

## Chapter 76: Lu Yuqing's Decision

When the siblings were in the county shopping, little did Jiang Yao expect that she would see Lu Yuqing sitting in a daze alone in a coffee shop next to the bookstore. She even looked as if her soul had left her body as she stared blankly at the open space.

Jiang Yao nudged Jiang Lei and ushered, "Hey, you go ahead, or you go home with my stuff first. I want to go and meet Sister Yuqing." Without further explanation, she pushed the coffee shop's door open. She took a stride forward, paused, and turned back to her brother. "In case my mother-in-law asks of my whereabouts, just tell her that I bumped into Yuqing and I'm with her."

Then, Jiang Yao walked straight in and stood beside Lu Yuqing quietly. She bent over and said gently, "Sister, it's me!"

Lu Yuqing was a little obtuse. She took a moment to respond to Jiang Yao's calling, but the minute she saw Jiang Yao, she raised to her feet abruptly, hugged Jiang Yao, and cried out loud with her head resting on Jiang Yao's shoulder.

"Xiaoyao, what should I do? Tell me, what should I do?" Lu Yuqing broke down and howled desperately. She had no one to express her frustrations to. She didn't dare tell her parents, for fear that her parents would worry about her. Her in-laws were worse.

"Yuqing, what's going on?" Jiang Yao was a little frantic as Lu Yuqing embraced her tightly, her hands hanging high in the sky, not knowing where to put them. Eventually, she gently patted Yuqing's shoulder, offering her comfort in the most primitive way.

"I hired a private investigator to follow Zhao Zhuangzong. I found out that oftentimes when he told me he had to work overtime till midnight, he was actually at that woman's house! And I, the silly me, waited for him until midnight like an idiot! I even made him supper! He came home with the joyful and happy disguise every time, but the fact is he just got out of the woman's embrace! Zhao Zhuangzong, that scum! How could he! How could he do this to me?" Lu Yuqing wailed, heartbroken and exasperated.

"Yesterday, I went back to my in-laws' place with him. My mother-in-law started talking about the baby again. That b\*stard said that he had everything planned out, that he had asked someone about the adoption and that they would get the results in less than two months. You know what? My mother-in-law agreed! Less than two months, that's around the woman's due date! Is he planning to take the child he had with another woman home and expect me, the idiotic Lu Yuqing, to help him raise his son? Why do such cruel human beings exist? Did I offend him in any way? Why would he do this to me? Why!"

The more Lu Yuqing illustrated, the more heartbroken and sorrowful she was. "Clearly, my in-laws knew about it all along. They were all in this together. Perhaps they already know that the woman is carrying a son. I suspect that him bringing me to the in-laws yesterday is actually a decoy, a show where they've deliberately staged the baby adoption play and I was the main audience. They probably hoped that I'll care for the little b\*stard for them, that I'll nurture the little b\*stard for them, but the fact is that the baby has literally nothing to do with me! What role do they assume I play in the Zhao family? Their slave? Their nanny? Or perhaps they actually think I'm an easy target!"

“Yuqing, Zhao Zhuangzong is absolute scum,” Jiang Yao swore agitatedly. “He isn’t worth any of your tears and sorrow.”

“Xiaoyao, I feel sorry for myself. What do you think I should do? Should I get a divorce? If I do, the d\*mned couple’s dream to be together will come true, won’t it? That woman can officially come in and take my place, right? It’s not fair! It’s not fair!”

Lu Yuqing’s whole face was covered with her tears. It was such a devastating sight to see such a strong and proud woman break down in tears right now.

“Yuqing, think about it. If you don’t leave him, you’re actually hurting yourself, am I right? Why do you want to make your life miserable and pathetic? Do you really think that staying with him and pretending like you don’t know any of this is a good way of showing your fighting spirit? That you don’t want them to win? If you do, then I must admit I’m very disappointed in you. You’re actually giving up on your prime, your time, and most importantly, your life. Yuqing, you’re such a wonderful woman. Without Zhao Zhuangzong, there are many men out there who are worth your effort,” Jiang Yao persuaded.

She knew that it was normal for people to not give in because in their minds, they assumed it was a step of surrendering.

## **Chapter 77: The Divorce**

However, on second thought, taking a step back doesn’t mean that you’ve surrendered to the situation, but rather, it’s a chance to start anew.

Was it really necessary for this dysfunctional marriage to go on? Zhao Zhuangzong and his family were a group of evil monsters. No one in the Zhao family had the slightest trace of moral consciences and principles. What benefit would Lu Yuqing obtain if she wanted to stay married with this unfaithful man just because she thought it wasn’t fair?

