

# Farming in the Mountains: Max Level Jiaojiao Is Three Years Old –

## Chapter 128 - Fire Pistons -

Xue Yan and the others also felt the same.

Even though Xue Dafu had never cooked before, he had been eating for many years and knew what was considered delicious. Furthermore, they didn't have to be so frugal anymore, so Xue Dafu naturally spoke up, "Hehua, when you cook at home in the future, don't be so frugal with the ingredients. Just add as much as you need."

"Okay." Hehua nodded with a smile, looking very happy.

How could she not be happy that her days were getting better and better?

Liu Guixia and the others were also very happy.

Jiang Yue nodded in her heart, thinking that this was the normal standard of living. They didn't have to worry about meals, and didn't need to save on the littlest things.

Xue Yan glanced at Jiang Yue.

If it wasn't for her, he would still be taking it slowly.

The next morning, there was no steamed cornbread. Instead, there was brown rice porridge and two dishes. Just like what Xue Dafu had said at dinner the day before, the two dishes had a lot of oil and seasoning.

Naturally, the meal could only be described in one word — fragrant!

Xue Dafu and the others were in a particularly good mood.

After dinner, Xue Yan and Xue Dafu went to town together. Just like last time, Xue Erfu also went with them. The three of them borrowed the ox cart.

Tian was overjoyed.

Tian couldn't wait for someone to borrow the ox cart at home every day. This way, he would earn much more than pulling the ox cart alone.

Xue Yan and the others went to the town to buy bricks and tiles for the big house and the fields. Jiang Yue didn't go, but she didn't stay idle. She took out the basket she left in the central room yesterday and started to make a fire piston.

Making a fire piston required the use of a thin bamboo tube, and she couldn't use a knife in front of Xue Yifu and the others, so she asked Xue Yifu, who was under the shed, to help make a few thin bamboo tubes. It was the kind that could be covered.

Xue Yifu was usually a simple and honest man, and he looked like he did not know anything other than farming. However, when it came to doing this, his two hands that were full of calluses were very skillful. It did not take long for him to make a few of these small bamboo tubes for Jiang Yue.

"Thank you."

"What's there to thank me for? If you have anything to say, just say it. I'll be under the shed."

"Thank you."

It was only when she saw that Xue Yifu had gone back to the shed to make spinning wheels that Jiang Yue started to make fire pistons again.

Since Xue Yifu was not busy with anything else and was busy making things for the workshop almost all day, Xue Yan did not need Yu Hongyan to look after her when she was not around. Xue Yifu would help to look after her in the courtyard while making things under the shed.

Jiang Yue had already gotten used to it after so many days.

Jiang Yue squatted there and calmly took out a piece of rough clay paper from the basket on her back. She placed it on the ground and sprinkled some flammable substances such as sulfur, saltpeter, and phosphorus on it. Finally, she rolled the piece of clay paper tightly and into a roll that could be put into a small bamboo tube.

Then, she lit the paper tube with fire and closed the lid.

An simple fire starter was completed.

The others here only knew how to do it, but they didn't know the principle behind it. However, she knew that it was the principle of reignition.

The inside of the thin bamboo tube was flammable. After burning it with the lid closed. The oxygen in the bamboo tube will burn out and sparks would ignite.

When it was used, she would open the bamboo tube and blow on it. When it came into contact with oxygen, the original sparks in the bamboo tube would instantly ignite.

Jiang Yue was not in a hurry to blow at them. She only opened them one by one after she made five and blew on them.

## Chapter 129: What's Going On?

As expected, the spark was blown away and turned into flames.

“What!” Li Hehua immediately walked over to take a look. “Jiang Yue, you really made a fire piston? How are you so smart?”

“I only rolled it up as Xue Yan said,” Jiang Yue said. “Yifu made the bamboo tube.”

Xue Yifu also came over and smiled naively. “I didn’t do anything and didn’t expect it to burn up after blowing on it. Will it stop burning once it’s covered?”

“Yes.” Jiang Yue nodded and closed the lid again. After a while, she opened it. As expected, they could only faintly see the sparks inside. There was no flame like before. She blew again, and flames appeared again.

“This is good.” Xue Yifu chuckled. “It’s just a little expensive. These things are enough to buy a lot of flint stones for the family. Two pieces of flint stones can be used for a few months.”

However, these few fire pistons would save a lot of their time.

Li Hehua laughed. “That’s because we’re poor. I heard that the lighters of the big families in town still have fragrance in them. Those lighters are ridiculously expensive.”

“True, true.” Xue Yifu chuckled.

There were five fire pistons, one in each room. It was much more convenient to use them to light up a lamp than to use a flint. Jiang Yue kept all the fire pistons in her room.

Then, she made a fire starter and placed it at the entrance of the stove.

After thinking for a while, she made one and gave it to Xueyan.

Liu Guixia and the others were also very happy when they saw the fire piston. Although they were used to using flintstones, they would sometimes encounter situations where they couldn't start a fire. It was not as good as the fire piston. They also felt that the fire piston was a little expensive. If they could make a fire with the flintstones, they wouldn't have to use the fire piston.

Jiang Yue kept the match that she gave to Xue Yan, she planned to give it to Xue Yan when he came back. Then, she packed up the remaining materials and waited for the match to be used up.

The rest of the materials were put in her room. There were more people in Xue Yan's room, and it was more crowded than her room, so it was not easy to put them there.

