

Daily Life 1081

Chapter 1081: The Second Semester of Senior Grade One

The workload was heavier in the second semester of Senior Grade One, and after the summer break, the school administration board organized a meeting for all the teachers in order to emphasize that their main task right now was to quickly get the students to refocus after a relaxing summer break and get back into the race toward the college entrance exam.

There were still two years to go from Grade One to Grade Three, but based on the frequency of chapter updates and the number of chapters, it would take the author over three thousand more chapters to reach the college entrance exam arc... But even then! Studying was still the most important!

The second half of Senior Grade One already wasn't easy, since most schools would have their students finish learning Senior Grade Two content during this time, and in Grade Two, get them to finish learning Grade Three coursework.

When they entered Grade Three, they would keep doing the same thing non-stop – they would continue to do the school exercises over and over again until they almost died.

That was Grade Three!

Apart from doing exercise questions, Grade Three cultivation school students had to take cultivation assessments at the same time, such as a spirit sword control exam, magic treasure operation exam, pill refining exam, talisman drawing exam and so on.

After Teacher Pan was done with her lecture, Little Peanut started handing out booklets from the pile in his arms, which he had gotten from the office.

“What’s this?” someone asked.

“Last year’s enrollment regulations for the cultivation colleges,” replied Little Peanut.

“Why are you handing these out?”

“Old Pan wants all of you to look at the cut-off scores for the top cultivation colleges,” said Little Peanut.

Wang Ling turned to the first page.

A detailed table leapt to his eye — this table listed the minimum cut-off scores and the corresponding page number for each school’s enrollment regulations.

Currently, the number one cultivation college was Jinghua Seven Stars College; minimum cut-off score: 209,300.

Second was Jinghua Sword Immortal Star College; minimum cut-off score: 199,670.

Third was Northern Swallow College; minimum cut-off score: 199,400.

...

The top three colleges had a minimum cut-off score of around 200,000, which would make anyone flinch. Wang Ling thought he could enter these three colleges easily enough if he performed normally and wasn’t suppressing his scores... but this would be violating the Wang family’s rules.

It wasn’t up to Wang Ling which college he got into anyway – ultimately, it was Father Wang and Mother Wang who would make the decision. Actually, Wang Ling himself didn’t have any idea one way or the other. Of this dazzling array of cultivation colleges, there were practically none that could truly teach him anything new.

Wang Ling had also imagined what college life would be like. Just like the college entrance exam, this was an important milestone in a person’s life. While it wasn’t necessary, it might become a lifelong regret for Wang Ling if he didn’t go.

On the side, Super and a few others were looking at the enrollment regulations and discussing them.

“Chinese, maths, English, physics, chemistry, plus general arts and general science; each subject is worth 20,000 marks, so the total score for the cultural courses is 140,000. Talismans, sword

techniques, magic treasures, pills, theory of cultivation history; these cultivation subjects are worth 120,000 marks in total, so the full mark is 260,000. What score do you think we can get right now?” Dopey Guo stared at the enrollment regulations in his hand, and couldn’t help sinking into deep anxiety and thought.

“At my current level... I can get 150,000 at most, which is only just enough for a second-tier college. I need to work harder.” Super Chen sighed. Actually, when school started at the very beginning, he had already voiced his ambition to get into Seven Stars.

However, he was still short of the target cut-off score by 50,000 marks. To close this gap, not only did he have to pull up his scores in his cultural subjects as much as possible, he also couldn’t fall behind in all his cultivation subjects.

Getting 100,000 out of 120,000 marks in the cultivation subjects would be a safe bet for enrollment.

But getting this 100,000 was easier said than done.

“Ai, I remember there were bonus points in previous years?”

“There were bonus points, but the requirements were also very strict. Look at the back of the enrollment booklet,” said Little Peanut.

Everyone flipped to the back; sure enough, it clearly explained the conditions for the bonus points.

[First: A person who assists the Cultivation Police Bureau or the Immortal Arts Mobile Squadron while in high school, and obtains an Honorary Cultivator’s Medal for helping to uphold law and order, can obtain bonus points. A third-rank medal is worth 1000 points, a second-rank medal is worth 3000 points, and a first-rank medal is worth 5000 points. A person can only have five medals at most at any one time.]

“I know this first condition; I think my dad got 1000 bonus points before because of it,” said Super Chen.

“What did your dad do?”

“When he was grocery shopping, he happened to catch a criminal on the run, and so got a third-rank medal.” Super Chen laughed. “But my dad was lucky – that criminal was already out of strength from the chase, and just happened to run into the market. He was easy pickings for my dad.”

“Come on, stop talking about your dad – let’s read the next one...” said Dopey Guo.

[Second: A person who obtains a special national certificate of honor while in high school can obtain 10,000 bonus points after an audit.]

Everyone: “...”

“Next, next... That’s so hard!” someone cried out in disbelief.

A special certificate of honor was something that they could only dream of, and was completely impossible to get. The probability of obtaining such a thing was even lower than a person’s looks in real life matching the photo sent to an online friend...

Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan were lost in silence when they gazed at these conditions.

Frankly, people as old as they were shouldn’t be messing around here. In the end, however, they had come in order to learn from Wang Ling. Since Wang Ling would be taking the college entrance exam, they definitely couldn’t avoid it. Given their strength, it wasn’t hard for them to get full marks.

But the main point was that they wanted to go to the same college as Wang Ling...

Then, they now faced the problem of keeping their grades down.

These senior high cultivation subjects were really too easy for them.

“How about just not taking the exam and getting points through certificates? That seems easier to control than grades...” Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan cupped their chins and thought the same thing at that moment.

Finally, everyone looked at the third and final condition for getting bonus points.

[Third: A person who breaks through the Foundation Establishment stage while in high school can obtain bonus points. Golden Core stage: 10,000 points.]

[Those who reach the Nascent Soul stage do not have to take the college entrance exam. They can select the college they want and directly enter after obtaining approval from the General Administration of 100 Schools.]

Everyone: “...”

“Is there anyone who has ever broken through to the Nascent Soul stage in high school?” Everyone looked at the table and then at each other in dismay.

“Impossible... If there really was such a genius, why bother studying in high school...”

“There definitely are people like that – it’s just our worldview that’s too narrow, and we don’t understand these geniuses.” At that moment, Super Chen suddenly said, “I sometimes wonder if there’s someone like that around us – big shots with ordinary identities who quietly hide in the crowd...”

Zhenyuan: “...”

Gu Shunzhi: “...”

Wang Ling: “...”

Chapter 1082: Yet Another Parent-Teacher Conference

Human beings were very strange creatures.

When they went to school, they longed for the holidays, but when they were on holiday, they often missed school. Everyone said that school was the most relaxing period of a person's life, because there wasn't so much social or life pressure; they didn't have to scratch their heads over getting married, buying a house, buying a car and so on.

Sometimes, it was only after a person graduated from university and officially entered society and started work that they remembered their school days, whether it was primary school, middle school or senior high school. Everyone possessed random fragments of beautiful memories. Like old photos, they forever lingered in the brain, and would flash through your mind every time you felt upset, thereby soothing your restless heart.

The degeneration of an adult began when they gave up on their figure.

And the degeneration of a student began when they gave up on their studies...

As Wang Ling had anticipated, Teacher Pan had been busy perfecting her "subjugation plan" for the first day of school.

At noon, Teacher Pan called Wang Ling, Hero Guo, Little Peanut, Lotus Sun, Super Chen, Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan over to an empty classroom for a class committee meeting.

Hero Guo was the political science representative, Super Chen was the sports committee member, Lotus Sun was the class monitor, and Little Peanut was the commissary in charge of studies.

As for Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan, it seemed that Teacher Pan was ready to assign them new roles given their excellent academic performance.

Wang Ling didn't know why he had to participate when he wasn't a class leader, but since Teacher Pan had called him up, he had to give her face. After all, he was still a student here; offending the teacher-in-charge wasn't very good.

