

Chapter 1321: Be An Actress

That was why Jiang Yao wanted to teach Mrs. Sun a lesson before she returned to Shu City. She probably thought that if she met Madam Cheng again, she might be able to call her Madam Cheng with peace of mind and use that method to cut off the relationship between the two of them.

She was really silly.

Even if she did not do anything and did not acknowledge someone like Madam Cheng, her biological mother would never fault her.

It was rare for her to have the time to return home. After she was done, Jiang Yao asked Lu Xingzhi to drive back to town. She felt that she should spend more time with her family when she had time.

When the two of them returned home, Second Uncle Lu and Lu Xiaoxiao were also there. The father and daughter seemed to be quarreling, and the momentum was strong. Mrs. Lu was trying to persuade them on both sides.

“What’s wrong?” Lu Xingzhi walked into the living room. Second Uncle Lu loved his daughter very much, and he had rarely spoken to Lu Xiaoxiao in such a heavy tone.

“Brother!” Lu Xiaoxiao’s eyes moistened when she saw Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao. “Sister-in-law! You’re finally home. Please help me persuade my old-fashioned father!”

Mrs. Lu shook her head repeatedly. “Xiaoxiao, you’re really willful this time.”

“What’s wrong?” Jiang Yao pulled the angry Lu Xiaoxiao aside and comforted her. “What can’t you speak calmly? Your father dotes on you so much, and you’re shouting at him. Do you know that you’re hurting him?”

Ever since she found out about her background, Jiang Yao cared more about her parents’ feelings.

After Jiang Yao’s persuasion, Lu Xiaoxiao finally put away her fierce expression and lowered her head, not saying a word.

Mr. Lu and Mrs. Lu then began to talk about the reason for the father-daughter argument. “Xiaoxiao said that she doesn’t want to study anymore and wants to become a star. She said that a friend she met while traveling in Jindo City asked her to go to an audition with her and that she has a chance to be chosen.”

Then, Second Uncle Lu immediately scolded her in disappointment. “Tell me, is she talking nonsense? She’s a girl. It’s not like her family can’t afford to support her. Do you want her to be an actress in public? She’s not even studying properly. What is she trying to do?”

“Father, can you not say such harsh words? How can an actress be nonsense? Besides, it’s not illegal to be an actor. Who doesn’t show up in public when they’re working now? It’s not a feudal society. Can you not have discrimination against actors?” Lu Xiaoxiao stomped her feet anxiously. “Dad, I can sing, dance, and play musical instruments. Why can’t I give it a try? Maybe one day I’ll become a star!”

Jiang Yao facepalmed. It seemed like Lu Xiaoxiao had also made a fuss about wanting to become an actress in her previous life. However, her family had forcefully suppressed her idea, and Lu Xiaoxiao continued to stay in school. Not long after that, something happened to Lu Xiaoxiao that hurt her.

Lu Xiaoxiao had never seemed unhappy about anything, but that incident was a disaster for her. From then on, Lu Xiaoxiao almost did not want to step out of the house. She heard that Second Uncle Lu also regretted it. If he knew that Lu Xiaoxiao would have such a bad experience if she stayed in the city, he would have rather Lu Xiaoxiao go to the north and realize her dream of becoming a star.

Jiang Yao could not remember when Lu Xiaoxiao encountered that incident. She had not contacted her family, so it was already a while before she found out about it.

Chapter 1322: I Agree With Xiaoxiao

Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xiaoxiao and said in a joking tone, "If you go to Jindo City and become a celebrity, what will happen to your boyfriend?"

If she was not wrong, Lu Xiaoxiao should already have a boyfriend that she was dating in private. He was a few years older than her.

"Sister-in-law—"

Lu Xiaoxiao looked at Jiang Yao in surprise. "What's wrong with you?"

Second Uncle Lu's face darkened when he heard that. "You have a boyfriend? When did that happen? Which family is that brat from? How old is he? What does he do? What does his family do?"

"He's not a boyfriend!"

