BILLION STARS 461

Chapter 461: Miss, Your Take Out Has Arrived (1)

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Qian Ge was clever as always. After losing the battle with Ji Yi during production for "Three Thousand Lunatics," she was upset but she knew to restrain herself.

Half a year prior, she already had a full year's worth of jobs lined up. Once Qian Ge finished shooting her scenes on the same day that "Three Thousand Lunatics" finished production, she got on a flight to Los Angeles without even attending the end-of-production party.

After a month-long shoot without a day of rest, she flew to Paris to attend an exhibition for an international brand and walked the red carpet.

Once it was over, she headed back to the hotel, took a shower, laid on the floor, and did some yoga. That was when she heard her assistant start to talk about how "Three Thousand Lunatics" broke records on their premiere five hours ago. There were an infinite number of positive comments online saying that the title for the Queen of TV was rightfully Qian Ge's!

Qian Ge stretched her torso as she asked sluggishly, "What about the supporting actress?"

The assistant swiped her iPad for a long time before replying, "Nobody really mentioned her."

After hearing this, Qian Ge's hazy mood finally started to lighten up.

So what if Ji Yi's acting skills are good? So what if He Jichen worked hard to land her the role as the supporting actress? Times have changed; I'm no longer the old Qian Ge, but I'm still able to steal the limelight.

The more Qian Ge thought about it, the better she felt. In the end, she started to hum.

After yoga, she noticed it was still early, so she figured she'd go out shopping with her assistant. Considering that Ji Yi hadn't been noticed at all from her first appearance on TV, it made Qian Ge so overjoyed that she generously bought her assistant a handbag.

When women buy buy, they feel particularly happy. Back at the hotel, not only was Qian Ge wide awake, but she even called an attendant to send up a bottle of their best red wine.

She sat in front of the wide, tall windows and stared out at the Parisian night sky. She sampled some top-quality wine and listened to the elegant sound of the piano, enjoying this perfect night.

However, this sense of contentment didn't last more than half an hour. The assistant, who was sitting on a nearby sofa, spoiled her mood when she saw something on Weibo. "Qian Jie, Ji Yi made it to the hot searches list!" she cried.

Qian Ge swirled her glass of red wine as though she hadn't quite registered what her assistant said. Then she curved her red lips to let out an "Mm?"

"Ji Yi's on the hot searches list. Loads of people are starting to notice her, and they recognize her as Princess Qing Yang. There are many people complimenting her acting skills. They say she's beautiful, and there are even some people who dug up clips of her when she appeared on "Palace" as Little Nine for a couple minutes. The posts have been shared among many verified accounts. Someone even..."

As the assistant rambled on, Qian Ge's face grew sullen. Eventually, the assistant was so frightened that she stopped speaking altogether.

Qian Ge furrowed her brows and her tone of voice ran cold and icy. "Even what?"

The assistant clenched her teeth and continued: "People even compared her to you, and many people are saying she's prettier than you..."

The assistant slowly raised her eyes and shot Qian Ge a quick glance.

"Give me the iPad!" cried Qian Ge.

After Qian Ge spoke, the assistant was so frightened that she kept her head down and didn't dare look up. The assistant didn't move.

Qian Ge impatiently reached her hand out and snatched the iPad from her hands. She swiped the screen for a while. A second later, the iPad was tossed from her hands and smashed into the wall with a "Pop!"

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The assistant was so frightened that she took two steps back, causing the wine glass to fall to the floor. A "crash!" followed as Qian Ge spoke sternly, "Why didn't I catch the slightest wind of YC signing Ji Yi? I pay all you people so much, yet you guys didn't even know about a piece of news like this?"

"Qian Jie, it's not that we didn't know – we knew long ago that YC was looking for artists to sign, but if Mr. He of YC wasn't frequently meeting with Jiang Xinxin, then he was with Lin Siyi. Everyone thought he was going to sign them. Yesterday, there was all this commotion about it on Weibo; everyone was guessing who YC would sign, but in the end, who knew that YC would officially announce that the person they signed was Ji Yi..."

