

Little Brat's 551

Chapter 551: Mid-Autumn Festival

Hearing this, Lu Huaiyu also turned to the side and greeted Shen Zhijin with a smile.

“Teacher Shen.”

He had spent a year at the Fino Laboratory headquarters, so he was already familiar with Shen Zhijin. Thus, his tone of voice was naturally more familiar as well.

Shen Zhijin’s gaze fell on the two of them, and he nodded indifferently.

He had always been very liberal and open-minded when it came to youths who were in love.

As long as they did what they needed to do, he would not interfere with the private affairs of the students in the team.

Ning Li’s cheeks, however, were a little hot.

It had not been long since school started and she had officially joined Shen Zhijin’s project team only a little over a week ago. Now, however, she had already been caught kissing and hugging Lu Huaiyu.

Furthermore, they were still at the experimental building of the Institute of Physics!

Earlier, it was only because she had seen that the sky was dark and no one around that she had moved to kiss him.

However, she had still encountered someone.

If it had been a stranger or one of her senior brothers, it would have been fine, but it had to be Shen Zhijin!

Fortunately, Shen Zhijin did not seem to be very concerned about such things. The expression on his handsome and cold face remained calm.

After nodding to the two of them, he turned away slightly and continued to walk toward the experimental building.

When he went up the stairs and his figure gradually disappeared, Ning Li heaved a sigh of relief.

Lu Huaiyu held her hand and asked in amusement, “Why are you so afraid of Teacher Shen?”

Ning Li glared at him.

In what way was she afraid?

It was purely because Lu Huaiyu was too thick-skinned to feel anything even if he bumped into anyone.

The dim yellow light from the street lamp shone on her peach blossom eyes, making them glisten and look very moving.

Her delicate and fair earlobes also seemed to be stained with a layer of alluring rose color.

Lu Huaiyu’s Adam’s apple rolled.

“Ah Li—”

...

Shen Zhijin had already walked some distance away when he suddenly remembered that he had forgotten to remind Ning Li about something. He turned around again.

There were several steps in front of the experimental building of the Institute of Physics. At this moment, he was standing at a higher position. When he turned around, he could easily see the two people standing together by the roadside.

The street lamps overlapped their shadows.

It was Lu Huaiyu who moved forward to embrace her slender waist again.

Ning Li's hand gently pressed against his shoulder. She seemed to be a little hesitant, as if she wanted to push him away.

Lu Huaiyu wrapped his arms around her, and his lower jaw gently pressed against her shoulder socket.

The evening breeze carried a hint of coolness, and one could vaguely hear his low and languid voice.

He seemed to be smiling and coaxing her.

"... Ah Li, please kiss me..."

The next moment, Shen Zhijin saw that Ning Li listened to those words and turned her head slightly.

He stopped in his tracks and gave her a detached look. He quickly withdrew his gaze and turned around to enter the experimental building.

...

Shen Zhijin returned to the laboratory.

Tang Yi approached him with a laptop in his arms.

“Teacher Shen, please take a look at this. The data doesn’t seem to be right.”

Shen Zhijin’s gaze swept across the screen and pointed at two places.

Tang Yi took a closer look and came to a realization.

He was filled with emotion. He had stared at the screen for half an hour, but he still had not been able to figure out what was wrong. Shen Zhijin had only glanced at it for less than two minutes, and he had already figured it out.

It was a rare opportunity to do scientific research with such a top-tier boss. He could learn a lot, and his scientific research ability could also be improved rapidly.

However, there was just one thing: the pressure was really great.

He had skipped grades consecutively and started studying for his doctorate under Shen Zhijin at the age of 23. In the eyes of many people, he was already very outstanding.

However, he was still far from Shen Zhijin’s level.

The absolute gap in IQ was not something that could be made up with hard work.

Shen Zhijin said, “The error in this measurement method is too big. Let’s do it again.”

Tang Yi felt bitter in his heart, but he also knew that this was the best solution. He nodded.

“Okay.”

With that, Shen Zhijin walked to the office next door, and Yan Qiu caught up with him with his thesis.

Fu Niannian winked at Tang Yi.

“Hey, why didn’t you wait for Junior Sister to come over and help you take a look?”

Ever since Ning Li had immediately picked out the three groups that were wrong out of hundreds of data sets, they very much looked up to Ning Li. If they encountered similar difficulties again, the first thing they would think of was to look for Ning Li.

Tang Yi said, “Isn’t Junior Sister late? Logically speaking, she should have arrived fifteen minutes ago, right?”

Fu Niannian laughed and joked, “Oh right, I heard that Lu Huaiyu came to accompany her for her Advanced Mathematics class today. It’s not unusual for her to come over a little later tonight.”

Shen Zhijin subconsciously glanced at the wall clock, and the scene that he had seen downstairs surfaced in his mind.

Then, he focused his mind and pushed the door open to enter the office.

...

After a while, Ning Li finally came up.

She opened her laptop and found that she had received an email.

It was the opinion from the Universe’s review team: approved.

She heaved a sigh of relief and then informed Xu Yin about the news.

Although he had already expected this result, Xu Yin was still very happy at the moment of confirmation.

Ning Li looked towards the cubicle office.

“Senior Brother, is Teacher Shen over there?”

Fu Niannian nodded.

“He went in just now. He’s probably reading Eldest Senior Brother’s thesis.”

That meant that he was busy. Ning Li replied with a “hmm” and decided not to disturb him.

She sat in her own seat and began to design the pre-experiment.

Tang Yi was not far away from her and casually glanced over.

“Junior Sister, tomorrow is the holiday. You don’t have to rush your progress so much.”

Although it was rare for them to get their own holidays, Ning Li was only a freshman after all. Thus, she should have a normal holiday.

Since school had started, this was the first time that many students were able to return home.

However, due to Ning Li’s family situation, Tang Yi did not mention this and only said, “It’s a rare long holiday. You should go out and have fun. Don’t waste it.”

“That’s right.”

Fu Niannian nodded in agreement.

“Even we have a holiday tomorrow, so there’s no need for you to come.”

Tomorrow was the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Ning Li thought for a moment.

“Thank you, Senior Brother. I know.”

After a while, Yan Qiu came out of the office that was next door.

Upon spotting Ning Li, he suddenly thought of something and clapped his hands.

“I almost forgot.”

As he spoke, he walked to his seat, took out a square box from the cabinet, and gave it to Ning Li.

“Junior Sister, everyone has a share of these mooncakes.”

Ning Li took it.

It was a beautifully packaged square box.

In fact, she rarely celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival, and she rarely ate mooncakes.

However, this was, after all, a token of goodwill.

“Thank you, Senior Brother.”

“You should thank the boss. Your Senior Brother is so poor, how can he afford to buy mooncakes for everyone here?” Yan Qiu said with a smile.

Ning Li put down the box of mooncakes.

“Then... for this Mid-Autumn Festival, do we need to send Teacher Shen something?”

Yan Qiu shook his head.

“No need, we don’t need to send anything.”

As if he was worried that Ning Li would misunderstand, his smile faded slightly. He looked in the direction of the office and then said softly, “The boss doesn’t celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.”

Ning Li was stunned.

Yan Qiu looked troubled and said carefully, “You’ve only just come here, so you might not know. The boss doesn’t celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, nor does he celebrate the Spring Festival.”

“He doesn’t celebrate all of these festivals.”

Or rather, he always spent them alone.

After following Shen Zhijin for a long time, it was natural that he knew about these things by default.

Ning Li was slightly startled and nodded.

“I got it.”

With that said, the office door opened again.

It was Shen Zhijin who came out.

He was holding a bunch of red camellias in his arms and an exquisite and beautiful square glass gift box.

The gift box contained a little white horse doll and a huge rainbow lollipop.

Chapter 552: Never Forgotten

Seeing the things in his hand, Ning Li was slightly stunned.

In the next moment, she remembered the email reply from Shen Zhijin.

Yan Qiu had said that he did not celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.

