

Little Brat's 1241

Chapter 1241 Side Story 20: I'm Allergic to Peanuts

Gu Tingyin carried her tray and obediently followed behind Shen Zhijin.

The food on the second floor of the canteen was slightly more expensive, and there were more dishes to choose from. Therefore, it was relatively quieter than the first floor.

When she saw Shen Zhijin take out a small portion of crispy meat, she quickly followed suit.

When she saw him take a small serving of vegetables, she did the same.

When she saw Shen Zhijin holding a small bowl of soup, she also put a portion on the tray.

Shen Zhijin turned around and saw that she had chosen the same dishes as him. He lifted his hand and returned all the dishes that were on her tray, one by one.

“Hey...”

Gu Tingyin quickly turned around and nervously protected her last small bowl that contained the stir-fried vegetables.

“Didn’t we agree to eat together?”

If he were to eat with just her watching, then what was the point of eating together?

This was the first meal they would be having together!

Shen Zhijin looked at her quietly and finally let her keep the dish of vegetables.

Gu Tingyin heaved a sigh of relief and happily sat opposite him with her small bowl of vegetables.

Although there were not many people on the second floor, all the people that were there were looking over at them with different expressions on their faces.

Gu Tingyin did not mind at all.

She looked at the small bowl of vegetables in front of her, feeling very happy.

“Shen Zhijin, are these all your favorite foods?”

Shen Zhijin paused, but he did not answer her question. He merely looked into her eyes and said softly, “It’s quite a distance from here to the Xijing Academy of Fine Arts.”

The smile on her face froze.

Of course, she understood what he meant.

When her eyes met his calm eyes, she actually felt a little flustered. She quickly lowered her head and took a bite of the vegetables.

“It’s... it’s alright. I think the food here is better.”

Shen Zhijin saw her hurriedly eating without even daring to raise her head. He frowned slightly and hesitated for a moment.

But it was only for a moment.

He could not do this anymore. Every time she came over, he had to stop everything that he was doing.

It did not matter if he was preparing for a meeting, reading documents, or conducting experiments.

He had always been a serious and rigorous person. He was used to arranging everything in an orderly and precise manner.

However, the moment she appeared, all his plans were disrupted.

This feeling of being frequently interrupted was very strange. He had this feeling as if something was becoming out of control.

He did not like this feeling, so he felt that the best option was to nip it in the bud, correct it, and get things back on the right track.

“What happened before was nothing much, but since you insist on thanking me, let’s consider ourselves even after this meal.”

Gu Tingyin paused.

It turned out that he had only agreed to have a meal with her just so he could say these words to her.

It turned out that he only wanted to settle this matter.

Her head was still lowered, and her voice was a little muffled because she was still chewing on some vegetables.

“It’s nothing... If it were someone else, would you have done the same?”

Shen Zhijin was stunned.

That was because he had suddenly realized that there were no ‘ifs’ to him.

He had never even considered the possibility that Gu Tingyin could be replaced by someone else.

However, this moment of silence seemed to be a silent admission to Gu Tingyin.

Her chest felt as if it was being blocked by something, and it was so suffocating that even breathing became difficult.

She suddenly put down her chopsticks and said in a voice that was neither soft nor heavy.

Shen Zhijin frowned slightly.

Had he gone too far with his words just now?

He saw that Gu Tingyin's brows had become furrowed. Her thick and curly eyelashes were quivering slightly, and she became a little short of breath.

Did she seem to be crying?

Shen Zhijin's hands clenched slightly. For some reason, he felt as if his heart was being tugged hard by something.

"You..."

He had just started to think about how to continue the conversation when he suddenly saw Gu Tingyin raise her head.

Her porcelain-white face was flushed red, but her lips were pale. She pressed her chest with one hand and gasped for breath.

Shen Zhijin immediately sensed that something was wrong.

“What’s the matter?”

Gu Tingyin was in extreme pain, and her eyes were already filled with tears. She breathed with difficulty and said in a hoarse voice, “Peanut oil... in the dish... I’m... I’m allergic to peanuts.”

Shen Zhijin’s heart suddenly sank.

Gu Tingyin was seriously allergic to peanuts and had even been sent to the hospital for emergency treatment when she was young.

Ever since then, no food related to peanuts had ever been served on the Gu family’s dining table again.

Even the whole family was not allowed to have anything that even resembled a peanut.

As time passed, she had not paid much attention to this matter.

As a result, she had forgotten to ask the servers what oil had been used in their cooking when they came to the second floor for dinner today!

Her face and neck also began to itch.

She could not help but grab it, but before she could touch it, she found her wrist being grabbed by someone.

She did not know when Shen Zhijin had come to her side and was now holding her hand.

She looked up with tears in her eyes. She had difficulty breathing and felt weak all over.

“Shen Zhijin...”

In the next moment, she felt her body suddenly rise into the air, and her entire person fell into a firm and cool embrace.

His cold voice landed on her eardrums and her heart.

“I’ll take you to the hospital.”

...

“Fortunately, she was sent here in time. The patient’s condition has stabilized, but she still needs to be hospitalized for a day.”

The doctor raised his finger and pointed.

“Let’s go downstairs to complete the formalities.”

Shen Zhijin heaved a sigh of relief.

“Thank you, Doctor.”

Subconsciously, he glanced at the ward.

The door was closed so no one could be seen.

The doctor could not help but reprimand him.

“Young man, it’s not that I want to criticize you, but your girlfriend is seriously allergic to peanuts. Why didn’t you take care of her? This time, the young girl has suffered a lot!”

Shen Zhijin pursed his lips slightly.

“I’m sorry...”

“Why are you saying sorry to me? You should tell that to your girlfriend!”

The doctor shook his head.

“Hurry up and go!”

Shen Zhijin nodded. Just as he turned around, the doctor called out to him again.

“By the way, you should buy some fruits with high vitamin C content. They can help with the patient’s recovery.”

He responded affirmatively.

...

When Shen Zhijin returned to the ward, he spotted Gu Tingyin lying on the hospital bed. She was holding a small mirror in her hand and looking left and right.

She sighed with a worried expression on her face.

Sigh.

She had gotten quite a severe allergic reaction so there were red spots on her face and body.

Although she had recovered now, he must have seen everything earlier.

The sound of footsteps came from behind.

“Do you feel better?”

Out of reflex, she quickly hid the small mirror and lifted the blanket to cover herself.

Shen Zhijin was speechless.

He placed the items in his hands on the small cabinet.

She seemed to be much better, but he still did not dare to let his guard down when he thought of the way she looked when she had become ill.

“The doctor said that you need to stay in the hospital for observation for a day. I’ll help you apply for leave from your counselor later, you...”

“What!”

Gu Tingyin popped out from under the blanket with her eyes wide open.

Shen Zhijin thought that it was because she was afraid of being alone. He paused and said, “I’ll be here with you.”

Gu Tingyin quickly shook her head and grabbed his hand.

“No! I’m saying, if you’re going to help me apply for leave, please don’t say that it’s because I’m allergic to peanuts!”

Shen Zhijin's eyes drooped slightly. He looked at the soft and fair hand that was gripping him tightly. He did not know why, but he felt the same hot feeling on his arm again.

He turned his head slightly, but ultimately, he did not break free. He only asked, "Why?"

Why?

Gu Tingyin was on the verge of tears.

If news of this matter were to spread to her family, the whole family might come over to demand for blood!

After all, she had only been in school for half a month!

"I... I'm afraid that my family will be worried. Um, why don't you just tell them that I've caught a cold or a fever? Just don't say that I had an allergic reaction!"

Shen Zhijin was silent for a moment.

None of these explanations seemed to be able to explain reasonably why he had carried her out of the cafeteria.

Gu Tingyin grabbed his hand tightly and pleaded, "Is that alright?"

He finally replied in a low voice, "Alright."

Gu Tingyin heaved a long sigh of relief. She let go of his hand and lay back down.

"Phew... That's good, that's good..."

When the soft touch of her hand left him, he suddenly felt an emptiness in his heart.

However, he only felt this emotion fleetingly and he looked at her face.

She was already looking much better...

When Gu Tingyin's eyes met his gaze, she suddenly exclaimed and she lifted the blanket to cover herself again.

Shen Zhijin stayed silent.

"I bought you some fruits, would you like some?"

The blanket shook as if she was shaking her head and her voice was muffled as she replied.

"I'm not going to eat."

"Won't you feel stuffy like this?"

"It's not stuffy! I feel very good!"

"..."

No matter how Shen Zhijin tried to persuade her, she refused to come out from under the blanket.

However, she had just finished the anti-allergy treatment. How could she continue to remain cooped up in the blanket?

"Come out."

"I won't! I've fallen asleep!"

Shen Zhijin's patience ran out.

He grabbed the blanket with one hand.

She tried her best to pull it back, but she could not win against him. In the end, he managed to unearth her from the blanket.

She covered her face.

"You're not allowed to look!"

Shen Zhijin finally understood what she was worried about, causing him to feel both angry and amused at the same time.

"You're already fine," he said.

Gu Tingyin looked at him through the gaps between her fingers, half-believing yet half-doubting him.

"Really?"

"It's true." Shen Zhijin paused for a moment. "Didn't you already look in the mirror just now?"

Gu Tingyin's face instantly flushed red.

No, there was nothing more embarrassing than this...

She stuttered, “T-That mirror is too small! There are so many things I couldn’t see!”

Shen Zhijin gave her another once-over.

“I’m really fine.”

Gu Tingyin finally calmed down a little, but she was still afraid that he was just trying to comfort her.

She thought for a moment, turned to her side, and brushed her waist-length hair to one side. Then, she tilted her head slightly, pulled down her collar, and pointed to the back of her neck.

“T-then there’s nothing else here? I’m still feeling a little itchy.”

Her actions had been so sudden that the delicate fair skin that appeared before his eyes caught him off guard.

Shen Zhijin’s heart skipped a beat. Without thinking, he pulled the curtain by the bed, blocking the view of the two patients and the patient behind him.

Gu Tingyin heard the sound and looked at him strangely.

“Why— Hey, Shen Zhijin, are you feeling very hot?”

He looked away, but the image of what he had just seen was still deeply imprinted in his mind.

His Adam’s apple moved.

“No, I’m not.”

She saw the red tips of his ears and thought for a moment. Finally, she looked at the oranges that were on the bed.

"Is it because you helped me buy this?"

Shen Zhijin suddenly heaved a sigh of relief.

"Yes."

Gu Tingyin laughed.

"Thank you! Although I like peaches the most, oranges are also..."

"I'll buy it for you."

"Huh?"

Gu Tingyin was at a loss.

"T-that's too much trouble..."

"It's no trouble at all."

Without waiting for her to persuade him further, he turned around and walked out.

For some reason, the young man's tall, straight figure seemed to look a little embarrassed.

"Wait a moment!"

Gu Tingyin called out to him again.

He stopped in his tracks and turned his head slightly.

“What’s wrong?”

Gu Tingyin said nervously, “You... just said that you’d be staying here today, right? Then, you should come back soon.”

She was really uncomfortable being here alone.

Shen Zhijin paused for a moment and agreed in a low voice.

“Alright,” he said.

Chapter 1242 Side Story 21: How Could You Woo Someone Like This?

The night was dark and the moon hung high in the sky.

It was very quiet in the ward, with only the occasional whisper heard.

“Shen Zhijin, I’d like to eat some peaches.”

He got up to wash the peaches.

“Shen Zhijin, I’d like to drink some water.”

He went to the hot water room to fetch some water.

“Shen Zhijin, have I really recovered?”

He finally looked at her.

“Yes.”

As Gu Tingyin lay on the hospital bed, she did not feel much comfort from this answer and sighed with a heavy heart.

This was the first time the two of them had had a meal together, and she had been sent to the hospital because of a peanut allergy. Could there be a situation worse than this?

He did not seem to have eaten much.

“Are you hungry?”

Shen Zhijin shook his head.

Her allergic reaction had been really serious and he had not cared about anything else at that time. Now that she was feeling better, it was past mealtime and he was probably so hungry that he had become numb and no longer felt anything.

Gu Tingyin took a bite of the peach.

‘By the way, Shen Zhijin, what kind of fruit do you like to eat the most?’

Shen Zhijin looked at her slightly puffed-up cheeks and paused.

“Mango.”

“Thank God I’m not allergic to mangoes!”

Her eyes were bright and there was a little sense of pride in them.

He did not know why she was so happy over such a small matter.

“Ah!”

She suddenly thought of something and sat up straighter. She looked at him expectantly.

“Shen Zhijin! My birthday is in three months!”

Shen Zhijin was at a loss for words.

She leaned forward.

“Shen Zhijin, what kind of cake flavor do you like? ”

She was asking him about her birthday.

Before Shen Zhijin could answer, she started to ponder.

“Since you like mango, how about ordering mango?”

It seemed like she had already decided to spend the rest of her life with him.

Click.

The patient next to her turned off the light, and the entire room became dark.

Shen Zhijin lowered his voice.

“Go to sleep.”

It was already very late, and she had only just finished her treatment, so she should have rested long ago.

However, she was still full of energy and did not seem to have any intention of sleeping.

Gu Tingyin blinked and obediently lay back down under his clear and calm gaze. She was a little embarrassed.

