

At School 1351

Chapter 1351 Famous

Jian Ai followed Bai Zhou's words and looked at everyone. Looking at the people in front of her, she couldn't help but smile and say gently, "If they want to stay, stay."

Jian Ai had not told Bai Zhou that she would be leaving for a while. She wanted to wait until after the New Year.

As for whether the twelve guards chose to stay in China, Jian Ai would not interfere. It was all up to them.

When she came out of Bai Zhou's apartment, the sky was already dark. In the north, the days were short, and the nights were long. It was completely dark around five in the afternoon.

Thinking that her mother should be at Yaochi for work at this time, Jian Ai thought she would go home tomorrow, so she took out her phone and called Qinghuan and Guan Tao.

She had been away for a long time, and Qinghuan's movie project had already wrapped up. Moreover, the final examination was in a few days.

Yuanxiang Restaurant was a Sichuan restaurant Jian Ai and the rest often visited before.

Jian Ai booked a private room. Not long after, Guan Tao arrived.

"Xiao Ai!"

As soon as they met, the two of them hugged intimately. Guan Tao's face was red from the cold, and she looked to be in good condition. Jian Ai couldn't help but smile and say, "You seem to have gained weight!"

Guan Tao chuckled but didn't answer her. Instead, she said to Jian Ai, "You've been gone for so long. There was no news at all. I thought you were kidnapped!"

"It's not that exaggerated." Jian Ai pulled Guan Tao to sit down and smiled. "I have some things to do recently, but I'm already done and preparing to return to school."

As soon as she finished speaking, Jian Ai changed the topic and asked, "How was it? Did anything happen while I was away? Did everything go smoothly between you and Gao Yang?"

At the mention of Gao Yang, Guan Tao's face didn't turn red. She nodded gently. "We're quite good, but his family found out that he was working at a hamburger shop with me..."

"Ah?" Jian Ai was shocked. She reacted and couldn't help but laugh. "Then their family knows he's dating you?"

Guan Tao shook her head. "No, Gao Yang said he didn't say it. It's just that I think he should have been exposed. After all, with Gao Yang's personality, he definitely wouldn't go to a hamburger shop to work. If he does this, others will think that there's a reason."

Jian Ai nodded in understanding. However, when she saw Guan Tao's nervous expression, she couldn't help but comfort her. "Don't be so nervous. Nothing happened, right? Moreover, with Gao Yang around, I think he'll handle things well!"

Guan Tao nodded slightly. She was still a little afraid.

The main reason was that Guan Tao still felt inferior. Putting aside Gao Yang's conditions, he had the Gao Tong Group, which belonged to one of the four major families in Baiyun. Just his name alone gave people invisible pressure.

Guan Tao wanted nothing else from Gao Yang. She just wanted to date Gao Yang seriously.

As the two of them were talking, the door of the private room suddenly opened. Then, a tightly wrapped person rushed into the private room and closed the door.

Jian Ai and Guan Tao were stunned at the same time. Before Jian Ai could react, Guan Tao chuckled and said, "Qinghuan, you scared us!"

Taking off the scarf that covered half of her face, Jian Ai saw Qinghuan's face. She couldn't help but say, "Is it that cold? You've wrapped yourself up like a mummy!"

"Xiao Ai, you still don't know?" Guan Tao looked at Jian Ai.

Jian Ai was stunned. "Know what? Why?"

Guan Tao immediately explained, "They already broadcasted Qinghuan's first drama on television. It's the television drama she, Yun Buyao, and Lu Xiao filmed, 'There Will Be An Angel Who Loves You on My Behalf'!"

"It's already broadcasted?" Jian Ai was slightly shocked. She initially thought that they would broadcast this drama during the winter break, but she didn't expect it to be broadcasted when she left.

At this moment, Qinghuan took off her down jacket and rushed up to hug Jian Ai's neck from behind. She said unhappily, "You're amazing. It's fine if she disappeared, but you're not paying attention to me! Tell me, where did you go?!"

"I went abroad!" Jian Ai quickly begged for mercy. "I'm too busy to care! Tell me more!"

When Qinghuan heard this, she let go of Jian Ai. After sitting down at the side, she shook her hair smugly. "Sigh, I'm already famous. Isn't it annoying?!"

Looking at Qinghuan's smug expression, Jian Ai couldn't help but roll her eyes. "Look at how smug you are!"

"Xiao Ai, she's really famous!" Guan Tao quickly said, "Yun Buyao's drama has a guaranteed rating. With the national male god, Lu Xiao, it became a huge hit once it was broadcasted!"

"Now, Qinghuan is surrounded in school every day. People keep recognizing her when she walks on the street!"

Qinghuan sighed helplessly at the side. "Otherwise, why would I wrap myself up with only my eyes exposed? Fortunately, it's winter. No matter how tightly I wrap myself up, it's normal to look like this. If it were summer, I wouldn't have anywhere to hide!"

She was already famous, but Qinghuan felt vexed. She even pretended that she had not received benefits.

Jian Ai couldn't help but look at Qinghuan and say, "Why? You don't like to be recognized? You don't like to be surrounded?"

"I don't like it," Qinghuan said bluntly. "Although I'm already mentally prepared, I will be a public figure once the drama gets broadcasted. My private space will be squeezed, but I'm still not used to it!"

"You have no choice. As a celebrity, you have to bear this," Jian Ai said. "You've just broadcasted your first drama, and this is just the beginning. When you become more famous in the future, you might have a fan club. By then, it will be much more serious than this."

Jian Ai was just reminding Qinghuan to be mentally prepared. In the entertainment circle in the future, the situation of actors and singers was even more difficult. There was basically no privacy to speak of. Some fanboys and fangirls even checked their idol's flight seat number clearly. It was even more common for them to chase cars and block hotels.

"I know." Qinghuan pursed her lips helplessly. "I just want to film well. Anything else is fine. I don't care."

Jian Ai couldn't help but smile when she heard that. She knew Qinghuan. She was not a hypocritical person, let alone a liar. If she were to be asked about her relationship in front of the reporters in the future, she might reveal Yan Tian.

As the boss of the management company, the only thing Jian Ai could do was to protect Qinghuan on the premise that she remained real!

The dishes they ordered were quickly served. Jian Ai had not eaten Sichuan food for a long time. Smelling the spicy taste, her taste buds hung up. She quickly picked up her chopsticks and ate. The three of them chatted as they ate.

"Xiao Ai, why did you suddenly go abroad again?" Guan Tao asked.

If she remembered correctly, Jian Ai had already gone abroad a few times this year. The two of them had grown up together and knew each other very well. Jian Ai had changed too much this year, and the changes in all aspects were very obvious. In fact, Guan Tao had long been puzzled. However, she had been waiting for Jian Ai to tell her, so she didn't ask.

Chapter 1352 Fully Support!

Jian Ai paused and looked at Guan Tao for a long time.

In fact, she was thinking about how to tell Guan Tao and Qinghuan about her current situation, but she didn't know what to say.

Perhaps she was not ready yet, and the time was not right.

Seeing that Jian Ai was looking at her saying nothing, Guan Tao knew that her question had put Jian Ai in a difficult position. She couldn't help but react and wave her hand. "Xiao Ai, if it's not convenient for you to say it, don't. I was just asking."

Jian Ai couldn't help but chuckle. "It's not that it's inconvenient, but I don't know what to say. Let's wait a while longer. I'll find an opportunity to explain."

Jian Ai's words proved she was hiding a secret from everyone.

Guan Tao and Qinghuan couldn't help but look at each other. They felt that Jian Ai was even more mysterious, but they didn't ask further. Since Jian Ai said that she would tell them, they could just wait for Jian Ai to say it.

Guan Tao retracted her expression and smiled. Then, she looked at Jian Ai and changed the topic. "Xiao Ai, how are you and that person?"

When Xia Qinghuan heard this, she couldn't help but quickly ask, "That person? Who is it?"

When Qinghuan was in the production team, Jian Ai told Guan Tao that she liked Ji Haoyu. Jian Ai had not told Qinghuan about this yet.