"I called all of you over to explain the learning situation in class. All of you here have grades that are above average, and set an example for the other students. School has just started, and I know that everyone might still be lost in a holiday mood. However, I hope that you're aware that there are only 800 days left before the college entrance exam... In the blink of an eye, you'll soon be sent to the front line on the battlefield!" Teacher Pan gave an impassioned and hot-blooded speech.

Everyone: "..."

"The first thing I want to say is to the new students, Student Gu and Student Zhen. Both of you did quite well in the entrance test. Given your specialties, I now appoint Student Zhen as the magic treasures course representative of our class, and Student Gu as the spirit swords course representative. Of course, it's only if the two of you are willing... I'll fully respect your choice!" Teacher Pan stared at the both of them eagerly.

"Okay, teacher..." Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan nodded.

Since things had already come to this point, they naturally had no reason to refuse.

The truth was that as early as the entrance test, Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan had sounded out Teacher Pan... They were a little puzzled as to why such a bigwig like Wang Ling would condescend to study under Teacher Pan, a Golden Core cultivator.

They didn't realize it before.

But it now seemed they understood...

This Teacher Pan was far weaker than they were, but she had an exceptionally good eye for people.

The two of them were all-rounders on the whole: one was the keeper of cosmic order, while the other was the legend of the cultivation world on Earth; there was practically nothing that they didn't know about cultivation knowledge. However, each of them had skills which they were especially proficient in!

Swordsmanship and magic treasures were indeed their respective specialties.

To be able to suss out their specialties right away, just from the entrance test, this teacher-in-charge really wasn't simple...

At this moment, the imaginations of these two bigwigs started to run wild.

Wang Ling: "..."

“Mm. Next is the second thing: It’s about the PE classes this semester.”

When Teacher Pan said this, everyone immediately had a bad feeling.

“It’s like this, class committee members: there are twenty-two weeks in the semester and three PE lessons a week. That’s to say, there are sixty-six PE lessons in total. However, before the start of the semester, I had a serious discussion with the other teachers, and we feel that sixty-six lessons are a little too many...”

“...”

“So we’ve already consulted the PE teacher. We’ve taken thirty-three of the sixty-six lessons and divided them equally among the other teachers to give you special lessons since the coursework in the second semester of Senior Grade One is more intense. I believe that the class committee here, as the top students in class, shouldn’t have any objections, right? Super Chen, you are the sports committee member. Tell us what you think. If you have any objections, don’t be afraid to speak up! But the recommendation for this year’s District Three Values Good Student1...”

Super Chen immediately raised his hand and said, “Teacher Pan, I have no objections!”

Everyone: “...”

“Really? You can raise your complaints if you have any... I’m very open and democratic.”

Super Chen continued, “Really! As your warm cotton-padded jacket1, we as class committee members should share in the burdens our teacher bear, and become the important engine that powers unity in class!”

“Very good!” Teacher Pan nodded with a meaningful expression.

Everyone secretly and disdainfully gave Super Chen the middle finger.

“Then these two matters are sorted. If any of the other students in class ask, I can only say that it was the result of a thorough discussion within the class committee.” Teacher Pan gave a demonic smile, and everyone’s hearts trembled.

It went without saying that whether or not it was the result of a discussion, the class committee’s role... was to be the scapegoat.

Super Chen, Hero Guo, Lotus Sun, and Little Peanut now all regretted stepping forward in the beginning to run for the class committee.

Such a thankless role... If they were just a little careless, they would become the subject of talk among the other students.

“Next is the third and most important thing.”

When Teacher Pan said this, her gaze swept over the students present. “The parent-teacher conference was supposed to be held in the middle of the semester, but Headmaster Chen has decided to bring it forward given the tight study schedule. It’ll be held this week! For one thing, it’ll enable your parents to quickly understand where you’re at in preparing for the entrance exam. For another, it’ll relieve some of the stress that students will face in the future.

“This time, two main issues will be discussed at the parent-teacher conference. The first is one-on-one tutoring. Our class will later set up study pairs. Students with good grades will help students with average grades and lower.”

At that moment, Teacher Pan paused again, and her gaze finally landed on Wang Ling. “Student Wang Ling, do you know why I called you over?”

“...”

Of course Wang Ling knew why.

Because in the past six months, he had been getting perfect average scores in class...

But what Wang Ling had overlooked was that although his grades were down the middle, they were too stable!

And it was because of this “stability” that Teacher Pan felt that Wang Ling was the model representative... Perhaps she could start with Wang Ling as an example in setting up the study pairs!

Chapter 1083: Study Pairs

Wang Ling never expected that his overly stable grades would conversely draw Teacher Pan’s attention. He thought his existence in class would fade with his average grades – he never ever thought that Teacher Pan would in the end still pay attention to him.

As a pioneer teacher at No. 60 High, Teacher Pan had guided countless students toward entering key universities, and her intuition told her that Wang Ling was an extremely easy-going student. To get the average grade in class every time – Teacher Pan even felt that in some sense, Wang Ling had talent.

Since he had talent, there was a lot of room for improvement.

But in previous years, a number of the parents and students had opposed the one-on-one tutoring. The parents were against them because there were times when a boy and girl who were paired up might develop feelings for each other during the tutoring sessions, which wasn’t a good thing to happen at this critical time. The reason why the students objected to it was that the one-on-one tutoring happened after class hours and used up a lot of energy beyond what they already spent on studying.

Why couldn’t the time for the one-on-one tutoring be spent on something they were interested in?

Thus, after giving the matter ample consideration, Teacher Pan decided to first do a test run with Wang Ling. If the results were good, the sessions could slowly be implemented on a wider scale; a roster system could even be set up.

For example, if Student A helped Student B’s grades to improve, Student A’s task was done, and it would then fall to Student B to tutor Student C. Not only would students learn something this way, but in helping others, they would also consolidate their own knowledge.

So, here was the question.

Who should tutor Wang Ling in his studies?

“Is there anyone here who would be willing to tutor Student Wang Ling?”

“...” Zhenyuan and Gu Shunzhi fell silent.

Tutor?

What could they tutor Wang Ling in? Wouldn't that be like teaching your grandmother to suck eggs?

When no one responded, Teacher Pan's gaze swept over the class committee members who were present. All of them had above average grades, and it was the two new students who had the best grades.

But considering that they had just joined the school, Teacher Pan felt that getting them to help Wang Ling right away would imply that No. 60 High didn't have a great academic track record. In addition, she could tell from their conflicted expressions that they didn't seem willing to do any tutoring.

Hence, Teacher Pan made the final decision after considering the overall situation.

“Student Lotus Sun, I'll give the task of tutoring Student Wang Ling to you. Any questions?” As soon as Teacher Pan said that, everyone's eyes lit up. They looked at Lotus Sun's very red face before turning to look at the expressionless Wang Ling with extremely complicated feelings.

After the spirit sword exchange meet, all the rumors about this pair gradually subsided. Now that Teacher Pan had put them together again, it felt like a lifetime ago.

Teacher Pan naturally had her own reasons for pairing them up.

There had indeed been rumors around school before that Wang Ling and Lotus Sun were dating and that they liked each other. The issue, however, was that this news later disappeared. In the end, Teacher Pan heard that it was because Wang Ling's temperament was too cold, and so they had drifted apart.

Cold was good!

In terms of feelings, as long as one side was cold, it was impossible for anything to happen!

Hence, Teacher Pan felt that there weren't any problems with this pairing.

Wang Ling: "... To hell with no problems!

...

Shortly after the class committee meeting, the whole class found out about the one-on-one tutoring sessions. Apart from that, the thirty-three PE lessons which they had been deprived of naturally became another hot topic of discussion.

"Why didn't you fight for it?!" someone complained.

