

## Little Brat's 521

### Chapter 521: Goodbye

At the beginning of September, the weather in the Capital was extremely hot.

The sun hung high in the sky, and there was not even a hint of a breeze.

The sun rays shone down onto people's faces and bodies, almost baking them to death.

After half an hour of training, the next two faculties took a break.

Only the students from the Institute of Physics continued to stand there for an hour.

The two instructors were still keeping a close watch on them. If they found that their movements were not up to standard, they would immediately correct them.

All the students were suffering terribly.

Even the boys could barely hold on, let alone the girls.

However, the instructors merely stood there and watched. All anyone could do was to grit their teeth and persevere.

After enduring this hellish hour with great difficulty, the baby-faced instructor finally released them for a break.

Xue Langlang sat down on the ground.

“I, I can’t...”

She could not feel her legs anymore!

The girls beside her also sat down one after another. They wanted nothing more than to fall to the ground immediately.

“No one is allowed to sit down!”

The angular-faced instructor raised his voice.

Xue Langlang and the others widened their eyes in disbelief.

The instructor looked over.

The group of people stood up in unison.

Xue Langlang’s legs were still sore. She stood up abruptly and almost fell.

Ning Li was right beside her and helped her up.

Xue Langlang felt like she was about to cry.

“Ning Li, aren’t you tired at all?”

Ning Li said, “I’m fine.”

The few girls next to her looked at her with envy.

They were almost crippled. Ning Li, however...

After standing for so long, everyone's faces had all turned red from the sun.

However, Ning Li only seemed to be a little paler. Only her forehead and the tip of her nose were dripping with crystal beads of sweat. Her entire person looked fair and clear, like porcelain.

Yao Mingjia looked at her fair and clear skin under the sun and could not help but ask, "What brand of foundation did you use? The effect of your makeup is really good."

Ning Li pressed her hat down and said calmly, "I didn't use any."

Yao Mingjia was momentarily stunned. After a pause, she smiled and said, "Oh, so that's how it is. You have really good skin."

Ning Li did not reply. She walked to the side to replenish the water in her water tumbler.

The other girls were almost completely wiped out. Only Ning Li and Yao Mingjia were still in fairly good condition.

"Yao Mingjia, why is your stamina so good?"

Someone asked.

Yao Mingjia smiled.

"Actually, it's not that bad today. When I trained in ballet in the past, it was even harder than this."

A girl next to her who seemed to know her fairly well added, “Jiajia has won a silver medal in the National Ballet Competition before.”

In unison, everyone responded with an “Oh”, while the boys reacted especially strongly.

The atmosphere became much more lively.

Ning Li screwed on the lid and put her water tumbler away.

Yao Mingjia turned to look at Ning Li.

“Ning Li, have you trained in dance before?”

Ning Li lazily said, “No.”

Yao Mingjia was stunned for a moment, and the smile on her face became a little awkward.

“Ah... I saw how relaxed you were while standing in the military posture, and I thought—”

Ning Li did not speak, as if she was not interested in what she was saying.

Yao Mingjia noticed her cold attitude and did not ask any more questions.

After a short break, the military training continued.

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After the first day of military training ended, all the students seemed to have wilted.

The two instructors of the academy seemed to be extremely competitive. They were stricter than the other departments, and they trained much more.

By the end of the day, everyone had become completely useless.

When the military training finally ended, everyone ran away from the field like crazy.

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The cafeteria instantly became crowded.

Ning Li felt that there were too many people there, so she did not bother to go. She went back to the dormitory first.

Xue Langlang had originally wanted to go with her, but she had not been able to bear that day's training. It had been too exhausting, so she had gone to eat with the other girls.

Thus, Ning Li was the only one in the dormitory for the time being.

She turned on her computer.

She had already submitted her thesis to Universe. At the moment, she only needed to wait for their reply.

Ning Li was not worried about this.

After all, her thesis had personally been edited by Shen Zhijin, so there should not be any problems.

A series of urgent messages began coming in from George again.

She flipped through a few sketches and sent the selected ones to him. Only then did he finally stop.

Her phone rang.

She glanced at it. It was a message from Shu Hang.

[ Ning Li, are you free now? Can you go downstairs? ]

Ning Li replied with a question mark.

Shu Hang's tone was very polite.

[ I met a few people just now who seemed to be from your dorm. They said that you haven't eaten yet. I brought some food for you. Can you come down and get it? ]

Ning Li glanced at this line of words for a moment.

[ Thank you, Senior. There's no need for that. ]

She muted her phone and held her breath.

After a while, the sound of footsteps came from the corridor.

Xue Langlang pushed the door open and entered.

"Ning Li, Senior Shu Hang seems to be waiting for you downstairs!"

Ning Li frowned.

She had already made it very clear. Why was he still here?

Almost at the same time, Yao Mingjia also returned.

She glanced at Ning Li, sat down in her seat, and began to remove her makeup.

“That’s Senior Shu Hang, right? I think he even brought food. Ning Li, is it specially for you?”

Her movements paused, and her tone was subtle.

“I heard that he’s been waiting downstairs for quite a while.”

Ning Li glanced at her phone.

Shu Hang replied with a message.

[ Then please go ahead with whatever you need to do. ]

That had already been half an hour ago.

She frowned slightly, then got up and went out.

...

As expected, Shu Hang was still waiting downstairs.

Even though he was standing in a fairly remote place, he could still see the people who were coming and going here.

Seeing Ning Li, he smiled.

“Ning Li—”

Ning Li stood three steps in front of him and glanced at the bag he was carrying.

Shu Hang immediately said, “This is the preserved egg and lean meat porridge I brought for you. You—”

“Thank you for your kindness, Senior.”

Ning Li interrupted him, “However, compared to the porridge sold in the shops outside, I prefer the porridge cooked by my boyfriend.”

The smile on Shu Hang’s face immediately froze.

The few people standing nearby also heard Ning Li’s words and were all immediately shocked.

—The school belle already had a boyfriend?!

After Ning Li finished speaking, she simply turned and left.

...

By now, the sky was already dark. The street lamps on both sides were lit up, and only a few students were walking around on the campus in twos and threes.

Ning Li went to the second floor of the Entrepreneurship Center to have a simple meal.

Some people around recognized her and kept looking over, whispering something.



Ning Li felt a little impatient and went downstairs.

When she passed by a beverage shop on the first floor, she turned around and walked in.

There was no one in the shop at the moment.

She walked to the counter and raised her head slightly to look at the beverage list hanging on it.

Behind her, the door of the beverage shop was pushed open and someone walked in.

Ning Li looked at it for a while and finally made her choice.

“A cup of peach tea.”

Almost at the same time, a clear and deep male voice sounded behind her.

“A cup of peach tea.”

Ning Li was stunned and subconsciously turned her head.

Shen Zhijin had just come out of the laboratory and was passing by. When he saw the peach on the billboard at the door, he had walked in.

His mood had been a little chaotic for the past two days.

When he made his order, he found that he had bumped into the young girl who was standing at the counter in front of him.

Only then did his gaze fall on her back, and he was suddenly stunned.

Immediately, the young girl looked back.

## Chapter 522: You Are Outstanding

She was wearing a loose military training uniform, but her slender and tall figure was still visible. Her wavy long hair had been casually tied up into a bun, and a few strands of her fringe was hanging down.

The light in the shop reflected on her face, showing off her clear and white skin.

Her nose was straight, the corners of her lips were slightly pursed, and a pointed chin.

Her pair of peach blossom eyes were especially clear and beautiful.

Shen Zhijin was completely stunned.

In an instant, countless images seemed to flow through his mind, but it also seemed to remain a blank.

It was as if he had fallen into a vacuum. All the air seemed to have been sucked away, and even his breathing seemed to have become a luxury.

Every color was difficult to distinguish, and in the end, it became a chaos of black and white that became a blurred mass.

Ning Li looked at the man who had suddenly appeared in front of her with some surprise.

He looked to be in his thirties, handsome and elegant, svelte and refined.

Furthermore, he looked somewhat familiar.

She searched her mind for a moment and finally found a name.

“... Teacher Shen?”

The young lady’s clear and melodious voice sounded. She easily shattered the thin barrier surrounding him into pieces.

The abundant oxygen rushed in and filled the empty space. For some reason, it became even more chaotic.

Shen Zhijin regained his rationality and his soul fell to the ground.

He looked at Ning Li and frowned slightly.

