

Chapter 1081: Let Me Guess

“Yaoyao,” Lu Xingzhi suddenly called out to someone who seemed to be asleep. His voice was very soft, but he was only testing whether she was sleeping or not. When he heard her faint reply, he continued to ask, “What birthday present did you prepare for me? Let me guess?”

Jiang Yao raised her eyes and glanced at Lu Xingzhi. Then, she turned around and threw the back of her head at him, not wanting to play the guessing game with him.

That guy was like a cunning fox. How could she hide them if he asked a few more questions? He would be able to find out with just a few words.

“I’m sleepy. I’m going to sleep.” Even though Jiang Yao turned around, she still took Lu Xingzhi’s hand and put it on her waist. She liked it when he slept with her in his arms. It would make her feel at ease.

Lu Xingzhi chuckled behind her. He was not annoyed. When he heard that she was sleepy, he did not continue to disturb her. He also closed his eyes and prepared to rest.

Jiang Yao waited for Lu Xingzhi to fall asleep before she entered the medical system. She did not waste any time. She asked the butler to give her the recipe that she had mentioned that could make people only give birth to daughters and not sons.

It was not that she was wicked, but no one in Lu Weihua’s family was virtuous.

With the medical system, Jiang Yao concocted the medicine very quickly. She had already finished the mixture at dawn. When she exited the system and saw that Lu Xingzhi was still not awake, she nestled in his arms and stared at his beauty.

Jiang Yao did not feel sleepy at all when she exited the medical system. Staying in the system for an entire night would only make her feel energetic.

Lu Xingzhi woke easily. Jiang Yao raised her hand to touch his eyelashes, and he quickly opened his eyes. It was apparent he had been in a deep sleep just a second ago, but when he opened his eyes, there was no hint of sleepiness in his eyes; it was full of clarity and vigilance due to occupational reasons. That vigilance was only withdrawn when he saw that it was Jiang Yao’s hand.

He was like a wild leopard that pretended to be asleep; he woke up in an instant.

Jiang Yao chuckled.

She withdrew her hand and explained a little embarrassedly. “Your eyelashes are very long, so my hand itches to touch them.”

“You woke up so early?”

Although his eyes were bright, his voice was still a little hoarse and deep after a night of sleep. Lu Xingzhi moved his body and moved closer to Jiang Yao’s side. There was not a single gap left between the two of them. He took the opportunity to grab her hand that was harassing him and kissed it.

Then, he picked up his watch from the bedside table and looked at the time. It was only around five o'clock; he threw the watch back onto the table. "It's still early. Sleep a little longer."

Although Lu Xingzhi woke up early for morning exercises daily when he was in the army, he was home. Lu Xingzhi did not want to leave the bed so early. The bed could not hold his soft and delicate little wife like that.

The two of them slept until Mrs. Lu called them for breakfast. Before they went to bed the previous night, Lu Xingzhi said he would take Jiang Yao to the county town to buy something in the morning, so Mrs. Lu went upstairs to wake them.

When Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi went downstairs, Lu Xiaoxiao and Second Uncle Lu were also there from the house next door. The distance between the two houses was so close. Second Uncle Lu was not good at cooking, so he simply could not be bothered to do that; he brought Lu Xiaoxiao over for breakfast.

When Lu Xiaoxiao heard that Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao were going to the county town to buy things, she quickly said that she wanted to go too. She was probably afraid that she would be the third wheel, so she insisted on dragging Lu Yuqing along. So, they agreed to go out together. The four of them set off together.

Chapter 1082: Give Me One

Jiang Yao specially brought Moe along; she stuffed him into her backpack, along with the medicine that she had brewed the previous night.

It was the most sensible thing to do without anyone noticing. Moe had strong mobility, a small body, and a high IQ. Ordinary people would not be able to detect his approach.

Since it was a cat, even if he were discovered, humans would not be wary of him in most cases.

When they were about to reach the county town, Jiang Yao whispered into Lu Xingzhi's ear and asked him to go to the Lu family's residence. Then, she pointed at her backpack.

