

## Chapter 631: Disapproval

For Chen Feitang, Zhu Qianlan was no better than an ignorant village girl. The way she talked to her like that, without regard to her military ranking or even the stripes on her uniform, there was no difference between Zhu Qianlan and a hog.

“It concerns you not whether I defend my comrade. Aren’t you the witness? Go and find out yourself!” Chen Feitang smirked. “Don’t forget about the consequences. If you are brave enough, go for it!”

She looked at Zhu Qianlan side-eyed after she finished speaking.

She was a little conflicted and hesitant. She wanted Zhu Qianlan to go ahead and disturb Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi’s peace and alone time.

But, she was afraid that she would make things worse and embarrass Lu Xingzhi. After all, there were a lot of people around, including many members of the military.

Carried by Lu Xingzhi, Jiang Yao gave up on trying to escape his grasp.

She gave him a vicious glare when she was put down. “Please let me know earlier if you want to carry me, I would have prepared a small pillow to put in between your shoulder and my belly. It hurts!”

Lu Xingzhi was not sure if Jiang Yao was mad.

“Say, what do you mean?” Lu Xingzhi gently rubbed her stomach and muttered under his breath. “I won’t carry you on my shoulders next time then.”

“Nothing!” Jiang Yao shook her head and gave Lu Xingzhi a little shove. “I meant nothing.”

Lu Xingzhi raised his head and looked at Jiang Yao with a dour expression.

A few seconds later, in a serious tone, he asked, “Are you tired of me?”

Jiang Yao was startled.

What was he getting at?

“You were upset the entire morning just because you wiped your face with the towel I used last night. If it isn’t that, I don’t know what it is!” Lu Xingzhi could not take it anymore.

It felt just like before when Jiang Yao had nothing but contempt for everything he did for her.

It was then Jiang Yao realized that she needed to make things clear, in case Lu Xingzhi took it the wrong way.

Putting her indifference away, she sighed and put her hand on Lu Xingzhi’s face. “No, that is not it. I just thought it was very unhygienic. Plus, it was my fault, I wasn’t paying attention in the morning. It has nothing to do with you.”

“Well, it’s still a part of the body, right?” said Lu Xingzhi. “We use the same towel and washbasin for everything in the platoon.”

He would not have prepared a few spare washbasins and fresh towels in the platoon if he did not know Jiang Yao's particularity.

"Things are a little tough here, that's why I didn't think much about it," explained Lu Xingzhi. "I know you are a big proponent of cleanliness and hygiene. Once we get out of this place, I promise I will not be so unkempt and sloppy."

Jiang Yao nodded. "I didn't think you were sloppy, I was just a little annoyed. Think about this, would you want to wipe your face with the socks you are wearing now?"

### **Chapter 632: Carried Away**

Lu Xingzhi was stumped, he could not think of a reply to Jiang Yao's retort.

It reminded him of Jiang Yao's mysophobia and how she would wash her hands multiple times a day and use a few washbasins for various activities. They could never share their usage, Jiang Yao was very particular about it.

He was relieved after realizing that it was just Jiang Yao's habit and had nothing to do with him.

That was all that mattered.

"The rescue efforts are coming to an end with the water levels of the flood greatly receding today. The weather these days seems to be great and we will be leaving Rong County earlier. The superiors are currently deciding on how to resume the selection process." Lu Xingzhi pulled Jiang Yao into an embrace. "I thought we could meet for a half-day at least after the selection, but looking at things now, it will be another week before I can see you again."

"A half-day? I think we were seeing each other for more than that." Jiang Yao chuckled. "That's way more than what you expected, right?"

"Still not enough, I want you to be always by my side!" Lu Xingzhi immediately put his lips onto Jiang Yao's.

While she was used to his sudden assaults now.

During summer break, he would still be cautious about displaying too much affection in public. Now, these were only afterthoughts and he was not worried at all if someone else were to see them.

After leaving the female soldier, Zhu Qianlan, strutting along on her heels, went in the direction Jiang Yao was last seen heading toward.

She probably would not have expected to find the scene unfolding behind an inconspicuous corner.

A tall and domineering figure of a man dressed in military attire pushing a woman onto the wall with his lips tightly on hers. The man placed his hands, one on the woman's waist, the other on the side of her face. From where she stood, the woman's face could not be seen, but her clothing was recognized as one of Jiang Yao's.

