

Little Brat's 351

Chapter 351: A Note

The invigilator picked up the sealed bag in his hand and showed it to the camera above the blackboard in the classroom to prove that the seal was intact.

Then, he took a knife out and carefully opened the sealed bag. He took out the question papers and answer cards from inside and handed them out one by one.

In the quiet classroom, only the sound of the paper flipping could be heard.

Another invigilator followed the same procedure and opened the second sealed bag.

The work papers were inside.

After the exam papers and work papers had been handed out separately, the invigilator took out the stationery that he had prepared from the sealed box and handed them out one by one.

A black neutral pen with two refills, a pencil eraser ruler, and so on.

Ning Li wrote her name and admission number down on the question papers, answer cards, and work papers one by one.

Then, she looked at the first question.

The multiple-choice question was exactly the same as the one she had written from memory.

She randomly marked a C on the test paper.

...

The time given for the test was three hours in total.

The paper had a large number of questions, and since no one was allowed to use a calculator, that made it more difficult to answer.

Not to mention, this was the final round of the national competition, so the difficulty of the test paper could only be imagined.

In the examination room, some people were writing rapidly, while others were thinking hard.

After Ye Ci accepted the paper, her first reaction had been to quickly scan through it from beginning to end.

When she saw the familiar questions, her worried heart finally relaxed.

Fortunately...

Even if she only picked and chose which questions to answer, she would not be at the bottom.

She calmed down and started to write from the first question.

...

Time passed slowly, and yet half an hour still went by just like that.

In the quiet classroom, someone flipped through the papers.

Almost without looking, all the examinees present immediately guessed who this person was... Ning Li!

After all, they had experienced the same thing several times in the Winter Camp.

Other than helplessness and envy, there was nothing else they could say.

After a while, Pei Song flipped through the papers as well.

Tan Ruiqun, who was sitting in the first row behind him, flipped his paper as well.

The movements of these three people made the atmosphere in the classroom even tenser.

It was normal, but this was the finals.

Everyone's emotions were stretched to their limits, and their spirits were extremely strained.

Any slight movement would stir the sensitive strings in their minds.

Ye Ci's pen stopped. She resisted the urge to look back and continued to write.

Soon, the clock on the wall pointed to ten o'clock.

An hour had passed since the beginning of the exam.

With the heating in the classroom turned on combined with their nervousness, some students began to take their coats off.

Ye Ci listened for movements to the back and left of her, but there was nothing but the sound of writing questions.

Ning Li seemed to have not moved at all. She just continued doing the questions.

Ye Ci pursed her lips and suppressed her thoughts. She turned to perform the calculations on the paper.

...

When half of the exam time had passed, Ning Li finished the last question and covered her pen.

Tap. It was a very soft sound.

Then, she covered the work paper on top of the exam paper and the answer card.

She then lay down to rest.

Her movements were actually very light, but in this quiet classroom, all the movements seemed to be magnified greatly.

Almost half of the students in the examination room heard the sound on their side.

Cao Jingxuan sat against the wall with one hand on her cheek, as if she was thinking about how to solve the question.

Hearing the sound, she turned her head back slightly.

She was also very close to Ning Li.

When she saw that Ning Li was already sprawled on the table, as if she was about to sleep, her expression froze for a moment.

Even though the exam had already been going on for more than an hour, had Ning Li actually finished it?

It was true that she had always been the first to hand in her papers at the Winter Camp, but... This was the final round. How could she be so cavalier about this!?

She even suspected that Ning Li might not have even bothered to check.

She quickly turned her head and looked back at her own paper, feeling a little irritated.

...

After Ye Ci had finished writing out the answer to the third big question, her wrist felt a little sore, so she temporarily stopped to rest.

She scanned ahead and calculated her approximate score.

It did not seem to be enough...

She looked up at her watch.

There were only 40 minutes left until the end of the exam.

Ning Li had been sleeping for quite a while, but she did not seem to have woken up yet.

She could not possibly sleep like this until the end, right?

Ye Ci's eyelids drooped slightly. After thinking for a moment, she raised her hand to take the pencil case, intending to change the pen refill.

However, her hand carelessly swept over it. With a loud crashing sound, the transparent pencil case fell to the ground.

This sound was quite loud, so many people were shocked and looked over.

Ye Ci hurriedly went to pick it up.

However, there was still no movement from Ning Li's side. She was still lying over the table as if she was still sleeping.

Ye Ci became more and more anxious.

Ning Li had slept quite early last night. Why did she seem so sleep-deprived today?

She could not possibly sleep like this until the end of the exam, right?

After all her anxiousness, her body had started to sweat, so she unzipped her down jacket.

After writing for a while, she put down the pen and tried to stretch out her wrist.

She felt something prick her left wrist.

She felt that the jacket was a bit of a hindrance, so she decided to take it off.

The cuffs of the jacket were like Velcro, so she unzipped it.

Rip—

Suddenly, a piece of paper lightly fell out.

At first, Ye Ci did not realize what had happened. It was not until she had unintentionally looked at it that she realized that it was not the toilet paper that she had been carrying in her pocket.

There were actually words on it!

Ye Ci's brain instantly seemed to explode with a bang!

Almost subconsciously, she immediately bent down to pick it up!

However, at this time, the invigilator also walked over, his voice especially cold and stern.

“What is this?”

Chapter 352: Caught Cheating

In the quiet examination room, this rebuke was extraordinarily clear.

Suddenly, everyone looked over.

Ning Li, who had been sleeping at her table, seemed to have been woken up by this sound. She sat up straight and looked over.

Ye Ci's mind was blank. It was as if her entire body had been nailed to the seat, unable to move.

The next moment, the invigilator bent down and picked up the note.

Everyone saw the thing that suddenly appeared in his hand.

There was only dead silence.

The invigilator of this exam was extremely strict. Even cups and personal stationery were not allowed to be brought in. But now, a note had suddenly appeared.

It was clear what this meant!

The invigilator looked at Ye Ci coldly.

He immediately took the admission card and ID card that Ye Ci had placed at the corner of the table. After verifying it, he asked again, "Ye Ci from the Second High School of Yunzhou, can you explain what this is?"

The blood in Ye Ci's body seemed to have stopped flowing. There was only a huge buzzing sound in her ears, which pierced her brain until it hurt.

Her face was pale, and her lips trembled slightly.

"I... I don't know... That's not mine..."

She had not done anything!

How could there be such a note in her clothes!?

It was not hers!

The invigilator put away the note.

"Come outside for a moment."

He did not put down Ye Ci's admission card and ID card.

Ye Ci did not move. Her whole body had gone cold.

“Mas... Teacher, but the exam is not over yet...”

The invigilator tapped her desk with his finger.

“From now on, you are no longer qualified to continue with this exam. Don’t you understand?”

“Come out.”

...

Thirty-five minutes before the end of the National Physics Competition Final, Ye Ci had been led out of the exam room.

The invigilator left with Ye Ci, leaving behind three other invigilators in the examination room.

A female invigilator closed the door and looked at the remaining people in the classroom.

“Continue with the exam.”

The examination room was silent, but the students’ state of mind was not as calm as it appeared to be on the surface.

Ye Ci had cheated!

Was she crazy?! Had she actually dared to openly cheat with a cheat sheet in this exam!??

It was good that she had been caught on the spot.

She was probably going to be completely finished!

Some people could not help but sneak a glance at Ning Li and Pei Song who were sitting behind her.

Ye Ci was from Second High School in Yunzhou, and so were these two, especially Ning Li. In fact, she and Ye Ci were sisters who belonged to a reorganized family.

Now that something had happened to Ye Ci, they—

Pei Song's head was lowered as he checked his own exam paper. His expression was as calm and indifferent as usual, as if he had not been affected in the slightest.

As for Ning Li...

There was still a hint of sleepiness on her face. It was as if the fact that Ye Ci had been caught cheating was not as important as the fact that she was catching up on her sleep.

