two cups of milk and placed them in front of them.

"Thank you, Mom." Jiang Yao took the milk and thanked her as she said, "It's actually okay for us to sit in the car and turn on the heater."

Then, she took the milk and sat next to Lu Yuqing. At that time, their second uncle had not gone back yet. It was nearly New Year's Eve, and their second uncle's factory was closed. Those few days were his most free days of the year.

Jiang Yao stuck her head out and looked at the thing in their second uncle's hand. When she saw it, she knew it was a photo. She looked up at Lu Yuqing's helpless expression and guessed that it was probably for Lu Yuqing.

"Yaoyao is back too. It's good that Yaoyao and Xingzhi can help you with your references!" Second Uncle Lu handed the photo to Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi, who sat next to Jiang Yao. "Help your sister take a look. I personally selected these outstanding young men. Some of them have never been married, and some of them are widowers. However, they don't have children, so you don't have to be a stepmother. "