

## Village Girl 241

### Chapter 241: Buying Land

The arrival of Lin Sanniu's family made Doctor Zhang furious.

However, he was an elder from another village, and this was Lin Yuelan's own business, so he couldn't meddle in it. Out of sight, out of mind!

After Doctor Zhang answered Lin Sanniu's question, he walked straight into the house. He did not want to deal with Lin Sanniu and his wife.

Liu Jiaying looked at the dark and thin middle-aged man and woman in front of her, as well as the two children, who were also dark and small. She was a little curious, considering Doctor Zhang's attitude towards them.

Zhou Wencai watched from the side and guessed their identities. However, he was a guest, so he couldn't care less. Therefore, he said to Liu Jiaying, "Sister Jiaying, let's go in!"

Liu Jiaying was a straightforward person, but she was also a smart child.

Doctor Zhang and Lin Yuelan's relationship wasn't ordinary because he had the key to her house. It was clear that Lin Yuelan trusted him.

When the people outside saw Doctor Zhang's reaction, the man's eyes were filled with anger, the woman's eyes were filled with tears, the two children's eyes were blank, and their expressions were dull. Liu Jiaying could guess the identity of these people.

As Lin Yuelan's good friend, Liu Jiaying also had some complaints about her parents.

As parents, it was fine if they didn't dote on their daughter, but they were actually as cruel as the others and abandoned her.

When Liu Jiaying entered the door, she made a face at Lin Sanniu and the others. Lin Sanniu was a filial son to his parents, but he was not a man without a temper.

Looking at these people's contemptuous expressions and actions, he immediately felt a little angry.

He didn't dare to offend Doctor Zhang, but he wasn't so polite to the other two children he didn't know.

Lin Sanniu spent most of his life working in the fields with his wife and children. Therefore, he didn't know any children from rich families.

However, as a poor farmer, Lin Sanniu had an instinctive fear of the rich. Thus, Lin Sanniu pointed at Liu Jiaying and asked in a mixture of fear and anger, "Who are you? What are you doing at my Lan Er's house?"

Liu Jiaying originally didn't want to meddle in Lin Yuelan's family matter. However, this middle-aged man accosted them and even suspected them. He was acting as Lin Yuelan's father. This made Liu Jiaying quite angry.

She also said sharply, "I'm sister Yuelan's friend. I'm here to find sister Yuelan. Is there a problem, uncle?"

'But who are you to sister Yue Lan? even if you're her parents in name, you're no longer related to her, so who are you to question me?' Liu Jiuying thought but didn't say.

Lin Sanniu's slightly tanned face blushed, and he looked a little angry from embarrassment.

Lin Sanniu thought about the rumors that Lin Yuelan was friends with the young master and young miss of a rich family in the town, and he guessed that these two people might be them.

His mother had been cursing Lin Yuelan every day. She wished that Lin Yuelan would curse her two rich friends to death. Once that happened, the young master and young miss' family would take revenge on the jinx.

Lin Sanniu had always kept this matter in mind. However, what he remembered was how much his mother needed his eldest daughter to die. As a filial son, he wanted to fulfill all the wishes of his parents.

However, he had not taken any action so far because his parents didn't tell him to. That was until yesterday...

This time, he brought his wife and child to Lin Yuelan's place to demand Lin Yuelan pay them money.

He was a little scared of the rich young ladies and young masters who had appeared unexpectedly. However, when he thought of how much his mother hated the jinx befriending the rich people, Lin Sanniu felt that he had to do something.

Lin Sanniu's face was filled with anger as he said loudly, "this wretched girl, doesn't she know that she is a jinx? How does she dare to make friends? Isn't she afraid of harming them?"

He was clearly trying to sow discord.

Lin Sanniu was Lin Yuelan's father, but instead of being happy for his daughter's improving life, he wanted to bring her down. He wanted to destroy her life because that was his parents' wish.

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A father told the others that his daughter was a jinx. It was really despicable. He really wanted everyone to hate his daughter.

How could such a person be worthy of the identity of a 'father'?

Liu Jiaying felt that her father was a scumbag. He even wanted to do something ridiculous, like promoting his concubine and demoting his wife. However, at least her father still valued his first wife's son and daughter. He had never treated them shabbily in any way. The Liu family's business would definitely be inherited by her brother, the first wife's son.

However, she still felt that her father was the most hateful person in the world because her father never ate with them and did not give them any fatherly love.

However, with comparison, Liu Jiaying realized that her father was not that bad. Liu Jiaying was too young to control her emotions, and she exploded.

She pointed angrily at Lin Sanniu and asked, "Who are you? What right did he have to say that about sister Yuelan? Whether or not sister Yuelan is a jinx and whether she'd jinx me is none of your business."

Lin Sanniu's face turned red and white. This was due to embarrassment and anger.