The second Qian Ge heard this, she hurled a half-full bottle of red wine across the room.

The red wine crashed into the wall and shattered, causing the red liquid to splash across the floor.

"Which means it was all premeditated! Which also means that YC wanted to hype Ji Yi up long ago, and this was planned long ago. Whether He Jichen was talking to Jiang Xinxin or Lin Siyi, none of them were important. They were just used to hype Ji Yi up to the max!" Qian Ge raised her chin then clenched her teeth as she spoke: "If they wanted to boost her popularity, they could've done this long ago, but they just had to wait till "Three Thousand Lunatics" was released. They obviously wanted to use the double threat from the news and drama to get that b*tch a following..."

"Ah, He Jichen is truly devious..." A smirk emerged from the corners of Qian Ge's lips. "...But did he think he could actually make that b*tch famous? In his dreams! Every day that I, Qian Ge, remain in the entertainment industry, that b*tch Ji Yi will never become famous!"

Good, really good... but I, Qian Ge, am not a force to be reckoned with!

Qian Ge quickly calmed down and in a short minute, she thought of a plan. Qian Ge turned to look at her assistant then said, "Tell the company that no matter the consequences, go investigate! Find out about all the upcoming jobs Ji Yi has! Steal as many of them as possible, and for the ones that we can't steal, I'll think of another plan!"

In other words, she wasn't going to care about the consequences; she wouldn't hesitate to stop Ji Yi from ever making it big in the entertainment biz!

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It was eight in the evening when He Jichen woke up.

Ji Yi didn't get much sleep the night before. After they took out He Jichen's needle, she couldn't take it anymore and fell asleep, sprawled out on the bed.

But she was still worried about He Jichen's illness, so Ji Yi didn't sleep very well. After He Jichen woke up, his leg twitched slightly, causing Ji Yi's eyes to open wide. She bolted up from his arm that she used as a pillow. She happened to catch He Jichen as he slowly opened his eyes.

"You're up?" exclaimed Ji Yi.

After He Jichen heard this, his brows twitched; he assumed he was just hearing things. He stared up at the ceiling for a long time before his gaze fell on Ji Yi.

He didn't dare speak in fear that it was all a dream; he was scared that as soon as he opened his mouth, he'd wake up to find that she was gone.

When he caught her gaze, Ji Yi spoke again: "Is there anywhere you don't feel well?"

He Jichen only stared at Ji Yi without making a sound.

Ji Yi reached her hand out and touched He Jichen's head. "Still a little hot..." she mumbled as she got up and pressed the button for help by He Jichen's bedside.

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The doctor quickly appeared in the patient room.

He Jichen didn't react at all to the doctor as he checked his body temperature, blood pressure, and asked some questions about his comfort level. From start to finish, He Jichen stared right at Ji Yi like a puppet, allowing the doctor to do as he pleased.

"We'll give you a bottle of nutritional fluid then give you a shot to lower the fever..." The resident doctor put his thermometer away and gave instructions to the nurse responsible for He Jichen. After the nurse nodded and said "alright," the resident doctor looked over at Ji Yi. "...You must remember that Mr. He needs to take his medicine on time."

"Got it. Thank you, doctor." Ji Yi smiled politely at the doctor.

The doctor didn't reply but turned to look at He Jichen on the bed then politely said, "Mr. He, I'm going to do my rounds. If you feel unwell, you can call me at any time."

He Jichen was as quiet as before as though he hadn't heard what the doctor said. He stared unwaveringly at Ji Yi without any sign of speaking.

Ji Yi was afraid things would be awkward if He Jichen didn't respond, so she hurriedly said, "Doctor, I got it. I'll call you if anything happens."

The doctor replied with a faint smile and left the room with the nurse.

Ji Yi followed behind the doctor and saw him out of the patient room.

After the doctor left, Ji Yi wasn't in a hurry to head back into the room. Instead, she gave Zhang Sao a call.

Because it was summer, it wasn't convenient to store food at the hospital. Since Ji Yi didn't know when He Jichen would wake up, she had asked Zhang Sao to leave the food she prepared at home instead of dropping it off at the hospital right away.