Lu Yuqing stared at Jiang Yao in a daze. Gradually, her wail reduced to sobbing. After a long while, she took a deep breath and nodded. “You’re absolutely right. I shouldn’t continue this miserable life, pretending to know nothing, letting them deceive and humiliate me. Who am I? I am Lu Yuqing. I am the daughter of the Lu family, who do they think they are to bully me like this?”

Slowly, Lu Yuqing regained her composure. “Zhao Zhuangzong is like a hundred dollar bill that has dropped into a puddle of sh\*t. It’s a pity not to pick it up, but it’s nasty and disgusting if you do. Meanwhile, I, Lu Yuqing, have plenty of money. I don’t need to waste my time with this stinky bill.”

“Sister, make the decision that will make you happiest. Don’t forget, you have Mom and Dad and also your brother. Although Xingzhi is just a National Guard, he has a group of very powerful and influential buddies. If you are upset, the Lu family would have all the ideas and contacts to make the Zhao family miserable.”

Jiang Yao felt relieved after seeing Lu Yuqing determined and confident.

“I’ve already made my decision. I want to divorce the b\*stard right now, immediately!” Lu Yuqing growled in great dismay, her wrath burning. “Xiaoyao, I’ll forever be grateful to you for this matter. You

can go home first. I'm going to the lawyer's office now, I want to make sure that Zhao Zhuangzong cannot stay in this town ever again!"

Jiang Yao headed home straightaway after seeing Lu Yuqing, thinking that she would not be seeing Lu Yuqing for several days. Surprisingly, Lu Yuqing suddenly returned home at dinnertime and informed her parents about her decision to divorce Zhao Zhuangzong. The parents recoiled in extreme shock and disbelief.

However, after listening to Lu Yuqing describing her findings as she adamantly held back her tears, both parents gaped in surprise but none of them objected to her decision, nor did they accuse Lu Yuqing of responding impulsively.

"Oh my god, it's so shocking! He has always been so polite and smart, but what do you know? He is such a monster! B\*stard!" Mrs. Lu shivered furiously. "Yes, go ahead and divorce him! The Zhao family has gone too far! If it wasn't for our Lu family's financial help, what kind of life do they think they can lead now?"

"I'm calling Haixing right away! I want that b\*stard fired!" Mr. Lu went to the phone, immediately called Lu Haixing, and told him all about Zhao Zhuangdong's wrongdoings.

Jiang Yao wasn't sure how Lu Yuqing and the Lu family would handle Zhao Zhuangzong, but she figured that the outcome would be similar to that of her previous life, with Zhao Zhuangzong ending up wretched and detestable. After all, the Lu family's influence and network were very powerful in the county and even the city.

Before rebirth, Zhao Zhuangzong and Lu Yuqing's had marriage lasted a lot longer and he had obtained a lot more benefits from the Lu family. In the end, the Lu family was still capable of cutting Zhao Zhuangzong off from marriage without a single cent and even made him bankrupt. As for this life, since the divorce had happened way earlier, it would be a piece of cake for the Lu family to mess Zhao Zhuangzong up.

Jiang Yao didn't follow up with the divorce procedure, but it was hard to miss such big news. On the very next day, Lu Yuqing officially divorced Zhao Zhuangzong. Just within the span of one night, Zhao Zhuangzong had lost his job and place to live. The house where they lived at was part of the dowry that the Lu family had presented to Lu Yuqing. After the divorce, they threw Zhao Zhuangzong's things out of the house, including the kitchen sink.

## **Chapter 78: The Zhao Family's Disgrace and Downfall**

In the meantime, Lu Haixing sent his people to the Zhao family's house to remove everything that Lu Yuqing and the Lu family had given to them all these years, ranging from furniture as large as the sofa and 6-foot wardrobe to a pair of shoes and a bottle of supplement pills. They carried the things that could be taken away onto the truck and those that couldn't were destroyed on the spot.

This was the typical characteristic of Lu Haixing. He was a generally nice person, but once he was offended, he would come back in full force.

For the following days, the family members of the Zhao family, from old to young, came to the town, blocking and rallying in front of the Lu family house's gate. They were howling, shouting, and cursing at the Lu family with all kinds of harsh words. They even threatened to hang themselves at the gate.

Mr. and Mrs. Lu were annoyed by their horrendous behavior. Since it was a school holiday, they packed their things and taking Jiang Yao with them, they went to stay with Lu Haixing in the county.

Unlike the Lu family house in the countryside, bodyguards were scattered around the perimeter of Lu Haixing's house. When anyone from the Zhao family approached the house, the bodyguards instantly blocked them and hurled them onto the street mercilessly. Hence, Jiang Yao and the rest of the Lu family could finally have some peace in the county.

"Jiang Yao, we haven't seen the b\*stard Zhao Zhuangzong recently, have we?" Lu Xiaoxiao no longer addressed Zhao Zhuangzong as her brother-in-law ever since she knew the truth.