Cao Jingxuan looked at Ning Li in bewilderment.

Everything had happened so quickly. She had not even had time to react.

How could this be?

The one who was in trouble was not Ning Li, but Ye Ci?

Suddenly, as if sensing her gaze, Ning Li turned her head to look over.

Both pairs of eyes stared back at each other.

The black and white peach blossom eyes were extremely calm, but they also seemed to have a piercing coldness that could see through everything.

Cao Jingxuan's heart jumped. She immediately withdrew her gaze and pretended to look at her paper.

However, her heart was beating very fast, as if it was about to leap out of her chest, and her mind was also in chaos.

Ning Li leaned back on the chair and looked at the empty seat in front of her. She raised her eyebrows slightly.

This had been a gift in return. She did not know if Ye Ci liked the gift that she returned.

...

In the office, Ye Ci stood stiffly.

The invigilator, Shu Hua, was on the phone by the side.

Ye Ci could vaguely hear some of it, but because the shock had been so great, her brain was almost unable to function normally now.

The only thought left in her mind was that once she was characterized as having cheated in this exam, the consequences would be unimaginable! She would really be finished!

All her previous honors would be taken away, and the matter of cheating would also become a stain on her that she would never be able to wash away in this lifetime!

Shu Hua finished the phone call and looked over at her.

“The inspection team will come over to investigate and collect the evidence soon. In addition, after the exam is over, we will immediately inform your lead teacher to come over.”

As he spoke, he looked at Ye Ci’s identification card,

“Yunzhou Second High School, if I remember correctly, your lead teacher is Zhou Fei, right?”

Zhou Fei could be considered a legendary figure in the competitive scene and was extremely famous.

Who would have thought that his student would actually cheat?

This voice finally made Ye Ci sober up a little.

The inspection team...

Investigate and collect evidence...

Inform the teacher...

“I didn’t cheat!”

She suddenly became agitated.

“I don’t even know what’s going on with that note!”

Shu Hua unscrewed his water tumbler and took a sip. He wanted to laugh when he heard this.

“I saw it with my own eyes. That note fell out of your sleeve. Are you still denying it?”

In addition, there were surveillance cameras in the examination room. Everything that happened at that time should have been recorded clearly.

“Whether or not you cheated, won’t depend on what you say. It will depend on the evidence.”

As he spoke, he raised his head again.

“Of course, you can say whatever you want now. There are surveillance cameras here too. When the inspection team comes, these will also be used as investigation materials.”

He already had irrefutable evidence that Ye Ci had cheated. He was just going through the process now.

Ye Ci could see what he meant.

Her heart sank to the bottom, and she was completely dumbfounded.

How could this be?

The one who cheated should have been Ning Li, and the one who was caught should also have been her!

That’s right!

Ning Li!

She suddenly realized something: this matter definitely had something to do with Ning Li!

...

Ding a ling...

The bell rang, and the exam ended.

“All examinees, please put down your pen and paper and stand up immediately.”

The invigilators began to collect the answer cards, papers, and work papers.

After they had all been sorted out, the teachers left one after another.

When they completely disappeared, the students in the classroom finally could not help but start discussing with each other.

“My god! What’s wrong with Ye Ci? How dare she cheat in the finals?! Is she trying to kill herself?!”

“What’s so strange about her cheating? Have you forgotten how she did in the Winter Camp exams? The results of the finals will be announced to the public. Why do you think she’s panicking?”

“...that makes sense... But she shouldn’t be making a joke about her future, right? This time, she’ll definitely be punished for cheating. The results of the provincial preliminaries might even be canceled!”

“Pfft. I don’t even know how she got her fifth placing results in the regionals. Even if they are really canceled, do you still think she was wronged? If she dares to cheat in the finals, she has to be prepared to face the consequences. Who should be blamed now?”

“Speaking of which, now that Ye Ci is in this situation, why doesn’t Ning Li have any reaction at all?”

“Their relationship isn’t that good to begin with anyway... Besides, who would want to have anything to do with Ye Ci doing something like this?”

Ning Li walked out of the classroom with a calm expression, turning a deaf ear to the discussions and gazes around her.

As soon as had she retrieved her backpack, an invigilator came back and looked at Ning Li with a complicated expression.

“Ning Li, please come over too.”

Chapter 353: Was Dragged Into the Water

At the moment, most of the examinees had not left yet. So, when they heard the sound, they looked over in shock.

The examination had already ended. Why had Ning Li still been called over?

On the other hand, Ning Li’s expression was calm as usual. She only nodded slightly.

“Okay.”

After saying that, she followed the teacher and left.

After a while, someone muttered softly, “D*mn, Ning Li can’t be involved in this matter, right? Could it be that she—”

“Tsk, what are you thinking? There’s no need for Ning Li to do that, right? She’s capable of getting first place even with her eyes closed. Why would she need to do all that kind of nonsense?”

“...That’s true... Maybe it’s because she is more closely related to Ye Ci. I heard that they’re sharing a room this time as well...”

Pei Song looked over with narrowed eyes.

...

When Ning Li arrived at the office, many people had already arrived.

Other than Shu Hua, there were also a few middle-aged men who looked like men of authority, all of them looking very serious.

On the table in front of them was Ye Ci's admission card, identity card, and the slip of paper.

On the computer screen at the side, it showed the monitoring of the examination venue.

They must have finished watching the replay.

Besides, Zhou Fei was also there.

He did not have any expression on his face.

Ye Ci stood there, her face devoid of any color.

"Team Leader Zhang, Ning Li has arrived."

Hearing the voice, everyone in the office looked over.

The middle-aged man sitting in the middle was obviously Team Leader Zhang.

"Student Ning Li, don't be nervous. I asked you to come here today to cooperate with the investigation."

Ning Li nodded.

Ye Ci's eyes were red and swollen, apparently having already cried for some time.

She went directly to Ning Li's side and grabbed her down jacket sleeve tightly.

"Sister Ning Li, please can you help me tell the teachers? I really didn't cheat!

"I've never seen that note before. I don't even know how it appeared in my clothes either! Sister Ning Li, we were together the entire time since we came to the Capital. You can prove it for me, right?"

Team Leader Zhang and the others all turned to look at Ning Li.

Ning Li's gaze swept over the hand that was clutching at her sleeve.

Ye Ci's knuckles had turned white due to the force.

She looked at Ning Li with an extremely aggrieved expression, as if she had really been wronged.

Only the deep hatred and threat in the depths of her eyes revealed her true thoughts at this moment.

"Sister Ning Li, you will help me, right?"

Ning Li's expression was calm as she peeled away her fingers one by one.

Ye Ci's heart dropped bit by bit.

Ning Li said lightly, "I personally didn't see her stuffing a cheat sheet into her clothes. I don't know anything else about it."

A teacher suddenly spoke up, "Of course, the more private it is, the better it would be for this kind of thing. Who would deliberately let other people witness it?"

The remaining people shared looks with each other, obviously thinking the same thing.

Ye Ci's chest felt like it was about to explode as she almost screamed, "I really didn't!"

Shu Hua knocked on the table.

"Ye Ci, calm down. Now, the witnesses and evidence are all here. We even have the surveillance cameras which you watched yourself just now. It's clear that the note had been pulled out from your sleeve. "Whether Ning Li saw it or not, your actions in the examination venue all point to cheating. Do you understand?"

The reason they had called Ning Li over was purely because Ye Ci had refused to admit her wrongdoing, and continued to insist that she was innocent.

In order to carry out the investigation smoothly and to appease her emotions, they had agreed to call Ning Li.

However, Ning Li's testimony had turned out to be meaningless here.

Everything was right in front of her eyes. The evidence was conclusive. Ye Ci had no room to argue.

Ye Ci had a splitting headache and her vision went black.

It was as if someone was holding a hammer and smashing it crazily at her head.

