

Little Brat's 561

Chapter 561: Peace of Mind

Lin Fengmian was injured. He had not wanted her to know about it, and he had not wanted her to see him like this.

But now that Ning Li had said that she was coming, it was hard to say no.

Moreover, they had not seen each other for a long time since after the summer vacation.

He missed her very much.

After hesitating for a moment, Lin Fengmian still sent her the address.

—Lan Di Apartments, Block 2,1001.

Ning Li picked up her backpack and was about to go out when she received a message from George saying that there were still a few things about the show that she needed to review and personally finalize.

She placed her laptop in the backpack as well.

...

Lan Di Apartments was a high-end residential area located on the second ring road. It was said that many artists had purchased properties here as well.

However, Lin Fengmian was only renting this place, and because of his busy schedule, he rarely stayed here.

However, this time, it was a special situation.

Ning Li took a taxi to Lan Di Apartments.

Probably because Lin Fengmian had already informed the security guards, Ning Li entered the residential area very smoothly.

She found Block 2, entered the elevator, and pressed the button for the tenth floor.

Two elevators and two apartment blocks meant that the privacy there was pretty good.

Besides, those who could live here were either rich or members of the aristocracy, so it was relatively easier.

Ning Li found apartment 1001.

Lin Fengmian had already sent her the password, so after pressing the doorbell, she went straight in.

“Mian?”

Ning Li called out before she heard footsteps coming from the living room.

“Sister.”

She turned her head and immediately frowned.

“Why aren’t you lying down and resting?”

Lin Fengmian had a large area of soft tissue bruise on his body, and his left ankle was also injured and immobilized with a brace.

At the moment, he was standing on one foot. His face was a little pale, and he looked quite haggard.

When he saw Ning Li, his clear, light brown eyes lit up a little.

“Sister, you’re here.”

Ning Li changed her shoes and walked over to him.

“You should sit down.”

“Okay.”

Lin Fengmian had originally wanted to move forward to take her backpack, but after hearing what she said, he obediently returned to the sofa and sat down.

However, his eyes were still glued to her— it had been a really long time since they had last met.

Ning Li put her backpack in a corner of the sofa and looked around.

The company treated Lin Fengmian quite well and had helped him rent a spacious three-bedroom.

However, it looked like Lin Fengmian was the only one here now.

As if he had guessed what she was thinking, Lin Fengmian said, “Brother Fan and the others have returned to the company.”

His injuries were not particularly serious. At the very least, he was still capable of caring for himself.

However, when the news of him being chased by an obsessive fan had caused him to get rear-ended and injured had broken out, it had caused a huge uproar. Wu Yuanfan and the others were also very busy at the moment.

Firstly, they had to give their fans an explanation so that they would feel more at ease. Secondly, they had to pursue those obsessive fans and hold them accountable.

Initially, Wu Yuanfan had wanted to keep an assistant here, but Lin Fengmian had rejected him.

Ning Li nodded.

She had already read Lin Fengmian's medical records, so she knew what needed to be done. She was not as worried as she had been at the beginning.

However, he was still injured after all.

Moreover, it was because of an obsessive fan.

Her gaze fell on his left ankle, and her brows furrowed slightly.

"Sister, the doctor said that the brace should only need to be worn for a week," Lin Fengmian said, "It's not serious."

As he spoke, the corners of his lips curved up slightly.

"It's not as serious as the injuries from our previous fights."

Ning Li glanced at him.

“You seem quite proud of that.”

Lin Fengmian had fought by her side for many years.

At first, they had been outnumbered, and they had lost more than they had won. Moreover, even the few times that they had won had always been with great difficulty.

Eventually, they had gradually gained some experience, and as they grew older, they had won more easily.

Throughout this process, it was inevitable that both Ning Li and Lin Fengmian had been injured.

The injuries had been both big and small, and layered on top of each other.

They had been afraid that Ning Li’s grandmother would find out, so they had covered up whatever they could. However, there had been times that they really could not, which caused her to be heartbroken when she saw it.

Lin Fengmian said, “Sister, what would you like to drink?”

“I can get it myself.”

Ning Li turned around to go to the kitchen and opened the fridge door.

There were quite a lot of things inside that Lin Fengmian’s assistant had bought for him before he had left.