Now that Guan Tao suddenly mentioned Ji Haoyu, Jian Ai's heart stopped for a moment. Then, she smiled frankly. "I've already decided. I'll find time to tell him."

"Really?" Guan Tao couldn't help but be delighted. She was even more excited than Jian Ai. "That's great, Xiao Ai. I'll support you one hundred percent!"

"Thank you," Jian Ai smiled.

Now that her relationship with Ji Haoyu was mentioned, Jian Ai no longer resisted. This was also a change she made after seeing her heart. There was nothing to be embarrassed about liking someone.

The two of them echoed each other, making Qinghuan anxious. She put down her chopsticks and grabbed Jian Ai's arm, shaking it. "What's going on? What are the two of you talking about? Tell me quickly!"

Jian Ai was dizzy from the shaking and quickly smiled. "Something happened when you were in the production team. I like someone!"

"Who?" Xia Qinghuan asked, "Do I know him?"

Jian Ai pursed her lips helplessly and said, "Yes and no."

"Who is it?!" Xia Qinghuan stomped her feet anxiously.

"Ji Haoyu, you've seen him before!" Jian Ai stopped teasing her and directly revealed Ji Haoyu's identity.

When this name was suddenly said, Xia Qinghuan was stunned for a moment. However, two seconds later, she reacted.

Xia Qinghuan exclaimed, "Ji! Hao! Yu!"

Jian Ai's eardrums hurt from her shock. She smiled helplessly and said, "Didn't you see him once?"

Back then, Ji Haoyu drove into Erzong and delivered the Shuiyun Club contract to her in front of everyone in the cafeteria. At that time, Xia Qinghuan was sitting with her.

Xia Qinghuan widened her eyes in shock and said, "But you didn't seem to have a good relationship at that time!"

Jian Ai nodded in admission. "I didn't like him very much at that time, but you know that it's difficult to talk clearly about relationships..."

"Who chased who?" Xia Qinghuan's gossipy fire burned.

Jian Ai pretended to touch her fringe and said in a pretentious tone, "You can see my beauty too... Of course, he pursued me."

"Really..." Xia Qinghuan felt that the world was a fantasy.

The heir of the number one financial group in Asia, no, Ji Haoyu, who was now the CEO of the Ji Group, was chasing after a sixteen-year-old high school girl...

If this had not happened to her best friend, Xia Qinghuan would not have believed it!

When she came back to her senses, Xia Qinghua slapped Jian Ai's shoulder and said in surprise, "Xiao Ai, you're good! You even managed Ji Haoyu. You're too awesome!"

"We're not together yet!" Jian Ai quickly explained, "We're still one step away!"

"So what you mean just now is that he's waiting for your nod!" Qinghuan said.

Jian Ai nodded. "Yes, I didn't think about it before, but I'm very clear now, so I'll agree to it."

"That's good!" Xia Qinghuan clenched her fists and placed them in front of her chest. She looked at Jian Ai with relief and said, "I'm happy for you, Xiao Ai!"

Guan Tao quickly nodded. "Yes, Xiao Ai. I always thought that with your personality, it might be difficult for you to fall in love. Especially after rejecting Lin Yi, I always thought you wouldn't want to fall in love again. Now that you've met someone you like, Qinghuan and I will support you!"

"I support it. I fully support it!" Qinghuan nodded in agreement.

Seeing that her two good friends supported her so much, Jian Ai was even more confident in this relationship. People were like this. When someone beside them supported you unconditionally, they would have more courage to do something.

The three of them ate for almost two hours before coming out of the restaurant. As soon as the lights were switched on, pedestrians wrapped in coats by the road were in a hurry. From time to time, a cold wind blew, raising waves of snow mist.

This was the winter in the north. It was beautiful and cold!

"Are you Liang Qiong?"

Unexpectedly, as soon as they left the restaurant, a passerby rushed up and grabbed Qinghuan.

Xia Qinghuan was shocked. After all, she was wrapped up so tightly, but someone still recognized her.

Liang Qiong was the name of her role in the drama!

Because of the drama's popularity, Xia Qinghuan's reputation spread throughout the country overnight. Moreover, because the role was too deeply rooted in people's hearts, most people still liked to call her Liang Qiong.

Jian Ai and Guan Tao subconsciously pulled Qinghuan behind them because the other party was a man and he pulled Qinghuan's arm as soon as he came up. Afraid that he would do something out of line, Jian Ai assumed a protective posture.

After Qinghuan recovered, she couldn't help but pat Jian Ai and Guan Tao's shoulders and whisper, "It's fine."

As soon as she finished speaking, she said to the excited male fan, "Hello."

"You're Xia Qinghuan! It's you! I like you too much!" The male fan looked agitated and wanted to move forward again.

Jian Ai frowned and blocked the other party. At the same time, she said, "Don't be agitated. Let's talk nicely!"

As soon as Jian Ai finished speaking, the male fan realized he had lost his composure and quickly took two steps back in embarrassment. "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to. I just like Liang Qiong's role too much. I have a pen and paper in my bag. Can you help me sign it?"

Seeing that this fan was still rational, they couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief. Xia Qinghuan was naturally happy that someone liked her role. She immediately nodded and said, "Sure, no problem!"

Chapter 1353 Introducing a Job to You

When the male fan heard this, he quickly took out a pen and paper from his backpack and handed them to Xia Qinghuan. He couldn't help but rub his hands excitedly.

Xia Qinghuan quickly signed her name and handed it to the other party. She said, "Thank you for liking my role as Liang Qiong."

"You're welcome!" The male fan took it with both hands and said to Xia Qinghuan, "I'll always support you."

Xia Qinghuan thanked him again. The male fan received the autograph and left satisfied.

After the fan left, Guan Tao couldn't help but pat her chest in shock. "It was too scary. He rushed up like that."

As soon as she finished speaking, Guan Tao couldn't help but say to Qinghuan, "Qinghuan, be careful when you go out in the future. It's best if Brother Jin is by your side. It's a little dangerous for you to be alone!"

When Xia Qinghuan heard this, she couldn't help but smile helplessly. "It's not that exaggerated. That was a fan just now. He likes me, so he asked for an autograph."

At this moment, Jian Ai said, "Guan Tao is right. It's better for you to have someone by your side. That fan just now was considered rational. What if he pounced on you and hugged you irrationally?"

"Ah? No way?" Xia Qinghuan was slightly shocked. It was obvious that she had never experienced such a thing.

Jian Ai had seen this kind of thing many times on the news. What couldn't an overly aggressive fan do? Xia Qinghuan would experience these things in the future, so Jian Ai said bluntly, "Of course. Read more entertainment news when you have nothing to do. Which famous celebrity hasn't been forcefully hugged before? There are even more overboard ones! It's better to be careful."

Guan Tao nodded repeatedly. "That's right. It's always good to be careful."

Seeing that her two good friends said so, Qinghuan took it seriously in her heart. She immediately said, "Alright, I'll talk to the company later and arrange a bodyguard for me."

They separated at the entrance of the restaurant. Qinghuan left in her car while Jian Ai and Guan Tao took a taxi home.

The next morning, Jian Ai woke up. She opened the bedroom door and saw Si Yue coming out of the bathroom wiping his hair.

Si Yue's cold face was slightly stunned. After two seconds, he said, "I thought you weren't going to the martial arts school because of jet lag today."

Jian Ai said, "I've been on leave for almost a month. It's almost the new year. The martial arts school is probably going to be on holiday soon. If I don't go now, it'll be next year."

Si Yue nodded. "Master, Senior Brothers, and Senior Sister often talk about you. Everyone misses you."

Jian Ai couldn't help but smile. "Let's go out after I wash my face."

It was still dark at four or five in the morning. Even Jian Ai and Si Yue, who had mental cultivation techniques, couldn't help but tremble at the temperature of -20°C.

Creaking sounds came from the firm snow under their feet. Jian Ai pulled the hat on her head and said, "It's so cold!"

Si Yue looked at her and said, "When you move later, your body will be warm."

Jian Ai couldn't help but smile. Although she didn't forget her morning exercises these days, she really missed the days with her senior brothers and sister in the martial arts school.