She heard each of Shu Hua's words clearly.

She knew what that meant.

“I didn’t... I really didn’t...”

She mumbled as tears kept pouring out of her eyes. She was on the verge of breaking down.

However, at this moment, all of her words of denial seemed extremely pale.

Team Leader Zhang looked at Zhou Fei.

“Zhou Fei, this is your student from Yunzhou Second High School. Look, this matter...”

Zhou Fei was expressionless as he replied.

“We will handle it the way it should be handled. We respect and accept all the final results from the inspection team and the competition committee.”

Team Leader Zhang sighed.

Actually, the circle of the competition was only so big. They were all more or less on good terms with Zhou Fei.

Once this matter came out, it would definitely implicate Zhou Fei and the reputation of Yunzhou Second High School.

No one wanted to make this matter so ugly.

However, there was really no other way now.

The evidence was too strong.

He nodded.

“Alright. We’ll discuss the matter as soon as possible. By tomorrow at the latest, the results will be sent back to your province and school.”

Zhou Fei hummed in reply and stood up.

“It was me who brought the student who caused this problem. I apologize for causing all this trouble.”

Team Leader Zhang shook his head.

“Take them back first.”

Zhou Fei could not be blamed for this.

Who knew that Ye Ci would be so crazy?

Not only had Ye Ci cheated and sullied his reputation, but she was also troubling him now to keep an eye on her to prevent her from doing anything irrational with her impulsive behavior.

It could only be said that his luck was very bad to have such a student.

Zhou Fei agreed and took back Ye Ci’s ID card.

As for the admission card and the note, both were left behind.

He stood in front of the two girls, his gaze falling on Ye Ci. His voice remained calm, without any fluctuations.

“Let’s go.”

Ning Li turned around and walked out.

Ye Ci’s legs were so tight that they had become weak and she could barely stand.

She knew that she was really done for this time!

She suddenly cried out, “No! I didn’t cheat! It was Ning Li who cheated! It was her!”

Shu Hua felt that she seemed to have been provoked. In her desperation, was she trying to drag someone else down with her?

“Ye Ci, what nonsense are you talking about!?”

Throughout the entire exam process, Ning Li had answered the questions in her own assigned place. After she had finished writing, she had even slept for a while.

Moreover, he had more or less heard about the situation at the Winter Camp. Ning Li had publicly been acknowledged to be number one.

Why did she need to cheat?

If Ye Ci still had any sense at this moment, she would not have said such things.

However, she was already ruined.

She knew what would be waiting for her after today.

Since she could not get anything better, then Ning Li could not get anything better either!

Out of the corner of her eye, she caught a glimpse of the red color. Without thinking, she suddenly raised her hand to grab it!

She gripped Ning Li's sleeve tightly and pulled it hard!

Rip

Ning Li's sleeve was suddenly torn open, and a few pieces of white goose down fell out.

The office instantly went dead silent, and everyone looked over.

Ning Li frowned.

"Ye Ci, what are you doing?"

Ye Ci ignored her and focused on staring at her sleeve, as if she looking for something.

However, there was nothing.

Nothing!

On the ground, other than the scattered goose down, there was nothing else!

Zhou Fei's voice also turned cold.

"Ye Ci, what are you looking for?"

Ye Ci suddenly woke up!

Chapter 354: Was Quite Dirty

Ye Ci's shattered rationality gradually returned to her.

What... What had she just done?

She had deliberately torn Ning Li's sleeve in front of so many people!

Everyone present was smart. Who could not tell that she had done it on purpose?

Zhou Fei stared at her with an extremely cold gaze.

"Did you think that Ning Li would be like you, hiding a cheat sheet in her sleeve?"

Ye Ci felt as if she had fallen into an ice cave.

How could there not be...

How could there not be!?

Although she had only taken a glance at the slip of paper that had fallen out of her sleeve, she was certain that it was not the one that she had prepared!

That was why she had insisted that she had never seen it before, and why she had continued to think that the slip of paper in Ning Li's sleeve was still there.

But...

Surprisingly, nothing was there!

Ning Li's sleeve was clean!

The teachers looked at each other and their faces darkened.

Not only had Ye Ci cheated, but now she also wanted to slander others?

She had a special relationship with Ning Li. How could she do such a thing?

Ning Li looked down at the torn sleeve and said softly, "What a pity. I can't keep this jacket anymore."

...

The inspection team's car drove out of Capital First High.

Zhou Fei left the office with Ning Li and Ye Ci.

His expression was very calm.

"Ye Ci, on your parents' side, will you be making the call or should I make the call for you?"

Currently, Ye Ci's eyes were red and swollen, and her face was still full of tears. She was in a very sorry state.

She had been in a trance ever since she had walked out of the office.

When she heard Zhou Fei's words, she suddenly shivered and objected without thinking.

"No! No way!"

This call... could not be made!

Zhou Fei did not seem surprised by her reaction. He nodded and said in a calm tone, "Okay, then I'll make the call."

The provincial government and the school would soon find out about this matter.

Thus, Ye Ci's parents would have to be notified as well.

By now, the three of them had already gone downstairs.

Pei Song was standing downstairs.

He heard their voices and looked over.

"Teacher Zhou."

His gaze quickly swept past Ye Ci's face, not surprised by her wretched appearance.

She had been caught red-handed with a cheat sheet in the examination room. Ye Ci's fate did not concern him.

He then looked at Ning Li, his gaze pausing for a moment on her torn sleeve as he frowned slightly.

This was...

“Pei Song, you haven’t gone back yet?”

Zhou Fei was not in the mood.

After all that had happened, he was extremely tired.

He had already noticed that there was something wrong with Ye Ci’s results, so why had he not enquired further about it?

Now that she had done this, it was too late to regret it!

“Forget it, let’s go back to the hotel first.”

As he said this, he stuffed his phone back into his pocket.

Seeing this, Ning Li remembered that her phone was still switched off.

She took her phone out of her bag and turned it on. At the same time, she took off her down jacket.

When she passed a trash can, she pretended to throw the jacket in.

When Ye Ci saw this, she was so angry that her whole body trembled.

Ning Li turned her head and saw Ye Ci before she had time to withdraw her gaze, which was full of resentment.

She thought for a moment and smiled. She took a step forward to Ye Ci and asked softly,

“The other sleeve hasn’t been checked yet, right? If you want to see it, I’ll give it to you.”

As she said that, she handed the down jacket over.

The bright and rich red color made Ye Ci’s eyes ache.

At this moment, she was very sure that Ning Li had done it on purpose!

Not only had Ning Li thrown away the note that Ye Ci had hidden in her sleeve, but she had also even stuffed one back into Ye Ci’s sleeve!

From the beginning to the end, it was clear that Ning Li had deliberately framed her to kill her!

Ye Ci’s lungs were about to explode.

She wanted to curse out loud and expose all of this!

However, countless words were stuck in her throat, and she could not voice them out loud, no matter how hard she tried.

She did not even know when Ning Li had done these things, so how could she find evidence of it!?

In the end, it would only prove that she had been the one who had framed Ning Li first!

More importantly, no matter what, the matter of her cheating had already been set in stone!

The more words and actions there were, the more mistakes there would be!

The most important thing now was how to resolve the matter of her being punished for cheating.

However, was this not easier said than done?

“If you don’t want it, then I’ll throw it away.”

As Ning Li spoke, she lifted her wrist.

The down jacket was thrown into the trash can.

She took a look.

“It’s quite dirty.”

How could Ye Ci not hear the implication and mockery in her words? Her anger surged, and she felt so suffocated till she could not breathe.

Ning Li did not seem to notice it, or rather, she did not care even if she did see it.

She lifted her foot and walked forward.

Pei Song was observing from the side. He could roughly guess what had happened in the office.

Seeing that Ning Li was only wearing a sweater, he placed his hand on the zipper of his coat.

Before he could make a move, Ning Li’s phone lit up and she picked up the call.

