

BOOT CAMP 101

Chapter 101: Gaining Momentum

The last question was about geometry, which also appeared in the Provincial Junior High Mathematical Olympiad two years ago. It was difficult, but was not unsolvable!

Ye Jian paused her calculation because she and Ye Ying were staring at each other. She didn't expect that the teacher watching over her would get nervous.

She resumed putting pen to paper, writing down her solving process one by one. In the end, she wrote the correct answer.

As soon as she finished writing her answer, the teacher grabbed the exam paper from her, saying, "Sit still. Don't leave until I finish grading your paper."

The first person to hand in the exam paper could always bring tremendous pressure to the rest students. Gao Yiyang, sitting at the very last seat, tightened his thin lips.

She was so fast... Had she finished? Or was she caught cheating?

No, not right.

If she was caught cheating, the teacher would not have seemed excited, and she could not have been sitting quietly in the classroom.

So, she had finished the exam!

Gao Yiyang couldn't conceal the astonishment in his cold eyes. Frowning, he automatically looked at the direction where Ye Ying was sitting.

He saw that the girl, on whom he had a crush, was not affected at all and was concentrated on working on the problems. So, he slowly stopped frowning.

Mrs. Zhu, standing behind the podium to grade Ye Jian's paper, was admiring her quietly. It took her the least time to score full marks!

No wonder Principal Cao visited this township middle school in person. There were indeed talents in this school!

While the rest of the students were still working on the problems, Mrs. Zhu had finished grading Ye Jian's exam paper. "Not bad. You may leave the exam room now."

She didn't mention Ye Jian's scores. But Ye Jian could tell that she had done a good job from the teacher's demeanors and words.

"Goodbye, teacher," she said politely. She was anxious to see Principal Chen, so she picked up her ballpoint pen, the only thing she brought in the classroom, leaving quickly.

Dumbstruck, many students were gazing at her, but it didn't change a bit of Ye Jian's facial expressions or footsteps.

Today was not just about the exams. She had not accomplished... the most important thing!

"This is... given to you by Captain Xia?" In the office, Principal Chen was holding a thin and long silver wire made from a special material. Under the light, the silver wire was glittering with cold gleams.

It was soft but elastic... This kind of special material was very rare.

Why did he give away this object to the girl for no reason?... Moreover, it was the weapon of a criminal suspect.

The girl was not the only one who wanted to know the answer. Principal Chen wanted to know as well.

"You may keep this wonderful gift. If you return it, you will be turning down Captain Xia's good intention."

Smiling, Principal Chen gestured Ye Jian to reach out her hand. Again and again, he wrapped the silver wire around Ye Jian's thin and white wrist. "This is a good item. Just keep it."

It was good stuff! It also looked nice when it turned into a bracelet! Most importantly, it was not against the law to possess it!

Shocked, Ye Jian stuttered, "This... Isn't this using power..."

"Ha-ha... silly girl," Principal Chen laughed even louder as he saw the obvious astonished look on her tiny face and the faint concern in her jet-black eyes. "Girl, just keep it because it is given to you by Captain Xia! No need to worry about anything else."

If Principal Chen told her to keep it, then she could definitely keep it!

"Then I will keep it," answered she smilingly. "To be honest, I... I really like it. I was worried that Captain Xia would be affected if I kept it. So, I came to see you, hoping you could put my mind at ease."

"Clever kiddo." Principal Chen laughed louder. She was a girl with integrity.

When he finished laughing, he asked Ye Jian about the exams. As Ye Jian smiled gently, her eyes brightened up. "Rest assured. I am always true to my words."

Chapter 102: The Meeting of Winds and Clouds

She had memorized what she had said and done... and what others had said and done as well.

Because Principal Cao was still in school, Ye Jian would have to finish her training on her own tonight.

After saying goodbye to Principal Chen, she jogged away from the school, heading to the New Recruit Camp.

Gao Yiyang was pushing his bicycle, waiting for somebody. He saw a slender figure run across the school gate that was lit up with yellow lamps and disappear into the night. That figure was Ye Jian.

Two minutes later, Ye Ying, the person he was waiting for, jogged towards him. Unlike the swift and vigorous Ye Jian, Ye Ying was like a tender flower. If she walked faster, she would need to pause before she continued walking.

She had a heart condition, so she was not equipped for such intense activities as running.