Zhu Qianlan was startled. She looked at the couple, drowned in fiery passion, with mixed feelings in her heart.

She was not a naive girl. Instead, she was married once and understood the connection when a man and a woman were together.

She thought that the relationship between a husband and a wife was just like her parents, cordial and polite, or like hers with her ex-husband, strangers they used to know.

The passionate couple was only a thing of the movies.

Yet, she saw it with her own eyes now the scene that could only be seen in films.

Just how much did a man love his woman to ignore his image in public just to kiss her.

A kiss of passion, a kiss that brought them out of reality, ignoring the very existence of other people.

### **Chapter 633: Foolish Soldier**

Zhu Qianlan stood with clenched fists. How was it that such a lascivious woman like her could get both the attention of a stellar man like Huang Chengjing and a husband who had nothing but affection and love for her?

When Zhu Qianlan came to Nanjiang City, she knew that Huang Chengjing's wife passed away and left a daughter behind, the love of his life and the Huang family's pride.

Inquiring from various sources, she knew that Huang Chengjing was a very disciplined man with no drama before his marriage. Both he and his now-deceased wife were from the same social status and got together naturally before marrying each other.

After his marriage, he was the model husband, focusing his attention on two things only, work and family.

Even with the passing of his wife, he did not let go of himself but continued working while raising his daughter alone.

There was never once where he was found to have unexplainable relationships with other women.

After knowing Huang Chengjing, Zhu Qianlan tried every method she could just to find out everything about him. It was a mind-blowing experience for her.

His life was in stark contrast to the life of the elites she knew, despite being one himself. During her incessant observation of him, she found herself to have fallen for this man.

She had to admit that Huang Chengjing was the best man she had ever known, even better than her father and brothers.

His life completely changed her perspective on the opposite gender.

That was why she thought that a man so stellar like him would one day be hers.

Who would have expected the appearance of another woman next to Huang Chengjing. Apparently, he brought his daughter, along with the woman sightseeing around Nanjiang City, having meals in restaurants, visiting theme parks, hiking, and so much more.

These were activities she had never done before!

When he was led around the place like a bull with a ring in his nostrils, the woman he cared so much about was actually someone else's wife!

Zhu Qianlan could not hold it any longer, she approached them and intentionally stomped the ground with her heels, making a loud clacky sound as she walked. The sudden noise interrupted the couple's kissing as they quickly moved their faces away from each other.

Jiang Yao immediately pushed Lu Xingzhi away when she heard the footsteps approaching. Her face was flushed, a deep red color.

Frankly, it was not embarrassing to kiss her husband, but that it was seen by people in public.

"Jiang Yao, you are such a whore!" Zhu Qianlan stopped two meters away. "On one end you are able to keep your husband happy, just look at the passion and love he has for you! On the other, you seduced other men so that you could spend millions, any way you want it! I am so impressed!"

"You, soldier! Look at your ignorance, you probably don't know your wife is cheating on you!" Zhu Qianlan looked at the man with his back turned against her. She had no respect for soldiers who were incapable. Marrying a woman only to get cheated on.

"Jiang Yao, shouldn't you explain to your husband what exactly is your relationship with Hairun Group's Mr. Huang?" Zhu Qianlan smirked. "I say, fool of a soldier, do you have any idea what your wife has been doing behind your back?"

Lu Xingzhi finally turned and looked at the uninvited guest after making sure that Jiang Yao's blush had subsided.

### **Chapter 634: Are You an Idiot?**

He was too engrossed in the kiss and did not realize the presence of a third person. It was right, after all, love did make people blind. On any occasion other than this, he would have noticed any human presence in such an open environment, even if they were a hundred meters away.

"Who are you?" Lu Xingzhi glared at Zhu Qianlan and instantly thought that she was mentally unsound.

How would she know that his wife had unspeakable relations with Huang Chengjing?

Jiang Yao tugged on Lu Xingzhi and tidied her hair before emerging from his shadow. She demanded, "Zhu Qianlan, how do you know this is my husband?"

"If he's not your husband, who else could he be? One of your other beau? A female soldier at Shengqi Hospital's site told me that you were a married couple!" answered Zhu Qianlan.

It could only be Chen Feitang!