Even though Lu Xingzhi did not know what Jiang Yao wanted to do, he could tell from how she pointed at her backpack that she wanted to go for a ride. That ride was usually to ask Moe to do something.

Lu Xingzhi did not ask any more questions. When they arrived in the county town, he made a detour to the Lu family's residence. The Lu family lived in a two-story house. Once they arrived, Moe quickly went out of the window. He was so fast that Lu Yuqing and Lu Xiaoxiao, who sat in the back, did not notice him.

Lu Xingzhi waited for Moe to sneak out before he started the car again and drove to the big market.

After they got out of the car, Lu Xiaoxiao pulled Lu Yuqing and walked in front to discuss what they would buy that day. Lu Xingzhi held Jiang Yao's hand and walked behind them. After they were a few steps away from the other two women, Lu Xingzhi lowered his voice and asked Jiang Yao, "What did you ask Moe to do?"

"I told Moe drug Lu Weihua so that he can only give birth to daughters and not sons."

Jiang Yao's reply was very sincere.

Lu Xingzhi frowned as he thought about it.

After a few seconds, he confirmed it again. "Are you serious?"

"I'm serious!"

Jiang Yao nodded and winked at Lu Xingzhi. "Very serious."

Lu Xingzhi raised his hand and touched his chin. He thought for a moment and said, "Then give me one too."

Jiang Yao nearly fell to the ground. "Do you think it's candy? Give you one? If you take that medicine, you'll only be able to give birth to daughters for the rest of your life. No matter how many wives you have, you'll only be able to give birth to daughters!"

Lu Xingzhi's face darkened. He raised his hand and slapped Jiang Yao on the forehead. She wore a hat, so he only tilted her hat.

However, his voice was very displeased. "What nonsense are you talking about? What other wives? You're the only wife in my life!"

Jiang Yao adjusted the hat on her head and muttered softly, "I'm just using an analogy to tell you that the medicine is for life."

"I want a daughter. Many daughters are fine too." Lu Xingzhi looked at Jiang Yao. "If there really is such a medicine, give me one."

"There's no more!"

Jiang Yao ignored Lu Xingzhi and chased after the person in front of her.

She wanted a little Lu Xingzhi; that would be interesting!

Perhaps she would have a son and a daughter. It would be best if her daughter were like her in the future. She would have two brothers to protect her, and her daughter would be the youngest child. That would also be perfect!

Therefore, Jiang Yao decided that she would still want a son!

"What are you here?"

Lu Xiaoxiao jumped when she saw Jiang Yao chased after her. "Go and accompany Brother. If you attend to us, Brother won't let me and Sister follow you guys in the future!"

Lu Xiaoxiao spoke very seriously, and Jiang Yao listened helplessly. "Are you afraid of him?"

Lu Xiaoxiao thought about it and felt that it was true. She had her sister-in-law; why would she be afraid? She was his master!

After she thought it through, Lu Xiaoxiao welcomed Jiang Yao to join them. She held Jiang Yao's hand in one hand and Lu Xingzhi's in the other as they entered the market eagerly.

Chapter 1083: Sister-in-law Wants To Eat Oranges

When he looked at the three women in front of him, Lu Xingzhi was not unhappy about being alone. He put his hands in his trouser pockets as he continued to look at the three women. Most of his attention was on the hat on Jiang Yao's head.

The county town's market was crowded at that time. It was close to the New Year, and almost everyone in the county was there to buy things. The shop that Jiang Yao wanted to go to was in the market, and there was also a shop on the street opposite the market. It was the only shop in the county that sold baking items. The owner also had a cake shop, and business was very good in the county town.

Jiang Yao looked at the stalls on both sides of the market. At that time, most of the stalls were selling new year goods and fruits. Even though there were many stalls, each one was crowded with customers. That was a year-round situation. It was the only time when customers could buy things without the boss shouting at them.

"Sister-in-law, Sister, do you want to buy some oranges? The oranges in that stall are delicious!" Lu Xiaoxiao pointed at one of the stalls and said, "It's even sweeter than the ones at home."

Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xiaoxiao when she pointed at the stall. There were too many customers there, so Jiang Yao did not want to squeeze in with the crowd.