However, this bouquet of camellia flowers and this small gift box had clearly been prepared for someone else.

She finally understood Yan Qiu's words.

Even though he never celebrated such a festival, he had in fact, never forgotten it.

The others did not seem to be surprised by this. Instead, they each said goodbye to Shen Zhijin.

Ning Li also called out, “Goodbye, Teacher Shen.”

Shen Zhijin saw the mooncake gift box in her hand and nodded. His gaze swept past her face and paused on the dimple at the corner of her lips for a moment.

“Goodbye.”

...

The next morning, Ning Li returned to Shuiyuan Shijia.

She stayed in the studio for a long time.

Wei Songzhe had been busy lately. Ever since the last time they had met, she had helped him with several pointers. With his increased perceptiveness, he had been practicing diligently ever since and had made great progress.

This Mid-Autumn Festival, he had returned to Lincheng.

Before leaving, he had not asked Ning Li to go with him.

He knew that for Ning Li, there was no one and nothing there that she would miss or cherish.

Ning Li continued painting until the afternoon. It was only when Yu Pingchuan came to ring the doorbell that she pulled herself away from the painting. She put down her brush and went to open the door.

“Teacher Yu.”

Yu Pingchuan asked, “What are you busy with? It took you quite a while before you came to the door.”

Ning Li gestured inside.

“I wasn’t done painting, so I didn’t notice that you were here.”

Hearing that she was painting, Yu Pingchuan was happy at first, but then he frowned slightly.

“So you didn’t eat lunch?”

Ning Li said, “I ate some snacks, so I’m not very hungry.”

“How is that acceptable?”

Yu Pingchuan looked at her disapprovingly.

“I’ve already told you so many times and yet, you still haven’t changed your habit.”

Ning Li coughed lightly and looked at the two big bags in his hands, quickly changing the topic.

“Did you just buy these?”

Yu Pingchuan grunted. How could he not know what she was thinking? However, his heart ached for her. He thought about how she had not eaten lunch yet and could not bear to blame her.

“These are all your favorites.”

As he said that, he walked into the house and went straight to the kitchen.

“Go wash your hands and wait for lunch.”

Ning Li immediately went to take the things from him.

“Since you bought the groceries, I’ll cook.”

Yu Pingchuan insisted, “No, you go and rest. After we finish eating, we’ll look at your paintings.”

Ning Li gritted her teeth slightly.

“Don’t you want to eat steamed short ribs?”

Yu Pingchuan, “...”

He finally agreed and handed the two bags of ingredients to Ning Li. After a moment of hesitation, he asked expectantly, “Then... can I add another dish of braised shrimp in oil?”

Ning Li smiled slightly.

“No.”

...

Since there were only two people in total, Ning Li reduced the portions but still made several dishes.

When dusk arrived, the two of them sat down in the dining room.

Yu Pingchuan chatted with her about some university matters. After hearing that Ning Li was doing well, he felt much more at ease.

“By the way, the ‘Summer Cicada’ that you sent to the art association will officially be exhibited in a few days. If all goes well, it should be able to be sold very soon.”

Yu Pingchuan said.

Ning Li nodded.

“Thank you, Teacher Yu.”

Yu Pingchuan smiled and shook his head.

“This is all through your own excellence. There’s no need to thank me. On the other hand, the art association is very happy to be able to handle your business.”

He sighed softly.

“In the past, you painted a lot, but in the past two years, it has been less. I think it will be auctioned off at a new price.”

From last summer until now, Ning Li had more than a year’s worth of time yet in total, she had only produced these few.

The first painting had been sent to Jinse Bay, but she had insisted on not selling it.

Therefore, this painting could be considered as her new work after a long time.

When the time came, it would inevitably cause another commotion.

Ning Li smiled.

“Wasn’t I busy earning money in the past?”

Of course, she was still busy now, but it was much better than back then.

Yu Pingchuan shook his head.

“You’ve already earned quite a lot. Logically speaking, that money should be enough for you to spend for a long time. When you have time, don’t always think about earning money. Go out and have some fun.”

Ning Li replied. “Okay.”

“Right. There’ll be a meeting later. Are you going?” Yu Pingchuan said, “It’ll be at the National Gallery.”

Ning Li did not even raise her head.

“I have to go to class so I don’t think so.”

Yu Pingchuan seemed to have already expected this answer from her.

“Alright, I’ll inform them later.”

...

Ning Li’s long vacation had mostly been spent at home.

Part of her time had been spent painting. In addition, G&S’s autumn/winter press conference was to be held at the end of October.

After traveling around the world, George had finally returned and thrown himself into the preparations for this big show.

In fact, with his status, he did not need to do so personally.

However, the main designer this time was still Ning Li so of course, he was not willing to let anyone else do it.

He had sent the concept poster to Ning Li earlier. Many details of the big show were also being communicated with Ning Li.

He called Ning Li again.

“Ning, you didn’t come the first two times. At that time, you said you were busy, so I compromised. But this is already the third time. Surely it’s about time for you to come, right?”

As the crown prince of G&S Group, George had never begged anyone like this before.

Many people clamored for an invitation letter to the press conference, yet he could not give it away even if he wanted to.

The most outrageous thing was that this person was the main designer of this big show.

Ning Li turned her brush and thought for a moment.

“I’ll try my best.”

George had been so worn down by her that even hearing her words, he did not dare to have 100% hope.

“Okay.”

Ning Li hung up the phone and realized that she had also received a message.

After months of tug-of-war, the verdict on Ye Ci’s sentencing was finally out.

Chapter 553: Have You Been Here Before?

The crime of intentionally injuring someone to cause an abortion should have received a heavier sentence.

However, on the one hand, she had still been a minor at the time of the incident. On the other hand, the victim had issued a letter of understanding, so with the efforts of the lawyer, she was finally spared from prison.

She had been sentenced to two years of imprisonment, which had then been suspended for two years.

This also meant that as long as she did not commit another crime during these two years, she would not go to prison.

Overall, she could be considered as someone who was half-free.

Ning Li looked at the letter containing the verdict sent by the lawyer, and the corners of her lips curved into an extremely faint smile.

She was still very satisfied with this result.

The money and effort she had spent had not been in vain.

What was so good about being in jail?

The outside world was so wonderful that she, Ye Ci, should take a good look and appreciate it more.

This Mid-Autumn Festival should be very memorable for Ye Ci.

...

Yunzhou.

It had just rained heavily. The dilapidated residential area was empty. There were a few puddles of water on the bumpy road, reflecting the mottled walls of the buildings.

Ye Ci got out of the taxi and stood at the intersection of the alley. She looked at the scene in front of her without moving for a long time.

After staying in the detention center for a few months, she was extremely thin. Her face was especially pale, and the pride in her eyes had disappeared. Only cowardice and resentment remained. When she looked over, it made people feel particularly uncomfortable.

“Lil Ci?”

Su Yuan had taken a few steps forward before she realized that Ye Ci had not followed. She turned around to look at her.

“What’s wrong?”

Today, she had been the one who had gone to pick Ye Ci up.

Only after being called twice did Ye Ci seem to come back to her senses. She turned her neck stiffly and her dull gaze fell on Su Yuan’s face.

“Mom, why aren’t we going home?”

She should be back at Jingyue Residence and not here!

In all eighteen years of her life so far, she had only seen such a poor and shabby place on the news!

The expression on Su Yuan's face did not look too good.

Everything she had experienced in the past few months had shattered all of her refinement and dignity.

She was no longer the well-maintained Mrs. Ye.

Now, she was just an ordinary middle-aged woman.

Between her brows and eyes, all the vicissitudes brought about by poverty and suffering could be seen.

"Lil Ci, didn't mom already tell you about the situation at home?"

The Ye family had gone bankrupt, and all their assets had been frozen and sealed.

Ye Yiming had been implicated. Before the police had come looking for him, he had absconded with the money.

The entire Ye family had been defeated and scattered overnight.