That was why Zhu Qianlan knew that he was her husband, after all, they had very limited interactions together!

Otherwise, she would have thought, if nobody had told her so, that the man next to Jiang Yao was another one of her beaus.

Why would Chen Feitang talk to someone she did not know at all about her?

Jiang Yao snickered.

What was Chen Feitang trying to get at?

Lu Xingzhi frowned and instantly exuded a vicious aura, one that could murder a person.

Zhu Qianlan took a few steps back, startled by his expression.

Apparently, many soldiers would not hesitate in killing a person. Was Jiang Yao's husband thinking of murdering her?

Zhu Qianlan had no doubts about her assumption, after all the man standing right in front of him looked like a beast waiting for its prey.

She regretted coming over rashly all alone. There was nobody else around at the moment and if the man wanted to kill her, nobody would know.

She should have brought her assistant along!

"Zhu Qianlan, are you an idiot?" Jiang Yao shook her head in resignation. "You like Huang Chengjing but think that he fancies me. However, you come to my husband and tell him that I get intimate with men behind his back. I have a question for you, what are you trying to achieve, doing this?"

Jiang Yao had no idea just how Zhu Qianlan's brain was wired. She laughed looking at her counterpart, who seemed to not understand what she said.

"Are you an idiot? What are you trying to achieve by spewing bad things about me in front of my husband? Let me guess, you want us to fight and divorce, and then? What next? Now that I am free, I can finally marry Huang Chengjing?! So that you can see the man you love marry some other woman?"

### **Chapter 635: A Bunch of Nonsense**

If that was Zhu Qianlan's purpose, it sure was puzzling to Jiang Yao.

Did women nowadays think like this?

In Jiang Yao's opinion, a smart woman who finds herself in Zhu Qianlan's situation would try her best to prevent her love rival from divorcing her current husband.

Zhu Qianlan's action was extremely bizarre.

"What nonsense are you spewing?" Lu Xingzhi tapped Jiang Yao's head. It was a gentle hit, but it meant that he was not happy hearing Jiang Yao mentioning the word "divorce".

Hit by Lu Xingzhi out of the blue, Jiang Yao turned her focus toward him and noticing his sour expression, explained hurriedly, "It was just a presumption, how can we get divorced? It is never happening ever since the day we exchanged our wedding vows! Plus, I want kids! A whole platoon of them!"

Jiang Yao knew the importance of soothing one's temper, especially if that person was her husband.

Not surprisingly, Jiang Yao's words did brighten Lu Xingzhi's face.

"Definitely." It was good Jiang Yao understood his sentiment. Although he could not help but reaffirm his stance.

Once they were wedded, with their names joined together in his account, there was no chance, not even the tiniest bit, that she could leave him. Not even till death.

Zhu Qianlan stood dumbfounded, obviously analyzing what Jiang Yao just said. Jiang Yao, on the other hand, had no intention of wasting her time on this stupid and ignorant woman.

"Let's go." She grabbed Lu Xingzhi's massive hand and left, walking in front of Zhu Qianlan like she was non-existent.

Zhu Qianlan was dismayed to find the legitimacy of Jiang Yao's reply; it made her look like a complete fool.

She was even more shocked that Jiang Yao's husband did not for once doubt her, even with the accusations that were mentioned.

Far away from Zhu Qianlan, Lu Xingzhi looked at Jiang Yao and asked with disgust in his voice, "Who was that idiot?"

If she had any semblance of intelligence, she would have known who Huang Chengjing fancied.

Even he could see immediately that Huang Chengjing liked his sister. Yet, this woman, who insisted that she liked him, had no idea who he was actually attracted to.

Should one not be able to read the other's eyes, if the attraction was genuine?

Just like him, he was able to grasp what Jiang Yao was thinking just by where her gaze was.

This was an understanding between people who loved each other and would observe their spouse's body language in an attempt to fully comprehend their thoughts.

"Someone who loves Huang Chengjing to death." Jiang Yao shrugged. "We met when I went to the stone betting trade fair with Huang Chengjing. It was organized by the Zhu family. She is their daughter and the person-in-charge at Nanjiang City."

"You are into stone betting now?" Lu Xingzhi shifted his attention onto Jiang Yao's foray into stone betting.

### **Chapter 636: Orphans**

"I'm a little interested," replied Jiang Yao. "It seems to be the quickest way to earn money..."