"You know what Old Pan is like – is there any use fighting?" Super Chen shrugged helplessly. His title as sports committee member had long become an empty one. They actually wouldn't even get all thirty-three lessons; the PE teachers might go off on a research trip or might fall ill collectively – these lesson periods might be snatched away for all sorts of mysterious reasons... It would be a miracle if they could get twenty PE lessons this semester.

Since the second half of Senior Grade One was already like this, it was inevitable that everyone would start worrying about their days in Grade Two and Grade Three, and they distinctly felt the pressure. Once they actually reached Grade Three, they could forget about PE classes altogether... Usually, the school would just round up the students for intensive training before the PE exam.

As for the two whom Teacher Pan had roped together, Wang Ling and Lotus Sun had their own thoughts.

When it came to feelings, Lotus Sun knew she had run into an iron plate this time... Throughout the first semester, she had racked her brain for ways to catch Wang Ling's attention, but in the end, all he ever did in class was rest his head on one hand and look out the window.

She thought at first that their relationship would progress after the spirit sword exchange meet, but who would have thought that Wang Ling truly didn't plan to date anyone.

A melon that was forcibly split open wasn't sweet; Lotus Sun of course knew this.

But no matter what, this one-on-one tutoring session was a very rare opportunity.

She felt it was time to let out what she had been hiding inside her heart for so long.

The outcome didn't matter.

On the other side, Wang Ling seemed to have something on his mind at that moment.

...

School had ended and everyone had already left the classroom. Wang Ling and Lotus Sun sat facing each other over a desk.

She was flipping through his mistakes and test papers.

After all, her main task was to help Wang Ling with his studies and improve his grades; as for personal matters, they could wait to talk about it after the tutoring.

She examined each of his mistakes very conscientiously, and in the end was utterly astonished.
"Classmate Wang Ling..."

"???"

"How are your mistakes so consistent?"

“...”

Lotus Sun checked Wang Ling's test papers from beginning to end, and discovered that a lot of the mistakes which Wang Ling made were minor ones, such as missing units, deliberately leaving out some symbols, or getting the last step in solving a question wrong... Furthermore, his answer was very close to the correct value.

All of these were actually tricks Wang Ling tended to use to keep his scores down.

If he didn't write down the units of measurement in a test paper, he could ensure that he lost ten marks for it.

There were times when he deliberately wrote the paper in a slovenly hand, and five marks or so might be taken off for it.

Wang Ling didn't care about losing these sorts of marks at all.

On the contrary, units of measurement and whatnot were nothing more than a means of keeping his scores down.

Lotus Sun then copied down several questions in an exercise book.

She didn't copy the exact questions, but changed some of the variables.

At last, she pushed the exercise book in front of Wang Ling. "Classmate Wang Ling, these are the questions you got wrong; can you do them one more time?"

Gazing at the exercise book, Wang Ling sank into silence.

Chapter 1084: A Tragedy Caused By Questions With Multiple Answers

Of course Wang Ling could do these questions, but the problem he faced now was how to make reasonable mistakes.

So, should he follow procedure or outright say that didn't know how to do it?

Wang Ling pondered.

Gazing at Wang Ling's stressed expression, Lotus Sun became even more puzzled... It was just a question which he had gotten wrong before. Did he have to be so nervous?

She failed to notice that Wang Ling didn't seem to be in a very good frame of mind, which could create huge dread during an exam. Some people became deeply suspicious when faced with a question that they had gotten wrong before; they would always wonder if they had counted wrongly, and they would repeatedly change their answers.

But in the end, it wasn't uncommon to calculate the wrong answer.

"Classmate Wang Ling, take deep breaths. There's no need to be so nervous. If you're just a little more careful, you can definitely solve it," Lotus Sun encouraged him.

Not all boys got such treatment, and sure enough, after her encouragement, Wang Ling could already detect turmoil in their surroundings...

It might look like there was only him and Lotus Sun in the classroom, but that wasn't the case. Around and even above the classroom were countless eyes and ears that were focused on them... This was what Wang Ling was finding truly troublesome.

Actually, it wasn't the extra lessons with Lotus Sun that was scary – the scariest was Lotus Sun's innate appeal to guys, which caused Wang Ling to pull a lot of aggro over.

As she encouraged Wang Ling, some of the boys who were secretly watching them already couldn't stay still with their envy.

More than ten boys were lying on the floor one level above and using the Ground Monitoring Spell to eavesdrop on the content of the tutoring session. When the sound of Lotus Sun's sweet voice

came through, one of the boys pounded the floor resentfully... and instantly created a small crack in it.

“What’s that sound?” Lotus Sun raised her head suspiciously. The level above them was empty, and there shouldn’t be anyone there.

Could it be her bodyguards?

Ever since the Shadow Stream incident, her bodyguards had basically become her shadow, and there were times when they would inadvertently make noise.

Forget it – what was more important now was to tutor Classmate Wang Ling!

Lotus Sun was full of questions, but finally, she focused her attention again on Wang Ling.

After waiting for a few minutes, and seeing that Wang Ling remained motionless, Lotus Sun sighed slightly, then closed the exercise book and put it to one side. Instead, she took out a test paper full of multiple choice questions. “Classmate Wang Ling, how about this: we’ll put aside the calculation questions first. You’re so nervous that it’s easy to make mistakes. Why don’t you do some multiple choice questions first to relax?”

Lotus Sun’s voice was very soft and gentle, and every single boy lying on the floor upstairs felt an unbearable itch in their hearts. In the end, they grew unhappy as they continued to eavesdrop.

“This despicable fellow! He has this chance and he’s still acting contrary! My goddess is speaking to him and he’s just ignoring her!”

“Yeah! If only she would say one word to me!”

These boys lying on the ground had envious looks on their faces, but very soon, they sensed that there was something wrong with the atmosphere.

Teenagers were unusually sensitive to the sour smell of someone else’s romance. Long before this, there had been a rumor that Lotus Sun and this Classmate Wang Ling had gone on a date... With this one-on-one tutoring session now, their minds were naturally filled with all kinds of thoughts.

“Wang Ling and Lotus Sun dated before... Do you think he isn’t speaking now because he’s wondering how to confess his feelings?”

“Confess?” The boys pondered this and felt that the situation wasn’t quite right. They looked nervous and broke out in a cold sweat – indeed, it was possible that a boy who didn’t speak for so long was trying to figure out the words to use in his confession.

Since these boys were from the other classes, they actually didn’t know much about Wang Ling’s personality. Back when they heard that Lotus Sun and Wang Ling were dating, they unanimously believed that it was Wang Ling who had pestered Lotus Sun into going out... It was Classmate Lotus Sun who was unable to turn him down!

“I never expected this bro to actually be so sly.” The boys were petrified as they came up with a possibility.

Then, was it possible that this Classmate Wang Ling hadn’t found an opportunity to confess on the date, and so had deliberately performed badly in the mid-term exams so that Lotus Sun would tutor him?

Beast! What a great plan!

The boys lying on the ground clenched their fists silently.

On the other side, to ease the stress of doing problems, Lotus Sun chose a multiple choice question which Wang Ling had gotten wrong before.

Hm... Of course Wang Ling knew the correct answer to this question.

It was just that he chose all Cs for the multiple choice exam questions.

Relying on multiple choice questions was also a trick Wang Ling frequently used to keep his scores down.

What Wang Ling liked to do most were the questions with more than one correct answer, since the rule was that marks would be awarded only if all the correct answers were chosen, and none if even one was wrong. This way, he didn't have to be so meticulous in making mistakes; he could deliberately choose a correct option and a wrong option, and thus answer the question incorrectly.

And now, the first question Wang Ling was faced with required him to choose all the correct answers.