Ning Li took a bottle of mineral water.

“Have you had lunch yet?”

Lin Fengmian nodded. “Yes.”

Ning Li felt a little relieved.

Lin Fengmian glanced at her backpack on the sofa. It seemed to be quite heavy, most likely because there was a computer in it.

“Sister, if you have something to do, just go and do it. Don’t worry about me.”

Ning Li took the computer out of her bag, along with a stack of drawings, and sat down at the long table behind the sofa.

“It’s okay. I’ll stay here with you for a while.”

When Lin Fengmian heard this, a hint of surprise flashed across his eyes and the corners of his lips curled up.

“Okay.”

Actually, he rarely made such a request in front of Ning Li.

Or even any request at all.

In the past, when he was abroad, it had been very difficult for him to meet her.

Now that he was back in the country, it was still very difficult for him to meet her.

He took a book out from under the coffee table. Then, he slowly moved to the side of the long table and sat opposite Ning Li.

The two of them sat facing each other.

Ning Li turned on the computer. There was a drawing in her hand, as her fingers typed on the keyboard from time to time.

Lin Fengmian opened the book.

Ning Li glanced at it and found it familiar.

“Is this the book that you took from the haunted house previously?”

Lin Fengmian raised his head and smiled.

“Yes. After the variety show was finished, the program team gave it to me as a souvenir.”

It was not an expensive gift, but it was a gift from the heart.

Lin Fengmian appreciated the gesture and since he happened to like it, he had brought it back.

Ning Li nodded.

“Oh right, will you be able to attend G&S’s big show this time?”

Lin Fengmian had officially announced his collaboration with G&S. This could be considered his first official appearance as a brand ambassador at G&S’s press conference. It was of great significance.

“I’ll be there.”

Lin Fengmian knew what she was thinking,

“There’s still some time before the press conference. There’ll be enough time to recover.”

“Okay, that’s good.”

This opportunity was not easy to come by. Naturally, Ning Li hoped that everything would go smoothly on his end.

Then, she continued to focus her attention on the computer.

Lin Fengmian also lowered his head to read.

The room was very quiet. Only the sound of typing and flipping the pages of the book could be heard.

Lin Fengmian’s brows gradually relaxed. It was very rare for him to be so relaxed.

When he was young, he would always follow Ning Li, fight with her, and read with her.

Ever since he had gone abroad, it had been a long time since he had lived like this.

Most of the time, he was tense, rushing to work and recording shows without daring to relax at all.

It was only at this time that he finally felt a hint of exhaustion that he had not felt in a long time.

After an indeterminate amount of time, Ning Li and George finished discussing the details of one of the dresses. When she looked up, she saw that Lin Fengmian had laid his head on the table and fallen asleep.

He rested quietly on the table, breathing lightly.

Ning Li looked at him.

He had just returned home from work at three o'clock that morning. After that, he had been harassed, rear-ended, and injured by an obsessive fan...

It was obvious that he had not rested well.

However, since her arrival, he had not said a single word about being tired.

She looked at the computer again, and the tapping on the keyboard became softer.

Chapter 562: Gossip

When Lin Fengmian woke up, it was already evening.

He slowly opened his eyes and froze for a while before he remembered that he was in his own apartment.

Ning Li's computer was still on the other side of the table, but she was not there.

He straightened up and smelled something good coming from the kitchen.

"Sister?"

Ning Li came over with a bowl.

"I cooked lotus seed porridge for you. You should eat lightly while you recuperate."

Lin Fengmian's eyes curved in a smile.

"Thank you, Sister."

Ning Li began to pack up.

Seeing her actions, Lin Fengmian was stunned.

"Sister, aren't you going to eat with me?"

"I have something to take care of."

"... Oh."

Lin Fengmian was a little disappointed, but he also knew that if she said she had something to take care of, it meant that she really was busy.

Besides, he was already very happy that she had spent the whole afternoon with him.

"Then I'll see you off—"

"You just rest well here and make sure to eat the porridge later," said Ning Li as she carried her bag and walked out.

Lin Fengmian still insisted on seeing her to the door.

"Be careful, Sister."

Ning Li had just stepped out of the room when she heard him speak and turned back to look at him.