She and Lu Yuqing shook their heads tacitly and said at the same time, "I'm not going."

Lu Xiaoxiao pouted and turned to Lu Xingzhi, who was two or three steps behind her and shouted, "Brother, Sister-in-law said that she wanted to eat oranges from that stall, but we can't go there. Can you go and buy some?"

When Jiang Yao heard that, the corner of her mouth twitched slightly. Lu Xiaoxiao was hungry, but she was also too lazy to squeeze in with other people, so she had to rack her brain if she wanted to eat.

Lu Xingzhi did not know what the three people in front of him were talking about, but when he heard Lu Xiaoxiao call him that, he glanced at Jiang Yao subconsciously. After he thought about it for a few seconds, he nodded and let the three of them wait by the side.

The oranges in the north were not as delicious as those from the south, and there were no fresh oranges. Lu Xingzhi knew that Jiang Yao loved fruits, so he did not doubt Lu Xiaoxiao's words.

If his wife wanted to eat something, he would buy even durians, let alone oranges.

Lu Xingzhi was considered tall amongst men in the north, but he was particularly eye-catching among the southern crowd. He was not a friendly person, and when he stood there with a blank expression, he looked a little scary. So, as soon as he walked forward, many people subconsciously scattered and did not dare to crowd around him, so it was easy for him to get closer to the stall.

Lu Xingzhi stood at the very end of the stall. As he stood there, the people around him subconsciously walked to the back. There were not many people by his side. In a short while, that area was spread out until half a corner of the stall next door was exposed.

Lu Yuqing glanced at the scene and lowered her head to joke with Jiang Yao. "It's a mistake for the neighboring stalls to open their business next to such a good stall."

“The owner probably wanted to share the good business to bring some customers to her stall. They must not have expected all the customers would stand in front of her stall. No one could see their stall now, and they could not sell anything.” Jiang Yao smiled and nodded. “If it were me, I would choose a stall slightly further away. That way, someone else’s customers won’t occupy the spot in front of my stall and affect my business. I wonder if their location is fixed or if they can change daily.”

Chapter 1084: Another Madman

Before Jiang Yao could say anything else, she saw a man emerge from under a cold and quiet stall. The man dashed toward her position as he shouted in an excited voice. “Honey, you’re back? Honey, you’re back?”

When Jiang Yao saw that, she was so scared that she shouted Lu Xingzhi’s name. “Lu Xingzhi! The madman from the train station is here!”

When Jiang Yao saw that person run toward her, she turned around and bolted. Even though he looked much cleaner than the man from half a year ago, Jiang Yao still recognized him at a glance. When she heard him calling her his wife again, what else could she do other than run?

She could not beat up that crazy person in front of so many people, right?

She had the ability, but Lu Xingzhi did not allow her to show her skills in front of anyone. She could only protect herself.

Lu Xingzhi was waiting for the stall owner to give him change for his purchase. When he heard Jiang Yao’s scream, he turned around and ran out without taking anything. After he chased the man for two to three meters, he grabbed the man and threw him heavily to the ground.

However, the madman did not seem to know pain. He got up and wanted to continue to chase after Jiang Yao. At the same time, he cried in Jiang Yao’s direction. “Honey, you’re back! Let’s go home!”

That was simply a replay of the incident at the train station. The only difference was that Jiang Yao was not thrown to the ground.

When he heard the madman called for his wife in Jiang Yao’s direction, Lu Xingzhi’s veins almost popped. He held it in for a long time; he did not hit the person on the ground.

“Why is this madman’s family not taking him away?” Lu Xingzhi roared angrily.

“Hey, isn’t that the Lin family’s crazy son?”

A few stall owners surrounded him. However, Lu Xingzhi’s imposing manner was too frightening; no one dared to go and pull him away.

Those who were a little bolder stood at the side and said, “That is a crazy man. Don’t argue with him.”

“They should lock him at home; he shouldn’t be out here scaring other people!”

Lu Xiaoxiao stepped forward and said, “Didn’t you see how he scared my sister-in-law when he chased after her just now? What if he hurts her?”