Seeing his reaction, Ning Li’s guess was confirmed.

The corners of her lips curled up slightly, revealing a faint smile.

“Hello, Teacher Shen, I’m Ning Li.”

...

Ning Li.

Of course, Shen Zhijin remembered this name.

This was the physics genius that Xu Yin was full of praise for.

He had just revised her thesis not too long ago.

Oh, that's right. Xu Yin had mentioned that she was a freshman at the Astronomy Department of Xijing University's Institute of Physics this year.

Shen Zhijin closed his eyes. By the time he opened them again, all the turbulence in his eyes had already calmed down.

He nodded slightly.

"Hello."

Ning Li had long known that Shen Zhijin had returned to China. Previously, she had heard that she had seen him at the Institute of Physics before. Thus, she had also harbored some thoughts of meeting him in person one day.

After all, he was a top figure standing at the peak of the physics world.

She had thought that she would have to wait until the school's anniversary celebration, but she had not expected to meet him today, at such an occasion.

It was quite a coincidence.

"Vice-Principal Shen, here's your peach tea."

The salesgirl clearly knew Shen Zhijin. She smiled warmly and handed him a cup of freshly made peach tea.

Shen Zhijin was the vice-principal of Xijing University. Although he had only spent half a year in the country so far, he was too famous. With such a handsome and elegant face, he was a legendary figure in the school and very popular.

Shen Zhijin's gaze fell on the cup of peach tea. He did not take it, but instead looked at Ning Li.

"Here's your tea."

After all, Ning Li had been the first one to arrive.

His voice was clear and cold, and his tone was calm and indifferent.

Ning Li thought that this appearance was more in line with her imagination of this very important person.

She looked at the salesgirl.

"Please pack it up, thank you."

The salesgirl was a little embarrassed. Seeing that Ning Li and Shen Zhijin were not too bothered, she quickly responded and retrieved a bag from the side to pack it up.

Ning Li took it.

By then, the second cup was ready.

The salesgirl handed it to Shen Zhijin.

Shen Zhijin raised his hand.

His hand was long and fair, and there was a watch on his left wrist.

Ning Li's gaze casually swept over the watch, and she was suddenly stunned.

It was a silver mechanical watch.

Ning Li recognized this brand and it was not cheap.

However, Shen Zhijin's watch seemed to be quite old.

More importantly, the hands on the dial were still.

Ning Li was slightly surprised and raised her eyes to look at him again.

Shen Zhijin... Was he actually carrying a watch that was already broken?

With his status, it would not be a problem for him to change to a more expensive watch. At the very least, he could repair it, right?

Why...

However, this was Shen Zhijin's personal matter after all, and she should not interfere in it.

She quickly retracted her gaze and said to Shen Zhijin, "Then Teacher Shen, I'll take my leave first."

Shen Zhijin replied with a "Hmm".

Ning Li turned around to leave. Just as she was about to push the door open, she was suddenly stopped.

"Wait."

Ning Li turned around.

Shen Zhijin's gaze landed on her hand.

"You didn't take the straw."

Ning Li looked down and saw that there was no straw in the bag.

The salesgirl noticed her mistake and apologized profusely.

"Ah, I'm sorry, I'm sorry!"

Ning Li shook her head and walked back to take a straw which she then put in the bag.

Shen Zhijin took the cup of peach tea, ready to leave.

The decor of this shop had a very romantic theme, and even the cup had a pink and soft look.

A person like Shen Zhijin could be seen with just one look, and it was clear that he was clean and rigid, completely different from the style of this cup.

Ning Li caught a glimpse of this scene from the corner of her eye and inexplicably thought of Shen Zhijin's exceptionally soft and cute email reply.

The corners of her lips curved.

Shen Zhijin was standing in front, while Ning Li was behind.

He was about to leave, but he suddenly remembered something. He stopped and opened the door, allowing Ning Li to go first.

Ning Li did not expect such an important person to be so... approachable?

She thanked him.

“Thank you, Teacher Shen.”

Shen Zhijin’s expression was indifferent.

“You’re welcome.”

Ning Li smiled.

“About the thesis, I would like to thank you as well.”

Shen Zhijin had become the youngest doctoral advisor at Xijing University at the age of 21.

Countless people wanted his guidance, but the requirements for him to accept students were very high.

It was indeed a very rare opportunity that he would even personally revise and guide this thesis.

Ning Li had written a thank-you letter previously, but since they had met now, it was better to say it again as a show of sincerity.

Shen Zhijin’s calm expression finally relaxed a little.

He said, “It’s you who is outstanding.”

If Xu Yin and the others heard these words, their jaws would probably drop.



This was because Shen Zhijin rarely praised other people.

He was definitely a top-notch physics genius. People like him were often arrogant and conceited.

This was something that could not be helped, because their thinking was indeed from another dimension. Even if an ordinary person spent their entire life, it would still be difficult for them to reach it.

Shen Zhijin was famous for his academic rigor. He could even be said to be harsh.

Therefore, to be able to receive his praise was even harder than ascending to the heavens.

For Ning Li to receive such recognition from him now, based on a paper that had yet to be officially published was enough to show how much he admired Ning Li.

Ning Li naturally understood this as well.

The corners of her lips were bright, and her dimples were shallow.

“Thank you, Teacher Shen.”

Shen Zhijin’s gaze froze on her face for a moment. He lowered his chin slightly, then turned around and left.

Ning Li went in another direction.

After taking a few steps, a phone rang behind him. Shen Zhijin stopped in his tracks.

Then, he heard the young girl pick up the phone.

“Hello?”

That was indeed a completely different voice from what he remembered.

Shen Zhijin lowered his head slightly and looked at the peach tea in his hand.

The sound of footsteps gradually faded away, and so did the girl’s voice.

Shen Zhijin stood there for a long time, his palms slightly tightened.

After a long time, he raised his head, his expression exceptionally calm.

He walked forward, his tall and straight figure gradually disappearing into the darkness.

The rich peach fragrance spread in the air.

Just like what he had done countless times over the years.

His shoulders and back were straight, and everything was fine..

Chapter 523: I’ll Ask Him

The call was from He Xiaochen.

Her voice was filled with indignation.

“Ning Li! There’s someone spreading rumors on the campus forum that you have a boyfriend! This is too much!”

Although she did not want so many people to harass Ning Li, once this rumor was spread, what if no one dared to pursue her as a result of it? What would she do then?

This was her Ning Li, the great beauty! She deserved to be admired! Like all the stars worshipping the moon! Ah!

It was only the first day of military training, how could anyone say that she had a boyfriend?!

What if she missed out on a good one?

“This is Xijing University! There are so many handsome guys here. There hasn’t even been a chance to properly pick one out yet!”

He Xiaochen was very sad.

“I even tried to look for a few from the physical education department today! All of them—”

Ning Li coughed lightly.

“It’s not a rumor.”

“—Huh?”

He Xiaochen’s voice came to an abrupt stop.

The air was silent for a moment.

Ning Li could even imagine what He Xiaochen looked like at that moment.

She said a little helplessly, "I've been busy all this while, and you happened to be traveling a lot, so I forgot to tell you."

Of course, on the other hand... She also did not know how to tell her properly.

He Xiaochen finally came back to her senses. She took a deep breath and exploded.

"Who is it?!"

Which d\*mned man was it? He had stolen Ning Li when she had not been paying attention!

It had been just one summer vacation!

Just one summer vacation!

Her beautiful Ning Li had been abducted!

How could this be?!

"Ning Li! You have to be calm! There are so many handsome men in this world that you haven't even seen before! You have to come out and see more of the world before you can make a decision!"

The thought of how some wild man had gotten a kiss from Ning Li so easily, made He Xiaochen's heart feel like it was bleeding. She felt like an old mother trying to comfort her.

"How could you have been so careless?!"

Ning Li, "... It's Lu Huaiyu."

“I’m telling you, you– What?!”

He Xiaochen’s last syllable suddenly became louder.

Lu Huaiyu.

She only knew of one Lu Huaiyu!

The air seemed to freeze.

He Xiaochen’s voice was drifting.

“You, you... Your Second Brother?”

“Yes.”

He Xiaochen felt as if her soul had scattered, and she did not say anything for a long time.

When Ning Li heard that there was no movement from her end, she called out to her.

“Xiaochen?”

He Xiaochen asked faintly, “When did it happen?”