She thought that she would go to the village chief to see if there were any people who wanted to sell their land when Xue Yan came back. After all, the barren land would definitely be used to grow something.

Then, Jiang Yue entered her space. She selected some seeds of the things she wanted to grow and let them grow in the all-purpose nursery.

Among them were the seeds of seedless watermelons.

There were watermelons in this world, but there were no seedless watermelons. Seedless watermelons were sweeter than seeded watermelons. That was because the seeds of the seedless watermelons couldn't develop normally, most of the nutrients would then be left to the flesh, making the watermelons sweeter. She didn't need to spit out the seeds, and she liked to eat them. The first seed she chose was the seedless watermelon.

She had also chosen some seeds for the seedless watermelons so that they could exist in this world more reasonably.

She also chose some strawberry seeds because she liked to eat strawberries.

There were no strawberries in this world, but there were raspberries on the mountain that looked a little like strawberries. She would pretend that she had picked them from the mountain and planted them. Who knew that the fruits would be different from raspberries?

She had already thought it through. As long as it was something that did not exist in this world, she would pretend that she had dug it up from the mountains. This way, people would not find it strange.

Just as Jiang Yue walked out of the high-tech room and was about to exit the space, she noticed a green grass growing out of the land.

Besides the grass, there was a small pool of water.

Jiang Yue was stunned.

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What was going on?

Jiang Yue walked over and squatted down.

## Chapter 130: Try

She touched the soil under the grass with her fingers. It was black soil, but how did green grass grow out? The grass was still very lively as if it had grown out of a crack.

But wasn't this wasteland supposed to be lifeless?

She had tried it before in her original world.

Jiang Yue reached out a finger to touch the small pool of water. She was even more puzzled as to why there was water all of a sudden.

Looking around, it was still a wasteland.

Jiang Yue couldn't help but enter the high-tech room to look at the control console and the big screen, but there were no notifications.

Unable to figure it out, Jiang Yue stopped thinking about it.

This space was magical so she did not question much.

However, since the grass was growing here, did it mean that things could be grown on the wasteland?

With that thought in mind, Jiang Yue took some of the leftover sorghum seedlings from last time and planted them around the wasteland where grass grew, trying to see if she could really grow things on the wasteland.

She even poured some water on it.

Then, she left the space.

Se decided to let time tell. If the sorghum seedlings were alive, it meant that they could be planted on the wasteland. If they were dead, it meant that they couldn't be planted yet.

Not long after she came out of the space, she was called for lunch.

They didn't know if Xue Dafu and the others would be back for lunch, so they didn't wait and ate first.

Xue Dafu and the others didn't come back until a while later. Xue Yan was the last to get off the ox cart, so Liu Guixia told them to eat. The rice was still warm in the pot.

"Why didn't you eat in town? Didn't you say that we don't need to save so much?" Liu Guixia nagged as she laid out the utensils for them.

Xue Dafu chuckled. "We wanted to eat your lunch. Alright, alright, stop nagging. Let's eat!"

"You guys had your breakfast so early. It's already so late, of course, you're hungry." Liu Guixia said as she gave Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu a big bowl of brown rice.

Xue Yan was young and couldn't eat that much, so Liu Guixia only gave him half a bowl.

Xue Yan took the half bowl of rice and some vegetables, then he went to the side to eat.

Jiang Yue walked to his side and took out the fire starter from her pocket.

Xue Yan was stunned for a moment, then he took it with one hand and put it in his arms, then continued to eat.

Jiang Yue also squatted down beside him.

After a while, Jiang Yue found out from Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu that they had bought the six acres of land. All the land in the family was now their own, and not a single one was rented.

However, the bricks and tiles would not arrive so quickly because there was no ready-made one.

Although there were two kilns in the town that could bake bricks and tiles, one of them didn't do well, so they would only make them by appointment basis. The one they chose had good quality bricks and tiles, and its business was good.

Even the big families in the county looked for this shop to bake bricks and tiles.

It just so happened that there were many large families who wanted to build a big villa recently, so this shop's business was even better. Wven if they had made a reservation, they had to queue up and wait for their turn to bake for them.

So be it. They couldn't just buy some bad bricks and tiles to build the house. In order to build the house well, Xue Dafu and the others paid a deposit of 15 silver and signed the documents at the better brick shop.

This shop agreed and also stated in the document that the bricks would be baked and sent over in two months at the earliest and three months at the latest.

"Since it'll take another two to three months for the bricks to arrive, let's not talk to the village chief about building the house first." Liu Guixia said.

Xue Dafu said, "That's what I think too. When the bricks and tiles are delivered, we'll talk to Chief Lu. It's not too late to let him mark out the land. It's all near the village anyway, so there's no need to be in such a hurry to mark out the land for our house. There's no rush now."

"Yes, yes, yes." the others nodded. "That's good too. We'll probably have time to build a house soon enough."

Double snatching was the time when they were harvesting early rice and planting late rice.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan didn't have any objections.

This matter was settled.

Seeing that Xue Dafu had finished his meal and was about to go to Chief Lu's house to ask if anyone in the village wanted to sell their land, Jiang Yue said, "I'll go with Xue Yan."

"That's good, that's good." Xue Dafu chuckled and didn't have any objections. "By the way, you said a few acres, but how many acres do you want to buy?"

Xue Yan looked at Jiang Yue.

“Five,” Jiang Yue said.

