

BOOT CAMP 201

### **Chapter 201: Count On Me (4)**

Xia Jinyuan's usual sense of humor came back.

Feeling relieved, Ye Jian restored her usual vigilance. This elegant and humorous Xia Jinyuan was the one she was familiar with!

As Ye Jian thought to herself, Major Xia grew serious once again. He removed his gas mask as he stood under the faint light, revealing his handsome face which looked particularly cold with his lonesome eyes staring at the exit in front. "I will draw their attention."

"J5 and the rest have already left. Our team can not show up as a group, especially you. The International policemen outside think you've been rescued and taken to the hospital with the other Chinese student."

In order to protect Ye Jian, that was what the Chinese military had told the International police when Gao Yiyang escaped out of the building.

After all, Ye Jian was just known as a student who could conveniently report on the location of Red Scorpion to the police.

On top of that, no one would believe that Red Scorpion, who was a pain to the International Police and Vietnamese military, was killed by a schoolgirl.

Even if they did believe it, it could still bring danger to her safety.

In a building full of International police, Ye Jian stayed a few steps behind Xia Jinyuan and watched as the police stopped him for routine questions.

Without saying a word, he reached out his arm and showed a police one colorful, five-starred-golden miniature flag. Upon seeing it, the police saluted and let him by without another question.

Xia Jinyuan smiled and pointed at the intercom around the policeman's neck. "I need to use your intercom to talk to your chief."

"Of course!" The police handed over the intercom without the slightest hesitation. His eyes were full of respect.

Xia Jinyuan thanked him and intentionally turned his body so that he could block the policeman's vision and keep Ye Jian's movements within his sight.

He put away his polite smile and gentle voice and spoke to the Commander on-site in an inviolable and harsh tone. "Please inform your Commander in Chief, we have the thing he wants. In order to get it, please apologize to our Chinese soldiers first."

His cold and powerful voice struck straight into the hearts of all the people.

In standard American English, he spoke to everyone on the intercom. At the same time, the European police officers who initially thought of Chinese soldiers as incompetent felt ashamed of themselves.

It took a certain amount of courage to say these words. He returned the intercom back to the abashed police officer and smiled politely. "Goodbye."

Though he didn't speak loudly, his words were loud enough to draw all the attention from the police on duty in that area. Simultaneously, he saw Ye Jian lightly dashing behind a tree from the wall.

She remained hidden and vigilantly observed the surroundings like a little fox that just got out of its cave. Then, she lightly jumped over the cordon and successfully dodged out of sight.

Watching her leave, Xia Jinyuan lightly lifted the corners of his mouth. Powerful and athletic... she is, indeed, the 'reserved soldier' trained by the Class A Master Sergeant and world-class sniper.

## **Chapter 202: Count On Me (5)**

Xia Jinyuan lifted the cordon and walked out. When he saw Ye Jian hiding next to a tall wall within his peripheral vision, he headed over with a gentle smile on his face.

An ambulance arranged by the Chinese stopped by under his signals. After Ye Jian got on it, she was immediately examined by the doctors and nurses who were also arranged by the embassy.

After the examination, they gave an 'ok' gesture meaning that all physical indicators were normal and left the two of them in front with the privacy blind pulled down.

Xia Jinyuan set aside the gas mask and his thin lips curved up when he saw redness gradually returning to her little face. With a normal heart rate... she wasn't scared anymore.

A smiling Major Xia could be too dangerous. She had just been stunned by his peppermint scent and now his warm, watery smile.... What a dangerous man.

Ye Jian silently lowered her head and rubbed her wrist. "Well, if I don't think about it then I won't be scared."

"Congratulations on taking another step towards becoming a qualified soldier, little girl." He chuckled and lightly rubbed on her head. "Though you won't be awarded for your performance this time, your performances will remain on the military record and everyone will be proud of you."

At the age of only fourteen, she had already experienced kidnapping, participated in an operation to kill and risked herself to save others... All of which were things impossible for her peers to surpass.

Ye Jian actually thought it was better this way. She raised her head and said honestly, "This way is fine, I don't need any reward or anyone knowing. It's fine like this."

“The glory that belongs to you will always be yours. It will be easier to just accept everything. Your mentality is good though, little girl.” Such a girl like Ye Jian was really suitable to join the army and become a soldier.