“Second Brother?”

Pei Song’s hand paused.

“Yes, I just finished the exam. I was delayed by something and only just came out.”

Ning Li spoke, not knowing what the other party had just said. She raised her head and looked at the school gate in front of her.

With surprise in her voice, she said, “You’re here?”

Outside the gate, she spotted a tall and handsome figure.

At the same time, Lu Huaiyu also saw her.

His eyes narrowed slightly.

Then, he lifted his leg and walked over.

The main gate was locked, leaving only a small open door at the side.

The entrance to Capital First High School was very strict, especially since today was the final exam venue for the Physics competition. One needed an identification card to enter and exit.

Ning Li said, “Second Brother, you don’t have to come in. We’ll be right out—”

Before she could finish her sentence, she saw Lu Huaiyu and the old guard who had just arrived at the small door to open the door happily.

“Are you here to pick up a student again?”

Lu Huaiyu smiled and nodded before smoothly walking in.

Ning Li, "..."

Lu Huaiyu came to stand before her.

Before she could speak, a coat appeared around her body.

The coat was warm as if it had just been ironed, and the familiar scent of cedar emanated from it.

He rubbed her hair, his voice low and gentle.

"Are you cold?"

Chapter 355: Exposed

Ning Li nodded obediently.

"A little."

Lu Huaiyu smoothly took her backpack from her as his eyes swept over all the other people there, with his eyebrows slightly raised.

He rarely saw Zhou Fei in this state.

Noticing that Ye Ci seemed to be on the verge of collapsing, it was not difficult to guess that there had been a problem with the exam in the morning.

Furthermore, it was obvious that it had been a big problem.

However, he did not ask too much and merely said, "Since the exam is over, I'll take Ning Li away."

Since Zhou Fei was currently troubled by Ye Ci's matter, he felt that it was a good choice to let Ning Li and Lu Huaiyu leave first.

He nodded as a thought suddenly came to him.

"Ning Li, go to the hotel and pack up your things. Then, you should change to another room."

Based on what Ye Ci had done to Ning Li earlier and their current attitude, the two of them really could not stay together anymore.

Who knew what Ye Ci would do next?

Ning Li nodded.

"Okay."

...

Ning Li went back to the hotel to change her room and put on a short cotton coat. Then, she left with Lu Huaiyu.

The two of them went to a Hong Kong-style tea restaurant.

It was in a very prosperous area, but the environment was quiet and elegant.

In the private room, Lu Huaiyu handed the menu to Ning Li.

“Let’s see what you want to eat.”

Ning Li ordered double-skin milk, money belly satay, three fresh shrimp dumplings, and steamed short ribs.

Her gaze stopped at a certain line. After a pause, she asked,

“Second Brother, do you want the ‘squab in typhoon shelter style’?”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyes and looked at her.

Ning li coughed lightly.

“I see that the recommended index on it is five stars, so it should be quite delicious, right?”

It was indeed quite delicious.

This was a dish that Lu Huaiyu often ordered.

His thin lips curved into a smile.

“Well, it’s not bad. You can try it.”

As he spoke, he poured her another cup of fruit tea.

“I haven’t asked you yet. How was your exam?”

Ning Li held the small bone china cup. The rose-red fruit tea was clear, clean, and fragrant.

She took a sip and nodded.

“It went quite well.”

Lu Huaiyu was not worried about her exams. He was more concerned about something else.

“Why did you throw away that jacket?”

Ning Li knew that he would ask, so she did not avoid it. She simply told him what had happened that morning.

“...and that’s about it. She was caught cheating on the spot, so she must have been pretty traumatized.”

Lu Huaiyu thought about it and laughed softly.

No wonder.

She had cheated in the national competition and then been caught red-handed. It was clear that the consequences would be serious.

Ye Ci was used to being outstanding and being praised. She had placed fifth at the regional level in the preliminary competition, and the Ye family had even specially organized a grand celebration party for her.

Once this matter of cheating was exposed, she and the Ye family would become the laughingstock of everyone.

This would be the most painful thing for Ye Ci and the whole Ye family.

“The results from the inspection team should be out soon, right?”

“Tomorrow at the latest.”

Lu Huaiyu suddenly remembered something. “I seem to remember that your final results will be out tomorrow as well?”

“Yes, tomorrow afternoon.”

Lu Huaiyu laughed.

“Then, you’ll be receiving a lot of calls tomorrow.”

The top universities were very concerned about the competition. As soon as the results were announced, they would quickly contact the students and start competing for students.

Every year, it was a fierce battle.

“Unfortunately, they might be disappointed this year.” Lu Huaiyu leaned back and raised his eyebrows.

He knew that Ning Li did not intend on signing up with any university.

Ning Li took no notice of his teasing and took a bite of the ribs instead.

...

Ye Ci sat in the room in a daze.

The silence surrounded her.

Time passed slowly. The takeout meal that Zhou Fei had ordered on the table next to her had long gone cold.

She had not eaten a bite.

She wanted to cry, but she had already cried too much before. Her eyes were red, swollen, and painful. She could barely cry any more.

Zhou Fei had already called the school administrator and explained to him about the situation here.

In addition, Ye Ming and Su Yuan had also been notified separately.

The two of them had booked the nearest flight and were flying directly from Yunzhou.

On her phone, there were missed calls from Ye Ming and Su Yuan, none of which she had answered.

At the moment, the two of them should have already boarded the plane and had stopped calling.

However, the pressure in Ye Ci's heart did not lessen. Instead, it became heavier and heavier.

Her chest felt as if it was being pressed down by a stone. It was so heavy that she could not breathe.

After an unknown amount of time, she slowly raised her head and looked around.

Ning Li had not brought much with her this time in the Capital. She had already tidied everything up and sent it to her new room.

There was nothing left here.

Ye Ci suddenly thought of something and stood up abruptly.

Ning Li must have slipped that note into her jacket when she had not been paying attention!

Perhaps there was still some remnant evidence left here!

She immediately rummaged through the entire room.

She tossed the pillows and quilt onto the floor and rummaged through all the drawers.

However, she could not find anything!

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

Knock, knock, knock!

Ye Ci's heart skipped a beat!

Zhou Fei's voice came from outside.

"Ye Ci, your parents are here."

Ye Ci looked at the door in fear and stood still, not daring to open it.

There was another knock on the door.

"Lil Ci? Lil Ci, please open the door. It's Mummy!"

Su Yuan's voice sounded very anxious.

Ye Ci covered her ears.

Finally, Ye Ming's deep voice sounded.

"Ye Ci, open the door."

Ye Ci shivered.

She did not dare to go against Ye Ming's wishes in the end. She could only grit her teeth and open the door.

Click.

The door was opened.

Seeing the people standing outside the door, she almost did not dare to speak.

She only whispered, "Dad..."

Ye Ming glowered at her darkly. Suddenly, he raised his hand and slapped Ye Ci!

SLAP!

"Don't call me Dad!"

Chapter 356: Talking

Ye Ming's slap had come so suddenly that no one had expected it.

The strength of his hand was extremely strong and the force of his slap made Ye Ci turn her head, stumble, and almost fall to the ground.

Su Yuan was stunned.

She had been married to Ye Ming for so many years, and it was not as if she had never seen Ye Ming get angry before.

However, no matter how angry he was, Ye Ming had never made a made violent move.

Who would have known that he would actually hit Ye Ci now!

Ye Ci was his most beloved daughter!

It was Zhou Fei, who was next to him, who reacted first. He grabbed Ye Ming's arm.

"Mr. Ye! Please, let's discuss this properly!"

As he spoke, he stepped into the room first, standing between Ye Ming and Ye Ci, which prevented Ye Ming from making another move.

A quick glance at Ye Ci showed him that a clear palm print already covered half of her cheek, which was rapidly swelling up.

She was already wrecked from crying, and now with this slap, she looked even more pathetic.