“What kind of person is Ye Jian?” asked Gao Yiyang, bewildered. With Ye Ying sitting on the back of his bike, he had been riding for a distance. In the cold evening wind, the boy’s voice was deep and coarse. “Previously, I didn’t find any strength of hers. But now, it seems like she has been hiding her talents on purpose.”

He raised such a question just out of his pure curiosity.

Instantly, Ye Ying was blue in the face, grabbing the boy’s shirts tighter. Smiling, she said, “Don’t know. She and I were never on friendly terms. Whether she is hiding her talents, I guess you will have to ask her yourself.”

What’s going on? Gao Yiyang had been paying more and more attention to Ye Jian recently...

“Just asking. Forget it,” he replied indifferently and didn’t ask further questions.

The reason he had a deep impression of Ye Jian was that he was kicked and hit by her.

From Monday to Wednesday, Ye Jian appeared in the classroom of Class One Grade Nine, participating in the competitive exam of math, physics, and chemistry. Three days later, she had caused a major sensation in the entire grade.

Some hostile gossips started to circulate in school. The gist of the gossip was that the students who had poor achievements always created more trouble.

“Hear that? The inferior students always cause more trouble. Humph. I need to add that the ugly always make more troubles.”

As soon as Ye Jian entered the classroom, she heard He Jiamin speaking gloatingly. She could tell that He Jiamin said that deliberately so that she could hear it.

“Lower your voice.” Frowning, Tan Wei pulled He Jiamin’s sleeves.

“Why? Every word I said is true!” He Jiamin would not miss the opportunity to humiliate Ye Jian. She stood up, lifting her chin aggressively. “She is embarrassing herself. Can’t blame the onlookers for judging her.”

Hearing this, An Jiabin was furious. Rolling up her sleeves, she was about to rush over to He Jiamin. “He Jiamin, if you are capable, you can take the exams as well.”

“If she is qualified, she would have taken every exam,” said Zhang Na gently. “Only the losers cause trouble everywhere.”

Standing between Zhang Na and An Jiaxin, Ye Jian patted on their shoulders. With a subtle cold look in her eyes, she glared at her front with a fake smile. “You know why I don’t want to talk to some kinds of people? It’s like, if I glance at her one more time, I would have nightmares for days.”

“It is true that the ugly always make more trouble.”

How could she not retaliate now that He Jiamin was bullying her so blatantly?

As required by the etiquettes, she should, of course, return the ‘favor’!

He Jiamin’s face twisted as she heard Ye Jian say she was ugly. She rushed at Ye Jian as if she was about to bite her. “Ye Jian, you will pay for your pride!”

“You sure you want to fight?” Ye Jian walked out from the crowd. The look in her eyes became more chilling. Smiling, she said, “You really have a bad memory. All right, you will learn to remember your mistakes from this fight.”

Chapter 103: Sky is the Limit

With a straight face, Ye Ying had been listening to their conversation for a long while. Grabbing He Jiamin who was dashing out, she whispered, “Class is about to start. You want to be scolded by a teacher?”

Damn it. She almost forgot that Ye Jian was a good fighter!

One second ago, He Jiamin was still arrogant. At the mention of the past, she was dejected immediately.

Avoiding eye contact with Ye Jian, He Jiamin went back to her seat, crestfallen.

At the sight of this, the surrounding classmates more or less looked down on He Jiamin.

Not only did she bully her classmate, but she was also as timid as a rat. They wondered why she had the confidence to go against Ye Jian.

At noon, the names of the students who had registered for the competition of the night were heard from the school broadcast.

When Ye Jian’s name was heard from the broadcast again, the students in the entire school gasped in astonishment.

Ye Jian from Class Two Grade Eight even registered for the English exam! English was the weakness of this township middle school. Could she manage?

Or was she really doing this beyond her means just to be impressive?!

Having lunch at the staff cafeteria, Mrs. Huang, an English teacher, issued a long sigh as she heard Ye Jian's name.

She was uncertain... whether Ye Jian could pass the exam. But at least one student from the two classes of the eighth grade that she taught had signed up for the exam.

When Ye Jian registered for the math, physics, and chemistry exams, she didn't cause much reaction.

But as the students learned that she had signed up for the English exam, their reaction was... huge!

Wherever the students were gathering, the person they talked about the most was Ye Jian.

As for the boys, the most they talked about was Ye Jian's appearance. And when it comes to Ye Jian's appearance... no one said she was ugly!