Outside the hospital, four plain-clothed guards arranged by the embassy immediately came up to greet them as the ambulance pulled up. After making sure they weren't tailgated, Xia Jinyuan removed Ye Jian's gas mask and whispered, “Don't expose yourself, these guards will escort you back to your hotel. After you get back, do not mention tonight's incident to anyone.”

“I have work to deal with. I will come to see you tomorrow afternoon.” He lightly patted her head. “Take some rest and think about the exam tomorrow.”

Not knowing how to respond, Ye Jian sneered. “I thought you would tell me to take some rest, and forget about the exam tomorrow.”

“Examinations are a student's main focus, don't overthink it, little girl.” Xia Jinyuan smiled deeply and returned to the ambulance after he saluted the four guards.”

After Ye Jian coming out of the ophthalmology department, she saw Director Li walking back and forth in the white corridor. Sitting on the chair was a middle-aged, stern-looking man... he was Gao Yiyang's father.

He especially came to thank Ye Jian for keeping calm in the critical situation and giving the chance to escape to a boy. Such a mindset... was truly admiring.

The Gao family held the majority of the shares of the hospital. As Gao Yiyang's father inquired the doctor about Ye Jian's condition, Director Li spoke with his eyes flooded with tears. “Thank god, thank god you are alright. I'd be lying here if you did not come back.”

### **Chapter 203: Thinking Ahead**

“Don't worry, I was with our own people. Let's go back, Director Li. It's getting late and we have to attend the exam tomorrow.” Ye Jian laughed, even freshened by the disinfectant smell of the hospital.

After Gao Yiyang's father finished explaining to the doctor, he rushed to them. “Director Li, it's getting late, let my driver give you two a ride.”

It was past 1:00 am and he could not just let the girl who saved his son's life go back on her own.

Director Li did not refuse and Gao Yiyang's father felt relieved. His eyes grew warm as he glanced at Ye Jian. “Giving the chance of survival to others and putting yourself in danger, Ye Jian, I wanted to offer money as a token of my gratitude, but I am afraid that would be insulting you.”

“But I can't rest well if I don't show my gratitude. Classmate Ye Jian, what do you say, I offer one million dollar scholarships to high school students in poverty under your name?”

One hundred million scholarship....in U.S. dollar!

Director Li faintly gasped. Having just briefly calmed down, Director Li felt the need to take another calming heart pill just by thinking about multiplying this amount by the current exchange rate of eight.

The currency exchange rate as of July 1995 was 1 to 8.36. Therefore, one million... was a lot of money.

After calculating in her mind, Ye Jian happily replied with poise. "I do need the money. After all, it's a very attractive amount. However, I think in the form of a scholarship would be the best. Thank you very much for your generosity, I will study hard to earn your scholarship."

Gao's father was deeply impressed by Ye Jian's candid and honorable personality even when she admitted that she needed the money.

He laughed and exclaimed, "Men die for wealth and birds die for food. It's an invariable rule. But a gentleman loves money and obtains it properly. You have a good character and perseverance."

"Alright, I will set a separate scholarship for you. It will be yours if you do well on your exams."

"You think too highly of me." Ye Jian did not expect Gao Yiyang's father to think so highly of her. She replied with a polite smile. "However, there are many outstanding students in our country who dropped out due to tuition fees and family burdens. I think they need the scholarship much more."

Gao Yiyang's father was surprised that a fourteen-year-old child could think so carefully. Then he said, "How about this, within this period, I will organize a charity organization to provide scholarships to outstanding poor students in China. I will invite overseas Chinese to contribute to the future of our country. What do you think?"

This was really the best!

The country needed not only such charity organizations but also the help of overseas Chinese from all over the world. Ye Jian held out her hands like an adult and said sincerely, "Thank you very much for your help. With your help, more students will surely return to school."

As a major event came to a decision, Director Li's jaw nearly dropped as he observed on the side the whole time without saying a word.

Soon after, Director Li and Ye Jian returned back to the hotel by themselves because Gao Yiyang was still under the tranquilizer effect. Therefore, Gao Yiyang's father promised to drop him off at the hotel at 7:30 am the next morning.