Lu Xiaoxiao quickly waved her hand and said, "He's not a boyfriend yet! He's courting me. I haven't agreed to it yet!"

Then, she whispered, "Jiang Lei keeps saying that he's not a good person and that he has ulterior motives for me. I'm still observing and have not agreed to anything yet."

"Since Jiang Lei said that he's not good, then why are you still observing him? You're not allowed to agree to anything!" Second Uncle Lu slammed his palm on the table. "How long has he been pestering you? Why is he pestering you? Tell me, and I'll go to your school to teach him a lesson later!"

"Dad! How is he not good? Just because Jiang Lei said so?" Lu Xiaoxiao gritted her teeth in anger.

"Jiang Lei is a man. A man has a better eye for other men than a little girl! Besides, he is your sister-in-law's brother. He won't hurt you!" Second Uncle Lu was confident that Jiang Lei was Jiang Yao's second brother. He felt that a person that Jiang Lei said was bad would definitely be bad. Others would hurt his daughter, but his family would not do the same.

Lu Xiaoxiao said, "Jiang Lei has a good eye? He has a good eye for a woman like Yang Gaoshu, who cheated on him? This is about me becoming an actress, not something else!"

Jiang Yao broke into a sweat for Jiang Lei. He was blind for a moment, but in Lu Xiaoxiao's eyes, he would be blind for the rest of his life.

However, that kind of thing was obvious to the bystanders. Just like how Jiang Lei could not see Yang Gaoshu's character, and Lu Xiaoxiao's heart was biased toward her senior. Even Jiang Lei could see through that man. Lu Xiaoxiao was usually a wise woman, but she could not see through him.

"Xiaoxiao, a man's heart is the hardest to figure out. Don't agree to your senior's request first. Let your brother meet him, and see what he thinks. If he thinks that man is a good man, then there's still time for you to say yes to him." Jiang Yao pulled the anxious and teary-eyed Lu Xiaoxiao to sit on the sofa. She said gently, "As for the matter of going to Jindo City—"

Jiang Yao looked at Second Uncle Lu. She said, "Second Uncle, is that okay? Let Xiaoxiao go to Jindo City and give it a try. Don't worry. Lu Xingzhi has his brothers in Jindo City. When Xiaoxiao reaches Jindo City, they can help take care of her. My second brother is also there. He is in Yuan City. It's very close to Jindo City. He can help take care of her. Let her try her hand at being an actress. If she can't make it, then she could just be there like she's on a trip."

When Lu Xiaoxiao heard Jiang Yao's words, she was delighted and pulled on Jiang Yao's clothes excitedly. She had finally found someone who could stand on her side and speak up for her.

Jiang Yao laughed when she saw Lu Xiaoxiao's happiness. What a silly child. She was deliberately trying to distract Lu Xiaoxiao so that Lu Xingzhi could find someone to deal with her senior. Look at how happy she was feeling at that moment.

Chapter 1323: Delaying Tactics

After she finished speaking, Jiang Yao continued with a sincere tone. "Xiaoxiao, regardless of whether you will succeed, you have to remember that from now on, you have to come back and study hard. If you try it and succeed, and you still love a hard-working career as an actor, then you should come back and study harder. It will be helpful to your career in the future. Do you think old actors who have acted until their 40s have gone abroad to study? You're still young, and you still have a lot of time to make preparations. Those few years of studying will not delay your future. Once you're ready, Xingzhi will be able to push and get you higher."

"Your sister-in-law is right. As long as you're ready, I can get you to the front at any time." Lu Xingzhi's words were not frivolous; they were the truth. His connections in Jindo City, including those of his brothers, would make it easier to help get Lu Xiaoxiao to the peak of her career.

Others might have to take things one step at a time, but Lu Xiaoxiao did not need to do that. She could easily take the achievements of others who had worked hard for many years as her starting point.

Lu Xingzhi would have more money in a few years. By then, he could set up a film and television company for Lu Xiaoxiao.

"Brother, you support me too?" Lu Xiaoxiao blinked. Then, she laughed. "Brother, Sister-in-law, you guys are the best!"