They could not go back to Jingyue Residence. Even finding a place to stay now was very difficult.

After the past few months of torture, Su Yuan had already accepted this reality. She was humbled and had lowered her head.

However, Ye Ci was different.

She stood there with her fists clenched tightly. Her knuckles were pale, and her whole body was filled with resistance.

Before she had been put under investigation, the Ye family had still been a top-notch wealthy family in Yunzhou.

In just a few short months, how could such a drastic change have happened?

Her home was gone. Everything that she had before was gone!

Su Yuan, on the other hand, did not have much patience. She urged her, "Let's go back first. Lil Cheng is still waiting at home."

Just then, several children ran over from the other end of the alley, laughing and joking.

Just as a few of the children ran past them, one of them threw a stone into the puddle.

Splash!

The dirty, stagnant water from the puddle splashed upwards, dirtying a corner of Ye Ci's clothes.

The dark, murky water stained her clothes and stuck to her calves. It was sticky and smelly.

Her eyelids twitched.

However, before she could react, she heard the laughter of those kids.

"That fat kid is becoming less and less resistant to being beaten up!"

"That's right! I only hit him a few times and he already started begging for mercy. How boring!"

"Who cares, he's rich anyway! I heard that his father used to be rich! Maybe he can get more next time!"

Su Yuan's expression changed. She was no longer bothered about Ye Ci anymore and quickly walked forward.

Finally, she found Ye Cheng, who had just been beaten up, behind the trash can in the depths of the alley.

His face was bruised and swollen, and there were several footprints on his body.

Su Yuan's face instantly turned red.

"Lil Cheng, are they bullying you again?!"

Seeing her, a hint of panic and disgust flashed in Ye Cheng's eyes.

Su Yuan grabbed his hand.

"Tell me! Who were they? I'll find their parents and fight it out with them!"

Hearing this, Ye Cheng became even more frustrated.

"No one! This is my own business. It's none of your business!"

As he spoke, he flung Su Yuan's hand away and turned around to run out of the alley.

The moment he raised his head, he happened to see Ye Ci.

A hint of hesitation flashed across his face.

The previous intimacy that they had was now unfamiliar because of the past few months.

Besides, during this period of time, he had also heard a lot of gossip.

The gossip about his father and Ye Ci... In short, nothing good had been said about them.

“Ye Cheng! Come back here!”

Su Yuan shouted sternly.

Ye Cheng’s expression became even uglier. Without the slightest hesitation, he ran away at an even faster speed.

Su Yuan wanted to chase after him, but she could not catch up at all. Moreover, Ye Ci was beside her.

Her eyes were red.

“Don’t come back if you have the guts!”

Ye Ci lowered her eyes, and her body could not help but tremble slightly.

There had never been a moment than now, when she had realized so clearly that she was no longer the Ye family’s daughter from before.

In front of her, what awaited her were poverty, destitution, humiliation, scolding, and ostracism...

When she had received the verdict, she had thought that she was finally free from jail. However, she had not expected that the real prison would be waiting for her.

She had nowhere to run.

...

Ning Li spent a leisurely and fulfilling vacation at home.

Finally, on the fourth day, Lu Huaiyu personally came to pick her up.

Second Master Lu wanted to watch a movie.

Ning Li looked at Lu Huaiyu, who had suddenly appeared at the door, and was stunned for a moment.

“But... There are a lot of people at the cinema during the holidays...”

She felt that Second Master Lu might not like being squeezed together with the crowd very much.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows and smiled.

“Who said we’re going to the cinema? The Rongyue Mansion has an audio-visual room.”

Ning Li, “...”

Thus, Ning Li finally followed him to Rongyue Mansion.

The large apartment was quite spacious, and the decor was based on Lu Huaiyu’s preferences, including this audio-visual room with top-notch audio-visual equipment.

Lu Huaiyu leaned over and placed the juice and snacks on the coffee table.

“You can choose whichever movie you’d like to watch.”

Ning Li curled up on the sofa and nodded in answer. She deftly took out the remote control from the drawer on the left below the small table.

The curtains closed automatically.

Lu Huaiyu paused.

The room gradually darkened.

Lu Huaiyu's gaze fell on her hand. He narrowed his phoenix-like eyes and casually asked, "Ah Li, have you been to this room before?"

Ning Li instantly froze.

Chapter 554: Is Good With You

"Hmm."

In the darkness, Ning Li answered softly.

"I accidentally came in here once when I was looking for something."

She raised her head slightly.

"Second Brother, do you mind?"

Lu Huaiyu was usually the only one occupying this house, so the door to this room was usually not locked.

Lu Huaiyu sat down next to her and held her in his arms. He raised his eyebrows and smiled.

“How can that be? Since this house is mine, it’s yours too. You can do whatever you want.”

Ning Li’s worried heart was slightly relieved. She randomly chose a movie.

Lu Huaiyu asked with a smile, “Ah Li, I didn’t know that you like to watch documentaries?”

Ning Li looked up and found that she had indeed clicked on a natural geography documentary.

On the screen was an endless desert.

She paused for a moment.

The curtains were well-shaded, and the whole room was dark except for the sparkling light on the curtain.

His arms were warm and firm. When he was so close to her, the cool smell of cedar lingered in her nose.

As he spoke, his breath fell on her neck and ear, with a scorching temperature.

For a moment, her mind was in a trance.

This scene was both unfamiliar and familiar at the same time.

She raised her arm, wrapped it around his neck, and tilted her head slightly as she leaned against his shoulder.

“The documentary is pretty good too.”

She said softly.

Lu Huaiyu was slightly taken aback, but soon after, he laughed.

“Well, if Ah Li says it’s good, that means it’s good.”

Ning Li tilted her head and looked at the curtains, her thoughts somewhat scattered.

In her previous life, after Lu Huaiyu had brought her back from the sanatorium, she had passed the last part of her days in a daze.

She did not know how long that was.

Maybe it had been a long time, or maybe it had only been a few days.

She had been unconscious, unable to open her eyes, unable to move her entire body.

However, her consciousness had been clear.

She could hear his voice, feel the warmth of his embrace, and even remember the rough and gentle force of his slightly calloused fingertips landing on her face.

He had talked to her a lot, patiently telling her about the master bedroom, the guest bedroom, the living room, and the study, which were all in that direction, and how they were arranged.

He had held her in the audio-visual room and watched a movie with her.

She had not been able to see the pictures, but she vaguely remembered his kiss between her eyebrows in the soft, warm background music.

It had been soft and cold.

She seemed to be too cold at that time, and even the corners of her lips were cold.

At that time, she vaguely thought that if only she could open her eyes and see what movie they were watching together.

After going around in circles until now, she had finally returned to this place.

And, he was here as well.

She collected her thoughts and tightened her slender arms slightly. She straightened up slightly and kissed the corner of his lips.

“Everything looks beautiful.”

“Lu Huaiyu, with you, everything looks beautiful.”

...

On the last day of the holiday, Ning Li had stayed at Shuiyuan Shijia to paint.

The afternoon sun shone through the window.

The painting on the drawing board was more than half done.

Her phone rang.

She put down the brush and noticed some paint on her hands.

She stood up and answered the phone.

“Xiaochen?”

He Xiaochen sounded excited:

“Ning Li! My brother’s live broadcast is about to begin! Have you prepared melon seeds, peanuts, and drinks?”

Ning Li looked at the time. It was almost five o’clock.

Lin Fengmian had just joined a live broadcast variety show, “King of Escapes 2.”.

This variety show’s main focus was to escape from a secret room. Every episode would have five celebrity guests that had been invited to enter the pre-arranged secret room set. Whoever could escape from the secret room the fastest would become the current king.

Because the show used the live broadcast format, the audience could interact with the bullet screen the entire time and participate in it together. Therefore, once it had been launched, it had immediately exploded in popularity.

Now that it was the second season, the popularity and quality of the program were even more eye-catching than the first season.

It was also because of the popularity of the program that there were many celebrity guests who wanted to participate in it.