#### **Chapter 204: Change is Instantaneous**

"After you get back, don't think about anything. I asked Teacher Yu to make you some soothing tea, drink some after you get back." Director Li restrained himself earlier when Gao Yiyang's father was around. Now, he began to chatter again. With fear still lingering in his mind, he feared that his student

might feel the same and comforted her. "It's all over now. We came back safely. Just think of it as a dream. When you open your eyes tomorrow, it will feel like nothing has happened."

Ye Jian smiled as she listened to him without interrupting. She would occasionally reply with an 'ok' like a loveable girl, completely different from the icy appearance she had when shooting at a target.

After returning to the hotel, she did not disturb other Chinese or foreign students. No one knew what she and Gao Yiyang had experienced tonight and the contestants who slept early were definitely not affected by the midnight incident.

The next morning, Ye Jian appeared freshened before her peers. No one could tell that she returned to the hotel past 1:00 am last night.

When Yang Ye saw her, she immediately leaned over and said, "Dear, can I sleep in your room tonight? I had insomnia last time when I slept in the same room as Teacher Yu!"

"Is it because you can't read romance novels freely?" Ye Jian smiled for she had seen through Yang Ye's secret. "On the first night we roomed together, I picked it up for you twice in the middle of the night. Tell me, where did you hide the novel?"

Before coming to Australia, teachers had thoroughly checked every student's luggage in case they had brought unrelated books. As it turned out, some fish still managed to slip through the net.

Frightened, Yang Ye pulled Ye Jian to a corner guiltily. "Oh, how did you find out! My dearest sister, I will thank you when we return to Beijing."

Their classmates were not all present, so the two of them just spoke softly in the corner. Suddenly, they heard hurried steps and the voice of Gao Yiyang. "Did Ye Jian come down? Did anyone see her?"

"Ye Jian? No, I didn't see her after I came back looking for you."

Isn't it suspicious to look for her blatantly like this? Ye Jian leaned forward and answered him before he could ask any more students. "I am here? What is it you need?"

"He is searching for you like he is searching for his Mom. It's probably something urgent. I'll go get breakfast first." Yang Ye joked and waved at Gao Yiyang, who was striding this way. "Over here, this way. I'll step aside so you can talk to her."

Gao Yiyang was supposed to arrive at the hotel at 7:30 am, but he was early. He looked straight at Ye Jian and hurried over. In a pressed-down voice, he said, "You came to the hospital last night, yet I didn't know anything. I am sorry, Ye Jian."

His eyes were red as if he had been crying earlier. His weary expressions suggested that he did not sleep well at all last night.

"I am fine. It's alright that you didn't know anything." More students were walking around so Ye Jian pointed downstairs. "Let's talk outside. No one can know about it."

It was a secret between her and Gao Yiyang.

They did not leave the hotel, instead, they stood next to the water fountain which ran water loud enough to cover their voices, providing a convenient setting to speak.

“There’s not much going on with me, don’t worry. How have you been? You look like you didn’t sleep well last night.”

Perhaps, because of what they had experienced together last night, she did not look at him indifferently as she did before. She said to him calmly, “It was no big deal. What happened yesterday should stay in yesterday. It won’t affect you if you don’t think about it. This is what I do.”

### **Chapter 205: That Marvelous Youth**

As she stood under the sunlight, her eyes shined and her white skin was suffused with pearlescent sparkle.

Unable to look away from her starry eyes, he felt as if he was struck directly in the heart just like last night when she looked straight at him with a chill he had never seen before. He couldn’t help but listen to her... he just couldn’t resist.

She seemed so unfamiliar as if he was meeting her for the first time.

Also, the way she held that gun seemed no different from the way police and soldiers did.

Such skilled marksmanship, steady aims... calm response, smooth handling... that was not the same Ye Jian who occasionally bickered with Ye Ying in school.

After the tranquilizer wore off, he woke up and stayed awake. He recalled a lot of memories and finally came to the conclusion... Ye Jian had been hiding her true identity in school.

He had a lot of questions but did not know where to start.

Pressing his mouth tightly, he said in a hoarse tone, “It’s nothing. I wanted to thank you for last night... if it weren’t for you, I don’t even know if I’d be alive or not.”