Then, she looked at her father and raised her little head like a winner. "Dad, did you hear that? Brother and Sister-in-law are on my side!"

"I heard them saying that you can try this time. When you come back, you have to study hard and prepare yourself well before you embark on that path." Second Uncle Lu chuckled. He felt that Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi were the smart ones. That was called a delaying tactic.

"Anyway, just give me this chance. I will definitely become a big star! In the future, when you turn on the television, you will be able to see my movies and television shows!" Lu Xiaoxiao was full of confidence.

After coaxing the father and daughter, Jiang Yao gave Lu Xingzhi a look, and the two of them went upstairs.

"Why do you want Xiaoxiao to try that now?" Lu Xingzhi asked after closing the door. She probably did not want her to be an actress. Otherwise, she would not have suggested that Lu Xiaoxiao focus on studying after coming back, no matter the outcome.

"An actress may look glamorous, but it's actually very hard work. She'll need to attend all kinds of high-class banquets often. There are also many unspeakable things in that circle. Even if we stop her now, we can't stop her heart. So, it's better to let her try. Fortunately, it's Jindo City, and Big Brother and the others can help take care of her."

Lu Xingzhi knew the twists and turns of those in that circle. Even though he had never liked participating in those events, he had been to a few and seen the various faces in the splendor.

He knew about the dirty deals that those celebrities, especially the female celebrities, had to do discreetly.

However, Lu Xingzhi was also confident that no one had the guts to touch his sister.

Chapter 1324: Arrangements For Xiaoxiao

Jiang Yao said, "Xiaoxiao's personality is like the wind and the rain. She always does things with enthusiasm. When she goes to Jindo City, she might get tired of it. Of course, the most important thing is to take that opportunity to transfer Xiaoxiao to another school. The senior chasing after her is not a good person. Xiaoxiao's current school isn't very good either. Even though Xiaoxiao isn't with her senior yet, a young girl's first love will leave a heavy mark in her heart. It's also good to let her transfer to another school and stay away from that environment."

"You know something?" Lu Xingzhi's expression tensed. He reached out and held Jiang Yao's hand. "Did Xiaoxiao's senior do something to her?"

That was a question about Jiang Yao before she was reborn. Lu Xingzhi felt there was no reason for Jiang Yao to send Lu Xiaoxiao away to distant Jindo City so suddenly. She even told him to transfer Lu Xiaoxiao to another school.

Jiang Yao mentally went through all the information she knew in her mind. Lu Xiaoxiao had yet to confirm her relationship with her senior after Jiang Lei interfered with the situation.

However, it must have something to do with that man.

However, Jiang Yao did not know how to tell Lu Xingzhi when she thought about Lu Xiaoxiao's suffering. After all, if she were to say it out loud, she would be so angry that she would want to kill that person.

“Go and find out if the person chasing after Lu Xiaoxiao is called Shan something. If I’m not wrong, the reason he is chasing after Xiaoxiao is because of her identity as the Lu family’s daughter and because of her allowance.”

Back then, that man had spent a lot of Lu Xiaoxiao’s money after getting together with Lu Xiaoxiao. She had even helped him pay off his gambling debts a few times, but because of that, that man’s gambling became worse. Later, Second Uncle Lu found out about it, and he stopped her from being with that man. He even sent someone to beat that man up and forcefully broke them up.

However, things did not end there. Lu Xiaoxiao was a fool back then. When she was stupid, she was comparable to Jiang Lei.

Later, Lu Xiaoxiao ran away from home to look for that man. She saw the man when his creditors chased after him. That man was beaten badly by his creditors. As soon as he saw Lu Xiaoxiao, he gave her his creditors and took the opportunity to escape.

What would happen when those ruffians got their hands on a girl like Lu Xiaoxiao?

Lu Xiaoxiao was only sent to the hospital after the man’s neighbor discovered her. She had tried to kill herself after she was released from the hospital.

It was quite a coincidence that Jiang Yao returned at the right time. Therefore, she took the opportunity to let Lu Xiaoxiao go to Jindo City to remove the possibility of that man hurting her.