"I didn't find her pretty before. However, the more you look at her, the more beautiful she is! She has a tiny and exquisite face. More importantly, do you find that she has a sort of inexplicable disposition?"

"Hey, you find it too? I thought it was only my illusion... Is she wearing our school uniform in the wrong way? I don't think she should be wearing the school uniform."

"You should not be concerned about these matters right now, should you?" Gao Yiyang put down his spoon as he heard the irrelevant discussions among the boys of his class. Sneering, he said, "Do you think she can pass the English exam?"

"Ha-ha, Gao Yiyang, English is not the point! Our priority is the beauty!" a boy burst into laughter.

Looking at Gao Yiyang, whom every girl in the class would peek at, he issued a long sigh and said in a sad tone, "You already have a gorgeous babe by your side. How can someone like you understand someone like us?"

Gao Yiyang tightened his lips. Could Ye Jian pull off the English exam?

After a long while, he humphed slightly. All right, let her embarrass herself so that she would learn what it meant to 'do what one was capable of'!

Even the English teacher did not hold any hope for the exam. But Ye Jian was having her lunch, pressure-free. Was the English exam she was about to take at night difficult?

Could it be more difficult than those obscure, tongue-twisting books of medical courses with especially long words?

As for oral English, it was not hard for her, because she was once an elite tour guide for the international tour groups.

At this moment, the students did not hide their discussion of Ye Jian anymore. The moment they saw her, they would say, "That is Ye Jian from Class Two, she..."

Last time, Ye Jian astonished over 30 students with her extraordinary memory. This time, she had become a sensation in the entire school in another way.

She was so sensational that every student was mentioning her name by Thursday afternoon.

The students who had witnessed Ye Jian's super retention had a vague feeling that the exam might not be a difficulty to her.

When they heard some classmates mention Ye Jian in an extremely sarcastic tone, they would stand up for her. But, eventually, they chose to wait and see if Ye Jian could do it.

Chapter 104: I Am Working Hard, And You?

"She's overestimating herself!" Ye Ying giggled as she heard the news from the broadcast that Ye Jian was participating in the primary competition of the English subject.

She believed that Ye Jian was not bad in other courses.

But when it came to English... She would be good at it if the sun were to rise from the west!

Many top students had registered for the English exam. Ye Jian was going to embarrass herself.

As the deputy town mayor, Ye Zhifan had a major influence on Ye Ying. Gradually, she learned that she should think before she acts.

But for Ye Jian, she was aware that numerous people were waiting to see her make a fool of herself, so she couldn't care less what Ye Ying thought about her.

Poised, Ye Jian went into the classroom and found her seat, waiting for the distribution of exam papers.

The nine candidates, including Gao Yiyang, looked at Ye Jian with a complicated gaze in their eyes.

Among all the students in Grade Eight and Grade Nine, these nine students were the best at English. And what gave Ye Jian of Class Two Grade Eight the confidence to sign up for the English exam?

Sitting in a corner, Gao Yiyang pursed his thin lips so tightly that they became a straight line.

Why... why did she have to embarrass herself in school? Numerous classmates were waiting to see her become a fool. Couldn't she just lay low for a bit?

The teachers hadn't arrived yet. Gao Yiyang stood up, walking over to the back of a girl. Despite the cold look on his face, he said to the girl politely, "Hello, could you please switch your seat with mine? There are only ten people in this exam. We can sit wherever we want."

Ye Jian didn't turn around. She didn't care whoever was sitting behind her.

"Just skip the questions if you can't solve them," Gao Yiyang's low-pitched and cold voice was heard as the exam paper was being handed out. "I will give you the answers when I finish."

No matter what, he would let Ye Jian pass this test!

He would not allow those gossiping students to say anything bad about Ye Jian. After all, Ye Jian... was a girl.

In front of him, Ye Jian, who had been writing, paused and turned around. It seemed that the cold-faced Gao Yiyang was really thoughtful of her. Calmly, she said, "You are very confident in English. It's because you once lived abroad, right?"

"Ye Jian, I am helping you," Gao Yiyang was a bit uncomfortable when he heard Ye Jian's words, though he didn't recognize any implication from them. "And yes, I have the confidence."

Raising her eyebrows, Ye Jian started to smile. Her pitch-black eyes, reflecting the rays of lamps, were as resplendent as stars. "What a coincidence. I am very confident in myself too. Sorry, I couldn't care less about your so-called 'help'."