After a short pause, he saw her distant expression and spoke faster. “Thank you, Ye Jian. I used to be reckless and always took things out of context that I repeatedly misunderstood you. Fortunately, you’ve always been the bigger person and never argued with me.”

He let out a self-mocking smile, revealing the sentiments of an adolescent. “Now I know how ridiculous I was in school. I had been bouncing around like a clown in front of you without even realizing it.”

As unnecessary as it was for him to say these, Ye Jian lightly smiled and interrupted him. “It’s not a big deal. I don’t have a big heart, but I won’t let our disputes and misunderstandings affect any life-threatening decisions.”

“As for Ye Ying, my attitude remains the same. Hereafter, please stop mentioning her in front of me, I really can’t find a way to like her.”

As could be concluded from her indifferent and cold tone when she mentioned Ye Ying, their relationship was truly a terrible one.

However, she never spoke ill of Ye Ying. Just like what Gao Yiyang’s father once said, sometimes one needs to observe with his eyes and heart in order to determine another’s character.

Ye Jian, on the other hand, never spoke ill of others behind their backs. When she disliked something, she always said it straight out, expressing a truly rare and valuable character.

A glimpse of indifference left his eyes as he smiled, bringing a flying spirit onto his handsome face. “Alright, I will not mention her again. Let’s go get some breakfast.”

Despite previous preconceptions, Gao Yiyang was indeed a good friend to have. This would clearly explain why he parted with Ye Ying later on in life.

After discovering Ye Ying’s true character, Gao Yiyang probably left her without hesitation.

Soon after they got back to the cafeteria, they saw the Vietnamese students, including the important official’s son who was held hostage from last night. When he saw Ye Jian, his eyes shrunk and he pressed his lips tightly as he stepped back.

The other two Vietnamese students who had appeared in the room with Red Scorpion also took a step back unconsciously to let Ye Jian and Gao Yiyang pass by.

As she passed them, Ye Jian suddenly stopped and focused on the boy who was trying to conceal his existence in the back; the one who was responsible for Gao Yiyang and Ye Jian’s kidnapping.

## **Chapter 206: The One and Only Ye Jian**

The three boys grew extremely nervous after Ye Jian had suddenly stopped. They lowered their heads down and were afraid to leave the site.

In fact, after a brief stop, Ye Jian left without saying a word. But just these insignificant movements were enough to make the three students hold on to their breaths.

However, Ye Jian only appeared to be looking at the boy in the back, when in fact, she was examining the son of the high official with her peripheral vision.

The son of the high official... had constantly appeared in Red Scorpion’s room. In her previous life, she had seen reports on government officials’ involvement in drug trafficking on the news. The hands of these civil guardians were dirtier than expected.

Xia Jinyuan... probably knew about it too. But as an outsider, there was nothing to do about Vietnam's internal affairs.

After three days of exams, the final competition today became ever so fierce.

The Science Olympiad, which consisted of quick response questions. Furthermore, the students' performances were on live-stream to Australians and viewers from all over the world.

The Vietnamese students were not at their best performances. Even at times when they were quick to answer, they still made small mistakes and ranked last on the list.

The most competitive countries were China, the United States, the United Kingdom, and South Korea. Students from these four countries were all calm and steady like soldiers dressed in battle armor. Even when they made an error in the process, it would be corrected by other students immediately, thus securing the score.

The scores became gapped when it came to mental arithmetic.

The first to be eliminated was the United Kingdom, then South Korea. Finally, it came down to Chinese students against American students on the competition stage.

The situation reached an unprecedented tension that the live reporters put on their serious expressions as an ice-frozen atmosphere filled the whole room.

"Unfortunately, the Australian students were eliminated despite their best efforts. But we are all proud of them because honestly, more than 90 percent of the people in the nation were unable to get the correct answer. As of now, we've only received four correct answers from the adult population."

Even though students from her own country were eliminated, the serious and humorous reporter was still proud of their performance in the competition.

Under the stage, the teachers were all serious and tense. Watching the Chinese and American students competing for victory, they held their breaths and anticipated the final result.

As the students conducted theory and mental arithmetic simultaneously, the adults in the broadcast room could feel the competition getting fired up despite their little understanding of the problem.

Unyielding, the students calculated the problems like a computer and answered the question with exceptional logic. Such unhurried confidence pushed the event to a climax.

