

## Little Brat's 241

### Chapter 241: Stay

Considering that there were other people nearby, Mei Li did not ask Xu Yini what had happened.

Mei Li still had to deal with this mess.

There were so many people here. If someone leaked this, it would certainly have a negative impact on Xu Yini.

Mei Li patted Xu Yini's arm, went out and made a round of phone calls, then talked to the two artists and staff in the room.

Everyone understood what it meant implicitly and explicitly.

The newcomer's show was lined up first, so she left the dressing room soon after.

Mei Li then chatted with the middle-aged female singer for a while.

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About half an hour later, Xu Yini's makeup was finally done.

"I'm going to the bathroom." Xu Yini said as she stood up.

Mei Li walked over at once.

“Yini, this dress is too cumbersome. Let me accompany you.”

As she spoke, she had already held up the hem of Xu Yini’s skirt.

The assistant next to her also hurriedly followed.

The three of them left the dressing room.

Once the door closed, the singer’s makeup artist breathed a sigh of relief and gently patted her chest.

“I really couldn’t tell that Xu Yini was such a difficult person...”

They were all present and had a clear understanding of what had happened earlier.

In the whole incident, the previous makeup artist had not actually been at fault.

The makeup artist had only asked for Xu Yini’s opinion, yet she had been scolded in public and kicked out.

It was just too humiliating.

Anyone would feel bad for the makeup artist.

The female singer had a good relationship with her, so she laughed.

“Well, she has a good backing, so naturally, ordinary people can’t compare to her.”

Xu Yini was a popular star and came from a prestigious family. There were not many celebrities in the circle that could beat her.

The makeup artist just had bad luck.

“Yeah, I guess it’s normal for a Young Miss to have a little temper.”

The makeup artist shrugged her shoulders and closed the makeup box.

“She was obviously fine before. I don’t know why she suddenly felt such a rage”

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After coming out of the bathroom, Mei Li took Xu Yini to a small lounge.

“Yini, why did you suddenly get so angry just now?”

Mei Li frowned.

“There were so many people in the dressing room. If someone had taken a video or recorded the audio, what would happen to you?”

Xu Yini ruffled her hair, completely unbothered.

“Well, they would need the guts to share it.”

Mei Li wanted to say something but stopped.

Everyone was afraid of Xu Yini, so perhaps they would not dare to do anything.

Even if they did, Xu Yini would be able to respond quickly. However, even so, this was still a bad situation.

“I’ll keep an eye on this matter, but you should pay attention to your actions. Don’t let other people get a chance to blackmail you. You’ll be going on stage soon, so you have to adjust your attitude as soon as possible.”

Xu Yini’s solo performance would be performed before midnight as the finale.

Originally, she would not qualify to perform the grand finale due to her seniority. However, as long as she was agreeable to it, it would not be a problem.

Xu Yini began to look at her phone again and felt a lingering frustration. “Fine.”

She really wanted to ask Lu Huaiyu where he was at the moment, but she knew that Lu Huaiyu would not reply.

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When Mei Li saw Xu Yini like this, she guessed that it was probably related to Second Master Lu.

A third-party observer could see that this had been Xu Yini’s unrequited love since the beginning. If Lu Huaiyu was even the slightest bit interested in her, he would not be treating her like this.

However, Mei Li did not dare persuade Xu Yini on this matter because it was not her place.

...

Lincheng.

It was already after 9:00 pm after dinner.

Lu Huaiyu got up, picked up his jacket, seemingly ready to leave.

Ning Li froze.

“Second Brother, where are you going?”

Lu Huaiyu looked calm. “To the hospital. There are some things I haven’t asked yet.”

“Now?”

Ning Li had originally thought that he would be going to a hotel and had not expected him to go to the hospital.

“Wouldn’t it be the same if you go tomorrow? Are you not planning to sleep tonight? What about other hotels...”

Lu Huaiyu smiled. “I’m not used to staying outside. It’s just one night, so it’s nothing.”

Ning Li remembered that his sleep pattern was indeed very bad.

‘Was he planning to stay up all night at the hospital?’

“You should go to bed early.”

Lu Huaiyu said as he was about to open the door and leave.

Ning Li hesitated for a moment and blurted out. “Second Brother, why don’t you stay here tonight?”

Lu Huaiyu paused in his footsteps.

Ning Li wanted him to get some rest.

Seeing that Lu Huaiyu did not say anything, she thought he did not want to stay, so she said, "I've stayed at your house twice before. Although this place can't be compared to Yunding Fenghua, the quilts and sheets are all clean. I purposely sunned them yesterday."

She then pointed to a room next to her. "That room isn't occupied. If you don't mind, perhaps you can stay there for one night?"

This house was not large, but there were three compact bedrooms.

Ning Li and her grandmother had their own rooms, and there was a guest bedroom that had always been empty.

After a while, Lu Huaiyu nodded gently.

"Okay then."

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The spare room really was empty. Ning Li carried the sheets and quilt and made the bed.

Fortunately, Ning Li hired someone to clean the house regularly while she was away. Otherwise, she would be too embarrassed to offer Lu Huaiyu a place to stay.

Lu Huaiyu walked over with a relaxed smile. "It's fine."

Ning Li looked around again.

"There's no heating in this house, so it gets quite cold at night."

Luckily it was only for one night, so it should pass quickly.

"Second Brother, you should rest early. I'll go back to my room."

"Mm."

Lu Huaiyu nodded.

Ning Li turned around and went back to her room.

Lu Huaiyu took a look around.

The quilt, sheets, and everything were all Ning Li's.

As he got closer, he could still smell the freshness of sunlight on the quilt.

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It was late at night.

Moonlight spilled in from the window.

Actually, Lu Huaiyu was not sleepy and sat against the headboard with slightly closed eyes.

Suddenly, he heard the sound of a turning doorknob from next door.

The rooms were not soundproof, so he figured that it was Ning Li coming out of her room.

Her footsteps were very light as she seemed to be afraid of disturbing him.

Lu Huaiyu could even imagine her careful actions.

His lips curved upwards as he silently laughed.

Then, he heard the door on the left opening.

Lu Huaiyu was stunned.

‘Wasn’t that the bathroom?’

Before he could react, the sound of water from the showerhead came from inside.

Ning Li had spent quite a long time at Second Garage during the day, so she was sweaty and her clothes were dirty.

She had only gone to take a shower when she thought that Lu Huaiyu had fallen asleep.

Although her movements were very light, everything seemed to be amplified in the silent darkness of the night.

Lu Huaiyu could hear every movement clearly because he was only a wall away.



He leaned against the headboard without moving.

After a long time, he raised his hand to rub his brows. His Adam's apple rolled up and down and he exhaled gently to calm himself.

Chapter 242: From Yunzhou

Ning Li came out of the bathroom, wrapped in a thick robe. Lu Huaiyu was sleeping in the room next door.

She glanced at the door and saw that the lights were turned off. Thus, she thought that Lu Huaiyu was asleep.

However, she still moved lightly towards her room, step by step, before gently closing the door again.

For fear of waking up Lu Huaiyu, she did not use a hairdryer and just towel-dried her hair.

Her phone suddenly lit up, so she looked at it and saw several New Year's wishes.

Only then did she realize that it was already past midnight.

He Xiaochen: [Dear Ning Li, Happy New Year!]

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Ji Shu: [Happy New Year, Sister Li! Please bless me so that I can compete this year!]

Gu Siyang was straightforward and sent her a red packet.

Ning Li replied to their messages.

The senior class group chat was also very lively.

She read for a while and was about to go to sleep when she received another message.