He Jichen had slept for a whole day before finally waking up now. Having remembered Chen Bai's instructions, Ji Yi quickly ordered Zhang Sao to deliver the prepared food to the hospital.

After hanging up, Ji Yi headed back to the room, shut the door, and turned to glance at He Jichen. Seeing that he still wasn't saying a word, she walked over to the side of the bed.

When she sat on the chair she placed beside the bed earlier that afternoon, Ji Yi noticed that He Jichen still didn't look as if he was going to make a sound. She started to explain why she was there: "I called you earlier today just before you fainted, so I came to see you at the hospital."

When He Jichen heard what she said, his unwavering eyes blinked slightly.

Ji Yi continued to say, "Chen Bai got a call in the early afternoon; he said he had to head back to the office for urgent business. He might need to go on a business trip and Mr. Han is also at the hospital now, so I stayed to keep you company."

Ji Yi's words rang out in the patient room and a hint of anxiety slowly gathered in He Jichen's eyes.

He tightened his hands into fists the moment Ji Yi's voice dropped, digging his nails into his skin. The pain convinced him that all this confusion in front of him wasn't an illusion at all. It was all real.

All of a sudden, his mood instantly changed; he felt disbelief, shock, and delight for some time before he recovered his composure.

He hadn't absorbed what Ji Yi said, but he knew she was talking to him. He gave Ji Yi a gentle nod then looked at her and snapped back to reality.

Even after seeing each other, both of them tactfully didn't mention that night in Shanghai last month. However, the atmosphere was inevitably a little awkward.

Now that the two of them were face-to-face and alone, He Jichen was quiet. Ji Yi felt even more uncomfortable in the silent room.

Ji Yi felt her body becoming increasingly stiff. To break the tension and to make things feel a little more natural, she wanted to find a topic to talk about. She thought carefully for a moment before she remembered she hadn't said everything she wanted to say over the phone to He Jichen in the morning. She took the initiative and said, "What happened on Weibo... was that your idea?"

When he heard her words, He Jichen snapped back to reality and let out a soft "Mhm."

"Did you deliberately wait for the day 'Three Thousand Lunatics' was released to announce that I was signed to YC?" Actually, she didn't need to ask – Ji Yi knew the answer, but she was just looking for something to talk about to break the tense atmosphere.

Maybe it was because He Jichen still had a fever, but he didn't feel well, so he didn't really want to talk and simply replied again with an "Mhm."

"In the afternoon, I saw that the clip of me as Little Nine on 'Palace' has been shared like crazy on Weibo. Did you also do this?"

Having not yet returned to his senses from the euphoria of seeing Ji Yi as soon as he woke up, it took He Jichen a short while to shake his head and reply, "No."

It really wasn't. There were many marketing accounts on Weibo who relied on trending topics to maintain their popularity. With Ji Yi as the number one search, it was inevitable that many people would want to follow her story. In the end, it didn't matter if "Three Thousand Lunatics" had just been released or if "Palace" had long finished playing on TV.

He Jichen was very tight-lipped, so Ji Yi constantly tried to find a topic to talk about. It was starting to feel a little difficult for her to keep going, so she let out an "Oh" then fell silent. After some time, she added, "Thank you."

He Jichen, who was still in disbelief over Ji Yi's appearance, stared at her. This time, he didn't even respond and stared calmly at her.

The room fell silent again, but the tension grew evidently more stifled.

Ji Yi felt like she couldn't quite breathe as she surveyed the room. She noticed the glass of water on the coffee table. At the thought of He Jichen having had nothing to drink since he woke, she added, "Do you want to drink some water?"

He Jichen didn't react.

Just when Ji Yi planned to get up and pour a glass of water for him, the door was pushed open and Zhang Sao came in with lunch boxes. "Mr. He, Miss Ji."

Ji Yi looked like she'd just seen a savior as she let out a sigh of relief. She got up and pulled the dining table towards the bed. "Food's here. Have some dinner."

Zhang Sao stood at the entrance in hesitation for a moment with the lunch boxes in hand. Then she walked over, put the boxes on the table and removed the lids.