“Oh.”

She pulled up the blanket, leaving only her small face exposed. Her long black hair spread out messily over her pillow.

Finally, it was quiet.

There was a shortage of beds in the ward, and they had come here in an emergency. Shen Zhijin had to accompany her at her bedside but there was only a stool available.

He was like a planet with a fixed orbit, moving along his own orbit from the beginning to the end without making a single mistake.

Even at this moment, as he was sitting by her bed, his shoulders were still straight and his face was calm.

The cold moonlight streamed in through the window, outlining his elegant side profile.

After a while, he heard her call out to him softly.

“Shen Zhijin.”

He turned his head to look at her and saw her open her mouth to say something.

But her voice was too soft, so he could not hear her clearly.

He was afraid of disturbing the other people in the ward, so he leaned over slightly and moved closer.

“What did you say?”

In the next moment, her sweet and soft voice entered his ears clearly.

“Shen Zhijin, you’re so good-looking.”

He was so close that he could even feel her warm breath and the sweet fragrance of her body.

Every word and sentence was so clear.

His heart stopped for a moment, and he looked at her subconsciously.

She pulled up the blanket, leaving only the upper half of her red face left in view. Her dark and lustrous almond-shaped eyes were clear and bright, as if they had just been washed.

He had seen countless stars in the night sky, but none of them were brighter than her eyes at this moment.

He heard the sound of his heart falling.

It was as if a shooting star was falling toward him, rushing into his orbit without hesitation.

Her eyes were burning. He pursed his lips and turned his head to avoid her gaze.

But even after a while, she still seemed to be looking at him.

The burning sensation was so vivid that he seemed to be able to see it with his own eyes.

He finally looked at her again and spoke to her with a hint of warning in his eyes.

“Are you sleeping or not?”

She shook her head defiantly.

Shen Zhijin’s eyebrows furrowed slightly.

But before she could say anything, she mumbled again, “We’re even now, so I won’t have a chance to see you again in the future. So of course, I have to take advantage of today to look at you more.”

Shen Zhijin was at a loss for words. He had never thought that she would still be brooding over this matter while lying in bed.

She always seemed to be confident and logical, and could even twist any logic into the truth.

It felt like a long time had passed, but it also felt like an instant.

He finally spoke, “I didn’t eat that meal.”

Her eyes that were revealed by the blanket curved up in a smile, looking smug and cunning.

"I know."

...

The scene of Shen Zhijin carrying Gu Tingyin out of the cafeteria to the hospital had been witnessed by many people, and it immediately caused a huge uproar at Xijing University.

Both of them were influential figures in the school. The slightest movement from them would easily attract attention, not to mention this kind of situation.

Everyone was waiting for the follow-up development to the incident, but to their surprise, there was nothing.

That was because Shen Zhijin flew to Bai City the next day.

Although he had followed his mentor back to China to continue his Ph.D., he was still in charge of many things when Fino Laboratory established its branch in the Capital, so he often had to travel between Bai City and the Capital.

This time, he was gone for two weeks.

If the people involved in this matter did not show themselves, how could this matter develop any further?

No, there were still some.

The Xijing University Astronomy Society

Today was their first meeting after the club had recruited new student members so the entire classroom was full.

President Wei Cheng looked around and clicked his tongue.

Look.

Whenever new students entered the school, there would be a large battle. The other clubs would come up with various tricks to attract new students, but the Astronomy Society did not need to fight for them. There were countless juniors fighting to get in.

There was no other reason for it. It was Shen Zhijin.

He had studied in the Department of Astronomy as an undergraduate, and now his scientific research direction was in astrophysics. Naturally, the Astronomy Society was in high demand.

Although Shen Zhijin had never actually joined their club, the founder of the club, Xu Zhe, was now a boss in the same laboratory as Shen Zhijin.

When this reputation had been known, it was better than any publicity and ensured an easy win for them.

Although Xu Zhe had already retired, this was the club that he had founded. He would still help out from time to time, such as by coming over to give a public lecture.

Other than himself, he would also invite teachers or students from related majors.

Shen Zhijin had been in Bai City for the past year. This year, he had finally returned to Xijing University. Everyone felt that there was a chance that he would be invited to give a lecture or something.

Although the hope was slim, one could always dream, right?

Of course, there was another reason besides Shen Zhijin.

Wei Cheng looked at the girl sitting in the corner of the last row and said, "Gu Tingyin, we'll leave the stargazing event organized by our club this time to you. You'll be in charge of pulling in sponsorships, alright?"

Gu Tingyin nodded.

"No problem," she said.

She was a new member.

Although she knew nothing about Physics and Astronomy and had not answered a single question correctly during the interview, she was beautiful.

In the end, she had been assigned to the public relations department.

Wei Cheng nodded in satisfaction.

"Alright. The time has been set for this Saturday and the location will be at Yun Hill. Everyone is to make their own preparations. Does anyone have any other questions?"

A pretty girl raised her hand.

"President, will Senior Shen be attending this stargazing event?"

As soon as he finished speaking, many people cheered in unison, and some even looked in Gu Tingyin's direction.

Wei Cheng laughed.

“What are you thinking? How can such a small event attract that god?”

Many girls sighed in unison, their eyes filled with disappointment.

Wei Cheng continued, “Stop sighing. There are still tasks that need to be completed for the stargazing event this time. If you don’t pass the assessment, don’t blame me for being impolite.”

Although their society stated that anyone who was interested in astronomy could join, they actually had certain professional requirements.

Just like how the members of the roller-skating club had to learn roller-skating, and the members in the photography club had to learn photography.

After joining the Astronomy Society, of course, one would have to learn the relevant content.

As soon as this was said, more people turned their gazes to Gu Tingyin.

Everyone knew that she had come back from abroad to study at the Xijing Academy of Fine Arts, and she had no foundation in Science and Engineering.

This assessment would be a disaster for her.

But...

“There are some people here that will be fine even if they can’t pass, right?”

“I think so too. Isn’t it publicly acknowledged that beauty can be an asset?”

“Stop talking. After all, they’re not here for astronomy, are they?”

"I heard that she went to Senior Shen's class before but was rejected by him and told not to go there again. In the end, she went to the cafeteria to intercept him and even caused Senior Shen to go to the hospital... All just to chase after him. How can someone do that?"

A few girls had gathered together and were whispering among themselves.

Gu Tingyin was beautiful, lively, and generous. There were so many people who had pursued Shen Zhijin, but all of them had hit a wall and returned in defeat.

She was the only one who had ever had physical contact with Shen Zhijin.

Although... that had been because he had to send her to the hospital.

However, this had still aroused the envy of many.

In addition, she had managed to join the Astronomy Society because of her pretty face, so everyone had formed even more opinions about her.

Their voices were not loud, but Gu Tingyin could vaguely hear them.

She glanced over at them indifferently.

They did not know why, but when their eyes met her calm and dark eyes, their hearts trembled slightly and they subconsciously closed their mouths.

Although she did not have the usual temperament of a young rich miss, it was obvious that she was not really naive and ignorant.

On the contrary, she carried herself with a noble air and imposing manner.

It was just that she usually did not behave like this.

A girl beside her could not stand it and whispered, “Junior, you’ve only just joined and don’t know much about our club. Stargazing requires equipment that we will have to borrow. We also need to prepare tents for the overnight stay on Yun Hill. The cost is huge. Plus, our club is relatively small, so it won’t be easy to get sponsorships—”

Gu Tingyin was deep in thought.

“Oh, is anything else that is needed?”

The girl choked.

What kind of question was that?

“There, there should be no more...”

Gu Tingyin nodded and smiled at her.

“Okay, I got it. Thank you, Senior!”

After she finished speaking, she glanced at her watch again.

Shen Zhijin’s flight should have already landed at the airport.

...

The Capital airport.

Shen Zhijin and his mentor left through the exit together.

“Are you going back to school?”

Shen Zhijin nodded.

“Yes.”

The instructor suddenly turned to look at him.

“Zhijin, I heard that you’ve been wooing a girl from your school recently?”

Shen Zhijin stopped in his tracks.

His mentor slowly smiled.

“The first time, you were late because of her. The second time you sent her back to her dormitory, and the third time you stayed out all night at the hospital for her.

Zhijin, how could you woo someone like this? ”

Chapter 1243 Side Story 22: Gu Tingyin!

When Shen Zhijin returned to the laboratory, the group of people there was very surprised to see him.

“Senior Brother, did you come back here as soon as you got off the plane?”

“We thought you would go home first today!”

“That’s right. Two weeks on a business trip is quite long. You still have to get used to the jet lag.”

Shen Zhijin put down the stack of documents in his hands with an indifferent expression on his face.

“I’ll go home after I’m done with this.”

Xu Zhe walked over and could not help but ask, “Boss, please give us a chance to live, okay?”

This prodigy was still so hardworking. Did he have a death wish or something?

Shen Zhijin said, “Give me the observation data from the past two weeks.”

“Wow.”

Shen Zhijin flipped through the experimental records before glancing at Kong Wenhan and the others.

The others were terrified.

What was going on? They had been really honest recently! They had not made any mistakes!

Finally, Kong Wenhan suddenly realized something. He leaned over, lowered his voice, and vowed, “Senior Brother, don’t worry. In the two weeks that you were away, we didn’t even... ahem... have a meal with Junior Sister Gu!”

Shen Zhijin lifted his eyelids slightly. No emotions could be seen in his calm eyes.

Kong Wenhan was excited, ‘Sure enough, my guess was right! This was what Brother Zhijin was concerned about!’

He said firmly, “It’s true! She hasn’t even been here once!”

She had not come at all. She had not even come to eat, much less see her!

As soon as Kong Wenhan finished speaking, he suddenly felt the surrounding temperature drop.

Shen Zhijin looked at him.

“Not even once?”

“Not even once!”

He had rejected her right to her face and she had ended up in the hospital just because of a meal. His senior brother was so heartless and only focused on scientific research. Which girl could stand it?

Shen Zhijin did not say anything.

She had been discharged from the hospital the next morning, and he left after sending her back to her dormitory.

At that time, she had even asked him why he was so busy, and he had told her that he needed to go to Bai City that afternoon.

Of course, she also knew that he would be coming back today.

Shen Zhijin said, “Give me the summary of the previous research papers by tomorrow.”

Kong Wenhan was speechless.

“Senior Brother, this... this is too sudden. Didn’t you say that it would be fine as long as it’s handed in before Friday?”

Shen Zhijin said, “I thought you were quite free recently.”

“ ... ”

“What’s the matter? Is there a problem?”

“No, I promise to complete the task!” Kong Wenhan insisted as he held back his tears.

“Hey, why did I hear that Junior Sister Gu is here today?” Xu Zhe suddenly said.

Kong Wenhan was shocked, “Impossible! How could we not know that she was coming?”

With that face, it was impossible for there to be no news if she had been to the physics department’s territory!

Shen Zhijin also turned his head and looked over.

Xu Zhe said, “Oh, that’s right, she’s here in the area, but not here exactly. She’s at the Astronomy Society meeting. When I met Wei Cheng at noon, he said that this year’s recruitment finally had a higher proportion of boys than girls.”

In the past, Shen Zhijin had been the target of the people who joined. This time, it was obviously because of Gu Tingyin.

After all, Shen Zhijin might not go, but Gu Tingyin had officially become a member of the Astronomy Society. How could their appeal be the same?

Everyone was silent.

Shen Zhijin closed the documents in his hands.

...

In the library.

Shen Zhijin handed the book over.

The teacher in charge of filing the files smiled and said, "So, you're back from Bai City? According to your usual habit of borrowing books, I was just thinking that you would have returned the books two weeks ago. It's a good thing it's not overdue."

Shen Zhijin gently nodded.

Actually, he had planned to return the book that day, but Gu Tingyin had had an allergic reaction. He had ended up staying in the hospital for the whole day, so the matter had been put aside.

"This time, you're borrowing these two books, right?"

The teacher flipped through the book in his hand as he prepared to register it.

He was about to nod when he suddenly heard two unfamiliar male voices coming from behind.

"Was that really Gu Tingyin sitting by the window just now?"

"It's her! She's so pretty, who else could it be?"

"When I heard them say that she was pretty, I was wondering just how pretty she could be. Tsk, my face hurts! Hey, then what book is she reading? Did you see it? Why don't we go and ask?"

"Don't. Isn't she pursuing Senior Shen?"

“That’s true, but Senior Shen doesn’t like her. I heard that he even rejected her face-to-face. Since they’re not together, there should be no problem for others to pursue her.”

The two boys were so engrossed in their conversation that they did not see the person involved standing not far in front of them.

Shen Zhijin suddenly said, “Teacher Zhang, I suddenly remembered that I forgot to take a book.”

Teacher Zhang waved his hand.

“Alright, you go then.”

...

The books that were kept on the sixth floor of the library basically belonged to the natural science category.

Cosmic astrophysics accounted for a considerable proportion of this.

Shen Zhijin was most familiar with this place.

So, he quickly saw the girl sitting by the window.

The long wooden tables were arranged neatly. She had chosen a remote corner and sat there lazily as she read a book with her head lowered.

The afternoon sun shone on her face, and even her waist-length hair seemed to glow with a light gold aura.

She was holding a pen in her hand and seemed to be taking notes, looking very serious.