It was from Pei Song. [Happy New Year.]

There were no other extra words, just a plain and straightforward wish.

From this, Ning Li thought of his usual cold and indifferent expression.

It had been sent to the group. After all, Pei Song was the Class President.

Ning Li replied anyway. [Happy New Year.]

After that, she saw her list of messages and spotted Lu Huaiyu's name.

There was no message from him, probably because he had gone to bed early.

Ning Li put her phone down and wiped her hair for a while before lying down to sleep.

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During the New Year, Zhou Fei would be very busy.

He would get so many wishes from parents and students that it was overwhelming.

Zhou Fei was nestled on his sofa as he looked at the long list of unread messages with little red dots. He let out a long sigh and began to reply to them one by one.

Suddenly, a familiar name appeared.

[Go online.]

Zhou Fei could not believe his eyes.

This was a message from Lu Huaiyu!

Second Master Lu never played games at night.

‘Why is he suddenly so free, especially on New Year’s Day?’

However, this opportunity was rare, so Zhou Fei did not think much about it and immediately replied.  
[Coming!]

The last time, Zhou Fei had been defeated so badly that he had uninstalled the game and did not touch it again for a while.

Then, he felt that he was being a coward, so he picked it up again and practiced hard, waiting for the time to get back on the field.

He had not expected this opportunity to come so soon!

Zhou Fei immediately sat upright, rolled up his sleeves, and excitedly opened the game.

[I’m here!]

Half an hour later, Zhou Fei was staring as he witnessed himself dying for the millionth time. His hand trembled slightly.

Then, he chuckled his phone aside.

[I'm out!]

...

Ning Li slept soundly that night. When she woke up, it was already 10:00 am.

Lu Huaiyu was already awake.

Ning Li walked out and saw him standing by the living room window talking on the phone.

The other party was talking, and he only answered occasionally. He deliberately lowered his voice.

When he heard footsteps, Lu Huaiyu turned to look at Ning Li, said a few more words to the other party before hanging up the phone.

"You're awake?"

Ning Li coughed lightly and felt a little embarrassed.

"Second Brother, you're up so early."

Lu Huaiyu looked at her with a smirk. "It's not very early."

Ning Li was speechless. 'Right... It's already 10:00 am...'

“Cheng Xiyue is coming over later, then we’ll go back to Yunzhou together.”

Ning Li was a little surprised.

“So soon?”

Lu Huaiyu nodded. “The investigation and evidence are pretty much complete. The rest can be left to them to go through the process.”

Since Cheng Xiyue and even Lu Huaiyu had personally stepped in, the efficiency of all parties was naturally amazing.

“Also...”

Lu Huaiyu pondered for a moment as he thought about what to say.

“The news of your return was deliberately revealed to Zhang Yang. Do you know about it?”

Ning Li’s eyebrows twitched slightly, then nodded.

“Yeah, I figured.”

At first, she had not thought much about it, but after the incident, she had pondered it for a long time last night and felt that something was not right.

Ning Li had been away from Lincheng for three months and had only come back for one day, yet Zhang Yang had come to attack her at the door. They had acted extremely fast.

Years ago when the accident had just happened, Zhang Yang had been in a rage and had come to make a scene every now and then. However, ten years had passed and they had come less frequently.

As Lu Huaiyu had mentioned before, Zhang Yang was an ordinary person, so he could not just sit around here doing nothing all day just to keep an eye on Ning Li's movements.

Thus, it was clear that someone had deliberately sent him the news.

However, she could not guess who it was.

Lu Huaiyu said, "The police technical department recovered the data in Zhang Yang's phone and found that the number was from outside the country. However, the IP address shows that it's from Yunzhou."

Ning Li's brows furrowed.

Yunzhou.

There were only a few who had such great hostility towards her.

Lu Huaiyu scrutinized her expression. "You know who it is?"

Ning Li shook her head. "I can't be sure yet."

Without sufficient evidence, Ning Li did not want to jump to conclusions.

"Shall we go back and investigate?"

Ning Li nodded her head.

Even if they found out who it was, it would not have any effect on that person.

The person who had sent the text message had not caused her substantial harm.

Even if the case was opened for investigation, the people who had smashed her door and threatened her were Zhang Yang's people. That had nothing to do with the person who had sent the text message.

Lu Huaiyu came over. "Don't worry about it. I'll deal with this. You just need to focus on your final exam."

Ning Li's lips twitched as she wanted to say something, but there was a sudden knock on the door.

"Lu! Little Ning Li! Are you guys all packed? It's time for us to go!"

It was Cheng Xiyue.

Lu Huaiyu went over to open the door.

Cheng Xiyue looked past Lu Huaiyu and directly inside the house.

Chapter 243: Get Him to Answer the Phone

Lu Huaiyu leaned against the door and seemed to have no intention of inviting Cheng Xiyue in.

"Lili, let's go down once you're packed."

Ning Li responded and turned to go back to her room to get her coat and backpack.

Cheng Xiyue looked in the direction of the kitchen again.

Lu Huaiyu asked in a lazy voice, "What are you looking at?"

Cheng Xiyue was very resentful.

“That thing yesterday...you did it on purpose, right?”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows. “Which thing?”

Cheng Xiyue was speechless. ‘Hmph! This bastard is so shameless! Not staying at Caesar’s was intentional. Posting that photo was intentional, and capturing that other half of the bowl was also intentional! Now he even asks me what I’m referring to?!’

“Is there any soup left?” Cheng Xiyue asked with undying determination.

He did not want to stay in Little Ning Li’s house, but he did want to try her soup.

Ning Li happened to walk out with her bag and was a little surprised when she heard this.

“Brother Xiyue, what soup?”

Cheng Xiyue hurriedly said, “The one you made last night, the corn and pork ribs soup!”

Ning Li froze slightly. “That one? We finished it. But...Brother Xiyue, how did you know...”

She suddenly realized something and looked at Lu Huaiyu.

Cheng Xiyue was also a little surprised.

“Lu posted a picture. Didn’t you know, Little Ning Li?”



Ning Li was clueless.

She had not scrolled through WeChat Moments last night, so she had not seen Lu Huaiyu's post.

Lu Huaiyu picked up his jacket. His handsome and elegant face remained calm. "It tasted good."

This was considered a compliment and an explanation.

Cheng Xiyue silently swallowed the words on the tip of his tongue.

This Second Master Lu was known for his picky taste. Moreover, this was not a question of whether it was delicious.

Lu Huaiyu lifted his chin. "Move."

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Cheng Xiyue drove them back to Lincheng.

Lu Huaiyu sat in the passenger seat with his eyes lightly closed, seemingly resting.

Ning Li sat in the backseat and took out her phone, before turning on WeChat Moments.

There were mostly posts about the New Year.

Some people had made a wish.

Some were celebrating.

Ning Li scrolled down and finally saw Lu Huaiyu's post.

There was no text, only a photo.

As everyone was celebrating the arrival of the New Year, Lu Huaiyu had not said anything and had only posted a picture like this.

She looked to the front and put her phone away.

"Little Ning Li, will I have the chance to taste your cooking one day?"

Cheng Xiyue felt that it was hopeless to ask Lu Huaiyu, so he approached Ning Li directly.

He usually would not dare to be so direct in front of Lu Huaiyu, but that bastard had kept everything to himself!

Thus, Cheng Xiyue could not care less anymore.

Ning Li smiled and nodded. "Of course!"

Cheng Xiyue quickly glanced sideways and saw Lu Huaiyu's eyelashes moving slightly.

He laughed heartily. "Hahaha! It's a promise then!"