She turned into a street of martial arts schools. There were people scattered on the street. They were probably disciples from other martial arts schools.

The Chinese martial arts competition was next spring. Jian Ai initially wanted to represent the martial arts school to compete, but she was leaving after the new year, so she definitely couldn't go. She had to tell her master about this so that he could be mentally prepared and make plans in advance.

"Jian Ai!"

As she was walking, someone suddenly called her name.

Jian Ai stopped in her tracks and turned to look at the voice. She saw a tall and burly figure running towards her.

When she got closer, Jian Ai saw the person's face. It was Xiang Nanfeng.

Without waiting for Jian Ai to react, Xiang Nanfeng said, "You're finally back."

Jian Ai came back to her senses and smiled. She nodded. "I have something on recently, so I haven't been here. Why? Why are you looking for me?"

Xiang Nanfeng shook his head. "No, I haven't seen you recently. I thought something had happened to you."

Jian Ai couldn't help but laugh. Xiang Nanfeng was getting more honest. The arrogance in his body seemed to have disappeared after she beat him up.

Later, when she rejected his confession, it didn't seem to affect him. Jian Ai liked this person a little.

"Alright, I'm relieved to see you back. I'll go back to the martial arts school first. I'll treat you to a meal later," Xiang Nanfeng said and turned to leave.

Jian Ai suddenly thought of something and quickly said, "Xiang Nanfeng, wait."

"What's wrong?" Xiang Nanfeng stopped in his tracks and asked Jian Ai.

Jian Ai thought for a moment and said, "Didn't you say before that you couldn't find a job because you were young? I have a suitable job here. Do you want to try?"

"A job?" Jian Ai's words surprised Xiang Nanfeng. He blinked. "You want to introduce me to a job?"

Jian Ai nodded.

When she chatted with Xiang Nanfeng before, Jian Ai learned that Xiang Nanfeng was from a single-parent family and had dropped out of junior high. The only thing he insisted on was learning karate for the past few years.

Because he was not old enough, it was difficult for him to find a job. Usually, he used the living allowance his father gave him and won bonuses from various competitions.

"What job?" Xiang Nanfeng was curious. He was not curious about what job, but what job Jian Ai could introduce to him.

Jian Ai took out a pen and paper from her bag and quickly wrote a phone number, a name, and an address.

She handed it to Xiang Nanfeng. "Call this number later and give them my name. I'll arrange it for you, okay?"

Xiang Nanfeng took it and suddenly felt that Jian Ai looked like a domineering CEO, especially when she said, "Give them my name!"

He nodded dumbly. "That's it?"

Jian Ai nodded as well. "The sooner the better. It's best if you call at noon today. Don't forget."

Xiang Nanfeng reacted and agreed. "Alright, I'll remember."

After Xiang Nanfeng left, Si Yue, who had not said a word, said, "Does this kid still like you?"

Jian Ai shrugged indifferently. "Who knows? But he's not a stubborn person. I made it very clear to him last time. He should know what to do."

"What job did you find for him? To enter a real estate company?" Si Yue frowned and said suspiciously, "He's not an adult yet, right?"

Jian Ai shook her head and denied it. "It's not the real estate company."

Although Xiang Nanfeng would become an adult after this year, he was still too young. Moreover, real estate companies were all professional positions. There was nothing Xiang Nanfeng could do.

Jian Ai continued, "Qinghuan is famous now and lacks a bodyguard. Xiang Nanfeng is suitable. Qinghuan has always been generous to the people around her and won't mistreat him."

Xiang Nanfeng had no education, so Jian Ai naturally wouldn't make an exception and arrange an unsuitable job for him. Since he was a karate expert, following Qinghuan was the most suitable. It wouldn't be too late to let him go in the future if he had better developments and choices.

Chapter 1354 Farewell to the Martial Arts School

At Longxing Martial Arts School, Jian Ai and Si Yue stood at the bottom of the stone steps and couldn't help but blink at the tightly shut door.

They looked at each other and Jian Ai frowned in confusion. "What's going on?"

Usually, this was the time when their senior brothers and sister came to the martial arts school, so the door of the martial arts school was usually open. Even if it was not open, it was ajar.

However, the door was obviously tightly closed today, as if no one had been here.

Could it be that the two of them were the first to arrive?

Si Yue said nothing. Instead, he walked forward and pressed the doorbell at the side. The two of them had not been to the martial arts school for more than a month. They could not help but worry about the situation today. Did something happen to the martial arts school again?

Fortunately, footsteps came from inside after a while. The door opened, and Eldest Senior Brother, Yang Xiaowen, poked his head out. When he saw Jian Ai and Si Yue, he couldn't help but look surprised.

"Junior Brother, Junior Sister, you're back!"

As he spoke, Yang Xiaowen had already opened the door.

"Eldest Senior Brother, what's going on? The door is tightly shut. Didn't Senior Brothers, Senior Sister, and the rest come?" Jian Ai went forward and voiced her doubts.

"Hey, the two of you have been on leave for more than half a month. You naturally don't know the developments in the martial arts school. Come in and talk." Yang Xiaowen smiled and let the two of them enter the martial arts school.

Seeing their Eldest Senior Brother in this state, Jian Ai and Si Yue were slightly relieved. Nothing bad must have happened.

Hearing the voice, Yang Jie walked out of the inner hall. It was cold, but Yang Jie was still wearing a thin long robe. He looked a little rounder and looked much better than before.

"Master!"

Seeing Yang Jie, Jian Ai and Si Yue spoke in unison.

Yang Jie smiled and stood in front of the door, waving at the two of them. "You're finally back. Come in."

There was a heated fireplace in the room. After taking off her coat, her body instantly warmed up.

Without waiting for Jian Ai to ask, Yang Jie took the initiative to say, "A few days ago, your Senior Brother Zexuan fell ill, but he insisted on coming to the martial arts school. In the end, not only did he not recover, but he also infected others. All of them were sickly, so I let them rest and recuperate. The final examination is coming soon, so they can't drag their illnesses into the examination hall. There's no hurry to practice martial arts, so I said that they should come back only after the final examination."

"You and Si Yue applied for leave during this period. I heard from Lin Yi that you didn't go to school either. I think there was something else, so I didn't inform you."

Hearing Yang Jie's words, Jian Ai nodded in understanding. "I see. I was shocked just now. I thought something had happened to the martial arts school again."

"Haha..." Yang Jie couldn't help but laugh. "Everything is fine, especially after you entered the martial arts school. Our martial arts school didn't encounter any trouble. Don't worry."

"Junior Brother, Junior Sister, since you're here, let's have breakfast together. My father and I have been missing you a lot these days. We can talk," Yang Xiaowen said.

Jian Ai quickly nodded.

The breakfast in the martial arts school was as rich as usual. However, there were fewer people, and the quantity also decreased.

They sat down in the dining room. Yang Jie looked at the two of them and couldn't help but say, "Xiao Ai, you've been gone for so long. Now that you're back, are you still leaving?"

Other than knowing that the two of them were studying in Erzong, Yang Jie knew very little about Jian Ai and Si Yue's identities.

Unlike Lin Yi and Gao Yang, who were from rich families, they knew whose children they were at the mention of it.

However, Yang Jie knew their identities were not simple, so he never asked for the reason for their leave. However, he had feelings. As their master, Yang Jie could not help but show concern.

Jian Ai couldn't help but stop in her tracks. Before she could eat the fried dough sticks, she put them down again.

She looked up at Yang Jie and smiled apologetically after a while. "Master, I initially wanted to tell you before the new year, but now that the morning exercise at the martial arts school has been canceled, I won't hide it from you anymore."

When Yang Jie heard this, he already had a premonition, but he still didn't know what Jian Ai wanted to say.

"Tell me. I'm listening." Yang Jie looked at Jian Ai seriously, as if he was treating an adult.

Jian Ai's heart warmed. Then, she said bluntly, "I'll leave Baiyun City after the new year. By then, not to mention a martial arts school, I won't even be able to go to school!"