His wife, Chen Xiaoqing, sobbed and said, "Miss... Lan 'Er... is our daughter." When she talked about her daughter, she lowered her head and cried. Her voice was as soft as a mosquito.

In her heart, she had always thought of Lin Yuelan as her eldest daughter. Ever since her elder daughter had been separated from her family, she had been very distressed, but she could not do anything about it.

Once she pleaded for her daughter, her mother-in-law would make a fuss. If she was really divorced over this, she'd rather die.

Now that her mother-in-law had finally asked them to come to Lin Yuelan's house as her parents to demand money from Lin Yuelan, of course, she didn't want to miss such an opportunity.

This was the helplessness and pain of Lin Yuelan's biological mother, Chen Xiaoqing.

However, to Lin Yuelan, these were all excuses.

Hearing Chen Xiaoqing, Liu Jiaying sneered, "Just because you say sister Yuelan is your daughter, does that mean she is? I've heard that sister Yuelan has severed all ties with her biological parents. If that's the case, you are no longer her parents. So, you should take back the words, or else you'll be laughed at."

Liu Jiaying and Lin Yuelan had become friends for a reason. She was so young, but she was so eloquent and sharp-tongued, just like Lin yuelan.

Doctor Zhang was drying some herbs in the courtyard and nodded in satisfaction. He picked up a dustpan and brushed the herbs. Then, he said to the person at the door, "Girl, come in."

Liu Jiaying was doing this out of good intentions, but in principle, these two were indeed Lan 'Er's biological parents. Lan 'Er should be the one to deal with them.

However, it was clear to Doctor Zhang that Lin Sanniu had ulterior motives when he brought his wife and child to visit.

Liu Jiaying immediately replied, "okay, Grandpa!"

The corners of Zhou Wencai's lips twitched involuntarily when he heard Liu Jiaying become so close to Doctor Zhang. He had no idea when did Liu Jiaying become so obedient.

When Liu Jiaying entered the room, she did something that made Lin Sanniu both shocked and angry. She slammed the door in front of Lin Sanniu and shut him out.

Lin Sanniu was angry, annoyed, and helpless. When he remembered his purpose, he stopped and continued to stand at the door, waiting for Lin Yuelan to come back.

After Liu Jiaying came in, she asked Doctor Zhang angrily, "Grandpa, are they really sister Yuelan's parents?" Of course, her anger was not directed at Doctor Zhang but at Lin Sanniu and his wife.

Doctor Zhang said, "yes. They were indeed Lan 'Er's parents three years ago!"

Liu Jiaying was even more furious. "How can there be such parents?"

Doctor Zhang shook his head. "Sigh, Lan 'Er's life is too hard to have parents who are foolish and extremely selfish."

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If she had good parents, Lan 'Er wouldn't have suffered so much in the past three years.

Zhou Wencai fanned himself twice and asked curiously, "Doctor Zhang, I heard that Lin Yuelan has the fate of a jinx. Anyone who approaches her will encounter misfortune or disaster. Is that true?"

"Simply nonsense!" Doctor Zhang shouted angrily, "I've been Lan 'Er's Grandmaster for months. Why am I still so fine? If anything, my body is getting better and better! Who said that Lan 'Er is a jinx anyway?"

Liu Jiaying immediately nodded and said, "that's right. Grandpa, you don't know this, but ever since my brother and I became friends with sister yuelan, Yuelai Inn's business has been getting better and better, and my brother's other businesses have been improving too. Little sister Yuelan isn't a jinx. She's clearly a Lucky Star. "

When Doctor Zhang heard Liu Jiaying, he was amused. "You're an interesting little girl. It's no wonder even though Lan 'Er is quite unapproachable, she chooses to befriend you."

Lan 'Er looked mischievous and cheery, but she had a very clear heart and mind.

When Liu Jiaying heard Doctor Zhang's praise, her eyes immediately curved into crescents. She smiled and said, "thank you for the praise, grandfather!" She glanced at Doctor Zhang as he picked the herb. "But, Grandpa, I heard the people outside call you Doctor Zhang, so you must be a doctor. But you said that you are sister Yuelan's Grandmaster, which means that sister Yuelan is studying medicine with you, right? But," She reached out and picked up a leaf from the winnowing basket. She picked it up and played with it as she continued, "Why are you Sister Yuelan's Grandmaster and not master?"

She stared at Doctor Zhang, her eyes filled with curiosity.

Zhou Wencai stood by the side and listened to the old and young pair talk and laugh. He was also interested in the answer to Liu Jiaying's question.

Doctor Zhang laughed and said, "I'm getting old. I can't teach Lan 'Er much. I have a disciple who is still very young. However, my disciple's whereabouts are unknown, so this old man took Lan 'Er in on his behalf!"