Ning Li did not know how just one meal could make Young Master Cheng this happy.

However, she did not ask much.

Cheng Xiyue had helped her a lot, so cooking a meal for him was nothing.

“Ok.”

Suddenly, someone’s phone rang.

Cheng Xiyue’s phone was connected to the Bluetooth in the car, so everyone could hear it clearly.

He looked at the caller ID and saw that it was Xu Yini.

Cheng Xiyue was in a pickle since Lu Huaiyu and Ning Li were also in the car.

After some hesitation, he answered the call.

“Hello, Yini?”

Xu Yini’s voice came from the other end.

“Brother Xiyue, Happy New Year.”

Cheng Xiyue smiled and said, “Weren’t you at the New Year’s Eve party yesterday? How come you have the time to call me?”

Most celebrities were very busy during the holiday season. Since Xu Yini was so popular, she was naturally more so.

He knew that Xu Yini must be very busy, so she would not call just to wish him a Happy New Year.

Xu Yini also laughed.

“Brother Xiyue, don’t make fun of me. Even though I’m busy, I can’t compare to you, right? You’re on a business trip even on New Year’s Day.”

Cheng Xiyue was stunned for a moment before he recalled that he had pinned his location at Lincheng when he posted on WeChat Moments last night.

He looked to the side and laughed. “It’s fine. The business trip allowance is quite generous.”

Lu Huaiyu’s eyes were still closed as if he was not bothered about the matter.

Xu Yini paused for a moment.

Cheng Xiyue was the heir to the Cheng family, so his business trips were not the same as ordinary employees.

Hearing his words, there was only one possibility.

This was a private trip.

Thinking about Lu Huaiyu’s photo from yesterday, she was even more certain of her suspicions.

“Brother Xiyue, is Huaiyu also with you?”

Her voice was much softer.

Cheng Xiyue silently sighed.

Xu Yini had made this call to ask this, but she had to ask in such a roundabout way.

‘Why is that necessary?’

Cheng Xiyue did not bother to deny it and said frankly, "Yeah, what's up?"

There was no need to hide this because anyone could find out.

Besides, there was no need to hide their itinerary from Xu Yini.

Xu Yini did not know what to say since he had been so straightforward.

She actually had many questions, but on second thought, she felt that it was inappropriate.

After a while, she said, "Then...could you get Huaiyu to answer the phone?"

Cheng Xiyue looked at Lu Huaiyu.

Lu Huaiyu opened his eyes and spoke first, "Lili."

Ning Li had been sitting quietly at the back and had not expected Lu Huaiyu to call out to her, so she subconsciously sat upright.

"Second Brother, what's wrong?"

Xu Yini suddenly fell silent.

Lu Huaiyu turned around.

"I put some mint in your backpack last night. Give me one please."

Ning Li rummaged around and found a small box of mints.

He had probably put it in yesterday.

She handed it over.

Cheng Xiyue coughed and said, “Yini, I’m driving now, so I’ll hang up first.”

#### Chapter 244: Inconvenient

Lu Huaiyu was right next to Cheng Xiyue.

Lu Huaiyu should have heard the conversation between Xu Yini and Cheng Xiyue just now, but he had not said anything and had not shown any intention of talking to Xu Yini.

Moreover, Ning Li was also there.

Ning Li was from Lincheng.

Xu Yini was smart. With this sentence, she had already figured out a lot of things.

Lu Huaiyu had also been in Lincheng last night.

It was evident whose house he had been in that had that table and that bowl of soup.

Lu Huaiyu was an extremely picky person. Aside from Ning Li’s house, he would not step foot into such a humble place.

He had actually gone there and even eaten dinner in such a place.

Moreover, he had even posted it on his WeChat Moments.

Xu Yini clutched her phone, her knuckles turning white.

The feeling of uneasiness that had arisen when she saw Ning Li at Yunding Fenghua that day overwhelmed her again.

Lu Huaiyu really cared for Ning Li.

Xu Yini had known him for so many years and had never seen him treat anyone that way.

‘Could he really...’

Xu Yini did not reply for a long time, so Cheng Xiyue called out to her again.

“Yini?”

Xu Yini recovered her senses and tried to make her voice sound calm.

“Huaiyu’s not used to sleeping outside, so he probably didn’t get to sleep well last night, right? I won’t bother you guys then.”

Ning Li took back the box of mint and ate one herself. When she heard this, she subconsciously glanced at Lu Huaiyu.

However, he was leaning back on the seat, so she could not see his expression.

Cheng Xiyue thought to himself, ‘How would I know if he had slept well or not?’

He smiled and said, “Okay, then I’ll hang up now.”

After the call had ended, the car became silent again.

The cool minty flavor diffused in her mouth. Ning Li hesitated for a while and asked, "Second Brother, did you not sleep well last night?"

Lu Huaiyu laughed. "I slept quite well."

Ning Li was skeptical. After all, his insomnia was indeed quite serious.

However, since that was his answer, she did not ask any more questions.

Cheng Xiyue suddenly thought of something and asked, "By the way, I heard that Gu Tinglan and Gu Siyang were also in Lincheng these few days?"

These words were directed to Ning Li.

She nodded. "Yeah. I bumped into them the day before yesterday."

When Cheng Xiyue heard this, he suddenly recalled how he and his friends had been tortured the other night and had an epiphany.

The day before yesterday.

'Hadn't Gu Siyang posted a picture?'

He recalled carefully and asked tentatively, "Then...did you guys have dinner together?"

"Yes."

Cheng Xiyue took a deep breath and silently stepped on the gas pedal.



'Gu Siyang! I'll get back at you!'

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"Ah-choo!" Gu Siyang sneezed fiercely.

He rubbed his nose.

"Who is missing me so much?"

Gu Tinglan followed Null as they headed towards the garage.

As they walked, Null said, "The car has been fixed. You can check to see if there's any problem. If everything is to your satisfaction, we will then do the final overhaul and maintenance, and you'll be able to pick up the car in two days time."

As he said that, he opened the door of the garage and entered first.

Gu Tinglan followed closely behind.

Gu Siyang quickly walked inside.

The last time they had come over, they had not been able to go in to check it out. This time, he would surely not miss this rare opportunity.

Gu Siyang was one of the bosses of LY. Although his racing skills were not great, he had seen a lot.

Even so, he was still amazed once he was inside.

This garage looked ordinary from the outside, but there were all kinds of equipment and tools inside.

Gu Siyang looked around and finally understood why Null's garage was so famous around here.

Null had the capacity.

Gu Siyang swept a glance at those cars, still filled with amazement.

"This one is last year's global limited edition, right? And this one! I've only seen two of these in the Capital. You actually have one here? Wow! This car is older than me, right? It's so well maintained!"

Gu Tinglan did not really care much about cars. However, Gu Siyang's attitude made him feel embarrassed to be related to him.

He closed his eyes and regretted once again for bringing his nephew here in a moment of weakness.

Null did not seem to mind and answered Gu Siyang's questions very patiently.

He pointed to the innermost corner. "Your car's right there."

Gu Tinglan had already seen it.

He walked over and stood by the car.

From the outside, no signs of damage could be seen.

He pulled open the door, and checked a few places. He started the car to listen to the sound of the engine for a while before exiting .

Null asked, "Well?"

Gu Tinglan nodded. "It's good."

Null and the mechanic responsible for repairing this car were smart enough to know what should be repaired and what should not be touched.

"I'll make the final payment when I pick up the car."

Hearing him say this, the long-held tension in Gu Siyang's heart finally settled down.

This meant that the whole ordeal was finally over!