"Leave Baiyun City?" Yang Xiaowen couldn't help but be shocked. He asked anxiously, "Junior Sister, where are you going? How long are you going for? Are you not even going to school?"

Jian Ai nodded helplessly, but she couldn't tell her master and senior brother about the ancient sect. As for the power of blood, it was even more unreal for ordinary people. Even if her master and senior brother believed her, it might not be a good thing. Instead, it would change their worldview.

Jian Ai didn't want to change anyone.

Therefore, Jian Ai only said, "I have a reason for leaving. As for the reason, I can't reveal it. I hope Master and Senior Brother can understand."

"I naturally believe you," Yang Jie blurted out. "But no matter what, you're still a child. No matter what you experience, you have to remain calm and careful, understand?"

Yang Jie was reminding Jian Ai. Although he did not know what Jian Ai wanted to do, calmness and caution were very important.

Jian Ai smiled and nodded. Then, she said apologetically, "I'm sorry, Master. I initially wanted to represent the martial arts school to take part in the Chinese martial arts competition. It seems that I won't be able to go."

"You don't have to worry about such things." Yang Jie smiled. "You just have to do what you want. Don't worry about the martial arts school. We'll wait for you to come back."

"I don't know when I'll be back." Jian Ai looked melancholic.

Yang Jie said without thinking, "As long as I'm alive, and as long as the martial arts school is around, we'll wait for you to come back!"

These words made Jian Ai's eyes sting. Over the past half a year of martial arts school life, she had long treated this place as her second home.

Si Yue didn't say a word. In fact, from the moment Jian Ai said that she was leaving Baiyun City, he almost couldn't hold it in because he didn't know about this at all.

It was not until he bade farewell to his master and senior brother and left the martial arts school that Si Yue couldn't help but say to Jian Ai, "Where are you going?"

Si Yue's face was cold, but in Jian Ai's eyes, she felt he was wronged. Coupled with his questioning tone, he looked even more wronged.

Jian Ai couldn't help but laugh. She looked at Si Yue and said, "What kind of expression is that? You look like an angry wife!"

However, Si Yue had no intention of laughing with Jian Ai. Then, he asked with a serious expression, "Where are you going?!"

This time, his voice was higher.

Jian Ai could tell that he was a little angry, so she stopped teasing him.

Chapter 1355 What Was Early Love?

"I'm going to look for the High Priest," Jian Ai put away her expression and looked at Si Yue seriously.

Hearing the High Priest's name, Si Yue was stunned. Jian Ai looked at his expression and knew that Bai Zhou did not tell Si Yue that the High Priest had taken her away.

Since he didn't even tell Si Yue, the others probably didn't know.

"You saw the High Priest?" Si Yue came back to his senses and asked, his voice softening.

Obviously, everyone respected the High Priest, and it was the same for Si Yue.

Jian Ai told Si Yue what had happened before saying, "The High Priest was afraid that I would suffer a backlash from the agitated power of blood, so he asked me to look for him. He will help me cultivate the power of blood."

Hearing Jian Ai's explanation, Si Yue felt relieved.

It turned out that the Sect Master lost control again under the power of blood and even killed someone.

He had seen the power of blood before. Although Yu Wuyuan interrupted it in time, the intimidating pressure made his scalp tingle.

For a long time, Si Yue said nothing. No one knew what he was thinking.

Jian Ai thought he was still angry and couldn't help but pat his back. She said gently, "There's no choice. You also know how evil this power of blood is. Although I can still coexist peacefully with it now, what if I lose control again in the future and accidentally kill someone else?"

Unexpectedly, Si Yue suddenly looked up at Jian Ai and said, "I want to go with you."

He was not angry. He just wanted to stay by Jian Ai's side.

Jian Ai was stunned for a moment before laughing. "The High Priest's place is in the wilderness. I don't know if I'll be gone for a year and a half or three to five years. Are you sure you want to go with me?"

Si Yue nodded without hesitation. "I'll go too!"

Jian Ai looked straight at Si Yue. The cold morning wind could not blow away the tenacity in his eyes. Jian Ai nodded. "Alright, I'll report to the High Priest. If he agrees, you'll go with me."

Hearing Jian Ai's words, Si Yue's eyes lit up.

In the winter, the days were short, and the nights were long. When the two of them arrived at school, the sky was not completely bright, but the road outside the school was already filled with all kinds of luxury cars.

Jian Ai and Si Yue, who had disappeared for almost a month, returned to school and instantly became the focus of attention again. However, Jian Ai no longer cared about these things. Moreover, she was leaving at the end of this semester.

There was less than a month left. She only wanted to spend this period peacefully.

As soon as they entered the classroom, the noisy atmosphere froze. Everyone's gazes instinctively landed on Jian Ai and Si Yue.

Si Yue returned to his seat as if no one was around.

"Jian Ai!"

Yan Tian was the first to rush up and said in surprise, "You're back!"

Jian Ai smiled and nodded. Just as she was about to say something, Lin Yi's voice came from behind her.

"Jian Ai!"

Jian Ai turned around and smiled when she saw Lin Yi. He was wearing a long black down jacket, and the smile on his face was as dazzling as the spring wind.

"Hi, I'm back!" Jian Ai greeted him.

Not long after, the others arrived. They sat around Jian Ai's seat and talked.

"You left without a trace. There was no news at all," Yan Tian couldn't help but say.

The others nodded as well. Jian Ai could only say helplessly, "I can't leave, but I won't disappear again before the new year. I'll prepare for the final examination."

"Won't disappear before the new year? Do you mean you have to disappear after the new year?" Yan Tian continued to ask.

Jian Ai didn't plan to tell them about this now, so she only smiled and said vaguely, "I didn't say that."

"We have such a close relationship. What else do you have to hide? Quickly tell us what you've been doing." Yan Tian was like a chatterbox today, asking endless questions.

Jian Ai looked at Qinghuan with a helpless smile for help.

When Qinghuan received the signal, she quickly raised her hand to coax him. "Oh, alright. Jian Ai just came back, but you're holding her and asking questions. I'm tired of hearing this. Quickly disperse! Don't ask anymore!"

Lin Yi and Gao Yang said nothing. They only smiled and returned to their seats.

Yan Tian did not give up. In the end, Qinghuan twisted his thigh until it turned red before he left with a scream.

"Ignore him." Xia Qinghuan turned around and smiled at Jian Ai. "But don't blame him for being long-winded. While you were not around, he kept talking about you."

"You said that the two of you didn't have a good relationship in the beginning and that he always looked down on you. I think he treats you as a brother now."

As Xia Qinghuan spoke, Jian Ai couldn't help but laugh. In fact, her relationship with Yan Tian had eased a lot after the fire at the hot spring villa. After Qinghuan entered the production team, she often arranged with Yan Tian to visit her. Over time, their relationship naturally became better.

Yan Tian's personality was very simple. Whether he liked it or not, it was all on his face. He was a straightforward person.

It was just that sometimes, he was silly. In Qinghuan's words, he was simple-minded and muscular. This was both a strength and a weakness.

At the mention of Yan Tian, Jian Ai couldn't help but look at Qinghuan worriedly. Then, she lowered her voice and said, "You're a public figure now. About you and Yan Tian..."

Jian Ai had finished speaking, but the meaning behind her words was obvious.

The two of them had been in a relationship for a long time. Although Qinghuan usually ordered Yan Tian around, Jian Ai knew she liked Yan Tian a lot.

However, Qinghuan was already quite famous now. She would probably be very famous before 'Interweaving Night' was released. At that time, her private life would be magnified, and she would not be able to hide her relationship with Yan Tian.

To Qinghuan, it was useless to hide. The entire Erzong knew she was dating Yan Tian. Any reporter could investigate thoroughly.

That was why Jian Ai was worried. She was always afraid negative news would plague Qinghuan or that someone else would deliberately make an issue out of it. After all, in a place like the entertainment circle, there were always countless tricks.

However, facing Jian Ai's worry, Xia Qinghuan smiled and said casually, "I'll say whatever I have to say!"

Jian Ai was stunned for a moment, as if she couldn't react to Qinghuan.