In addition to the three regular guests, two special guest artistes would be invited for each episode.

For these two spots, countless artistes in the industry would fight over them.

However, Lin Fengmian was currently at the top. Of course, he had been on the program team's first list of invited guests.

Lin Fengmian rarely participated in variety shows. In order to get him to be a special guest artiste, the program team had made a lot of effort.

Of course, the management company was also happy to see him succeed.

After all, the program was very popular, so it was good for Lin Fengmian to increase his exposure.

This was Lin Fengmian's first time participating in a live variety show, so naturally, all his fans looked forward to it.

It was also with this title that the program team had released the news early to build up momentum.

The live broadcast would only officially begin at 5 pm, yet Lin Fengmian's name had already made it to the bottom of the hot searches list.

Lin Fengmian King Escapes

Ning Li and He Xiaochen chatted for a while. Seeing that it was almost time, He Xiaochen had hung up the phone to focus on watching the live broadcast.

Ning Li put down her phone, turned on her computer, and clicked on the live broadcast.

The screen was still pitch black.

She went to wash her hands.

When she came back, the live broadcast began.

On the screen, five guests could be seen standing in front of a castle.

The castle was only a set, of course, but it looked very realistic and beautiful.

The three regular guests were two male hosts and one female host.

Lin Fengmian, as one of the special guests, stood in the second position on the left.

There was also a young actor, Zhan Song, who was 25 or 26 years old. He was handsome and had a good temperament.

To be fair, these people were all attractive. No matter where they were, their looks were extremely outstanding.

However, as Lin Fengmian stood there, he easily overshadowed them.

He was only wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans. His attire could not be any simpler.

However, the young man's tall and straight figure, perfect head-to-body ratio, and exquisite and perfect facial features still made him easily the most eye-catching presence on the scene.

"Everyone, say hello to the audience!" The voice-over of the main PD came through.

Then, the camera swept past them one by one.

When it cut to Lin Fengmian, he looked right at the camera. His light brown, clear eyes, which were like crystal balls, slightly curved up. His beautiful lips slightly pursed up with a faint smile.

“Hello, everyone. I’m Lin Fengmian.”

The vigorous aura of a young man almost overflowed the screen.

The bullet screen went crazy in an instant.

[Ahhhhhh, my husband is so handsome!]

[My little brother is so succulent, I love him so much!]

[Little cub, don’t laugh. I will give you my life, ahhhhh!]

Ning Li looked at the bullet screen, wondering which one had been sent by He Xiaochen, and the corners of her lips curled up slightly.

However, in the next moment, her eyes focused slightly.

An extremely eye-catching red bullet screen floated across the screen.

[King of Escapes is one of the programs that tests the guest’s intelligence and cultural literacy the most. Does a nine-leaky fish like Lin Fengmian actually have the guts to participate? It goes to show that an ignorant person truly is fearless. Hahahaha!]

Ning Li narrowed her eyes slightly.

Soon, similar bullet screens appeared one after another, snatching up the screen.

[King of Escapes won't be posing the Tang poem test, so it shouldn't be a problem, right? Hehe!]

[The ones who spoke before are still too naive. Wouldn't it be more interesting to think about Lin Fengmian staring blankly at a bunch of things that he doesn't understand after entering?]

[Exactly! It looks like everyone will be able to enjoy the appreciation of living illiterates! Hahahaha!]

Chapter 555: My Sister Taught Me

Although the previous incident concerning the miswritten word had quickly subsided, troublemakers would always remember it.

They were the best at catching the smallest mistake, magnifying it infinitely, and then ridiculing it to their heart's content.

Seeing such bullet screens, the fans quickly began to fight back.

[To the person with the acidic mouth who spoke before, please speak more kindly!]

[Since you are paying so much attention to Fengmian, then just take a look at my brother's album 'Faith'. It's nice to listen to and not expensive. It's not a loss to invest in it.]

[The program team has invited these guests again and again to come. If you don't like it, just click on the cross in the upper right corner and see yourself out.]

[Since you have the time to criticize others, why don't you go home and help cook up more data? You're not even worthy of being scolded. Do you understand?]

The war of haters had broken out, until the comments section could no longer be seen.

At the same time, the number of viewers in the live broadcast room had continued to increase.

It was a fight between the negatives and positives, but in the end, the positives were still ahead.

Ning Li casually glanced at it.

It was easy to attract haters when one was popular. Lin Fengmian had taken a large share of the market and resources compared to other artistes, so it was inevitable that he suffered these attacks.

There were many people who wanted to pull him down.

Since Lin Fengmian had debuted some time ago, his only dark spot remained the issue over his education.

Of course, they would take advantage of this to attack him.

Fortunately, he would not be able to see this at the moment.

No matter how much the bullet screen argued, the live broadcast had started as per usual.

The five people entered the castle through the gate together.

The live broadcast would last for a total of six hours. Each guest had their own camera and accompanying PD.

During this time, all reactions would be recorded by the camera.

There would be no editing, no post-production.

Everything would be shown in its original appearance.

This was also a very important reason why this program had become so popular.

Artists liked to create a persona, but it was impossible to wear a mask all the time.

In the King of Escape program, the long live broadcast would more or less reveal their true appearance in private.

Some people were attracted by this, while some people were turned off by this.

Now, Lin Fengmian had come.

Countless people were waiting to see him make a fool of himself.

...

The five guests entered the castle and were soon blocked by a door.

A combination lock was hanging on the door.

There was a small desk in front of the door, and on the desk was an open exercise book and a pen.

The female host was very experienced.

"It looks like the password is in this exercise book!"

As she spoke, she picked up the exercise book.

However, within the next moment, she let out an "Ah!".

“It’s so difficult!”

“What is it?”

Another male host came over. When he saw more clearly what was on it, he was speechless.

“The program team is too good at playing games. To come up with such a question, aren’t they deliberately making things difficult for us?”

He raised his workbook towards the camera.

There were actually three math questions on it.

Three-dimensional geometry, two-dimensional quadratic equations, and a derivative function.

Obviously, they needed to write out these three questions in order to guess the password.

“I guess I learned it in high school. However, I’ve forgotten everything since I went to college.”

“Me too...”

“Let me try writing this geometry first. What’s the formula again...”

A few of the guests began to study the questions with their heads lowered. Everyone on the bullet screen was laughing like crazy.

“Hahahaha! The program team still knows how to play!”

“With just these three questions, it shouldn’t take half an hour to solve them, right? After graduating for so many years, who would still remember these things?”

“Popular Science: Zhan Song passed the College Entrance Exam 601 years ago. He graduated from Haicheng University of Technology.”

“At the critical moment, we still have to look at our Lil Songsong!”

Sure enough, the first male host tried for a while but failed to write anything. He handed the pen to Zhan Song and said with a smile, “Zhan Song, this time it’s all up to you!”

Zhan Song smiled modestly.

“I don’t really remember. Let’s try to write down the first line first. You guys can think of the last two lines first and sort out your thoughts.”

As he said that, he took the paper and pen and started to calculate.

Although he said that he did not remember much, he wrote smoothly. It was obvious that he knew how to answer it.

The other hosts all gathered at his side, their faces full of admiration.

“Wow... He really is a top student!”

“Zhan Song, since you can answer this. The next two questions definitely won’t be a problem!”

“Fortunately, we have Zhan Song here today. Hahaha!”

Lin Fengmian stood a little further away.

He first looked at the combination lock, then at the workbook, and his eyes focused on it for a while.

The camera cut to him.

The young man's side profile was exquisite and perfect. When he lowered his eyes slightly, his eyelashes lightly covered his eyes, and there was a mole at the end of his eye, pure and wavering.

He looked very focused.

This instant blast of beauty instantly made countless fans' hearts soften.

[Ah! My little brother is so obedient!]

[How can such a beautiful person exist? I'm speechless!]

However, at the same time, this also caused many people to laugh at him.