Before she could finish her sentence, she noticed a group of children over at Changkang Group's relief site, with Lu Yuqing standing among their midst distributing drinking water while two fire-fighting soldiers watched from the side.

Seeing this, Jiang Yao immediately ran toward the children, totally ignoring Lu Xingzhi.

Lu Xingzhi looked at his now-empty hand and shoved it into his pocket. He felt slight annoyance when he saw Jiang Yao stooping down to talk to the children.

She seemed to have an affinity for children.

For example, Lin Wei from the platoon. She could spend an entire afternoon telling stories to him.

Next would be Huang Chenchen. Even now, Jiang Yao would sometimes mutter the little girl's name.

She liked them very much even though they were not her kids. What would happen to his place in the family after she had her own?

Suddenly, having Jiang Yao giving birth to their child right after her graduation seemed like a bad idea.

There was not much opportunity for them to spend time together with her studying in Nanjiang City. After her graduation though, she was supposed to move to Jin City. Finally having the opportunity to be in each other's vicinity, would he want to face the probability of his wife neglecting him and instead focusing her attention on their baby.

When the time came, he would be older than he was now, and slowly edging away from his physical prime. What if she did not want his aging body anymore?

Lu Xingzhi rubbed his nose and realized that he should probably stop overthinking, in case it became a troublesome matter.

Jiang Yao, on the other hand, did not know that just by abruptly leaving him behind, he would overthink. She looked at the children and saw them wearing thin rags, with timidity in their eyes, and the cheapest polyester slippers sold on the market on their feet, although those were in bad condition.

"These children were originally from the Rong County orphanage. The flood destroyed the already dilapidated orphanage and injured many social workers. No one else could care for these kids that was why they were brought here by the fire-fighting soldiers."

Lu Yuqing gently caressed the head of a little boy, who was holding a thin and filthy kitten in his hands, while she spoke to Jiang Yao.

"Are these kids sleeping in the tent now?" Jiang Yao felt sorry for the orphans, losing their parents at a very young age and now losing their home, the orphanage in a flood.

"For now." The soldiers nodded. "These kids will be separated in a few days' time, being sent to various orphanages around the region. Rong County needs time to return to normalcy, so they will have to go to whichever orphanages available. With the flood happening, the number of children losing their parents skyrocketed."

"Sis, I will be separated from my friend soon." The little boy with the kitten tugged on Jiang Yao's hand. Perhaps he was afraid of dirtying her clothes, he just lightly pinched her sleeve with the tip of his fingers. "Will people bully us? We want to stay together. We made a promise to go to school and build a future together. We want to give back to our teachers! But they are injured now, we don't want to leave, we want to stay with them!"

## **Chapter 637: Humiliation**

“If we leave, our teacher is going to be lonely.” A little girl by the side continued, “We are very good kids and we don’t mind living in the tent. Mr. Firefighter, can you ask the adults to let us stay?”

The two children’s tender words, filled with simple hopes, were spoken softly because they were afraid of angering the adults. It was a heart-wrenching sight for the adults around them.

If they were children of other families, they would have been cherished by their parents. However, even though they were very young, they knew how to observe the atmosphere and speak accordingly.

“Let’s eat, shall we?” Lu Yuqing did not know how to answer the kids’ simple request. She was only an ordinary citizen and had no say at all. It was under the jurisdiction of the relevant authorities.

Lu Xingzhi finally came. Perhaps his cold expression was too intense, the children scurried behind the firefighters upon seeing him. They looked at him with fear in their eyes.

“You scared the kids,” complained Jiang Yao as she shoved Lu Xingzhi away.

What did he do?!

“Stay here, Darling, I have some errands to run at the platoon command center.” He continued, “look after Sis. Do not let Huang Chengjing get anywhere near her. He doesn’t deserve my sister.”

And off he went after giving Jiang Yao a gentle pat on the head.

The children all breathed a sigh of relief after Lu Xingzhi left. It was a cute sight!

“Sis, that mister right there looks frightening.” The little boy with the kitten said, “He hits people?”

“Did you see his military uniform? He is a soldier! Therefore, he only hits the bad guys! He is a hero too, do you know that? Just like Mr. Firefighter here, they are all heroes,” explained Jiang Yao with a smile on her face.

The firefighters smiled shyly.