Qinghuan shrugged indifferently and said naturally, "I won't give up my life because of my profession. I'm an actress. Acting is my responsibility. Of course, I'm also a public figure. It's also my social responsibility to have a positive image."

"But other than that, I don't seem to need or want to overcorrect my life."

Chapter 1356 Showing Off

“Aren’t you afraid that others will treat you as a negative example of puppy love?” Jian Ai was a little surprised with Qinghuan’s reaction and couldn’t help but ask.

Unexpectedly, Qinghuan snorted in disdain. “Puppy love? Tsk, I think love is love. There’s no such thing as sooner or later!”

“What do you mean by puppy love? How early is puppy love? I’m sixteen years old. In ancient times, sixteen-year-old women gave birth. Those who didn’t get married at sixteen years old were considered old girls! We’re in modern society now. What’s wrong with me dating at sixteen years old?”

“Is dating at sixteen a negative example? I don’t think so! I think it’s a natural physiological phenomenon for adolescent boys and girls to secrete hormones and dopamine and develop a good impression of the opposite sex. Why should we resist our physiological phenomena? Isn’t this a violation of human rights?”

“In short, to me, I’m not killing anyone or committing arson. I do nothing illegal. I don’t abuse small animals, don’t throw my weight around, don’t disturb public order, and don’t curse in public. My image will be positive enough!”

“As for whether I’m in love, who I’m in love with, how long I’ve been in love, and what age I fall in love, that’s my business. I don’t disturb or hurt others. That’s none of their business, and no one has the right to interfere with me.”

“I’m an actress who’s filming. I’m not a model for teenagers in the country to prevent puppy love. Why can’t I date?!”

“Pfft...” Qinghuan’s words made Jian Ai laugh.

However, these words sounded like Qinghuan’s style. To her, the rules of the entertainment circle were useless. She only wanted to act and didn’t want to care about anything else.

Although her words made sense, Jian Ai knew how dirty the water in the entertainment circle was and how deep the vat was. Qinghuan had just stepped into it this year and had yet to experience it. As time passed, could she really stay out of it?

Jian Ai was not sure, but all she could do was protect Qinghuan and even Yan Tian to the greatest extent.

The atmosphere in the classroom froze. Jian Ai and Qinghuan looked up at the same time and saw Jian Yiyi and Li Yunmei entering the classroom.

Jian Yiyi was wearing a white goose down coat, and her face was as exquisite as before. She smiled calmly like a fairy that had descended from the sky.

“Why do I feel that she’s getting more pretentious?” Qinghuan broke Jian Yiyi’s disguise.

Jian Ai pursed her lips and smiled. She looked at Qinghuan.

Indeed, after Jian Yiyi entered the entertainment circle, she had to pay more attention to her words and actions.

In the eyes of those who did not like her, this was Qinghuan's so-called increasingly pretentious!

Jian Yiyi enjoyed everyone's attention. She looked up and saw Jian Ai sitting in the classroom. She was stunned for a moment before returning to normal.

She was a celebrity now and had long drawn a boundary and level with these ordinary people. Jian Yiyi told herself that she would never have conflicts with these students in the future. She was a person of status now!

Jian Yiyi returned to her seat and sat down. Li Yunmei saw Jian Ai and stopped in her tracks. She pretended to raise her voice naturally. "Yiyi, what time is the filming for the Germinal Magazine tomorrow?"

Jian Yiyi quickly pulled Li Yunmei and lowered her voice. "Oh, Xiao Mei, lower your voice."

When the other students heard this, it immediately caused a commotion.

"Yiyi, does Germinal Magazine want to take photos of you?"

"Really? That's a national magazine. I've been buying it since junior high. It doesn't fall short!"

"Me too. I like the topic of the school belle and the school beau the most. Yiyi, tell me which page you're featured in after filming. I'll buy it to support you!"

When the students heard that a national youth magazine like the Germinal Magazine was looking for Jian Yiyi, they instantly surrounded her.

Jian Yiyi only smiled and nodded in response with an embarrassed expression. Li Yunmei, on the other hand, widened her eyes and reminded, "Which page? How can our Yiyi film anything else but the cover?!"

"The cover? Really?"

"Aren't child celebrities usually on the cover? Only popular child celebrities like Li Chuchu and Duan Sheng will be on the cover of the Germinal Magazine!"

"Besides, isn't Yiyi's debut work, 'Interweaving Night,' only released next year? Why are there such good resources so soon?"

The students discussed at once. Li Yunmei glanced at Jian Ai and Xia Qinghuan smugly before saying confidently, "Hah, who asked our Yiyi to be beautiful? She's a newcomer supported by the company!"

"Don't underestimate Yiyi's company. Although Rose Entertainment is a newly established entertainment company, they have a lot of resources. The first project is a big piece like 'Interweaving Night.' They're preparing to film a large-scale historical television drama now. I heard that the female lead has also been decided. She's an A-list female celebrity specialising in ancient dramas in the country. Our Yiyi will enter the production team again after the New Year. This time, she's the second female lead acting with Senior Jin Li!"

“Moreover, her manager is a top manager in the industry. Why would she need to worry about resources? I heard that he’s helping Yiyi discuss advertisements now. Compared to these, there’s no need to make a fuss about the cover of a mere Germinal Magazine!”

Li Yunmei spoke happily as if she was talking about herself. On the other hand, Jian Yiyi was embarrassed.

The students’ eyes lit up when they heard that. Li Yunmei’s words had convinced them.

“Oh my, Yiyi, you’re too amazing. You became famous before they even released the drama. I didn’t expect your company’s resources to be so good!”

“It won’t be long before Yiyi becomes a big star. Don’t forget us students then!”

Jian Yiyi smiled and combed her hair. She said gently, “How could I forget you?! Even if I’m a celebrity, I’m still everyone’s classmate! I’m just lucky to have met a good company and manager. The credit is not all mine.”

“It’s rare for you to be so outstanding and humble.”

“Yiyi, we’re all your fans in the future!”

“Yes, we’re all your fans!”

The atmosphere instantly soared, completely different from when Jian Ai entered the classroom.

Jian Ai couldn’t help but laugh. Jian Yiyi was an artist from Rose Entertainment. If her resources were good, this was naturally a good thing for Jian Ai.

She glanced at Qinghuan and saw that she was drinking a glass of yogurt, as if she did not care about the crowd at the side.

“Aren’t the two of you from the same company? Her resources are so good. Aren’t you angry?”

“Tsk!” Qinghuan rolled her eyes and whispered, “That Germinal Magazine’s chief editor contacted Brother Jin first and wanted me to be the cover person in February, but I rejected him!”

Chapter 1357 I Won’t Want The Initiative!

“Ah?” Jian Ai was slightly surprised and asked, “Why? Germinal Magazine is a must-read magazine for students in junior high and senior high schools in the country. Everyone buys it every week. Why did you reject it?”

“I don’t want to.” Qinghuan didn’t explain further and only said these simple and firm words.

Jian Ai raised her eyebrows as if she understood what Qinghuan meant.

Qinghuan continued, “After rejecting it, I heard that Brother Jie contacted them. Although I don’t know how Brother Jie did it, it definitely won’t be that easy to negotiate. Otherwise, think about it. Everyone recognized me because of the popular broadcast ‘There Will Be An Angel Who Loves You on My Behalf.’ Jian Yiyi only appeared in the news as part of the production team of ‘Interweaving Night.’ In terms of influence, she can’t film for the cover of the Germinal Magazine.”

“Besides, I heard that Jian Yiyi isn’t having a solo cover. She’ll be featured with Brother Yuan Guang. Perhaps this is more interesting.”

Jian Ai nodded in understanding. Jian Yiyi and Yuan Guang were both artists under Brother Jie, and they were both newcomers. Now that they had the resources for the cover of the Germinal Magazine, they would naturally maximize the benefits and returns if both went together.

Brother Jie was still very good at being a manager. In terms of experience and ability, there were many things worth learning from Brother Jin.