Usually, there were not many people here, but today, it was obviously much more lively.

Most of the people there were boys, and they turned to look at her from time to time.

Finally, a boy walked over with a book in his arms to ask if the seat beside her was occupied.

The seats in the library were all public. She looked up and shook her head.

The boy was overjoyed and immediately wanted to take a seat.

However, just then, Gu Tingyin's eyes suddenly lit up and she stood up.

The boy was stunned for a moment and turned around.

It was Shen Zhijin.

In the next second, Gu Tingyin quickly walked over.

"Shen Zhijin, why are you at the library?"

She spoke in a soft voice as she came to stand in front of him, but her face was full of unconcealed surprise.

"I thought you would have gone home first since you're back today!"

Shen Zhijin said simply, "I came here to return a book."

"Oh, I see!"

Gu Tingyin saw that he was indeed holding a book in his hand.

She felt that they were simply too fated to meet on the first day of his return!

“T-then ...”

She racked her brains, not wanting to part with him just like that.

“I’m currently reading “The New Solar System”. I don’t understand some parts of it. Could you help me take a look?”

Shen Zhijin’s gaze fell on her table.

Other than that book, there was also a notebook, and she seemed to be studying very diligently.

He nodded his head.

Overjoyed, Gu Tingyin turned to look at the boy.

“Student, I’m sorry, but this seat has already been taken!”

“ ... ”

Although the boy was reluctant to leave, there was no reason for him to stay since this was what she had already said.

Gu Tingyin tugged at his sleeve lightly.

“Quickly, sit down!”

Thus, under the watchful eyes of countless people, Gu Tingyin pulled Shen Zhijin to the seat next to her.

The sound of hearts breaking could be heard all around.

...

“Shen Zhijin, look at this. I don’t really understand the part about the change in Venus’s position...”

Gu Tingyin pushed the book over and pointed at a section.

Shen Zhijin furrowed his brows.

This was the English version of the original work. Of course, this was not the main point. Gu Tingyin had come back from abroad, so she had no problem reading this.

The key was that there were a lot of technical terms in the book, and it also involved many astrophysics concepts.

She did not have any foundation in this subject, so it was no wonder that she could not understand it.

“This book isn’t suitable for you to read now. Change to another one.”

He said.

In addition to these professional books, there were also many general science books in the library. She would probably be better off reading those.

But to Gu Tingyin, there was something wrong with his words.

Her eyes widened slightly.

“Shen Zhijin, so even you think that I can’t understand these things?”

Shen Zhijin was at a loss for words.

Was there even a need to think about it?

He looked into her eyes and said in a calm voice, “Then tell me, what’s the main difference between Venus’s change in position and the moon’s?”

Gu Tingyin did not know the answer.

Her earlier arrogance instantly subsided.

She rubbed her fair fingers against the book and said in a very subdued voice, “I... I’m going to Yun Hill to observe the stars... I have to be prepared, don’t I?”

Shen Zhijin had not known about this yet.

“The Astronomy Society?”

“How did you know?” Gu Tingyin looked up in surprise.

“Well, this month is suitable for stargazing. Are you guys going to see Venus conjoining the moon?”

Shen Zhijin did not pay much attention to such activities that were more inclined to ordinary astronomy enthusiasts, but it was not difficult to guess.

Gu Tingyin did not doubt him and only nodded excitedly.

“Yeah! It’s that one! I’m afraid I won’t be able to find it even if I look for a long time...”

She really did not know much about this aspect. A novice like her going stargazing without anyone’s guidance would be no different from simply gazing at the stars.

Shen Zhijin paused.

Gu Tingyin handed her notebook over to show her sincerity.

“You see! I even took notes!”

Shen Zhijin’s gaze fell on it and he suddenly froze.

Seeing that he was looking a little awkward, Gu Tingyin found it strange.

“What’s wrong? What’s wrong with my notes—”

She followed his gaze and her voice stopped abruptly.

The handwriting on the notebook was very beautiful. Even without looking at the contents, just a glance was very pleasing to the eye.

The premise was that there was an “illustration” in the lower right corner.

There was a little girl in a long dress who was running, her long hair fluttering in the wind, and her skirt fluttering behind her.

She was carrying a plane in her left hand and a little boy in a white shirt under her right arm.

“...”

“...”

Gu Tingyin's hand silently withdrew from the book to hide under the table.

If she could, she herself would have disappeared too!

She had not been able to understand the book. It had been so boring that she had just drawn a few lines and imagined herself hijacking the plane, before carrying Shen Zhijin off and running away.

Who would have known that he would see it?!

After a long time, Shen Zhijin asked, “Do you still want to read this book?”

Gu Tingyin did not even dare to raise her head.

“No, I’m not going to read it!”

He said, “Then I’ll put it back.”

With that, he stood up.

Gu Tingyin tried to change the topic and asked, “By the way, the stargazing event is this Saturday. Will you be going?”

She could not understand the books, but there was still the assessment to deal with. Surely, it would be easier with his help, right?

Shen Zhijin paused for a moment.

“I have an experiment to conduct on that day.”

“Oh... okay.”

Gu Tingyin laid her head on the table and turned her head away from him.

Yes, that was true. He was very busy.

However, he had already seen that drawing anyway. She had embarrassed herself so much, yet he was not even willing to help her with this!

The sound of footsteps gradually faded away.

After a while, Shen Zhijin returned and saw Gu Tingyin sitting up straight. She asked very seriously, “I’ve thought it through. I really didn’t have any foundation before, so it’s not very appropriate for me to suddenly look at these things. However, it should still be possible to do a crash course! Can you teach me how to find what I want to see the fastest way?”

This was a little abstract. Shen Zhijin thought about it and prepared to draw a star map for her so that she could learn how to recognize it.

He flipped to a page of his notes.

“Venus conjoining the moon is actually very beautiful, you...”

The pen did not fall.

That was because, on the second page, there was also an additional drawing.

She must have just drawn it.

The little girl had thrown the plane away, grabbed the collar of the little boy who refused to help, and dragged him into a small dark room, as if she was about to ravage him.

“...”

“...”

Gu Tingyin was completely numb.

She had felt so embarrassed and angry for a moment that she had deliberately vented her anger. Who would have known that Shen Zhijin would come over and flip a page to help her draw the star map?

If she could still defend herself with the previous painting, saying that she had drawn it out of boredom, what about this one?

Gu Tingyin's head was almost buried under the table.

The air was still, as if it had completely frozen over.

After what seemed like an eternity, Shen Zhijin finally put down the pen.

It was an extremely soft sound, but it seemed like thunder to Gu Tingyin's ears.

She looked up pitifully.

“T-that Yingluo, I can explain...”

Shen Zhijin's expression was exceptionally calm, as if he was saying, 'Then, please explain. I'm listening.'

"..."

Gu Tingyin instantly felt like she had nothing left to live for after being stared at in that manner.

She felt that it was useless to say anything now.

In the end, after a difficult mental struggle, she finally forced out a sentence.

"... Can you still give me a crash course?"

Shen Zhijin closed his eyes.

"Gu Tingyin!"

Chapter 1244 Side Story 23: I'll Help You

Saturday, Physics Laboratory.

Shen Zhijin was finishing up some data processing.

Xu Zhe glanced at him as he passed by. He was surprised.

"Eh, Zhijin, didn't you plan on doing this in the afternoon? Why are you finishing it now?"

Shen Zhijin said, "It's convenient."

"..."

Xu Zhe swallowed back the vulgarities he was about to blurt out.

There was no reason to ask the boss this kind of question!

“I’ll send it to you when I’m done. If there’s no problem, you can start your experiment today.”

Shen Zhijin continued.

They were in the same research group, and although their research directions were different, they had many things in common.

As Shen Zhijin was also in charge of the Fino Laboratory, he was practically the equivalent of being a mentor here.

His progress greatly affected the rest, including Xu Zhe.

“Ahh...”

Xu Zhe, who had originally made plans to go out during the weekend, could not help but curse.

Knock, knock.

“Senior Xu Zhe?”

Wei Cheng carefully knocked on the door.

Xu Zhe turned around and asked curiously, “Wei Cheng? What are you doing here?”

He was only in his third year of University this year, so he did not usually come here.

“Is there something you need me for? Come in!”

Wei Cheng nodded and walked in. He accidentally spotted Shen Zhijin, who was processing data next to Xu Zhe, and could not help but feel nervous.

This was the first time he was in such near proximity to the great prodigy!

However, Shen Zhijin was busy and did not seem to notice him.

Wei Cheng was a little disappointed, but he did not forget the purpose of his visit.

“Senior Xu Zhe, our club has arranged an activity to go to Yun Hill to observe the stars tonight.”

Xu Zhe laughed. “That’s good. The weather is good today. It’s just right.”

Wei Cheng’s expression was conflicted.

“There’s a small problem... Senior, could you come with us?”

Xu Zhe sighed softly.

“I’d like to, but I don’t think it’s possible. There’s still an unfinished task here. I’ll probably have to stay up quite late.”

It was all thanks to a certain someone.

Seeing Wei Cheng’s odd expression, Xu Zhe asked, “What’s the problem? Is it because you lack equipment?”

It was much easier for him to borrow some high-end equipment than it was for Wei Cheng and the others.

Wei Cheng said, “No, it’s the opposite. It’s because the equipment this time is too good—”

Thinking of the pile of equipment that exuded the aura of money, Wei Cheng almost cried.

“Gu Tingyin went to look for sponsors, which ended up in Complex Star sending ten astronomy telescopes over. As for the models, let me put it this way. Senior, there’s a theodolite on it that I wouldn’t be able to afford even if I sold myself!

“...”

Complex Star was the largest company in the country that manufactured astronomy equipment.

Wei Cheng’s legs went soft at the thought of bringing these things to Yun Hill.

If anything happened to those things, he would just stay there and never come back.

Besides, this thing needed to be handled by more professional people.

After much thought, he thought that his only option would be to ask Xu Zhe for help.

But who would have known that he was not free?

“I didn’t know that Junior Gu was so powerful...”

After all, this was a club that he had founded. He had to help them, but he could not go. This...

Suddenly, Xu Zhe caught a glimpse of Shen Zhijin, who had finished processing the data and was about to leave. He suddenly had an idea.

“Zhijin!”

...

Gu Tingyin sat in the last row of the bus by the window and closed her eyes to get some rest.

She could vaguely hear some whispered discussions in the bus, and she knew that they were looking at her without even opening her eyes.

They were all talking about the ten astronomical telescopes.

Suddenly, the bus fell silent.

She did not think much of it and thought that it was time for the journey to start, but she suddenly heard her name being called.

“Gu Tingyin?”

She opened her eyes.

The one who had called her was Wei Cheng, but more importantly, there was a handsome young man standing beside him.

It was his arrival that had silenced the entire vehicle.

Everyone was shocked, almost thinking that they were seeing things.

Was that... Shen Zhijin?

He had actually come!

Wei Cheng had already expected this situation. In fact, he was still secretly excited... because he had been able to invite this great god in his lifetime!

He laughed and said, “Junior, Senior Shen is going star-gazing with us today. Since you borrowed those instruments, you should know them best. Can you communicate with Senior Shen about them later?”

Gu Tingyin was still in a daze and nodded.

It was not until Shen Zhijin walked over and sat down next to her exuding the cold aura that belonged only to him, that she finally realized what had happened.

From this moment on until tomorrow morning, he would be with her.

She automatically ignored the other dozens of people in the group.

Her ears instantly turned red.

She wanted to say something, but the incident at the library the other day was still vivid in her mind. She was unable to say a word and could only sit there in a daze, listening to her own heartbeat that was beating faster and faster.

It was Shen Zhijin who took the initiative to speak first.

“Actually, the Sky-E4 model is enough for this stargazing activity.”

Huh?

Gu Tingyin turned to look at him, a little confused.

It took her a few seconds to understand what he was talking about. She said in a low voice, "Oh, I see. However, the president and the others didn't give me any instructions in advance, so I chose this model."

She had chosen.

It went without saying that even many of the well-known associations for amateur astronomers in the country, much less university clubs, might not even be able to borrow the instruments from Complex Star.

Not only had she borrowed them, but she had also even chosen them.

Shen Zhijin replied with a "hmm". He did not ask any further questions and closed his eyes.

Since she had already borrowed them, there was no point in saying anything else.

Gu Tingyin actually wanted to talk to him, but seeing the fatigue in his eyes, she asked softly, "Shen Zhijin, did you not sleep well last night?"

His eyes were still closed, and his voice was calm as he answered.

"I'm fine."

In order to complete the data processing in advance, he had stayed up until three in the morning and continued later that morning.

He had only slept for less than four hours.

Gu Tingyin lowered her voice even more.

“Oh, I see. It’s a two-hour drive from here to Yun Hill, so you can take a nap first.”

Shen Zhijin did not say anything else.

She quieted down.

The bus quickly started up.

At first, there were still people who looked back at them from time to time, but as the bus left the school area, everyone’s attention gradually focused on the scenery outside.

It was an early autumn afternoon, and the sun was warm.

Gu Tingyin pulled the curtains shut, and the light in her corner suddenly dimmed.

She turned to look at him again.

He seemed to have fallen asleep. His black hair fell over his forehead, showing off his clear, handsome eyes.