Ning Li paused.

“On the day the results came out.”

He Xiaochen did not say anything again.

Ning Li asked hesitantly, "... Are you still listening?"

After a long while, He Xiaochen finally spoke softly.

She did not answer Ning Li's question. Instead, she muttered another sentence.

"... Then, how beautiful will your children be..."

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Ning Li, "..."

She calmly reminded her:

"He Xiaochen, wake up."

"Oh!"

He Xiaochen immediately pulled herself together. Realizing what she had just said, she quickly shook her head frantically.

"Cough! That's not what I meant! I meant that the genes of such an extremely handsome guy must be especially good!"

Ning Li, "..."

He Xiaochen's thoughts had already gone wild.

She was not even bothered with Ning Li's current reaction.

Countless scenes from the past flashed through her mind, and she started to cry.

"It's no wonder he came on your behalf to the parent-teacher conference and even clarified that you definitely did not have puppy love. He bought you a cake and balloons for Christmas and went to pick you up personally after the college entrance exam... He's liked you for so long! Ning Li... He really, really likes you!"

Ning Li was silent for a moment.

"Do you still have anything more to say?"

He Xiaochen choked for a moment before revealing her honest thoughts.

"Oh! He... is... so... handsome!"

All these things at Xijing University were just fleeting memories. They were not worth mentioning at all!

Lu Huaiyu... Now, he was truly a stunner!

She gave a thumbs-up full of passion as she praised her wholeheartedly.

"Nice job, Ning Li!"

...

The news that the new campus belle of Xijing University already had a boyfriend quickly spread.

The hot posts on the campus forum were trending.

Countless people were following the posts, and they were in full swing.

[ Ning Li, the new campus belle, already has a boyfriend?! Is that true? ]

[ I heard that it was said to Shu Hang personally. Many people nearby heard it. How could it be false? ]

[ Shu Hang is a college student and the president of the school's Student Union. Our new campus belle isn't even interested in him. How amazing is this boyfriend of hers? ]

[ It's hard to say. Didn't campus belle Ning Li pass the exam in Yunzhou? Maybe he's a former high school classmate? ]

[ For those who are also from Yunzhou, let me explain: Ning Li didn't have a boyfriend in high school. There's a high probability that she only had a boyfriend after the college entrance exam. ]

[ It's probably fake... Maybe she wanted to find a reason to reject Shu Hang? After all, she came alone on the day she came to report in. ]

[ Upstairs + 1]

[ Upstairs + phone number ]

[ What? Why was she reporting in alone? Her family didn't come either? This is from Yunzhou to Beijing... She was all alone? ]

[ That... The new school belle's family background is quite complicated. If you want to know, you can click on this link to read more. ]

There was a link at the end of this reply.



Of course, it was about the matters of the Ning family and the Ye family.

These were all public information. With just a little effort, they would be able to find out.

The hot topic of discussion quickly changed from Ning Li's boyfriend to her.

Of course, there was also her background.

[ When I saw her from afar, I thought that the school belle definitely looked like she was some kind of pampered young lady from some well-off family. I didn't expect her background to be so miserable. ]

[ Ah, this... The situation in this beauty's household is so bad... ]

[ Judging from her clothes and shoes, it's obvious. She doesn't have much money. ]

...

Ning Li returned to the dormitory.

Ding Yu was still working on some code.

Xue Langlang looked up, with a cautious expression.

Yao Mingjia was putting on a mask in front of the mirror.

Ning Li sat in her seat as usual.

Xue Langlang handed her a big bag of snacks.

“Ning Li, I bought too many snacks today. Why don’t you help me eat some?”

As she spoke, she brought over the fruits that had been cut on the table.

“I just washed them! Please try some!”

Ning Li said, “Thank you, but there’s no need.”

Xue Langlang did not give up.

“Ding Yu and Yao Mingjia have already taken their share. These are yours!”

Ning Li thanked her.

Yao Mingjia also turned around.

“Oh right, Ning Li, I heard that you have a boyfriend?”

Ning Li paused.

“Yes.”

Yao Mingjia seemed to be a little curious.

“Then when you have time, why don’t you bring him to meet us? After all, we’re all in the same dorm!”

Ning Li said, “He’s a little busy.”

Yao Mingjia seemed to smile.

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"It's okay. We didn't ask him to give us a treat. What are you nervous about? We just want to meet him."

Ning Li raised her eyebrows slightly.

"I'll ask him later then."

Chapter 524: Team

On the campus forum, the discussion about Ning Li was in full swing.

However, she did not seem to be affected in the slightest.

On the second day of military training, there were still many people who came to the field to watch.

Even though the campus belle had said that she had a boyfriend, seeing was believing, after all. What if that was just her excuse to reject someone?

Therefore, they should at least have some hope.

However, very few of the people from the Institute of Physics actually went over to ask her about it.

Every girl was the treasure of the Institute of Physics, especially Ning Li.

In addition, the two instructors trained very hard, so no one was in the mood to think about these things.

On the sports field, the sun was scorching hot.

One by one, the squares were in formation. They were all training, and the chants kept ringing in their ears.

In the morning, they would stand in the military posture, and in the afternoon, they would march.

Everyone's clothes were soaked through, and their faces were all red from the sun.

...

The days of military training seemed to be particularly difficult.

The freshmen only had a little free time every day.

Ning Li would have dinner at a later time to avoid the crowd, but she still inevitably met some people who came to express their interest in her.

She rejected all of them on the grounds that she had a boyfriend.

As the number of times increased, most people gradually believed her.

Among the people who pursued Ning Li, there were some who were particularly outstanding, but she still did not give them a chance.

This had to mean that she really had a boyfriend.

Moreover, her attitude of rejecting people was particularly firm, and she did not leave even the slightest possibility.

Of course, there were still a few people who did not comment on this. They thought that Ning Li was too pretentious.

Ning Li, however, could not be bothered with these things.

...

In the blink of an eye, more than half of the military training time had passed.

The new students who were initially unfit had finally gotten into shape after such a long period of training.

On this day, there was a short break in the afternoon.

Everyone rested at the same spot. The two instructors went to communicate with the instructors of the Maths Department that was next to them, so everyone relaxed quite a bit.

Suddenly, a wave of exclamations came from among the boys.

“Is this for real?”

The commotion was not small, so the girls in front of them all turned their heads to look.

The baby-faced instructor pointed in their direction.

Everyone immediately lowered their voices, but there was still an obvious excitement that could not be suppressed.

“Of course it’s real! This is the insider news that I managed to get with great difficulty! I reckon that when the military training is over and the class officially starts, it will be announced.”

Everyone sighed again.

Yao Mingjia frowned slightly.

“What’s so mysterious?”

Xue Langlang moved closer to ask around.

When she turned around, she could not hide her excitement.

She said softly, “It’s Dean Shen!”

To the people of the Institute of Physics, there was only one Dean Shen—Shen Zhijin.

The majority of the students of Xijing University would refer to Shen Zhijin as Vice-Principal Shen whenever they mentioned him.

However, the Institute of Physics was different. The way they addressed Shen Zhijin naturally made them feel special and closer to each other.

Those who studied physics more or less had respect and admiration for the name Shen Zhijin.

Therefore, when the name Shen Zhijin was mentioned, everyone became spirited.

“Dean Shen? What’s up with him?”

The surrounding girls were filled with curiosity.

When Ning Li heard this, she also tilted her head slightly.

Xue Langlang’s eyes sparkled as she enunciated each word clearly.

“They said that the institute is preparing to collaborate with Fino Laboratory this year to carry out a new research project! Once the semester starts, it’s estimated that the recruitment will officially begin! The most important thing is that Dean Shen will be the leader of this project and will be fully in charge of it. Therefore, if we can enter this research project group, it would be equivalent to following Dean Shen!”

This news was like a small stone that would cause a thousand ripples.

Everyone was shocked.

No wonder the boys were so excited. This news was indeed a big deal for the students of the Institute of Physics. There would be a team led by Shen Zhijin!

Yao Mingjia said hesitantly, “This is such a good opportunity, but it’s not for us undergraduates, right? There are so many graduates in the Institute of Physics. I’m afraid everyone will be fighting over it.”

Everyone looked at each other.

That was true.

With such a high-end allocation, surely it would not be their turn yet?

Xue Langlang said, “Of course, the official quota is not for us. However, I heard that they will also recruit some lab assistants. Maybe they will be able to allocate one or two slots.”