“Once Xiaoxiao goes to Jindo City, get your men to think of a way to put that man in jail, but keep that information under wraps. Then, tell Xiaoxiao that her senior got married to another woman. Don’t give Xiaoxiao a chance to go back to the city. Just transfer her to another school and let her go to a new school after filming.”

Jiang Yao thought for a moment, then looked up at Lu Xingzhi with a smile on her face. “That’s why you have to pull some strings to get Xiaoxiao into that movie. Stall her for two to three months. Arrange for her to attend school in Nanjiang City, Jindo City, or Yuan City. Get Sister Yuqing’s help. With your brothers and your men, and my second brother’s help, it’ll be safer for her.”

Then, Jiang Yao covered her mouth and chuckled. “Oh, no. You seem to have a lot of things to arrange.” She looked so sly when she said that.

Chapter 1325: She Loves Herself More

How could Lu Xingzhi not hear her teasing tone? However, his face was full of seriousness as he said in a low voice, “I’m not capable enough yet. One day, I want you to live a comfortable life.”

Free and unfettered, comfortable without any trouble.

Jiang Yao did not say what that man had done to Lu Xiaoxiao. However, Lu Xingzhi knew Jiang Yao’s temper. If he had not done something so overboard that she could not tolerate it, with Jiang Yao’s delicate temper, she would not take the initiative to tell him to punish someone.

Throwing someone into prison for a few years meant ruining that person’s life. Therefore, Lu Xingzhi could conclude that the man must have done something that even Jiang Yao found unforgivable.

Therefore, Lu Xingzhi did not need to ask further to know what to do.

A few years in prison? That would be too easy for that man, right?

If she did not say it, then it must have been something unspeakable.

If he did not make that person regret being born, then he would be letting her down.

“I’m already living a very comfortable life now.” Jiang Yao smiled as she tiptoed and kissed him on the lips.

No one could bully her. She had the ability to protect herself, and she had Lu Xingzhi as her support. Who else could make her feel uncomfortable in that world?

She was already very satisfied with her life.

For the remainder of the day, Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao did not go out. Instead, they stayed at home and chatted with the elders while watching the television. Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao booked their flight at 10 o’clock the next morning, which was also the time Jiang Yao had given Mrs. Sun.

Jiang Yao did not receive any news from Mrs. Sun until she arrived at the city airport at 9.30 in the morning. Well, Jiang Yao was not too surprised about that.

Jiang Yao took Lu Xingzhi’s arm and looked at the time on his watch. Then, she raised her head and said, “What did you arrange for Mrs. Sun? We can move now. We won’t hear from her in the next half an hour.”

After Jiang Yao said that, she smiled contemptuously. Her tone was confident. “Mrs. Sun dares to exchange my heart for her daughter’s life, but she doesn’t dare to exchange her own life for her daughter’s.”

“She loves her daughter, but she loves herself more.” Lu Xingzhi’s one sentence was the most accurate interpretation of Mrs. Sun. Even though selfish people could love others, they would never love them more than themselves.

Then, Lu Xingzhi pulled Jiang Yao to sit down and waited for their tickets to be checked. At the same time, he took out his phone and was about to make a call. Coincidentally, just as he took out his phone, his phone rang. It was the call he was about to make.

The airport was a little noisy. Jiang Yao did not listen to who was calling Lu Xingzhi, so she did not know what the person on the phone was saying. Although she could eavesdrop on the conversation, Jiang Yao respected Lu Xingzhi’s privacy.

After Lu Xingzhi hung up the phone, he told Jiang Yao about the conversation.

“Cheng Jinyan arrived in the county last night. Half an hour ago, he took Mrs. Sun away with the people from the court. Cheng Jinyan represented Madam Cheng and brought the legal team to sue Mrs. Sun in court.” Lu Xingzhi’s lips pressed down slightly. He had not received the news that Cheng Jinyan had arrived in the county the previous night. The other man probably did not want him to know about that.