She didn’t want to plant too many.

Xue Dafu didn’t realize that Jiang Yue was the one in charge. Xue Yan didn’t say anything, so he just nodded.

“Sure, sure, then I’ll buy five acres.”

Xue Dafu strode in front with Jiang Yue and Xue Yan following behind.

Xue Yan took out a fire piston from his pocket and looked at it, then put it away.

“Your mother and the others can’t bear to use it,” Jiang Yue said.

“When they get used to it, they’ll hate the flint,” Xue Yan said with a smile.

Jiang Yue agreed.

On the way, they met someone. That person smiled and asked, “Dafu, where are you taking your two kids?”

Xue Dafu continued to walk forward with big steps as he smiled. “To Chief Lu’s house.”

“You have something to discuss with Chief Lu, right?” that person laughed.

Xue Dafu could only laugh.

It wasn’t until Xue Dafu, Jiang Yue, and Xue Yan were far away that the man turned to the person beside him and said, “Ever since Xue Dafu bought the fields with the money he got from selling the blind bear, he immediately straightened his back. He walked with a breeze, and I don’t see that hunchback anymore.”

The person next to him laughed, “His back was originally only a little hunchback. It’s also a good thing that Xue Yan didn’t continue to study in town, or else he would have become more and more hunchbacked, just like his father, Xue Da.”

“But it’s such a pity for Xue Yan. He has such a good brain.”

“That was in the past. I heard that his brain is not as good as it used to be, so he can’t continue his studies in town, so he came back dejectedly.”

“You’re listening to Wang Sufen’s nonsense again, right? Most of what she and the others said was not true. Don’t listen to Zhang Meili too, Xue Yan’s fourth aunt. Anyway,



there is no such thing. Xue Yan is still smart. He probably felt bad for his family and didn't want them to work so hard, so he decided to quit school and said that he wanted to become a farmer. That child has been very sensible since he was young, it's not like you don't know."

"I should've known." The people around him suddenly realized.

"I think Xue Yan is still the same as before. I can't see any difference. Why question him coming back? These are all just silly guesses. Wang Sufen and the others are just full of nonsense."

Jiang Yue didn't hear the conversation between the two because she had already arrived at Chief Lu's house.

Chief Lu was weaving a wicker basket in the courtyard. His son, Lu Zhuangniu, was helping him to peel the bamboo basket nimbly. His wife and daughter-in-law were sitting under the roof, peeling the peanuts from last year. They did not want the shells of the peanuts, leaving only the peanuts in a bowl.

His grandson and granddaughter were playing in the central room.

The door to the courtyard was not closed.

"Chief Lu." Xue Dafu greeted him with a smile before walking in.

## Chapter 132: Head in the Clouds

Only then did Jiang Yue and Xue Yan follow him in.

She only knew Chief Lu and Lu Zhuangniu, but Xue Yan knew the rest. So, she followed Xue Yan in and greeted everyone politely.

"Is there a problem? Come, come, come in and sit." Chief Lu quickly put down the work in his hands and wanted to get up and invite them into the house.

"No thank you, we can talk in the yard." Xue Dafu laughed.

Chief Lu, who had just left the stool, immediately sat back down.

Chief Lu's daughter-in-law wanted to pour them some water but was stopped by Xue Dafu. She then brought three stools over for them to sit on.

Xue Dafu, Xue Yan, and Jiang Yue all sat down.

Before Chief Lu could ask, his wife continued to peel the peanuts and asked with a bright smile, "Dafu, why are you looking for?"

Xue Dafu placed his hands on his knees. "It's nothing serious. I just came to ask Chief Lu if anyone is willing to sell their barren land. My family wants to buy a few acres. Five acres will do."

Lu Zhuangniu immediately laughed. "Dafu, are you out of your mind? Do you actually want to buy barren land? Who would buy barren land?"

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan were speechless.

Xue Dafu only laughed and didn't take it to heart.

However, that wasn't the focus of Chief Lu's wife's attention. The moment she heard that he wanted to buy a barren land, she immediately stopped peeling the peanuts and asked with her eyes shining, "Your family has so much money. Didn't you already buy eight acres of good land? How do you still have money to buy barren land? Could it be that the blind bear was sold for more than a hundred silver?"

"How could you say that!" Chief Lu chided his son first, then his wife. "I told you to stay away from Wang Sufen and the others, but you insisted to listen. Now, you're no different from them! You only know how to inquire about these things, don't you know how annoying that is to others?"

Hearing this, Jiang Yue felt that Chief Lu was quite a good person.

Chief Lu's wife felt wronged.

"It's fine, it's fine," Xue Dafu laughed and tried to smooth things over. "Then, Chief Lu, what do you think about our family's purchase of the barren land?"

Chief Lu said, "If you really want to buy it, I can't stop you. However, Dafu, as the village head, I still have to say what needs to be said. Besides, I'm a few years older than you."

"Go on, go on." Xue Dafu was still laughing.

Chief Lu sighed, and then said with a heavy heart, "This is a barren land. Just like Zhuangniu said, no one will buy it. There's not much harvest at all. You've opened up a few acres of uncultivated land before, so you know the situation. You've spent a lot of effort on that uncultivated land to make it have some harvest. It's because your family is diligent, always watering or fertilizing the land. Other people's uncultivated land might not even have your family's harvest. If your family really has that money, I advise you to

buy one acre of low-class land from Feng rather than five acres of barren land in the village.”