Lu Yuqing frowned and nodded. "It looks like he might hurt someone. It's better to lock him up at home. Is his family here?"

"She was just here. She might have gone to the bathroom," the stall owner explained as he walked out with a large bag of 20 kilograms of oranges and the change he wanted to give to Lu Xingzhi. "Auntie Lin's stall is right next to mine. She might have walked away for a while. Her son is a fool, but he's not usually like that. He just squats by the roadside and watches passersby every day. I've never seen him chase anyone like that."

"What? No?"

He had chased them at the train station the day he sent his wife to school. How dare they say he had never done that?

"No! He hasn't! Auntie Lin has been setting up her stall here for almost half a year. Her son has been following her. Every day, he squats by the stall and sits on the steps to watch the people coming and going. It's not like today. Maybe it's because there are too many people and he's scared. Your wife is fine, so don't hurt a fool like him. It's not easy for Auntie Lin to take care of her son alone."

The stall owner was a kind-hearted person. He looked at the fool who was still struggling to get up, but Lu Xingzhi had stepped on him. He crouched and said to the madman, "Xiao Lin, stop fooling around. Your mother will be back soon. Go sit at the side and wait, okay?"

Chapter 1085: Forget It

However, it was clear that the man who was a fool in the eyes of others and a lunatic in Lu Xingzhi's eyes could not hear the voices around him, nor could he see that there were so many people looking at him. His eyes were fixed on the direction where Jiang Yao stood. Since he was pressed to the ground and could not get up, he could only wave his hands in that direction and grin. "Honey, let's go home! Let's go home."

Just as Lu Xingzhi was thinking of getting the police to get rid of that lunatic, the old woman he saw at the train station ran toward them from afar. She probably heard that her son had been beaten up and ran all the way; she was crying and scolding as she ran.

When she was right in front of Lu Xingzhi, she took a glance and recognized him. Her scolding stopped abruptly, and she quickly changed her tone to beg for mercy. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry. My son is a fool. He mistook me for someone else. He did not do it on purpose."

A mother would know her son. The moment the old woman saw Lu Xingzhi, she thought of how she was chased out of the train station. She also guessed that the reason her son's sudden outburst was because he had seen that man's wife. He had mistaken that young girl for his wife, who had gone to only God knew where.

Even though the old woman was angry that the woman could make her obedient son go crazy as soon as she appeared, she also knew that ordinary people could not afford to offend such an influential person. The last time that happened, they could not even stay at the train station entrance. If they offended the couple again, she was afraid that she would not be able to stay in the country.

She relied on her stall to support her son. If she were driven back to the countryside, then she would not be able to support herself and her son.

“Alright, forget it. I think Jiang Yao is fine too.” Lu Yuqing saw the old woman’s weather-beaten face and could not bear to see it, so she opened her mouth to persuade Lu Xingzhi. She thought the old woman looked to be in her sixties; it was not easy for a mother to bring a mad forty-something son to set up a stall in the county on a cold day to earn some money.

“Sister, I think Sister-in-law is quite frightened.” Lu Xiaoxiao pouted at the side. “She had acted quickly, but it’s hard to say when the man will go crazy again. What if he hurts someone else? It’s better to lock him at home.”

Lu Xiaoxiao turned to Lu Xingzhi and said, “Brother, don’t you think so?”

Lu Xingzhi wanted to send the man to a mental hospital in the city, but it did not look like the old woman could afford it, so that method would not work. However, after he had scared Jiang Yao twice, he was not at ease to let it go.

What if Jiang Yao met him alone in the country when he was not around next time?

Therefore, after he heard Lu Xiaoxiao’s words, Lu Xingzhi thought for a few seconds, nodded, and said, “Don’t bring your son out in the future, or else don’t come out either.”

After he said that, Lu Xingzhi retracted his foot. The old woman also acted swiftly. As soon as Lu Xingzhi retracted his foot, she immediately grabbed her son, who was about to get up and chase after Jiang Yao again.

Although the woman was old, she was someone who worked hard. It took a lot of effort, but she managed to suppress her son, who was in his prime; she did not let him chase after Jiang Yao.