[Multiple choice question with more than one answer] Question: A male and female cultivator enter the Universe Cave. The female cultivator was badly injured in a major battle. After checking her injuries, the male cultivator determined that the female cultivator has two wounds. One is an external injury caused by an Iron-Eating Beast and the other is from when the female cultivator was scratched by thorns of an unknown origin; both are poisonous. However, the female cultivator isn't dead yet. In this situation, how should the injury be dealt with?: (____)

A. Help suck out the poison from the female cultivator's wounds and wrap them after applying medicine.

B. Use the Drawing Blood Spell to drain off the poisonous blood as well as the Blood Production Spell to produce clean, new blood inside the body.

C. Use a purification magic artifact to purify the blood.

D. Dual cultivate with the female cultivator to expel the poison through the sweat glands.

Although this question looked very complicated, it was actually very easy.

Actually, Wang Ling already had his own thoughts when he looked at it.

The biggest reason why the female cultivator hadn't died yet was that the two different toxins clashed with each other.

The toxins from both the thorns and the Iron-Eating Beast were lethal, but they neutralized each other, and conversely could co-exist inside the body. If the female cultivator's wounds weren't treated, she probably wouldn't die, but the spiritual quality of her spirit root would be contaminated, resulting in her losing a great deal of her cultivation.

Option A seemed doable, but was actually fatal. Since the wounds were in two different places, sucking out one poison would instead cause the other one to seize the advantage and ultimately break the balance of the toxins inside the body.

This option could be directly crossed out.

The second option, Option B, was also incorrect.

Using the Drawing Blood Spell and the Blood Production Spell was feasible, but only in cases of mild poisoning; it couldn't be used in lethal cases. This was because it took a very long time to cast these two spells, which would be very hard for the male cultivator to accomplish on his own. The best was if there were two people: one to drain the blood and one to produce it – this was the most suitable method, which wouldn't waste time.

After A and B were crossed out, only C and D were left.

Most students would directly make a choice after reading to this point, but this was precisely the trap of questions with one or more correct answers!

In a question with one or more correct answers, there could be multiple correct answers or just one!

As for this question, Option C, which met all the conditions, was actually wrong as well!

A purification magic artifact could indeed be used to treat lethal poison, but the enemy that the two cultivators had gone up against was an Iron-Eating Beast, which devoured magic artifacts in particular! Hence, it was very likely that the magic artifacts on them were damaged! So, Option C wasn't feasible at all!

In the end, Wang Ling could only look at Option D.

“Dual cultivation...” Wang Ling murmured.

Lotus Sun immediately gave a nod. Just as she was about to congratulate Wang Ling on getting the right answer, there was suddenly a rumbling sound from above.

“Who?! Who wants to dual cultivate with Classmate Lotus Sun?! Wang Ling, you scumbag, come out and face your death!” The boys from the other classes worked together to smash through the floor and drop from the ceiling...

Chapter 1085: You Should Know Your Place

Wang Ling could of course deliberately choose the wrong options, but he knew that if he chose the correct answer, this bunch of bros wouldn't be able to help charging down through the ceiling.

And so, with the collapse of the ceiling, the one-on-one tutoring session which had just started, came to a stop.

The room was swamped with bodyguards from Huaguo Water Curtain Group and a bunch of school security guards led by Old Li as soon as they received word. The commotion had been so loud that the school guards and bodyguards thought that there had been an explosion in the classroom, and they had immediately panicked. Carried anti-explosive magic treasures, they poured into the classroom, and it was packed with people in an instant. Wang Ling and Lotus Sun were crammed together in the center of the crowd and couldn't budge an inch.

Everything only calmed down over ten minutes later.

Old Antique was still on the night shift at school and marking test papers. He chastised those boys severely for damaging school property.

“Troublemakers!” Old Antique glared at these boys from other classes.

They were Senior Grade Three students and were Wang Ling and Lotus Sun's seniors. Thus, the essence of the spells they cast was purer as well as more destructive. Although No. 60 High wasn't a city key high school at the moment, its students this time were better than previous batches.

Old Antique knew some of the boys; one of them was even a member of the student union. Now that they had committed an offense, however, Old Antique would naturally treat them all equally and strictly.

A student leader who had erred would usually receive heavier punishment.

Old Antique swept his gaze over them and deliberately lowered his voice. Honestly speaking, he wasn't used to being the bad guy. "Do you know how dangerous your behavior was... Without prior instructions from a teacher, you are forbidden to use magic in the school building. Isn't this written in the rules in the high school student handbook? Did you memorize the rule or not when you started school?!"

The school building was made from special construction materials, and it absolutely wasn't a shoddy job. As long as magic wasn't involved, it was basically impossible to damage the walls and floors of the school building. Old Antique could thus tell that these boys had most likely used some sort of trick.

A boy stepped forward. "Teacher Wang... I just gathered some power together."

"So? The Power Gathering Spell is also magic!" Old Antique glared at this quibbling student. "You! Give me a 5,000-word self-reflection by tomorrow!"

"Ah?" The boy felt a bit wronged.

"So we can't gather strength, but Classmates Wang Ling and Lotus Sun are allowed to dual cultivate?"

"You, a 10,000-word reflection!" The corners of Old Antique's mouth twitched as he stared at this student.

"Why?" The second boy refused to accept it.

"Because of your dirty thoughts! They were having an academic discussion!" Old Antique showed the boys the multiple choice question which Wang Ling had just done, and they lowered their heads.

They couldn't do anything but take the blame.

Their thinking had indeed been dirty.

“They are now in the second half of Senior Grade One; it’s very normal for them to take extra lessons after school together. As for all of you, you’re already in Senior Grade Three. Your energy should be focused on your studies!” Old Antique looked at those boys and said meaningfully, “As students, you should know your place.”

The Grade Three students: “...”

“I don’t care whether you did wrong or not. In any case, you’re at fault right now. Since you’re wrong, you have to change! As for how to change, that’s your problem! Find your own reasons...”

Bombarded with Ming’s Principle¹, these male students finally surrendered.

“Alright, teacher... we were wrong... We shouldn’t have stayed back after school and gone upstairs to eavesdrop on them...”

“Mm, quite sincere.” Old Antique nodded his head. “What spells did you use upstairs?”

“Only the Ground Monitoring Spell and the Power Gathering Spell.”

“What levels are you at with these two spells?”

“These are compulsory spells, so we usually practice them together. We’ve already proficient, and will reach level six soon.”

“Oh? The ongoing energy consumption for these two spells isn’t small. Don’t you feel tired?”

“We don’t, teacher... thank you for thinking of us. Our main task in Grade Three is to improve our endurance with each spell we use, to avoid something like failing to cast spells or create clones during an exam because we don’t have enough spirit energy.”

The leader of these Grade Three boys replied in a deferential manner. He spoke in a low voice and with a modest attitude, and thought that he could move Old Antique this way so that they could avoid being punished.

But Old Antique wasn't buying this trick. Eavesdropping on a study session was a minor issue, but damaging school property was too much. Even if they went without disciplinary punishment, they still had to write the reflection.

"Oh, if you aren't tired, then each one of you write a 20,000-word reflection. Give it to me tomorrow."

"..."

...

On the other side, Wang Ling was finally able to get away thanks to the classroom ceiling falling down. Usually in a situation like this, most people would think that they didn't need to go to school tomorrow... but the truth was that this was a very foolish and naïve notion.

The school building was made of special restorative clay. With the help of magic, the collapsed ceiling would be restored.

It was just that it was a little troublesome to clean up the classroom, but this job would naturally be given to the Grade Three boys who had broken the rules.

At that moment, Wang Ling was walking toward the school gates with his hands in his pockets. Following behind him, Lotus Sun was hesitating over the words she wanted to say.

Since no one was around, Lotus Sun felt that this might be a good chance.

"Classmate Wang Ling... I..." Finally, she opened her mouth.

In front, Wang Ling stopped and half-turned to gaze at her, his hands still in his pockets.

The girl's face was completely red, as if she was restraining herself. The words were clearly already on the tip of the tongue, but she just didn't have the courage to say them.