He frowned.

Ye Ci had indeed made a big mistake by cheating in the exam, but Ye Ming had immediately slapped her, and he had hit her so hard. It was really...

Although he was also very annoyed, he was still Ye Ci's lead teacher, after all. There was no reason for him to just stand by and watch Ye Ming attack her.

Half of Ye Ci's face was numb from the slap, and only after a while did she start feeling the dull pain.

However, all of this was not as bad as the pain in her heart.

She had always been Ye Ming's precious pearl. All these years, Ye Ming had never said a harsh word to her before.

However, this time, he himself had given her a slap. It was enough to indicate how angry he was.

There was a buzzing in Ye Ci's head. She slowly raised her hand to cover half of her face, and her tears flowed uncontrollably.

Ye Ming, however, did not seem to be satisfied. He raised his hand and pointed angrily at Ye Ci.

"I don't have a daughter like you!"

Zhou Fei frowned.

"Mr. Ye, I invited you here because I wanted to discuss how to resolve this matter properly. If you insist on continuing with this attitude, I will have to ask you to go outside and calm down."

Su Yuan also quickly said, "Why did you hit the child?"

As she said this, she quickly walked to Ye Ci's side and hugged her.

With her heart in pain, she said consolingly, "Okay, okay... Lil Ci, please do not be sad. Your father was just behaving impulsively... Let's not cry, okay?"

Ye Ci did not say anything. Her tears fell even more fiercely and her body was trembling slightly, as she sobbed away.

Ye Ming's face was livid.

A passerby in the corridor seemed to have heard the commotion and he looked over curiously.

Ye Ming suppressed the anger in his heart and entered the room. He closed the door, blocking the gazes of the people outside.

Taking into account that Zhou Fei was beside him, he took a deep breath and forcefully shifted his gaze away from Ye Ci.

He was afraid that if he continued to look at her, he would not be able to hold himself back from making another move again.

He asked Zhou Fei, "Teacher Zhou, what exactly is the current situation?"

Zhou Fei sighed, his head in unbearable pain.

"Mr. Ye, Mrs. Ye, please take a seat."

...

Zhou Fei then recounted in detail what had happened earlier that day.

He had seen the surveillance footage and participated in the subsequent investigation, so he explained it in detail.

Ye Ci sat beside Su Yuan. From start to end, she kept her head down and did not say a word.

Su Yuan's expression gradually changed from her initial suspicion to shock, and in the end, only nervousness and helplessness remained.

In the beginning, when she had received the call from Zhou Fei saying that Ye Ci had been caught cheating, she had thought that it was a mistake.

But now, she knew that this matter had already been firmly established!

However, she actually did not understand the seriousness of this matter very well.

Her heart broke as she looked at Ye Ci who was crying so badly that her entire person seemed to have collapsed.

"Then, Teacher Zhou, if this is the case, then what will the most likely outcome be?"

Zhou Fei paused for a moment.

"Cheating in the finals, with conclusive evidence. The nature of it is extremely vile. At the very least, her results in the Physics competition will be canceled. Even the certificate and trophy from the preliminary competition will be withdrawn."

"What!?"

Su Yuan was shocked.

"How can her results in the preliminary competition be canceled as well? Wouldn't that mean that all her efforts in the past half a year would be for nothing?"

Zhou Fei's voice became a little stern as he reminded her.

"Madam Ye, this is already the best result. You should be glad that the Physics competition and the college entrance examination are two different systems. Otherwise, with her cheating this time, it is very likely that she would be deprived of the opportunity to take the college entrance examination."

Su Yuan was speechless.

Ye Ming's expression had become extremely unpleasant.

He clearly understood what this matter meant more than Su Yuan.

The results would be canceled, and the honor would be revoked.

How glorious it had been back then, and now after this, how shameful it would be!

"Teacher Zhou, I want to know, will this punishment be publicly announced?"

This was the question that he was most concerned about.

Zhou Fei looked at him with a complicated expression. He had a rough idea about why he was so angry.

He nodded affirmatively.

"Yes. After the results are released, they will be handed back to the province and the school."

Ye Ming was silent for a long time. The pressure around him was extremely low.

He knew very well that since Zhou Fei had called them over, there would be no hope of turning the situation around.

This matter of Ye Ci cheating was already set in stone.

After a long time, he said, "Teacher Zhou, I want to talk to her alone."

Zhou Fei hesitated. "This..."

"I won't do it again."

Ye Ming knew what he was worried about.

"I just want to have a good chat with her."

Zhou Fei saw that he seemed to have calmed down a lot and looked at Ye Ci.

"Ye Ci, what do you think?"

Ye Ci nodded.

Only then did Zhou Fei agree.

"Then, I'll wait outside first."

Su Yuan also followed him out.

In the end, only Ye Ming and Ye Ci were left in the room.

Ye Ming looked at her coldly.

Ye Ci was the first to break down and shook her head as she cried.

“Dad, I didn’t bring the cheat sheet! It’s all Ning Li’s fault! She’s the one who framed me!

Chapter 357: Is That Okay?

Ye Ming’s face was as dark as water.

“She harmed you? Then, can you bring out the evidence!?”

Finally, it was a rhetorical question that successfully made Ye Ci shut her mouth.

She bit her lips tightly and cried even harder. Her hatred towards Ning Li also grew.

Evidence!

Evidence!

How could she have evidence?

She had always kept that down jacket in her luggage without ever taking it out. Moreover, her luggage had been locked from beginning to end.

She had no idea how Ning Li had done it, let alone be able to produce the evidence.

“Ye Ci, get it straight! You were caught cheating in the exam! Whether it was Ning Li or not, this matter has already been decided! Did you hear what Zhou Fei said just now?”

Not only would the results of the finals be canceled, but the honor of the preliminary competition would also be taken away, and there would also be a disciplinary notice!

As soon as Ye Ming thought of all that happening, his temples began to throb.

He pointed at Ye Ci, his fingers trembling slightly due to his anger.

“Once this matter is exposed, the Ye family’s face will be completely disgraced by you!”

Hearing him say this, Ye Ci felt both afraid and wronged.

Half of her face was still faintly aching, and it felt as if someone was holding a fine needle and stabbing it into her heart.

Something seemed to be colliding wildly within her chest, tearing apart the last bit of her rationality.

“Ye family! The Ye family!”

She suddenly erupted, becoming hysterical.

“In your heart, the Ye family’s face is more important than mine, right?! I was framed, yet your first thought was not to help me, but that I had embarrassed the Ye family! Have you ever thought about what I should do in the future?!”

With the announcement of the cheating penalty and the cancellation of the competition results, how could she return to Yunzhou? How could she face the mocking gazes at school??

Originally, when she had obtained fifth place at the provincial level, many people in the school had already questioned it.

In addition to the consecutive decline in her exam results, who knew how many people were waiting to see her make a fool of herself.

She had urgently needed to produce a good result in the Physics competition finals in order to shut those people's mouths!

But now, everything was over!

"Your only thought is about your reputation and the Ye family's reputation, but you've never thought about how much I have to pay for this!"

All the long-suppressed grievances and resentment that had built up within Ye Ci, exploded at this moment. Her eyes were red as she looked at Ye Ming, with a slightly distorted face.

Ye Ming's face was cold and gloomy.

"Was it me who forced you to participate in the Physics competition?"

Ye Ci's remaining words were suddenly stuck in her throat.

"Ever since you joined the Physics competition class, your grades have been slipping. Didn't anyone advise you to give up and focus on the college entrance exam instead?"

"Back then, your mother said that your class teacher, Geng Haifan, and Zhou Fei had brought this up with you, but what did you say at that time?"

"It was you! It was you who insisted on continuing! Didn't you know what level you were at?!? You should have stopped when you got fifth place at the provincial level! At the very least, you should have chosen to quit when you were at the Winter Camp!"