Xue Dafu laughed. “I understand the logic, but we’re not buying it for our adults to plant. We don’t expect any harvest. We’re buying it for our Jiang Yue and XueYan to play with.”

He was just playing around ...

“W-what did you just say?” Chief Lu thought he had heard wrong.

Lu Zhuangniu and the rest also thought that they had misheard. They stopped what they were doing and looked over.

However, perhaps because Chief Lu’s voice was a little soft and Xue Dafu hadn’t finished his sentence, he didn’t hear him. Xue Dafu was still chuckling. “The two children usually don’t have much to play with. If they want to have a few acres of land, let them have it as long as they are happy.”

## Chapter 133: What’s There to Worry About?

Only then did Chief Lu confirm that he hadn’t heard wrongly. He stood up in a rush, “Dafu, you can’t do this! How can the head of the family do this? If the two children want to play with it, then you let them play with it? Even if nothing could be grown on the barren land, it is still land, and it is still worth some silver. Not to mention three or four silver, one or two silver per acre would be necessary, right? These five acres would be about ten silver. Is your family that rich?”

The last sentence was exactly what Lu Zhuangniu and the rest were thinking about, so they all nodded in agreement.

After shouting, Chief Lu finally realized that he had been too agitated. Feeling a little embarrassed, he laughed awkwardly, “Dafu, don’t blame me. I didn’t mean to shout at you. I just think you’re being too thoughtless. Even if your family sold a bear, it was something that Wufu risked his life to get... anyway, I just don’t want your family to suffer. You have to think about this barren land carefully, this is not a small matter. If you buy it, it will be too late for you to regret it in the future.”

“Chief Lu, I know.” Xue Dafu still didn’t take it to heart and was still chuckling. “You’ve taken good care of our family all these years as the village head. We’re all grateful to you for looking forward to the well-being of the village.”

Jiang Yue finally understood why Chief Lu's words were so effective in the village. It was not only because he was the village head, but also because he was thinking for the village and had no selfish motives.

At this moment, Chief Lu's wife couldn't help but mumble, "If a rich family wants to buy barren land, they definitely have spare money. They already have eight acres of good land and have a solid foundation. They won't have to suffer as much as before. Just those few acres of land are already better than many families in our village. What are you worried about?"

Chief Lu immediately glared at his wife.

His wife quickly shut her mouth again.

Chief Lu thought about it and felt that his wife's words made sense. "If you've thought it through and have the spare money, then buy it. After all, this is your family's business. No matter how far I stretch my hands, I won't stretch them so far as to meddle with the family business."

Xue Dafu immediately said, "Thank you! I'd still like to buy the land please."

Fine, since he had already made up his mind, there was no point in saying anything else. Chief Lu only advised Xue Yan and Jiang Yue, who were sitting obediently at the side, "Look at how well your family treats you. They give you whatever you want. When you grow up, you must return the favor, understand?"

"Understood, Chief Lu," Jiang Yue and Xue Yan replied obediently.

"Alright. Alright." Chief Lu nodded his head affably before turning to Xue Dafu. "You go back first, I'll help you ask if anyone wants to sell their barren land tomorrow."

Before Chief Lu could finish his sentence, his wife couldn't help but interject, and she was extremely enthusiastic, "Our family only has two acres of barren land that we're not going to plant this year. We don't want it anymore and won't have much harvest in the future. We might as well use the time we have left to manage the land to make some baskets and sell them for money. It's not that tiring. Since Dafu wants to buy it and doesn't care about the harvest, we might as well sell our two acres to him."

"Where is your shame?!" Chief Lu was instantly infuriated.

His wife cowered and didn't dare to say anything.

Xue Dafu whispered to Xue Yan and Jiang Yue, "No matter how bad a barren land is, as long as we work hard, we can make it better. Anyway, whether a barren land is good or not, it's just like that. Besides, Chief Lu has been good to our family all these years, always remember that kids."

## Chapter 134: Unacceptable!

Jiang Yue understood what Xue Dafu meant. He wanted to buy the village head's two acres mu of barren land either way.

The strong seedlings that she had grown in her space were resistant to barrenness and could grow well without the need for especially fertile soil. She nodded.

Seeing Jiang Yue nod, Xue Yan also nodded.

Xue Dafu laughed at Chief Lu. "Chief Lu, the barren lands are all the same. There's not much difference between buying your family's land and buying other people's land. Why don't you sell your family's two acres to me? As for the other three acres, can you help us ask other families?"

"How can we do that? We don't even want that piece of land anymore!" Chief Lu said without thinking. "It's been almost three years, and taxes have to be collected. There hasn't been much harvest yet, so why do you want them? If you plant stuff on them, you'll have to pay taxes. If you really want it, we can give it to your family. You don't have to buy it."

"That is even more unacceptable!" Xue Dafu said. "That piece of land was painstakingly plowed by your family. Even if we have to pay taxes, we have to pay according to the harvest. If there is no harvest at all, we don't have to pay taxes. We can't just take your land for free."

Chief Lu didn't want to dwell on this issue. He was already full of anger because of his wife, and she was getting more and more outrageous.

"How about this," Chief Lu said. "You can just give me twenty coins as a token of appreciation."