Even if Shen Zhijin's research team were only tasked with sweeping the floor, who knew how many people would fight for the chance to do it?

A girl next to her shrugged.

"Even that is probably just for the students in their third or fourth year, right? A bunch of rookies like us definitely won't stand a chance."

This sentence caused many people to agree.

"That's right. Don't even think about it!"

"What a pity... It's such a good opportunity!"

"It's no wonder that Dean Shen has been coming and going to the school frequently lately. I heard that quite a number of people have seen him. He's super handsome!"

"I've seen him! I've seen him! I can testify that it's true! He went to the administrative building with several other school leaders the other day. Oh my god, he was the most eye-catching person in the group! As expected of my Prince Charming! He's at the top of the academic field, but he's also the best looking!"

The girls' focus quickly shifted.

Ning Li tilted her head.

After that night, she had not seen Shen Zhijin again.

However, their evaluation was indeed very objective.



Perhaps it was because this kind of genius with such an outstanding IQ had devoted his entire life to scientific research, that his temperament was exceptionally pure.

Shen Zhijin always had a subtle and clean youth's temperament.

This made him look exceptionally different.

Just then, a commotion suddenly came from the back.

Ning Li turned around and heard someone shouting.

"Someone fainted!"

She frowned. It seemed to be coming from the direction of the outer court.

Just as she wanted to get closer to have a better look, she saw a tall figure running over from the Maths Department.

Chapter 525: Craving for Sweets

One of the instructors from the Maths Department immediately shouted, "Ren Qian! What are you doing? Come back!"

Ren Qian did not stop.

Ning Li immediately understood what was going on and stood up to head over as well.

The baby-faced instructor was also stunned. Only managing to let out a “Hey” and before he could stop her, Ning Li had already left the team.

Both of them were fairly fast, and they soon arrived at the team in the Outer Court.

Because someone had fainted, everyone had crowded around. Many of the girls looked nervous and worried.

The two instructors were in the middle. One of them frowned and shouted, “Get out of the way! We need to ventilate!” The other seemed to be preparing to carry the person on his back.

But one person was even faster.

Ren Qian quickly went forward and saw He Xiaochen lying on the ground. Her face was pale and her eyes were tightly shut.

He frowned and immediately went forward.

Only then did the two instructors notice his arrival.

“Hey, who are you—”

Ren Qian quickly said, “Reporting, instructor. I’m her high school classmate.”

The two instructors were dumbfounded.

This was a university. Who cared if they were high school classmates?

However, Ren Qian moved quickly and had already gone over to help her.

Almost at the same time, Ning Li also arrived.

She placed her hand on He Xiaochen's head.

"She has heatstroke. She needs to be sent to the infirmary."

Ren Qian nodded and carried He Xiaochen bridal style.

The sports field was connected to the stadium, and there was a temporary infirmary inside.

The two people cooperated very well. While everyone was still in a daze, they had already taken He Xiaochen to the infirmary.

Ning Li followed behind Ren Qian.

One of the instructors came back to his senses.

"Eh? Which department are you from? How can you—"

Ning Li turned around.

"Instructor, saving people is more important."

Her voice was calm, but her aura made it obvious that there was no room for discussion.

When the instructor met her cold gaze, he immediately choked.

The other instructor seemed to understand.

“Alright, send them to the infirmary first! I’ll go with you!”

...

The commotion on the field had attracted the attention of many people.

Everyone looked over when they noticed that there was a commotion.

When the various instructors saw this, they began to move.

“What are you looking at? Are you all that free? Get up and continue practicing!”

...

In the infirmary.

He Xiaochen slowly woke up, but her mind was still in a daze.

A familiar voice sounded.

“You’re awake?”

She turned her head and opened her mouth but she could feel that her voice was still a little hoarse.

“... Ning Li?”

Ning Li handed her a glass of water:

“How do you feel?”

He Xiaochen sat up, drank a mouthful of water, and nodded in a daze.

“Much better... How did I...”

“You’re in shock from heatstroke. Fortunately, you were brought here in time. The doctor said that you should rest well and avoid strenuous exercise for some time.”

Seeing that she was fine, Ning Li also heaved a sigh of relief.

He Xiaochen let out an “Oh.” Then, she thought of something.

“Who brought me here?”

Ning Li said, “Ren Qian.”

He Xiaochen’s eyes widened slightly.

After she had fainted, she could not remember anything.

She thought that the instructor had sent her here, but she had not expected—

But wasn’t Ren Qian from the Maths Department?

She looked left and right.

Ning Li explained, “After he carried you over and made sure that you were alright, he went back.”

He Xiaochen’s face instantly turned red.

“... M,m,m,m,m,m,m... me?”

Ning Li replied.

He Xiaochen also seemed to feel that she behaving a little unusually.

She forced herself to remain calm and asked, “Then, where is he? I.. I’ll go and thank him.”

The corners of Ning Li’s lips curled up.

“There’s no need to rush. It should be quite easy to find him today.”

“He is currently standing under the national flag stage as a punishment.”

...

By evening time, the military training ended.

Only two to three people were left on the field.

When He Xiaochen and Ning Li arrived here, they saw a figure standing at the national flag stage.

The Instructor of the Maths Department was standing in front of Ren Qian with his hands behind his back, saying something in a stern tone.

Leaving the team without permission and disobeying orders was a big taboo.

After about ten minutes, the instructor looked at the time and gave him one last warning before leaving.

Ren Qian moved his stiff body and when he turned his head, he spotted He Xiaochen and Ning Li.

He laughed.

“Yo, Big Brother, you’re finally awake?”

He looked relaxed, as if he was not currently being punished or reprimanded.

He Xiaochen walked over, feeling both embarrassed and guilty.

“... I’m, I’m sorry that I dragged you into this.”

Ren Qian clicked his tongue and joked, “Your instructor’s reaction speed isn’t good. He wasn’t even as fast as me.”

He Xiaochen hesitated.

“I heard that you were disqualified as a flag bearer?”

Every department would choose a flag bearer to undergo specialized training.

The Maths Department had chosen Ren Qian.

The reason he had been able to make it over to her so quickly today was because he had been undergoing special training at that time.

Ren Qian let out an “Ah” as if he did not really care.

“I threw down the flag at that time.”

How could he not be disqualified?

His tone was too casual, as if he did not take it to heart at all. He Xiaochen did not know how to take it.

Of course, she knew that this matter was not that simple.

1

She lowered her head slightly. She wanted to say something, but she did not know where to start.

Ren Qian suddenly raised his chin and smiled.

“Sigh, fortunately, you’re only 1.6 meters tall. If you were any taller, I might not have been able to carry you.”

He Xiaochen immediately bristled.

“Who are you calling fat?”

Ren Qian spread his hands. “Your comprehension ability is as outstanding as always.”

He Xiaochen was furious.

“Perhaps your instructor has punished you too lightly!

“Is that not right?”



Ren Qian nodded his head in agreement.

“If I don’t train more, what will happen if I really can’t carry you next time?”

He Xiaochen widened her eyes.

“You, you, you... Who said that there’ll be a next time?”

Ren Qian laughed.

“I guess not.”

...

Ning Li had stood some distance away and did not follow him.

She had seen He Xiaochen walk over with an apologetic look on her face, but she had come back looking angry.

“This is too much! How could such a person even exist?”

She complained to Ning Li, “Ning Li, your Second Brother wouldn’t be like this, right?!”

Ning Li looked at her blushing face and fell silent for a moment.

Although she did not know exactly what the two of them had said, He Xiaochen was a straightforward person. Her thoughts were written all over her face.

She could probably guess...

Her phone vibrated.

She took it out and looked at it. It was a text from Lu Huaiyu.

[ Want to eat candy? ]

Ning Li, "..."

She silently put away her phone.

"... Probably..."

It was not easy to say such things.

Chapter 526: Ah Li With Short Hair

He Xiaochen invited Ning Li to have dinner with her.

Just as the two of them walked to the Entrepreneurship Center, Ning Li's phone rang.

It was Ji Shu who was calling.

"Sister Li."

His voice always carried a wild and uninhibited tone as he asked with a lazy smile, "Are you free now?"

Ning Li asked, "What's wrong?"

Ji Lyu smoothed down his hair.

"My car has broken down."

Ning Li looked ahead and saw that He Xiaochen had already walked to the entrance of a restaurant. The glass door was already half-open.