Lu Xingzhi held the oranges in his hand and urged Lu Xiaoxiao and Lu Yuqing to hurry toward Jiang Yao, who was not far away. He asked her, “Are you scared?”

“I’m fine, I’m fine. I just feel like I keep meeting crazy people,” Jiang Yao said as she shook her head.

“Sister-in-law, eat an orange to calm your nerves!”

Lu Xiaoxiao took an orange from the bag in Lu Xingzhi’s hand and peeled it before she gave half of it to Jiang Yao. “It’s very sweet. If it weren’t for me, we wouldn’t have eaten this.”

Chapter 1086: They Deserved It

“Stop it. That old lady is already so old. If you don’t let her bring her son out, how can she be at ease? She’s so old. It’s not easy for her to make a living. You don’t have to do that,” Lu Yuqing advised. “I heard that he’s usually very quiet and has never gone crazy. It might be just this time.”

Lu Yuqing was very soft-hearted. She was like Mrs. Lu, a typical sharp-tongued but soft-hearted person.

“Sister, that is not the first time he scared my wife.”

Lu Xingzhi frowned. “The last time at the train station, he threw her onto the ground, scaring her to death.”

After a pause, Lu Xingzhi continued to say, "I'm kind enough not to kill him for calling Jiang Yao his wife."

Lu Xiaoxiao tugged at Lu Yuqing and said, "Sister, I know you feel sorry for them, but I think they deserve it! They deserve it! It's karma! It's God's retribution for them!"

"Why do you say that?"

Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xiaoxiao. "Do you know them?"

"I don't know them, but a friend of mine used to be their neighbor in their hometown; they lived next to each other," Lu Xiaoxiao said. "My friend told me about them. I did feel sorry for them before, but after I found out, I think that they deserved it."

"What do you mean?"

Jiang Yao swallowed the orange in her mouth and took another two bites. The sweet orange juice gushed into her mouth. Her eyes lit up, and she peeled a piece and brought it to Lu Xingzhi's lips. "Open your mouth and taste it! It's really sweet!"

When Lu Xingzhi saw Jiang Yao smile like that because of the sweet orange, he wondered if he should buy all the oranges from the stall owner so that she could eat them happily.

Oranges were easy to store. If she got pregnant in the future and had a craving for them, she could eat them to her heart's content.

"It's very sweet, right? My friend said that the oranges were from a good location in the mountain with good sunlight. All the oranges from there were very sweet!" Lu Xiaoxiao laughed. Then she said, "My friend told me that the man was not crazy in the past. Something provoked him, and gradually he became like that."

"What kind of provocation could turn a normal person into a crazy one?"

Lu Yuqing thought for a moment and took a guess. "He kept saying that his wife was coming home. Did his wife die in an accident; that was what provoked him?"

"Sister, if he became like that because his wife died in an accident, then I would only sympathize with him. Why would I say that he deserved it? The reason he became like that is related to his wife, but his wife did not die. She left on her own." Lu Xiaoxiao munched on an orange. Then, she said leisurely, "His wife left because of him and his mother. I think she made the right decision. If she did not leave, perhaps she would be tortured in their house."

"Hurry up and say it. Why are you keeping me in suspense?" Lu Yuqing urged Lu Xiaoxiao and took the orange from her hand. "Eat it after you say it!"

Lu Xiaoxiao pouted and snatched it back before she ate in one gulp. She puffed her cheeks and chewed for a while before she swallowed it. Lu Yuqing laughed when she saw that.

"Satisfied? Can you tell us now?" Lu Yuqing teased Lu Xiaoxiao after she swallowed it. "Those who don't know would think that you have never eaten an orange in your life!"

Chapter 1087: The Fool's Wife

“Fine! Fine! Fine! I’ll tell you now.” Lu Xiaoxiao nodded repeatedly. “Let me tell you about that fool’s wife first. Let me make it clear. I heard all of this from my friend. However, my friend isn’t someone who talks nonsense. I think she’s very credible.”

“Let’s talk about credibility after we finish listening to you.” Jiang Yao gently pushed Lu Xiaoxiao. “Don’t keep us guessing anymore.”