Li Yunmei initially wanted to anger Xia Qinghuan and Jian Ai. Although she had not achieved her goal, she felt satisfied in her heart. The students surrounded and praised them enviously. They only dispersed when the bell rang.

In the Jian family.

Jian Changsheng took a shower, changed his clothes, and went downstairs. Qiao Shuyi went up to him with a bowl of hangover soup. “Come, drink this.”

The Jian Group had won the South City reconstruction project. Recently, real estate companies, construction materials companies, and civil engineering companies of all sizes had come knocking on their door, wanting to take part in this important project.

Be it demolition or reconstruction, South City was a vast project. Although the Jian Group could cover the sky in the Baiyun real estate world, they could not complete this project alone. Therefore, recently, Jian Changsheng had become busier and had to socialize every day. He only returned after drinking until dawn.

Qiao Shuyi’s heart ached when she saw this, but she couldn’t say anything. This was the CEO’s daily life.

After drinking the hangover soup, Jian Changsheng raised his hand and touched Qiao Shuyi’s face. He said gently, “Don’t wait for me today. Sleep early.”

Qiao Shuyi nodded slightly with complicated emotions in her eyes. “Drink less.”

In the end, she could only remind him.

After Jian Changsheng left the house, Qiao Shuyi walked to the living room and picked up her phone. There was a message on the phone screen: Madam, I didn’t attend the CEO’s recent social gatherings. Director Vivian from the project department had accompanied him.

Qiao Shuyi’s expression did not change. She only pressed the delete button and deleted the message.

At the Jian Group, as soon as Jian Changsheng entered the office, an overwhelming number of documents were sent over. Not only was he busy, but everyone in the corporation was working overtime.

Vivian knocked on the door and entered with a stack of documents. Before she entered, she said, “CEO, a few other companies have drafted proposals. I’ve already screened a portion. These have good potential.”

Vivian placed the documents on Jian Changsheng's desk.

Jian Changsheng stopped signing the document and put down his pen to look up at Vivian. Vivian was still wearing exquisite makeup. As the person who entered the CEO's office the most every day, no matter how busy she was, she still maintained a perfect image.

Jian Changsheng said, "Is there any news from East Sea Real Estate?"

Vivian was stunned when Jian Changsheng suddenly mentioned East Sea Real Estate. She didn't understand what Jian Changsheng meant. "East Sea Real Estate?"

After a while, Vivian shook her head. "I haven't paid much attention to them recently, but there doesn't seem to be any new developments."

Jian Changsheng sighed and asked, "I mean, did East Sea Real Estate send their proposal?"

Such a big project shocked almost all the real estate companies in Baiyun City. He had to read over ten proposals every day, so East Sea Real Estate should not be indifferent.

However, Vivian shook her head again. "No!"

As soon as she finished speaking, Vivian frowned strangely. "That shouldn't be. They're in the limelight now. They were also very active during the bidding before. Why is there no news now? Even Hongxiang and Century Group sent a proposal."

Vivian was right. East Sea Real Estate was in the limelight. If they could get them to take part in the reconstruction project, it would undoubtedly be a rich and colorful investment for East Sea Real Estate. Their status would rise to another level.

However, the other party did not even come over to contact them.

Vivian didn't know, but Jian Changsheng frowned.

If anyone else received this project, East Sea Real Estate would extend an olive branch. His daughter should have refused to collaborate with the Jian Group because she hated him.

His daughter should not want to have too much to do with him.

"Vivian," Jian Changsheng suddenly said. He looked at Vivian and said solemnly, "Send an experienced person to East Sea Real Estate and invite their company to join the South City reconstruction project!"

"Huh?"

Vivian suspected that she had heard wrong and couldn't help but widen her eyes in shock.

Invite East Sea Real Estate to join South City's reconstruction project?

It was no wonder that Vivian was so surprised. East Sea Real Estate was a very troublesome competitor of the Jian Group. Even if the two companies could collaborate, East Sea Real Estate should have the initiative. After all, this was the Jian Group's project.

Now that all the real estate companies in the city were trying their best to join, the CEO wanted to be friendly to East Sea Real Estate and invite them to join?

What kind of logic was this?

However, Jian Changsheng naturally wouldn't mention anything further to Vivian. His thoughts were also very pure. He wanted to make it up to his daughter, and there was very little he could do now.

Vivian left the office in a daze. Even though she couldn't figure it out, she still followed Jian Changsheng's instructions.

Jian Ai received a call from Bai Zhou in the morning.

"Boss, you said that we wouldn't fight for this project, but now, their company sent someone to invite us. Do you think..." Bai Zhou smiled, as if teasing her.

Jian Ai said without thinking, "I won't even ask for it. If he gives it to me, I definitely won't want it!"

"Understood." Bai Zhou understood and hung up.

Turning around, the company's representative was Vivian herself. Since it was a mission given by the CEO, she always wanted to complete it beautifully herself.

However, she did not expect that such a good thing would be rejected.

Bai Zhou shrugged apologetically with his peerless beauty. Although he had a smile on his face, his words were not a joke. "I'm sorry, Miss Vivian. Our boss means that we're indebted to your corporation, but our company has no intention of participating in this project. I'm sorry!"

Chapter 1358 Didn't Want to Give Up

Looking at Bai Zhou's bewitching face, Vivian was enlightened. For a moment, she couldn't tell if Bai Zhou was joking.

After a while, Vivian came back to her senses and couldn't help but reveal a look of disbelief. "Manager Bai, are you joking with me? Not to mention this year, but this project is the largest project in Baiyun City in recent years. I don't think there will be a bigger project than South City's reconstruction in the next few years. Your East Sea Real Estate has only been established for less than a year. Now that our Jian Group took the initiative to collaborate with you, you're rejecting us?"

"You have to know that companies who want to take part in this project have to line up in the suburbs. Which one of them isn't waiting for the Jian Group to agree?"

Vivian suppressed the anger in her heart and wanted to maintain her rationality to talk to Bai Zhou. However, she could not help but sound high and mighty.

After all, she was the project director of the Jian Group and represented the Jian Group!

Even if she was here to extend an invitation, Vivian still could not calm down in the face of East Sea Real Estate, especially when faced with rejection.

Faced with Vivian's anger, Bai Zhou only smiled faintly. "Just as you said, so many people are looking forward to this project. Why should East Sea Real Estate interfere? Besides, this is our boss's idea. Although I'm the general manager, I don't have the final say in this matter alone."

Hearing Bai Zhou's words, Vivian felt angry. If not because this was a mission assigned by the CEO, she wouldn't even want to say anything and leave.

But now...

Vivian stood up and softened her tone. "Manager Bai, if you miss such an opportunity, you might not encounter it again! If we successfully completed this project, East Sea Real Estate will become even more powerful in the future."

"Although our Jian Group is powerful, as peers, we want to help a new company with potential like East Sea Real Estate. We indeed value East Sea Real Estate's uniqueness and forward-looking nature. Our CEO firmly believes that if the two companies can collaborate, it will be a win-win situation."

These words expressed the Jian Group's sincerity. Anyone would have to give them some face.

However, Bai Zhou would not fall for this. Since Jian Ai had given the order, even if Vivian said everything today, Bai Zhou would not be moved.

Therefore, he smiled and shook his head with a friendly but distant expression.

He said nothing. Just this action was enough to show East Sea Real Estate's determination.

Seeing this, Vivian almost broke her heel.

"I still have something on, so I won't entertain you anymore. If you want to visit East Sea Real Estate, you can help yourself."

With that, Bai Zhou left the reception room.

Vivian was stunned on the spot, not knowing if she should leave or stay.

Stay? He had already rejected her so decisively.

Leave? This was the CEO's mission. If she did not complete it, how would she explain it to the CEO?

This was the first time she had come into direct contact with East Sea Real Estate, but she did not expect the other party to reject her. This small East Sea Real Estate rejected the Jian Group's collaboration invitation. Wasn't the other party crazy?

However, she had no choice. East Sea Real Estate knew the pros and cons of this project better than her. The other party had already decided from the beginning. Looking at Manager Bai's attitude today, Vivian knew she had made a wasted trip.