One cute kid's meal after another entered Ji Yi and He Jichen's line of sight.

There were pandas, rabbits, and owls to encourage He Jichen's appetite. There were even colorful vegetables and pieces of meat. When the lunch box was opened, there was even green vegetable paste.

Mr. He was already twenty-something years old, yet Miss Ji actually asked for a kids meal... Zhang Sao was afraid He Jichen would scold her, so after she removed the lid, she quickly took a few steps away from the bed.

In contrast to Zhang Sao's fear, Ji Yi looked calm as she picked up the paste and stirred it a little. She tasted it first to confirm that the temperature was tolerable then she shifted it towards He Jichen. "You haven't eaten all day. Eat something first to warm your stomach."

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Ji Yi's voice called He Jichen back from his dream-like state. He first glanced over at Ji Yi then at the green paste she was offering him. He was stunned for about three seconds before his gaze fell to the table of dishes that resembled a zoo.

Zhang Sao, who was standing to one side, saw that He Jichen was glancing at the table of dishes. All of a sudden, she was so frightened that she didn't dare breathe.

What's this?

He Jichen saw the table full of kittens, puppies, and bunnies as he furrowed his brows slightly.

His reaction terrified Zhang Sao so much that her heart almost stopped. She was afraid He Jichen was going to throw a tantrum the next second and instinctively said, "Mr. He, Miss Ji asked me to prepare this for you."

Ji Yi asked her to make this for me?

He Jichen's trembled softly and for just a second, his gaze returned to Ji Yi.

When she caught sight of his gaze, Ji Yi brought the paste towards him. "Eat it quickly while it's hot."

Even though he didn't understand why Ji Yi asked Zhang Sao to prepare a table of little animals, he trusted that she asked Zhang Sao to do it...

Come to think of it, in all the time he'd known her, this was probably the first time she'd ever asked anyone to cook him something to eat.

In a second, He Jichen felt an indescribable joy which seemed to enter the deepest part of his heart. He stared at Ji Yi silently and his fingers started to tremble.

Seeing as He Jichen didn't take the paste, Ji Yi assumed he didn't have an appetite just as Chen Bai said. "The doctor said you have to eat well, otherwise your body will collapse," reminded Ji Yi in a gentle, persuasive voice.

"What's more, you still have a fever. If you don't eat, it'll be hard for you to recover."

"And you have to take your medicine later. The medicine will more or less irritate your stomach, so if you don't eat now, that won't do."

Mr. He's so big already, he definitely won't be willing to eat baby food... As Zhang Sao thought this, she said, "Mr. He, Miss Ji is right. You should eat something..."

Though Ji Yi tried to coax him into it and persuade him, He Jichen still didn't take it. However, he was in such a poor state that he couldn't not eat. Seeing as her gentle approach wasn't working, Ji Yi decided to go in hard. She grabbed the spoon, scooped some paste, and brought it directly to He Jichen's mouth.

"...Otherwise, why don't you tell me what you'd like to eat, Mr. He? I can go make it for you right now..."

Zhang Sao wanted to keep talking, but before she could finish, she saw Ji Yi forcing the paste into He Jichen's mouth. "Open up!" she ordered him.

Is Miss Ji scolding Mr. He?

Zhang Sao watched fearfully with a back covered in a cold sweat.

He Jichen furrowed his brows and lowered his eyes as the paste touched the corner of his mouth.

He didn't have time to process what the food was when he felt it suddenly being shoved into his mouth. Then he heard Ji Yi's impatient voice in his ear: "He Jichen, open your mouth. If you don't open your mouth, I'm going to force it down!"

It was enough for Miss Ji to say Mr. He's full name, yet she still had the audacity to say such vile words about Mr. He... On the inside, Zhang Sao cried 'I'm finished!' as she prepared to yank Ji Yi away to prevent He Jichen from getting angry and shower her with insults. However, before she could move, she saw He Jichen's mouth open. He obediently swallowed the paste.

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Zhang Sao's fearful expression instantly turned into horror.