Since everyone’s curiosity had been aroused, Lu Xiaoxiao smiled with satisfaction. “My friend said that the fool’s wife is a gorgeous city girl. She was an educated young woman who went to the countryside. She was well-educated and very knowledgeable. She could write very well too. I heard that she even knew how to play the piano. When the people in the village talked about her, they praised her; many people liked her. They also took care of her. They did not let her do any heavy work.”

“She sounds like the daughter of a rich family, so why was she sent to the countryside so far away?”

Lu Yuqing said, “People with money and some ability have ways to make their children not suffer so much. Logically speaking, the educated girls from that era who could play the piano and write well should have come from a rich family.”

“Who knows? Maybe her family was wealthy in the past, and then they fell into poverty. When they encountered such a situation, the family couldn’t do anything about it.” Lu Xiaoxiao shrugged. “Anyway, my friend said that her mother mentioned that the woman was very nice. She had a good temper, treated people well, and was good-looking. She even taught the children in the village to read and write. At that time, many people in their town chased after her. Later, she took a fancy to that fool. However, that man was not a fool in the past. I heard that he was also very handsome and had some education. That old woman was young and widowed, but she was very influential. She raised her son by herself and even sent the child to school.”

“A child brought up by a young widow—”

Lu Yuqing paused for a moment before she asked, “Is it because that old woman didn’t like her daughter-in-law?”

“She didn’t like the woman because she didn’t know how to work and couldn’t cook well. However, that fool liked her very much and insisted on marrying her. How could the old woman, who doted on her son, persuade him? My friend said that to marry that fool, that woman did not hesitate to sever ties with her family. I heard that the woman’s family disagreed with her marrying that man and insisted that she go home. However, the woman liked that fool. So, she severed ties with her family and married him,” Lu Xiaoxiao said with a smile. “My friend said that the fool was actually quite good to his wife. She did not know how to work, so he did not let her work. How did she live before they got married? And how was her life after that? She still taught the children in the village and did things that she could do.”

“That old woman was probably furious.” Jiang Yao continued to say, “The old woman probably wanted a hardworking and capable daughter-in-law, but in the end, her son found a young miss. Did the old woman torture that girl every day after they got married? Did that girl leave because she couldn’t take it?”

“No, no.”

Lu Xiaoxiao waved her hand. "It was not that the old woman disliked that girl. After all, the woman was from the city. Many people envied her son. If she were to go out and someone said that her son was blessed, she would be delighted and say nice things to her daughter-in-law and cook delicious food for her. However, she would get angry and curse when it was about house chores. The fool would be at home, and no matter what his mother asked her wife to do, he would fight to do it first."

Chapter 1088: Aren't You Touched?

At that point, Lu Xiaoxiao glanced at Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao and smiled mischievously. "In any case, my friend's exaggerations are just like how my brother dotes on you, Sister-in-law. That fool doted on his wife as well. At that time, people even laughed at that fool for marrying a wife and becoming a servant. But that fool wasn't angry at all. He even told the others that it was not easy for him to get his wife. She had severed all ties with her family to marry him. If he did not dote on her, then no one in that world would dote on her."

That sentence was inexplicably moving. "A man who can say such words must be someone who dotes on his wife," Jiang Yao said. So when she heard Lu Xiaoxiao say that, Jiang Yao felt that it was even more strange. Then why did his wife leave? Furthermore, Lu Xiaoxiao said that the idiot and his mother deserved it.

"Sister-in-law, are you especially touched when you hear that?"

Lu Xiaoxiao held Jiang Yao's hand and turned back to look at Lu Yuqing. "Sister, do you think so too? To be honest, when I heard my friend say that, I also thought that that fool must have been a good man in the past."

"What happened after that?" It was Lu Xingzhi's turn to urge Lu Xiaoxiao. "Something else must have happened after that."

"Yes, something happened after that that led to that situation."

Lu Xiaoxiao nodded and continued to say, "That fool doted on his wife; the old woman couldn't do anything about it. After that, she just acknowledged that her son had married a young miss. She had a daughter-in-law who was well-educated. In the future, her grandson wouldn't have to worry about his education. That's what the old woman thought, and she began to look forward to having a grandson soon."