"This car is very important to us, so we really appreciate your work." Gu Tinglan looked at Null. "If it's possible, I'd like to thank the mechanic who repaired the car in person. Is it convenient?"

Null shrugged his shoulders.

He was not surprised by this request, but...

"That won't be possible because the mechanic has been quite busy lately. Besides, Mr. Gu, you're paying for our service and we're just doing our job, nothing more."

Gu Tinglan smiled gently.

"In that case, I won't force it, but please help me to convey my thanks to the mechanic."

"No problem."

Null made an "okay" gesture.

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Cheng Xi Yue sent Ning Li back to the Ye family home first.

Ye Ci was studying in her room.

The final exam was coming up soon, and she had fallen behind in her other courses due to her preparations for the physics competition, especially in mathematics. She still had a pile of papers and exercises that she did not have time to do.

The last midterm exam had been a great blow to her. She was afraid that a similar situation would occur again, so she was busy cramming.

She even refused to go shopping when Cheng Xiangxiang had asked her out.

Even so, it was hard for Ye Ci to catch up.

The senior math course was very intense. If she even missed a small section, it would affect her learning progress later.

Ye Ci did not have time to properly understand a large part of the content, so she had a headache at the moment.

She stared at the three-dimensional geometry calculation on the paper and frowned.

Suddenly, she heard the sound of a car engine outside.

Ye Ci glanced out the window, her gaze suddenly transfixed.

That was Cheng Xiyue's car.

'At this time, why would he come...'

A slender and tall figure came down from the back of the car.

It was Ning Li.

Ye Ci immediately got up and went to the window.

Ning Li walked to the passenger seat and seemed to be saying goodbye to the people inside the car.

After one minute, Ning Li stepped back and waved her hand.

The car drove away.

Ning Li turned around and walked inside.

Suddenly, Ning Li seemed to sense something and raised her head slightly, looking straight at Ye Ci.

Chapter 245: Return to China

Ye Ci subconsciously took a step back.

She was facing the main entrance, so Ning Li could see her as soon as she raised her head.

Somehow, even being separated by the window and at such a distance, Ye Ci could still inexplicably feel Ning Li's coldness.

Ning Li's face was calm and emotionless.

Ye Ci moved away from Ning Li's line of sight and went back to her desk.

After a while, she heard footsteps outside her room.

Ning Li had gone upstairs.

Ye Ci bit her lip, got up, and walked out.

Ning Li just happened to pass by her bedroom door.

"Sister Ning Li." Ye Ci called out to her.

Ning Li turned around.

Ye Ci quickly gave Ning Li a once over with a smile on her face. "Sister Ning Li, what took you so long to come back? I thought you were only staying in Lincheng for a day."

Ning Li raised her eyebrows and asked, "I don't remember telling you how long I would be going back for."

When Ning Li had gone to Lincheng, she had indeed planned to stay for one night and return on Sunday. However, since it was a New Year's Day holiday, she could stay for another night.

How could Ye Ci have guessed that Ning Li was only staying for one day?

Ye Ci had not expected Ning Li to ask this. Her eyes flickered a little.

"Oh, I just made a casual guess. After all, it's been a long time since you've gone back to Lincheng, so it wouldn't be very convenient to stay for long..."

Her voice softened as she continued, “After all, this is your first New Year’s Day in Yunzhou, so I thought...”

Ye Ci was implying that Ning Li should have stayed back to countdown the New Year with the Ye family, but Ning Li had gone back to Lincheng on that day instead.

If word got out, it would not sound good.

“I was fine over there.”

Ning Li interrupted her words and looked at her dully.

In her previous life, Ning Li would have felt that Ye Ci truly wanted to keep her here and spend the holidays together as a family, if she had heard this.

Now, she was no longer that naive to believe such a ridiculous notion.

No one in the Ye family welcomed her.

For the first ten years, the Ye family had lived happily without Ning Li’s presence in this house.

To them, Ning Li was just like excess baggage.

“I was delayed.”

Ning Li’s tone was casual, but her eyes were fixed on Ye Ci, carefully watching Ye Ci’s change in expression.

“Oh?” Ye Ci’s eyes widened slightly in surprise. “What happened?”

Ning Li narrowed her eyes, then gave a small smile.

“It’s not a big matter. I just happened to run into Second Brother and the others, so we had a meal together.”

Ye Ci’s expression froze for a moment.

“What?”

‘So, Cheng Xiyue had driven Lu Huaiyu and Ning Li back from Lincheng together?’

Ning Li nodded without much concern and suddenly asked again.

“Why do you seem so surprised?”

Her reaction of surprise was not ordinary.

The Cheng family had business in Lincheng, and Lu Huaiyu was Cheng Xiyue’s close friend. It was perfectly normal for them to be in Lincheng.

It was not right that Ye Ci was so shocked.

“Oh, nothing...it’s just...a little unexpected...”

Ye Ci quickly adjusted her expression and resumed her usual gentle and kind appearance.

Ning Li stared at her for a while, before turning to go back to her room.

Ye Ci had originally wanted to ask a few more questions, but she was no longer in the mood.



She went back to her bedroom and picked up her phone.

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Ning Li opened her laptop and exported all the data that had been recorded before for preliminary processing.

She then organized the data and sent out an email.

The lab in the Capital required an appointment.

After the final exams, the Physics Competition Winter Training would start.

During that time, she would have to arrange her schedule accordingly.

Her phone vibrated. It was a message from George.

[Ning, are you free today? Are you sure you don't want to consider the spring and summer collection?]

George had been urging Ning Li to come out with a new collection since last week.

He would send her a message every other day, and each time, he had sent the same sentence.

In the beginning, Ning Li had only replied "I'm not available at the moment". Eventually, she had not bothered to reply anymore.

However, George was still persistent in messaging her.

From the first time he had seen Ning Li's designs, he was particularly fond of it.

That was why he had insisted on making Ning Li's designs the focus of his promotion despite everyone's objections.

George had proven to be very far-sighted.

The "Flower and Moon" series was a huge success, and Ning had become an instant hit in the fashion world.

Since then, countless people have tried to find out about Ning. They wanted to work with her or try to befriend her.

After all, everyone saw how Tang Wei had only relied on that one outfit that had brought her to fame.

Not many in the fashion industry had this kind of ability.

If not for G&S's tight control, they would not be able to keep these people from digging.

Some people had even come to George to ask him in person, but he had refused them all on the grounds of confidentiality.

After this ordeal, George felt both physically and mentally exhausted.

He just needed some new designs from Ning Li's to soothe his wounded heart.

Moreover, although the last "Flower and Moon" series had presented excellent results, it had been a rushed job, so some parts were not perfect.

George was a perfectionist, so he hoped that Ning Li would give him and the G&S team more time to prepare this time.

Ning Li looked at the message, still without replying.

She really was quite busy at the moment.

Meanwhile, she received another email.

It was from Lin Fengmin.

She clicked on it and only saw two short sentences.

He was returning to China.

Chapter 246: I Have Something to Say to You

Ning Li saw the calendar and felt that it was about time.

She replied to Lin Fengmin's email and closed her laptop.

Ning Li looked at her desk. Although it was a holiday, the school had assigned them a lot of homework because it was close to the final exam.

She pulled out a science paper.

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Ye Ci sat in her room and held her phone with both hands as she stared at the messages and frowned.

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She stared at them for a while, and eventually deleted them all.

Afterward, she picked up a pen with the intention of continuing with the math paper that she was halfway through, but she was so distracted that she could not calm her mind. She pondered for a long time before she could solve the first two small problems, but could not think of a solution for the last one.

Ning Li was home, but Ye Ci would never ask for her help.