Not only had she made a wasted trip, but even if the CEO sent someone over again, the result would probably be the same.

Therefore, when Vivian told Jian Changsheng the results, he didn't show much shock.

Although this result was unexpected, it was reasonable.

Jian Changsheng knew he knew little about Xiao Ai, but after a few simple interactions, he could feel what kind of person his daughter was.

It was normal for his daughter to refuse his kindness.

“CEO, I think there’s no need to continue pushing this matter forward. The other party’s attitude is quite firm. I’ve said all the benefits, but the other party is indifferent.”

Vivian whispered. She didn’t know Jian Changsheng’s relationship with Jian Ai, so she felt sorry for the Jian Group.

Jian Changsheng looked at Vivian and whispered, “Don’t worry about this for now. I’ll handle it myself.”

Jian Changsheng didn’t want to give up.

If it were anything else, he would not force his daughter too much. However, South City’s reconstruction project was different. If he did not give such lucrative resources to his daughter, he could not get over it.

East Sea Real Estate could use this opportunity to become a dragon by participating in this project. They could develop for at least five to ten years less. This was definitely not a reason for his daughter to be angry at him.

No matter what, he had to get his daughter’s company involved.

After school in the afternoon, Qinghuan called Jian Ai to stay before she could walk out of the school building.

“Xiao Ai, Lin Yi said that he would treat everyone to a meal!” Xia Qinghuan held Jian Ai’s arm and smiled. “Since you’re back, Lin Yi has to show his gratitude. How about it? Are you going?”

As soon as she finished speaking, Lin Yi and the rest caught up from behind.

Yan Tian beat her to it. “There’s a new beef hotpot place at Baiyun Square. I went to eat it with my cousin last week. It’s delicious. Let’s go there!”

“Alright, I’m fine with anything!” Qinghuan answered.

Lin Yi’s gaze was on Jian Ai. When Jian Ai looked over, he smiled and asked, “Is beef hotpot okay?”

“Xiao Ai likes beef the most!” Xia Qinghuan said.

Jian Ai looked at the excited people and nodded with a smile. “Alright, let’s go to this restaurant.”

Initially, she wanted to go back to her aunt’s place to look. Although her mother should have gone to work at this time, she still missed her brother and aunt’s family.

However, there was no hurry for this day. It was good to wait until the weekend so that she could accompany her family more, so she might as well go out to play with Lin Yi and the rest today.

They chatted and laughed as they left the school building. It was completely dark after school in winter, but the lights in the field and the snow by the road could brighten the night.

The crowd after school rushed out like a tide. At the school gate, a figure stopped in front of Jian Ai.

Jian Ai and the rest stopped in their tracks and looked up at the same time. They saw the person standing in front of them wearing a black down jacket. He had exquisite short black hair, dark blue jeans, and a pair of white basketball shoes!

His expressionless and handsome face was slightly red from the cold wind, and he looked at Jian Ai proudly with his bright eyes.

It was Jian Yichen.

“Yichen?” Jian Ai called out.

Jian Yichen didn’t look at anyone else but at Jian Ai without blinking. In the end, he said, “You’re back.”

Chapter 1359 The Last Time I Say These Things

Jian Ai couldn’t help but smile and nod. “Yes, I just came back today.”

Without waiting for Jian Ai to ask, Jian Yichen said, “My father is looking for you.”

Jian Ai was stunned for a moment. When she reacted, her expression changed.

Jian Yichen saw this but said nothing. He only said, “He’s standing opposite the road.”

As soon as he finished speaking, Jian Yichen turned around and left.

Jian Ai looked up in Jian Yichen’s direction and across the road. Across the busy street, a tall and slender figure was standing under the streetlamp. Beside him was a black Rolls-Royce car.

Without looking, Jian Ai recognized the other party as Jian Changsheng.

The others around her were stunned. Everyone knew that Jian Yichen was Jian Yiyi’s brother and that he had a good relationship with Jian Ai.

But today, Jian Yichen’s father was looking for Jian Ai and even came to school? How did Jian Ai know the CEO of the Jian Group?

“Xiao Ai...” Xia Qinghuan pursed her lips. She wanted to say something but didn’t know what to say.

Jian Ai’s expression was dark, and she frowned. Jian Changsheng’s action of finding her at the school gate made her unhappy.

This person was too arrogant!

“Do you want to go over? We can wait for you,” Lin Yi said softly.

Jian Ai thought for a moment and exhaled deeply. “Wait for me here. I’ll be right back.”

Tightening her down jacket, Jian Ai walked across the road.

Jian Yichen sat in the car. He knew his father had something to say to Jian Ai alone. Although he was curious, he was not a busybody.

Jian Ai stood in front of Jian Changsheng and looked up at him with no emotions or warmth in her eyes.

Jian Changsheng couldn't help but feel nervous. Ever since he knew that Jian Ai was his daughter, he didn't have a chance to see her. Looking at his daughter in front of him, Jian Changsheng had mixed emotions.

Jian Changsheng's lips moved slightly. He wanted to call her Xiao Ai, but he couldn't when he saw Jian Ai's cold eyes.

"What's the matter?" Jian Ai spoke first. Her indifferent tone was even colder than the cold sky.

Jian Changsheng's heart stopped. A bitter taste surged in his throat.

The Jian Group's CEO's rationality and calmness had long disintegrated when facing his biological daughter. All that was left was helplessness and disappointment.

"Xiao... Xiao Ai," Jian Changsheng said with difficulty. He had a goal on this trip. No matter what, he had to say it.

Jian Ai looked at him. She already knew the reason Jian Changsheng was looking for her, but she didn't say or ask. She waited for him to say it himself.

After a while, Jian Changsheng continued, "I came to look for you for no other reason than to invite your East Sea Real Estate to join South City's reconstruction project. I know you hate me, but I also know that you're different from ordinary children. You're calm and rational when something happens, and you know how to analyze the pros and cons. Therefore, I hope you can distinguish between public and private matters. I think you know very well how important this opportunity is to a company. It's a huge loss to miss it."

Jian Changsheng's voice was gentle and slow. He didn't have the dignified aura of an elder. Instead, he sounded like he was pleading.

"Separate public and private matters?" Jian Ai was unmoved. Her expression did not change. She looked at Jian Changsheng and asked, "What do you mean by separating public and private matters? What private matters do I have with CEO Jian? How can my small East Sea Real Estate company receive the Jian Group's favor? Is CEO Jian separating public and private matters now?"

Jian Ai's voice was cold but aggressive. Every word stabbed into Jian Changsheng's heart like an ice blade.

Without waiting for Jian Changsheng to speak, Jian Ai continued, "Jian Changsheng, stop thinking too highly of yourself. Who do you think you are? Do you think you can erase your past sins by doing this? Stop feeling touched! The more you're like this, the more disgusted I feel!"

"This is the last time I'll say these words. Listen carefully! I have nothing to do with you. What happens to my company, my mother, my brother, and me has nothing to do with you! The only relationship I have with you is with you're my competitor in the real estate world!"

"Don't come to me on your own in the future, especially on such an occasion! Yichen is not a child anymore. I believe he already has doubts in his heart. If Jian Yiyi sees this again, aren't you afraid of being exposed? Are you not afraid of ruining your current happy life?"

Jian Changsheng was speechless. He moved his mouth and said, "Xiao Ai... I..."

Jian Ai looked away and interrupted him. "Put away your pity. My mother raised me and my brother without you all these years. Now that we're rich and have nothing to worry about, you don't have to worry!"

As soon as she finished speaking, Jian Ai turned around and glanced at the rearview mirror of the car. She met Jian Yichen's gaze in the mirror.

Jian Ai's heart skipped a beat. She quickly put away the hidden anger on her face and instinctively smiled at Jian Yichen.

Then, she crossed the road without looking back.

Under the street lamp, Jian Changsheng looked at Jian Ai's back with a defeated expression. His heart was riddled with holes, but he felt he had no right to feel pain.

He deserved all of this. Xiao Ai should hate him, and so should Xiao Yu.