As she looked at him, the corners of her lips curved up slightly.

After a while, many people on the bus fell asleep.

Gu Tingyin had wanted to take advantage of this rare opportunity to look at him some more, but the car was swaying and the sun was warm. She could not resist it and eventually fell asleep.

The bus drove along a bumpy road.

Gu Tingyin's body tilted until her head was about to hit the window.

A long and fair hand was placed on her forehead.

She did not wake up.

Then, her head was turned to the other side.

She had a vague feeling that she had found a pillow. Subconsciously, she rubbed against it, found a comfortable angle, and fell asleep again.

...

It was four o'clock in the afternoon when they arrived at Yun Hill.

Gu Tingyin was woken up by some noise. When she opened her eyes, she saw that everyone had already gotten out of the car.

Shen Zhijin had also stood up and was ready to leave.

She let out a soft 'Ah'.

"What's the matter?" Shen Zhijin turned around.

She looked upset.

"Why did I fall asleep? I even said I could take a longer look—" 'at you'.

She swallowed the last two words.

But she still felt that it was unfair.

If she missed such an opportunity this time, who knew when she would have to wait for the next one?

“Senior Shen?”

Wei Cheng shouted from the door of the bus.

“We’ve moved everything out, but we still need your help with the assembly and debugging.”

Shen Zhijin responded affirmatively.

...

Venus and the moon would appear half an hour after sundown. Everyone took advantage of this time to set up their tents and equipment.

The Astronomy Society had sent thirty people this time. Other than the ten high-end astronomical telescopes, there were also several handheld binoculars.

All in all, the equipment was very sufficient.

After Shen Zhijin was done with the adjustments, everyone dispersed and followed his instructions.

It was rare to be able to walk with this great god, so everyone was very serious about learning, afraid that they would be despised by this great god if they did something wrong.

But sometimes, this was not something you could learn just by being serious.

Gu Tingyin stood in front of a pile of equipment and started to worry.

Which part should she start with?

“You can use the one that has already been adjusted.”

A calm voice suddenly came from behind her.

Gu Tingyin turned around.

“Shen Zhijin?”

She glanced at the instrument.

Not everyone could get their own instrument. Shen Zhijin had one because he had been invited as a consultant and she was the only one because she had borrowed all of these.

However, it was obvious that she did not have Shen Zhijin’s ability.

Therefore, she immediately chose to give up and happily followed him.

“Alright!”

Before this, no one had ever dared to make such a request to Shen Zhijin. Wasn’t that the equivalent of having the God Shen serve them?

However, this was different because he had taken the initiative to help her.

The people around them looked over.

However, Gu Tingyin was full of curiosity and excitement at the moment, so she did not notice at all.

Shen Zhijin noticed it, but he did not care.

“On the horizon in the southwest, the moon will appear at the same time as the sun. The two celestial bodies are only five degrees apart.”

He said.

Initially, Gu Tingyin had been looking at the camera, but when she heard this, she raised her eyes in surprise.

“Five degrees? How far apart is that?”

Shen Zhijin suddenly said, “Straighten your right arm.”

She did as she was told, raising her arm and stretching it out.

In the next moment, a warm touch landed on her fingertips.

“Look here.”

Subconsciously, she looked over and saw him reach out his hand to compare it with her index and ring fingers.

“It’s this far.”

As his hand touched hers, her fingers separated.

Her violent heartbeat could not calm down for a long time, and it reverberated in her chest.

She almost could not remember how she looked at the telescope again.

A new moon slowly rose in the dark blue night.

Not far away, an exceptionally bright star appeared at the same time.

“Did you see that?”

Shen Zhijin asked.

‘How far away is that?’

‘It’s the close touch between him and me.’

Shen Zhijin waited for a while but did not hear her speak. Just as he was thinking if he should help her take a look, he saw her suddenly look up.

“I saw it.”

The gentle breeze ruffled her long hair. She took a deep breath, as if she had made up her mind.

“Shen Zhijin. Actually, I can explain the two drawings on that day!”

Shen Zhijin was momentarily stunned, but his voice was calm.

“I’m not angry.”

This was the truth, but she still seemed to be brooding over this matter and wanted to make it clear to him.

“I promise I won’t drag you into a little dark room alone... Really!”

She raised her finger with a serious expression on her face. There was a hint of anxiety in her eyes, as if she was afraid that he would not believe her.

“How can I possibly bear to do that?”

The words that Shen Zhijin was about to say suddenly stopped. In an instant, all the sound in his ears disappeared.

All that was left was her sentence.

How could there be such a person who was so unrestrained, so passionately offering anything that he like and confessing all her feelings?

It did not leave any room for himself and forcefully occupied his vision, hearing, and all his senses.

Her world overlapped with his, and it seemed to invade everything.

She was a little embarrassed, and her crimson face could still be seen vaguely in the night.

“And... And the first drawing was also... I only knew that you would be back on that day, but I didn’t know when your flight would be, and I didn’t know when I could see you again...”

She lowered her head slightly, and there was a rare trace of grievance in her usually sweet and soft voice.

“You’ve been gone for two weeks. I... I was just...”

Her voice was so soft that it was almost inaudible, dissipating in the night wind.

“I... missed you so much.”

Hence, she had imagined hijacking the plane and taking him away.

The surroundings were silent.

After what seemed like a long time, Shen Zhijin asked, “Can you see Andromeda?”

She looked up blankly.

“Huh?”

Shen Zhijin walked over.

“It’s easy to find.”

She was still in a daze and continued to stare at him.

Why had he... suddenly talked about Andromeda?

Did he not like what she had just said?

She lowered her eyes, her eyelashes quivering, and her fingers hanging by her side.

The cool night wind in the mountains seemed to blow into her heart.

“Didn’t you want a crash course?”

Shen Zhijin looked down at her, pursed his lips, and paused.

“I’ll help you.”

Chapter 1245 Side Story 24: Sweet

Xijing University, Comprehensive Building, Room 306.

This was an undergraduate chapter on thermodynamics and statistical physics.

Under normal circumstances, the attendance rate for this class would be less than 60%, but today, the entire classroom was full.

Occasionally, some students would whisper with excitement on their faces.

The usual teacher for this class was sick and had been hospitalized. She had even undergone an operation. Hence, Shen Zhijin had been taking this class for the past two weeks.

Ever since Shen Zhijin had appeared in the classroom during the last class, the news had quickly spread throughout the whole of Xijing University.

So, even though this was only the second class, everyone had come as soon as they heard the news.

Shen Zhijin stepped in at the sound of the bell.

He was obviously very young, but he had an aura that was distinctively his. Just by standing there, everyone subconsciously quieted down.

However, because he was handsome and refined, he was particularly eye-catching.

Many girls did not hide the admiration in their eyes.

Shen Zhijin stood still on the podium as his gaze swept across the classroom.

He did not have any teaching materials in his hand, only a name list.

However...

There seemed to be no need to name names.

He immediately started his lecture.

Just then, a person sneaked in from the back door.

Shen Zhijin saw the familiar-looking small backpack and suddenly paused.

The crowd did not know why he suddenly stopped, but they were all in tears.

Had the prodigy finally shown some mercy and given them some extra time to think about what he had just taught?

Gu Tingyin finally found a seat, but it was in the middle of a few seats, and there were already people on both sides.

She gently patted the shoulder of a student in front of her and whispered, "Classmate? Classmate?"

The boy had been anxiously staring at the blackboard, but because his thoughts were suddenly interrupted, he could not help but be a little angry.

However, when he turned his head, he saw a beautiful, dainty face.

He was suddenly stunned and his previous displeasure disappeared as he looked at her in a daze.

Gu Tingyin flashed him an apologetic smile.

“Excuse me, please?”

The boy immediately came back to his senses and quickly responded with a red face.

However, in order to make it more convenient for her to sit, he immediately moved one seat in and gave her the seat near the aisle.

In the next second, Shen Zhijin saw her put down her small backpack and smile at the boy next to her.

She seemed to be thanking him.

With a slightly restrained look on his face, he rapped his fingers on the podium.

In the quiet classroom, this sound was very clear, and everyone focused their attention on him.

He said, “Have you finished copying the contents on the blackboard? Next, we’ll talk about the thermodynamics of the magnetic field.”

Everyone was shocked.

This... this fast?

Someone asked in a trembling voice, “S-senior Shen, aren’t we only learning the full differential function of the Gibbs function today?”

“That part takes more than one class.”

Shen Zhijin glanced at the clock hanging at the back of the classroom.

“I’ll give you another five minutes.”

As soon as he finished speaking, everyone fell silent for a moment before they immediately began to copy the words on the blackboard.

Those who could enter the Physics Department of Xijing University were, of course, all the cream of the crop.

However, one still had to admit that there was still a gap between a top student and a god.

Shen Zhijin was very efficient and fast in his lessons.

Most people basically could not keep up with his thinking. They could only take notes and go back to comprehend it on their own.

This was especially true today.

He was the only one who could do such a perverted thing. He had finished the lesson that their usual professor was supposed to teach over the course of two weeks in just one class!

Gu Tingyin subconsciously dodged to the side when she saw the boy next to her furiously immersed in copying the notes, his pen almost flying out.

So... So brutal.

Fortunately, she was only here to listen to the classes.

However, she still had to act like was here as a serious student. She took out her notebook from her bag and started copying as well.

Shen Zhijin looked at her for a while.

This was probably her first time attending this particular class, but she was so focused on copying that she did not even look at him the whole time.

These five minutes seemed to pass by very quickly.

Shen Zhijin withdrew his gaze and continued with the class.

...

At the end of the class, almost all the students were dizzy.

Attending Shen Zhijin's class was both a pain and a joy.

Gu Tingyin was about to get up and walk over when she saw a tall girl walking over to the podium.

"Senior Shen, I didn't quite understand what you were saying in class. Could you help me by explaining it again? "

As she spoke, she handed him a book, but her eyes were glued to Shen Zhijin.

Gu Tingyin's little face fell.

Shen Zhijin lowered his eyes.

“Where?”

The girl was overjoyed and pointed with her finger.

Gu Tingyin gripped her little notebook tightly.

She could not really hear what they were talking about from where she was. Of course, even if she did, she would probably still be just as confused and would not understand much.

Shen Zhijin said a few words in a low voice, as the girl nodded repeatedly.

Gu Tingyin lowered her head to look at the notes she had copied and slumped down on the table.

In the past, she had thought that she was already very happy to be able to attend Shen Zhijin’s class and see him.

But now, when she saw those people discussing things she did not understand with him, she realized that there seemed to be a barrier between them.

She was unhappy again.

This kind of distance could not be eliminated just by her coming over and looking at him.

She did not even know how to ask him questions.

After Shen Zhijin finished speaking, he looked up and was surprised to find that she had not come to look for him. Instead, she had stayed in her seat and fiddled with the white pony toy attached to her backpack. Even her little head looked dejected.

He lifted his foot, intending on walking over.

Seeing that he was about to leave, the girl was reluctant and quickly said, "Senior Shen, can you repeat what you said about the confirmation of entropy? I..."

Shen Zhijin turned his head and glanced at her as he spoke to her in a calm tone of voice.

"I've already explained this part twice today. If you still can't understand it, then you might not be suitable for Physics. You should consider changing your major."

The girl had not expected Shen Zhijin to say something like that and her face instantly turned red.

A few girls who had been eager to come over and ask questions immediately gave up on the idea.

It turned out that asking questions to get close to Shen Zhijin was useless, other than proving to this god of studies that they were a hopeless slacker.

The people in the classroom gradually dispersed.

Gu Tingyin heard footsteps approaching.

"Why aren't you leaving?"

Shen Zhijin asked as he stood beside her.

Gu Tingyin sat up and looked up at him.

Only then did he see the grievance on her small face.

He paused, and his voice carried a gentleness that he himself did not notice.

“What’s wrong?”

Gu Tingyin whispered, “I don’t understand either...”

Shen Zhijin’s gaze fell on the notebook that was spread out on her desk.

Well, it was very neat and beautiful.

Other than copying the wrong formula, there were no other flaws.

“Which part of it did you not understand?”

Gu Tingyin choked for a moment. Seeing that he was about to answer her, she pointed to a place hesitantly.

Shen Zhijin glanced at it.

“That’s the full differential form of internal energy. During the exam, just remember it and add the value directly.”

“...”

Subconsciously, her hand slid down again.

“That’s the basic thermodynamics equation that is used when ignoring the volume change of the magnetic medium.”

“...”

She began to regret having copied the contents on the blackboard!

“You still don’t understand?”

Shen Zhijin asked.

She blushed.

The girl had still been able to ask a few questions just now, but she was unable to even get a single word out.

Shen Zhijin looked at the clock on the wall again and sat down beside her.

“I don’t have any other classes today, but I have to go to the laboratory at six o’clock in the evening to prepare for an experiment.”

Shen Zhijin said, “What else do you not understand?”

Gu Tingyin’s eyes widened in shock.

Did this mean that the rest of his time today was hers?

Seeing that she had not said anything, Shen Zhijin took her pen.

“The first law of thermodynamics. Have you learned it yet?”

She looked at him and coughed lightly.

“I’ve heard of it.”

This was a really subtle answer.

Shen Zhijin paused and he put the pen down.