After taking a nap in the afternoon, his spirit and complexion had improved a lot. However, the faint bruise on his face was still very obvious.

Moreover, he was too skinny.

“Mian.

She said, “You don’t have to work so hard. You’re only eighteen years old. You’ve already done really well.”

There was an overload of work on him. He had to work continuously while dealing with all kinds of troubles.

The haters, obsessive fans...

Which one was easier to deal with?

Lin Fengmian was momentarily stunned before he then smiled.

“Yes, I know.”

Ning Li then turned around and left.

Lin Fengmian watched her enter the elevator before closing the door.

Looking at the room that had become quiet again, he was silent for a long time.

She had said that he was only eighteen years old, but in fact... she was only less than a month older than him.

It was because she was like his older sister, it was easy to forget that she herself was essentially still a child.

He walked to the long table and solemnly drank the bowl of porridge.

...

When Ning Li left the neighborhood, the sun was already setting. The warm orange light coated the clouds in the sky with a layer of gold.

When she walked to the gate of the community, she saw a white sedan parked by the roadside.

The model of the car was beautiful and the lines were smooth. With one look, she could already tell that it was very expensive.

She walked over and got into the passenger seat.

George put one hand on the steering wheel, unapologetically looked her up and down, and smiled.

“Ning, it’s been so long. You’re getting more and more beautiful.”

Ning Li buckled her seatbelt and leaned against the back of the chair. She closed her eyes.

“Drive.”

George, “...”

The crown prince of the G&S Group had been reduced to some kind of manservant for the day.

George started the car as he reflected on what was wrong with her for the umpteenth time.

When he realized that he had subconsciously done as she ordered again, George gritted his teeth in annoyance.

“Do you know that I specifically postponed my date tonight to pick you up? I asked that young lady out three times before she agreed to go out with me. Since I’ve stood her up today, she’s definitely going to blacklist me.”

Ning Li’s tone was calm.

“It’s just a month ahead of what’s going to happen anyway. Why are you being so resentful?”

George, “...”

He finally understood that he would never be able to best Ning Li.

He resigned himself to his fate and stepped on the accelerator. The car headed straight for the G&S headquarters.

He had already asked her countless times and she had finally found the time.

So, he should just forget about this and just endure it!

...

Ning Li stayed at G&S for more than three hours.

George was right about one thing. As a designer, there were indeed some things that needed to be seen on the spot before they could make the best choice.

Regarding the layout of the show and the upcoming series of high-end gowns, George and the entire G&S design team respected Ning Li's opinion to the greatest extent and strived to present it perfectly.

It was almost ten o'clock by the time the meeting finally ended.

Ning Li stood up and prepared to leave.

George asked, "Shall I send you back?"

Ning Li shook her head.

"There's no need."

As she said that, she picked up her backpack and prepared to leave.

She casually picked up her phone and realized that within a short period of time, there were suddenly several push notifications, several unread messages, and missed calls.

While she had been busy earlier, her phone had been muted, and she had not taken a look at it until now.

Unexpectedly—

She narrowed her eyes and casually scrolled down a bit.

When she saw the words on it clearly, her eyelids twitched.

[Explosive! A mysterious woman freely enters and leaves top idol Lin Fengmian's apartment! Four hours together! Suspected romantic relationship exposed!]

...

Lin Fengmian had a scandal.

As soon as the news was out, the entire Internet exploded.

A media outlet released an exclusive video with a voice recording.

“Originally, I just wanted to see how Brother Fengmian was after he was injured in the car accident. I never thought that there would be such a shocking windfall! It looks like we won’t have to worry about brother Fengmian anymore. There will naturally be people who will care about him!”

In the video, a tall and slender young girl with a backpack and a baseball cap could be seen walking into the second building of Lan Di Apartments.

She was quite far away, so her face could not be seen clearly.

However, one could vaguely tell that she was pretty.

If it was just this video, of course, it could not be seen as proof that this was Lin Fengmian’s love interest. After all, there wasn’t even a shadow of him on it.

However, the key point was that apart from this video, the paparazzi had also attached a photo.

It had to have been taken from the other side of the building.

In the picture, behind the window that was half-covered by a layer of muslin curtains was a long table.