As she walked forward, she lazily said, "Get someone to fix it."

LY could not possibly be short of someone to fix the car.

However, Ji Shu was not willing to do that.

If he had been willing to get someone else to fix the car, he would not have called this number.

"Sister Li, the situation is quite serious this time. Moreover, the domestic league tournament is about to begin. Are you sure you don't want to come and personally take a look?"

He did not feel at ease with other people overhauling his car.

Besides, Ning Li was the most familiar with his car and knew how to adjust it the best.

Ning Li stopped in her tracks.

"Got it. I'll go over in a while."

Ji Ci laughed.

“What are you waiting for? I’m waiting at the East Gate of your school. You’ll see it when you come over.”

Ning Li, “...”

She should have known that with Ji Shu’s personality, he really would do such a thing.

She called out to He Xiaochen.

“Xiaochen, a friend of mine has something urgent to discuss with me at the last minute. I won’t be able to have dinner with you today.”

“Huh?”

He Xiaochen already had one foot inside the door when she heard her voice. She was stunned.

However, she knew Ning Li’s personality. She would not easily miss an appointment, so she immediately nodded.

“Oh, okay. We’ll eat together another day then.”

...

Ning Li returned to her dormitory and changed into a pair of black casual pants and a loose short-sleeved shirt of the same color. Before she left, she pressed a baseball cap on her head.

It had been a while since the military training had ended. It was a rare time for the students to relax after eating, and there were many people on the road.

Ning Li walked towards the East Gate.

Although her attire was very simple and the baseball cap covered half of her face, her tall and slender figure was still very eye-catching.

School had not started that long ago, but Ning Li's name was already known to almost everyone.

The top post on the school forum was still the one where she had been chosen as the school beauty.

The main picture was a picture of her during military training which had been secretly taken from afar.

Her face was bare, without any makeup, but she was still dazzlingly beautiful.

Many people recognized her and looked at her from time to time.

Ning Li turned a blind eye and walked to the East Gate.

Although the military training at Xijing University was strict, after training, their time was free at night.

In particular, some departments' student dormitories were outside the campus, so the students came and went more frequently and the management was more lax.

As they approached the school gate, Ning Li heard a few girls walking over and discussing something in low voices. She could not hide her excitement.

"Did you see that car just now? It's so beautiful!"

"Of course, I saw it! This is the first time I've seen a supercar in real life! It looks so good that I'm speechless!"

"I heard that the lowest price for that car is five million... Tsk, as expected of the Capital. Such a luxury car can even be seen on the street..."

"By the way, don't you think that the young man in the car is even more handsome?!"

"It's obvious that he's the heir of a wealthy family. However, this kind of man must have a very wild attitude. An ordinary person would definitely not be able to take him down. Let's go take a look."

Ning Li suddenly had a feeling.

She walked out of the school gate and looked up. As expected, she saw a gradient red supercar parked across the road. It was gorgeous and eye-catching which made it extremely high-profile.

Ji Shu was sitting in the front passenger seat with one hand leaning against the car door.

At that time, it was already dark, but his car, his face, and his signature silver hair were really difficult to ignore.

Noticing Ning Li's appearance, he turned on his double flash and smiled at her in a carefree manner.

Many people around the area immediately looked over. Their gazes wandered back and forth between Ning Li and Ji Shu, indicating that they were unclear about what this meant.

Ning Li frowned, but she still walked over.

"Ji Shu, don't you have a car anymore?"

Even in the Capital, he could not suppress his ostentatiously wild nature all over the world.

Ji Shu spread out his hands, seemingly helpless.

“The cars in the team aren’t allowed to be driven out. Only Ron has a broken motorcycle, but didn’t you forbid me from driving that kind of thing? So, at the last minute, I even borrowed a car from Gu Siyang!”

When he spoke, his eyes were still unruly, and there was an unbridled and free spirit in them.

Obviously, he did not feel helpless or troubled at all. However, he was happy. After all, he had gotten a car for nothing.

He had long coveted Gu Siyang’s car, but Gu Siyang had been unwilling to let him drive it. Today, when he heard that Ji Shu was coming to pick Ning Li up, he nodded without saying a word.

Tsk, why was the gap in the treatment of people so big?

Ning Li knew that he had been training a lot lately and was probably taking the opportunity to go out to let off some steam. So, she turned a blind eye and got into the passenger seat.

Compared to the motorcycle, she still felt that it was better for Ji Shu to drive a car.

She buckled her seatbelt and slid further down the seat. The brim of her hat was lowered, covering most of her face.

“Let’s go.”

...

Ji Shu drove her to the LY base.

When Ron and the others heard that she was here, they all came to join in the fun, but Ji Shu chased them away.

“Sister Li rarely has time to test-drive a car, so all of you better behave! Don’t waste Sister Li’s precious time!”

Ning Li entered, while Ron and the others could only wait outside.

They pestered Ji Shu for a while before he finally escaped and followed Ning Li inside.

Ning Li had already lifted the hood, and she was holding a small wrench in her hand, checking the parts, bit by bit.

While she was in the middle of something, she was always extremely focused.

Ji Shu did not dare to disturb her and merely watched from the side.

Ning Li lowered her head slightly. Her gaze was fixed in a certain direction, and her baseball cap was lowered.

The light shone down and outlined her perfect side profile. Her smooth shoulders and back were hidden in the loose black short sleeves, making her appear exceptionally slender and thin.

Her expression was light. When she pursed her lips slightly, there was an additional coldness and sharpness.

A strand of her hair fell to the side of her cheeks, and she casually raised her hand to push it behind her ear.

When Ji Shu saw this, he suddenly laughed.

“Sister Li, your hair has grown so much. When you had short hair in the past, it was so easy and neat.”

Ning Li raised her eyebrows and glanced at him from the corner of her eyes.



Ji Shu seemed to have thought of something, and he slapped his legs and laughed.

“Hahahaha! But you were just so handsome! At that time, how many times did people call you ‘Little Brother’?”

Even he, when he had first seen Ning Li, had not seen her face and thought that she was a wild boy from some family.

She was already tall, to begin with, and at that time, she always wore loose black, white, and gray casual clothes. Her neat short hair fell down, barely covering her eyebrows and eyes. When the hat was pressed down, her whole body hunched, making her look like a thin and slender young man.

Only by looking at her face would one realize that she was a beautiful and elegant girl.

Ning Li could not be bothered with him.

After the inspection, Ning Li helped him with the debugging again.

After everything was settled, Ji Shu got up and prepared to send her back.

“Sister Li, I’ll send you back to school.”

She looked at the time.

It was ten minutes past ten.

The dormitory entrance closed at ten thirty.

It would be impossible for her to make it back in time.

She clapped her hands.

“Send me back to Shuiyuan Shijia instead.”

Chapter 527: Navigation, Can You Do It?

On the way, Ning Li received a message from Xue Langlang.

[ Ning Li, the dorm is about to be locked. Why aren't you back yet? ]

During military training, the dorm matron would occasionally check on the dorm.

Ning Li replied: [ I won't be back tonight. ]

Xue Langlang typed for quite a while before finally sending a message.

[ Okay. Then do be careful about your safety. Don't be late for military training tomorrow morning. ]

Ning Li answered and put her phone aside.

Ji Shu sent her to her residence and left. Ning Li went upstairs alone.

She washed up briefly and went to bed to rest.

...

In 306.

Xue Langlang put away her phone.

Yao Mingjia was carefully applying face cream to her face.

During military training, she was exposed to the sun every day. Even if she applied sunscreen, she still worried about sunburn.

She looked at Ning Li's side of the room.

"Ning Li isn't back yet?"

Xue Langlang replied with a "Hmm" as she soaked her feet.

"She said that she won't be coming back tonight."

Yao Mingjia paused and recalled the post she had seen in the campus forum.

Someone had taken a photo of Ning Li leaving the school that evening and getting into a supercar.

Because of the distance and because she had been wearing a hat, although some people guessed that it was her, they were not completely sure.

But now it looked like... It had to be her.

Knock, knock.

The voice of the dormitory matron came from outside the door.

"306, bed check."

Yao Mingjia went over to open the door.

The dormitory matron glanced around the dormitory.

"Yao Mingjia."

"Yes."

"Xue Langlang."

"Yes." Xue Langlang hurriedly wiped her feet.

"Ding Yu."