"You!" Gao Yiyang's handsome face suddenly turned pale. With a cold look in his eyes, he stared at Ye Jian who had sat up straight. "Ye Jian, don't be so ungrateful."

Tut, tut, tut. What could he do? Ye Jian was indeed an ungrateful person.

As the cassette rolled, the first listening question began. Gao Yiyang had to restrain his fury.

When the listening session was over, Ye Jian answered the following questions swiftly until she reached the last question in the reading session. When she finished, she handed her exam paper to Mrs. Song, saying goodbye politely to her. Chicly, she left the exam classroom, while the remaining nine classmates were still taking the exam.

Instead of returning to her classroom, she went to An Jiaxin's dorm, picked up her schoolbag and left the school.

Tonight's training was to practice the stability of her arms. Before Ye Jian could put down her schoolbag, she hurried to the training room, where Principal Chen had been waiting for her for a long time.

The scores of her exams had never been the emphasis of the conversations between them. Holding a string of bells in his hands, Principal Chen indicated Ye Jian to reach out her hands. "Your wrists will carry a weight of five kilograms for 30 minutes. Every time the bells ring, you hold on for another ten minutes."

As days went by, she would face increasingly tougher trainings if she were to become a sniper.

Chapter 105: Holding on to the Last

"In the early morning, you move about in the grass. In the evening, you move about in the desert. On the next day, you appear in a forest covered by snow... Wherever you are, your arms must possess excellent stability to support your sniper rifle. It is in this way that you can lock down your targets within the reticle steadily. And then, bang, you start to shoot!"

To train Ye Jian into a top sniper, Principal Chen had come up with a strict training plan. Meanwhile, he would optimize the training based on Ye Jian's situation.

When it comes to physical strength, women were more or less inferior to men. But Principal Chen would never allow this circumstance to occur to his disciples.

The female soldiers trained by him must surpass males in every aspect.

On the battlefields, never would the enemies show mercy at the female soldiers just because they were women.

On the contrary, once being captured, the female soldiers would face more cruel and inhumane torture!

From their bodies to the depths of their souls, their enemies would abuse them violently until they became the walking dead!

Now that she had chosen this path, she would accept the tough training of today as long as she thought about the ending of her if she were to be captured by her enemies someday!

One iron ball weighed 2.5 kilograms. In total, her both hands were carrying a weight of five kilograms. Due to the gravity of the iron balls, Ye Jian obviously felt that her hands were drooping.

“Raise your hands!” said Principal Chen in a serious tone in the training room. “Keep your hands parallel to your shoulders, while your arms are perpendicular to your body! The silver bells should not make any sound in half an hour! One, two, three! Begin!”

From this moment on, Ye Jian’s sniper training had been elevated from the primary level to the intermediate level!

The silver bells being tied to her wrists were strung together by extremely thin fishing lines. On either of her wrists, there was only one bell hanging down from the end of the fishing line. The bell was so light that it would issue a clear ringing sound when it was stroked by a gentle breeze.

Ten minutes later, Ye Jian started to grit her teeth.

Tiny drops of sweat were oozing from her temples. It seemed that the iron balls in both her hands were getting increasingly heavier, and uncontrollably, her hands wanted to sink.

Quietness was necessary for the training of snipers. Every time there was a training in session, the training room would become a restricted area that not even Battalion Commander Yang could have access to randomly.

“Girl, you are only carrying a weight of five kilograms in both hands. One day, if you carry a six-kilo sniper rifle, are you sure you can charge forward to shatter your enemies like a commando?”

“Divert your attention. Ignore the existence of the weight.”

Under the guidance of Principal Chen, Ye Jian was like a small tree rooted in the fertile soil and was growing stronger day by day,

She no longer paid attention to the load on her wrists. Instead, she looked at a certain spot in the training room, reciting the exam questions, from the listening to the reading session, of the English exam that she took tonight.

Her amazing persistence and her talents had astonished Principal Chen time and again.

Even though Principal Chen had already known that she was excellent, he couldn't help but marvel at her every time he witnessed her capabilities.

Carrying the weight of five kilograms for half an hour, without shaking the silver bells. Even for a male soldier who just received the intermediate-level sniper training, it would be hard to accomplish the task at his first attempt.

Nevertheless, Ye Jian, a girl, did it!

Running across her pretty chin, her sweat flooded into her collar. Her clothes that had been drenched in sweat were the indication of the tremendous efforts made by this slim girl!