"The woman couldn't bear a child?" Lu Yuqing suddenly interjected.

Back then, her in-laws and relatives scolded Lu Yuqing and Zhao Zhuangzong behind their backs because they did not have a child.

"No."

Lu Xiaoxiao still shook her head. "The wife got pregnant after about two years of marriage. Once she got pregnant, the old woman was ecstatic. She immediately brought the wife to a fortune-teller and said that she wanted to see if her daughter-in-law could give birth to a grandson. The fortune-teller saw the girl's facial features and noted that she was destined to have a son. The old woman was very happy. She gave the fortune-teller a big red packet and brought her daughter-in-law home."

Jiang Yao listened to the story quietly. It had good pacing, so she could not think of the next turning point.

“After that, the old woman brought her daughter-in-law home, and she told everyone that she was having a baby boy. Then, she immediately went to catch piglets, chickens, ducks, rabbits, and so on. She wanted to raise those animals to cook them for her daughter-in-law during her confinement period. When the woman was pregnant, the old woman wouldn’t let her do anything. She even helped to wash her clothes. When the woman suffered from morning sickness, the old woman also made food for her. She was afraid that the woman would lose weight if she couldn’t eat. Their chickens and ducks hadn’t grown up, so they got them from their neighbor. They had eggs, ducks, and meat once or twice a week. They ate the best food in the whole town!”

“My friend’s mother said that the woman had been on edge during her pregnancy. The more the old woman waited on her, the more worried she was. The woman was not superstitious and never believed in fortune-telling. But her mother-in-law believed in it and even waited on her; she was worried that she would have a baby girl.”

Chapter 1089: The Child Died

At that point, everyone understood what the final twist was. Lu Xingzhi said, “In the end, she must have given birth to a daughter.”

Lu Xiaoxiao did not shake her head or nod. She continued to speak slowly. “Perhaps it was because she was stressed out. The woman went into labor, but it was a difficult one. When the old woman saw it, she immediately called for someone to take her daughter-in-law to the county hospital. When she paid the hospital fees, she did not even blink. She was afraid that the doctor would not treat her daughter-in-law well, so she even gave the chief surgeon a red packet. She waited outside the delivery room for as long as her daughter-in-law stayed there.”

Everyone waited quietly for the story to continue; only then did Lu Xiaoxiao’s voice begin to change. “Brother is right; the foolish wife gave birth to a daughter.”

The three people’s expressions suddenly stiffened. Even though they had guessed it, they still broke out in a sweat when they heard it.

“She was hoping for a grandson, but in the end, she had a granddaughter. That old woman must have been mad with anger.” Lu Yuqing sighed. “For someone like her, she might as well be as cold and indifferent as before the woman was pregnant. The greater the hope, the more terrible the disappointment.”

“Yes, Sister is right.”

Lu Xiaoxiao imitated Lu Yuqing’s tone and sighed. “The doctor carried the child out of the delivery room and handed her to the old woman. When the old woman heard that it was a daughter, she grabbed the doctor’s arm and shouted that the doctor had swapped her grandson. The doctor had carried her grandson away and replaced him with a girl to fool her. She was so mad that she wanted the doctor to take her to her grandson. Even the neighbors could not stop her. My friend’s mother said that the old woman had scratched them and left several bloody marks when they tried to pull her away.”

"It was only her first child, so what if she had a girl? They could have continued to try for another baby if she wanted a grandson so badly. She believed the fortune-teller, right? And the fortune-teller said that her daughter-in-law would have a son in her life. Perhaps the second or third baby would be a son." Jiang Yao curled her lips and replied, "Xingzhi even insisted that I give birth to a daughter."

"Not all families are as open-minded as ours."

Lu Yuqing smiled. "I'm a girl, and my grandparents doted on me. It's a pity that they all died so early. They passed away not long after Xingzhi was born."

"My father only has one daughter. Look how happy he is every day." Lu Xiaoxiao did not have a tail. If she had one, she would definitely wag it proudly. "My dad is also open-minded. Those people who advise my dad to marry another wife and have a son, I curse them every time I see them."