"Yes." Ding Yu closed the computer and got up to go to the bathroom.

"Ning Li."

No one answered.

The dormitory matron asked again.

"Are there only three people in your dormitory?"

Yao Mingjia's eyes twitched slightly. Before she could say anything, she heard Xue Langlang quickly say, "Teacher, she's in the bathroom."

Ding Yu's footsteps paused. She then walked to the balcony and collected her dried laundry.

The dormitory manager said "Oh." Seeing that Ning Li's backpack and clothes were all there, she did not bother. She drew a tick on the form and went out.

Yao Mingjia closed the door.

Xue Langlang heaved a sigh of relief.

Yao Mingjia seemed to be a little hesitant.

"Is it wise for us to do this? Ning Li is alone outside. What if she encounters any danger?"

Xue Langlang was stunned. "Huh? That shouldn't be the case, right?"

"Isn't she from Yunzhou? She just came to the Capital not long ago and she's out alone at this time of night..." Yao Mingjia asked Ding Yu. "Ding Yu, what do you think?"

Ding Yu did not have any expression on her face as she casually hung her clothes in the closet.

"If you're worried, you can call the police."

Yao Mingjia choked for a moment.

They did not get along well.

She decided not to say anything else. She returned to her seat and continued applying her face cream.

...

Ning Li returned to her dormitory at 6:30 the next morning.

It was 7:00 a.m. when she left for training. By this time, there were already people coming in and out of the entrance of the dormitory building.

Ning Li blended in with them and went upstairs.

Xue Langlang and the others were preparing to go out. Seeing that she had returned, Xue Langlang was relieved.

She asked softly, "Ning Li, where did you sleep last night?"

Yao Mingjia was in the middle of putting on her military training cap, but she was listening to the conversation over here.

Ning Li changed into her military training uniform and casually said, "The home of an elder."

"Oh, I see."

Xue Langlang nodded and did not ask any more questions.

Living in the home of an elder was not a problem.

Yao Mingjia seemed to laugh and walked out first.

...

As soon as she arrived at the field, Ning Li noticed that the atmosphere today was a little different.

The people around her were all looking at her.

Actually, she had already gotten used to everyone's attention. However, it was very difficult to tell if it was kindness or malice.

In particular, some of them even showed hints of contempt.

During the break, one could faintly hear the sounds of people conversing.

Occasionally, there were words like "sports car", "not going home at night", "bankrupt" and so on.

Ning Li's eyes narrowed slightly. She had roughly guessed what was going on.

At lunchtime, she logged onto the Xijing University campus forum and indeed saw a hot post about it.

[ Shocking news! The newly-promoted campus belle has fallen in love with a rich second generation1! She did not return late at night. She must be deep in love! ]

These extremely eye-piercing and melodramatic words easily attracted countless attention.

Ning Li frowned and scrolled down.

The first picture had been taken the moment she had gotten into Ji Shu's car.

Only a small part of her face could be seen, but the owner of the forum was speaking with certainty and everything was about her.

[ Could this be the school belle's boyfriend? With a rich guy who can afford to drive this car, it's no wonder the school belle isn't interested in Shu Hang! ]

[ However, this doesn't seem like a boyfriend and girlfriend kind of relationship... Besides, these kinds of rich youngsters are just playing around, right? ]

[ I've seen this car outside the Malong Center. At that time, the person in the driver's seat did not seem to be this little brother... But, I heard that Ning Li didn't return to the dormitory yesterday... This little brother is quite handsome so I reckon... They must have had quite a good time. ]

[ Pfft, could it be that this man rented the car? Is he just catfishing her? ]

Catfishing.

What kind of fish was he trying to catch by renting a car to pretend to be a rich young master?

Xue Langlang sat opposite Ning Li. At a glance, she also saw the post.

She took a bite of beef and asked hesitantly, "Ahem, Ning Li, is that your boyfriend?"

Ning Li put her phone away.

"No."

"Huh?"

Xue Langlang had not expected her to deny it. She almost choked. She patted her chest hard to calm herself down, as tears welled up in her eyes.

"No... no?"



“He’s a friend.” Ning Li saw that she was still in shock, so she added, “He was also the one who sent me back.”

After she said that, she sent the link to the post to Ji Shu.

Ji Shu had just come down from the track when he saw the post and immediately knelt down.

F\*ck! Who was after his life?

If Lu Huaiyu saw this, he might not even be able to see the sun tomorrow!

Fifteen minutes later, this post was quickly hacked.

All the related search terms on the forum were also blocked.

Ning Li had just finished eating. She glanced at the forum and did not pay any more attention to it.

Just as she was about to go back to the dormitory for her lunch break, she received a call from Lu Huaiyu.

Staring at the name on the screen, Ning Li inexplicably felt a strong urge to interrogate him.

She gestured to Xue Langlang and went out to find a more remote location to answer the call.

“Second Brother.”

She called out.

Lu Huaiyu’s tone was as casual and elegant as usual.

"Have you eaten?"

"Yes."

"Are you tired from the military training?"

"It's alright."

He gave an extremely soft "Oh." His deep, cello-like voice fell into her ears. He said each word with a half-smile, "Did you stay out last night?"

Ning Li rubbed the space between her brows. She knew that this man was going to take it personally.

"Yesterday, Ji Shu asked me to do at LY. It was too late when I finished, and the dormitory has a curfew. So, I went back to Shuiyuan Shijia."

Lu Huaiyu's nasally voice responded softly. Then, he raised his eyebrows slightly, and there was a hint of a smile in his low and lazy voice.

"Ah Li.

"There is Rongyue Mansion. Are you not sure of the way or can you navigate your way to it?"

"This place will not impose a curfew on you."

Chapter 528: I'll Do as I See Fit

His voice fell by her ear, slow and steady, with a tantalizing itch.

Ning Li gently rubbed her ear, as if a slight tingling feeling was spreading there.

“Got it.”

She said.

Having gotten the answer that he wanted to hear and Lu Huaiyu laughed calmly.

She always seemed to stray from the rules, but in the end, she always obediently returned to his embrace.

And he could only accept it, with joy and pampering.

Ning Li remembered something.

“Oh right, my dorm mates said that they would like to see you and have a meal sometime.”

Actually, she had not really bothered much about this matter at first.

This could be considered a small tacit understanding between young girls on campus. However, she had never really cared about these things before, and Lu Huaiyu should be even more so.

However, there were quite a number of people who still had not given up and continued to try to pursue her. Secondly, after today's post, all kinds of rumors about her were rampant.

She was not a person who was afraid of trouble, but she also did not like to be involved in these kinds of messy rumors.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows, his voice filled with joy.

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“Sure.”

Except for Ning Li, the Second Master of the Lu family in the Capital had probably never agreed to a dinner party so easily before.

Especially with a few strangers whom he had never met before.

However, this time, not only did he respond with ease, he had obviously been coaxed into agreeing.

Ning Li knew that he had been quite busy recently.

After resting in Yunzhou for more than a year, he had finally officially returned to the Capital and taken charge of the Lu family’s business.

There were a lot of projects and work that required Lu Huaiyu’s personal supervision.

“This matter isn’t that urgent. Let’s see when it’s convenient for Second Brother.”

Lu Huaiyu laughed.

How could he not be anxious when it came to matters of his status?

Even though she did not even look. Yet, it had only been a few days since school started, and many pairs of eyes from Xijing University were already looking at her.

However, he still nodded and replied with a casual smile.

“Okay.

“I’ll see what I can do.”

...

Although the posts on the school forum had quickly been deleted, in private, the discussion about Ning Li did not stop.

Having just entered the school, this was time for new students to be extra curious about everything.

Moreover, the main character of the incident was the extremely attention-grabbing Ning Li.

She was the top scorer of the M province science college entrance examination.

The newly-promoted campus belle.

Yet, she had such a special background.

She was really beautiful, and her grades were really good. But apart from that, everything about her, including her father who had been imprisoned, her mother who had remarried, and the bankrupt Ye family... All this was like an extremely dirty swamp that was inseparable from her.

She had grown up in this kind of mud, and no matter how hard she tried, she could not get rid of it.

In the eyes of many people, even someone who had such beauty and education, a girl with such a poor and terrible background would likely find the easiest path was to be involved with money.

Moreover, she had indeed gotten into an expensive luxury car that day, and she had indeed not returned to the dormitory for the entire night.