[Could Lin Fengmian be looking at those questions? Can he even understand it? Hahahaha!]

[Everyone, please understand. He hasn't seen high school mathematics before. So what if he's a little curious? Let him look!]

[To the sarcastic person above! Please be a bit nicer!]

At this time, Zhan Song had already calculated the answer to the first question.

The second question was slightly simpler, and he had also successfully completed it.

Finally, he came to the third question.

“This calculation is a little too much. It might take a while.”

The main PD reminded.

“There are still three minutes left. If this door can not be opened in time, someone will be punished.”

Zhan Song sped up his calculation.

The people beside him were also nervous.

“Oh dear, it’s such a difficult question. Please give us more time!”

“That’s right! Zhan Song will solve it soon!”

In the tense atmosphere, no one noticed that Lin Fengmian was now standing in front of the combination lock.

The main PD’s voice was cold and emotionless as he started counting down.

“Five, four, three, two—”

Click.

With a crisp sound, the combination lock was opened.

The youth’s clear voice rang out in the room.

“The door is open. Let’s go.”

Dead silence.

The PD and the other guests were stunned. After a while, the female host asked in disbelief, “Fengmian, how... did you open it?”

The combination lock consisted of six digits. Theoretically, it was impossible to rely just on guesswork to get it.

Lin Fengmian’s gaze fell on the workbook beneath Zhan Song’s hand.

“After figuring out the answer, I opened it.”

His voice was very calm.

Everyone was shocked.

After a long while, Zhan Song smiled and said, “Fengmian really has a deeply hidden talent! I’ve been calculating for so long, yet I still haven’t solved it out!”

Lin Fengmian’s eyes moved slightly, and the tone of his voice became gentler.

“My sister taught me before.”

Chapter 556: Sister, Don’t Look

He had exquisitely beautiful facial features. From the inside out, he exuded a rarely seen youthful aura, bringing with him a clean and fragile beauty.

He was like a porcelain doll that had been placed in the window, clear and moving, yet fragile to the touch.

However, as he said this, his voice was gentle and mild. The corners of his crimson lips were slightly pursed into a beautiful arc and he looked extremely obedient.

Especially when he said the word “sister”, he was exceptionally obedient and docile.

The other guests were stunned. They had not expected him to say something like that.

“Sister?”

One of the male hosts was the first to react,

“You have a sister?”

He had never heard of her before.

When Lin Fengmian heard the voice, he raised his eyelids slightly. There was a serious look in his light brown eyes.

His jade-white, delicate chin as his reply was clear.

“Hmm.”

Zhan Song laughed.

“Then your sister must be a straight-a student as well!”

Some time ago, the matter of Lin Fengmian miswriting a word had caused a stir on Weibo.

Many people in the industry had followed the gossip and more or less had some understanding of Lin Fengmian's situation.

He had not attended high school, but had left the country as a trainee when he was in his teens. It was not until he had returned to the country at the beginning of this year to make his debut that he had become famous.

At the moment, he was only eighteen years old.

In other words, he had learned high school mathematics from his sister before he had gone abroad.

When Lin Fengmian heard this compliment, he tilted his head, and the smile on his lips finally deepened.

He said, "Yes, my sister is very smart."

All kinds of strange books had often appeared in Ning Li's bag.

Some of them he could understand, but most of them he could not understand.

Sometimes, when she was free, she would tell him about some of them.

The camera cut in very close. Everyone could see that the young man was full of affection and trust for his sister.

The bullet comments went crazy.

[Ahhhhh! My brother has a sister!]

[He's so obedient! My sister taught me things too, but do I remember everything? What kind of immortal brother is this? Ahhhhh!]

[This little brother learned high school math from his sister when he was in his teens. My actual little brother is 20 years old, but he only knows how to lie on the sofa and play games! F*ck! Why is there such a big difference between different human beings?]

[Hubby! I'm willing to be your sister... Ahhh! A girlfriend fan has turned into a sister fan on the spot!]

[Who said that our little brother was illiterate before? Open your eyes wide!]

[That's right. Education doesn't mean everything. My brother's composition, dancing, and singing skills are all top-notch. Now, he can even derive functions with ease. Dare I ask how many of the haters can come up with the answer to this question?]

The fans were finally able to hold their heads high.

Previously, the entire Internet had ridiculed Lin Fengmian for being uneducated. Countless people had been waiting for him to fail in this live variety show.

Who would have thought that he would make such a beautiful comeback and give those people a resounding slap at the start of the show?

However, there were still several voices of doubt mixed in.

"Who knows whether the program team might have given him the answer in advance? He only stood to the side and observed for a while. He didn't even make a single calculation, yet he got the answer already? Is he really some kind of unworldly genius?"

Obviously, there were still people who were unwilling to believe Lin Fengmian.

However, the fans' morale had been greatly boosted.

[The King of Escape's program team is famous for tormenting the guests. They've never done this before. If you suspect that there's something wrong with the program team, why don't you go and speak to the director yourself? Besides, if you want to see whether it's true or not, why don't you check behind the scenes?]

The bullet comments were still chaotic, but Lin Fengmian's fans still had the upper hand.

The program team had originally thought that they would not be able to get past this stage on time and that it would be fun to prank the participants. However, they had not expected Lin Fengmian to easily resolve it.

However, this was actually a pleasant surprise.

Their program had indeed been a test of the guests' intelligence and reaction. Many of the stages in the middle of the set depended on their brains.

Usually, among a group of guests, the smartest and the best at deciphering the stages would be the ones who would get the most airtime and would easily attract fans the most.

The reason Lin Fengmian had been invited in the first place was because of the traffic that he attracted and his outstanding musical talent.

However, there had been the mishap with the miswriting issue, and Lin Fengmian had been ridiculed by the whole internet.

The program team had also worried that Lin Fengmian might not be able to adapt and would expose his shortcomings.

However, the contract for this job had been signed a long time ago, and since Lin Fengmian had not rejected it, they had carried on as usual.

All they thought was that if it really did not work out, they would give him less footage and just focus more on his face.

They had not expected Lin Fengmian to give them such a surprise at the beginning of the show.

The main PD gave instructions to the other members of the program team.

“Get more shots of Lin Fengmian.”

He had a feeling that this episode’s program would generate a lot of interest because of Lin Fengmian!

...

As it turned out, the main PD proved that he was indeed worthy of being a television personality with a sharp eye after having worked in the industry for many years.

After Lin Fengmian and the others entered the castle through that door, they went through several levels one after another.

From the beginning to the end, Lin Fengmian was quiet, without being competitive. However, whenever they encountered a problem, he would immediately step up.

He was clearly the youngest among them, but he had a calm and unhurried demeanor that was completely incompatible with his age.

After some time, the small group arrived at a sealed room.

The sound of a piano came from inside.

According to the clues before them, they needed to enter this room and find a book.

“This is it, right?”

The female host said as she pushed the door open and walked in.

Just as she walked in, an upside-down head floated past in front of her.

“Ah!”

The female host was caught off guard when she saw this. She immediately screamed and almost fell to the ground.

Lin Fengmian grabbed her arm and pulled her back. At the same time, he stepped forward to block the front.

He said in a low voice, “Sister Qing, be careful.”

Then, he raised his head and looked forward.

The room was almost completely dark, with only a few flickers of some glowing lights. There was a piano in the middle of the room and a broken doll on it. There was a bookshelf next to it, with several rows of books messily stacked up.

The cameraman had already turned on the infrared camera.

In the live broadcast, the figures of the small group of participants had turned gray.

This was the scene of a haunted house. The atmosphere was eerie and terrifying.

Moreover, it was extremely dark.

Lin Fengmian frowned and suddenly looked at the camera.

“Sister, don’t look.”

Chapter 557: She Likes It

Even though the screen was in black and white, the young man’s slightly furrowed brows full of worry, was still accurately captured by the camera.

Countless people in the live broadcast room went crazy with just this one sentence.