"Honey," Chief Lu's wife immediately panicked and pulled him to the side. She whispered to him, "Dafu obviously has spare money. Other people won't even have time to ask for more, let alone less. Dafu is stupid and will definitely give it to us. Let's just ask for three silver. Three silver for one acre, so we'll get six silver. Our family would be rich! No, it's better to make it four silver per acre. We'll get eight silver. As long as you ask, as long as Dafu has it, he will definitely give it to you. You are the chief for goodness sake! You can't get any benefits usually, so we have to take advantage of this time to make a good profit!"

The others did not hear it, but Jiang Yue did.

Jiang Yue only glanced at Chief Lu's wife calmly and did not say anything.

Chief Lu himself was so angry that his body was trembling.

Three to four silver??

Two acres for eight silver??

With so much silver, it was enough to buy an acre of good land from Geng!

A farmer might not even be able to save silver all year round, and she was asking for six or eight silver... who did she think she was?

"Do you think I'm a scoundrel like Dagui? That I'm fine no matter how much trouble my wife makes?!" Chief Lu immediately shouted at his wife.

The voice was so loud that it could scare people.

He was clearly in a state of rage.

Now, his wife really didn't dare to say a single word... no, she didn't even dare to even breathe too loudly.

Even though Lu Zhuangniu did not hear it, he could tell that his mother had gone too far. He laughed and chimed in, "That's right, you can just give us twenty coins as a token of our appreciation. We don't want anymore!"

Finally, Jiang Yue opened her mouth and said, "Since the barren lands are all the same, your family can take as much as the others. Chief Lu, your family doesn't want to take advantage of our family, but our family won't take advantage of you either. "

She was not someone who would take advantage of others. Moreover, she was doing this to avoid wrangling in the future.

Although Chief Lu and his son were clear-headed, Chief Lu's wife was obviously not.

## **Chapter 135: She Won't be Polite Then**

If she planted something good in the field in the future, this person would definitely think that her family had taken advantage of her. It was better to settle the deal now and make it even.

If she still wanted to cause trouble for her family, she would not be polite.

Xue Dafu didn't know what to do at first, but Jiang Yue's words enlightened him. "Yeah! Chief Lu, you don't want to take advantage of our family, and our family won't take advantage of your family either. Just take it at whatever price you want! Otherwise, I'll feel bad about it."

"If you don't follow this rule, we can't take your barren land." Xue Yan said.

He also knew that Jiang Yue was doing this to avoid any trouble in the future. Therefore, he spoke up about it.

"This..." Chief Lu was in a difficult position.

Lu Zhuangniu whispered, "Father, although we don't want this barren land anymore, it really was something that we worked hard to open up. In fact, it's not worse than other people's barren land. It's just that we feel that it's not worth it to grow crops on this barren land. We might as well earn more by weaving bamboo baskets. It's the same price as other families' barren land. We shouldn't take advantage of his family. You also know that he's an honest person and never takes advantage of anyone. If you still do that, The Da family will never want these two acres of land. Why overthink things?"

"Alright," Chief Lu said, "Let's do the same as how much other people's barren land is worth. Dafu, thank you. Only your family... your family is good. I'll go ask around and see who's willing to sell their land."

"Thank you, chief." Xue Dafu chuckled.

Seeing that Chief Lu had left, Chief Lu's wife dared to smile obsequiously. "Dafu, I'm really sorry for what happened just now."

"It's okay. You didn't do anything wrong." Xue Dafu chuckled. "We'll head back first."

"Okay. I'll let you know about the lands as soon as possible. I'll ask around tomorrow and tell you." Chief Lu's wife walked them to the entrance of the courtyard.

"No need," Xue Dafu laughed. "Just let Zhangniu go to my house and shout. We'll come over immediately."

"That's fine, that's fine." Chief Lu's wife even smiled obsequiously. "Take these peanuts back and fry them for Xue Yan and Jiang Yue. These two children have just come here and there's nothing for them to eat."

"No thank you, we have plenty at home!" With that, Xue Dafu quickly left with Xue Yan and Jiang Yue.

back home.

Xue Erfu was just about to leave with Xue Yifu, Xue Wufu, and Li Hehua saw them return. He immediately called out to Xue Dafu, "Father, Yifu said that this wood is not enough. We still need to go up the mountain to cut a few more trees. Come with us. The trees we cut this time are quite thick. It will be faster with more people."

"Alright," he said. Xue Dafu immediately agreed. "but Chief Lu went to ask about the barren land. What if he comes to our house?"

"You go," Jiang Yue said. "Xue Yan and I will handle the rest."

Xue Dafu thought that he wouldn't be of much use even if he was there. She wasn't illiterate, and Chief Lu would be there too, so there was nothing to worry about. "Alright, alright." Then, he said to Liu Guixia, "Guixia, give the money to Jiang Yue and Xue Yan. Let them do the deed. I've already talked to Chief Lu. We'll buy five acres."

"Alright," Liu Guixia responded with a smile.

"You guys go first. How can this machete be enough? I'll go and borrow another one." Xue Dafu said to Xue Yifu and the others. Then, he went to borrow a chopper.

Xue Erfu and the others left first.

Xue Dafu borrowed a chopper and went as well.

After a while, Chief Lu came.

He had just asked about the barren land.

"Where's Dafu?" Chief Lu asked as soon as he entered. "I've asked around. Basically, everyone's barren land has been planted with things. Only three families have a few acres of newly opened barren land each. They just got the land title deed from the government and haven't had the time to plant things, but they're willing to sell it. Isn't it a coincidence? Including my family's two acres, it's exactly five acres. they're waiting at



my house for Fafu to get the documents, hand over the money, and hand over the title deed. We've agreed on two silver per acre. If Dafu doesn't have any objections, you can come to my house."