Chapter 1326: Don’t Want To Owe Me Anything

“Madam Cheng hasn’t been discharged yet, right?” Jiang Yao was a little surprised. “Madam Cheng is still in the hospital, and Cheng Jinyan is already here?”

Jiang Yao knew how much Cheng Jinyan respected his stepmother, Madam Cheng. Therefore, even though Madam Cheng had not been discharged yet, Jiang Yao was shocked that Cheng Jinyan would go to the county first.

“The Chengs must have found out about Mrs. Sun’s recent actions, so they asked Cheng Jinyan to clean up that mess. Cheng Jinyan came quietly, so he probably did not want you to know about the Cheng family’s actions.” Then, Lu Xingzhi said after a pause, “Cheng Jinyan came so quickly, so he probably doesn’t want us to do anything to Mrs. Sun first.”

Jiang Yao was speechless. “She doesn’t want to owe me?”

Lu Xingzhi patted Jiang Yao’s head. “Don’t think too much. Maybe she just wants to take revenge herself.”

Jiang Yao shook her head. “She has been out of prison for so many years. If she wanted revenge, she would have done it a long time ago. She hasn’t taken revenge for so many years. She has already treated the Xie family like strangers. Now, she is in such a hurry to take Mrs. Sun away. Naturally, she doesn’t want me to send Mrs. Sun to where she should be.”

Therefore, Madam Cheng did not want to owe her anything.

“Forget it.”

Jiang Yao looked down at her toes.

“She might be afraid that she owes you too much and can’t make it up to you.” Lu Xingzhi was afraid that Jiang Yao would think too much, so he comforted her. “She thinks that she already owes you enough, so she can’t let you do anything for her anymore.”

Lu Xingzhi felt that the possibility of that was higher. Madam Cheng was already full of guilt toward Jiang Yao, and she was even more afraid that Jiang Yao would feel that they were even after she had done all those things for her.

Of course, he could not rule out the possibility that Madam Cheng was angry at Mrs. Sun for disturbing Jiang Yao’s life, and so she made a move against her.

No matter the reason, Mrs. Sun would not have a good ending if the Cheng family got involved in that matter. The rest of the issues would not need to trouble Lu Xingzhi or Jiang Yao.

Lu Xingzhi put his cell phone into his pocket and patted Jiang Yao’s shoulder. “Let’s go. It’s time to board the plane.”

She had to think about some things.

After leaving the city, the two of them still had to make a trip to Gu Junhui’s mother. They had to take the train back to Shu City, and Jiang Yao had to change her clothes and put on her performance clothes.

The railway station where Gu Junhui's mother was located was a special railway station. The open-air railway station could let one see the environment and scenery around the railway station at a glance, as well as all the hustle and bustle there.

Jiang Yao wore a hat and a mask to cover her delicate face. She and Lu Xingzhi, who had changed into ordinary clothes, sat next to each other just like any other passenger. She seemed tired from the journey and leaned there to rest, ready to embark on a new journey when the train arrived at the station.

Her ears heard the hustle and bustle, but Jiang Yao listened to every sound around her with great interest. It was noisy, but it was real life.

She could see the thief shrink back and look around as he stretched his hand toward the careless person. She could see the child snuggling in his mother's arms with candy in his mouth, quietly watching the people coming and going with his big eyes. She could also see the exhausted people who were returning home with big woven bags.

Everything was fine until a face came into her sight, which shocked her.

Chapter 1327: Resemblance

It was at the train station entrance. A young woman was carrying a boy who was only four or five years old. The mother and child were dressed in shabby clothes and were very dirty. Their clothes were not only dirty, but even their bodies were also dirty. They looked like a mother and child who had been wandering for a long time.

People who passed by them would pinch their noses. There were even people who ran far away from them. However, without exception, that woman would hold the child in her arms and kneel and kowtow to the people they see.

"Please help me. Please save my child. Please save my child..."

The woman's pleas were accompanied by a hoarse cry. It was raspy and ear-piercing. The child in her arms looked like he was dead. He was skinny, and his hands were placed weakly on his mother's arms.