"What happened after that?"

Lu Xingzhi reached out and held Jiang Yao's hand. He pinched her gloved hand in the palm of his hand and asked, "Didn't you say that she had a daughter? What about the child? Did the woman take her?"

"No..."

Lu Xiaoxiao shook her head and heaved a sigh. Then, she said, "The child died."

"Died from illness?" Jiang Yao asked.

"Not really."

Lu Xiaoxiao continued to shake her head. "Just listen to me. That old woman caused such a ruckus in the hospital. Even the doctors couldn't do anything for her. After the woman woke up in the ward, the old woman pointed at her and scolded her in front of everyone else. She said that she was a jinx who gave birth to a little slut and wasted so many of her good things. She even spent so much money on her. She said that if she had known that the woman would give birth to a slut, she wouldn't have let her eat anything even if she poured all the food out!"

Chapter 1090: Buried Alive

"She scolded the woman so fiercely that no one could stop her. Then the old woman wanted her daughter-in-law, who had just given birth to a child, to be discharged from the hospital immediately. She did not want her to continue staying in the hospital to waste money. The fool knelt on the ground and begged her mother to wait a few more days until the hospital said she could be discharged. The old woman was so angry that she returned to the countryside on the same day. Within a day, she sold all the chickens, ducks, and pigs in the house. Some of them were even sold at a low price. She said that even if she lost money, she would not let that woman off so easily!"

"The fool's wife stayed in the hospital for four to five days, and then she carried her daughter out of the hospital and went home. The old woman sold all her things, but she did not prepare anything for the woman's confinement period. My friend's grandmother decided to help the woman; she killed chickens and ducks at her home to cook for the woman. My friend's mother also helped to care for the fool's wife."

“Your friend’s family is very kind.” Jiang Yao sighed. Chickens and ducks were precious at that time; even eggs were expensive too. However, that family had killed and given those animals to the woman.

“Yes, my friend’s grandparents and parents are very nice people. I have been to their home in the county, and their parents are very kind.” Lu Xiaoxiao grinned. “Her grandmother’s cooking is even better than Auntie’s!”

“Let’s talk about the child.” If Lu Xingzhi did not interrupt Lu Xiaoxiao, he bet that she could talk about her friend’s grandmother’s cooking skills for more than half an hour.

Lu Xiaoxiao touched the tip of her nose. “That fool saw how his mother treated his wife and daughter, so he went to his mother and begged her to treat them better. The old woman said that she would not treat them well unless they got rid of the baby girl and she got a grandson as soon as possible. Did I also mention that the old woman destroyed the fortune-teller’s stall after she left the hospital?”

“No.”

Jiang Yao nodded. “Did the fool really agree to get rid of his daughter?”

“The old woman said that if he disagreed, then she would throw his wife and daughter out of the house. If he protected them, then she would disown him as well.” Lu Xiaoxiao gritted her teeth as she said, “That fool is really a coward. He didn’t speak up, and he didn’t have any opinions. He hid it from his wife and let his mother take the child away. I heard that the old woman buried the child alive. Some even saw wild dogs eating the baby’s corpse. The fool lied to his wife; he told her that the baby was sick and needed to go to the hospital. After two days, the woman finally realized that something was wrong. Then, she found out that the baby had died. She went to the mountains frantically to look for her baby, but she only found a pool of blood and nothing else. She fainted in the mountains in the middle of the night.”

After that, there was no need to continue to ask about it. Jiang Yao and the rest could guess that the fool’s wife must have hated the old woman to death. She must have also hated her husband because he hid it from her.

It was just as Jiang Yao thought; Lu Xiaoxiao continued to say, “The fool carried his wife home from the mountains. After that, his wife never spoke to him or looked at him again. My friend’s family tried to persuade her for a long time, but the fool’s wife still did not say a word. Then, one day, the fool’s wife suddenly went to my friend’s house. Without saying anything else, she thanked my friend’s family and gave them ten bucks. She wanted to thank them for their help and repay them with money. Two days later, she left without a word and had never come back.”