Upon hearing such an answer, Zhou Wencai raised his brows. 'There sounds like there's a secret here. Interesting.'

However, no matter how interesting it was, he would not meddle.

The old doctor and young girl chatted happily in Lin Yuelan's courtyard.

Lin Sanniu, who was standing outside, heard the laughter coming from inside. His face was filled with anger as he clenched his fists and gritted his teeth.

They had really gone too far.

This was clearly his eldest daughter's house, but now these people had locked him, her biological father, out of the door. They had occupied the house and were talking and laughing inside.

Chen Xiaoqing's face was full of tears, and no other expression could be seen.

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"Girl, what do you think of these fields?" Lin Yiwei brought Lin Yuelan to the place where the farm plot was at Changping.

Lin Yuelan nodded and said, "Yes, very good, Grandpa Village Chief. I'll buy this place."

Lin Yiwei said, "alright, I'll tell them now."

As he spoke, he waved to a thin couple in the distance and said, "Brother and Sister Zhou, come over for a moment."

The couple was thin, but they were older than Lin Yiwei.

The couple went forward, and the thin woman asked anxiously, "Village Chief, how is it? Are you satisfied?"

The fields were the lifeblood of the farmers. If they were not in urgent need of money, they would not be willing to sell the high-grade fields that they had carefully taken care of for decades.

Lin Yiwei nodded and said, "Brother Zhou, we've already confirmed that we'll buy the five Mu of land. Do you think you can complete the sale today?"

The harvest season was just over, so there was not even a single ear of wheat in the field. Therefore, they didn't need to wait for any harvesting or planting. The land could be sold just like that.

Hearing Lin Yiwei's words, the couple looked at each other, their eyes flickering.

"Brother Zhou, is there a problem?" Lin Yiwei asked, puzzled.

Brother Zhou looked a little embarrassed as he said, "Village Chief, can I continue to use this field to plant my crops?"

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Lin Yiwei was even more confused. "Brother Zhou, since this field has been sold, of course, I can't let you use this land anymore. Isn't that common sense?"

Brother Zhou was a little embarrassed. Then, the woman beside him immediately came up and said in a righteous tone, "Brother Village Chief, it's like this. You see, our Zhou family only has these five mu of land in total. If we sell them all, how can our family live?"

Lin Yiwei was even more confused. He continued to ask, "Then, you don't have to sell all five Mus of them."

The Zhou couple was speechless.

Their gambler son owed more than a hundred taels of silver. The creditor had said that if the money was not paid back within three days, then their son would use one of his hands and one of his legs to pay.

However, where would the couple find the money?

Ever since their son learned to gamble, they had lost everything they had earned over the past few decades. They even owed a lot of debts. Now, they even owed the casino more than a hundred taels of silver.

At the moment, the most valuable thing they had was the fields they had taken care of for their entire lives.

They had no choice but to sell their fields.

However, if they sold their land, what would happen to their lives?

Brother Zhou was a little stunned. "We had to do this because we're in urgent need of money."

Lin Yiwei scratched his head and asked again, "so? Are you guys selling or not?"

Madam Zhou immediately replied, "yes, of course, we're selling. However, can you pay first, and we'll hand you the title deed later? We really need this." As she said that, she had a pleading look on her face.

Hearing this, Lin Yiwei immediately understood their plan.

Lin Yiwei did not speak immediately. Instead, he turned to Lin Yuelan and asked, "Lan 'Er, what do you think?"

If this family were really simple farmers, she would probably agree to such a request. After all, farmers who sold their fields would be in a very difficult situation.

However, she had just observed that Zhou Ping and his wife had sinister intentions in their eyes when they heard that Lin Yuelan would buy the land.

Lin Yuelan immediately refused, "Impossible! I'll give you the money, and you'll give me the land deed, or you can keep the land to yourself."

Zhou Ping and his wife's expressions turned ugly.

Zhou Ping immediately explained, "Miss, it's like this. We can't find the title deed for this five mu of land at the moment, but we'll deliver it later. That's reasonable, right?"

Lin Yuelan stared at him with her sharp eyes and asked sharply, "Are you really unable to find the title deed? Or do you plan to plant the field after I pay the money? Since the deed is still with you, the fields will still be yours. I wouldn't be able to do anything then even though you've taken my money. Isn't that what you're planning?"

Land transactions were based on the title deed. The land belonged to whoever had the title deed.

Did Zhou Ping and his wife really take her for a fool?

Everyone in the Zhou Family Village knew that the couple had to sell their land because of their gambler son.

The title deed was such an important thing. How could it be lost?

Zhou Ping and his wife's expressions turned even uglier.

Madam Zhou turned angry. "Why don't you pay up first then? Once we find the title deed, we'll immediately send it over to you. Is that not enough?"