"You missed so many opportunities along the way, but you insisted on getting into this situation! Ye Ci, you can't blame anyone. The only person you should blame is yourself!"

Ye Ci felt completely destroyed, but how was Ye Ming any better?

He was usually a very busy person. Ye Ci had never given him any cause to worry before, so he had not taken much interest in Ye Ci's matters.

Who would have known that one misstep, just one mistake, would eventually lead to such a situation?

Ye Ci felt as if a fishbone had gotten stuck in her throat.

Every word from Ye Ming was extremely harsh to the ear and was so piercing that her tears kept on falling.

That was because she knew that what he had said was reasonable.

If she had not been so focused on competing with Ning Li, how would she have gotten to this point?

Ye Ming closed his eyes.

"I put in so much effort to pave the way for you... Now, it's all ruined!"

Ye Ci covered her face, as she felt the despair deep in her heart.

If even Ye Ming said so, then there really was no other way out.

Being caught cheating in the national competition finals had a huge impact.

The Ye family did not have the energy to change the result.

What awaited her next was obvious!

She started to sob.

After a while, Ye Ming asked, “We’ve already come this far. Let’s not worry about anything else. Have you deleted all those things?”

Ye Ci nodded.

Only then did Ye Ming let out a sigh of relief.

“There’s no other way now. We can only try to deal with this in a low-key manner. I’ll go and make some connections to try and suppress this matter as much as possible to reduce the impact.”

It would definitely be impossible to completely suppress this matter.

However, this was still a shameful matter. Not to mention within the province, but on Yunzhou Second High School’s side, he would look for someone and use some means to prevent this matter from escalating too much.

As long as he controlled the situation well, after a while, everyone would forget about the issue and everything would just blow over.

Ye Ci lowered her head and responded.

Ye Ming did not look at her again. He took a deep breath and turned around to leave.

Ye Ci collapsed on the sofa and raised her arm to cover her eyes. She felt extremely exhausted.

After a while, Su Yuan walked in and sat down beside her.

“Lil Ci, does it still hurt?”

She had asked for ice cubes from the hotel and wrapped them in a towel to reduce Ye Ci's swelling.

Ye Ci did not move at all.

What did she care about the slap on her face?

Su Yuan looked at her empty eyes, feeling as if her soul had been sucked out of her. She gently advised,

"Lil Ci, please don't blame your father. He is very anxious as well... After all, the one who is most affected by this matter is still you. He has always doted on you, so it was normal for him to be so angry this time. Your teacher, Zhou Fei, has gone to talk to him. We will return to Yunzhou tomorrow..."

Hearing this, Ye Ci finally had a reaction.

"I'm not going back!"

A deep fear flashed across her eyes.

Once she returned to Yunzhou, what awaited her would be a sea of ridicule and mockery!

Su Yuan's exquisite brows were tightly knitted together.

"If you don't return to Yunzhou, do you want to stay in the Capital forever?"

Ye Ci did not speak.

Of course, she had to return to Yunzhou.

The road to the competition was completely blocked now. All she had left was the college entrance examination.

She had no other choice.

...

In the private room of the tea restaurant.

“Do you have any other arrangements for the next two days on your trip to the Capital this time?”

Lu Huaiyu asked.

Ning Li shook her head.

She had come to the Capital purely for this exam and had declined everything else.

“The results will be out tomorrow. I’ll leave the day after tomorrow after settling any relevant matters.”

Lu Huaiyu looked up and spotted a white sesame seed at the corner of her lips. He smiled and raised his hand.

“Ah Li, this...”

Ning Li was stunned and felt a little embarrassed. She licked the corner of her lips with the tip of her tongue.

The white sesame seed had lodged itself even further within the pink flesh.

“Is that okay?”

Lu Huaiyu's hand paused. His gaze lingered on her plump lips for a moment, and his gaze deepened.

After a moment, he said, "No."

As he spoke, he bent over a little, and his lightly calloused slender fingers gently brushed against the corner of her soft lips.

Chapter 358: Celebration

A subtle tingling sensation seemed to come from his fingertips and spread throughout her entire body.

Ning Li was stunned, and the tip of her ears burned uncontrollably.

In just a moment, Lu Huaiyu then retracted his hand, and the corners of his lips curled into a casual smile:

"It's done."

Ning Li picked up the small cup and took a sip to cover up her flustered feelings.

Actually, this was nothing, but ever since she had secretly kissed Lu Huaiyu that night and had contact with him again, she always felt inexplicably guilty.

The temperature in the room seemed to have risen a lot, and her face also began to heat up.

Lu Huaiyu quietly withdrew his hand as he rubbed his fingertips lightly.

The unbelievably soft touch seemed to linger on his fingers.

It carried the unique sweet fragrance of her body with it. Just a little closer and the fragrance would become richer.

“About your reward for this exam—”

Ning Li was slightly stunned.

She had thought that the reward was this meal.

Was there was going to be another reward?

Knock knock knock.

A series of knocks came from the door.

At the same time, an excited and familiar voice could be heard.

“Second Master Lu? Ning Li? Are you guys there?”

Hearing this voice, Ning Li’s eyes twitched.

Gu Siyang!

Why was he everywhere?

Lu Huaiyu stopped talking and looked over.

Ning Li could only say, “The door isn’t locked, you can just come in.”

As soon as she said that, the door was pushed open from the outside.

Before Ning Li could react, she saw a group of people rush in together.

Bang!

The sound of a loud champagne cork being opened could be heard.

Following that, a group of people cheered enthusiastically.

“Woohoo! The exam is over! Congratulations, congratulations!”

“Great! The exam is finally over! Hahahahahaha!”

“Sister Ning Li! Congratulations, you’re finally free! Hahahahaha! Come, come, come! Let’s applaud Ning Li!”

The originally spacious and elegant private room had suddenly become crowded and noisy.

Ning Li, “...”

Gu Siyang was not the only one who had come.

Ning Li’s gaze swept over the people behind him and she fell silent.

Not to mention Ji Shu, why had Ron and the others come as well?

Had Gu Siyang brought LY’s entire racing team here??

Lu Huaiyu looked at the scene in front of him, leaned back lazily in his chair, and smiled.

“Young Master Gu, are you that free today?”

His voice was as calm and unhurried as usual, but for some reason, Gu Siyang felt a chill at the back of his head.

However, when he saw Ning Li beside him, he quickly threw this little bit of uneasiness to the back of his mind and said excitedly, “No way! Didn’t Ning Li finish her exams today? I thought that we should celebrate it properly, don’t you think so?”

Ning Li asked, “How did you know that I finished my exams?”

No matter how much Gu Siyang cared about this matter, he should not have remembered the date of the finals so clearly, right?

Gu Siyang blinked proudly.

“Hehe, I didn’t know at first either! Wasn’t it just such a coincidence that you guys came to my restaurant for a meal? Then, that’s when I realized it!”

Ning Li, “...”

This restaurant was part of the Gu family’s business...

“I should have come much earlier, but I figured that if it was just me alone, it be too lonely, right? It just so happens that Ji Shu and the others are on vacation today, so I went to LY and called them all over!”

Gu Siyang actually had very good intentions.

He was going to be Ning Li’s boss in the future.

As a boss, of course, he had to be considerate of his own people!

The reason Ning Li had been delaying the signing of the LY contract was; first, because she had been busy with the Physics competition, and secondly, because she was busy with the college entrance examination.

Now that she had finally passed the Physics competition, there was only one college entrance examination left before the signing of the contract. How could he not be happy?

Besides, there were only three months left before the college entrance exam. He had to seize the opportunity to cultivate Ning Li's feelings for LY!

He had to start building his team!

Ning Li had a headache.

She even faintly regretted her promise to Gu Siyang that she would consider signing to LY after the college entrance exam.

Lu Huaiyu and the tips of his brows raised slightly, as he gave a smile that was not really a smile.

"It's quite lively."

All those who had raced her on the track the other day should be here.