One reason for this had to do with her personality; she had been doted on since young, and had calmly rejected countless suitors. She never thought that there would be a day when she would understand what it felt like to be rejected.

Would she feel lost?

Or full of utter despair?

It might be both...

It was for this very reason that right at that moment, Lotus Sun felt herself being caught up in the vortex known as youth. She didn't know if this was love, but she was certain that this might be what it felt like to like someone.

Lotus Sun...

You can do it...

You have to say it!

Say it in a loud voice!

Tell the young man in front of you everything that you're feeling!

"Classmate Wang Ling!"

The girl plucked up her courage and said again, "I..."

Wang Ling: "???"

“I...”

“...”

“I... I also think crispy noodle snacks taste good!”

“Mm...” Wang Ling nodded and sighed with relief inwardly. Turning back around, he started off for home without looking back.

Lotus Sun’s heart was crushed at that moment.

She threw her bag to the ground with a “pia” sound!

Why were the words she said completely different to what was in her heart?!

Damn it!

Chapter 1086: Flowers Might Bloom Again, But A Person Will Never Be Young Again

According to general survey data in Huaxiu nation, the number of single cultivators in the country was increasing year by year. Currently, there were already more than one billion single people, and this was just for Huaxiu; when it came to the whole world, the number of single people might be even more extreme.

A more detailed investigation revealed all sorts of reasons for why they were single.

Based on poll results, the top three reasons people remained single were... 1) Addicted to staying single. 2) Unwilling to settle for second best. 3) Realms and strength weren’t compatible, so it wasn’t a good match.

The first reason, which was the one with the most votes, was actually pretty easy to explain.

Addicted to staying single.

After a person was single for a long time, they would indeed become used to the single life, and thus would develop a mental aversion to being in a relationship. This was a psychological thing, especially when a person became older and passed the adolescent age of being easily agitated – they were even less likely to be hot-blooded and impulsive about relationships. After they grew up, the social environment caused them to have complicated feelings about their younger years. Even if they decided to get into a relationship, they would still take many factors into consideration.

So rather than being bogged down by the details, they might as well not bother with a relationship...

When it came to dating, you spent a lot more, your freedom was compressed to a certain extent, and your everything would be shared with your other half.

People who weren't used to these inconveniences would rather be single. Over time, they would realize that being single was really good! This was especially true of those with failed relationships – they felt that being single was much more comfortable.

The second reason was that they were unwilling to settle for second best.

It was actually very easy to understand this reason.

After all, as long as they were bothered to maintain their physique and appearance, cultivators could look forever young. When female cultivators didn't have to worry about their looks fading with age, they were naturally even more hopeful of finding their Mr Right. The same was true of male cultivators, who felt that they could wait for something better; they believed they could find their fated person, and so were unwilling to settle for second best.

And so, both male and female cultivators would dilly-dally for longer and longer, until they finally became addicted to being single...

As for the third reason in the poll, it was in fact pretty easy to understand.

Matchmaking had been a thing since ancient times.

But in a cultivation world, matchmaking didn't simply refer to equal material things – compatible realms were also very important. According to marriage laws in the cultivation world, the gap between two cultivators couldn't be more than two different realms. For example, Golden Core cultivators couldn't date cultivators at the Body Condensation stage or above the Soul Formation stage.

This was because if the gap between realms was too large, problems might easily occur when two cultivators started dating.

For cultivators, age was no longer an issue when it came to dating. Even if it was a difference of a few hundred years, it was acceptable as long as they liked each other. However, they still had to abide by the rule about realms.

Accidents had occurred before, when cultivators who didn't listen to advice started dating despite the large realm difference.

Like the kiss of death...

There was once a case of a Soul Formation cultivator who fell in love with a Body Condensation cultivator, but because the difference in realms was so large, the Soul Formation cultivator sucked out the tongue of the Body Condensation cultivator when they kissed...

Hm...

In short, there were many reasons for remaining single.

On the way home this time, Wang Ling had mixed feelings.

Pensive, he looked up information to do with the single people survey on his cell phone.

Wang Ling had his own reasons for considering himself a very sensitive person from a young age.

It was precisely because of this that he knew what Lotus Sun's feelings were...

Unfortunately, he had actually been deprived of the right to love, based on current marriage laws.

So instead of thinking about these impossible things, Wang Ling felt that he might as well focus on the present, study hard, and do his best to find a way to completely control his power.

Flowers might bloom again, but a person would never be young again.

The truth was that Wang Ling had long anticipated that many people would confess to him when he was a teenager.

So, as early as when he was in junior high, he created a spell called Single's Curse, which he cast on himself (Note: this spell has no effect on people who are already married.).

The specific way the spell worked was also very simple: If he ran into someone who suddenly wanted to confess to him, the words she said would have nothing to do with what was in her heart at all.

Since Wang Ling had randomly come up with this spell when he was in junior high, it wasn't free of bugs.

But this was a passive spell, and Wang Ling couldn't say for sure what the bug was until the effects of the spell were demonstrated after it was cast. Just like for an electronic program, monkey coders had to constantly run tests to discover the holes and fix them bit by bit.

And Wang Ling could only go through junior high with the people around him confessing to him in order to spark the effects of Single's Curse, before he could fill in the gaps of his spell one by one.

He calculated that after he developed Single's Curse, no less than twenty people had tried to confess to him since junior high, and he had repeatedly tweaked Single's Curse twenty times.

The glaring holes in the spell had basically already been filled in, and there might still be some minor ones...

When Lotus Sun tried to confess to him just now, that was the twenty-first time that the spell Single's Curse was triggered.

Sitting in the spirit bus on the way home, Wang Ling sighed. It looked like he would have to keep an eye on Lotus Sun's reaction tomorrow.

He had already refined Single's Curse twenty times, so there should no longer be any major problems with it.

Wang Ling remembered that when Single's Curse was first developed, it had contained a massive bug: after Single's Curse was triggered, a temporary curse would be placed on the person who had confessed... It ultimately turned into an infectious curse spell, and was transmitted in a very simple way: as long as there was skin-to-skin contact, a person would be infected by Single's Curse.

Ultimately, this spell directly led to an "excellent" atmosphere in Wang Ling's junior high days prior to his graduation: in the whole junior high school, no one stated dating, and all the students studied diligently.

In the end, even the younger school teachers didn't date, and were all obsessed with their teaching jobs.

The junior high school which Wang Ling had chosen was actually very ordinary – just like his reason for choosing No. 60 High, his biggest objective was to keep a low profile.

But it was precisely because of Wang Ling's Single's Curse that everyone became obsessed with studying.

Their junior high school's ranking soared directly from the very bottom all the way to the top three in the entire city.

The year Wang Ling graduated, an exception had already been made for his junior high as it was upgraded to a key city junior high school...

Chapter 1087: Wang Ling's Observation

It was destined to be a sleepless night. Every time Single's Curse's passive effect was triggered, Wang Ling was always worried about there being new bugs.

Elsewhere, Lotus Sun, who was lying in her 50-meter large bed, was also in deep thought and regretting her confession today. She had summoned up the courage to speak up, but when she opened her mouth, it turned out to be something else.

Ah... Luckily, there had been no one around, otherwise it would have been too humiliating!

Lotus Sun buried her face in a pillow and kicked around on the bed with her long legs.

5th November was the second day of the semester at No. 60 High.

The news spread in class that several Senior Grade Three students had interrupted the one-on-on study sessions and had made a hole in the ceiling... Although the ceiling had been repaired overnight, many people were still praising them inwardly: Good job!

Wang Ling: "..."

It turned out that it was too easy to pull aggro when studying with Lotus Sun... But this clearly wouldn't stop Old Pan's plan from proceeding. Wang Ling wondered if he should raise his marks slightly instead of keeping it down to the average in the next test. This way, the one-on-on study sessions could carry on with someone else: Wang Ling could free himself from the annoyance of staying back after school for extra lessons, and give this glorious, great learning opportunity to the next unlucky fool.