Delighted, Principal Chen looked at the time. He was about to stop the training immediately when half an hour had passed away.

As the saying goes, the excess is just as bad as the deficiency. He would train her step by step.

Chapter 106: Using Actual Strength to Silence the Skeptics

Ye Jian was so intelligent that Principal Chen had nothing to worry about. He just needed to train her according to the original plan.

She took off the iron balls from her wrists. However, she was unaccustomed to the sudden lightness.

Shaking her wrists gently, Ye Jian, who hadn't wiped off her sweat, smiled and said, "I wouldn't have noticed that half an hour had passed by if you didn't remind me."

For a short while, she had a sense of emptiness because she was abruptly pulled away from her training, which she felt was getting more and more enjoyable.

"You've done very nice until now. No need to rush it," Principal Chen took out a bottle of medicinal oil and poured some in his hands. "Give me your hands. It's not bad that you can successfully hold on for half an hour at your first attempt."

Her wrists, which had carried weight, seemed fine for the time being, but sequelae would occur later. Using medicinal oil to promote blood circulation could alleviate the sequelae.

"When you finish your exams on Saturday, I will go back to the village with you. You must learn well from the senior."

“He is a Class A Master Sergeant, and he has so many skills that you cannot learn all of them throughout your whole life,” Principal Chen instructed Ye Jian patiently like a father after the training. “It will be beneficial to you if you can apply what you have learned to your life.”

“You will keep on carrying five kilograms for three months. After that, I will add weight to your wrists until they can carry ten kilograms.”

A top sniper, when carrying a ten-kilo rifle, could still move about swiftly and lay down in time to shoot the targets. Ye Jian would know she was ready if she could do this.

Ye Jian had always endured these kinds of hardships and hold on to the end. Smiling, she said, “Ten kilograms marks the end of a phase, doesn’t it? If I can manage, I can go on to the next stage, right?”

The medicinal oil was exclusively available in the army. As it was applied to her skin, she felt scorchingly hot, indicating that the oil had an excellent effect.

“You can totally do that if you persist,” Principal Chen almost poured out half of the medicinal oil from the bottle. He didn’t stop rubbing Ye Jian’s wrists until they were red. “Your hands might suffer during your exams tomorrow.”

The next day, Ye Jian woke up. Her hands were in so much pain that it was a bit difficult for her to hold her water glass. It was not until then did she realize why Principal Chen said she might suffer in the exams.

Her muscle soreness and pain were a bit alleviated after she pressed a hot towel and sprayed some muscle-relieving agents onto her wrists.

“Did you not sleep well last night?” as soon as An Jiaxin entered the classroom, she walked directly over to Ye Jian who didn’t seem well. “Why do you look so tired?”

It’s not that she did not sleep well. Her arms were suffering from unbearable pain.

Placing her arms onto her desk, Ye Jian said, “Come, rub them... My bones are hurting.” There were no obvious injuries on the surfaces. The sourness and pain came from her muscles and ligaments.

She probably couldn’t even lift her arms if she had not applied the medicinal oil to her wrists.

“You freaked me out. I thought it was because you failed the English exam last night,” An Jiaxin rubbed her arms right away. She asked in a whisper, “How was it? The English exam.”

“Mm-hem,” said Ye Jian, comfortably with her eyes closed. Smiling, she replied, “Have I ever let you down? Just wait. I will surprise you.”

“Damn it!” An Jiaxin almost jumped up from her seat. “Good for you! Are you planning to win the Grand Slams?”

Chicly, Ye Jian raised her eyebrows and answered, “Why not? Although I don’t mind the gossips, the nonstop buzzing sounds of a few mosquitoes bother me. I will use my actual strength to silence them.”

Chapter 107: Ye Jian Launched An Attack

If she could show her actual strength, she would make the skeptics shut up and no one would gossip about her anymore!

“Anyway, don’t you think our school has put great emphasis on this competition?” An Jiaxin moved closer to Ye Jian and whispered. She put her mind at ease when she heard Ye Jian’s speech. “Even the midterm exam is delayed. The competition must be unusual.”

Smiling, Ye Jian didn’t say anything. But the look in her eyes indicated that she agreed with An Jiaxin.

Of course, it was unusual.

Principal Chen had already known Ye Jian’s scores. He tightened his eyes slightly. A while later, he said, “The kid has a different goal. But she sure is willing to do whatever that will bring honor to the country.”