The crowd only glanced at him briefly. They threw a coin or two and left. No one stopped to ask how they could help them.

"Child, child, wake up. Mommy is begging you to stop sleeping, okay?" The woman reached out to pick up the coins on the ground as she lowered her head to touch the child's face in her arms.

It was as if the mother's tears had awakened the child. The child's eyelids trembled slightly, and then slowly, he opened them weakly.

When the little boy opened his eyes, what he saw was his mother's tears. He lifted his thin, bamboo-like hand and gently wiped away his mother's tears. "Mommy, don't cry. I won't sleep again."

After saying that, the little boy coughed a few more times. "Mommy, I'm so uncomfortable. I'm in so much pain..."

The little boy's cries of pain caused the woman to break down as she hugged the child and wailed loudly. "Baby, I'm so sorry. I'm the useless one. I've caused you so much suffering, but I'm begging you. Please hold on, okay? I only have you now. Please, I'm begging you. No matter how painful it is, please hold on, okay? I will get enough money to get you to the hospital for treatment. Baby, I'm begging you."

Then, the woman kowtowed to everyone who passed by them. The banging sounds scared some of the passersby away. There was no extra money in front of her, not even some coins.

The boy was very sensible. He comforted his mother. "Mom, I'm not in pain. If you kowtow, my heart will ache."

He said it did not hurt, but he was gritting his teeth. His face was covered in a cold sweat. He was clearly in pain.

Jiang Yao had never seen such a sensible child. He felt sorry for his mother, so he gritted his teeth and swallowed all the pain. He did not even dare to make a sound because of the pain, afraid that his mother would kowtow even harder if he made a sound.

Jiang Yao pulled Lu Xingzhi and pointed at the entrance. "Let's go and take a look."

Lu Xingzhi had noticed that there seemed to be something wrong at the entrance. The people who went in and out of the entrance were all scared, and some even turned back for a second look.

Jiang Yao pulled Lu Xingzhi to the front, but there was no mother and son near the door. Lu Xingzhi's eyesight was very good, and he could clearly see the people at the entrance from where he stood.

"Look at the mother holding the child. Does she look like Brother Ding's daughter who disappeared for many years?" Jiang Yao was surprised by the woman's face. "Doesn't she look like Brother Ding?"

Lu Xingzhi's eyes froze for a few seconds before he nodded... "Yes."

Chapter 1328: Liars

They were, in fact, very similar. However, due to years of malnutrition, that woman may have lost some weight, and she was much older than she appeared in the photograph. However, her facial features, in particular her lips and eyes, matched those in the picture.

Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi knew Brother Ding's information by heart. Brother Ding had a wife in his hometown, and he had four children. When Brother Ding left his hometown, his youngest child was still in his wife's belly.

She had read the information related to Brother Ding's eldest son and daughter's life. They were married and had children, but Brother Ding's second daughter and youngest son had been missing for many years.

When she disappeared, the eldest girl was already 15 or 16 years old, but the youngest son was only seven or eight years old.

In addition, the woman kowtowing and holding a child looked to be in her 20s. She matched the description of Brother Ding's kidnapped daughter perfectly.

Jiang Yao had a distinct impression that the young lady was Brother Ding's long-lost daughter.

"Wait for me over there. I'll go over and check out the situation," Jiang Yao said as she put on her mask again. After Lu Xingzhi hid in the crowd, she walked toward the entrance.

The woman bowed her head in submission the moment Jiang Yao walked over. She did not seem to pay attention to anything else other than the sound of footsteps. She would kowtow to anyone who came close to her. If it weren't for Jiang Yao's desperation and inability to let go of any hope, most people wouldn't give her a second glance.

"I'm a doctor. Put the child flat on the ground, and I'll help you take a look." Jiang Yao stooped down and spoke softly as she stretched her hand to check on the child.

However, she had not anticipated such a strong reaction from the woman. She yanked her away and roared, "Don't come near my child, you filthy monster! I'm well aware that you're a human smuggler. Go! Leave now!"

Jiang Yao was shocked. She was dumbfounded when she was pushed to the ground.