“It’s also called the law of conservation of energy. It means that the total energy in a closed system is always the same.

“Energies are neither created nor destroyed. It merely transforms from one form to another, or transfers from one object to another, while the total amount of energy remains the same. This is one of the universal laws of nature.

“This is also the foundation of this course.”

Gu Tingyin’s eyes lit up.

“I see!”

...

An hour later.

In the huge classroom, the two people sitting side by side were silent.

After a moment, Gu Tingyin finally gathered her courage and asked carefully, “Shen Zhijin, are you thirsty? ”

Shen Zhijin said, “I’m okay.”

She quietly put away the notebook.

“Then, how about I treat you to a drink?”

Shen Zhijin gently nodded.

She finally heaved a sigh of relief and quickly picked up her backpack.

“There’s a dessert shop near the school. I heard it’s very good. Shall we try it?”

...

This dessert shop had opened near Xijing University. Although it was a little expensive, it was very popular because of its delicious treats.

Fortunately, there were not many people in the shop at this time.

As Gu Tingyin stood in front of the food display cabinet, she looked at it and said, “This brand’s flagship store is in Bai City. This seems to be their first branch in the Capital. When I was studying in Bai City, I really liked their peanut milkshake!”

Shen Zhijin paused.

“Aren’t you allergic to peanuts?”

“Yes, that’s why I could only smell it every time.” Gu Tingyin scrunched up her nose with a face full of regret, but she quickly pointed to the other desserts in the cabinet. “Their peanut crisps are also their signature dessert. You must try it!”

In the end, Shen Zhijin ordered a cup of peanut milkshake and a peanut crisp. Gu Tingyin ordered a cup of Earl Grey tea.

The two of them chose a seat that was further in.

The first to be served was the peanut milkshake.

Shen Zhijin had just picked it up when a small head moved in closer.

Gu Tingyin's body leaned forward slightly, and her elegant nose twitched in envy.

"It smells so good!"

Why did she have to be allergic to peanuts?

"It must be delicious. It's a pity I can't eat any of it. Shen Zhijin, can you help me eat more?"

She was very close to him, so close that he could see her eyelashes.

He was so close that if he raised his hand slightly, he would be able to touch her soft and fair cheeks.

Soundlessly, Shen Zhijin moved back.

"Yes."

Gu Tingyin also sat back down. She rested her chin in her hands and urge him with anticipation.

"Quickly, try it!"

He took a sip with a straw, and the rich aroma of peanuts and milk filled the air.

Her dark, round, almond-shaped eyes stared at the peanut milkshake and then at the corner of his lips.

“Is it good?”

Shen Zhijin’s Adam’s apple moved slightly as he suddenly felt that the taste of it was a little too sweet.

It was so sweet that it made him even more thirsty.

Chapter 1246 Side Story 25: Reading, or Looking for Me

Sunday, bookstore.

Shen Zhijin stood in front of the bookshelf and looked at the neatly arranged books on it, with his lips slightly pursed.

He had an excellent memory and never forgot what he read. This was the first time he was faced with rows of books yet he did not know where to start.

There were two girls who looked like high school students nearby who looked over from time to time, with blushing and curious faces.

It was extremely rare to see such a handsome young man, and it was also because he had been standing here for too long.

The two girls picked up their books to cover half of their faces as they moved to each other and whispered among themselves.

Shen Zhijin, of course, noticed their gazes and could vaguely hear their chatter.

He was very good-looking and had long been used to being scrutinized like this.

But today was different.

His Adam's apple bobbed. Finally, he raised his hand and took a few books from the bookshelf.

When the book fell into his hands, he heard the two young girls exclaim in surprise at first, before then laughing softly.

He pretended not to notice and turned to the cashier.

...

The cashier's gaze lingered on the books for a few more seconds. Then, she looked up again at Shen Zhijin with a teasing smile in her eyes.

Even though she did not say anything, Shen Zhijin felt the tips of his ears begin to burn.

"Would you like a bag?"

"Yes."

Shen Zhijin took out his wallet, ready to pay.

The cashier pulled out a bag and put the books in it.

"Hey, Senior Brother?"

Kong Wenhan and the others had made an appointment to go to the bookstore together to buy the newly released novels and magazines. They had not expected to see Shen Zhijin as soon as they entered the door.

“Are you here to buy books too?”

Shen Zhijin nodded slightly and greeted them with his usual expression.

Kong Wenhan glanced at the cashier. The bag was transparent, but the bookstore’s name that was printed on it half-covered the contents so he could not see what they were clearly. He could only see that there were several thick books inside.

“Senior Brother, what did you buy?”

Kong Wenhan was very curious.

Shen Zhijin rarely came to the bookstore since he spent most of his time at the library.

The professional books and literature information there were more complete.

Hence, they were all quite surprised to see Shen Zhijin here today.

Shen Zhijin put his fingers together, but before he could say anything, another boy immediately said, “A book that is worthy of being chosen by Senior Brother is definitely not ordinary! Senior Brother, what are you reading? Let us take a look!”

Shen Zhijin paused.

“These are just some very ordinary books.”

“Here are your books,” said the cashier as she handed the bag over.

Shen Zhijin reached out to take it.

However, with a slip of a hand, the bag fell to the ground.

Thud!

The books that were inside also slid out.

Shen Zhijin's eyebrows twitched. He was about to pick them up, but Kong Wenhan was faster than him.

"Senior Brother, let me help you..."

His voice stopped abruptly, and his movements froze.

"The Maidservant's Lord Black Deacon"

When he saw these words, Kong Wenhan thought he had gone blind.

Dead silence.

And when his peripheral vision uncontrollably drifted to the other books that were scattered at the side—

"The Story of Pure Love in Xiangnan"

"Super Vigorous Girl"

"President, Don't Even Think About Escaping"

...

He suddenly felt that he might as well have been blind.

...

“Ahem!”

A boy standing behind coughed loudly, finally recalling Kong Wenhan’s soul back to his body.

He packed the books as fast as he could and handed them to Shen Zhijin respectfully with both hands as he spoke in a soft voice.

“Senior Brother, y-your book.”

The air seemed to have frozen.

Finally, a long, fair hand reached out and took the bag.

“Thank you,” he said.

Kong Wenhan had never thought that Shen Zhijin’s voice could sound so distant and cold. It was so bright outside, yet he actually felt cold.

He opened his mouth and decided to turn the tide. He looked up at Shen Zhijin again and forced a relaxed smile on his face.

“It seems that Senior Brother has been under a lot of pressure from his research recently, haha!”

Shen Zhijin gave him a very indifferent look.

Kong Wenhan’s laughter was suddenly cut off.

Being blind was not enough. It looked like he might just have to die.

...

Just as Kong Wenhan was thinking about whether he would die a quick death today or be tortured to death by a blunt knife in the future, he heard light footsteps.

“Shen Zhijin?!”

A sweet and soft voice of surprise sounded.

Shen Zhijin turned to look and saw Gu Tingyin walking in.

It was already late autumn, and she was wearing a caramel-colored skirt, a sweater, and a vest. Her wavy black hair hung down and swayed gently behind her slender waist.

She looked comfortable, elegant, and beautiful, and it easily captured his mind.

After taking only a few steps, she could not hold herself back and walked a little faster to his side.

Her black, bright almond eyes looked at him, and the dimples at the corners of her lips were faintly visible.

“What a coincidence!”

It was a coincidence.

She had mentioned that she liked to come to this bookstore on Sundays to read.

He gave a slight nod.

“I’m also here to buy books!”

As Gu Tingyin spoke, her eyes subconsciously glanced at the bag in his hand and she probed, “Is this yours?”

Kong Wenhan and the others looked at the two of them, feeling shocked.

Shen Zhijin raised his eyes and glanced over, with a calm expression on his face.

Kong Wenhan hurriedly said, “Junior Gu, I didn’t expect to see you here. But we still have some other matters to attend to, so we’ll be leaving first. Let’s talk another day!

Gu Tingyin turned her head when she heard the voice, surprise appearing on her little face.

“Eh? Senior Kong, you guys are here too?”

“...”

Kong Wenhan and the others gulped.

Shen Zhijin’s eyes flashed with a faint smile.

Gu Tingyin waved at them.

“Then... Goodbye!”

“...”

How could people be bullied like this? What's more, the two of them had banded together!

Kong Wenhan and the others stood at the entrance of the bookstore for a while, before silently turning and leaving.

The view of his back inexplicably carried a hint of the bleakness of autumn.

Gu Tingyin did not pay much attention. Instead, she turned back to look at Shen Zhijin with bright eyes.

"Shen Zhijin, do you have any other plans today? Let's read here together, okay?"

She added, "The books here are very good!"

...

Shen Zhijin followed her to the second floor.

There were fewer people here, and the air was filled with the faint smell of ink.

Gu Tingyin chose a small round table in the corner and sat next to him.

However, Shen Zhijin did not take out the books from his bag. Instead, he went to get a copy of another book, "Gravity of the Black Hole".

"Shen Zhijin, why aren't you reading the books you bought?"

She asked curiously, wanting to see what he had bought.

However, just as she opened the bag, Shen Zhijin grabbed her wrist.

“I’m planning to read those at home.”

After he finished speaking, he was about to let go of her.

However, Gu Tingyin suddenly leaned over.

Her rich sweet fragrance instantly overwhelmed him, making it difficult for him to break free.

The corners of her lips curled up, and her voice was soft and gentle.

“Shen Zhijin, do you know that I’ve read almost all of the books in the comics section here?”

His heart skipped a beat, and he subconsciously looked over, only to see the smile in her eyes.

Even without fully opening the bag, she had already been able to tell what books they were with just a glance.

She let him hold her slender wrist, proudly and playfully.

“Those are for me, aren’t they?”

She was so certain, as if she had discovered a secret that he had been hiding for a long time.

Even the afternoon sun could not compare to her bright smile.

He could not avoid it.

Finally, he said, “No.”

Gu Tingyin was taken aback, but in the next moment, she heard him say in a soft voice, “If you find Physics too difficult to understand, you don’t have to study it again in future.

“I just came to take a look.”

He had come here to see her preferences, what she loved, and her habits.

Gu Tingyin suddenly wished that he had let go of her wrist.

This way, he might not notice her crazy heartbeat.

She stepped back a little and paused for a long time, but she could not help going closer again.

She really wanted to ask—

“Shen Zhijin.”

He tilted his head slightly, but suddenly felt something brush past his face.

It felt unbelievably soft.

He suddenly froze.

In the next moment, she leaned into his ear and he felt her breath lightly blowing in as her voice seemed to contain a smile.

“Did you want to read books or...?”

“Did you want to see me?”

Chapter 1247 Side Story 26: Ah Jin!

The sunlight fell on the corner of the table, reflecting a bright spot of light.

Shen Zhijin’s gaze was fixed on it. At that moment, he did not dare to turn his head to look at her.

He did not dare to answer her.

Gu Tingyin waited for a few seconds. However, seeing that he had no intention of answering, she was about to ask again when she suddenly noticed that the tip of his ears had become red.

So... this was his answer.

She blinked and finally swallowed back the rest of her words. She stepped back a little and sat down obediently beside him.

The weather today was really good.

She thought.

The weather in late autumn was so hot.

A moment later, she moved her wrist slightly, wanting to fan herself.

However, at that moment, she suddenly realized that he was still holding her right wrist.

This slight movement finally woke him up and he immediately let go of her wrist.

However, the touch of softness on his fingertips remained and could not be wiped away.

Gu Tingyin did not look at him, but the corners of her lips curved up a little. Then, she took the book “Gravity of the Blackhole” that was in front of him.

Shen Zhijin was slightly stunned.

Gu Tingyin raised her chin to indicate the book bag.

“Didn’t you want to see that?”

After a while, Shen Zhijin finally took out a book and opened it.

Gu Tingyin’s eyes curved into crescents as she flipped open the title page to read as well.

...

Time passed by slowly.

Gu Tingyin sighed in her heart.

Indeed, no matter how much she liked him, she still could not understand Physics.

She could not help but turn her head to look at him quietly.

He had always been a serious and rigorous person, even when he was reading comics.

He sat with straight shoulders and a straight back, as if everything had been measured with a ruler without a single mistake.

He did not look as if he was reading a comic book, but more like he was reading some profound and incomprehensible literature.

It was such a lovely sight.

As this thought came to her mind, she could not bear to look away.

Of course, Shen Zhijin noticed her small movements.

Even though she had not made a sound, her eyes seemed to be burning hot, and he could not ignore it even if he wanted to.

Finally, he turned his head to look at her, and his eyes swept over the book in front of her.

“Don’t you want to read anymore?”

“I don’t understand it.”

She was being honest as she said this.

Shen Zhijin had explained a lot of the content to her many times, but she only ever seemed to understand part of it.

Previously, she would feel embarrassed about this, but after so many attempts, she had clearly realized that she did not have any talent in this area.

Even if she did not sleep for 24 hours, she still would not be able to catch up to him.

Moreover...

She looked at the comic book in his hand and smiled.

“I don’t look as good as you.”

She said with a smile.

Shen Zhijin stopped talking and lowered his head to read again.

Her eyes curved into crescents as she smiled.

She realized that Shen Zhijin could not take her teasing. If she took it a little further, he would behave like this.