Director Li sat on the bench with his arms crossed in front. Despite how calm he looked on the outside, he was clenching his sweaty fists tightly underneath.

China started competing in the Olympiad rather late, in 1985. Team competitions had always been China's strength, therefore, the students were determined to take home the gold medals this time.

After eliminating all the other countries except one last strong opponent, Director Li watched without blinking his eyes, afraid to miss any detail.



When the five-hour time limit was up, the American students regretfully shrugged their shoulders. Overall, the China team won three gold medals from this competition as opposed to the two won by the America team.

### **Chapter 207: Another Slap in the Face**

The Chinese had come through once again in the Science Olympiad, ranking first in individual and team scores.

At the announcement of the results, the audience broke out in applause and Director Li stood up instantly and strode onto the stage to hug the contestants who had been working hard in the past five hours.

No matter the failure or success, the students' hard work and spirits were all worthy of this praise.

Even Gao Yiyang's father, who had never come to his son's school or attended a parent meeting, was brought to tears. People tend to be more affectionate when they reach their middle-ages.

He had no idea how outstanding his son was and how proud he was of him.

Following the contestants' chuckles and handshakes, the fierce Olympiad competition finally came to an end.

As Ye Jian received the gold medal which she finally obtained after two lives, the rim of her eyes reddened despite her usual calm composure. In her previous life, she had endured so much hardship and still could not escape from Ye Ying's abuse. Finally, in this life, she could stand up against Sun Dongqing and Ye Ying and would no longer suffer from their persecutions.

Like the pretty wildflowers that grew on the thorny roadside, this continuous applause should only be enjoyed momentarily; one should keep in mind that a wonderful life journey cannot stop here.

"Ye Jian and Yang Ye, come stand in front. Boys, form lines on the two sides. Let's take a group picture." Under the stage, Director Li and the embassy staff gathered the students around for their first group picture in Australia.

While the twelve students toured around the University of Sydney, the picture was already sent back to China by the embassy.

Back in their home country, the news that Chinese contestants had won the most team and individual gold medals in the Science Olympiad traveled fast like the spring breeze.

Even People's Daily, the most widely read newspaper, covered the story with details of the contestants during the competition.

As the deputy town mayor, Ye Zhifan always read the People's Daily. The moment he saw the photo which occupied the most important section of the People's Daily, his eyes froze.

His initially relaxed brows suddenly tightened when he saw the name in the caption.

After briefly arriving at work, he grabbed his briefcase and left the office with the newspaper still clenched in his hands.

Some government officials saw him leave in a hurry as if something important happened and kindly asked. "Deputy Town Mayor, we have a meeting in ten minutes, where are you..."

"Postpone the meeting for one hour, I need to leave for an emergency." How would he have the mood for a meeting?! Ye Zhifan left the office building with a gloomy look and rushed home on his motorcycle without looking back.

After breakfast, Sun Dongqing took Ye Ying out for grocery shopping and on their way back, Sun Dongqing boasted about Ye Ying's final grades to the Shuikou villagers whom they had ran into on their way home.

"I don't mean to boast about our Yingying, but she is such a thoughtful kid who never troubled me or her dad on studies. For this year's finals, her grades were among the top of her class again. People always say nothing is superior to studying. Although Yingying is a girl, she does so much better than a boy!"

Ever since higher officials said Ye Zhifan could very likely become the Mayor and that her daughter was doing so well in school, Sun Dongqing started to feel overly proud again. Therefore, she held her chin up high wherever she went.

As Ye Zhifan saw his wife chatting exultantly with the villagers on his way back home, his face turned sullen.

## **Chapter 208: Overreached**

The women of the village still kept in touch with Sun Dongqing from time to time; after all, she is the wife of an official. Whenever the villagers needed to ask for a favor and could not meet with Ye Zhifan in person, they would resort to asking her.

Sun Dongqing loved two things: taking advantages and listening to flatteries.

"Ye Zhifan always said that even though our Yingying is not a boy, she is not half bad."

"She will definitely enter the Province Experimental High School next year. And eventually, get into schools like the Central China Normal University and Guangxi University!" She became so proud that her saliva splattered all over the place. Although she looked elegant on the outside, her disposition was no match to Ye Zhifan.