It was Old Antique's history class in the morning.

After being apart over the summer break, the students had missed him.

When that familiar figure stepped into the classroom, everyone's eyes unblinkingly started to look Old Antique up and down.

"Why do I feel that Old Antique has lost some weight?"

The class silently examined Old Antique's round figure, and were astonished to discover that Old Antique seemed much thinner after the summer break.

"I heard that Old Antique did some volunteer teaching over the summer break," someone in the know finally said.

"Volunteer teaching?"

"Mm... I heard it's a very poor place. Our city will organize teachers to do volunteer teaching every year. This year, it was No. 60 High's turn, along with several other high schools in the Peiyuan district, to send teachers. Old Antique was one of them. He did it for half a month," the student said. "In addition to volunteer teaching, the school also raised funds to buy school supplies like textbooks and spirit swords for teaching which you can't find in rural areas."

When this classmate said this, everyone couldn't help sighing in their hearts. Huaxiu had always been regarded as a prosperous and powerful nation since its founding, but this development wasn't spread out evenly given the inherent geographical disadvantages of some poor areas. The motherland was prosperous, but it had to be admitted that the gap between the rich and poor still existed.

"Everyone..." Old Antique stood on the dais. After returning from his volunteer teaching, his heart was filled with mixed emotions. Half a month of volunteer teaching was very short, but it was enough for Old Antique to experience the poverty in the countryside. "I'm sure everyone knows that half a month ago, I went to West Sea village in West Sea county to do volunteer teaching."

"This volunteer teaching operation is part of a volunteer teaching campaign which the Alliance of Ten Thousand Schools launched many years ago, and it actually doesn't only run during the winter and summer holidays. Every day, schools in thriving cities will organize for their teachers to take turns to do volunteer teaching in various places. This volunteer teaching has greatly improved the level of cultivation education in our country's impoverished areas, and is also an immense help to children in these poor areas."

"It was definitely tough, right, teacher?"

"I would be lying if I said it wasn't," Old Antique replied with a wry smile. "The terrain is harsh in these areas, so the teachers who do this volunteer teaching have to be on average above the Golden

Core stage, or it could be very dangerous. Because of the highly acidic nature of the underground spiritual veins, the residents in these areas have to endure harsh conditions.”

“Can’t they move to a big city?” Super Chen asked.

“They’ve lived here for generations, and their physiques have adapted to the environment. Outsiders can’t live in this place, while residents also cannot move elsewhere as they won’t be able to easily adapt to a new environment. If volunteer teachers teach in such dangerous territory over a long period of time, it will have a huge impact on their health, which is why the volunteer teaching locations move around.”

Old Antique said, “Due to these unique geographical conditions, local residences can’t easily expand outward, while outsiders also can’t settle down and establish a commercial foothold, and the region’s economy thus falls behind over time. There are many other places like West Sea village that have this sort of harsh terrain.

“But the underground spiritual veins can’t be changed, so our country has to intervene in other ways to promote economic development in poor areas, such as launching spirit power missiles into the sky that can suppress the strong acidity to stabilize the situation for a period of time.

“Another example is to make use of the unique acidic nature of the underground veins and turn the strength of this corrosive acid into an energy source. Like in the West Sea village where I went, the villagers are very savvy at decomposing rubbish. Their houses all have a garbage chute that runs straight into the ground. Everyday household waste is thrown inside this garbage chute and is immediately and completely decomposed by the highly acidic spiritual veins... In a sense, this is also one way to protect the environment.”

“You worked hard, teacher; you lost weight...” At that moment, someone finally raised the main issue.

“Actually, the main reason why I lost weight isn’t due to the volunteer teaching... But because there weren’t any snack shops in that place! I finished all the latiao I brought with me on the first day! It wasn’t enough at all!” Old Antique cried up a storm.

Everyone: “...”

...

In this history lesson, Old Antique used the subject of his volunteer teaching to raise a very important assessment point: underground spiritual veins.

Underground spiritual veins were a special sort of energy reserve hidden in the depths of the earth. It didn't have substance, but circulated in a particular location like a flowing dragon.

Cultivators often chose the best feng shui spot for when they went into seclusion, and many relied on calculating the location of underground spiritual veins to do so.

There were large and small underground spiritual veins, and they had different attributes. The spiritual veins under big cities undoubtedly contained massive energy. This was especially true of the spiritual vein under Jinghua, the capital.

After class, Old Antique gave each student a reference list of the locations of every underground spiritual vein that had appeared throughout history. These were compulsory test points for the next monthly exam. For the exam, ten spiritual veins would be randomly selected from the hundreds on the list, and students would have to respond with which historical period these spiritual veins appeared in as well as what their attributes were before the answers could be considered correct.

After helping Old Antique hand out the reference lists and forms, Lotus Sun couldn't help but look in Wang Ling's direction.

Yesterday's confession... had in fact been a little embarrassing...

She had no idea what Wang Ling thought about it. She was going to sneak a look at him, but didn't expect to see that he was also looking at her...

Chapter 1088: Number One

When he sensed Lotus Sun's gaze, Wang Ling quickly looked away and pretended that he was taking a casual look out the window.

But in any case, he had definitely been careless just now, and hadn't completely guarded against Lotus Sun's line of sight.

Wang Ling was indeed secretly observing Lotus Sun.

He wasn't looking at Lotus Sun's face, of course, but observing her reactions. Once Single's Curse was triggered, the effects of the curse would only disappear after a full three days, meaning that if there was a spell bug, it would show up in these three days.

So Wang Ling was curious as well as concerned that a bug might appear on Lotus Sun at any moment.

...

He was apprehensive all morning, but everything was fine so far and Lotus Sun still wasn't showing any reactions.

Wang Ling sighed with relief. Maybe the bug in Single's Curse was completely fixed. After all, he had tinkered with it around twenty times already; Wang Ling felt that there shouldn't be anything wrong with it anymore.

He was probably worrying over nothing.

After the reference lists of spiritual veins were given out in the morning history lesson, Teacher Pan unexpectedly mentioned the spiritual veins once more in the Dao talisman lesson in the afternoon.

Everyone tensed up.

They didn't even have to think about it to know that anything related to the spiritual veins might be a key assessment point in the test next month.

Since the beginning of an era of spiritual qi, cultivators in various countries had discovered more and more underground spiritual veins. These spiritual veins could be divided into five levels, and those at the fifth level, which was the highest level, were also known as heavenly veins.

At present, more than one thousand heavenly veins had been detected around the world. They were scattered all over the globe, some of them even hidden at the bottom of the deep sea.

The heavenly veins in Huaxiu accounted for 20% of the total number. Thriving cities basically all sat on heavenly veins and relied on them to grow.

The heavenly veins were an important energy source for cities.

A high-level underground spiritual vein could renew itself; in other words, the underground spiritual vein could theoretically never run dry, but only if there was a balance between supply and consumption. In the current era of national cultivation, cultivators were consuming more and more of the energy from spiritual veins year by year... no matter how many spiritual veins there were, they would be overwhelmed in the long run.

“The problem which human cultivators have struggled with since time immemorial is the search for a means of sustainable development which must protect the environment at the same time.” Teacher Pan put her hands on the dais, her gaze extremely solemn. A lot of the students didn’t expect Teacher Pan’s class today to be on such a profound topic.

This topic had little to do with the Dao talisman course, but teachers-in-charge also had to consider the spiritual and moral education of their students. Therefore, Teacher Pan wouldn’t hesitate to use some of her class hours to guide students in building a foundation comprised of the correct values.

In any case, there were still a lot of PE lessons this semester.

She was bringing up the underground spiritual veins today not only because Old Antique had broached the topic in the morning, but also because a criminal gang which specialized in plundering underground spiritual veins for profit had recently emerged.