Step by step, he had made concessions and compromised.

The more times she did it, the more smug she became.

She leaned on the table and moved closer to him, her chin resting on the back of his hands.

“Shen Zhijin, is this book good?”

As soon as Shen Zhijin lowered his head, he could see the small head that occupied more than half of the table in front of him.

Her waist-length hair hung down and fell beside his hand.

They were clearly separated by a layer of clothing, but he could feel that the place he was being touched seemed to feel a little tingly.

He shifted his gaze and looked at the book again. He pursed his lips for a while before saying, "I don't understand it."

"Huh?"

Gu Tingyin turned around in surprise. Her little face was full of shock, as if she had just discovered a new continent.

"There's actually something you don't understand?"

As she turned around, she moved even closer.

As Shen Zhijin thought about this, he recalled what she had said earlier and nodded.

If he did not understand it, then he just did not understand. There was no shame in admitting it.

Even though he had been reading it very seriously, he still could not understand why she would smile so brightly every time she read these things.

For a while, Gu Tingyin stared at him in a daze. After a while, a smile gradually crept up the corners of her eyes.

"Shen Zhijin."

She seemed to be very happy, and the corners of her lips curled up into a playful arc. She whispered, "It turns out that you can experience such a day too."

Yes.

It turned out that such a day would come for him too.

His hidden thoughts were almost impossible to hide.

Gu Tingyin suddenly looked up and leaned over.

The sweet fragrance suddenly became stronger, disturbing his thoughts.

His eyelashes trembled slightly, and the hand that he used to hold the book instantly tightened. His whole body tensed up as well.

It seemed as if there was an invisible force suppressing him. When she had approached him and broken the safe distance, he realized that he was in extreme danger, but he could not move or avoid it.

Or perhaps, he did not want to hide in the first place.

Gu Tingyin finally stopped an inch away from him. The tip of her nose twitched as she stared at the corner of his lips and mumbled, “Shen Zhijin, did you drink a peanut milkshake?”

The sweet smell was still there. It was very faint, but they were so close that she could vaguely smell it.

Shen Zhijin replied with a “hmm”.

She pouted a little.

She really liked that smell, but because she could not touch it, she could only smell it occasionally.

At the thought of this, she could not help but sniff and complain, “You did this on purpose!”

Shen Zhijin's heart skipped a beat and he panicked for a moment.

However, the next moment, she retreated and muttered softly, "What's so great about being able to drink peanut milkshakes anyway?"

She could just continue to smell it!

Shen Zhijin's tense spirit finally relaxed.

After a moment, when the sweet smell gradually dissipated, he said, "Since you don't want to read anymore, then..."

"Who said I'm not going to read?"

Gu Tingyin protected the book, as if she was afraid that he would snatch it away.

She had to read it even if she could not understand it!

Besides, what she was really reading was not the book.

She did not say this out loud, but her eyes already expressed this.

Shen Zhijin glanced at her but did not take her book away. He also lowered his head and continued to read the comic book.

So what if he did not understand?

She was here.

...

After that, they sat at the small round table and read books that neither person could understand.

Time seemed to pass very quickly, and the sun soon began to set.

Shen Zhijin stood up and moved to put the book “Gravity of the Blackhole” back in its place for her.

Gu Tingyin waited at her seat for a long time, but he did not return. In the end, she followed in the direction he had left in.

She walked past a row of bookshelves and saw him. She immediately called out, “Shen Zhijin? Shall we go?”

However, she took another two steps forward and saw that he was whispering something to a man who looked to be in his thirties. When they heard the sound, both of them looked over.

Only then did Gu Tingyin realize that she seemed to have disturbed them.

“I’m sorry, I...”

The man looked at her before turning to look at Shen Zhijin. He raised his eyebrows and smiled.

“Ah Jin, so you’re here with a friend today?”

Gu Tingyin was stunned.

They looked like they were quite familiar with each other, didn’t they?

Shen Zhijin explained, “It was just a coincidence.”

A coincidence?

He did not come to this bookstore much.

The man smiled but he did not expose him.

“Alright, you guys go first. Don’t keep your friend waiting.”

Shen Zhijin paused for a moment, before finally saying, “Goodbye, Uncle Qi.”

...

The two of them left the bookstore together.

Gu Tingyin finally could not help but ask, “Ah Jin, who was that?”

Shen Zhijin suddenly stopped in his tracks.

Gu Tingyin blinked.

“You’re not... angry, are you?”

As Shen Zhijin looked at her, his eyes darkened.

She was keenly aware that the atmosphere did not seem right, and she puffed up her cheeks.

She was just joking...

If that person could call him that, why couldn’t she?

She thought about it for a moment, tilted her head slightly, and tried to negotiate with him in a soft voice.

“Then... why don’t you call me Yin Yin? Then we’ll be even!”

She had always been the best at acting shamelessly and coquettishly.

Seeing that he did not speak, she blinked again, her eyes bright.

“Hmm? Ah Jin?”

Chapter 1248 Side Story 27: Art Exhibition

Physics Department, laboratory.

Kong Wenhan walked to Xu Zhe’s side and handed him a document.

“Senior Brother, you know German. Could you help me see how to translate this document?”

Xu Zhe was adjusting some equipment and did not raise his head when he heard him speak.

“German? Why don’t you go to Zhijin?”

He had spent a year at the Fino Laboratory in Bai City, and no one in the laboratory knew more about this than he.

The corners of Kong Wenhan’s mouth twitched, and he lowered his voice.

“How would I dare to! Senior Brother Xu Zhe, don’t you feel it? Senior Brother Shen’s mood has been particularly bad these days!”

Shen Zhijin's personality was proud and distant, but he had always been polite and courteous to others.

But recently, for some reason, he seemed to exude a low-pressure tension, until even the people in the laboratory were trembling in fear, afraid of making any mistakes.

Kong Wenhan did not dare to get himself into trouble at this time.

Hearing this, Xu Zhe finally stopped what he was doing and turned his head to look at him.

"Right? You guys felt it too?"

He had known Shen Zhijin for so long, but he had never seen him in such a state.

A boy next to him could not help but add his own two cents as well.

"Hey, do you guys think it's because Junior Gu hasn't been coming around much recently?"

Gu Tingyin was pursuing Shen Zhijin, and everyone in Xijing University knew about it.

Those from the Physics Department often had the opportunity to see her.

Sometimes, she would come here to attend lessons, and sometimes, she would come here for a meal.

Most of the time, she would come over with her sketchbook to draw.

Of course, everyone knew that she had other intentions.

Xu Zhe touched his chin.

“Now that you mention it, it seems to be true! Is it because she has been having a lot of classes recently and is too busy to come?”

“It can’t be, right? In the past, she attended many classes, yet hadn’t she still come here often? I also heard from my friends at the Art Academy that there will be several master art exhibitions in the Capital this month, so the students have a lot of free time!”

“Art exhibitions? Then, according to Junior Gu’s personality, she should have invited Zhijin to attend them together...”

“That’s right. If you really like someone, you would make the time, no matter what. If you ask me, I think... perhaps Junior Gu has given up?”

“Give up? Do you mean that she’s not pursuing Zhijin anymore? It can’t be... Junior Gu has been really good to him...!”

“I know, but what’s the point of me knowing? Come to think of it, Junior Gu had been chasing after him for a long time, yet Senior Brother doesn’t seem to have had any reaction. Which girl would be able to stand it? I think it’s already very rare for Junior Gu to have been able to persist until now.”

Kong Wenhan, who was at the side, did not feel like either person’s opinion sounded quite right.

He remembered what had happened at the bookstore that day.

If Senior Brother did not like Junior Gu, why would he have been embarrassed?

But recently, she really had not been coming here much, and he did not know what was going on between the two of them.

As Xu Zhe listened, he finally wavered.

“... What you’ve said is not unreasonable. Junior Gu is beautiful, has a good personality, and is talented in art. She’s a goddess! There are so many people who like her. There was no need for her to hang herself on an iron tree like Zhijin. As long as she’s willing to nod her head and find someone to fall in love with, it would be a simple matter. Why– Cough!”

Inadvertently, he looked up and coughed violently, his face flushed red.

“Ahem... Ahem... Zhi... Zhijin... Why are you... Ahem... here? ”

Shen Zhijin stood at the door with an indifferent expression on his face. No one knew when he had arrived or how much he had heard.

Kong Wenhan and the others also hurriedly stood up to greet him.

“Senior Brother.”

Was there anything more embarrassing than being caught talking behind one’s back?

Shen Zhijin’s face was expressionless. He nodded as usual and walked into the laboratory.

Everyone fell silent.

Shen Zhijin did not say anything. He did not even show any reaction, but everyone could not help but feel nervous.

A layer of invisible cold aura silently filled the whole laboratory.

It was so silent that one could even hear a pin drop.

Shen Zhijin turned on his computer and pulled up the observation data.

However, for some reason, the rows of numbers that he usually saw clearly now seemed like a mess.

On the sixth day.

Ever since they had parted at the bookstore that day, she had not come to Xijing University.

Was she now angry because he had not responded to her question and called her Yin Yin that day?

However—

Shen Zhijin pursed his lips slightly.

It was not that he had not wanted to, but he had felt that it was not a good time.

And she did not know how long it had taken him to finally regain control of his heartbeat when she had smiled and jokingly called him that name.

This alone had occupied his whole mind, so how could he have had the time to care about anything else?

However, she had never come back after that.

At this time, he finally realized that if she did not take the initiative to look for him, then even seeing her would become an extravagant hope.

He had already gotten used to her appearing in all the places he could see, but he had never imagined this moment.

She had disappeared from his sight and no matter how long he waited, he still could not see her.

The words he had just heard continued to ring in his ears, and his hands slightly tightened.

He closed his eyes and focused his attention on the screen.

Ten minutes later, the cursor was still flashing in the same place without having moved even half an inch.

There had been no progress, but the familiar numbers only seemed to irritate him at this moment.

Xu Zhe quietly came over and spoke in a lowered tone of voice.

“Ahem... Zhijin, I was just spouting nonsense. Please don’t take it to heart!”

The look from Shen Zhijin’s side profile was cold, as if he had not heard him at all.

Xu Zhe scratched his head.

“Actually, I have to say... this is also quite good. In the future, Junior Gu doesn’t have put in so much effort to run back and forth. You will also have more time...”

Shen Zhijin suddenly stood up.

Xu Zhe was stunned.

“Hey, Zhijin, where are you going? These tasks haven’t been finished yet!”

As Shen Zhijin walked out, he said, “I suddenly thought of something. Please help me ask Professor Su for leave.”

Xu Zhe was at a loss. He looked at the computer and mumbled in disbelief, "What's the rush? So much so that you didn't even bother to turn off your computer?"

Based on Shen Zhijin's style of doing things, this was the first time he had ever encountered such a situation.

He still wanted to ask a few more questions, but Shen Zhijin's figure had already disappeared out the door.

Kong Wenhan looked over and clicked his tongue.

It was not without reason that his senior brother had bought those books.

Wasn't this the biggest reason?

...

Shen Zhijin went directly to the female dormitory of the Xijing Academy of Fine Arts.

He knew that she only had one class at ten in the morning and would probably be back after lunch.

At the end of November, the Capital was already very cold. The weather was gloomy and gray.

Even in the morning, there was not much warmth.

Shen Zhijin waited for a long time. Finally, he heard lively footsteps and the sound of conversation from not far away.

His heart moved slightly, and he looked up.

At noon, one after another, the girls began to come back from class.

They finally noticed Shen Zhijin and someone whispered in surprise.

“Isn’t that... Shen Zhijin?”

He rarely came to the Academy of Fine Arts but he was very famous in Xijing University, so there were very few people who did not recognize his face.

Shen Zhijin finally saw a familiar face- Gu Tingyin’s roommate.

Previously, he had bumped into her once when he had come to send Tingyin off.

She was on good terms with Gu Tingyin, but today, she was holding another girl’s arm.

It was not Gu Tingyin.

Shen Zhijin took the initiative to step forward.

Many girls around looked over, their eyes filled with curiosity and admiration.

“Hello,” Shen Zhijin greeted her.

“I’m looking for Gu Tingyin.”

The girl was stunned for a moment, as if she was quite surprised.

“Senior Shen, didn’t you know? She went to the Zong Pei art exhibition with someone today! I thought that person was you—”

She seemed to have realized something and stopped.

Shen Zhijin's hands that were in his coat pocket clenched slightly.

The two tickets to the art exhibition were gradually crumpled by him.

Chapter 1249 Side Story 28: He Will Love Her Forever

Shen Zhijin waited from morning to noon, and then continued on till the afternoon.

Just as the sky was about to turn dark, a cool feeling fell upon his forehead.

He looked up.

It was snowing.

...

This was the first snow of the year in the Capital.

Fine snowflakes fell from the dark sky. The dim street lights shone on the ground and it was soon covered with a layer of snow.

The cold wind was biting.

There was no one else on the road, and it was so quiet that he could hear the sound of his own breath.

Shen Zhijin continued to stand there with his back straight. His figure was hidden in the darkness and snow.

The art exhibition was supposed to end at five in the afternoon, but she had yet to return.

He lowered his head and waited in silence.

...

The snow was getting heavier, and the ground floor of the girls' dormitory was covered in white.