Liu Guixia smiled and said, "My husband has gone to work. Xue Yan and Jiang Yue will go. Come on then. Cue Yan, Jiang Yue, quickly follow Chief Lu."

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan came over.

Chief Lu was dumbfounded. "You... are you joking with me?"

"I'm not." Liu Guixia felt wronged.

"But they..." Chief Lu pointed at Jiang Yue and Xue Yan, "They're both kids..."

"Chief Lu, you're talking about these two." Liu Guixia understood and smiled. "Don't think that our Xue Yan and Jiang Yue are children, they are both very smart."

Yu Hongyan also smiled and said, "That's right, Chief Lu. Let's not talk about Jiang Yue. Let's talk about Xue Yan. You've watched him grow up. Xue Yan is even more mature than adults. Just let them go. There's no need for my father to be here. He already told you that our Xue Yan and Jiang Yue will handle the rest. My father is illiterate, so it's useless even if he goes. We still have to let Xue Yan go, right? He's already given the money to Xue Yan, so you can rest assured."

First, they got 100 silver from selling the blind bear. Then, Jiang Yue managed to squeeze out some good oil. Next, the two children got 600 silver from selling the mushroom alone. In any case, everyone at home, be it Yu Hongyan or the others believed that even if the adults were not around, Xue Yan and Jiang Yue would be able to do a good job.

"But... they're still two children..." Chief Lu still disapproved, but he couldn't say anything more since the other party's own family was at ease.

"Alright, alright, alright. Then the two of you should hurry up and come with me." Chief Lu said to Jiang Yue and Xue Yan. Speaking of this, he couldn't help but laugh. He said to Liu Guixia and the others, "Your family is really different."

Liu Guixia and Yu Hongyan laughed and said, "It's just Xue Yan and Jiang Yue who has saved us from worry."

Jiang Yue felt that this was a good idea. It would be more convenient for her to do anything in the future with their trust. They would no longer restrict her and stop her from doing this and that just because she was a child.

Since he was still an infant, Xue Yan had been acting differently. Everyone was used to it, so there were fewer restrictions on him.

However, he glanced at Jiang Yue. He could tell that Jiang Yue was happy.

The two of them followed Chief Lu to his house. The three families were indeed waiting there. When they saw Chief Lu return, they quickly stood up.

This included Li Qingshu's house.

They only saw Xue Yan and Jiang Yue, but not Xue Dafu. Someone immediately asked, "Chief Lu, where's Dafu? Why don't I see him?"

"Don't tell me you're they're buying the land?" someone else said.

## Chapter 137: United

"No, no," Chief Lu said with a smile. "Dafu went to work and didn't have time to come, so he asked Xue Yan and Jiang Yue to come. He said that it would be the same even if he came."

These people couldn't believe it, "How can these two children be the ones..."

"I'm here as well," said Chief Lu with a smile, "It's the same, trust me. Last time, it was Xue Yan who wrote the family separation document for Zheng's family. Not only was his handwriting better than mine, but after the head officer read it, he even said that it was written in a much more organized way than mine and that there would be no quarrels in the future. Every word was in place, unlike the ones I wrote before, which were easy to find loopholes for. It's different for people who have gone to school."

Everyone then stopped talking about the two children and laughed in agreement. "It really is different."

Not only were Li Qingshu's parents there, but Li Qingshu himself was also there.

Li Qingshu had always been on good terms with Xue Erfu, so he didn't care about this. He also had a pair of long legs and immediately strode over with big steps. He bent over and asked Xue Yan and Jiang Yue with a smile, "Xue Yan, Jiang Yue, where's your Erfu?"

"Erfu went to work as well," Jiang Yue replied.

“Oh, oh.” Li Qingshu knew what it was about and stopped asking about Xue Erfu. He felt a little embarrassed and scratched his head, “My family’s plot of barren land has just been opened up. We haven’t planted anything yet, so I don’t know what the harvest will be like. My parents are asking your family for two silver per plot of land, but I feel that it’s a little too much.”

“Qingshu, it’s all thanks to your hard work. Who knows how many days you spent on it? It’s worth the price.” Xue Yan smiled.

“Yes, yes,” someone heard and immediately echoed. “We worked so hard to open up one acre of land. If it isn’t two silver per acre, we wouldn’t be willing to sell it.”

“Then Xue Yan, you can write your own documents here. My handwriting isn’t as good as yours.” Chief Lu sat down and smiled.

On the table, there was already a brush, ink, paper, and an inkstone.

In this village, only the village head’s family and Xue Yan’s family who had been educated had such things.

However, these things in the village head’s house were all allocated by the government to be used for the management of the village, so the village head didn’t have to buy them himself.

Xue Yan sat down on a long bench beside the table.

Jiang Yue didn’t sit next to Xue Yan immediately. Instead, she climbed onto the bench like a child and sat next to Xue Yan obediently.

Her two short legs were quite a distance away from the ground; they just hung in the air.

Since she had nothing to do, she took the ink that was not grounded and started to grind it.

Xue Yan didn’t need to grind the ink, he picked up the brush, dipped it in the ink, and began to write on a piece of paper.

Everyone came over to take a look.