“Nothing can be done about it. The competition is being conducted throughout the country. Your school, as well as other schools, has postponed the midterm exams,” said Principal Cao in a deep voice. His face, which usually was brimmed with smiles, had a serious look at this moment. “We lost three years ago. We will not allow another defeat this time! Only 12 students will be selected as representatives for our country. Ye Jian has a great chance to stand out.”

“As of yesterday, throughout the national education system, there were only six candidates who achieved the Grand Slams in the primary competition. Not only had Ye Jian reached the Grand Slams, but she had used the least time to finish the exams.”

“Old Chen, you should try to persuade Ye Jian.”

Just as An Jiaxin had said, this competition was... rather unusual, which was evident from the demeanors and words of Principal Cao.

Not only had Ye Jian and An Jiaxin sensed something extraordinary, but most students had speculated the significance of the primary competition. It was the first time that the midterm exam in their school was postponed due to an academic contest.

Ye Jian handed in her exam paper a bit slower than before. She was indeed at a disadvantage because of the pain of her hands.

Noticing this, Ye Ying smiled with contempt. Could she produce a normal performance in the exams consecutively? No way!

When Ye Jian was concentrated on answering her exam questions, the invigilators stood next to her, for they wanted to see if this sensational girl in school was really talented.

After two days of exams, the teachers had the answer.

When the politics exam was finished in the afternoon, the students in the entire school felt a sense of relief and started to compare their answers. "Come on, let's compare our answers. I sense that so many of mine are wrong."

"There were two fill-in-the-blank quizzes that I didn't do because I forgot the dates of the events." While the rest of the students were comparing their answers with each other, the exam papers of Ye Jian had been graded and were delivered to Principal Chen.

It happened so fast that Mrs. Ke, the head teacher of Ye Jian's class, didn't have a chance to glance at her exam papers.

Ye Jian, who had no habit of comparing answers, were drawn in the discussing crowds.

"Wow, you've got this one correct! I didn't recite it! Yingying, you are amazing!" He Jiamin gasped in admiration because she had copied plenty of the answers from Ye Ying, who had done pretty well in the exams.

And then, rolling her eyes at Ye Jian, He Jiamin giggled and mocked her, "Looks like someone is still arrogant. We can wait and see when she cries."

"Let her have her moment! She will cry when she sees her scores!" Although He Jiamin didn't dare mock Ye Jian in her face any longer, she was getting meaner in private. "Did you see that she shook her hands frequently in the exams during the past two days? Oh. I bet it's because she didn't know how to answer the exams."

Ye Ying didn't stop He Jiamin's speech. She was like a spectator waiting to see how the episode would end. Someone would help her bully Ye Jian when she did nothing!

"Let's see how she will make a fool of herself. When she is too embarrassed to come to school, she'd better drop out!"

Chapter 108: Slapping Face In This Way (I)

Xie Sifeng echoed with her and said in a jealous tone, "Make her realize that it's foolish for her to show off when she makes a little progress!"

As the bell rang rapidly, Mrs. Ke trudged along and appeared at the classroom door. She was furious when she saw the rowdy classroom.

There was a contemptuous sneer in Mrs. Ke's eyes as she glanced at Ye Jian. Thump. Thump. Thump. Mrs. Ke strode onto the podium, pressing the duster hard against the blackboard. She pointed at He Jiamin who was still talking loudly. "He Jiamin! Get over here! Are you bragging about how bad you were in the exams?"

...

Moments ago, He Jiamin was high and mighty. Suddenly, as if she had suffered a blow, her face turned pale and she froze all over.

“Get over here!” Mrs. Ke’s face looked increasingly awful due to the blatant defiance of her student. “Stand here until the lesson is over!”

Where’s the authority of a teacher if one after another student of hers became disobedient!

With an indifferent and sarcastic look in her eyes, Ye Jian glanced at Mrs. Ke, who was obviously trying to find fault with her. Sitting at her seat leisurely like an audience, she enjoyed this confrontation between the teacher and the student.

Eventually, He Jiamin stood beside the podium with a blushing face.

“Tomorrow, these students should come to school as usual and participate in the last exams.” Ye Ying’s name was the first one to be read aloud. Mrs. Ke read it with a proud look on her face.

In total, seven students of this class had registered for the contest, while Mrs. Ke had only read the names of five students... Ye Jian and a boy who signed up for the chemistry exam were omitted.