Lin Fengmian sat at the side of the long table with his head tilted slightly.

Only half of his face was revealed, but his signature hair and the cross-shaped diamond earring could not be any clearer. It was him!

A girl stood next to him, holding a bowl of porridge in her hands, as if she was about to give it to him.

Her clothes were exactly the same as the girl that had been in the video.

This time, she was not wearing a hat, so one could vaguely see her beautiful and clear face.

Although it was a little blurry, people who were familiar with her could definitely recognize that it was Ning Li.

Ning Li exited the app and saw a missed call at the top.

It was Lu Huaiyu.

Chapter 563: This Is My Sister

George noticed that something was off with her and curiously asked, "Ning, what's wrong?"

Ning Li was silent for a moment.

"Nothing, I'm just a little cold."

"Cold?"

George was surprised,

“This room is 26 degrees, and you’re still cold?”

Ning Li rubbed the space between her eyebrows as she felt a headache coming on.

“Forget it, I’ll take my leave first.”

...

After going downstairs, Ning Li stood by the roadside and called Lu Huaiyu.

He picked up the call quickly.

“Ah Li?”

Lu Huaiyu’s voice was still languid, but the meaning of his words was more or less subtle.

“Were you looking for me?”

Ning Li, “...”

If everything was alright on his end, then why had there been a missed call from him earlier?

“Second Brother.”

She said in a muffled voice, “I haven’t had dinner yet.”

Lu Huaiyu’s phoenix-like eyes narrowed slightly.

“Didn’t you have any porridge?”

Ning Li said in a low voice, “No. I want to eat with you.”

Lu Huaiyu snorted.

He knew that she was trying to coax him, but he was still willing to indulge her.

The restlessness in his chest slowly dissipated.

After a moment of silence, he finally relented and said, “What would you like to eat?”

...

Ning Li took a taxi to Rongyue Mansion.

She scrolled through her phone.

Weibo had already exploded with the news. # Lin Fengmian’s relationship # had immediately become the top trending topic.

Under the Weibo post that had first exposed the news, the number of comments had already exceeded 100,000 in a short period of time.

[F*ck!]

[Tell me, this is not true!!!]

[The fans are rational people! This video and a photo are not enough to prove that our idol is in a relationship! Let’s wait for him to come out and clarify!]

[Are you kidding me? This girl prepared porridge in his home, isn't that enough? Fans, stop lying to yourself, okay?]

[Your idol is out of line. Lin Fengmian, you're really something.]

[Collapsing house. jpg.]

The fight between the fans and the haters was chaotic with countless passersby in the middle.

More fans flooded Lin Fengmian's Weibo.

[Little brother! Please come out and clarify! That's not true, right?!]

[Waiting for a reply.]

[Although... I think that girl is pretty (whispering)...]

[As an admirer, you should have some self-awareness, right? Top-notch dating, Lin Fengmian, are you crazy? !]

...

He Xiaochen called.

She had actually sent many messages before, but Ning Li had not replied to any of them.

She could not hold herself back any longer and called her.

Ning Li picked up the call.

“Ning Li... did you see that rumor about my brother?”

He Xiaochen’s voice was unusually cautious.

Ning Li said, “I saw it.”

He Xiaochen was extremely conflicted.

“I, I... Then do you think that girl looks a little like you?”

It was more than a little!

She and Ning Li had shared the same table for so long, how could she not recognize that face?

However, this was so unbelievable that she would rather believe that she was blind!

“Well, she really does look a lot like you.”

Ning Li replied, “Because that’s me.”

After a short period of silence, He Xiaochen gasped.

What did Ning Li just say?!

It was her?

That girl... It was her?!

“You, you, you, and your younger brother...”

She was so shocked that she even began to stammer.

Ning Li sighed helplessly.

“That’s my younger brother.”

...

Other than He Xiaochen, many other people who were familiar with Ning Li were shocked by this sudden scandal.

That video, coupled with that photo, was really easy to recognize!

On the Xijing University Forum, people quickly posted and began to discuss this matter.

After all, during the school anniversary celebrations, Lu Huaiyu had publicly announced that Ning Li was his girlfriend.