"How can I be a human trafficker if I'm a doctor?"

Jiang Yao asked in confusion, "I saw that your child seemed to be very sick, so I came over to see if I could help you."

After saying that, Jiang Yao opened her backpack and took out the stethoscope, thermometer, and other things from it. "Look, I'm a doctor, so I have the habit of carrying these with me."

Of course, those were all taken from the system at the last minute.

Jiang Yao was a little surprised that the woman in front of her was so guarded. She still hugged the child tightly and did not dare to let her touch them.

After a long while, the woman asked, "You're really a doctor? You're not a liar?"

"Yes, I'm a doctor."

Jiang Yao nodded. "Can you let me take a look at your child?"

"You're not a liar, right? I can trust you, right? I only have my child to accompany me. I beg you, don't take him away." As the woman spoke, she kowtowed. Then, she placed the child on the ground with a vigilant expression. She was probably afraid that Jiang Yao would take the child away and run away, so she held her child's hand and shoulder tightly with one hand.

It wasn't because the woman didn't trust Jiang Yao that she frowned slightly; instead, it was because the woman seemed on high alert as if she suspected everyone of being a human trafficker.

After Jiang Yao examined the child, she had a rough idea of the reason. The child was malnourished and had a high fever that did not subside. There was also a severe inflammation in his body. It was probably caused by the child eating a lot of dirty things. The child said that his stomach and head hurt.

Chapter 1329: Ding Xiaomei

Acute gastroenteritis and fever—it was hard for the child to endure the pain.

“We have to go to the hospital.”

Jiang Yao took off her stethoscope and put it away. “I am afraid the child will not be able to take it if I keep going through it.”

Even if the child did not have acute gastroenteritis, the fever could be lethal.

When the woman heard that she had to go to the hospital, she hugged the child nervously and asked, “Which hospital do you want to go to?”

“Of course, I’m going to a big hospital in the city. The child has a high fever, and it won’t go away. We can’t delay any longer,” Jiang Yao said. “You don’t have to worry about money. I can help you with that. I’ll pay the medical expenses.”

For cautious people, the more they were treated with kindness, the more they would doubt the person who gave them that.

When Jiang Yao saw the woman’s tired eyes staring at her, she sighed helplessly and said, “You don’t trust me, but you can trust the police, right? Maybe we can find the police to accompany you to the hospital?”

“The police are also liars! All the police in the world are not good people!” the woman roared.

Jiang Yao was frightened. “How can the police be liars? We find them when there is trouble. Even children know that.”

“Liars! They are all liars!” The woman held the child and was about to leave. “You must be a liar too! A human trafficker who colluded with the police! Go Away! Go Away!”

“I am really a doctor.”

Jiang Yao felt the onset of a headache, and then, she tried to change her words. “If you don’t trust a doctor, perhaps can you trust a soldier? Can I find a soldier to accompany you? A soldier is not a liar, right? He is a soldier who protects the country and the people.”

The woman’s footsteps came to a stop. She turned around and was still doubtful. “A soldier? Can you find a soldier? ”

“Yes, my husband is a soldier,” Jiang Yao said, and then asked, “My name is Xiao Yao. What’s your name?”

“Ding Xiaomei,” the woman said. “Then I’ll go with you if you can find a soldier! If you cure my child, I’ll be your slave to repay you!”

“There’s no need for that.”

Jiang Yao smiled and called for Lu Xingzhi. “Contact the nearest army and ask them to send two soldiers immediately. Miss Ding’s son needs to be hospitalized, but she doesn’t trust me.”

Jiang Yao emphasized the woman's surname. She can confirm that Ding Xiaomei was Brother Ding's daughter who had been missing for many years.

They looked alike, their ages matched, and their surnames matched.

"Come, wipe the wound on your head."

Jiang Yao took a clean handkerchief from her bag and carefully helped Ding Xiaomei to clean the wound.

For some reason, Ding Xiaomei kept staring at Jiang Yao. Even when the wound was stinging, she frowned and asked, "When will the soldiers come? Will the soldiers lie? Will the soldiers help the human traffickers?"