[Ooooooooooooo! My younger brother told me not to look and I obeyed! I covered my eyes...
Ohhhhhhhhhh!]

[To the person above who covered their eyes, were you hit by a phantom limb as you were writing?]

[I don’t care! My little brother told me not to look so I didn’t look!]

[Oh my god, I almost lost my soul when that head flew past! Thank god for my little brother! Ahhhhh...
My little brother is so manly! Just now, he pulled Zhang Qing behind him. My boyfriend’s strength is really powerful!]

[I won’t be able to sleep tonight! I will have such great dreams of him as I sleep! I really love him!]

[I’m a pure passerby, I have no feelings for Lin Fengmian. However, that series of actions just now really gave me some good feelings. Also, I finally got a good look at his face.]

Ning Li looked at the screen full of bullet screens and could not help but laugh.

Just like that, it was quite difficult to see.

The layout of the castle was grand and luxurious. No one had expected that the program team would set up a haunted house here.

“We... we still have to go in and get the book, right? But there are so many, which one is it?”

Zhang Qing stood behind Lin Fengmian, her teeth chattering as she spoke.

This place was dark and eerie, coupled with the sound of the piano and the ragged doll, it was very overwhelming.

Zhan Song said, “You guys wait here first as Fengmian and I go in to take a look first, okay?”

Zhang Qing hurriedly said: “I’m fine. Let’s go together!”

Even though she was afraid, she did not want to drag everyone down at a time like this.

There was strength in numbers. Perhaps if everyone acted together, it might be the fastest way to solve this puzzle.

Lin Fengmian walked in first.

Zhan Song and the others followed closely behind.

Lin Fengmian found a small flashlight next to the doll.

He turned on the switch and a beam of light shone on the bookshelf.

He was slightly relieved.

Zhan Song also walked over and frowned.

“So many books, which one should it be?”

There were all kinds of books scattered on the bookshelf. At a glance, there seemed to be no order to them at all.

Zhang Qing and the others plucked up their courage and searched the room, but they could not find any clues.

“There’s no clue at all. How will we know which book it is?”

The people in the room were in a deadlock.

Suddenly, Lin Fengmian walked to the piano.

There was a phone on it. The piano sound they were hearing was actually a recording.

He sat down on the piano bench and listened for a few seconds.

Then, his slender fingers pressed down on the piano keys.

“Fengmian, how—”

Before Zhang Qing could finish his sentence, a smooth piano sound flew out from beneath Lin Fengmian’s fingers.

The small group reacted for a moment before they realized what was going on.

Lin Fengmian was replaying the melody of the phone's loop.

However, what was the use of that?

In the next moment, however, the recording on the phone stopped playing.

"This is..."

Lin Fengmian confirmed his guess. He turned around and walked to the bookshelf again. His gaze swept across the bookshelf before he took down a book.

"It should be this book."

Zhan Song and the others immediately looked at the book in his hand.

At the same time, the camera gave a close-up.

"The Kinetic Theory of Matter."

"What... is this?" Zhang Qing looked bewildered. "Physics?"

The other two male hosts looked at each other in confusion.

"Fengmian, how are you sure it's this one?"

Zhan Song looked at the cover of the book and suddenly remembered something.

"Could it be... Boltzmann?"

Lin Fengmian nodded.

“The conversion number of the melody is 1380649, and Boltzmann’s constant is exactly $1.380649 \times 10^{-23} \text{J/K}$.”

He raised the book in his hand,

“This is the only Boltzmann book on the bookshelf.”

...

All the participants were silent, and the scene seemed to freeze.

The audience was also dumbfounded.

“... Wh-what constant?”

“Boltzmann’s constant. Lin Fengmian actually remembered this so clearly? To be able to link music and physics... he really has some skill.”

[Ah! I remember now! My brother read Universe magazine on the plane and was ridiculed for a long time! But now, it seems that my brother is really knowledgeable about this!]

[I don’t understand, but he’s so handsome!]

Then, under the watchful eyes of countless people, Lin Fengmian took the book and walked forward.

He came to the last door, where there was a table with a concave part in the middle.

Obviously, this was where the book was meant to be placed.

The voice of the main PD could be heard.

“Fengmian, are you sure it’s this one?”

Lin Fengmian nodded.

“I’m sure.”

Then, he placed the book in the concave part without hesitation.

After a short silence...

Creak—

The last door was officially opened!

...

Everyone was shocked.

Zhan Song and the others followed behind him. At first, they were stunned. But then, Zhan Song could not help but shake his head and laugh.

“I’m impressed. Fengmian, you’re amazing.”

Only then did one of the male hosts remember something.

“This, this time... it seems that the time that was spent has... broken the record?”

The directing team was both sad and happy.

What was sad was that this time, the guests had indeed escaped much faster than expected, resulting in them not managing to get much footage at all.

What made them happy though, was that although the time had been short, Lin Fengmian’s performance had really been brilliant throughout!

Even though they had not gotten enough footage, this episode would definitely be a hit!

“Yes.”

The main PD’s voice was helpless, but full of admiration.

“The king of this episode is none other than Fengmian!”

Hearing this, the rest of the group quickly congratulated Lin Fengmian.

Zhang Qing looked at him with great affection.

“Fengmian, how did you guess that last book? Do you like physics a lot?”

This question was actually a little sensitive. After all, Lin Fengmian had been ridiculed by the whole Internet for reading the core journals of the physics world on the plane.

For such a long time, he had never given any explanation.

Everyone had thought that it was because he was guilty of pretending to be a cultured person that he did not dare to make any fuss about it.

But who knew—

Today's scene could be considered as a loud slap to those people!

If he was illiterate, then what were Zhan Song and the others?

Hearing this, the corners of Lin Fengmian's lips pursed into a faint smile.

"My sister likes it, so I like it too."

...

That night, Lin Fengmian completely slaughtered the top searches.

Lin Fengmian King's Great Escape

Lin Fengmian's boyfriend strength

Even an entry like # Boltzmann's constant # had been listed as a top search topic.

And at the top of the list—

sister Lin Fengmian

Chapter 558: Don't Cry

Everyone could see that this sister was someone who was very special and important to Lin Fengmian.

He was born to be the king of the stage. He was quiet, with a constant faint cold air around him.

Yet, at the mention of this person's existence, he became meek, docile, and adorably obedient.

He was like a cat that had just had its fur smoothed down.

That night, the countless fans that were mother fans or girlfriend fans had turned into sister fans.

At the same time, his outstanding performance in the live broadcast had once again attracted a large number of fans.

He was the youngest, yet he had been calm and composed.

He could solve math problems, protect his sister, and play the piano well.

The hours-long live broadcast had not only not made him fail, but it had also made more people see his good points.

He had become more real, and more likable.

Who would not want a brother like him?

At the same time, the existence of this "sister" had also aroused the curiosity of many people.

What kind of person was this that Lin Fengmian missed so much?

...

It was a win-win situation for both the King of Escapes and Lin Fengmian, so everyone was happy.

The two shots: one where Lin Fengmian had modestly said, "My sister taught me before," and the other where he frowned and said, "Sister, don't look," to the camera had been specially captured and turned into animated pictures, which were spun on the front page.

All of his performances on this day's program had also completely overturned his reputation.

Uncultured?

Hypocritical?

It was obvious that he was capable, and he was not any lesser than those who mocked him on the Internet!

However, from the beginning to the end, he had never defended himself at all.

Thinking back to everything that had happened to him as he had been being ridiculed, the fans' hearts ached even more.

At the same time, many passers-by also changed their opinion of him greatly.

Lin Fengmian had completely made a beautiful comeback.

...

After the holidays, the students returned to school one after another to start classes.

Ning Li also returned to school.

She did not have too many classes. In addition, all the teachers in the Physics Department knew that she was now doing experiments with Shen Zhijin, so most of the time, they were not very strict with her.

Therefore, she still had a lot of free time.

On Wednesday morning, after the usual group meeting, Shen Zhijin called Yan Qiu into his office.