But now, Ning Li had actually appeared on the entertainment page, and it was rumored that she was having an affair with the current top idol, Lin Fengmian!

Had she not been born poor?

How had she gotten involved with Lin Fengmian?!

At the same time, people started to talk about Ning Li’s identity and background on Weibo.

Ning Li put her phone away and ignored them.

Right now, she still had to deal with the most important thing.

The taxi stopped outside the Rongyue Mansion, and Ning Li got out.

She went upstairs and knocked on the door.

A moment later, the door was opened from the inside.

Lu Huaiyu appeared from behind the door.

“Second Brother.”

Ning Li called out softly.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows. First, he helped her take her backpack off, before bending over to take her slippers.

“Why have you not eaten even at this late hour?”

He knew that there had been a lecture by Shen Zhijin in Xijing today, so he had thought that she would stay in school to do experiments.

He had not expected...

Ning Li said, “I got busy and forgot to.”

Lu Huaiyu smiled faintly.

“Busy visiting the patient?”

Ning Li looked at him and nodded.

After all, she had indeed gone to visit Lin Fengmian.

Lu Huaiyu raised his chin.

“The rice is in the kitchen. It’s still hot. You can help yourself to it.”

As he spoke, he turned around to go back inside.

Ning Li grabbed a corner of his shirt.

“Second Brother.”

Lu Huaiyu turned around to look at her, his brows slightly raised.

“Hmm?”

Ning Li was silent for a while before she whispered, “I don’t have the energy to eat.

“Please feed me.”

Lu Huaiyu looked at her, the tip of his tongue propping up his upper jaw, and smiled.

“Little ancestor¹, are you just relying on the fact that I like you?”

Ning Li took a step forward and quickly kissed his face.

Lu Huaiyu bent over, his fingertips caressing her soft lips, and he raised his eyebrows.

“It seems that you still have some strength left, so perhaps you don’t need to eat that rice for now.”

Ning Li’s eyes widened slightly. She had a vague feeling that something was not right.

However, Lu Huaiyu had already grasped her chin, forcing her to raise her head and kiss him.

His deep and husky voice broke between his lips and teeth. It carried a hot, ambiguous, and moist heat that almost burned her heart.

“I happen to be hungry too, so I think you should feed me first.”

...

10 PM.

Lin Fengmian made a Weibo post.

It was an old photo.

The dilapidated tube-shaped building was crowded. There were puddles of water on the uneven road, and a few potted plants were piled up messily at the side.

An old lady was sitting on a stool, and a middle-aged woman was standing behind her.

Two children were standing on both sides.

One was a boy, and the other was a girl.

Lin Fengmian only wrote one sentence.

[This is my sister.]

Chapter 564: Follow Me, Ah Li

The girl in the photo looked to be twelve or thirteen years old.

Although her face was young, one can still see her delicate features, clean and beautiful.

She was wearing a loose white t-shirt, with the edge of the shirt slightly raised, and the sky blue jeans had been washed until they were white.

It was a very simple outfit, and it was obviously cheap.

Even though the girl's slender figure had already started to show signs of puberty, she still wore this outfit with a different attitude.

She looked at the camera, raised her chin slightly, with an indifferent gaze.

The boy standing on the other side also looked about the same age.

His facial features were exquisite, and he was very beautiful.

His lean body was swimming in the black sportswear. The torn sneakers on his feet were still stained with mud, and he was half a head shorter than the girl. There was a band-aid on the left side of his cheek, as if he was injured.

However, he seemed to be very happy. The corners of his lips were curled up slightly, and his eyes were slightly curved. His light brown, glass-like eyes were slightly glowing.

He had the rebellious and proud air of a young man, but as he stood there, he was extremely obedient.

He looked as if he had never felt happier.

That was because, today had been the first time that he had not allowed Ning Li to fight together with him. He had won the first fight for her alone.

After the fight, as a consolation prize, or perhaps as a reward, he had requested to take a group photo.

Thus, that was how he had gotten this special “family photo”.

In the dilapidated and crowded alleys of the old city, the midsummer sun shone down, and the dust in the air could be seen clearly.

Some people were stuck in the mud, covered in dirt, but they still tried their best to look up.

— Wild growth.

...

Even though this photo was from five or six years ago, everyone could still recognize that the boy was Lin Fengmian.