Ji Shu coughed and lowered his voice.

"Sister Li, we're not disturbing you guys, are we?"

Ning Li was momentarily speechless. She paused for a moment before saying, "No, we were almost done eating anyway."

She looked at Gu Siyang.

“However, I won’t be drinking this liquor.”

Were they kidding? With Lu Huaiyu here, how could she touch it?

Only then did Gu Siyang remember the time that Lu Huaiyu had taken Ning Li away when they had been at Ignite Bar.

He glanced at Lu Huaiyu. His desire to live had come too late.

“Eh? It’s fine, it’s fine! This champagne is just for show. You don’t have to drink it!”

Ji Shu righteously said, “Sister Li, I won’t be drinking it either. I have training tomorrow and I remember everything you said.”

Ron and the others looked at him in disbelief. Didn’t you f*cking bring this here!? Now, you’re saying you’re not drinking anymore?

Gu Siyang was also confused.

However, a sense of déjà vu welled up in her heart.

Ah, hadn’t Ji Shu and the others said something similar at that time?

Ning Li nodded.

Ron’s gaze swept past Ji Shu, Ning Li, and Lu Huaiyu in succession. He seemed to have understood something.

He immediately laughed.

“What a coincidence, isn’t it? I have training tomorrow, so I won’t be drinking either!”

Ji Shu and the others, “...”

They were all on the same team, so their training was the same. What a coincidence!

Gu Siyang widened his eyes.

He clearly remembered that they would be doing theoretical and physical training tomorrow, so they would not be touching the car!

How could this affect them?

“That’s quite a pity.

Lu Huaiyu chuckled and said nonchalantly, “After all, so many people have come. All of them are sincere and want to celebrate Ah Li.”

Gu Siyang immediately nodded in agreement.

That’s right, that’s right!

If they left it just like that, wouldn’t they have just come for nothing?

“How about this, let’s go somewhere else to play.”

Lu Huaiyu suggested.

As he spoke, he looked at Ning Li.

“Do you have any place that you want to go to?”

Ning Li shook her head. “No.”

“I do!”

Gu Siyang suddenly thought of something and spoke excitedly.

“There’s a very famous shooting gallery in the Capital. Do you want to go there to play?”

He usually liked racing cars the most, and his second favorite was shooting.

Previously, he had heard people mention that Lu Huaiyu and his shooting skills were top-notch. Now, he was feeling a little tempted.

Moreover, Ji Shu and the others were behind him. Such a large group of men should be more or less interested in this.

Sure enough, the moment he finished speaking, Ron and the others became energized.

Ji Shu tactfully shut his mouth and did not reply.

Lu Huaiyu and Ning Li looked at each other.

“Do you want to go?”

Ning Li paused for a moment and did not immediately express her opinion.

Gu Siyang came over to encourage her.

“Ning Li, Second Master Lu’s shooting skills are very high! I don’t think you have seen it either, right? It’s a good opportunity for us to go take a look together!”

Ning Li’s fingers gently caressed the cup. Her eyelids droop slightly, which obscured her emotions from being seen clearly.

Of course, she knew about this.

She had also seen the way he held a gun before.

However, it was a very blurry image. Only the sound of the gun had been exceptionally clear.

After a moment, she raised her eyes and nodded.

“Okay.”

Chapter 359: I’m Here, What’s There to Be Afraid Of

The whole group went to a private shooting club located in the south of the city.

Compared to the one in Yunzhou that Lu Huaiyu often went to, this one was much larger in scale and had all kinds of top-notch facilities.

He had left the Capital for more than a year, and this was his first time coming back.

“Have you played this before?”

Lu Huaiyu looked at Ning Li and asked.

Ning Li shook her head.

“No.”

Hearing this, Ji Shu looked over.

Lu Huaiyu tapped her forehead lightly:

“Then, I’ll teach you later.”

Ning Li paused.

“It’s okay, I’ll just watch from the side.”

Hearing this, Gu Siyang immediately cried out, “Hey, Ning Li, this won’t do! Since we’re all already here, how boring would it be just to watch?”

If it had been any other young lady, she might not be interested in these things, and he would not have urged her to play.

However, Ning Li was different!

Her racing skills were obvious, and she was even more lethal on the track.

A little shooting game was nothing, right?

“Don’t worry! We won’t be competing with you. Since you’re still a newbie, just treat it as a casual game!” Gu Siyang continued to insist, “Besides, we came here today to celebrate you. You’re the main person! If you really only watch us play, then we won’t have any fun here!”

Ji Shu pressed between his brows and silently moved aside.

Some people really had a death wish and could not be stopped.

Forget it then. He just had to hope that the blood would not splash onto him.

Ning Li stood still.

“Okay.”

Gu Siyang was very happy when she agreed to go on the field.

Lu Huaiyu looked at Ning Li.

“We’ll pair up. I’ll take her, and you can pick the rest.”

Gu Siyang had come here to compete with Lu Huaiyu.

Before he could take the initiative to bring it up, Lu Huaiyu had already spoken up first.

What great luck was that?

Especially when he was partnering up with Ning Li, a newbie. Wasn’t this going to be a guaranteed win?

If he won against Lu Huaiyu, then he, Young Master Gu, would be able to do whatever he wanted in the Capital in the future!

Thus, Gu Siyang immediately agreed without thinking.

“Alright, it’s a deal! Two people in a group, 100-meter shooting range, ten shots each. The scores from both partners will be added up to get the total result. The pair with the highest number of points will win!”

Lu Huaiyu nodded casually, indicating his agreement.

He took Ning Li to choose a gun.

Gu Siyang waved at Ji Shu.

“What do you think? This is a rare opportunity, so shall we do it together?”

Ji Shu smiled slightly. “My hands aren’t working well today, you should find someone else.”

Gu Siyang was stunned.

“Why aren’t they working? Are you injured?”

That could not be right. Ji Shu had been training well recently, and Gu Siyang had not heard of any problems with his hands.

Ji Shu patted his shoulder.

“Whether it’s injured or not, it will affect my performance. You said it yourself, this is a rare opportunity. Of course, you have to pick a reliable brother, right?”

“That’s true.”

Gu Siyang turned his head to look at Ron.

Ron seemed to be eager to give it a try as well, so he agreed immediately.

Ji Shu clicked his tongue and went to the side to sit down and rest.

...

Lu Huaiyu was teaching Ning Li.

“You have not had any experience before, so the recoil might be a little too strong. It’ll be better if you pull your elbow back a little. If you don’t think it’ll work, just call out to stop.”

Ning Li nodded.

He saw that her pretty little face seemed to be a little tense, so he thought she was nervous.

He chuckled and said, “Also, don’t worry about winning or losing. If you win, it’s on you. If you lose, it’s on me.”

Ning Li shook her head and said softly, “I won’t let you lose.”

Lu Huaiyu was stunned for a moment. Then, he raised his eyebrows and smiled.

“Okay.”

As he spoke, he walked to the side.

“Let’s begin.”

As soon as he finished speaking, Ron was the first to pull the trigger and fire the first shot.

Bang!

9.0 points!

This was considered a pretty good result.

With such a good start, Ron and Gu Siyang were both very happy.

“Ning Li, it’s your turn!”

Ning Li raised her gun.

Her expression was as calm as ever. Only her hand, which was holding the gun, was slightly trembling.

After her rebirth, she had indeed not touched another gun.

And this time, her hand was still intact.

Then, her thumb slowly moved.

Bang!

In the empty shooting gallery, the sound of the gunshot echoed.

Missed target.

Seeing this result, everyone was stunned.

Ji Shu, who had been lazily leaning back in his chair, could not help his expression from changing slightly when he saw this. He sat up straight.

Lu Huaiyu looked in Ning Li's direction. His gaze paused on her hand momentarily, and his eyes darkened slightly.

After a moment, Gu Siyang scratched his head.