After a while, Shen Zhijin left, and Yan Qiu returned to his seat.

Fu Niannian curiously asked, "Eldest Senior Brother, did the boss give you another task?"

Yan Qiu nodded.

"This Saturday, the boss will be giving a lecture at our school. He asked me to prepare some materials."

Hearing this, Tang Yi looked up as well.

"Really? How long has it been since the boss gave a lecture in this country? I'm afraid it will be crowded this time."

Shen Zhijin had stopped giving lectures a long time ago. Even many of the teachers and students of the Physics Department found it extremely difficult to meet him.

Now that he had finally returned to China, it was truly rare for him to give a lecture.

One could imagine how crowded it would be when the time came.

“The venue will be set at the Grand Hall. The tickets will be free. However, whether or not we can snatch it will depend on our luck.”

As Yan Qiu spoke, he winked at the rest of them.

“Don’t worry! Our laboratory can still guarantee that everyone will get one ticket!”

Fu Niannian looked at him expectantly. “Can we bring our family members?”

Yan Qiu glared at him.

“No, just give up on that idea!”

Fu Niannian had already expected this outcome and let out a long sigh.

“It’s so difficult just to get one ticket for my boss’s lecture. Is there any justice in this?”

Yan Qiu patted his shoulder.

“Just get used to it.”

...

On Friday, Yan Qiu brought a few tickets to the auditorium. Ning Li and the others each got one.

“Tomorrow morning at nine o’clock, at the auditorium. Don’t be late.”

As Yan Qiu spoke, he looked at Ning Li again.

“Junior Sister, remember to follow us closely tomorrow. We don’t want to accidentally lose you.”

Ning Li, “... Oh.”

Tang Yi thought of something and heaved a big emotional sigh.

“The last time I attended the Boss’ public lecture was a year and a half ago. Tsk, at that scene... I was lucky to be able to come back with all my limbs intact!”

Ning Li looked at the ticket in her hand as she listened to them, feeling a little curious.

Shen Zhijin was a renowned physicist at home and abroad. He was definitely a peak figure in the astrophysics world.

This would also be her first time listening to his lecture live. Of course, she felt a great sense of longing and anticipation for it.

She placed the ticket in her Advanced Mathematics book.

...

Saturday.

Early in the morning, outside the auditorium of Xijing University, there was a hubbub of voices.

Yan Qiu was Shen Zhijin’s assistant, so naturally, he went with him.

As for Ning Li and the others, after Fu Niannian’s persuasion, Yan Qiu had finally agreed to bring them along and they followed behind Shen Zhijin.

Ning Li was two steps behind Shen Zhijin as she followed him and her senior brothers into the Great Hall.

Even though she had mentally prepared herself beforehand, she was still shocked when she saw the situation outside the great hall.

The long line of people had formed into an S-shape. It really was like a sea of people.

Other than the students, there were also quite a number of Xijing University teachers and their families who had come over.

Ning Li roughly scanned through them. It seemed that there were some who were from other schools as well.

There were only so many tickets to the auditorium. Some had been sent out as invitations, and some were left for the insiders. There was not many left.

Most of the people here could only stand in the auditorium and some could not even enter.

Yet, they still came.

All because the main speaker of this lecture was Shen Zhijin.

“Professor Shen is here!”

Someone shouted, and the crowd immediately burst into an uproar.

Everyone looked over eagerly, and some even began to crowd forward.

Yan Qiu quickened his footsteps:

“Teacher Shen, you can go through the side door—”

“Waaa!”

A young and aggrieved cry suddenly came from the side.

Ning Li turned her head to take a look and realized that there seemed to be a woman who had brought her daughter over to listen to the lecture. However, when the crowd became chaotic, she had lost her balance, and the little girl had been pushed to the ground.

The little girl looked to be only two to three years old. Wearing a pink and white dress, she was very cute.

The little girl blinked her eyes and began to cry, most likely from the pain of the fall.

Her mother immediately panicked and bent down to pick her up.

However, there was someone who was faster than her.

The man in a suit walked over quickly and squatted down. He ignored the dangerous crowd around him and picked the little girl up.

He knelt on one knee, his clothes becoming stained with dust.

However, he did not mind at all. He merely looked at the little girl in his arms.

He gently patted the dust off the corner of her skirt. His usually cold voice was gentle and careful.

“Don’t cry.”

There was a rare trace of nervousness in his voice as he spoke.

“Don’t cry.”

Chapter 559: He Cried

Shen Zhijin.

As he held the little girl in his arms, his movements were awkward and clumsy, but there was a rare tenderness and patience in his eyes.

He tried to coax the little girl as he held her in his arms. When she looked up and saw the unfamiliar but beautiful face, she seemed to be stunned for a moment. She forgot to cry, merely staring at him with red eyes. There was a trace of confusion and curiosity in her eyes.

The remaining tears left on her eyelashes were like sparkling crystals, which made her look pitiful but adorable.

Shen Zhijin felt a pain in his heart at being the focus of such a gaze. He coaxed her even more gently and caressed her back.

Generally, he never spoke much, and at this moment, he was even more at a loss. After tossing and turning over the thoughts in his mind, all he could think to say was, “Be good, don’t cry anymore...”

When they saw that it was Shen Zhijin himself, the crowd around them quickly restrained themselves and stopped.

The little girl’s mother finally came over and called out worriedly, “Meng Meng!”

Hearing her mother’s voice, the little girl raised her head.

When she saw her mother, she felt aggrieved again. She opened her arms and said with a sobbing voice, "Mommy!"

The woman quickly bent over to hug her.

"Meng Meng, I'm sorry. It's Mommy's fault. Did you fall and hurt yourself?"

Shen Zhijin's movements paused for a moment. Then, he let go of the little girl's hand and stood up.

The little girl threw herself into her mother's arms and hugged her tightly. She was about to nod when she suddenly thought of the uncle who had coaxed her. She turned her head back.

She looked at Shen Zhijin and shook her head gently. She said softly, "It doesn't hurt..."

Only then did the woman repeatedly thank Shen Zhijin.

"Professor Shen, thank you so much!"

Shen Zhijin's expression had returned to its usual calm and indifferent state.

"You're welcome."

He opened his mouth and his gaze fell on the little girl's face. His throat felt dry, and after a while, he said in a tense voice, "Why didn't you protect your own child?"

Ning Li did not know if she was imagining it, but she could actually hear a trace of cold and suppressed anger from Shen Zhijin's words.

Ever since she had known Shen Zhijin, he had always been calm and indifferent.

This was the first time she had seen Shen Zhijin get angry.

The little girl's mother had not expected Shen Zhijin to react like this. However, this time, it was true that she had not protected her daughter well. If Shen Zhijin had not come forward in time, who knew what would have happened?

She hugged the little girl tightly, looking guilty and ashamed.

"I was too careless..."

When the little girl saw this, she hugged her neck and nuzzled her face.

"It's not mommy's fault..."

As she said this, she pouted at Shen Zhijin and called out in a childish voice, "Uncle, don't scold my mommy!"

This voice seemed to have finally brought Shen Zhijin back to his senses.

He closed his eyes and suppressed the surging emotions in his heart.

In the blink of an eye, he turned back into the elegant, strict, and steady Shen Zhijin.

The woman coaxed the little girl before explaining, "Professor Shen, I've always admired you. I brought Meng Meng here today because I wanted to sit in on your lecture..."

She looked at the girl in her arms.

"Meng Meng, let's go home, okay?"

The little girl seemed to be a little reluctant as she muttered softly, “Didn’t you say we were going to look at the stars...”

The woman looked a little embarrassed.

Shen Zhijin said, “Yan Qiu, take them in.”

Yan Qiu was momentarily stunned before he immediately reacted.

“Okay.”

They took a special passageway, so there was no need to crowd with others.

With Yan Qiu leading the way, they could avoid a lot of danger.

He said to the woman, “Ma’am, please come with us.”

The woman was a little embarrassed.

“This... Thank you, Professor Shen.”