After returning to the car, Jian Yichen sat in the front passenger seat and looked up at Jian Changsheng, who was sitting in the backseat. He said calmly, "Dad... are you okay?"

Jian Changsheng instinctively looked at Jian Yichen.

He didn't ask why he was looking for Jian Ai or what was wrong. Instead, he asked if he was okay.

It seemed to be a word of concern, but Jian Changsheng couldn't help but feel afraid.

"Dad is fine. It's too cold. My face is stiff from the wind." Jian Changsheng returned to normal and smiled.

Jian Yichen didn't ask further. He just looked at the school gate and said, "My sister is out."

Jian Changsheng's appearance did not affect Jian Ai's mood to go to the gathering with her friends. They sat in Lin Yi's nanny van and went to the beef hotpot restaurant Yan Tian mentioned.

"Come, cover your face. Go in and go straight to the private room." Yan Tian covered Qinghuan's face with his scarf, afraid that someone would recognize her.

Qinghuan let Yan Tian fiddle with her, but she said, "Brother Jin sent me a message this afternoon saying that the company assigned me a bodyguard..."

"Bodyguard?" Yan Tian paused for a moment when he heard that. Then, he said, "Is it the kind of person who stops fans around celebrities in the news?"

Qinghuan nodded. Guan Tao couldn't help but think of what had happened last night. She quickly said, "Yesterday, a passerby recognized Qinghuan and rushed up excitedly. It was terrifying!"

"Qinghuan's company is quite reliable. I think those celebrities usually have bodyguards protecting them. Qinghuan should have one too," Lin Yi added.

Jian Ai knew that Xiang Nanfeng had gone to Rose Entertainment for an interview according to her wishes and was relieved.

Chapter 1360 Unexpected Agitation

The group of them entered the hotpot restaurant. Steam lingered in the room, and the fragrance of beef floated. The lobby on the first floor was almost full. Just as Yan Tian had said, business was booming.

They followed the waiter into the private room on the second floor. After closing the door, Qinghuan took off her scarf. However, she couldn't help but complain, "You're like a thief every day. When you come out for a meal, you look like a special agent."

Everyone couldn't help but laugh when they heard that. Guan Tao said, "I just want you to familiarize yourself with it in advance. Although you're famous now, in my opinion, the highlight has to wait until your movie is released."

"That's right." Jian Ai also said, "You're the supporting actress for the new drama. Although many viewers like you because the character setting is likable, you're the female lead in the movie. You're also the national IP. It'll be a huge hit. When the time comes, I'm afraid people will recognize you even if you wrap yourself up like a mummy."

Qinghuan couldn't help but purse her lips when she heard this. However, she knew in her heart that even if she didn't like this, she couldn't control others.

"Are you all staying in Baiyun City during the winter break?" Lin Yi suddenly asked. Although he was talking to everyone, his gaze was on Jian Ai.

Without waiting for Jian Ai to speak, Yan Tian said, "I'm going to Grandpa and Grandma's place in Hailin with Dad and Mom for the new year. I'll probably be back after the fifteenth."

"I have an advertisement to film during the winter break. Didn't I tell you before? However, I should be in Baiyun most of the time," Qinghuan said.

"I'm not leaving either. I think I'll stay at home for the entire winter break," Gao Yang said.

Guan Tao nodded as well. "Me too."

Everyone looked at Jian Ai after saying that. Jian Ai smiled and said, "I'll be leaving for a while after the new year."

This ambiguous sentence was not a lie, but it was not the truth either.

Because Jian Ai was not sure how long she will be gone for, she could not explain to them why she was leaving.

Hearing that Jian Ai was leaving again, they were stunned for a moment before nodding. They seemed to be used to Jian Ai leaving often.

As her friends, everyone present more or less understood that Jian Ai seemed to have an unknown side and was doing something they did not know.

This was also what these people had in common. If Jian Ai didn't say it, no one would ask.

The atmosphere froze a little, but at this moment, Jian Ai suddenly felt something strange in her body. Almost defenseless, Jian Ai felt an inexplicable uneasiness.

Jian Ai frowned and lowered her head. Before she could capture that abnormality, a fiery restlessness suddenly rose from her body and rushed into Jian Ai's brain.

It was as if something had struck her brain hard. It suddenly hurt. Vaguely, Jian Ai seemed to feel an evil thought in the agitation, trying to devour her rationality.

It was the power of blood!

She thought to herself, 'Oh no. The first two awakenings of the power of blood were because of the stimulation from the outside world that I lost control. However, this time, it suddenly became agitated without warning and stimulation.'

Jian Ai knew she could not control the power of blood, but she could not suppress the abnormality in her body.

Sensing that something was wrong with Jian Ai, they quickly asked with concern, "Jian Ai, what's wrong? Are you okay?"

"I'm not feeling well. I'm going to the bathroom!"

Jian Ai lowered her head and said this. She quickly stood up and fled the private room.

She rushed all the way to the bathroom. Fortunately, there was no one else inside. Jian Ai locked the door after entering.

At this moment, the mania in her body became stronger, and her body heated up. Jian Ai rushed to the mirror and looked up. She was shocked by her reflection in the mirror.

It was a pair of scarlet eyes that had no warmth or fluctuation. Those bright pupils looked like they were about to bleed.

"Xiao Ai, are you inside?"

"Xiao Ai, are you okay? Open the door!"

Xia Qinghuan and Guan Tao's voices came from outside the bathroom. The feeling of losing control and the call of her friends pulled back and forth in Jian Ai's head. One wanted to drag her into endless darkness, and the other wanted to pull her back to reality.

However, Jian Ai knew that once she lost consciousness, she could not control what would happen next.

She could not hurt anyone, let alone kill someone by mistake.

Therefore, while she was still a little sober, Jian Ai looked at the marble sink in front of her and gritted her teeth. Jian Ai closed her eyes and bumped into it.

Bang! A clear sound came from inside. Xia Qinghuan and Guan Tao, who were outside the bathroom, were stunned for a moment before coming back to their senses and pounding on the door.

"Xiao Ai! Xiao Ai!"

"Xiao Ai, what's wrong? Don't scare us!"

Guan Tao was so anxious that she was about to cry. At this moment, Lin Yi and the rest chased after her. They were stunned when they saw the situation.

Lin Yi was the first to come back to his senses. He quickly said to Yan Tian, "Quickly find the waiter. Something might have happened to Jian Ai inside."

When Yan Tian heard that, he nodded and quickly turned around to look for someone.

Not long after, the manager and the two female waiters rushed over with spare keys. They quickly opened the bathroom door and saw Jian Ai lying motionless on the ground in front of the sink.

"Xiao Ai!"

Guan Tao exclaimed and rushed up with Xia Qinghuan. The two of them picked Jian Ai up but realized that her entire body was burning. A huge blood bump rose on her forehead, and it was bruised.

Lin Yi and the boys didn't enter the female bathroom. Instead, they called 120.

Without eating, they followed the ambulance to the hospital.

On the way, Gao Yang said, "Which one of you can contact Jian Ai's family? It's better to inform them now."

They looked at each other. Although they were on good terms with Jian Ai, they did not have her family's contact details, especially since their family had moved out of South City. The courtyard in South City was already empty, and they could not find anyone.

Guan Tao was the most familiar with Jian Ai's family, but she didn't have a phone.

At this moment, Xia Qinghuan reacted and said, "I'll call Brother Jin. He knows Xiao Ai's brother. He should be able to contact him."

As soon as she finished speaking, Xia Qinghuan took out her phone and dialed Chen Jin's number.

When they reached the hospital, they pushed the unconscious Jian Ai into the emergency room. The others waited in the hospital corridor. No one left.

Guan Tao trembled in fear. She thought of Jian Ai lying there motionless and couldn't help but cry.

Gao Yang walked forward and hugged her. He patted her head and said gently, "Don't be afraid. Jian Ai will be fine."

"Why did such a thing suddenly happen? Didn't it look like there was nothing abnormal before?" Yan Tian frowned and whispered.

Xia Qinghuan shook her head. "I don't know either. This has never happened before."

Only Lin Yi leaned against the wall and kept staring at the white door of the emergency room.