"Ning Li, you're really a newbie among newbies!"

It made him feel embarrassed to continue competing. Wouldn't it be considered bullying?

A few people sitting in the back laughed out of goodwill.

"Sister Ning Li already said that she hasn't played before. Ron, don't you guys know to go easy on her a little?"

Ron said faintly, "Did you guys see her go easy on us at the track?"

The rest of the group was rendered speechless.

Alright.

It was a rare opportunity to regain some respect, so why not take it!

Gu Siyang looked at Lu Huaiyu and said, "Second Master Lu, are we still going to continue?"

Lu Huaiyu replied, “Hmm”.

Gu Siyang only regained his focus after receiving his affirmative answer.

Bang!

9.1 points!

Compared to his racing skills, his shooting skills were still something to behold.

Gu Siyang saw that his results were pretty good, so he was very happy as well. He turned his head to urge Lu Huaiyu.

“Second Master, it’s your turn—”

Bang!

Before he could finish his sentence, Lu Huaiyu had immediately fired a shot after him!

10.0 points!

The arena fell into dead silence once again.

The people sitting at the back stood up, one after another.

“Holy shit!”

“Full points?! What kind of superhuman is this?”

“No wonder Second Master Lu said that he would partner up with Ning Li. With this kind of standard, who could he not partner with?”

“I heard that he used to be in the army... However, if Ning Li continues to miss the target, Second Master Lu still won’t be able to win even if he has full points, right?”

Lu Huaiyu put down his gun and came to Ning Li’s side to help her adjust her posture again.

Ning Li’s hand was cold. He shook it very lightly.

He chuckled.

“I’m here. What is there to be afraid of?”

The two of them were very close to each other. His voice was also very soft, so only she could hear it.

Her heart suddenly calmed down.

She nodded lightly.

Only then did Lu Huaiyu step back.

Ron had already fired his second shot. This time, he got 9.1 points, which was even better than before.

Gu Siyang turned his head and smiled.

“Ning Li, don’t worry. It’s not a big deal even if you lose! After all, we didn’t place a bet. We’re just playing around—”

Bang!

Ning Li fired her second shot.

9.8 points!

Chapter 360: The Whole Internet Knows That She Cheated!

Gu Siyang's voice stopped abruptly. His eyes widened as he looked at the number that had appeared on the electronic screen in disbelief.

9.8 points?

9.8 points!

Was this thing broken??

However, upon closer inspection, there was indeed a clear mark at the center of the target.

Ning Li's shot had indeed hit 9.8 points!

The people who had just sat down stood up again. They were just as shocked as they had been when they saw Lu Huaiyu's bullseye.

They had more or less heard of Lu Huaiyu and his reputation. However, when they had seen it with their own eyes today, they were even more amazed and impressed.

However, what was going on with Ning Li?

How could someone miss the target with one shot and hit 9.8 points with their next one?

After all, she was still a newbie!

Only Ji Shu looked at that number and leaned back in his chair leisurely.

Ron could not help but mutter, "This is so f*cking ridiculous..."

Ning Li stretched her neck.

"I heard that newbies are quite lucky.

"Shall we continue?"

Gu Siyang and Ron looked at each other.

Ning Li's performance was probably just a fluke, right?

Maybe the next shot would miss the target again.

As long as the two of them played steadily, they would be sure to win!

"Let's continue!"

...

In the shooting gallery, gunshots rang out one after another.

The onlookers behind had not sat down since Ning Li had fired her second shot.

That was because her third shot had hit 9.9 points.

Then after that, every shot of hers had hit the same number of points.

As for Lu Huaiyu, from the beginning to the end, he had hit the bullseye.

Ron and Gu Siyang had not realized the seriousness of the matter at the beginning.

By the time they realized that something was wrong, it was already too late.

Although both of their strengths were pretty good and were basically above 9.0, the other pair was still much higher. The highest points they had were only 9.5 points from Gu Siyang.

The points that Ning Li had lost from her first missed shot were eventually equalized.

After ten shots, Ron and Gu Siyang had accumulated 183.4 points.

As for Ning Li and Lu Huai, they had gotten 189.0 points.

This difference in points was already absolutely crushing.

Gu Siyang looked at Ning Li and the corner of his mouth twitched.

“Ning Li, is this really your first time playing this?”

Ning Li blinked.

“It’s like what I said, newbies usually have better luck.”

Gu Siyang, “...”

'Do you think I'll believe you!?'

Tears welled up in his eyes.

"I can tell! The two of you are conspiring to bully other people!"

This was too much!

This was really too much!

Ron put down the gun, turned around, and walked silently to Ji Shu.

"You did this on purpose, didn't you?"

Ji Shu clicked his tongue.

"We're all brothers, so there's no need to be so polite."

Ron, "..."

As Ji Shu spoke, he turned his head to look at Gu Siyang. After some thought, he consoled him with a compassionate voice:

"Hey, Young Master Gu, it doesn't matter if you lose. At least you won't have to pay for today's match, right?"

Gu Siyang whimpered as he asked, "Why?"

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

“Because this club is mine.”

Gu Siyang, “!!!”

So he had come over to someone else’s territory of his own accord and had been severely beaten!?

Was there any justice in this?!

Ning Li glanced at Lu Huaiyu.

She did not know when Young Master Gu had offended Lu Huaiyu, to the point that he had beaten him so severely.

Lu Huaiyu asked, “Do you still want to compete? I happen to have a lot of free time today, so if you want to continue—”

“No, no!”

Gu Siyang hurriedly put down his gun.

“My cell phone rang! I think my dad called me!”

As he said this, he rushed to the resting area at an extremely fast speed, took out his cell phone from his pocket, and quickly put it to his ear.

“Hello? Hello? Dad! What? Do you need me to go back and take care of something at home? Okay, okay! I’ll be right back!”

As he spoke, he hurriedly waved goodbye to Ning Li and the others.

“Well, I have something to take care of, so I’ll be leaving first! Let’s see each other again on another day!”

Ning Li looked at the still black screen of the phone in his hand and silently swallowed the words in her throat.

Hmm... It was not easy for Young Master Gu either...

Lu Huaiyu calmly asked, “Do you need someone to send you off? It just so happens—”

“There’s no need, no need!”

Gu Siyang refused.

He had lost everything today. How could he continue to stay here?

As he spoke, he disappeared without a trace.

Ron and the others who had been mercilessly abandoned were speechless.

Ji Shu did not seem at all surprised at this scene. He snorted and stood up.

“It’s quite late. Sister Li, Second Master, shall we leave first?”

After witnessing the scene earlier, the remaining few who had initially been excited, were now completely shattered into pieces.

Who would still want to continue?

After they had left, one after another, Lu Huaiyu took off his coat and placed it over his arm.

Then, he took something out of his pocket.

“Hand.”

Ning Li followed his instructions and stretched out her hand.

In the next moment, a peach-flavored sandwich candy appeared in her palm.

She was momentarily stunned for a moment before the corners of her lips curled up slightly.

“Thank you, Second Brother.”

Lu Huaiyu looked at her and could not help but laugh.

“You’re that happy with just one candy? Ning Li, there’s no one else in this world who’s easier to bribe than you.”

Ning Li’s thick and long eyelashes trembled slightly, and her peach-blossom eyes seemed to shimmer.

She did not mind and made a move to tear open the candy wrapper.

Suddenly, her cell phone rang.

She glanced at it. He Xiaochen was calling.

She held the candy in her palm and picked up the call.

“Hello?”

“Ning Li!”

He Xiaochen’s voice was full of shock.

“Is it true about Ye Ci?”

Ning Li paused.

“What?”

“She cheated! It’s all over the Internet! It’s said that someone brought a cheat sheet into the exam room during the national Physics competition finals this morning and was caught red-handed! And all the reports say that the person was Ye Ci from Yunzhou Second High School!”

“Now, the whole Internet knows that she cheated!”