Lin Yuelan immediately rejected her sternly, "I've already said that I'll hand over the money when I see the deed!"

Zhou Ping immediately said, "Why are you so stubborn? Aren't you afraid that we won't sell these fields to you?" He could see that Lin Yuelan wanted his fields.

Lin Yuelan shrugged. "Be my guest!"

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In the end, Zhou Ping and his wife could only hand over the land and the title deed, selling the five mu of superior-grade land to Lin Yuelan. They had no choice.

Their only son was still waiting for the money to save his life.

After they put their fields on the market, many people came to inquire. Some of them couldn't afford to buy all the land. They could only buy one or two Mu. The money was not enough to save their son. Some knew that the couple was desperate, so they pressed the price to the lowest. They wanted to buy the land at the lowest price. At the end of the day, Lin Yiwei was their most honest buyer.

However, that didn't mean that the couple was honest.

When Lin Yiwei brought a young woman over and introduced her as the potential buyer, the couple immediately thought of an idea. They thought of a shameless way to continue owning these fields while getting money from Lin Yuelan.

However, Lin Yuelan was not stupid. One look at them, and she knew what they were up to.

Lin Yuelan was no sucker. Besides, she came from the apocalypse, so she understood the pain of hunger. Therefore, if the couple was honest and explained their difficulties to her, she might even rent the fields back to them cheaply. After all, she didn't need the fields that urgently.

However, the couple didn't even intend to sell the land at all. Instead, they wanted to take the money without giving up the title deed.

Of course, Lin Yuelan wasn't so stupid.

Zhou Ping and his wife reluctantly handed over the title deed. They looked at Lin Yuelan with resentful eyes.

In the end, Zhou Ping still asked, "Miss, can you allow us to use these lands for free so we can grow some crops to survive?"

Lin Yuelan's sharp eyes stared at Zhou Ping, and she said coldly, "no!"

Then, she took the deed and left, not caring about Zhou Ping and his wife's murderous looks.

When Lin Yiwei passed by them, he said angrily, "Zhou Ping, think about what you've done!" When he found out about the couple's plans and intentions, he was really furious. Lin Yiwei had no idea if the couple really thought they were that stupid or if they thought they were so clever. Did they really think their greedy plan would work?

Lin Yiwei flicked his sleeves and left!

Madam Zhou looked at the two of them, walking away, and said with some confusion and unwillingness, "Master, what should we do without the land?"

Zhou Ping's eyes darkened, and he said with an idea, "Woman, let's continue to plant the fields. When the time comes, will that girl really have people destroy our crops?"

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Madam Zhou's eyes lit up, and she smiled. "Good idea!"

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When Lin Yuelan returned home and saw the familiar carriage at the door, she raised her eyebrows. 'It looks like Liu Jiaying is here.'

She really liked Liu Jiaying.

Although that child did things inappropriately sometimes, she was honest and didn't have any bad intentions.

However, when she saw the four dark-skinned and thin people standing in front of the door, Lin Yuelan frowned.

'Why did Lin Sanniu and his wife bring their child here?' However, no matter what they wanted to do, she didn't have the heart to care.

Lin Yuelan walked straight ahead as if she did not see them. She planned to open the door and walk into the courtyard.

"Stop!" Lin Sanniu shouted.

Lin Yuelan ignored him.

"Lin Yuelan, stop right there!" Lin Sanniu shouted once again.

Lin Yuelan finally stood still. Then, she turned her head and looked at Lin Sanniu with a puzzled expression. She asked indifferently, "Uncle, did you call me?"

Lin Sanniu was so angry that he almost fell back.

He had been calling her for a long time, but she treated him like he didn't exist.

Lin Sanniu chided, "you wretched girl, you are becoming more immoral as you grow older. Don't you know how to greet your parents when you see them?"

Chen Xiaoqing sobbed at the right time. "Lan 'Er!" Her eyes were filled with tears, and her expression was filled with sorrow and helplessness.

Lin Yuelan almost burst out laughing at Lin Sanniu's righteousness and Chen Xiaoqing's crying.

Lin Yuelan was not polite to them at all. She sneered and said, "parents? Hehe, this is the funniest joke I've ever heard since I was born. In this world, what parents would kill their children? Besides, I cut off all ties with your family three years ago. Even if you were my parents three years ago, you're not now!"

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"Ridiculous!" Lin Sanniu was extremely filial to his parents, but he was very dignified around his wife and children. He would hit and scold them as he liked.

Lin Yuelan said coldly, "Uncle, you're standing in front of my house and blocking me from entering. What are you trying to do?"

Lin Sanniu was not used to seeing his weak, and obedient eldest daughter suddenly becomes so sharp-tongued. However, it was his life's belief that children should listen to their parents. Otherwise it would be a great unfilial act. Therefore, in his eyes, Lin Yuelan was being very unfilial.