Giggling, Xie Sifeng said to her deskmate, “So humiliating. If I were her, I would have been too embarrassed to come to school.” The implications in her words were easily understandable.

Xie Sifeng’s giggle indicated that she was mocking and ridiculing someone.

He Jiamin, who had been standing with her head low, lifted her head with a gloating sneer in her eyes. Shame! What a shame! If every student learned about this piece of news, did she have the guts to come to school again?

Ye Ying also smiled gently. Ha-ha. This should be fun... You’ve overestimated yourself by trying to soar up into the sky! Oh! You shall fall pretty badly!

Seated, Ye Jian was not affected by the derision of her classmates. She was as calm and poised as a decent person who was living in solitude.

The night before last, Principal Chen had said that he would be returning to the village with her on Saturday, which meant that she didn’t need to take the exams on Sunday.

Carefree, she left the school, but An Jiaxin, Zhang Na and Zhang Bin worried about her dearly.

On Monday, Ye Jian came to school. People were pointing fingers at her along the way.

Very well... the entire school was aware that she didn’t take the exams on Sunday, indicating that... she had made a fool of herself. She must have not passed a single exam.

As she entered the classroom, the classmates who were on friendly terms with her were concerned about her.

The voices of He Jiamin and Xie Sifeng were especially loud in the classroom. When they saw the arrival of Ye Jian, their laughter became sharp and piercing as if demons were being born.

Unfortunately, their laughter didn’t last very long.

Mrs. Ke was a bit cocky because Ye Jian's name didn't appear on Saturday. Hence, as soon as she entered the classroom, her face turned jet-black, the same color as the bottom of a pot!

She had been cursing for at least ten minutes and had no intention to stop.

Noticing what happened at the classroom entrance, Ye Jian stood up. With a fake smile, she said, "If you keep swearing, Mrs. Ke, you might upset Principal Chen."

Chapter 109: Slapping Face in This Way (II)

Mrs. Ke was about to continue cursing at Ye Jian. Hearing her words, Mrs. Ke turned her head abruptly. With a calm and cold look on his face, Principal Chen was standing at the classroom door. Panicking, Mrs. Ke's knees turned feeble and she forced a smile. "You are here. What do..."

"I arrived at a bad timing, Mrs. Ke. I interrupted you from disciplining your students," Principal Chen replied plainly, walking into the classroom. With an intimidating look in his eyes, he glanced at the students of Class Two Grade Eight. In the end, his gaze lingered on the faces of Ye Ying, Xie Sifeng and He Jiamin for a few seconds.

"Unity. Friendship. Harmony. You can see these three slogans above your head. To my disappointment, I don't see such golden qualities in some students in this class."

As a principal, he wouldn't mention the names of the students specifically. Nevertheless, whoever was being stared by him would understand that he/she was the person he referred to.

Instantly, Ye Ying's face turned red. She was sensitive enough to realize that she was one of the students that Principal Chen is talking about.

"Some students may feel comfortable now that you have been scolding a certain student for so long, Mrs. Ke. But on the other hand, you are hurting her in an invisible way," after criticizing the students, Principal Chen lectured Mrs. Ke without any mercy. "Mrs. Ke, if you are reluctant to disclose the scores of your students, as a principal, I should help you with that."

"Starting with the tenth-place. You should take a break after being scolded at for so long."

His last sentence made the students laugh. Nobody wished to be criticized. However, unlike Ye Jian, no one was bold enough to stand up to stop Mrs. Ke's angry scolding.

The ranking was being announced upward from the tenth-place. The students who had heard their names exhaled in relief. Lucky for them, they had maintained their usual ranking.

The top three was about to be announced... but Ye Jian's name had not been mentioned yet. He Jiamin, the ninth-place, couldn't help but laugh. When she heard that the third-place was Ye Ying, He Jiamin clapped louder than anyone and her palms even turned red!

What she didn't realize was that Ye Ying, who had always ranked at the first-place or second-place, had been staring at her ferociously numerous times!

The second-place was Zhou Liao... The applauding sound grew louder.

Instead of continuing, Principal Chen said to Mrs. Ke, "You should be the one to announce the first-place, Mrs. Ke." She was reluctant to say that name, wasn't she? But now, she had to!

Glared at by Principal Chen's cold eyes, Mrs. Ke, whose legs were failing, said the name which she was most unwilling to announce.