Shen Zhijin only nodded slightly, before turning around to walk to the side door.

The rest of the group immediately followed.

...

After entering the auditorium, the woman thanked Shen Zhijin again.

Shen Zhijin's expression was indifferent. He turned his feet slightly and went backstage.

Yan Qiu followed him.

Ning Li followed Fu Niannian and the others to her seat.

After all, they were Shen Zhijin's students. They had the best seats which were in the middle of the third row.

The woman also had a ticket which coincidentally was for a seat that was two rows behind them to their right.

At this moment, there were not many people entering the venue yet.

After Ning Li sat down, she heard the soft voice of the little girl behind her.

"Mommy, that uncle just now fell and hurt himself."

Her mother could not help but laugh.

"Nonsense, Professor Shen did not fall. He was trying to help Meng Meng to get up."

The little girl was very serious.

"But he was crying."

Ning Li was stunned.

The woman seemed to be a little surprised as well. She did not know whether to laugh or cry and tapped the little girl's nose.

“How is that possible? Meng Meng was the only one who cried. Everyone saw it.”

Seeing that her mother did not believe her, the little girl raised her voice slightly.

“It’s true! I really saw him cry!”

She shook her little head and continued to mumble in seriousness.

“He must have been in so much pain that he cried.”

...

More and more people started to enter the auditorium one after another.

The mother and daughter’s voices were gradually drowned out by the clamor of the crowd.

Ning Li, on the other hand, was a little stunned.

Shen Zhijin...

When he went to help the little girl, he had not hesitated at all.

He had lowered his head for a moment, so no one had seen his expression.

No one knew what he had been thinking at that time.

After hesitating for a moment, she turned to look at Fu Niannian and asked softly, “Senior Brother, does Teacher Shen... have a child?”

Fu Niannian was stunned, then he shook his head.

“No.”

Ning Li recalled the image of Shen Zhijin clumsily hugging the little girl as he coaxed her. She nodded lightly.

That was true.

If Shen Zhijin had a child, the outside world would have heard about it a long time ago.

He should also not have... never celebrated a festival like the Mid-Autumn Festival.

As the crowd entered the hall, the seats in the auditorium gradually filled up.

There were also many people standing in the aisle at the back.

Suddenly, there was a commotion in the auditorium.

Ning Li looked up and saw that Shen Zhijin was on the stage.

Just like every time he appeared in front of everyone, he looked elegant and proud.

Behind her, several young students could not hide their excitement as they chattered among themselves.

However, her gaze could not help but fall on his left knee.

When she took a closer look, she could vaguely see a faint dust mark.

It was the mark that had been left behind when he had knelt down and picked up the little girl.

She suddenly remembered what the little girl had said.

–He must have cried because he was in so much pain..

Chapter 560: Lifelong Love

Many people had come to Shen Zhijin's lecture this time.

The entire auditorium was full.

Ning Li looked at Shen Zhijin who was standing on the stage.

Looking at his current appearance, it was really difficult for people to associate him with the previous image of him nervously and helplessly coaxing a little girl.

He had devoted his whole life to scientific research and could almost be said to have devoted his entire life to physics.

However, it turned out that in addition to this, he actually still cared about other people and things.

The topic of his lecture today was gravitational wave detection, but it was simple and in-depth. Even many non-related professionals were very engrossed as they listened to it.

The lecture lasted two hours, and the last 15 minutes was the free-question session.

The first two people had asked more professional questions, which Shen Zhijin had then answered in turn.

The last question came from a boy.

He looked to be in his early 20s and wore thick glasses.

“Teacher Shen, you have been my idol since I was young. At present, I am also engaged in theoretical physics research. What I want to ask is, how have you maintained your love for physics for so many years?”

For most people, scientific research was boring.

From morning to night, he would spend his time in the laboratory, repeating experiments countless times, interacting with documents and various data all day long...

If it was not for his true love, he definitely would not have been able to persist.

However, it was extremely difficult to persist in maintaining this love despite the repeated setbacks and failures.

When this question was asked, everyone curiously looked at Shen Zhijin.

His expression was calm. It was not known what he was thinking of, but he paused for a moment.

Then, he said, “You’re wrong about one thing. I haven’t always loved physics.”

Once these words were said, the entire auditorium fell silent for a moment, and then there was an uproar.

—Shen Zhijin was the president of the National Physics Association. He was a renowned genius in astrophysics at home and abroad. Everyone had thought that physics was his lifelong dream. Who would have thought that he would say such a thing in public?

The boy who asked the question looked a little stunned.

However, Shen Zhijin did not seem to care about these things.

A thought seemed to come to his mind as a faint smile flashed across his face.

“However, my wife said that it was very interesting to watch me learn physics, so I have been doing it until now.”

It was not so easy to love physics for the whole of one’s life.

However, loving her for the whole of his life was very easy for him.

...

The lecture ended and the crowd dispersed.

Ning Li and the others sat in their seats for a while. They left only after everyone else had left.

Several important people in the physics world were present today as well, and Shen Zhijin was with them.

Ning Li followed her senior brothers to the cafeteria.

As some people passed by, Shen Zhijin’s name could occasionally be heard.

Some people discussed his academic research today, while others were talking about him and his wife.

Ning Li had heard some related rumors from Xue Langlang before, so she did not have any thoughts of asking more at this moment.

After lunch, she went back to the dorm to rest.

Just as she put down her backpack, she saw a news notification on her phone.

[An obsessive fan rear-ended his car and injured Lin Fengmian!]

She frowned and clicked on the news.

The incident had happened at three o'clock in the morning. Lin Fengmian had gone home after finishing his work, but the obsessive fan had rear-ended him with the car.

There was a picture of the scene of the rear-end collision on the news. The car's bumper had been knocked off, and dark red bloodstains could be seen on the ground. It looked like a mess.

Ning Li looked at the time.

It was already one o'clock. Ten hours had passed since the incident and she had not known anything about it.

If it was not for the news, she would not have known that such a big thing had happened to him!

The fans were already in an uproar, and the comments below were rising rapidly.

[This obsessive fan is history!]

[My heart aches for my little brother. It's already hard enough to have to finish work in the early hours of the morning, yet he still has to be pestered by such a person!]

[F*ck off! Get away from him!]

[The photos at the scene seem to be very serious. Is he hurt?!]

No one else was in the dormitory at the moment, so Ning Li called Lin Fengmian directly.

Her first call went unanswered.

She tried to call a second time.

This time, he finally picked up.

“Sister?”

Lin Fengmian’s voice came from the receiver.

Ning Li frowned.

“Mian, I saw the news. How are you doing now? Which hospital are you in?”

Lin Fengmian was afraid that she would worry, so he had not mentioned this matter.

Who knew that the news would still be exposed?

He pursed his lips.

“I’m fine, Sister. It’s just a contusion of the cartilage. I’ll be fine after recuperating.”

“Really?”

“Really. Sister, you don’t have to—”

“Send me the medical record.”

Lin Fengmian rubbed the space between his eyebrows and agreed.

“Okay.”

Lin Fengmian then sent photos of his medical records over.

It was slightly more serious than what he had said, but fortunately, there were no fractures or anything like that.

The doctor had prescribed some medicine and suggested that he recuperate for some time. He was also advised not to move around too much.

Only then did Ning Li let out a sigh of relief.

Lin Fengmian wanted to dance. If his muscles and bones were injured seriously, it would definitely cause a huge impact.

Now, however, this was a blessing in disguise.

She noticed the hospital listed on the medical records— the first affiliated hospital of Xijing University.

“Are you still in the hospital?” She asked.

Lin Fengmian said, “No, I left this morning. I’m at the apartment now.”

He had been worried about the media swarming over, so after the incident, he had kept his actions very low-key and secretive.

The company's headquarters was in Haicheng, but because he had many jobs in the Capital, the company had already helped him rent an apartment here some time ago.

Ning Li picked up her backpack.

"Send me the address of the apartment."