She watched the scenario before her eyes like she was watching something unbelievable. She blinked twice, and as she reached her hand out on her third blink, Ji Yi said "Open up" as she forcefully shoved the spoon into He Jichen's mouth. Zhang Sao patted her own chest in hopes of calming her pounding heart.

Ji Yi quickly finished feeding him a bowl of paste then handed the empty bowl to the stunned Zhang Sao. Without so much as a glance at the colorful kid's meal on the table, she scooped a glutinous rice ball from the bunny rice dish and continued feeding He Jichen.

Just as the bunny's head was about to be devoured, they heard a "Ding dong!" in the room.

At the same time, Ji Yi and He Jichen looked towards the source of the noise; it came from the phone He Jichen placed by the bed.

He reached for his phone as he opened his mouth and swallowed the rice Ji Yi was feeding him. He gently swiped the screen and glanced at a WeChat message from Han Zhifan: "I heard from the secretary, who came to the hospital to report on business today, that you fainted in the office this morning?"

He Jichen typed a half-hearted "Mhm" and opened his mouth again, swallowing some more rice Ji Yi fed him. Then he clicked "send."

"How are you now?" asked Han Zhifan.

He Jichen lifted his eyes and glanced at Ji Yi, who was mixing some rice and vegetables together. He typed: "Pretty good."

After the WeChat message was successfully sent, He Jichen ate a mouthful then tapped the screen a few times. He replied to Han Zhifan again saying: "Have you eaten?"

Han Zhifan: "What time is it now? I ate ages ago."

He Jichen realized it was already half past nine when he read Han Zhifan's reply. As he sluggishly chewed on the rice Ji Yi crudely shoved into his mouth, he tapped the screen and asked: "Have you had supper?"

Han Zhifan: "No."

He Jichen: "I'm eating."

Without waiting for Han Zhifan's reply, He Jichen typed a few more words and sent the message to Han Zhifan.

After the message was successfully sent, he thought about it for a moment then took a photo of the cute baby food and pressed the "send" button again.

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Han Zhifan stood in the bathroom brushing his teeth after taking his medicine. With one hand, he texted He Jichen. When he read He Jichen's two-word message "I'm eating," he planned to reply with "I'm a little hungry," but just as his fingers were about to touch the screen, he received another line: "Ji Yi made this for me."

So, He Jichen, who typically never replies to my flood of WeChat messages, wasn't able to reply back today because he was stuck at the hospital. But... is he showing off to me right now?

Could this be considered He Jichen's force-feeding public display of affection?

Han Zhifan was just about to send him an emoji with a disdainful expression. However, because his phone was so big and he was holding it with just one hand, the phone abruptly slipped through his fingers and fell to the ground.

He bent down and picked up his phone. Just as he was about to reply to He Jichen's message, he saw a picture appear on his phone screen.

After he tapped to enlarge the picture, he suddenly burst out laughing. His fingers shook and the phone slipped out of his hand again.

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The grand Mr. He is actually eating a kids' meal for supper?

The more Han Zhifan thought about the photo, the harder he laughed. He laughed until the tears in his eyes couldn't help but pour out.

After some time, Han Zhifan settled down and rubbed his aching stomach. Just as he was about to look for his phone, he caught a glimpse of a phone from the corner of his eye, sitting in the trash can.

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He Jichen noticed that Han Zhifan still hadn't replied to his message, so he chucked his phone by his pillow.

After dinner, Zhang Sao tidied up the dinner table and left with the lunch boxes. Once again, only Ji Yi and He Jichen were left in the room.

Ji Yi remembered the doctor's orders; half an hour after dinner, Ji Yi made sure He Jichen took his medicine. Then she pressed the button to call for a nurse to put He Jichen on a drip.

He Jichen's fever hadn't gone down yet, and his condition wasn't great. The needle used to reduce his fever had sedatives in it, so he fell asleep soon after they put him on the drip.

Ji Yi was afraid that after the drip finished, blood would flow back through the tube, so she didn't dare sleep.

Ji Yi became sleepier deeper into the night, so she went to the bathroom to splash her face with cold water. When she came back, she was still afraid she would fall asleep accidentally, so she searched her bag for earphones and listened to music to stay awake.