After a while, she took a picture and sent it to Lin Zhouyang.

[Lin Zhouyang, have you solved the third sub-question?]

Although Lin Zhouyang's English was horrible, his math was above average, and he had a total score of 145 marks.

Lin Zhouyang replied as soon as he saw her message.

[I haven't done it yet, wait a sec.]

Ye Ci: [There's no rush.]

Lin Zhouyang found his schoolbag and dumped all of its contents on the bed.

Since it was a holiday, he had not even opened the zipper on his bag.

It was rare for Ye Ci to ask him questions, so he certainly had to seize the opportunity.

After flipping through his things, Lin Zhouyang finally found the math paper from a pile of crumpled papers.

He pulled over a chair and solved it as he messaged Ye Ci.

[Didn't Ning Li solve this already?]

Ning Li would still have been able to tackle this problem even though it was quite difficult.

They both lived in the same house, so was it not more convenient for Ye Ci to ask Ning Li?

Lin Zhouyang would not have asked this before.

After all, everyone could see that the relationship between Ning Li and Ye Ci had never been good.

However, since Ye Ci had borrowed Ning Li's notes and placed fifth in the provincial physics competition, Lin Zhouyang had now changed his mind.

Ning Li had always been generous and selfless when it came to learning.

[Ning Li went back to Lincheng for the past two days and only just arrived home. She didn't look well-rested, so I didn't want to bother her.]

Lin Zhouyang understood.

[No wonder. Then wait a minute, I'll finish it right away!]

He then sent his solution to her.

Ye Ci looked at Lin Zhouyang's messy handwriting and frowned.

Without waiting for her to reply, Lin Zhouyang seemed to have realized the problem and texted her again.

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[Ooops, it's a little messy. Hold on.]

Two minutes later, he sent another picture.

The solution was written neatly on a blank A4 paper.

Although his handwriting was still very ugly, it was still legible.

Ye Ci thanked him and sent him a smiley face emoji.

It looked very cute and polite.

When Lin Zhouyang had first looked at that emoji, he felt very happy. After a while, he felt a little annoyed.

He had been feeling frustrated since he had inadvertently overheard the conversation between Ye Ci and Cheng Xiangxiang previously.

Ye Ci had admitted that she liked someone.

For so long, Ye Ci had countless admirers, but she had never shown any special interest in anyone.

She had even agreed to go with him to the painting exhibition, so he had thought that she might like him too. However, her attitude since then had proved that he had been overthinking things.

Ye Ci had said that the guy was not from the First Class.

Then, who could the person be?

'It can't be Ding Xi...'

As for the others, there were no signs that Ye Ci liked them.

Ren Qian suddenly called and interrupted Lin Zhouyang's thoughts.

"Yo, Linny! Are you coming? We're waiting for you at the court. Where are you?"

Lin Zhouyang slapped his head.

He had been so focused on solving the problem for Ye Ci that he had almost forgotten about it.

"Coming!"

Ren Qian's house was just across the street, so it was convenient for them to play basketball.

Ten minutes later, Lin Zhouyang arrived at the basketball court in Ren Qian's neighborhood.

Two other boys who lived in their neighborhood had joined them at the court.

Pei Song was also there.

“Sorry, I was just doing homework.”

Lin Zhouyang said as he trotted over.

Ren Qian looked at him as if he had seen a ghost.

“Are you sick?”

“You’re the one who’s sick!”

“You’re doing homework on a holiday?”

Ren Qian took a step back and held the ball.

“Stay away from me!”

Lin Zhouyang snorted, but his face betrayed a little of his excitement as he bragged.

“Ye Ci asked me to solve a problem.”

Ren Qian and the others looked at each other.

‘Tsk ts... It was because of Ye Ci... It’s no wonder...’

Ren Qian asked casually, “Why didn’t she ask Ning Li since they live together?”

Lin Zhouyang walked over and snatched the ball as soon as he could, before saying nonchalantly, “Oh, Ning Li went back to Lincheng two days ago and only just came back today.”



“Oh?”

Ren Qian froze for a moment.

“Didn’t you say that she lived with her grandmother before? Then...”

‘Did she spend the holiday by herself?’

“Right...” Lin Zhouyang dribbled slower and suddenly thought of something. He looked at Pei Song.

“Hey, speaking of which, Brother Pei, did you spend the New Year alone too?”

Pei Song’s parents were abroad, and his grandmother was recuperating in the Capital.

Although his aunt’s family was also in Yunzhou, he basically lived by himself.

Pei Song gave him a dull look. “Mm.”

It was not the first time that this had happened, so he was already used to it.

Lin Zhouyang felt aggrieved.

“Then, why didn’t you reply to my New Year’s Day wishes?”

Ren Qian laughed. “Brother Pei always sleeps early and never bothers with things like these. Don’t talk about you, he didn’t reply to mine either! Just get used to it!”

Lin Zhouyang shrugged his shoulders. ‘Right...’

“Hey, Pei, you can’t always be so cold. I sent one to Ning Li and she replied.”

He then made a pass.

Pei Song suddenly intercepted it.

Lin Zhouyang was slightly stunned.

“Aren’t you on my team?”

Pei Song lifted his chin. His eyes were aloof and calm.

“You’re late, so you’re on your own.”

Ren Qian immediately understood and scoffed.

“Yup! That’s how it is! Linny, us five against you!”

The rest followed suit.

“Yeah! You almost ditched us for Ye Ci. You must be punished!”

“Tsk tsk... Bros before hos, man!”

Lin Zhouyang was speechless.

Pei Song seemed a little distracted. He dribbled in place, before jumping to make a shot.

It was a clean shot!

Lin Zhouyang thought, 'I'm only a little late... Why is Pei Song so angry?'

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Ye family.

In the evening, Ye Ming did not come back for dinner.

The Qinghe Bridge project had officially started, so he had been quite busy at the office.

Although Su Yuan wanted to ease the relationship between them, she still had not found the right opportunity. She could only put it aside temporarily.

The atmosphere at the dining table was quiet.

Ning Li finished eating and was about to get up and leave.

Su Yuan suddenly said, "Ning Li, wait. I have something to say to you."

Chapter 247: Isn't It Interesting?

Ning Li paused in her movements and sat back down again, making a gesture that she was all ears.

She looked at Su Yuan with a faint smile and said in a lazy voice, "Years ago, I didn't know that you had so many things to say to me."

Su Yuan almost choked, yet she could not refute this.

After all, Su Yuan had not inquired about Ning Li in the past ten years.

Su Yuan had not even made a single phone call, much less met her face-to-face.

Since she had picked Ning Li up, they rarely spoke to each other. Every time they did, they would get into a disagreement after only a few words.

Ning Li did not listen to Su Yuan and did not even pretend to care.

Thus, Su Yuan could not even speak to Ning Li properly even if she wanted to.

After the previous experiences, Su Yuan finally realized that her previous method was useless in dealing with Ning Li.

Su Yuan was straightforward this time.

"I know you don't like me, but since you moved in, you're considered part of the Ye family. In future, you should stay here during the holidays. As for Lincheng..."

She paused.

That was a place she did not want to mention ever again.

If she could, Su Yuan did not want to have any more contact with that city.

"As for Lincheng, you shouldn't go back there in the future."

Su Yuan's words were very straightforward and her tone was much stronger.

This was not a discussion. It was an order.

She had given up trying to communicate with Ning Li gently because that simply did not work.

It was more effective to be direct.

Ning Li looked cold, before suddenly letting out a laugh.

“That’s my home. Why can’t I go back?”

Su Yuan’s eyebrows knitted together.