The women of the village listened and exclaimed, "Of course, everyone knows the Ye family is full of talented people, especially from your family. Yingying was born with such good looks and she is doing so well in school. When she becomes a college student in the future, she will be the golden phoenix that flew out of our village."

Even Ye Ying loved hearing these flatteries.

She puckered in a smile, "Aunt Tao, I know little Xiaodong also goes to the Township Middle School. If he needs anything, he can always come to me. If he doesn't know where my classroom is, he can ask anyone around and he will be shown the way."

Earlier, Aunt Tao had mentioned her worries of her son, who also goes to the Township Middle School; therefore, Ye Ying immediately picked up her intentions.

Since that wicked girl Ye Jian made her school life more and more difficult, she needed to think of a way to win over the hearts of the villagers in order to make it difficult for Ye Jian to return to the village.

Gossip has the power to destroy anyone. After the teacher-seducing incident had failed, she needed to gradually scheme new plans. A gloomy look crossed under Ye Ying's sweet smile... she doesn't believe that she couldn't defeat an orphan!

Even if it would take one, two, or three years! She would always have an opportunity as long as that wicked girl ever plans to return to the village!

Aunt Tao's heart felt relieved as she heard Ye Ying's words. "That would be great! Dongqing, what a sensible daughter you have!" From Ye Ying's response, it was no wonder that the villagers thought of Ye Ying as the sharpest one in the Ye family.

Listening on the side, Ye Zhifan would have walked over and taught his ignorant wife and daughter a lesson if it wasn't for his status.

Clenching on the motorcycle handle, he got ready to leave until someone honked from behind. A black sedan pulled up to the side and someone greeted him with a smile. "Deputy Town Mayor Ye."

The person sitting in the back seat laughed as he walked over. "It's been a long time, Deputy Town Mayor Ye."

"Secretary Wu? Oh, are you on your way to the school?" Ye Zhifan immediately put away his sullen face and chortled with delight as he shook Secretary Wu's hand. He asked gently, "It's such a hot day, are you out for an urgent matter?"

Secretary Wu was the head of the City Education Bureau.

Aunt Tao also heard the men speaking and looked over. "Old Ye sure is a busy man. The other man looks like an official. Oh, Dongqing, you are such a lucky woman."

Of course, I am! Sun Dongqing thought to herself and smiled with pride. "I'd better go over there. Be on your way. Come over for lunch if you are not going back to the village soon." Wrapping up her chatter, she headed over with Ye Ying.

## **Chapter 209: Revealing the Ugly Side**

Though she wanted to talk more with the two, Aunt Tao watched them go and left shortly after.

“I’ve just found out that you are Ye Jian’s uncle. It’s so...”

Upon hearing Ye Jian’s name, Sun Dongqing exploded like a cat being stepped on the tail. “Ye Jian? Old Ye, what did that wicked girl do this time? I’m telling you, our family has nothing to do with her, life or death! That wicked girl, that ungrateful soul! If it weren’t for our family, she would be begging on the streets!”

Her words came out quickly and urgently like firecrackers that she failed to notice how Ye Ying had become anxious and sweaty standing on the side.

“Mom, what... what are you talking about?” Afraid that her mom might say something rash, Ye Ying tugged at her mom and said in a low voice, “Mom, Dad’s face is changing, stop talking! We have a guest here, don’t say such rash things.”

Although Ye Ying wanted more people to hear about Ye Jian’s scandals, she was also a master at reading people’s expressions.

At the moment, they didn’t know anything about this guest. Who was he and why was he looking for Ye Jian?

Sun Dongqing was displeased. “Why, why? How long has it been since that wicked girl last showed up? I asked you and you said you didn’t know. I asked your dad and he wouldn’t tell me! God knows if she’s been causing trouble elsewhere. That wicked girl...”

“Mom, can you stop?” Ye Ying’s face turned pale after Ye Zhifan had given her a look that made her shiver.

After being interrupted by Sun Dongqing, Secretary Wu could tell that something was not quite right. Instead of showing his concerns, he smiled and asked, “This is...”

“Please excuse my wife, she knows nothing other than cooking. She always goes around making a big deal over the slightest mistakes children make.” In front of an outsider, he could not directly reprimand Sun Dongqing. As someone who works in officialdom, he must master smooth talk, the art of explaining everything clearly by not explaining anything.