After listening to about three or four songs, she heard a familiar melody.

Why do I have this song on my phone?

Ji Yi was stunned for a second as she kept her head down, staring at the phone screen. As the three words "Within Your Radius" came into view, she remembered she searched for the original song online and downloaded it onto her phone when she returned to the hotel after He Jichen sang it on her birthday.

After listening to half the song, she stared at the lyrics on the phone screen then at He Jichen, who, oblivious to her, had fallen asleep.

In the patient room in the dead of the night, she was the only one awake. Her watchful gaze upon him became a lot more relaxed as she drew a lot closer to him.

Perhaps it was because he slept all day that his complexion looked a lot better than when she saw him that morning.

His eyelashes looked long and his skin was so impeccable that there wasn't a single pore visible. His lips were very thin with a soft curve. With him so still, he actually had a hint of tenderness to him.

Ji Yi was transfixed as her gaze froze. The music playing through the earphones were clearly from the original singer, but all she could hear was He Jichen's voice from her birthday.

She wasn't sure just how long she stared at him when He Jichen suddenly let out a noise. In the quiet room, the sound was particularly abrupt, startling Ji Yi. That was when she realized that, oblivious to her, he had furrowed his eyebrows tightly like he was in pain, his lips trembling non-stop.

Ji Yi hurriedly removed her earphones and reached her arm out to feel He Jichen's forehead. When she noticed it wasn't frighteningly hot, she let out a sigh of relief.

Ji Yi hadn't pulled her fingers back when she heard He Jichen mumble, "Don't... Don't leave me..."

Is He Jichen talking in his sleep?

As that thought emerged in Ji Yi's mind, He Jichen started to talk again. "...Don't go, don't-don't leave me..."

The more he spoke, the more agitated he sounded. He suddenly grabbed her hand on his forehead.

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Ji Yi instinctively shrank back, so He Jichen must've sensed she was avoiding him in his dreams. He suddenly tightened his grip on her wrist as his quiet mumbling grew louder: "Don't avoid me, don't... I promise I won't bug you. As long as I can see you, that's alright, I promise, promise..."

After he said this, Ji Yi noted his pleading tone as He Jichen talked in his sleep along with the heart-wrenching sadness in his fine brows.

Ji Yi's heart suddenly went soft as she lost all strength in the arm she tried to pull away.

He Jichen probably sensed she had stopped resisting him, so he gradually calmed down and relaxed his grip on her hand. Eventually, he gave off a protective feeling as he gently held Ji Yi.

Her fingers in his palms couldn't help but tremble gently.

She wanted to pull away, yet she didn't. Ji Yi stared at him holding her hand for a moment, but her fingers subconsciously ended up softly holding his hand in return.

Ji Yi didn't pull her hand away from his until He Jichen was about to finish his IV drip.

She called the nurse, who took out the needle from He Jichen's hand, then pressed a cotton pad down on his skin for a moment. After she waited for the bleeding to stop, she carefully pulled the covers over him. Ji Yi quietly tiptoed over to the empty bed nearby and laid down.

The patient room was so quiet that Ji Yi could hear the slight but rhythmic breathing of He Jichen.

She was so sleepy that she was starting to doze off, but now she couldn't sleep even with her eyes shut. Her mind was filled with the image of He Jichen holding her hand.

Their palms had long separated, yet she could still feel his warmth on the back of her hand.

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He Jichen stayed in the hospital for a few days, where every meal he ate was a baby's meal.

Though things between the two of them were a little awkward because of what happened that night in Shanghai, the atmosphere seemed to naturally ease up, day by day.

He Jichen recovered from his fever in the morning of his third day in the hospital. However, because he was still in poor condition, he stayed in the hospital for observation. That evening, Ji Yi took a stroll with He Jichen in the garden of the hospital.

On the afternoon of the fourth day, people from YC came to see He Jichen to discuss business. As he hadn't completely recovered, Ji Yi restricted He Jichen's working hours. As soon as she saw exhaustion creep into his eyes, she would hold onto all the documents everyone sent over and only gave them to He Jichen after he had a long rest.