‘What was so good about that shabby and crowded hutong?’

Now that Ning Li’s grandmother had passed away, Ning Li did not have any other family members or friends over there.

How could that kind of place be called “home”?

What was the Ye family home to Ning Li then?

“Ning Li, why do you always have to go against me?”

Ning Li held her cheek with one hand.

“You think too much. I’m not that bored.”

With the final exams coming, the winter training for the physics competition, and George’s persistence in getting her designs, Ning Li really was quite busy.

Su Yuan choked and looked at Ning Li. Her lips were trembling with anger.

The air seemed to freeze.

Ye Ci's eyes swept back and forth between the two and hurriedly tried to ease the situation.

"Sister Ning Li, Mom is just saying this for your own good. After all, if you live by yourself in Lincheng, it's quite unsafe..."

Ning Li suddenly raised her eyes and looked over. Her gaze was sharp and cold.

She spoke slowly, enunciating each word methodically.

"I've been fine all this while living in Lincheng. How is it unsafe?"

Ye Ci's voice came to an abrupt halt.

She had wanted to skip this topic, but Ning Li had looked at her with such sharp eyes as if she could see through everything.

Ye Ci averted her gaze and said in a soft voice.

"I...I heard that people would go and make a scene...so...so I was just worried..."

Ning Li raised her eyebrows.

"Did you mean Zhang Yang and his family?"

Ye Ci's lips twitched.

“I heard that these people are trouble. Sister Ning Li, if you’re alone...”

Ning Li suddenly looked at Su Yuan.

“I don’t think you know who Zhang Yang is, right?”

Su Yuan froze.

Ye Ci’s expression stiffened.

Su Yuan also seemed to sense that something was wrong and frowned.

“Who’s that?”

Ye Ci’s hand that was under the table slowly tightened.

There was no expression on Ning Li’s face.

“He’s Zhang He’s brother. Oh, Zhang He was the victim of that car accident back then.”

Su Yuan had already left Lincheng by that time. After the accident, Ning Li’s grandmother had used various methods to try and reach her.

However, Su Yuan had been determined to leave. After hearing about this, she had been even more determined to never go back.

Su Yuan had not asked about Ning Haizhou’s case, so naturally, she would not know those names.

Hearing Ning Li say this, Su Yuan’s face changed slightly.

Ning Li looked at Ye Ci.

“Ye Ci, I didn’t know that you cared so much about me.”

Su Yuan also looked at Ye Ci with curiosity.

Su Yuan herself had not known the other party’s name, so how had Ye Ci found out that those people had caused trouble for the Ning family in the past?

Ye Ci’s palms broke out in cold sweat.

She hung her head and said, “I...I accidentally saw it when those people berated you on the internet last time.”

Ye Ci was talking about the time when Ning Li had just entered Second High and almost pushed someone down the stairs. Someone had taken a video and uploaded it to the internet.

At the time, countless netizens had identified Ning Li’s act as school violence and verbally attacked Ning Li.

Some people had even dug up her past and exposed it.

It was still possible that Ye Ci had found out about it from that incident.

“Then, thanks for your concern.”

Ning Li’s lips curved slightly with a touch of mockery in her eyes.

“You even remember these small details so clearly.”



Ye Ci pursed her lips.

She knew that anything she said would sound wrong, so she simply kept quiet.

Su Yuan was dubious and seemed to be a little nervous.

“Is it true?”

‘How many times did those people go to the Ning family to create trouble?’

“Not everything on the internet is real.”

Ning Li glanced at Su Yuan.

“Don’t worry, they don’t have the guts to make a scene here yet, much less implicate you and the Ye family.”

At most, they would only wait for her to go back to Lincheng.

Su Yuan felt humiliated that Ning Li had seen through her thoughts.

“Ning Li, I don’t...”

“Since you’re so concerned about this, there’s some good news that I’d like to share with you.”

Ning Li interrupted Su Yuan’s words and smiled at Ye Ci.

“I’ve already sued those social media accounts that spread those rumors. Their court hearing will be in three days. The lawyer said that they were just taking orders from someone. Ye Ci, isn’t it interesting that someone is so willing to spend so much money just to mess with me?”

## Chapter 248: Move Out

Ye Ci looked stunned. “What?!”

Su Yuan was also very surprised.

“What did you say, Ning Li? You sued them?!”

Her delicate brows furrowed.

“You’re in your senior year. How could you get involved in a lawsuit?! Besides, you just started attending Second High at that time, so who would target you? Aren’t you thinking too much about this?”

Ning Li was not surprised that Su Yuan would say something like that.

After all, Su Yuan had never prioritized Ning Li, so she would never put herself in Ning Li’s shoes to think about these issues.

The first thing Su Yuan had thought of was that Ning Li had gotten her into trouble again.

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“I’ve been to court since I was seven years old, so what’s the big deal about a lawsuit?”

Ning Li said indifferently.

What was more, with Cheng Xiyue's help this time, Ning Li would not even need to appear in court. All she had to do was wait for the result.

"I'm also curious about what exactly I did to make someone go to such lengths to deal with me." Ning Li laughed. "I think we'll get the results soon."

Ye Ci sat rigidly in her chair, without saying a word.

She had not known about this matter.

Originally, everything had been going well. Who could have known that the surveillance camera in the corridor that day would suddenly appear online.

Public opinion had quickly shifted.

Ye Ci knew that there was no chance to turn the tide, so she had quickly pulled out.

After the matter had subsided, she had thought that it would all be over.

Who would have known that Ning Li would actually sue those cyberbullies and conduct a thorough investigation?

Ning Li's gaze felt incredibly heavy on Ye Ci's shoulders. It made Ye Ci feel unbelievably flustered and suffocated.

Ye Ci took a quick glance at Ning Li. All of a sudden, she had countless thoughts.

She was not involved in that matter and had already erased all traces. Even if they investigated it, they would probably not trace it back to her.

If Ning Li already knew...then why would Ning Li talk to her so calmly?

At the thought of this, Ye Ci relaxed a little.

The corner of her mouth twitched a little.

“That...that’s pretty good! So many people online just don’t speak responsibly and must be held accountable.”

It sounded as if she agreed with Ning Li’s approach.

However, Ye Ci did not comment on what Ning Li had said about someone dealing with her.

Ning Li admired Ye Ci’s expression for a moment before her eyes curved in a smile.

“Right. Don’t worry, when the results of the trial come out, I’ll definitely come back and tell you first. Your care for me won’t be in vain.”

Ye Ci’s mouth stiffened. She no longer knew what kind of expression she should put on to face Ning Li. She just nodded stiffly. “Great.”

Ning Li seemed to be satisfied with her answer. Only then did she get up and leave.

Once Ning Li had disappeared around the corner of the stairs, Ye Ci finally let out a sigh of relief.

A chill ran down her spine and she was very shocked to realize that she had actually broken out in a cold sweat earlier.

Su Yuan and Ning Li's conversation had once again ended in vain. Su Yuan was even more annoyed to find out that Ning Li was actually filing a lawsuit.

"Mom, I'll be going back to my room first."

Ye Ci greeted Su Yuan and went back to her room.

She checked her phone again and confirmed that all those things had been deleted, but somehow, her heart still felt very uneasy.

'How much does Ning Li know?!'

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At night, Ning Li received a call from Lu Huaiyu.

"Zhang Yang and the others will be charged for provocation. After they sort out the files, they'll be prosecuted soon."

Ning Li was a little surprised. "So soon? Why is it a public prosecution?"

'Is it because of Cheng Xiyue and Lu Huaiyu...'