There was snow between the branches and leaves of the holly trees, and the snow on the road was getting thicker and thicker.

Finally, he heard footsteps.

Shen Zhijin looked up and was about to step forward when he suddenly stopped.

She was back.

However, there was a young man beside her.

He was tall and seemed to have a gentle temperament.

His facial features were not very clear, only his smooth and superior side profile could be seen.

Shen Zhijin was so stunned that he was frozen to the spot.

He knew that she had gone to the art exhibition with someone else, but he did not know that the person was a guy.

The two of them were walking side by side. The boy was holding an umbrella in his hand, but he did not open it.

The snow fell on their bodies.

She looked at him from the side and said something. Her eyes were bright and the excitement and joy between her eyebrows were so clear.

There was a faint smile on his lips, and he did not hide the adoration in his eyes.

Shen Zhijin suddenly felt a little short of breath.

He took a deep breath, and the cold air filled his chest. It felt so cold and painful.

It turned out that he was not the only one who had the right to hold an umbrella for her.

It turned out that he was not the only one who had seen her laughing, being boisterous, and smiling.

It turned out that her preference and enthusiasm were not unique to him.

...

“Third Brother, I’ll be going back then!”

Gu Tingyin stood at the bottom of the dormitory building and waved at Gu Tingyun.

Gu Tingyun raised his hand and gently patted the snow off her head. Seeing that the tip of her nose was a little red from the cold wind, his heart ached and he felt helpless.

“You’re so happy because it’s snowing?”

“This is the first time I’ve seen such heavy snow!”

It was spring all year round in Hong Kong City, and the climate in Bai City was warm and humid. Occasionally getting to see a few snowflakes was already a big deal. Now that she was seeing such heavy snowfall, of course, she was excited. She had even asked the driver to park the car at the school gate and insisted on walking back.

Gu Tingyun still doted on her. He had not even opened the umbrella and merely accompanied her the whole way here.

He raised his eyebrows.

“My flight is tonight and I’ll be leaving soon. Don’t you feel any reluctance?”

“Third Brother,” Gu Tingyin spread her hands and sighed. “I haven’t done anything else these past few days. I spent all my time accompanying you.”

Gu Tingyun tapped her forehead with his finger.

“It’s all because you’ve become too carefree since you came to the Capital. You don’t even know how to call home more often now.”

Gu Tingyin’s expression was conflicted.

“If I give Third Brother a call, then I’ll have to call Mom and Dad, Big Brother and Second Brother. Even Tinglan started to make a fuss last time, saying that I was neglecting him!”

Her heart was tired.

Gu Tingyun thought about it seriously for a moment before reluctantly accepting her explanation.

“Alright, our Yinyin has been working hard these past few days to accompany me. Hurry up and go, don’t catch a cold.”

Gu Tingyin smiled at him.

“Since Third Brother sent me back, I’ll watch Third Brother leave then!”

Gu Tingyun chuckled.

After he turned the corner and completely disappeared from her sight, Gu Tingyin withdrew her gaze and planned to go upstairs.

Suddenly, out of the corner of her eye, she saw a familiar tall and clear figure.

She froze for a moment, before taking another serious look.

“Shen Zhijin?”

The sky was completely dark, and he was standing in the dark, so she had not seen him earlier.

His face was hidden in the shadows of the night and the streetlights, and his emotions could not be seen clearly. He only looked at her fixedly with dark eyes.

She was overjoyed and quickly ran over.

“Shen Zhijin, why are you here...”

When she got closer, she realized that there was snow on his head and shoulders. It looked like he had been waiting here for a long time.

She became nervous and subconsciously touched his hand. It was like ice.

“Why are your hands so cold? D-did you come here to look for me? Have you been waiting for a long time?”

Shen Zhijin pulled away his hand. His voice was light and calm, but it seemed to be tinged with a bit of frost and snow.

“Not very long.”

Gu Tingyin lowered her head to look at her now empty hand.

“I came here today to give you something, but it seems like you don’t need it anymore.”

As he spoke, he gently exhaled.

“Since you’re back, I’ll be leaving.”

He turned around and moved his stiff legs, ready to leave.

Gu Tingyin hurriedly tugged at his sleeve.

“Wait!”

However, he did not touch her.

He seemed to have stayed here just to say this to her. After he finished speaking, he hurriedly moved to leave.

For some reason, the view of his back seemed to show him being in a sorry state, as if he was fleeing.

He was afraid that if he stayed for another second, he would lose control of the emotions that were colliding in his chest.

“Shen Zhijin! Wait a minute!”

Although Gu Tingyin did not know what had happened, it was obvious that Shen Zhijin had waited here for a long time.

How could she let him go just like this?

In the past, whenever she walked slower than him, he would always accommodate her. Now that he was insistent on walking, how could she catch up?

The distance between the two of them gradually widened.

The distance between them gradually widened, and Shen Zhijin’s heart continued to sink.

He wanted to turn back, but he did not dare to.

The scene he had just seen kept replaying in his mind, and a strange yet strong emotion completely occupied his thoughts.

He did not even recognize himself.

He did not know what he would do if he stayed and looked at her one more time.

The footsteps behind him suddenly stopped. It seemed that she had stopped.

He pursed his lips.

As expected, she could not even be bothered to say another word to him.

Also, she had clearly watched that person leave until he had disappeared without a trace.

He endured the sharp pain in his heart, but he could not help but slow down.

He did not know what he was expecting.

The sound of rapid panting suddenly came from behind.

He was shocked and turned around to see Gu Tingyin bending over with one hand pressed tightly to her chest. Her face was red and she seemed to be breathing in extreme discomfort.

His mind went blank, and he immediately rushed over to support her.

“Yin Yin!”

She looked like she was having an allergic reaction.

He was extremely anxious.

“How are you? Did you eat peanuts by mistake?”

Gu Tingyin’s hand clutched his tightly, as if she was in extreme pain.

Worried and distressed, he said anxiously, “Don’t be afraid, I’ll take you to the hospital.”

Gu Tingyin's body started to tremble.

He was about to pick her up when he suddenly heard a muffled laugh.

He suddenly froze, and completely stopped moving.

Gu Tingyin straightened her back and raised her small face to look at him. At this moment, she was already partially in his arms. When she looked up, the distance between them was instantly shortened.

Her almond-shaped eyes curved up, and her eyes were bright, and there was a proud and cunning look in her eyes.

In what way did she look like she was having an allergic reaction?

She was lying to him.

When he realized this, all the tension, anxiety, and fear in his heart froze.

What replaced it was a belated, earth-shattering absurdity and anger.

Gu Tingyin blinked and acted coquettishly.

"I don't need to go to the hospital. I'll be fine if you just hug me!"

Shen Zhijin fell silent.

Gu Tingyin finally realized that his expression was particularly cold and his eyes were dark.

She was a little scared and whispered, "Ah Jin, I was just joking with you. Are you angry?"

However, because he had ignored her earlier, this was the only way she had been able to coax him back.

Furthermore, he had just called her “Yin Yin” for the first time.

He suddenly let go of her and turned to leave without a word.

Gu Tingyin finally panicked.

She knew that he was really angry.

“Shen Zhijin!”

Shen Zhijin did not hesitate this time. Even his back looked cold.

She panicked and shouted, “You... Didn’t you just say that you have something to give me?”

Shen Zhijin suddenly stopped in his tracks.

The tickets to the art exhibition.

However, the art exhibition had already ended.

He pursed his lips tightly, and the string that had been strung so tightly in his mind suddenly snapped.

He turned around and strode back toward her.

Seeing that he was returning, Gu Tingyin finally heaved a sigh of relief and quickly apologized to him.

“I just didn’t...”

He did not seem to have any plans or patience to listen to her explanation. He walked over and grabbed her hand.

She shuddered at the cold temperature of the palm of his hand.

Completely losing control of his thoughts, he pulled her into his arms. His other arm held her waist as he leaned down to kiss her.

Gu Tingyin’s eyes widened.

He had really waited in the snow for so long that even his lips were cold.

The moment he touched her, she felt as if an electric current had passed through her. It caused her to tremble slightly and her mind went blank.

He kissed her very quickly, as if he was being engulfed in a storm, swallowing her.

A burning spark burst out from under the icy layer, overturning everything.

She was forced to bear with it as she was gradually deprived of oxygen. All she could do was hold his hand tightly and gasp for breath.

After a long time, he finally stopped.

She felt dizzy as she was held tightly in his arms. She looked up at him with a red face, unable to even speak.

“Shen... Shen Zhijin... You, you, you, you...”

Shen Zhijin closed his eyes until his rationality finally returned.

He had really gone crazy.

“I’m sorry,” he said.

He let go of her, his voice hoarse.

Then, he took something out of his pocket and put it in her hand.

Subconsciously, Gu Tingyin looked down and was stunned.

Those were two tickets to the Zong Pei art exhibition, and the date was... today.

So, he had actually come here to give her these tickets?

No, he had come here to invite her to the art exhibition.

Gu Tingyin suddenly realized something and exclaimed, “So, you... You’ve been waiting since this morning?!”

So what if he had? It was meaningless now.

“Since someone has already accompanied you to see it...”

Shen Zhijin took a deep breath and enunciated the rest of his sentence slowly.

“You can just throw this away.”

Gu Tingyin's eyes slowly widened.

"Just... just now... Did you see everything?"

Shen Zhijin looked into her eyes. His Adam's apple rolled as he spoke with difficulty.

"You can do whatever you want. But, Gu Tingyin, don't joke with me like this again."

His heart had stopped the moment he had thought she was having an allergic reaction.

He had never realized that he was so afraid of losing her.

However, she had only been joking.

That's why he had been so angry and lost control, causing him... to do that.

Ever since he had met her, it seemed like everything had started to deviate from its intended path.

He could not control it, so he could only obey.

Gu Tingyin's eyelashes trembled slightly, and then she lowered her head and carefully smoothed out the two wrinkled tickets. She very neatly and carefully put them in her bag.

She mumbled, "This is the first time you've invited me to an art exhibition. How can you ask me to throw it away?"

However, this behavior only caused him to misunderstand, and then gave rise to unrealistic expectations.

He had gotten something, but he was also greedy and wanted more.

It was as if he would never be satisfied.

He gritted his teeth.

“Gu Tingyin, you...”

“The art exhibition will still be on tomorrow. Shall we go together?” She raised her head again and asked.

He did not know how to answer.

He had clearly made up his mind a moment ago, but her soft and gentle words made him waver again.

How could she be like this?

He clenched and loosened his hands, and the words of rejection lingered on his lips.

He should have rejected her.

After seeing everything just now, he should have rejected it without any hesitation.

But this person was her.

How could he refuse?

“If I had known, I would have sent Third Brother back yesterday.”

She pouted.

His mind was in a daze as he stared at her blankly.

Third... Brother?

Gu Tingyin was also looking at him. Perhaps it was rare to see him so caught off guard, but she could not help but laugh.

“Shen Zhijin, why are you even jealous of my third brother? It’s not easy for him to come to the Capital, so I’ve been spending time with him these past few days. He came so suddenly that I didn’t have the time to tell you.”

As she spoke, she looked to the side and lowered her voice.

“Fortunately, he’s gone back now.”

Otherwise, who knew how this situation would have ended?

Shen Zhijin’s lips moved slightly, but he did not know what to say.

“It’s all his fault. I’ve been to so many art exhibitions with him. I didn’t miss today’s event, but I actually missed the first time you invited me.”

She furrowed her brows in frustration, but quickly relaxed.

“However, it’s not like I didn’t gain anything.”

She looked up again.

Their eyes met.

It was as if she had seen through all his thoughts. He instantly looked away, but he was still feeling flustered.

“Shen Zhijin.”

She called out to him, and he subconsciously looked back at her.

The snow fluttered down, and the wind ruffled her hair, making it a little messy.

She covered her still-beating heart with one hand and blushed. Her almond-shaped eyes were moist and bright, and her lips were red. She spoke in a helpless and embarrassed manner.

“What should I do? I seem to be highly allergic to you.”

How could it be? It had been so long, yet she still had not recovered.

Shen Zhijin looked at her quietly. He held her hand and pulled her into his arms.

She asked in a soft voice, “Will I never get better in the future?”

He lowered his head and kissed her.

It did not matter if she never recovered in the future.

Shen Zhijin would always love Gu Tingyin..

Chapter 1250 Side Story 29: And a Letter to His Wife

The weather was exceptionally good on the day he found out that Gu Tingyin was pregnant.

The weather was exceptionally good on the day he found out that Gu Tingyin was pregnant.

The warm sunlight flowed through the window and onto the desk. She stood on her tiptoes as she hurriedly pulled out a book from the bookshelf.

Shen Zhijin wrapped his arms around her waist from behind and held her firmly in his arms.

“What is it that you want to see? I’ll help you get it. ”

Gu Tingyin turned her head to look at him, her almond-shaped eyes shining brightly.

“Sunspot”! “Black hole and Time Warp”! No, no, “The Universe in a Nutshell”! Oh, but isn’t “The Physical Universe” better?”

Shen Zhijin laughed.

“Why do you suddenly want to look at this?”

Every time she read this kind of book, she would leave in high spirits but return as if without a care. She would then wave her hand and throw the book to him.