Lin Sanniu's face darkened as he said in a deep voice, "I brought your mother, brother, and sister to see you today. Why are you ignoring your parents and family? Who taught you to be so uncultured?"

Upon hearing this, Lin Yuelan sneered and said sharply, "Uncle Lin, Is there something wrong with your brain? I've already said that I, Lin Yuelan, have no relatives since I cut off all ties with Lin Laosan's family three years ago.

"The fact that you've brought your wife and children to my door to lecture me is the biggest joke in the world!"

Lin Sanniu's face turned red and white.

Lin Sanniu pointed angrily at Lin Yuelan and said loudly, "your mother and I are the ones who gave birth to you! You can't deny it! Also, you can't deny that they're your younger brother and sister!"

Chen Xiaoqing immediately cried and mobilized the two children. "Zu 'Er, Ru 'Er, greet your big sister!"

Lin Dazu was ten years old, so he was somewhat sensible. Lin Yueru was seven years old this year, so she followed her brother's lead.

However, in Lao Laosan's family, they were completely suppressed. Their character was just like Lin Yuelan's in the past, weak and timid.

When they heard their mother, they only called out timidly, "big sister!"

All the work that Lin Yuelan had to do in Lin Laosan's family was now on the shoulders of the Lin siblings, Lin Dazu and Lin Yueru. Lin Sanniu thought this was natural too.

They were his children, so they had to work.

Since she had cut off all ties with Lin Laosan's family, it meant that Lin Yuelan had nothing to do with her former family anymore. No matter how pitiful they were, she would not sympathize with them. Lin Yuelan believed that everyone's fate was in their own hands. She couldn't help those who didn't want to help themselves.

Lin Yuelan did not answer. She only looked at them coldly and asked expressionlessly, "Uncle Lin, why did you stop me? I'm very busy, and I don't have time to waste with you."

Lin Sanniu did not care about his eldest daughter in the past. No matter how her life was, it had nothing to do with him.

However, now that Lin Yuelan had money, they had to have a share of her money. This was what his mother, Li Cuihua, had told him.

Lin Sanniu stared at Lin Yuelan and said matter-of-factly, "Give me money to feed your family. That's a total of 300 taels. You must pay by today!"

"Three hundred taels?" Lin Yuelan was not angry. Instead, she laughed and looked at Lin Sanniu mockingly. She asked sharply, "Uncle, are you joking with me? Also, why do I have to give you three hundred taels? Do you think I'm a sucker?"

Last time, Li Cuihua had asked for three hundred taels of child support for nine years, but she had been scared away by Lin Yuelan's sharp mind.

But this time, Lin Sanniu came to demand she gives her family support money. Why would she be responsible for raising and supporting Lin Sanniu's family?

What a greedy and shameless person!

When Lin Sanniu heard Lin Yuelan's mocking tone, his face turned red, and he asked, "What? Do you think that just because you've cut off all ties with the Lin family, you don't need to be filial to your parents?"

Lin Sanniu's confidence was restored once he mentioned this.

He continued to speak loudly, "According to the law of the Long Yan Kingdom, no matter if the children are given out, sold, or cut off, as long as their parents ask for it, these children must be filial to their parents, take care of them, and support them. The parents can ask for money from their children at any time. So, Lin Yuelan, I'm here today to ask for the money you owe me."

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Lin Yuelan slightly frowned.

It was mandatory to be filial in the Long Yan Kingdom. The children could never deny their parent's request.

She thought that she had scared off Lin Laosan's family, but they were like cockroaches. After stepping on them, they turned around and immediately came back to life, and they were still alive and kicking.

Lin Yuelan was thinking about how to deal with Lin Sanniu.

She wouldn't give him a single copper coin.

However, if she refused to give the money to Lin Sanniu and Chen Xiaoqing, who were the original owner's biological parents, she would be in trouble if they went to court to sue her.

Just as Lin Yuelan was thinking of a solution, the door was pulled open with a creak. Then she heard Liu Jiaying's excited voice, "sister Yuelan, I'm here to play with you!" Then, she looked at Lin Sanniu and the rest with an ugly expression and said sharply, "Uncle, Auntie, why haven't you left yet? Why are you standing in front of sister Yuelan's house?"

Did the people in the courtyard hear Lin Sanniu's demand? Of course, they did. Everyone knew that it was not right for Lin Yuelan to pay Lin Sanniu. They were not worthy. However, there was nothing they could do because this was the law of Long Yan Country. Otherwise, it would be a violation of the laws of the country.

Filial piety was the first foundation of governing the Long Yan Kingdom. Every country's citizens had to be filial to the extreme. If they were unfilial, they could be brought to court and severely punished.