Lu Huaiyu seemed to have guessed what she was thinking and laughed.

"Besides your case, Zhang Yang is also involved in a huge underground gambling case. These past few months, he had been doing a lot of illegal business to raise gambling money."

Ning Li understood immediately. “So that’s how it is...”

If this was the case, then Zhang Yang’s situation was much more serious than she had expected.

“I’m just informing you of this. You don’t need to worry about the details. Just prepare for your exam.”

Lu Huaiyu paused for a moment and continued, “As for the person who contacted Zhang Yang...”

Ning Li suddenly had a premonition. “You found out already?”

“Mm.”

Ning Li looked at the time.

They had returned from Lincheng at noon, and it was only 9:00 pm now.

In less than twelve hours, Lu Huaiyu had already investigated it thoroughly. His efficiency was simply amazing.

Ning Li said, “It’s the same person who sent the video last time, right?”

Her tone was very calm and not inquiring. It was a definite statement.

“You already know?” Lu Huaiyu’s voice trailed slightly, seemingly a little surprised.

“Yeah, I figured it out.”

Hearing Lu Huaiyu’s tone, it was obviously the person that she had guessed – Ye Ci.

Lu Huaiyu was silent.

In order to get the results as soon as possible, he had used some means.

He had been contemplating how to tell Ning Li about this and had not expected her to have guessed it herself. Moreover, her reaction was so calm, as if she was not at all surprised that Ye Ci would do this kind of thing to her.

Lu Huaiyu was not sure if it was because of that previous experience of cyberbullying, or because Ning Li had long seen through Ye Ci's character.

He said, "I'll send you the evidence later. As for what to do next, you can decide."

Lu Huaiyu had thought of some options, but looking at it now, Ning Li seemed to have other plans, so he chose to handle it the same way as the last time.

Ning Li paused for a moment and said solemnly, "Second Brother, thank you."

Lu Huaiyu did not speak for a while. It was so quiet that they could hear each other's breathing.

Ning Li felt a little strange. "Second Brother?"

"Lili." Lu Huaiyu's voice was soft and low. "Why don't you move out?"

Chapter 249: Before the Departure

'Move out.'

Ning Li was stunned.

She had not expected Lu Huaiyu to say this so suddenly.

Ning Li could hear that he was being serious.

She did not say anything.

Lu Huaiyu did not say anything else and only waited for her response quietly.

He knew that Ning Li did not like the Ye family.

Gradually, he had come to understand how dangerous and horrible the Ye family was to Ning Li.

If this could happen once, it would certainly happen again.

Since the night that Lu Huaiyu had sent Ning Li to the Ye family home and seen the deep panic and hatred that had flashed in her beautiful eyes as she looked at the Ye family's main gate.

Ning Li had been so tense at the time that she was clearly avoiding and resisting it.

She clearly did not want to stay with the Ye family, and it was not just because she did not like Su Yuan.

So far, these were the things that Lu Huaiyu had seen. What about the things he did not see?

After Lu Huaiyu had seen the results of the investigation, he had deliberated for a long time. Finally, he could not help but to suggest that she move out.

He did not want to leave his girl alone in that place.

After a while, Ning Li said, "Second Brother, thank you, but I don't want to move out right now."



Lu Huaiyu leaned back on the sofa. When he heard this, he looked out through the floor-to-ceiling window calmly.

He was not surprised by this answer.

If Ning Li had wanted to move out of the Ye family home, there were many ways to do so, but she had not done it yet.

He knew that she had her own plans, so he had never mentioned this until now.

Lu Huaiyu finally could not hold back.

His fingers tapped on the armrest as he finally compromised.

“Then feel free to talk to me when you do want to move out.”

Ning Li knew that Lu Huaiyu did not approve of her decision, but he still agreed without asking.

She was slightly relieved.

“I won’t be living here for long anyway. Time will go by quite quickly.”

There was only less than half a year till the college entrance exams.

Lu Huaiyu let out a faint “mm” as his thin lips curled up slightly.

She thought that time was going by fast, but unfortunately, he did not feel the same way.

However, Lu Huaiyu did not intend on saying this to her.

“Well, then I hope that you can finish your exams sooner, become an adult and move out sooner.”

Ning Li blinked.

‘Why does this sound so strange...? I can’t control time...’

Ning Li did not think much about it and only thought that Lu Huaiyu wanted her to move away from the Ye family as soon as possible. She nodded and said, “Thanks, Second Brother.”

Lu Huaiyu hung up the phone with one hand on his forehead. Her sweet and soft voice still echoed in her ears.

He let out a low chuckle.

‘This kid isn’t even the slightest bit wary of me...’

“Lu, what did Ning Li say?”

Cheng Xiyue had just finished with a last-minute conference call and asked impatiently as soon as he got back.

Lu Huaiyu said, “She already guessed it.”

“She did?!”

Cheng Xiyue frowned slightly.

“If that’s the case, then why is she still staying with the Ye family?”

Lu Huaiyu pondered for a moment.

“She has her own ideas, let her be.”

“So, we’re supposed to forget about this?”

Cheng Xiyue glanced at him.

“You’re really not worried, huh?”

Looking at the current situation, it was hard to say what other troubles Ning Li would encounter.

Lu Huaiyu’s tone was relaxed, but his eyes seemed to be covered in ice.

“She didn’t say that. Nor did I.”

...

The holiday ended and soon, it was the final exam.

Ning Li was still in the first seat at the first examination room.

Two days passed by quickly.

After taking the last English exam, the entire senior building was in a state of jubilation.

“Finally, we’re done!”

“I’m going to sleep until noon tomorrow!”

“Winter break! I’m ready for my winter break!”

The hallway was filled with all sorts of noise.

Ren Qian impatiently stuck a finger in his ears and yelled at Lin Zhouyang, who was screaming the loudest.

“The final results will come out before Chinese New Year. Why are you guys so happy?”

Once these words came out, the group immediately went crazy.

“F\*ck!”

“Before Chinese New Year?! Why is the school so inhumane?!”

“How will we still be able to celebrate Chinese New Year then? I’m afraid that after my results are out, I won’t be able to see the sun the next day!”

Ren Qian slapped the back of Lin Zhouyang’s head.

“We still have five months before the college entrance exams, yet you guys are still thinking about winter break?”

Lin Zhouyang was resentful.

“Qianzi, you can’t let us have a winter break just because you don’t have one, right?”

Ren Qian had also qualified for the national math finals and would soon be going to the Capital for the winter training.

“Look at Brother Pei and Ning Li, they won’t have a break either. They even work so hard on their grades. Why can’t you learn a thing or two from them?”

Lin Zhouyang felt a little suffocated.

“There’s a difference between humans and gods! Don’t you get it?!”

‘How could Qianzi compare himself to such geniuses? Did he want to crush his self-esteem?’

“Hey, Qianzi, are you and Brother Pei going to the Capital together?” A boy next to him asked.

Ren Qian was the only person in the Second High who had qualified for the math finals this year.

Thus, there were only four people from Second High who would be joining the winter training camp.

Three of them for the physics competition – Ning Li, Pei Song, and Ye Ci.

One for the math competition – Ren Qian.

Ren Qian shook his head.

“I asked Brother Pei. Their training is at Capital First High, and I’m at Capital Fifth High, so we won’t be together.”

He wanted to be with his classmates, but reality would not be allowing it.

Lin Zhouyang rubbed his chin.

“Then Brother Pei and the girls will be together. They can take care of each other...”

This also proved how amazing it was to have three people from Second High attend the winter training camp of the physics competition this year.

As he was packing his things, Ren Qian said, “Maybe.”