As the days went by, He Jichen recovered day by day and his working hours grew longer. Of course, at the same time, Ji Yi grew more bored as the days went on.

Sometimes, He Jichen's video conferences would last three or four hours, so he didn't have the time to bother with her.

At first, Ji Yi used that time to make up for her lost sleep from looking after He Jichen. Later, after she had slept enough, all she could do was play games with Tang Huahua to pass the time.

After dinner on the ninth night of He Jichen's stay in the hospital, the company had an urgent last-minute video conference.

They canceled their plans to take a stroll downstairs after dinner.

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When it came to dinner time, they canceled their plans to take a stroll downstairs after dinner. While He Jichen turned the computer on and started the video conference, Ji Yi had nothing to do, so all she could do was call Tang Huahua to play games, just like she had been doing for the past two days when she was bored.

The game Ji Yi and Tang Huahua were playing was called "King of Glory," a ridiculously popular game at the moment. Simply put, the game was a MOBA — whoever destroyed the opponent's crystal would win. Tang Huahua played this game for over a year before Ji Yi started, but her skills were nowhere near as good as Ji Yi's. Using Tang Huahua's words, it was the type of game where you won by being carried, but it was a shame that the two of them were stuck with bad players tonight. They couldn't rely on their team, who would lose three consecutive games every so often.

Naturally, they wanted to win, so losing constantly would inevitably ruin the mood for anyone hoping to have fun.

After the fourth game, Tang Huahua was a little salty after having lost again. She sent Ji Yi a message on WeChat: "Wait a min. I'll call an awesome guy to lead us." Then she disappeared.

After about five minutes, Ji Yi's phone vibrated, and a message from Tang Huahua showed up: "Xiao Yi, quickly! Come online. I spent twenty yuan to hire a guy from the public screen called Kingdude."

Ji Yi hurriedly switched over to the game, logged in, and accepted Tang Huahua's game invite.

Just as Tang Huahua wrote in her message, there really was another teammate aside from her and Tang Huahua.

Tang Huahua noticed Ji Yi had entered the party she opened, so she immediately clicked to start. While choosing the heroes, Tang Huahua sent Ji Yi a message on the game's home screen: "Xiao Yi, turn on the game chat."

Ji Yi was sitting quite close to He Jichen, so she carried her phone and walked over to the sofa away from him in fear that the gaming sounds would disrupt his conference. After she sat down, she turned the sound on.

"Welcome to King of Glory. The enemy will reach the field in five seconds."

As this was heard, Ji Yi, who played Cai Wenji, and Tang Huahua, who played Sun Shangxiang, walked down the path together.

When the two of them passed the red buff, a man's voice was heard. It was from the Kingdude, the guy Tang Huahua paid twenty yuan to play. "Follow me to the other side, let's go get the blue buff."

Kingdude's voice was unusually pleasant and crisp. It gave Ji Yi a feeling that he was like a leading male character from a teen novel.

Tang Huahua couldn't help but exclaim in admiration, "Wow, what a beautiful voice!"

Ji Yi followed suit, "Yeah... yeah."

Kingdude lived up to his reputation as he led them easily. In the seven short minutes after starting the game, they already took down eight enemies.

After having lost all night, Ji Yi and Tang Huahua were happy as they became more talkative over the mic.

He Jichen, who was in a video conference, would pay attention to Ji Yi every now and then since she left his side to play on her phone.

Her phone, which was on silent before, was suddenly playing music now. Luckily, the volume wasn't too loud, so it didn't disturb his work.

He assumed she walked away so she could turn the volume up, so he didn't think too much of it and continued to pay attention to the director's report. However, after just two words, he vaguely heard the sound of a man's voice.

He instinctively looked up and glanced over to where Ji Yi was sitting. Seeing as she was concentrating hard on her phone, his eyes smiled cheerfully.

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Is Ji Yi happily talking to a man over a game?

He Jichen furrowed his brows slightly as he withdrew his gaze. Then he lowered the volume a little on his computer.