Even after Lin Yuelan had cut off all ties with Lin Laosan's family, once the word filial was brought up, everything would unravel. Since her parents asked for money, Lin Yuelan had to give in. Otherwise, if Lin Sanniu went to court and reported Lin Yuelan, she would be punished.

Lin Yuelan expected this. It was just that this happened earlier than she expected. For a while, she couldn't think of a solution.

Liu Jiaying was a little helpless in this matter.

However, under Doctor Zhang's suggestion, she came out to distract Lin Sanniu so that Lin Yuelan could come up with her countermeasures.

As expected, Lin Sanniu's face turned ashen with anger as soon as he heard Liu Jiaying. He gritted his teeth and shouted, "Miss, this is my eldest daughter's house. Why can't I stand here?"

He might be stupid, but he was not a person without a temper. How could he not be angry when he was repeatedly challenged?

Liu Jiaying was young, so it was very rude to talk back to an elder. But she wasn't from the Lin family Village, and she wasn't from Lin Laosan's family. She was only a friend of Lin Yuelan.

Hence, she did not care if she offended these people.

Liu Jiaying sneered and said loudly, "Uncle, do you really think we don't know why you're here? We heard from the house that you wanted to extort three hundred taels of silver from sister Yuelan.

"Three hundred taels is a huge sum of money that you can't even earn in your entire life.

“But you’re demanding that much money from Sister Yuelan. You’ve never treated Sister Yuelan well since she was born and now you’re shamelessly asking for three hundred taels? Why don’t you go to rob someone instead?”

Liu Jiaying could say this, but Lin Yuelan couldn’t because it would make her unfilial.

Lin Sanniu’s face turned green with anger. “I’m asking for family support from my daughter. What does it have to do with you, little girl?”

Liu Jiaying snorted and said, “I just don’t like people like you who don’t fulfill your parents’ duties but ask your children to support you. Besides, I’ve become sworn sisters with little sister Yuelan, so her business is my business.”

Lin Sanniu couldn’t argue with Liu Jiaying, so he turned his attention to Lin Yuelan.

He asked loudly, “Lin Yuelan, are you going to give me the money or not? If you don’t, then we’ll go to court!”

This was a direct threat.

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“Are we going to court? Good, good. First, the plaintiff has to write a petition and then have someone submit it to the county administration. After that, the county administration will review it, and finally, the plaintiff and the defendant will go to the court.”

Zhou Wencai walked out of the courtyard leisurely and said unhurriedly, “oh, by the way, the plaintiff who wants to sue his children for being unfilial must pay five taels of silver as a case fee. Otherwise, the case will not be opened.”

Lin Sanniu and Chen Xiaoqing were dumbfounded when they heard Zhou Wencai.

They never knew that when parents wanted to sue their children for being unfilial, they would have to pay five taels of silver.

“Impossible!” Lin Sanniu said in disbelief, “We’ve never heard of parents needing to pay a fee to sue their children for being unfilial!”

Zhou Wencai was still chuckling as he said, “Just because you haven’t heard of it doesn’t mean that it doesn’t exist. There are so many parents in the world. If every parent can just walk into the court to sue their children, can the court still function?”

Lin Sanniu was a little suspicious.

He stared at Zhou Wencai in confusion and asked, “Who are you? How do you know all this?”

If one had not experienced these processes, one would not know about them unless they were a member of the court.

Zhou Wencai folded his fan and cupped his hands at Lin Sanniu as he said, “my surname is Zhou. I’m Miss Lin’s friend. I do some internal affairs in the court, so I’m familiar with these things.”

Lin Sanniu looked at the young man, who seemed to be around fifteen or sixteen years old. He was even more puzzled. How could there be such a young internal affairs officer in the court?

Upon seeing Lin Sanniu's puzzled expression, Zhou Wencai naturally knew what he was thinking. He said with a smile, "although I'm young, someone in my family holds a position in the county court. Therefore, I occasionally go to the county court to help."

Zhou Wencai was the county magistrate's son. His position would frighten most villagers. In fact, once he said he was related to the court, most villagers would be afraid already.

The highest-ranking official that they came into contact with was the village chief. They could not even come into contact with a town official, let alone the people in the county court.

After Zhou Wencai appeared, Lin Yuelan didn't need to think of any countermeasures anymore. Since Zhou Wencai was Lin Yuelan's friend, no matter how bold Lin Sanniu and Li Cuihua were, they wouldn't dare to report her to court.

When Lin Sanniu heard that the young master was Lin Yuelan's friend, his confidence became deflated. They had that instinctive fear of people of authority, especially since they knew Lin Yuelan was friends with someone who had connections in the court.

Lin Yuelan smiled and asked, "Young master Zhou, how many cases are there in the county court now?"

Zhou Wencai said with a smile, "if this uncle really wants to sue you for being unfilial, he'll have to wait for at least half a year before his case will be handled."