He picked up his bag and headed for the math team office.

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The physics team office.

Zhou Fei sat behind his desk. Ning Li and the other two were there.

“The schedule of the winter training camp is out. The school has booked a flight for you at 10:00 am the day after tomorrow. When you arrive, a special teacher will be responsible for picking you guys up from the airport and will take you to the winter camp training grounds, which is Capital First High. The training period is two weeks. Are there any questions?”

Zhou Fei said as he handed over a form.

“Don’t worry, the teacher in charge is my former classmate and I’ve already sent my greetings to him. If you have any problems over there, just go to him directly.”

Zhou Fei was from the capital, and he was an alumnus of Capital First High.

Thus, he was not worried.

Pei Song swept a glance and said, “No problem.”

Ye Ci also nodded.

“We’re good with anything. We’ll listen to your arrangements.”

Ning Li looked at the end date and suddenly said, “Mr. Zhou, after the training, can I come back on my own?”

Their round-trip tickets had been booked by Second High.

Zhou Fei froze.

“You want to come back on your own?”

Ning Li nodded. “I have friends in the Capital, so I might stay there for a few more days.”

Zhou Fei did not think that it was a big deal and agreed without much thought.

“Okay! Just make sure it’s safe. I’ll talk to the school later.”

Ning Li smiled. “Thank you, Mr. Zhou.”

Chapter 250: Very Convenient

Ye Ci looked at Ning Li and frowned slightly.

‘What friends did she have in the Capital? She even wants to stay for a few more days?’

The last time Ning Li had taken leave and said that she had gone back to Lincheng, she had actually gone to the Capital alone instead.

Ye Ci had been meaning to ask Ning Li what she had gone to do at that time, but she knew that even if she asked, Ning Li would not tell her anything.

She thought that Ning Li had gone to the Capital on a whim to have a break because she had been in a bad mood, but now it seemed that it was not the case.

Zhou Fei waved his hand.

“All right, the exams are over, so you can go home first. Pack your things and get ready to leave the morning after tomorrow!”

...

Ning Li walked out of the office.

It was already dark outside.

Ren Qian also happened to come out from the math team office and took a few quick steps to Pei Song.

“Brother Pei, what time is your flight?”

“10:00 am the day after tomorrow.”

“Eh? Then we won’t be together. Mine is at 2:30 pm the day after tomorrow.”

Ren Qian felt regretful.

The training location for the math and physics competition was different, so the arrangements would also be slightly different.



Ren Qian had been expecting to go there together, but now it seemed impossible.

“Then let’s come back together?”

That was more flexible.

Pei Song’s eyes swept past the slender figure in front of him and faintly said, “We can talk about it later.”

Ren Qian quickly understood. “Oh right, I almost forgot. Your family is also in the Capital, right?”

The last time Pei Song had gone to the Capital was because his grandmother had been sick and been hospitalized.

This time, Pei Song would probably go back home after the training.

Pei Song let out a faint “mm”.

...

“Lil Ci!”

Cheng Xiangxiang had been waiting nearby. When she spotted Ye Ci, she quickly waved at her.

Seeing Ning Li pass by, she secretly rolled her eyes.

Ye Ci walked towards Cheng Xiangxiang.

The final exams were finally over, so they wanted to go to dinner together in the evening and do some shopping to relax a little.

“Lil Ci, is your winter training time already set?”

“Yeah, we’re leaving the morning after tomorrow.”

“So early? I asked a few friends to come along, so let’s celebrate for you this evening.”

Ye Ci smiled and nodded.

“Okay.”

Cheng Xiangxiang had an envious look on her face.

“My mom told me to go home after the exam, but once she heard that I was hanging out with you, she immediately agreed. She said that if my physics score was half as good as yours, she would be thanking God. Sigh... She’s just making things difficult for me. You placed fifth in the whole province. Even if I study till I die, I still won’t be able to reach your level!”

Ye Ci was already an excellent student. After her achievements in the competition, Cheng Xiangxiang’s mother was even more disappointed in Cheng Xiangxiang.

She could only hope that Cheng Xiangxiang’s results could improve if she spent more time with Ye Ci.

Cheng Xiangxiang thought that her mother was being ridiculous.

She had been good friends with Ye Ci for many years, yet her results had always been the same.

However, considering the fact that this would make it easier for her to go out and have fun, Cheng Xiangxiang did not refute it.

As Cheng Xiangxiang was rambling away, she did not notice that Ye Ci's expression had stiffened.

"Oh right, Lil Ci, I heard that your training will be held at Capital First High! It's one of the best high schools in the Capital! When you go, remember to send me pictures!"

Cheng Xiangxiang had been to the Capital countless times, but she had never been to Capital First High, so she was curious.

Ye Ci came back to her senses and smiled lightly. "Sure."

Cheng Xiangxiang looked at the time. "It's almost time. Why don't you get your driver to send us over?"

Ye Ci hesitated for a moment.

"But that place is the opposite direction from home. Sister Ning Li..."

Cheng Xiangxiang snorted lightly.

"Why do you care about her so much? Ask your driver to send us there first before sending her home. She can take a taxi too. She doesn't have an appointment, but we have people waiting for us, so it'll be bad to be late."

Ye Ci looked torn for a while but she finally nodded.

"I'll discuss it with Sister Ning Li then."

She walked a few steps faster and caught up to the front.

"Sister Ning Li."

Ning Li turned back.

They had arrived at the entrance of the school.

Students were coming out of the school one after another, so it was crowded.

“Sister Ning Li, Xiangxiang and I have a dinner appointment and it’s almost time, so...can Uncle Zhou send us there first before sending you home?”

Ning Li looked at her dully.

Ye Ci inexplicably felt a little nervous.

Since the day that Ning Li had said those words at the dinner table, she felt uneasy whenever she faced Ning Li.

Cheng Xiangxiang saw that she had not said anything and said, “Ning Li, do you not want to agree? Have you forgotten that Uncle Zhou is the Ye family’s driver?”

She was very blunt.

Zhou Hua was the Ye family’s driver, but Ning Li was not a part of their family.

Ye Ci was the heiress of the Ye family, so of course, the driver would have to prioritize her.

“If you don’t want to, you can take a taxi yourself.”

Cheng Xiangxiang shrugged her shoulders indifferently.

Ren Qian was walking and suddenly noticed that Pei Song had stopped in his tracks.

He turned around and asked, "What's wrong, Brother Pei?"

Ren Qian then followed Pei Song's line of sight.

Not far away, Cheng Xiangxiang and Ye Ci seemed to be discussing something with Ning Li.

It seemed to be about their driver.

Cheng Xiangxiang was still talking.

"Anyway, since you are capable of going to the Capital by yourself, surely you can go back home by yourself..."

Ning Li's face was expressionless.

"Sure."

Cheng Xiangxiang froze, not expecting her to agree so quickly, so she did not know what to say.

"Ning Li." Pei Song suddenly spoke.

Ning Li looked to the side.

"Have you finished looking at the mock questions that Mr. Zhou gave us?"

Ning Li nodded her head.

“Yeah, I finished reading it. It’s at home. Do you want it now?”

Pei Song said, “Mm. I would like to finish reading it before the training. Is it convenient for you to give it to me today? Or I can go over and get it.”

Ning Li hesitated.

‘In that case...’

“It’s convenient.” A deep and nonchalant voice suddenly interrupted them.

Ning Li turned around. “Second Brother?”

She had not realized when Lu Huaiyu had arrived.

There was a faint smile on his handsome and elegant face.

“I’ll take Lili to dinner first, then I’ll bring the book to you later.”