“Wait, you got back together?” Lu Yuqing shoved Jiang Yao with her shoulder and said, “Look at you running out of the tent at full speed in humiliation, I thought you would get mad at him for a few days. Look, a few hours was all it took instead!”

“I wasn’t humiliated! Sis, what do you mean?” Jiang Yao wanted to cover her face badly. Did Lu Yuqing know the reason for her escape in the morning?

How embarrassing!

“Right, Sis, Xingzhi asked me to look after you and prevent Huang Chengjing from getting anywhere near you.” Jiang Yao smirked. “Say, will you be alright on your own or should I do the job?”

“Ask that little brat to mind his own business!” retorted Lu Yuqing. “Say, a few words was all it took for him to put you in a good mood? Jiang Yao, that’s quite disappointing!”

“What else can I do?” Jiang Yao answered, albeit in a softer tone. “After all, I was quite unreasonable when we first got married. I don’t want him to overthink again.”

## **Chapter 638: Good Kitty Mimi**



"Silly!" Lu Yuqing flicked Jiang Yao's forehead with her fingers. "Everyone can see just how infatuated you are with Xingzhi. The way you look at him spells a big fat 'love' from your eyes. He doesn't want you to ignore him, that's why he acted the way he did. He took advantage of your soft-hearted tendency. Just look at your swollen lips from all the kissing!"

Jiang Yao hurriedly covered her lips with her hands. Oh, how she was going to choke Lu Xingzhi to death! Just how did he come up with all these schemes and maneuvers to deal with her?

And why did he bite and chew around when they were kissing? Now everyone knew just what they were up to when they left!

Afraid that Lu Yuqing would not let her off the hook, Jiang Yao hurriedly retorted, "Nobody looks at him that way! Ain't nobody that sappy!"

"Well, you can ask around if you don't believe me." Lu Yuqing smiled. "When you look at him, it seems that the world has ceased to exist."

Lu Yuqing knew where to draw the line. After a few more rounds of teasing, she left Jiang Yao alone and happily went over to distribute food to the children.

She remembered how irritated she was at Jiang Yao's cocky and egoistic behavior when she first married Lu Xingzhi. Unfortunately, he already had his eyes set on her.

She did not expect a changed Jiang Yao to have such a soft side to her. It was fun to be able to tease her once in a while.

While she was envious of Jiang Yao and Lu Xingzhi's relationship, she genuinely wished they would stay this way until the end of times.

Jiang Yao knew that Lu Yuqing was only pulling her leg so she was not upset at all.

It was a big group of children but they were especially well-behaved, lining up to receive their respective food rations. The youngest stood at the very front of the line and they all went ahead only when it was their turn.

It was obvious that they were well-educated by the teachers in the orphanage.

The last child in line was the little boy with the kitten. He was not the oldest kid but he wanted to talk to the two young ladies giving out the food.

After receiving his food rations, the little boy showed Jiang Yao and Lu Yuqing the kitten in his arms and said, "Sis, do you like cats? We found it in the orphanage. It lost its parents, just like us. You have food, can you take it home?"

"Sis, Mimi is very well-behaved. It's quiet and doesn't mind anyone picking it up. It eats only a little too. If you take it home, you don't have to feed it much," the children by the side added.

They were very young but they knew that the kitten would starve to death if it was not given to someone else with the means to rear it

### **Chapter 639: Captain Lu Causes Trouble**

Lu Yuqing looked at Jiang Yao expectantly. Currently, she was staying in a hotel in Nanjiang City, plus she was not too fond of animals with fur and was extremely busy with work.

“Ms. Jiang, why don’t you take it home? You do have a pet already right?” Manager Sun whispered in Jiang Yao’s ear. “Look at the children, I can’t stand the way they are looking at us. If it isn’t for my busy work life, I will definitely accept the offer.”

Jiang Yao was at a loss for words. Moe was unlike any other ordinary cats. He knew how to care for himself. But other cats did not possess Moe’s intelligence, she was afraid that it would bring trouble to her housemates.

Just like what Manager Sun said, however, it was difficult to refuse the kids’ plea.

“Okay, leave it here when you are leaving. I will bring it back with me when I leave. Until then, you are welcome to come and play with it whenever you want.” Accepting the offer seemed to be the best course of action for now. When she returned to Nanjiang City, she would ask if Wen Xuehui or anyone she knew wanted to adopt a cat.