Although only Chief Lu knew how to write, and the others didn’t know how to write, they could tell how good the handwriting was.

“No wonder Chief Lu said that Xue Yan’s handwriting is beautiful. It really is true.” Someone couldn’t help but praise.

“My family is poor. If they had money, I would also like to send one of my children to study in town.”

“It’s also because they worked so hard to afford Xue Yan’s education for three years. How can a family be so united?”

When Xue Yan finished writing the document, he pushed it in front of the village head.

Chief Lu picked it up and looked at it carefully. After confirming that there was no problem, he read it out to the others. After he finished, he asked if they had any opinions.

Everyone said they had no objections.

They also believed that Chief Lu had read all of this in the document.

Chief Lu had been the village head for quite a few years. Usually, when the village needed to interact with the government, they would follow Chief Lu to the county. He had a trustable character. Usually, he would be the one reading these things out to them over the years, and there had never been any mistakes.

## Chapter 138: Chief Xue Yan

Then, Chief Lu signed his name on the document and stamped his thumbprint on it, agreeing to sell the two acres of barren land in his house. The heads of the other three families were illiterate and couldn’t sign their names, so they all stamped their thumbprints to express their agreement to sell the one acre of barren land to the Xue family.

Chief Lu took the document in his hand, then took out the title deed for the two acres of barren land owned by his family, and the one acre of land owned by the three families, but he was not in a hurry to pass it to Xue Yan and Jiang Yue.

Instead, he took out ten pieces of silver from Xue Yan’s pocket and gave four pieces to Chief Lu, while the other three families each received two pieces. Only then did Chief Lu pass the document and the title deed to Xue Yan.

1

Xue Yan passed it to Jiang Yue.

Jiang Yue had read the document when she was grinding the ink, and there was no problem. Every word was watertight, and every word was carefully worded. Even if they wrangled, they would not have to be afraid of the authorities.

The title deed was even less of a problem. It was stamped with the official seal, so no one would dare to fake it.

The people in this village didn't have the technology to fake it.

Those people received their two silver. They had never received so much silver in one go before, and they couldn't help but be happy.

Chief Lu had clearly gotten four silver, which would take him two to three years to save up, but he was not that happy. When his wife was overjoyed and wanted to reach out to touch the four silver, he glared at her. His wife immediately retracted her hand and did not dare to reach out again.

It was obvious that he was not happy with what his wife had said.

Jiang Yue noticed it but didn't say anything. She passed the title deed for five acres of land and the document to Xue Yan.

Seeing that the words on the document had dried up, Xue Yan folded it carefully and put it in his pocket together with the title deed. When he returned, he would give it to his mother.

Someone saw Xue Yan's expression and couldn't help but give praise, "In the future, no matter what Dafu's family does, they don't have to come. Xue Yan can do it. Look, Xue Yan is so capable."

Chief Lu chuckled. "He's truly capable indeed. I've been chief for so many years, but I'm not as good at writing as he is. If he wasn't so young, I would have made him chief instead."

Of course, the latter part of his sentence was a joke.

Everyone did not take it seriously.

Xue Yan naturally didn't take it seriously either.

On the other hand, Jiang Yue felt that even if Chief Lu had the intention and had taken action, Xue Yan would not be Chief Lu. Xue Yan didn't want to be an official in this life, so why would he want to be a chief?

After leaving the chief's house, Jiang Yue said, "Let's go back and give the remaining silver, documents, and land deeds to your mother. Then, let's go and take a look at the five acres of barren land we just bought."

1

After Xue Dafu left, Liu Guixia gave Xue Yan 11 silver. She was afraid that they didn't have enough money. They only spent 10 silver on the barren land and had one silver left. Naturally, they would give it back to Liu Guixia.

"Alright," he said. Xue Yan had no opinion.

However, after taking two steps, he ran into a dark-skinned woman in her forties with a hoe in her left hand and a bucket in her right hand.

The woman was also dressed in coarse clothes.

Seeing the woman, Xue Yan stopped and called out, "Hello, second aunt."

Jiang Yue was a little surprised. She knew that Xue Yan had a Xue Dahua, but she had stayed in the village for a few days and had never heard of him. She thought he didn't live in this village, but they managed to bump into his wife.

1

The woman only responded with a faint mumble. Then, as if she didn't see the two of them, she walked past them like they were strangers.

Seeing this, Jiang Yue turned to Xue Yan.

Xue Yan watched the woman walk away and sighed. He went back with Jiang Yue and said, "She has a heavy weight in her heart."

"What? A lump?" Jiang Yue asked.

"Before Xue Dahua married her, he wanted to marry my mother," Xue Yan said.

Jiang Yue broke out in cold sweat. That's melodramatic...

"But at that time, my mother's family was quite well-off in the surrounding villages. My grandfather said that if my uncle wanted to marry my mother, the betrothal gifts he would give had to be considered good in the surrounding villages. Although Xue Dahua

had this intention at that time, he did not have that many betrothal gifts to give, so he gave up. He did not even send a matchmaker to ask and directly married someone else, whose family was not very well off.”

Jiang Yue listened quietly.

“After that, my father worked hard in the town every day and earned some money. My grandfather thought that my father was a good man, so he asked a matchmaker to ask my father if he was willing to marry my mother. At that time, my father didn’t know that my uncle had such thoughts, and my mother didn’t know either. In any case, my father and my mother got together just like that. ”

Jiang Yue was still listening quietly.