"Maybe he's cheesed off with his work and money problem right now," Jiang Yao assumed. Now that Lu Yuqing and Zhao Zhuangzong were divorced, he had nothing to do with the Lu family anymore. Thus, the news about him owing hefty debts outside surfaced.

Zhao Zhuangzong didn't earn much from his job, but he spent a lot of money as Lu Yuqing's assistant's sugar daddy. On top of that, he had borrowed a lot of money to pretentiously flaunt his wealth and prosperity.

In the beginning, the creditors didn't urge him to pay his debts on account of Zhao Zhuangzong being the son-in-law of the prestigious Lu family. However, the news about Zhao Zhuangzong being divorced and kicked out of the Lu family spread like wildfire. These creditors emerged like mushrooms after rain and eagerly went after him to recover the debts. Currently, Zhao Zhuangzong was just a penniless nobody after losing his identity as the Lu family's son-in-law. They were afraid that they wouldn't get a single penny from the poverty-stricken man!

Everyone saw Zhao Zhuangzong as the laughing stock of the county who was ungrateful and betraying the marriage oath. Countless men were envious of him marrying the wealthy Miss Lu as his wife. Her dowry was enough for him to spend the rest of his life comfortably. Besides, thanks to their daughter-in-law, the Zhao family's social class increased by leaps and bounds.

Ironically, Zhao Zhuangzong failed in fawning on his in-laws and the powerful Lu family. Not only did he keep a mistress and get her pregnant, but he had also staged a devious plan of taking the baby in as an adopted child and letting Lu Yuqing raised him. How could the Lu family endure such devastating insults and humiliation? His own vile attempt had forced him to hide in disgrace.

"He is such an evil and stinky man! Sister Yuqing is so nice to him and his family, but they're so disgusting and nasty! They've treated her like an ATM machine, they summoned her when they needed a washing machine, they summoned her when their TV was broken. His sister had even exploited Sister Yuqing's name in the mall to buy whatever she wanted! They are all money-sucking vampires!" Lu Xiaoxiao growled and stomped in great dismay. "Especially Zhao Zhuangzong's cousin—I was really disgusted and irritated when I saw her. Unfortunately, she and I are schoolmates. She often jumped on me to show off her prized loot from the mall! Is she crazy? Does she honestly think that I, Lu Xiaoxiao,

will be jealous of her? Whatever she can afford is not even in my optional shopping list! Who does she think she is?"

## **Chapter 79: The Wonderful Gentlemen of the Lu Family**

Jiang Yao sighed upon Lu Xiaoxiao's comments. Lu Yuqing was very earnest and nice to Zhao Zhuangzong and hence, she fulfilled his and his family's every need. However, the Zhao family became greedy. They took her kindness for granted and felt entitled to Lu Yuqing's generosity.

Jiang Yao supposed that it was partially due to Lu Yuqing's endless and humble generosity that the Zhao family had failed to distinguish their own status and identity in the situation. If Lu Yuqing had taken up the attitude of the esteemed missus from the wealthy Lu family and treated the Zhao family as equals, she doubted that they would have treated her the same way they did now.

It was rather ungrateful for Zhao Zhuangzong to have Lu Yuqing by the short hairs. Not only was he was disrespectful to Lu Yuqing, but he also took her as the ATM with endless funds. He only needed to reach out his hand and demand when he needed money.

Right now, their mischief had incurred Lu Yuqing's wrath. She was done with Zhao Zhuangzong for good and had brought the marriage to an end. Now that the Zhao family's luxurious lifestyle was shattered and they were even poorer than before the marriage had happened, they had the nerve to come and make a scene at the Lu family house.

They had failed to reflect that all they used to have were courtesy of Lu Yuqing, and they had never respected her or been the least grateful of her in any way.

Perhaps Jiang Yao was silent for a little too long that attracted Lu Xiaoxiao's attention. She glanced at her peculiarly while recalling what she had just said. She gaped her mouth frantically and blurted out relentlessly, "Jiang Yao, don't worry, I can guarantee that Brother Xingzhi is nothing like Zhao Zhuangzong, not even a bit! Brother Xingzhi is a great guy, the most precious great guy you can ever find! The men in the Lu family are all wonderful gentlemen. Look at my uncle and dad—they are all great, aren't they? Please rest assured that Brother Xingzhi is also a gentleman. Don't you start overthinking about what I just said, please."

Lu Xiaoxiao was absolutely certain that Lu Xingzhi would go after her if Jiang Yao made an unnecessary assumption because of her remarks.

"I know that. You're right, the men of the Lu family are the finest gentlemen. Too bad you're from the Lu family and can't marry one," Jiang Yao chuckled gently.