The structure of this organization was very strict, and the division of labor was clear. This was probably the most dangerous criminal gang now, following the downfall of Immortal Mansion.

“Plundering the spiritual veins is a road that leads only to death. Once you’re caught, you won’t even qualify to go to prison – you’ll be given the death penalty right away,” Teacher Pan said gravely. “If a spiritual vein is plundered dry and the power source is cut off, it’s not only a huge blow to the regional economy, but also has a severe impact on the living environment of cultivators. The most vital point, moreover, is that the barrier around every city is built on a spiritual vein. Once

an underground spiritual vein is plundered, this will affect the stability of the barrier and put the city at huge risk.”

“Teacher, do we know who the ringleader of this organization is?”

“From the joint investigation of various police departments throughout the country, the ringleader of this organization is currently the new number one figure in the Dark Network, but what we know about him at the moment is very little; we have yet to precisely determine this person’s identity and abilities, and can only make a rough guess as to what they look like. At present, this criminal suspect who plunders spiritual veins has been given the codename Number One by the police. I’m sure it won’t be long before this person is caught.”

...

Plundering spiritual veins...

It wasn’t that Wang Ling never thought that such a lunatic would appear.

But underground spiritual veins weren’t that easy to find. They were buried very deep, almost close to the earth’s core; an ordinary person wouldn’t be able to touch them at all.

At present, high-precision magic treasures were used to penetrate the earth to mine the energy of the spiritual veins. These high-precision magic treasures for gathering energy had their own independent energy bases and were heavily guarded.

Collecting the energy of underground spiritual veins was extremely dangerous work; if an energy base exploded, disaster would befall the entire city.

But this sort of situation basically wouldn’t happen, given the energy bases’ defensive measures.

This gang could actually mine underground spiritual veins with their bare hands; they definitely had their own special means.

After hearing what Teacher Pan said in class, Wang Ling also quietly thought this in his heart.

It hadn't been very peaceful recently. He had just helped Wang Nuan sort out her mess when this group of strange people popped up to mine spiritual veins.

Elsewhere, Odd Zhuo hadn't made the slightest headway in Bai Youquan's trial.

The word was that Bai Youquan was very tough, and refused to leak a single word.

His memories had been so jumbled up by Fate Dao, that even when the police forcibly plucked out his memories, they still didn't extract any useful information.

But with Bai Youquan's arrest, the black soldier army seemed to calm down recently and no longer made any drastic moves.

But that was what worried Wang Ling and Odd Zhuo the most.

It was the calm before the storm – they had already been through too much.

The lack of activity was by no means a sign of peace – it was very likely that an even bigger conspiracy was brewing in the wings.

...

When school was nearly over for the day, Wang Ling slipped into the bathroom, ready to cast a teleportation spell and leave earlier.

If he continued to remain at school for the extra lessons with Lotus Sun, who knew what other strange things might happen...

But just as Wang Ling was about to slip away, he heard a male student's voice in the hallway.

"Classmate Lotus Sun!"

Wang Ling's eyes followed the voice. Through the King's Eye, he saw a boy from the next class standing in front of Lotus Sun with an entirely red face, who seemed to have summoned up great courage.

"Is he going to confess..." Wang Ling raised his eyebrows.

This wasn't the first time Wang Ling had seen this kind of scene.

Since the start of the year, many male students had confessed to Lotus Sun one after another.

This mentality of biting the bullet with their confession while knowing that they would be rejected was beyond Wang Ling's reach.

Lotus Sun herself seemed to like being confessed to.

Just as she was about to give the boy a good guy card 1, the boy, who initially wanted to confess his feelings, suddenly roared, "Lotus Sun! I hate you! I hate you the most! I beg you, don't appear in front of me again!"

Everyone: "???"

Chapter 1089: Protect Lotus Society and Warrior Union

Wang Ling never expected that what he was most concerned about would actually happen... Plus, it happened so suddenly that it caught him off guard.

It was just that this Single's Curse bug wasn't as complicated as the previous ones.

Looking at the current situation, the bug had probably infected the next person to confess, but wasn't as widespread as the most serious infection the last time. This time, it spread in one direction — that was to say, it started with Lotus Sun, and when Student A confessed to Lotus Sun, the curse would be passed on to Student A. Then, if Student B confessed to Student A, the curse would be passed on to Student B.

Thus, after discovering what the problem caused by the curse was, Wang Ling's first response was to have a look at what this guy who had confessed looked like.

He was actually quite good-looking; he was elegant and had clean and fair skin, and was probably the type that little girls liked.

In other words, it was possible that someone else would confess to this bro...

Wang Ling couldn't help but sigh inwardly.

A confession... more like a game which members of the Appearance Society played all year round.

If this Single's Curse was attached to an ordinary-looking person, there was basically no possibility of it being passed on to others...

This bug was actually very simple; it wouldn't cause especially severe damage, and it wouldn't continue to spread as long as no one confessed to this bro in the next three days.

But Wang Ling was still cautious and silently planned to keep this brother under observation.

...

The next day, 6th November, this bro who had yelled he disliked Lotus Sun in public became an absolutely hot topic.

He was revered as a "warrior" and his name began to spread in every class.

"My god, this Xia Ming really has the nerve. Yesterday, he told Lotus Sun he hated her to her face. I guess he doesn't want to continue studying in No. 60 High."

"Hey hey hey, really? When did this happen? Why haven't I heard about it?"

“You left too quickly after school yesterday and missed the show. Classmate Lotus Sun was stunned at first, and I heard that she got so angry that her face turned red!”

“...”

Wang Ling learned that bro’s name from the discussion in class.

Xia Ming...

Of course, Wang Ling didn’t believe that Lotus Sun was narrow-minded enough to do anything to Xia Ming for his rudeness yesterday. But if Xia Ming really suffered “retaliation,” Wang Ling would still make a move.

After all, this had happened because of him, and it was his responsibility to deal with subsequent issues and the aftermath.

He would have to see how this thing developed.

Early in the morning, No. 60 High’s little gossip expert Dopey Guo arrived at school and waited for Lotus Sun to come to class to ask about the situation.

Since she was the second party involved in the incident with Xia Ming yesterday, what her classmates cared about the most was her attitude toward it.

But unfortunately, it seemed that Lotus Sun had asked for a leave of absence today – Classmate Lotus Sun, who had always been punctual, unexpectedly didn’t arrive at school on time.

“It’s over, it looks like she’s pretty angry.” Collecting everyone’s homework, Little Peanut gave a deep sigh. “Offending Classmate Lotus Sun... He might be caught by her bodyguards and thrown into the river...”

Dopey Guo was also baffled at the way things had turned out. “Can anyone tell me what Lotus Sun’s reaction was like yesterday? I left early and didn’t see it! I heard from people in the other classes that she was so angry she almost exploded?”

“She’s never been humiliated in public like that before – she definitely must have blown her top! I heard that her face was red all over and she left without saying a single word.”

“Then, what about Xia Ming?”

“Xia Ming? After he was done speaking, he passed out on the spot.”

“Passed out?” Everyone was taken aback. What kind of bizarre behavior was that?

After saying words that shook the heavens and made ghosts and gods weep, he had scared himself into passing out... This bro had talent!

“In short, neither Classmate Lotus Sun nor Classmate Xia Ming have yet to give any sort of explanation after the incident yesterday. On the other hand, Classmate Xia Ming has won a large number of supporters. Currently, our school’s Protect Lotus Society and the Warrior Union which supports Student Xia Ming are evenly-matched, and are unable to deal with each other.” Little Peanut summarized the current situation.

Protect Lotus Society and Warrior Union...

These were two student organizations which had been set up after Lotus Sun entered No. 60 High. As its name clearly suggested, the Protect Lotus Society was specially founded by a group of boys who didn’t have the guts to confess to Lotus Sun, but were willing to become her secret protectors and fans.