Though He Jichen might have looked like he was concentrating on the conference, his attention was actually completely focused on Ji Yi's phone. Through the voice from the screen, he could barely hear Tang Huahua's voice from Ji Yi's phone. "Wow, we finally won! I'm so happy!"

Following that, a man's voice was heard. "Biaomei, add me as a friend first then let's keep playing."

When Ji Yi was playing beside He Jichen, he caught a glimpse of her ID, "Biaomei_bigbeauty." So that man's referring to Ji Yi?

Just as that thought settled in He Jichen's mind, he heard Ji Yi's soft voice: "Alright."

Alright? The hell with "alright"! cursed He Jichen secretly inside. Then he swept a glance over at Ji Yi to see her fingers tap the screen a few times. He heard the game sounds being resumed.

He'd never played this kind of game before, but seeing her play for the past two days, he could tell with just a few glances that they were about to start a new match.

In this match, the guy's voice was no longer directing Ji Yi and Tang Huahua how to play, but he was chatting with Ji Yi instead.

"Biaomei, where are you from?"

"Beijing."

"Biaomei, come get this blue buff."

Tang Huahua: "She's an assist character. Why does she need a blue?! Baby's not happy."

Tang Huahua was ignored as the man's voice continued by asking, "Biaomei, how old are you?"

Biaomei... The hell with "biaomei"... He Jichen started to shift in his seat uncomfortably.

"Biaomei, which do you use more often, WeChat or QQ?

"WeChat."

"Biaomei, my WeChat number is..." A series of numbers appeared on Ji Yi's phone. "...You got that? If you didn't, I'll send it through the game, so remember to screenshot it. That's also my phone number. Add me as a friend later."

Isn't it enough to add him as a friend in the game? But he wants her to add him as a WeChat friend too?

He Jichen's fingers quietly curled into a fist. He suddenly had the urge to pull the guy out from the phone and violently beat the sh*t out of him.

"Biaomei, I thought about it – it's too much trouble to have you add me. Tell me your WeChat and I'll add you later."

"Oh..." The game was at its peak, so Ji Yi couldn't care less about giving him her WeChat number. "...Wait, I'll tell you later."

I'll tell you later... She's really going to tell him?

He Jichen held back the impulse to rush over to Ji Yi and snatch her phone. He stared at the computer screen, deep in thought for a moment, then suddenly had an idea. He didn't say anything, but he tapped the screen and told everyone in the conference: "Apologies, please wait just a moment."

After he said this, he paused the video conference and pulled out his phone. After downloading an app, he frantically tapped the screen.

After he put the phone down, He Jichen started up the video conference again.

Ji Yi was chatting away enthusiastically on her phone nearby.

Ten minutes later, Ji Yi got a call, "Miss, your takeout has arrived..."

I didn't order take out... Ji Yi was stunned for two seconds before she turned her head and looked over at He Jichen. "Did you ask for takeout?"

He Jichen nodded gently but didn't say anything. He pointed at the computer screen, silently telling Ji Yi that he was busy and that he couldn't walk away; he was subtly asking if she could help him pick it up.

After Ji Yi hung up the call, she was about to resume her game as she headed downstairs to pick up the takeout when she got another call. "Miss, your takeout has arrived..."

On her way downstairs, Ji Yi had no time to get into the game because when one call ended, another would start up.

Ji Yi got a total of ten calls, all telling her "Miss, your takeout has arrived..." Each one of the calls was from a takeaway place.

After Ji Yi ended ten calls from takeaways and returned to her game, it was already over.

Despite Ji Yi being away for the second half of the match, they still managed to win. However, she was reported by her teammates and had a two-hour ban.

Ji Yi was steaming with rage inside as she carried various large and small bags back to the patient room. He Jichen's video conference was over, so she walked over to the bedside and without any hesitation at all, she threw the bags at He Jichen on the bed. "He Jichen, are you bored? Why did you order so much take-"

Ji Yi didn't manage to say the final word "out" when she hastily chucked the heavy bags at him, incidentally hurling herself forward.

In front of her was He Jichen, who was leaning against the head of the bed. Her sudden lunge forward caused her to press down on the body of an unguarded He Jichen