Of course, they would not say those words in front of Ning Li. However, people would cast various glances her way from time to time.

Ning Li could not be bothered to pay attention to this and behaved as if everything was as usual.

...

The military training was nearing its end.

All the preparations for the school anniversary were also being carried out nervously.

The whole of Xijing University had already been decorated, and the air was filled with a lively and noisy atmosphere.

On the field, it was not known if the atmosphere had affected the freshmen, but the freshmen seemed to be more energetic than before.

The military training had ended that day, and everyone was about to disperse. When the training ended, Xia Rui, the counselor for this year's freshmen from the Institute of Physics, came over and called Ning Li away.

"Ning Li, come to the office."

Xia Rui was also from the Institute of Physics at Xijing University. After getting his PhD., he had immediately stayed in the school to teach. He could be considered young and promising.

Because he was not much older than the freshmen and was also a senior in his department, Xia Rui was able to get along with everyone easily and had a good relationship with them.

When he looked at Ning Li, he had a smile on his face which showed his undisguised appreciation.

Ning Li followed him.

Someone asked curiously, "Why is the counselor calling Ning Li over at this time?"

Another person guessed, "Probably to choose her as this year's new student representative to speak at the school's anniversary?"

Hearing this, Yao Mingjia tightened her grip on her water tumbler and frowned.

A few people were still whispering something.

"Ah, now that you mention it, I guess it's true. She seems to have the highest score in this year's national exam."

"Don't forget, she hasn't even counted the results of the physics competition. She got full marks in that final."

"But... is she really going to be chosen just like that? Don't the counselors know about the rumors in the school recently? Wouldn't it be controversial to choose Ning Li?"

"You said it yourself, all of it is only rumors! Besides, there are so many faculties in the school, and this is the only spot for the new student representative to speak. It's quite rare..."

A girl looked over and suddenly shouted, "Yao Mingjia!"

Yao Mingjia stopped in her tracks and seemed to turn around unintentionally. "What's wrong?"

The girl looked left and right before taking a few steps forward. She lowered her voice and asked, "That night, did Ning Li really not return to the dormitory?"

Yao Mingjia's eyelids twitched slightly. Just as she was about to speak, Xue Langlang, who was beside her, suddenly interjected.

"Who spread all this?"

Her tone was a little cold, obviously unhappy.

The girl hesitated and said, "I was just asking casually. Moreover, someone really did see her returning to the dormitory the next morning... That means that she must have stayed outside that night."

Xue Langlang's expression darkened slightly.

"Ning Li stayed at a relative's house. Do you have to interfere with other people's private matters?"

The girl did not say anything and looked embarrassed.

Yao Mingjia suddenly smiled and nodded.

"Exactly. We can all testify to this. Those people on the forum just like to create fake news. What rich second generation....? Ning Li has a boyfriend, and she has already promised to bring her boyfriend to meet us when she has the chance."

## Chapter 529: School Anniversary

The few people who were there, exchanged looks with each other when they heard this.

If that was really the case, then... the related rumors should be fake.



After all, if Ning Li had really done something inappropriate, she would not dare to bring her so-called boyfriend to meet people publically, right?

Xue Langlang glanced at Yao Mingjia and frowned slightly.

Ning Li had only mentioned this once and nothing had been settled yet. It was really inappropriate for Yao Mingjia to say this to these people.

However, the words had already left her mouth and she could not take them back.

Moreover, it seemed that this statement was able to suppress the rumors.

She did not want to talk with them anymore, so she turned around and quickly walked away.

Yao Mingjia sensed her displeasure and shrugged.

Another person beside her asked curiously, "Yao Mingjia, have you seen a photo of Ning Li's boyfriend before? Is he still in school or he is working?"

Yao Mingjia replied jokingly, "I haven't seen him before. She's kept him a secret pretty well. It's probably because... her boyfriend is too good to allow anyone to see? But I should be able to see him soon.

"To be honest, I'm quite curious too."

...

The Institute of Physics.

Office 103.

Xia Rui looked at Ning Li with both admiration and eagerness.

“Yes, this is just in time for the school’s 120th-anniversary celebration. The ceremony will be quite grand. You’re the new student representative, so you’ll have to behave well at that time.”

The Institute of Physics took this matter quite seriously, so Xia Rui had specially called Ning Li over to give her a detailed reminder.

Ning Li nodded.

“Thank you, Teacher Xia. I understand.”

Xia Rui nodded in satisfaction.

“Alright, then you may go back and prepare your script. Don’t be nervous, just perform normally.”

Ning Li agreed and turned around to leave the office.

Just then, the sound of footsteps could be heard on the stairs not far away, interspersed with the occasional sound of conversation.

Ning Li glanced over and saw two people coming down the stairs.

A young man in a white lab coat, who looked about twenty-six or twenty-seven years old, was walking beside someone while holding a stack of documents in his hand. With a respectful expression, he said something in a low voice.

The man he was following was also wearing a white lab coat.

However, perhaps it was because he was so tall and straight, or perhaps it was because he was so handsome and elegant, he somehow managed to exude a different feeling from the ordinary lab coat that he was wearing.

Strict, cold, distant, proud.

—It was Shen Zhijin.

He had a left pen clipped to the left side of his chest and one hand in his pocket. As he listened to the latest progress of the young man's experiment, he walked over with an indifferent expression.

Suddenly, he noticed something, and his gaze focused slightly.

Ning Li stood still and nodded at him.

"Teacher Shen."

Yan Qiu had originally been focused on reporting the contents of the document to his boss when he was suddenly interrupted by a clear and melodious voice. He subconsciously raised his head and looked over.

He was stunned.

Judging by the military training uniform, he could see it was a new student.

Moreover, she was a very beautiful freshman.

Ning Li was quite famous now, but not everyone recognized her.

At least, Yan Qiu did not know much about her. His boss was just about to set up a new project team. As the only confirmed member of the team and Shen Zhijin's assistant, he had a lot of things to do.

Yan Qiu came back to his senses. What surprised him was that this freshman was quite interesting. She had actually addressed his boss as “Teacher Shen”.

It was known that Shen Zhijin did not teach any undergraduate students.

When the students in the academy saw him, they would usually call him “Dean Shen” or “Professor Shen”.

However, in the next moment, he saw his boss nod at the new student.

Yan Qiu had been with Shen Zhijin for two years, so he more or less understood his reactions by now. This meant that he knew this new student!

He was shocked and took a closer look at Ning Li.

Ning Li greeted him and was about to leave.

However, just as she took a step forward, Shen Zhijin’s voice came from behind her.

“Yan Qiu, give her a registration form.”

His tone was very calm and indifferent, just like how he always seemed to convey a subtle sense of isolation from the outside world.

Ning Li turned around in surprise.

Yan Qiu was even more shocked than her.

“Boss?”

The registration form... Was it the registration form that he was thinking of?!

Shen Zhijin glanced at him.

Yan Qiu immediately reacted instinctively.

“Okay.”

He pulled out a form from the stack of documents in his hand, took a few steps forward, and handed it to Ning Li.

“Hello, Junior Sister. I’m Yan Qiu. This registration form...”

Ning Li glanced at it.

This was the registration form for Shen Zhijin’s new project team.

Yan Qiu said, “Can you fill it out as soon as possible and give it to me tomorrow?”

Ning Li looked at Shen Zhijin.

Shen Zhijin said, “Think about it before you fill it out.”

He seemed to be a very direct person when it came to doing things.

Ning Li felt that it was quite interesting. The corners of her lips curled up slightly as she took the registration form from Yan Qiu’s hands.

“Thank you, Teacher Shen.”

Shen Zhijin only nodded slightly before he left.

Yan Qiu immediately followed. After taking a few steps, he did not forget to look back at Ning Li. The waves in his heart had yet to subside.

Shen Zhijin nodded at him, and he immediately pulled himself back to reality. After reacting for a moment, he realized that Shen Zhijin was pointing out a mistake in the contents of his report earlier.

He immediately abandoned those mixed thoughts and focused his thoughts again. Then, he continued with what he had been saying.

Ning Li lowered her head and looked at the registration form in her hand. After a long while, she gently exhaled.

...

September 22nd.

The military training parade for the Xijing University 120th-anniversary celebration ceremony was to be officially held on this day.

On the field, square formations were neatly arranged with flags flying in the air.

In the stands, the most central platform was where the leaders of the various schools were sitting.