"It should take a while for them to come from the base. I'll bring you to eat something while we wait."

Jiang Yao quietly put away the handkerchief that had Ding Xiaomei's blood. Then, she took the hesitant Ding Xiaomei to a small restaurant nearby.

Jiang Yao ordered a cup of warm water, then took a fever medicine for Ding Xiaomei. She told Ding Xiaomei to feed the child; they should get the child's fever down first.

"The child has had a fever repeatedly for many days, right?"

Jiang Yao spoke softly to Ding Xiaomei like a competent pediatrician, asking about her son's condition over the past few days. Then, she told Ding Xiaomei that the child was like that because he had eaten contaminated food. Then, he had suffered from a cold, which stimulated his intestines and stomach, including chronic malnutrition.

Chapter 1330: Might Be Able To Help You

After Ding Xiaomei heard that, she hugged her sleeping child and cried silently. "It's my fault. It's my fault for hurting him."

Jiang Yao asked, "I see that the two of you have been wandering outside for a long time, right? Can you tell me what's going on? I know a lot of people. Perhaps if you tell me your difficulties, I can help you."

Maybe Jiang Yao's voice was too gentle and soothing, or perhaps when Jiang Yao told Ding Xiaomei about the child's condition, she gave Ding Xiaomei the feeling that she was a very kind doctor, or maybe Ding Xiaomei needed someone to listen to the pain that she had hidden for so many years, so Ding Xiaomei did not hide it from Jiang Yao. She told Jiang Yao the reason she had been wandering with the child for several months.

Jiang Yao had been talking on her phone while Ding Xiaomei was talking, so Lu Xingzhi, who was waiting in the dark, heard everything she said.

Some people might say that if one did bad things, one would enjoy life, but one would also get what was coming.

Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi would not have suspected human traffickers were to blame for Ding Xiaomei and her brother's disappearance if they had not heard Ding Xiaomei's story first.

Human traffickers took advantage of Ding Xiaomei's age and sold her to be a wife in a rural area. She had to endure a lot of humiliation, suffering, and torture during that period. She was beaten until she miscarried—she was nearly beaten to death. Giving birth to the child she held in her arms was a challenging experience for her.

Some men promised that their wives would not be tied down after becoming pregnant and giving birth to a son—a promise made to carry the family line. However, the buyer insisted on tying Ding Xiaomei to them until the child was over four years old. She was treated with contempt and cruelty. Everyone would kick and beat her up if there was a problem in the family.

More than three months ago, Ding Xiaomei discovered a way to flee the terrifying village with the child. The amount of money she took from that destitute family was barely enough to cover her bus fare. After that, she fled with the child. After that, she walked all the way there on her two legs, begging all the way.

Due to a lack of funds, she was forced to sleep on the street with the child, eat whatever she could find in the trash can, and drink water from the roadside pool to stay hydrated.

Ding Xiaomei was angry when she heard Jiang Yao mention the police because she had run away after she was sold. She had gone to the local county town to report to the police, but in the end, she was sent back to the village. By then, she had received punches and kicks from the buyer's family. She had been severely injured and had to lie in bed for half a month, unable to get off it.

Ding Xiaomei had no idea where her younger brother had gone. After the two siblings were taken away by human traffickers, they were immediately separated. After that, Ding Xiaomei never saw her younger brother again.

The reason Ding Xiaomei did not dare to look for her family after she had escaped was not that she could not remember her home. She had been 15 or 16 years old when she was sold. She remembered her home and the phone number of her family's snack bar.

She did not go home because she felt ashamed. She did not dare to go home because she had lost her younger brother. Furthermore, she brought her son with her. If she went back, it would be a disgrace to her family.

Ding Xiaomei wanted to bring her son with her as she tried to find her younger brother. When would she find him? When could she return home for her family?

Ironically, the human traffickers took advantage of Ding Xiaomei and her younger brother because their eldest brother's child was sick and they needed money badly. If the Dings did not come up with the cash, the child would have to die.