"Is it this long?" Lin Sanniu asked in a daze.

"Uncle, there's a first come, first served order!" Zhou Wencai replied with a smile, "the court doesn't only deal with the 'filial piety' case. There are many other important cases. That relative of mine is so busy every day that he's in a terrible fix.

"So, uncle, if you're going to file a lawsuit, you'd better hurry up. Otherwise, when your case is brought to court, I'm afraid Miss Lin would have spent all her money already."

Lin Sanniu's face turned red.

He didn't really want to sue Lin Yuelan. He just wanted to get money.

Since Lin Yuelan refused to give him money, he used filial law to scare her.

However, they didn't expect Lin Yuelan to befriend someone from the court.

Lin Yuelan immediately said coldly to Lin Sanniu and Chen Xiaoqing, "Uncle and Auntie, if you're here to ask for family support money, I'm sorry, but I don't have 300 taels of silver. Even if I do, I won't give it to you. If you want to sue me, then go ahead!"

With Li Cuihua's greedy nature, she would not pay the court five copper coins, let alone five taels of silver, to sue Lin Yuelan.

In the end, Lin Sanniu left with Chen Xiaoqing and his two children.

Before she left, Chen Xiaoqing wiped her tears and said, "Lan 'Er, you are always my eldest daughter in my heart. It's just that I have my own difficulties. You must forgive me, okay?"

Lin Yuelan ignored Chen Xiaoqing and turned her head, turning a blind eye to Chen Xiaoqing's tears.

Chen Xiaoqing had her own reasons. Her reason was that she was afraid of divorce. She didn't want her reputation to be ruined.

Such a mother was extremely selfish.

Chen Xiaoqing looked at Lin Yuelan, who had turned her face away. She could only cry in pain and follow Lin Sanniu back with her children.

Zhou Wencai's expression immediately turned serious as he watched Lin Sanniu's family leave. He asked, "Miss Lin, we've scared them away this time, but they won't be so easy to get rid of next time. Have you thought of any countermeasures?"

Everything was attributed to the 'law of filial piety' of the Long Yan Kingdom.

Lin Yuelan smiled faintly and said, "When there's a will, there's a way. Young Master Zhou, thank you for everything!"

#### **Chapter 249: Planning to Open a Stall**

When Jiang Zhennan and the others returned home with hoes and shovels, they saw Lin Yuelan and Zhou Wencai chatting and laughing at the stone table in the courtyard.

They selectively ignored Liu Jiaying. Doctor Zhang continued to busy himself with the medicinal herbs in the courtyard.

Jiang Zhennan felt that Zhou Wencai was an eyesore the moment he saw him.

1

'Why is this man's skin so white? And where are his fox-like eyes looking? Why is he laughing so hard?' In short, this was the first time Jiang Zhennan felt annoyed at someone during their first meeting.

As soon as he entered, he walked to a familiar corner and put down the hoe and chopper in his hand. Then, he walked to Lin Yuelan and asked loudly, "Miss Yue 'Er, is everything done?" He was referring to the matter of buying land. He was doing this to hint to the man that he was close to Lin Yuelan.

Lin Yuelan nodded and replied, "Yes, it's done!" As she spoke, Lin Yuelan picked up the teacup on the table, poured a cup of tea for Jiang Zhennan, and handed it to him.

Jiang Zhennan took it and drank it like a water buffalo.

Zhou Wencai looked at the four to five men who entered one after another. He frowned slightly. He had doubts in his heart. It was a little out of place for five men to be living with a young woman. Besides, they were all big and burly. They had a killer's presence too. Could they be bandits?

Zhou Wencai studied the man who Lin Yuelan poured the tea for. When he saw the mask, his pupils constricted, and his heart thumped.

'This man...'

He was tall and burly, wearing a silver mask. The fierce and aggressive aura on his body was something an ordinary person wouldn't have. Even murderers wouldn't have such a strong aura.

'Could it really be him? But he should be far away in the capital. Why would he be cooped up in the mountains, doing farm work with a hoe and shovel? Shouldn't he be on the battlefield, defending the country?'

Although Zhou Wencai's father was only a small county Magistrate, the Zhou family was a large family with thick roots. They had a place in the capital.

Although Zhou Wencai was the descendant of the Zhou Family's side branch, the main family would hold a family gathering every year. The sons and daughters of the main family and the branches had to attend.

This was to cultivate the sons and daughters of the Zhou Family. The daughters would be married off, and the sons would be cultivated as future leaders. The useless ones would be removed from the family.

Zhou Wencai was one of the chosen ones. Therefore, he knew some of the information gathered by the Zhou Family in Beijing.

A few months ago, he heard that the man had returned to the general's residence from the border. So how could someone so similar suddenly appear in Lin Yuelan's courtyard? Was the news he received false, or were there really doppelgangers in this world?