"The first-place is Ye Jian. She scored full marks in every subject, except that five points are deducted from her composition."

...

The noisy classroom became silent. The students, who sneered at her before, were gasping in surprise and gazing at her with an incredulous look in their eyes.

Their innocent faces were brimmed with astonishment... The name of Ye Jian, who had scored full marks in every subject, was bombing their minds like an alarming thunder.

Full marks! Full marks!

An Jiaxin screamed in joy. She was so exuberant that she forgot herself. Rushing out from her seat, she went over to embrace Ye Jian, yelling, "Fu*k! I am so proud of you!"

The loud applause overwhelmed Ye Jian's haters. Ye Ying's face turned pale; He Jiamin was so shocked that her eyes were about to pop out; Xie Sifeng, who couldn't accept the fact, stayed bewildered for a while.

As the head teachers of the eighth grade announced the first-place of the midterm exam, everyone who had doubted Ye Jian was lost in astonishment. Ye Jian's performance was slapping them in the face mercilessly...

Ashamed, those students who had ridiculed Ye Jian and had been waiting to see her embarrass herself, lowered their heads.

Chapter 110: Slapping Face in This Way (III)

"The first-place of the eighth grade outnumbers the second-place by 76 points, the third-place by 78 points, the fourth-place by...80 points, and the fifth-place by...82 points."

Not only had she ranked at the first place, but she had also shown the entire school the gap between her and the rest of the top five.

It was an unbridgeable gap which was as wide as a chasm.

The faces of those students, who had been mocking Ye Jian for the past week, were ashamedly flushed as if they were not wearing any pants. Heads low, they kept their mouths shut.

The thunderous applause continued. Principal Chen lifted his hands, gesturing the students to quiet down.

When the classroom was so quiet that only the gentle breathing sounds could be heard, he continued to speak, smiling, "As for why Ye Jian didn't participate in the Provincial No.1 Middle School competition as a shortlisted candidate, it's not that she performed poorly, it's that her scores were good enough for her to skip the tests."

"After the final exams, Ye Jian will go to the Provincial No.1 Middle School to attend a closed, enhanced training for half a month. If she stands out from the training, she will participate in the World Science Olympiad as a representative of our country in the middle of July. "

Her achievement as the first-place of the eighth grade was already astonishing. The news of her representing the country to attend the World Science Olympiad stupefied the students as if they were struck by thunder.

"Damn it, damn it... damn it!!" murmured An Jiaxin, who was so shocked that her pupils froze. Picking her ears violently, she stood up in bewilderment and asked Principal Chen. "Principal, about that World Science Olympiad you referred to, is it the World Science Olympiad where every participant, whether or not they receive any awards, will be noticed by the best educational institutions around the world?"

As a math enthusiast, An Jiaxin had learned about these matters.

Gazing at her, Principal Chen nodded as approval. "Seems like you have learned about it. That's right. It's the competition you know. The World Science Olympiad is held every three years. All participants are top students from every country."

"As long as Ye Jian passes the national selective trial, she will attend the contest on behalf of our country."

...

In total, there were twenty junior high classes in the two teaching buildings of the school. This time, no applause was heard because all the students were lost in astonishment as their teachers announced the news.

Representing... the country?

Who could have thought of that? No one!

Some students didn't even know the existence of this competition!

Ye Jian had never expected this, either. Compared to her shocked classmates, she frowned slightly and then regained her composure.

Despite the calm look on her face, she was slightly panicking inside.

If the class was not in session, she would have walked over to Principal Chen to figure out what was going on.

Training... what about her training? She would fall behind her training schedule, wouldn't she?

That's right, Ye Jian was thinking about her four-year training plan rather than... the World Science Olympiad.

With an incredulous look on her face, Mrs. Ke, the head teacher, looked at Principal Chen who announced this breaking news abruptly and the calm Ye Jian... Had she known about it already?

Thinking about this possibility, Mrs. Ke felt that her heart was suffering a gnawing pain.

Not to mention the pain that Ye Ying was going through. Her tiny face was twisted, and her eyes were about to pop out due to shock.

Going abroad to attend the World Science Olympiad!

Why can she?! Why?!

Just because she ranked as the first in a midterm? Just because she solved every exam question from the Provincial No.1 Middle School, she could attend the contest on behalf of the country?

Principal Chen, you are too biased, aren't you?! Do you treat the Science Olympiad as a child's play?