Easing up a little, Secretary Wu wanted to say something but decided to wait until Ye Jian’s return instead. He smiled. “So you are Mrs. Ye, and this student here must be Deputy Town Mayor’s daughter.”

“She is. Yingying, come and greet Secretary Wu.” Ye Zhifan noticed a change in the conversation. He knew Secretary Wu came for Ye Jian, but he couldn’t just mention it directly. Covering up the current situation was his priority.

Ye Ying had always been polite and loveable in social affairs. After Sun Dongqing’s offense, Ye Ying acted especially well-mannered and dignified in both her actions and words. “Hello, Uncle Wu. Please excuse my mother’s rude comments earlier if she had offended you. She was simply worried about my sister.”

Suppressing the anger in his heart, Ye Zhifan felt somewhat less angry when he saw that his daughter was at least sensible. Yet, he still had to gradually teach her to widen her visions.

“It’s normal for a family to worry, I will be on my way. Deputy Town Mayor Ye, let’s talk next time.” Although Secretary Wu noticed something wasn’t right, he would not put Mrs. Ye on the spot for the sake of Ye Zhifan. He exchanged a few polite words and moved on from the incident.

### **Chapter 210: Unreconciled Heart**

Since Secretary Wu said to talk the next time they meet, Ye Zhifan took the hint and smiled. “Alright, you must have come down here for an urgent matter on such a hot day. I will not hold you back any longer. Let’s grab a drink when you are free.”

After watching Secretary Wu get on the car, Ye Zhifan’s smiling face pulled down and glared at his wife. He said to Ye Ying harshly, “Keep a close eye on your mom! I will deal with her after I come back!”

It was almost time for the meeting, so he had to head back.

Ye Ying had always been afraid of him, so she timidly nodded as cold sweat ran down her back.

Ye Zhifan was hardly in the mood for the meeting, for he had been holding down a fit of inextinguishable anger at the thought of his fatuous wife.

Ye Jian, the girl whom his wife repeatedly referred to as the wicked girl, had won medals from overseas!

Even the People’s Daily posted a photo and specifically captioned the names of the medalists in black font words!

Ye Jian was one of the gold medalists and her performance was described as ‘pulling the tide’.

Will she ever dare to mention Yingying’s grades and achievements to others again?!

Will she ever dare to feel good about herself by stomping on Ye Jian again?!

Originally, he was going to scold his wife as soon as he got back home. However, he received a call asking him to go to the city instead.

After anxiously waiting for half a year, he finally received the promotion to become the Town Mayor. But first, he needed to report to the city and train for half a month before returning home at the same time when school resumes.

This career breakthrough temporarily distracted his anger as he packed his luggage and headed to the city.

In Shuikou Village, Grandpa Gen and Principal Chen returned from fishing with big smiles on their faces. Not only had they heard of Ye Jian’s performance before Ye Zhifan did, but they also heard of the kidnapping incident.

Though worried about the dangers involved, the two elders were pleasantly delighted to know that Ye Jian's contributions and merits will be recorded on her military file.

"The girl is bold and attentive. If she puts her heart on something and gives it her all, nothing will stand in her way!" Grandpa Gen laughed as he cleaned the grass carp he has caught earlier in the morning. Even the wrinkles on his face folded into smiling flowers. "My heart is at ease now."

Since Principal Chen returned from the province, he had been living a leisure life with Grandpa Gen in Shuikou Village, where he only visited the army once in a week.

Principal Chen's wrinkled face also smiled as he commented. "Though the four-year plan sounds like a long time, half a year has passed in a blink of an eye. She is really just with us for one more year and the rest will only be summer and winter vacation."

There was no high school in the town; but if there was one, she would've done well given her talents.

Sharp and assiduous, she would have done well wherever she went.

"As she grows older, she will eventually soar higher. She will see farther as she flies higher. As long as she remembers to visit us occasionally, I won't chain her to this place." Grandpa Gen laughed. "Although our time with her is limited, we shall teach her sternly and she will study assiduously. Eventually, she will get into a good school."

He cleaned the fish after it was scaled and its internal organs were removed. Braised fish was set for lunch.