However, if he read for too long, she would come back to take the book away and throw herself into his arms.

Gu Tingyin’s black almond-shaped eyes widened as she looked at him with a serious expression on her face.

“It’s prenatal education! Of course, we have to start as soon as possible! What if Tang Tang is like me in the future and can’t understand physics?”

The name 'Tangtang' had just been given to the baby.

She pointed at the bookshelf again and muttered softly, "Were those books not enough? Why don't you help Tangtang choose some, Ah Jin?"

Shen Zhijin froze for a moment. He really had not expected that this would be the first thing she thought of. His tidy and handsome eyebrows stretched out as he smiled.

"Isn't it a little too early?"

Gu Tingyin snorted.

"In what way is it too early? We have to start working hard now!"

Shen Zhijin helped her take down the books.

"Shall I read them with you?"

Gu Tingyin nodded repeatedly.

"If there's anything I don't understand, you can tell it to Tangtang directly!"

The two of them sat down at the desk.

Gu Tingyin lowered her head to look at her still flat stomach and gave a serious warning, "Tangtang, you have to work hard and strive to be as smart as Daddy in the future! Mommy even bought you a telescope and a Nebula Atlas!"

After that, she picked up the book “The Physical Universe” that was placed at the top and flipped it open to read it in a serious manner.

..

Fifteen minutes later, the book in Gu Tingyin’s hands had only been flipped to the second page.

However, she was so sleepy that she could not keep her eyes open, and her little head continuously nodded off.

Shen Zhijin intended on carrying her back to rest.

“Would you like to sleep?”

“!”

Gu Tingyin snapped back to her senses and immediately shook her head in refusal.

“No, no way! I haven’t finished the book yet!”

As she spoke, her eyes widened as she stared fiercely at the book.

But in less than a minute, the words seemed to become elusive, and uncontrollably, her eyelids began to close again.

Struggling with all her might, she began to spout nonsense.

“Tangtang ... Today’s prenatal education hasn’t...”

Shen Zhijin could not argue with her, so he ruffled her hair.

“Should I read it to you and Tangtang?”

Gu Tingyin finally relaxed and nodded.

“Alright!”

Shen Zhijin hugged her from behind as he helped her hold her books.

His deep and clear voice rang throughout the quiet room.

After a long time had passed, he finally stopped and lowered his eyes when he heard her breathing become more regular.

The sunlight fell on her eyelashes, casting a faint shadow on her face. One could even see the fine hairs on her fair and clear skin.

He kissed the space between her eyebrows as he gently covered her lower abdomen with the palm of his hand, and the corners of his lips curved slightly.

“Tangtang, Daddy bought you a sketchbook and paintbrushes.

“It’ll be better if you’re more like your mother.”

...

The night was dark.

Shen Zhijin slowly opened his eyes.

The room was dark.

He opened his eyes and looked at the ceiling but he did not seem to be looking at anything at all. His eyes were dark and obscure, as if they were darker than the night.

Something seemed to be pressing onto his body, and it felt so heavy that he almost could not breathe.

He sat up and lifted the blanket. His chest heaved up and down as he took deep breaths, fighting for the thin oxygen in the air.

He felt like a dying fish, unable to do anything other than breathe.

The room was so quiet that he could even hear his own rapid heartbeat.

One of his hands was pressed to his heart. Due to the force, his shirt was wrinkled, his knuckles were white, and the veins on the back of his hand were bulging.

Yet, he still could not fall asleep.

The moment he closed his eyes, he was met with an overwhelming fire that burned his entire body.

The cold moonlight outlined his thin figure.

He was curled up against the head of the bed, and his breath was so suppressed that it felt like it was completely suffocating him.

It was as if a large hole had been dug out of his chest, leaving him in a bloody mess.

With every breath he took, the cold wind gushed in wildly, bringing with it a burning pain.

He opened his mouth, but no words came out.

Finally, he lowered his head and rested it on his knees, his back trembling violently.

...

After another sleepless night, he sat alone with his eyes wide open until dawn.

Someone knocked on the door and walked in.

“Ah Jin.”

Uncle Qi walked in with a bowl of porridge and looked at him with a complicated expression on his face.

During this period of time, both of Shen Zhijin’s parents had fallen ill. He himself had locked himself in here and refused to come out.

Time seemed to have stopped.

He had a very good relationship with Shen Zhijin’s father and mother, so he had specially come over to take care of him.

“Have something to eat.”

He handed the porridge over.

Shen Zhijin finally moved.

In just a few days, he had lost a lot of weight. His eyes were dark and bloodshot.

He had become dull and it took a while for him to react to what Uncle Qi was saying. He turned his stiff body and raised his hand to take the bowl of porridge.

However, he had no strength left and he could not even catch the bowl of porridge, causing it to fall to the ground with a loud bang.

Shen Zhijin lowered his head to look, without any expression on his face. After a while, he finally realized that something had fallen on the ground. He reached out to pick it up.

“Ah Jin!”

Uncle Qi quickly stopped him.

“The bowl is broken. Let me clean it up.”

As he spoke, he quickly tidied up the area.

Shen Zhijin looked at it for a while before finally withdrawing his gaze, his eyes looking completely unfocused.

Uncle Qi silently sighed.

“Ah Jin, you can’t go on without eating or drinking. Your body can’t take it. I’ll go get you another bowl.”

Shen Zhijin still did not speak.

He had been like this whole time, as if he had lost the ability to speak.

Uncle Qi turned around and walked to the door before turning back to look.

“Ah Jin, everyone is... very worried about you. If she knew you were like this...”

Gu Tingyin’s name had almost become a taboo, and no one dared to mention it in front of him.

However, what had happened had already happened.

If Shen Zhijin continued like this, he was afraid...

Shen Zhijin’s eyelashes fluttered slightly.

After a long time, he finally opened his mouth. His dry lips moved slightly, and his voice was extremely hoarse as he spoke.

“... I want to drink a peanut milkshake.”

Uncle Qi was stunned for a moment. When he saw that Shen Zhijin had finally spoken and was willing to eat, he quickly nodded.

“Alright! I’ll go and buy it for you now!”

Uncle Qi moved quickly. He was worried that the peanut milkshake would not be enough, so he also bought a few boxes of peanut crisps.

In fact, Shen Zhijin’s stomach was very fragile right now, so he should not have been eating these things. But this was the only thing he wanted to eat at the moment, so he did not bother about that fact.

“Just eat a little first. Then, you should have some porridge later to warm your stomach.”

As Uncle Qi spoke, he watched Shen Zhijin open the box and put a piece of peanut crisp into his mouth. Since he was finally starting to eat, no matter what it was, he felt a little relieved.

“I’ll help you heat up the porridge.”

With that, he left.

Shen Zhijin slowly chewed on the peanut crisps and swallowed them.

Then, he picked up another piece.

He moved mechanically.

It was a familiar yet strange smell.

When they had first got together, she had always asked him to help her eat these things. Then, she would lean over to smell the scent on the corner of his lips.

After that, he had eaten less of it because he could not kiss her after eating peanuts.

It had indeed been a long time since he had eaten these.

He kept stuffing peanut crisps into his mouth as if he could fill up the hole in his heart.

That was until his hand caught nothing...

He lowered his head and saw that the box was empty.

However, it was not enough.

He picked up the peanut milkshake again.

The moment he uncovered it, the rich sweet smell of peanuts and milk assailed his nose.

He took a sip.

The sweet taste filled his mouth.

His stomach suddenly spasmed violently.

“Ah Jin, the porridge is ready...”

Uncle Qi had just arrived at the door, but he did not see anyone.

The sound of vomiting could be heard from the bathroom.

He was stunned. It was only then that he realized that Shen Zhijin had finished all three boxes of peanut crisps that had been on the table. The empty peanut milkshake cup had fallen to the ground, leaving only a little residue that flowed out of the cup.

His heart tightened, and he immediately headed to the bathroom.

Shen Zhijin was kneeling on the ground as he held on to the toilet bowl and vomited out everything he had eaten.

Because he was so emaciated, his shoulder blades were particularly prominent, making him look very bony. He looked like he was about to spit everything out.

He almost vomited blood.

Uncle Qi's hands trembled as he held the bowl of porridge.

...

Another night passed.

The darkness of the night and the silence were repeated.

Everything was the same as yesterday and there was no difference from the day before that.

Shen Zhijin took off his glasses and sat quietly for a long time. Finally, he came to the desk.

When he turned on the table lamp, the dim yellow light reflected on his extremely pale face, making it look translucent.

He took out a sketchbook from the drawer and opened it.

The first page showed a sketch of him on the boulevard of Xijing University.

On the second page, there was a picture of him in the pouring rain.

On the third page, the picture showed him in a corner of the restaurant.

...

Everything in the book was about him.

It documented everything from the first time they met until now.

She had filled the thick book with her sketches.

She had drawn his facial features so many times that even he, who had never cared about his appearance before, could clearly remember the way he looked in her eyes.

He looked through each page until he came to the last page where he was carrying Tangtang in his arms.

He stared at the page for a long time before he continued to flip to the next page.

Blank.

There was nothing.

He took a pen and placed the tip on the large blank space.

– Yinyin.

...

‘Yinyin, I have insomnia again today.

‘You probably don’t know this, but I haven’t been sleeping well recently, and I can’t really eat.

‘Actually, I would really like to sleep well, because only then might I be able to see you.

‘But now, even that is a luxury.

‘Are you still angry with me? It’s all my fault. You should be angry.

'But you have many ways to punish me. Why did you choose this one? You didn't even give me a chance to ask you if it hurts.

'Yinyin, I don't like peanut milkshakes anymore.

'In another three hours, the sky will be bright, and it will be another day.

'But I'm afraid.

'I'm afraid that tomorrow will be a sunny day, the sun will be strong, and the wind will be hot. Then you won't come to ask me for directions.

'I'm afraid that it'll be rainy tomorrow. The rain will be pouring down and the ground will be muddy. You won't come and ask me to hold an umbrella for you.

'I'm afraid that the weather will be good tomorrow, but I'm also afraid that the weather will be bad tomorrow.

'That's because you won't be coming back.

'I'm afraid of every tomorrow that I'll have without you.

'I've tried my best. I've tried to sleep, I've tried to eat, I've tried to read, I've tried to get my life back on track like before.

'But I can't do it.

'A planet's orbit will not change because of meteors, but it turns out that what it lost was its star.

'It can only be confused, collapsed, and destroyed.

'I'm not sure if you still remember the law of conservation of energy that I told you about in class.

'It turns out that love also follows this law.

'Love will not appear out of thin air, nor will it disappear into thin air. It only changes from one form to another, from one person to another, and the total amount of love remains the same.

'It's probably because you've given me too much, and now it's finally my turn to repay you.

'Day after day, year after year has passed.

'I can return it, but now, I don't even have the chance to.

...

He finished writing the last word and put down his pen.

Outside the window, the sky was bright.

He looked at his left wrist, where the scarlet blood was slowly seeping out.

Strangely, it did not hurt.

Perhaps it was a form of release.

He slowly bent over, closed his eyes, and let out a breath.

This time, he would finally not have to be afraid of tomorrow.

...

He seemed to have had a very long dream.

In the dream, it had been pitch black everywhere.

He had not known where to go. He merely stood there, feeling the cold wind pierce through his bones.

“Ah Jin.”

Someone called out to him.

His heart trembled as he turned around to look.

The surrounding darkness quickly receded at that moment, leaving only a blinding white that covered the sky and earth.

She walked towards him.

He froze there, unable to move.

It had been too long since he had seen her, and he could not bear to look away.

“... Yinyin.”

He heard his own voice tremble.

She stood in front of him and took his hand. She frowned as her face was full of heartache.

“Ah Jin, does it hurt?”

It hurt.

How could it not hurt?

His chest was heavy and his throat was blocked, but he could not say a word.

She gently blew on the wound on his wrist and raised her little face.

“Because Ah Jin is in pain, so am I. Tangtang as well.

His heart felt as if it had been pierced by something.

“I don’t want Ah Jin to feel pain.”

She murmured as she hugged him and shook her head.

In the silence, he heard himself say-

“Alright.”

...

When he woke up again, he was in the hospital.

Uncle Qi was standing guard by the bed. When he saw him open his eyes, he finally heaved a sigh of relief and whispered, "Ah Jin, it's a good thing we found out in time. It's good that you're fine. I've kept this from your parents, but don't you ever-"

He did not finish his sentence, but his meaning was clear.

Shen Zhijin was silent for a long time before he finally spoke, his voice sounding slightly hoarse.

"I won't."

Uncle Qi did not fully believe him. He was about to bring it up again when he heard Shen Zhijin suddenly say, "Where's the nearest flower shop?"

Uncle Qi was stunned.

"What's wrong?"

Shen Zhijin looked out the window.

The sun was warm and bright. It could even be said that it was quite dazzling.

"Yinyin likes camellias. I haven't bought her any this week," he said.

He could not bear for her to be in pain, so even though his insides were already a bloody mess and in extreme pain, he would endure it.

Even if time seemed long and there was no end to it.

However, he had promised her, so of course he had to keep his promise.

He stared at the light for a long time before a smile finally appeared on his face.

Actually, there was no need to bother.

He had already died in the brilliant sunlight.