Zhou Wencai wanted to find out the truth, but he felt a little flustered and uneasy in his heart. His intuition told him that it was best not to have such curiosity.

Zhou Wencai suppressed the puzzlement and uneasiness in his heart. He picked up a cup of tea on the table and brought it to his mouth. However, his slightly pale fingertips belied his nervousness.

Jiang Zhennan and Lin Yuelan picked this up clearly.

Jiang Zhennan's eyes under the mask flashed with a sharp light, and then he continued to drink.

Lin Yuelan was also holding a teacup. She lowered her eyes and gently blew on the tea, causing small ripples to appear in the teacup. Then, she took a small sip.

The atmosphere between the three of them was a little strange. It seemed as if nothing had happened, but in reality, they each had their own thoughts.

Doctor Zhang was expertly fiddling with the herbs. His pair of wise and astute eyes secretly swept a glance at Zhou Wencai, who appeared to be externally calm but internally flustered.

### **Chapter 250: Planning to Open a Stall**

The person who was the most confused and helpless was Liu Jiaying. Earlier, Doctor Zhang told her that there were a few men staying there.

However, when the burly men with bare chests and a towel around their necks came in with hoes and shovels, she was shocked.

There were two reasons for her shock. One was that they looked fierce and scary, and Liu Jiaying was a well-protected child. She was ignorant of the world and could not adapt to the sudden appearance of outsiders.

Secondly, a man and a woman would sit at different tables after they were seven years old. Many young ladies of large families did not even step out of their doors after seven. They even had to avoid meeting men in their own families as much as possible.

2

Although Liu Jiaying didn't coop herself up at home, she would be accompanied by her brother or servants whenever she went out. Therefore, she rarely came into contact with other men.

Now that she suddenly saw so many tall and strong men in her friend's house, she was a little overwhelmed.

Liu Jiaying nervously grabbed Lin Yuelan's hand and whispered to her, "Yuelan, who are they? They look so fierce." At Lin Yuelan's request, Liu Jiaying changed the way she called Lin Yuelan from sister Yuelan to Yuelan.

To be honest, she wanted to ask Lin Yuelan if it was appropriate for them to live with her. However, she didn't know how to because this was Lin Yuelan's private matter.

Lin Yuelan said to Liu Jiaying indifferently, "they are just my friends." She didn't introduce them because there was no need. They were there as her friends.

Zhou Wencai secretly heaved a sigh of relief when he heard Lin Yuelan. 'No matter what, this person is here as Miss Lin's friend. I shouldn't ask about things I shouldn't.'

Therefore, he treated everything as normal. That was what a wise person would do!

Lin Yuelan glanced at Zhou Wencai from the corner of her eye. Seeing that he seemed to heave a sigh of relief, the corners of her lips curled up. She was satisfied with Zhou Wencai's ability to adapt to the situation.

However, when she saw Jiang Zhennan's masked face, she frowned again. She had to make him remove the mask or everyone who came to her home in the future would suspect his true identity. Then, the news of his existence might travel to that person's ears. But to do that, she had to remove the scar on his face first.

Jiang Zhennan suddenly felt a chill down his spine. He wondered who was having designs on him.

Liu Jiaying listened to Lin Yuelan's introduction, and the corners of her mouth twitched.

"Hmm. What's that fragrant smell?" Liu Jiaying didn't know what to say, so she changed the subject. She turned in the direction of the fragrance...

"Brother Guo, you're too unkind." Little Six took a pair of chopsticks and came to Guo Bing, who was holding a bowl, trying to snatch the dumplings in the bowl. "There weren't many dumplings left last night. It was you who snatched the rest of them for yourself."

Guo Bing turned his body sideways, and Little Six missed. However, Guo Bing managed to guard against one but not the other. Before he could relax, Little Three grabbed Guo Bing's dumpling and put it in his mouth.

Zhou Wencai and Liu Jiaying were dumbstruck as they watched this group of people fighting over the food.

Liu Jiaying looked at the crystal-clear dumplings and swallowed her saliva. She asked excitedly, "Yuelan, what are they eating? It looks delicious." The skin of the dumpling was thin, and when the dumplings were boiled, the skin became transparent, like a crystal.

Lin Yuelan looked at the big bowl in Guo Bing's hands and raised her eyebrows. "Those are dumplings!"

"What's a dumpling?" Zhou Wencai asked eagerly and excitedly as he stared at the dumplings in the bowl while smelling the fragrance that was emanating from the dish. "Can I have a taste?"

The dumplings looked very delicious.

Lin Yuelan looked at Liu Jiaying, who was staring at the bowl in Guo Bing's hand and almost drooling. Lin Yuelan gently touched her forehead and said, "They are eating the leftovers from yesterday. If you want, I can make some for you at noon."