On the left and right sides, seating arrangements had also been made in advance. They were specially reserved for the alumni who would be returning to the school to participate in the ceremony.

Ning Li stood at the side of the institute and lowered her cap slightly.

Suddenly, there was a commotion in the crowd. There were faint sounds of girls screaming and discussing excitedly.

Ning Li raised her eyes to look.

Chapter 530: Why Don't You Say Anything When You See Your Boyfriend?

A group of people approached the rostrum. These were the leaders of Xijing University.

Among them, a tall and straight figure stood out.

Compared to the other leaders around him, he looked especially young.

He wore a pressed black suit, a white shirt, and a black tie, which made him look even more handsome and elegant.

Even though he was still quite a distance away, it was not hard to feel the faint sense of pride that his body seemed to carry.

"It's Dean Shen!"

"Ah! My Prince Charming! He's so handsome in person!"

"Heavens, is he really forty years old? Why does he look like he's only in his early thirties? He looks so young!"

Shen Zhijin had been born blessed.

Time seemed to have forgotten about him, leaving almost no traces of it on his face or body.

In fact, it seemed as if time had particularly favored him. Not only had he retained his unique and proud aura, but it also gave him the calm temperament that was unique to mature men.

He was like a combination of contradictions, yet it was also a rarely found pure and clean one.

Just by standing there, he could easily attract everyone's attention.

The girls from the institute were especially excited.

"I'm so in love!"

"Ah, Dean Shen is already married... So, just think about it and then forget about it," Xue Lang muttered a reminder.

As soon as she said this, she immediately attracted the attention of many people around her.

"He's married? Why have I never heard of that?"

"That's right. Hasn't Dean Shen always been a loner? For such a long time, no one has ever mentioned his wife."

"Could it be that she's abroad?"

Xue Langlang was a little surprised:

"Don't you guys know?"



Shen Zhijin was very famous in the physics world. Xue Langlang liked physics and admired him, so she knew a little about him.

Ning Li remembered the wedding ring on Shen Zhijin's left ring finger, as well as the email receipt— such a person was obviously married.

The very next moment, she heard Xue Langlang sigh.

“Sigh, Dean Shen is indeed married, but his wife seems to have passed away many years ago.”

As soon as she said that, everyone around fell silent for a moment.

Ning Li was momentarily stunned.

Someone asked softly, “Then...”

“Then... Dean Shen did not remarry after that...”

Xue Lang shook her head.

Everyone understood and did not say anything more.

Ning Li's heart felt slightly moved, and she glanced at the rostrum again.

If Mrs. Shen Zhijin had been gone for many years, why was he still wearing that wedding ring...?

He had even stubbornly kept the email receipt.

Ning Li frowned slightly.

At first, she had thought that the receipt was soft and cute, but now that she thought about it again, it seemed to be more bittersweet.

Because of Shen Zhijin, the atmosphere at the institute had become slightly gloomy.

However, very soon, an even more enthusiastic response came from the sports field.

The chatter and screams continued. Almost everyone was looking in the same direction. Some girls even stood on their tiptoes to look around. They could not hide the excitement which showed in their flushed cheeks.

Ning Li turned her eyes slightly and saw Lu Huaiyu slowly walking over with the crowd surrounding him.

He was wearing a black shirt today but did not look as severe and buttoned-up as the others. His collar was open, which revealed a straight collarbone.

His jacket was draped in the crook of his arm. He had a laidback posture which revealed the nobility in his bones.

His black hair fell over his deep, intense eyes. The curve from the brow to the bridge of his nose was straight and perfect, and the line of his jaw was sharp and smooth.

He was like the snow on the peak of the mountain, the moon on earth, completely unreachable.

However, as he easily strode over with his long lanky legs, there was an indescribable sexiness about him.

Some people were always the center of attention, no matter where they were.

Lu Huaiyu was exactly like that.

Because of his arrival, the people who were waiting in line on the field became excited.

The girls from the nearby faculties were especially excited.

“Lu Huaiyu! It’s actually Senior Lu Huaiyu!”

“This face... It’s really amazing!”

“He actually came to participate in the school’s anniversary celebration?! Why is he even more handsome in person than in photos?”

“Mama, I can’t believe I’ve seen such an incomparable beauty in my life!”

“Wait! He’s looking this way! Quick! Help me up!”

There was such a clamor.

There was nothing he could do. Lu Huaiyu and his face were too conspicuous.

After he entered the field, his gaze quickly swept across the field and fell in a certain direction.

Almost intuitively, he had spotted Ning Li in the crowd.

They looked at each other across the crowd.

It had been a long time since Lu Huaiyu had seen Ning Li.

Now that she looked at him with her beautiful eyes, the long-suppressed longing in his heart turned into frustration.

The corner of his lips curled up slightly and he gave a slight smile.

His originally pure and noble face was now filled with an ambiguous smile, which was especially attractive.

The cheers and screams in this direction were obviously much more enthusiastic.

The instructor in the front row shouted the command.

Ning Li withdrew her gaze.

...

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyes and finally followed the others to the grandstand.

Those who were able to attend the celebration today were undoubtedly the outstanding alumni of Xijing University. It could be said that all the bigwigs had gathered here.

Lu Huaiyu greeted them one by one and finally sat down.

His position was very close to the rostrum. In this area, he was also the youngest, so he was particularly eye-catching.

Countless gazes fell on him, but he did not seem to notice or care. He continued to behave leisurely and languid.

The school anniversary process was presided over by another Vice-Principal Zhang.

First, was the military training parade, then the principal's speech.

After that, was the alumni representative's message.

This was from a 73-year-old old academician, a titan of the aerospace industry.

His advice was encouraging and inspiring.

When it was over, the applause on the field was thunderous.

Finally, it was Ning Li's turn.

"Next, let's welcome this year's freshman representative, the physics department's Ning Li, to speak as the freshman representative!"

This name was not unfamiliar to many people, so everyone looked at the stage.

Ning Li took off her military training cap, revealing her long wavy hair that had been tied into a ponytail at the back of her head. Beneath everyone's gaze, she walked up to the side of the rostrum and stood still.

She was standing right in front of Lu Huaiyu, only a few steps away from him.

Lu Huaiyu crossed his long legs and looked forward. He saw that her posture was straight, and the ends of her hair brushed against her slender and fair neck, swaying slightly.

He pressed fingertips into the palms of his hands, suppressing the heat in his heart.

Someone next to him laughed softly, "I heard that this year's freshman representative got a full score in the college entrance examination of 746. She also got a full score in the national competition. The younger generation is really awesome."

Lu Huaiyu tilted his head and looked at the young girl who was giving a speech without a script. Hearing her clear voice, the corners of his lips curled up into a smile.

"She is indeed very outstanding."

...

Ning Li's speech was concise and brilliant. In the end, she bowed and left the stage. The applause continued for a long time.

She walked towards where the students of the Institute of Physics had gathered, and many passionate gazes followed her.

The school celebration continued. It was a grand and solemn event, and the atmosphere was warm.

By the time it ended, it was already past twelve o'clock in the afternoon.

The school leaders and the alumni representatives were the first to leave the scene. The students waited in their respective places.

However, after the ceremony had ended, everyone became much more relaxed.

Many boys kept looking at Ning Li's direction. It was evident that they had an interest in her.

Yao Mingjia observed this and suddenly asked with a smile, "Ning Li, does your boyfriend have some free time? When will he come and meet us?"

There was silence around them. They all looked at Ning Li.

...

“Hey, Huaiyu, aren’t you leaving yet?”

Seeing that Lu Huaiyu had left the stands and was walking towards the sports field, the old professor called out to him.

Lu Huaiyu smiled and explained, “I have something to take care of first.”

As he spoke, he continued walking in that direction.

The students also noticed him approaching and became restless again.

Under the gaze of countless people, Lu Huaiyu headed straight for the Institute of Physics group.

The group of male and female students could not help but become nervous.

“Senior Lu!”

“Senior Lu!”

Yao Mingjia, who was sitting on the outermost seat, immediately straightened her shoulders when she saw Lu Huaiyu coming over. With a smile on her face, she asked with a slightly red face, “Senior Lu, what brings you here?”

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With one hand in his pocket, Lu Huaiyu tilted his head slightly and looked behind her with a faint smile.

“Junior Sister.”

He opened his mouth unhurriedly, his voice low and carrying a deep smile.

“Why don’t you say something when you see your boyfriend?”