Other than that, Huang Chenchen must be fond of pets too. She could give it to Huang Chengjing and have him bring the cat back home. With butlers and maids at the Huang residence, caring for a kitten should be an easy chore.

Huang Chengjing, who was now helping out at moving the relief supplies around, suddenly felt a shiver down his spine.

The children smiled happily after hearing Jiang Yao’s answer. Although some seemed sad to part with the kitten.

Just as Jiang Yao was coming up with words to comfort the little angels, a figure came running over while screaming at the top of his lungs, “Mrs. Lu! Mrs. Lu! Your man is causing trouble!”

It was the man who earlier mistook Jiang Yao for Lu Xingzhi’s younger sister. He came running at full speed.

“What is going on?” Jiang Yao was shocked to hear it.

“You should go to the command center, fast! Captain Lu is in an altercation with General Chen and the General. We weren’t able to separate them. If you can’t do it, no one else can!”

With Lu Xingzhi’s nasty temper, it was highly probable that he would go against his superiors. She hurriedly followed the soldier to where Lu Xingzhi was at now.

She was briefed of the reason for Lu Xingzhi’s outburst while they were on their way over.

“Apparently Chen Feitang leaked information of military spouse to the public. Lu Xingzhi requested for the platoon to heavily punish her.” The comrade spoke. “Lu Xingzhi came to the command center just now and told us that Chen Feitang leaked your status as his wife to a stranger. It is not a huge issue, but it is not irrelevant too. Everyone who was qualified for the selection process has blood on their hands and enemies lurking around. The platoon guards our information very tightly.”

So that was what he meant when he said he had an errand to run!

Chen Feitang was General Chen's granddaughter so naturally, he would protect her from any punishment. But with Lu Xingzhi's temper, there was no room for a compromise. Therefore an altercation happening was not surprising, to be honest.

#### **Chapter 640: Why Should I?**

When Jiang Yao and the soldier arrived, they could hear Lu Xingzhi's angry voice coming from within the tent.

"I say we have to punish her severely! As a soldier, Chen Feitang could not follow the rules, why does she deserve to be one herself? What if the person wasn't Zhu Qianlan, but a disguised criminal? Is it okay for me to receive news of my wife's kidnapping?"

Lu Xingzhi looked at General Chen defiantly, not willing to compromise his stance.

"General, I'm not trying to cause trouble. Let me ask you this. If I told a stranger that Chen Feitang is a daughter of the Chen family and revealed where she was stationed, what would you do?"

Lu Xingzhi asked apathetically. "The Chen family has a lot of enemies, not much less than mine. If I revealed Chen Feitang's identity to any stranger, I believe you will end my life right then and there!"

General Chen was stumped. Frankly, that was what he would have done.

Chen Xuyao was a victim of such an act.

"As a soldier, Chen Feitang's failure to follow military rules is a reasonable reason to discharge her from the military! She doesn't deserve the uniform!"

Lu Xingzhi glanced at the pale-faced Chen Feitang standing behind General Chen. "You should be prepared to deal with the consequences the moment you said those words! So what if you are the daughter of the Chen family and the granddaughter of General Chen? Let me tell you, you are the Chen family's treasure but my wife is my life!"

Jiang Yao heard it and decided not to enter the tent. She turned around and left.

The soldier was puzzled and went after her, without disturbing the occupants in the tent, of course.

"Ay ay! Why aren't you going in?"

"Why should I?" Jiang Yao asked.

"Captain Lu is about to fight with the General and General Chen, shouldn't you try and stop it?" The soldier looked at her in confusion.

Jiang Yao shook her head. "Why should I? He had a good point, didn't he? Why should I tear his argument down when he is out there fighting for me?"

A brief pause later, she retorted, "Do you have a crush on Chen Feitang instead and don't want to see her punished. That's why you came for me so that I could stop my husband from giving Chen Feitang more trouble?"

"Bollocks! Nobody likes that cocky woman!" The soldier was upset at her accusation.

She did make sense though, he was in a hurry just now trying to prevent a fight from happening.

After listening to Jiang Yao though, it seemed like that was the worse thing she could do, tearing Lu Xingzhi down and preventing him from giving Chen Feitang the appropriate punishment.