The Warrior Union was the complete opposite; they comprised a group of warriors who had already confessed to Lotus Sun and were rejected...

So, the main reason the Warrior Union was set up was to wreak havoc.

Any guy who had a connection with Lotus Sun would suffer retaliation.

For example, those senior boys from Wang Ling and Lotus Sun’s one-on-one tutoring session last time were members of the Warrior Union.

Their attitude was quite clear.

If they couldn't get the person they wanted, then no one else could!

At the same time, their attitude toward Lotus Sun was ambivalent: they liked her at first, and then hated her after being rejected. It was a very complicated mix of love and hate.

Yesterday, Xia Ming from the class next door had accomplished a magnificent feat which shook the heavens and made ghosts and gods weep; it instantly roused the feelings of the bunch in the Warrior Union.

If things carried on like this, Wang Ling reckoned that Xia Ming would soon become the president of the Warrior Union.

...

Xia Ming and Fang Xing were from the same class, Class Two, and no one was clearer about Xia Ming's situation than Fang Xing.

Xia Ming had been "gathering strength" for an entire semester, and had finally summoned his courage to confess to Lotus Sun – he never thought that the words he said would actually be the complete opposite of what was in his heart.

Xia Ming was crushed, and felt as if he had been bewitched.

As a result, he didn't dare speak at all, and for one moment, even thought about transferring schools.

Fang Xing saw all this.

In fact, he could almost guess the whole story.

He had come to Class Three's door several times to furtively gauge Wang Ling's reaction through the window, only to find Wang Ling as calm as usual.

How would this matter finally wrap up?

Fang Xing was curious.

He knew that Xia Ming's current condition was caused by a curse. The problem was that it was Wang Ling who had created this curse. Unless someone knew how this curse worked, no one would be able to dispel it.

Actually, it wasn't as if there was no way to dispel the curse.

Wang Ling just needed to confess to Xia Ming, and the curse would rebound off him, thus bringing this matter to an end.

But just thinking about it, there was absolutely no way that this would happen.

The words "love confession" didn't exist in Wang Ling's vocabulary.

Furthermore, Xia Ming was a boy.

Chapter 1090: Backward Confession

Although Xia Ming was revered as a warrior, he was now caught up in deep torment. He had gathered his strength for a whole semester to confess his feelings, but had dropped the ball at the critical moment... He didn't know why the words he wanted to say actually turned into that rubbish.

Xia Ming was now in a dilemma; he didn't want to be a warrior in the Warrior Union, and he still liked Lotus Sun a lot. But the Warrior Union in school now revered him as a hero; if his feelings were exposed, these people might retaliate against him...

Xia Ming was preoccupied in class the whole day, and he experienced what only Classmate Lotus Sun had ever experienced — the feeling of being in the spotlight at school.

If No. 60 High had its own list of top searches, Xia Ming would definitely be at the top, and there might even be the word “hot” next to his name.

But he had no idea when he would drop out of the list...

Xia Ming looked at Lotus Sun’s empty seat when he passed by Class Three during the break. He had heard earlier that it seemed Lotus Sun had gone crazy with anger yesterday and hadn’t come to school today.

Xie Ming hadn’t thought it was that exaggerated, but realized that it was actually true when he passed by the classroom and had a look.

Of course, he didn’t come to Class Three purely to look for Lotus Sun...

...

The sudden appearance of the man of the moment in class during the break instantly caused quite the stir around Wang Ling.

“Isn’t that Xia Ming...”

“The hero everyone’s talking about from yesterday!”

Several people in class started to make a big fuss.

“I’m really sorry about yesterday...” Xia Ming walked to the dais and bowed to everyone in class. He knew what Lotus Sun’s status was like in Class Three — basically everyone liked her. After his brain fart yesterday, when he did that outrageous thing, the entire class definitely hated him. In order not to make more enemies, he had struggled for a very long time before plucking up his courage to apologize.

And this apology immediately won applause from the students in Class Three.

Xia Ming raised his face suspiciously, and looked a little lost.

Super Chen came over and hooked one arm around Xia Ming's neck. "Bro! Honestly speaking, I was awed by your awesome move yesterday! Who taught you how to chat up girls?"

Chat up girls?

Xia Ming: "???"

"There's never been anything that could make Classmate Lotus Sun react so strongly." Super Chen laughed. "Don't worry. I've asked about it, and she isn't angry. If she really was angry, her bodyguards would already have taken care of you on your way to school."

Wang Ling: "..."

What Super Chen said was true. If Lotus Sun really was angry, she didn't need to say a single word; given Huaguo Water Curtain Group's status, it would take no time at all to arrange for a student to be transferred to another school. And now that Super Chen had opened his blessed mouth, this was more concrete proof that Lotus Sun wasn't angry.

At least, that was what Wang Ling felt.

"How can you be so sure?" Dopey Guo couldn't believe it, and for one moment, everyone in class gave Super Chen curious looks.

"It's like this: Lotus Sun has a childhood friend who's been training at my family's body technique dojo. I have her WeChat account, and I was talking to her about Classmate Sun just now. I didn't expect her childhood friend to tell me everything," said Super Chen.

"What did she say..."

"She said that after Lotus Sun returned home, her bodyguards saw her remain silent the whole time, and looked for her childhood friend to help talk to her. After talking for around two hours, her childhood friend realized that Lotus Sun didn't really seem angry." Super Chen rubbed his chin. "But she didn't tell me the details... In any case, one thing we can be somewhat sure of is that Classmate Lotus Sun seems to like Xia Ming a little. Of course, it might not be 'like'! It might just be a good impression."

Wang Ling: “???”

Xia Ming: “???”

Everyone: “???”

As soon as Super Chen said that, the whole class instantly started swearing.

In a flash, it was as if everyone seemed to understand the deal with what Xia Ming did yesterday.

As it turned out, it wasn't real dislike, but a backward confession in front of everyone!

So it was a backward confession to catch Classmate Lotus Sun's attention, to try and use a novel way of expressing one's feelings!

Everyone was dumbfounded!

It wasn't just Class Three; when the students in the corridor who had gathered to look at the hero of the hour heard this, their jaws dropped open and there were awestruck expressions on their faces.

“My god, what kind of godly operation is that?” Everyone was completely shocked.

With this unexpected twist in events, No. 60 exploded once again.

It was normally very hard for this sort of scenario to happen in real life — maybe it was only those crack authors who wrote songs every day rather than update their novels, who stopped updating for no reason yet still acted shameless about it, who would come up with such a plot.

Thus, the whole school this time knew that Lotus Sun actually liked Xia Ming...

After this twist, Xia Ming thought that the Warrior Union would retaliate against him. However, after they learned the truth, the Warrior Union bros all looked at him in worship! In an instant, Xia

Ming became No. 60 High's love guru... During the afternoon recess, people came non-stop to consult him on confessing their feelings.

"Master Xia Ming! Please teach me how to pick up girls! We can't use this technique of yours!" A boy from another class approached him, a worshipful expression on his face. "I've been chasing a girl from another school. She can't be considered very beautiful, but is the tsundere sort. Master Xia Ming, please teach me the right way to confess my feelings. How should I confess so that I won't be rejected?"

"You should be brave..." Xia Ming had no idea how to respond.

After all, he himself had gotten lucky... who on earth could have known that his backward confession would conversely cause Lotus Sun to have a good impression of him...

A second boy found him. "Master Xia! I have a big sister neighbor whom I've liked for a long time. She's very gentle, and what's more, she likes manga and cosplay! How should I make her think well of me?"

"You should be brave..." Xia Ming said.

A third boy found him. "Mr Xia Ming... Actually, I have a younger sister. Of course, my parents adopted her at an early age, and we actually aren't biologically related! I want to ask: Can I also be brave?"

"Hm... You should be brave, and then go and learn the criminal laws of our nation..." said Xia Ming.

"..."