She had complete assurance about Lu Xingzhi, the man who would go beyond the extra mile for her before her rebirth. Now that she had presented her love to him, she doubted that he would do something harmful to himself now.

Nonetheless, Lu Xiaoxiao was right. The men of the Lu family were indeed fine gentlemen. Her parents-in-law were still very much in love after all these years. Uncle Lu was wealthy enough to have a comfortable life but he focused mainly on his business and building his fortune instead of fooling around. Lu Haitian had even persuaded Lu Haixing to find a companion to no avail.

Lu Haixing cared for Lu Xiaoxiao very much. He was afraid that his new partner would not take Lu Xiaoxiao as her own and would make Lu Xiaoxiao sad, so much so that he was willing to be single.

“Great, awesome.” Lu Xiaoxiao giggled gleefully. “As for me, I have my dad, and my dad will find me the perfect Mr. Right for me who will be better than Brother Xingzhi!”

Jiang Yao chuckled delightedly at Lu Xiaoxiao’s happy-go-lucky attitude. She was right, Lu Haixing was totally capable of doing so.

“Jiang Yao, it’s quite boring here. College is about to start for you, isn’t it? Why don’t we go to the movies again? Let’s watch an old comedy! I never tire of it, and in fact, it’s more fun than staying at home.” Lu Xiaoxiao got excited whenever a companion came along. Before Jiang Yao could even reply her, she called for the adults who were talking downstairs, went downstairs with Jiang Yao, and left the house through the side gate.

### **Chapter 80: Grab Her**

There was not much of a crowd in the cinema as it was an old film playing in the middle of the hot afternoon. Despite the lack of popularity, it was quite an interesting movie. Lu Xiaoxiao met her friends too. After the movie, Lu Xiaoxiao asked Jiang Yao to head home first while she went to dinner with her friends.

After Jiang Yao exited the cinema, she felt as if someone was tailing her. So, instead of walking home straightaway, she went into a crowded bookstore, bought two books, and casually read the books while observing her surroundings discreetly, although she couldn’t find any suspicious people.

Jiang Yao knocked her head in bewilderment. She was being ridiculous.

Lu Haixing’s house was located on the outskirts of the city center, away from the densely populated place. There was a long descending slope on the way home and at the peak of the slope was the housing area where Lu Haixing and several of his neighbors lived.

The scenery of the slope was very breathtaking with endless rows of tall ginkgo trees. These ginkgo trees were a tourist attraction in every winter, but right now, the slope was hollow.

Grabbing the two books in her embrace, Jiang Yao walked hastily up the slope.

“D\*mn it! That’s the b\*tch! Hurry up and grab her!”

Abruptly, Zhao Zhuangzong’s menacing voice echoed from the dense woods beside side. Two to three men emerged with him from behind the tall trees and they slowly approached her.

The three men glared at her in an inexplicable illicit way.

“Zhao Zhuangzong, are you serious? Is this the girl you want us to play with? In fact, you want to give me money for it?” One of the men with yellow-dyed hair eyed Jiang Yao from head to toe. “Not bad, quite pretty too, looks like a decent girl. Let me see, what books do you have there?”

The man reached out, attempting to grab Jiang Yao's chest. She stumbled back anxiously and shouted, "Zhao Zhuangzong, what do you think you're doing?"

Jiang Yao was calculating her chances. If she shouted, could the residents at the top of this slope hear her calling for help?

Jiang Yao wasn't sure, so she carefully looked towards the road where she came from. She wondered how likely it was that she could run back to the intersection to call for help.

"Surround her! She is as sly as a fox, don't let her run away!" Zhao Zhuangzong commanded after noticing Jiang Yao's gaze. "This woman's skill is top-notch, her man finds her extremely pleasant. Go ahead, enjoy your time with her, try and see how fun it is to do it with a spoiled and arrogant woman."

Despite knowing how barbarous Zhao Zhuangzong was, Jiang Yao was still taken aback by his filthy language after tearing off his polite disguise.

Truth be told, some people were so great at disguising that they could deceive everyone. There were some people in this world who were so despicable from the inside out.

Jiang Yao imagined how heartbroken Lu Yuqing would be if she saw Zhao Zhuangzong in this manner. How blind she was to have fallen in love with this rogue.

"Zhao Zhuangzong, what do you want?" Jiang Yao could foresee that there was nowhere for her to escape from these cold-blooded men.

"What do I want? Jiang Yao, you b\*tch, how dare you ask me about what I want! It's all because of you that I've ended up so miserable! I no longer have a place to go back to, the creditors are bugging me day and night, I lost my job, I lost everything! Are you happy? Are you glad to see Lu Yuqing divorce me and kick me out of the house, and me becoming a street mouse that people rant and rage at?"