“But later, Xue Dahua’s wife found out about his past, and then she began to make a fuss about this matter. She was not a bad person, but she couldn’t let this matter pass... Xue Dahua couldn’t stand it, but he also knew that other than this matter, she was quite good in other aspects, so she simply didn’t hang out with my family. This was so that both families could live in peace. It’s been almost twenty years since it happened.”

In her past life, even when he became the regent, she was so unyielding that she never thought of currying favor with their family.

At the end, when his mother died, Xue Dahua’s wife traveled thousands of miles to the capital city to attend her funeral, regardless of age. At that time, she didn’t say anything, but she kept crying. She probably understood then that the matter that she had been brooding over for so many years was meaningless.

It was also from then on that he had never seen her ever again. He heard that she had moved further away with Xue Dahua.

“I didn’t know about this. Yifu told me about it.” Xue Yan said, “My parents wouldn’t tell me this, but they told me to call Xue Dahua and the others if I see them.”

Jiang Yue finally knew about the dispute between his family and Xue Dahua’s family.

“By the way,” Xue Yan added, “She and my mother used to live in the same village. They used to play well when they were girls.”

That was even more melodramatic ...

Jiang Yue opened her mouth, but she did not say anything.

It was no wonder that she had a heavy weight in her heart and had been brooding for the longest time. Her husband had once wanted to marry her best friend, but he couldn’t

marry her best friend, so he married her instead... just thinking about it made her feel disgusted.

1

When they got home and gave the things to Liu Guixia, Jiang Yue and Xue Yan went to see the five acres of barren land that they had just bought.

The title deed had the location of the five acres of barren land. Even if it was not there, it was easy to find. The five acres of barren land on the mountain that had no plants were the ones.

one of them was connected to the newly opened one acre at home for planting soybeans.

Chief Lu's two acres were connected together.

The other two mu were the East and West.

Except for Chief Lu's two acres, which had a lot of grass growing on them and needed to be weeded and plowed, the other three acres, because they were newly opened, had just received the deed from the government. Therefore, the land had already been plowed. There were almost no weeds on it, so they could arrange and plant things on it at any time.

## Chapter 140: Embarrassed Again

Jiang Yue stood in front of an acre of barren land, next to the one where her family grew soybeans.

She looked up and then turned to Xue Yan, "I want to plant watermelons on this plot of land."

"Watermelons? How many..." Xue Yan also looked at the land, and said, "Are you going to sell watermelons when the time comes?"

"You can sell it or eat it at home," Jiang Yue said. "You can even make watermelon cream."

Watermelon cream is a type of medicine that could be found in the medical hall.



It was very simple to make. Xue Yan had a godly doctor as a friend in his previous life and he saw his friend doing this when he was free, so he knew what to do.

“There are farmers who specialize in growing watermelons. Watermelon cream isn’t expensive. Every medical hall has it. It’s just a very common medicine that can’t be sold for much.” Xue Yan said.

Logically speaking, with her personality, she shouldn’t care about how much she could sell it for. If she wanted to make money, the blind bear that she sold for a hundred silver was probably her lowest price.

Jiang Yue was silent for a moment before she replied honestly, “I mainly want to eat it at home...” She paused for a moment. “I like to eat watermelon.”

There was no harm in growing more anyway.

“Oh...” Xue Yan, who had always been polite, was instantly embarrassed. “I was rude.” He actually Jiang Yue feel awkward.

It was so simple, why didn’t he understand it?

Perhaps it was because she was too calm usually that he had always thought that she didn’t have anything she liked, so he didn’t even take that into consideration.

“It’s fine.” Jiang Yue was a little embarrassed. For the first time, she looked away uneasily. She felt like a child now. At that time, she thought that the candied gourd was something children should eat. “The watermelons that I’m going to plant are seedless,” she said.

There were always strange and magical things about her. Xue Yan had long been used to it, so he didn’t think much of it when she heard the word seedless watermelon. He replied with a nod.

“As for the other four acres,” Jiang Yue said, “I will plant strawberries, potatoes, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, purple potatoes, and tomatoes on one acre.”

1

Strawberries, potatoes, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, purple potatoes, and tomatoes... They didn’t exist in this world.

If she took the seeds of potatoes out of the space, she would have to wait for them to germinate before cutting them into pieces and planting them. It was a little late now, but she could grow the seedlings directly in the space. They could grow into tall and strong seedlings in a day, so it wasn’t too late to transplant them.

The same was true for strawberries and the rest.

Therefore, these things had to be cultivated in the space and transplanted. The seeds couldn't be directly planted, or it would affect the harvesting season.

Xue Yan had never heard of any of the plants mentioned by Jiang Yue, so he didn't think much of them, but he also didn't dare to say anything.

He was afraid that Jiang Yue would feel awkward again.

He suspected that these were all Jiang Yue's favorite dishes.

His Jiang Yue was quite cute.

Xue Yan put a fist to his mouth, covering the smile on his face; acting as though he was yawning.

If it wasn't for this scene today, he wouldn't have known that their family's usually calm, steady, and rarely smiling Jiang Yue had such an adorable side.

"I'll pretend that they were seedlings picked from the mountains. You'll have to cooperate with me on that." Jiang Yue continued. Due to the awkwardness just now, she was looking somewhere else and didn't notice that Xue Yan was smiling.

"Okay."