And that girl...! She was indeed the person who had appeared in Lin Fengmian’s apartment!

When the Weibo post came out, everyone was stunned.

[Is that him? Is this really him?]

[Ah... Did my brother use to live in such an environment? Didn't he use to be a trainee abroad? I heard that those companies only provided food and lodging, and were not responsible for other expenses. Ordinary families would not be able to afford it. I always thought that his family was fairly well off.]

[The fans never knew...]

[My younger brother's sneakers have become unglued... Oh God, I'm really crying...]

[Sister! So, this is his sister!]

Everyone knew that Lin Fengmian had an older sister.

His sister had taught him math.

It was because his sister liked physics that he could guess Boltzmann's constant.

When he had entered the haunted house, he had immediately cautioned his sister not to look.

Many fans were curious about his sister. At the same time, they felt envious and jealous.

However, it turned out... that this girl was his sister?

[Ooooooooooooh! The fans really didn't love the wrong person! Your fans will always be here!]

[Haters, please open your useless eyes and see clearly! This is my sister!]

[Rumors really just come freely out of your mouth. Feng Mian was injured after being chased by an obsessive fan. What's wrong with my sister helping out by cooking some porridge?! What's wrong with that?!]

[The haters and the paparazzi just can't bear to let it go.]

[Did my brother and sister have such a difficult life...?]

Lin Fengmian had been a trainee overseas for more than two years. He had only returned to China to make his official debut at the beginning of this year.

After he had become popular, countless fans had flocked to him.

However, he had never taken the initiative to reveal his background.

Therefore, most people's impression of him was still limited to being "a trainee who came back from abroad."

Just as some comments had said, those who were able to sign contracts with foreign economic companies and become trainees would basically already have a certain amount of resources.

This was because the regulations of foreign companies were very strict, and they were especially harsh on trainees.

It would be fine if they could debut, but if they could not debut, they would not be able to earn a single cent. Without financial support, they would not be able to persist.

Therefore, no one had ever thought that Lin Fengmian would have had such a background.

Even though it was just a photo, a lot could be seen from it.

All his fans were heartbroken.

[I really want to go back in time and buy a new pair of sneakers for my baby.]

[Sister's clothes were also very old. They must have been worn for a long time, right?]

[Really, why? Why are you slandering these two children? Mommy fans really can't stand these things...]

[Thinking about my younger brother's past, and comparing it with him now— He's so outstanding! I really didn't follow the wrong person!]

...

Lin Fengmian's Weibo post could not be any simpler.

However, that photo and the sentence "This is my sister" already showed an absolutely strong intention to defend.

This was more powerful than any clarification.

Because this was the first time Lin Fengmian had publicly mentioned his past.

Since his debut, he had been interviewed many times, and there had inevitably been questions about his family and home.

However, Lin Fengmian would never answer these questions.

In the past, everyone had thought that he did not like talking about it and wanted to keep some privacy for himself.

But now, they understood that he had wanted to protect not himself, but his sister.

It was only now, when the rumors had spread all over the Internet and people were bullying his sister, that he had not hesitated and had given the most direct response.

...

Rongyue Mansion.

Ning Li was sitting at the dining table, holding a small bowl of soup in her hands.

She knew that Lin Fengmian had made that Weibo post.

All along, Lin Fengmian had been worried that she would be disturbed by many people and things in the circle. Thus, he had always been careful not to expose his relationship with her.

This time, there was really no other way.

Without a doubt, this was the most powerful counterattack against the rumor.

After she had finished her soup, she heard that there was no movement in the living room, so she had gotten up and walked over.

Lu Huaiyu was sitting on the sofa, looking out of the French windows.

The light cast a layer of light on him.

He seemed to have maintained this posture for a long time. His profile was perfect and smooth, and there was a faint chill around him.

From Ning Li's current perspective, she could only see that his expression was calm, but there was an intense look in his eyes.

No one would be able to guess what he was thinking.

"Second Brother?"

She called out to him.

Hearing this, Lu Huaiyu turned his head to look at her.

He looked at Ning Li quietly.

"Ah Li, come here."

Ning Li was slightly startled.

At this moment, Lu Huaiyu seemed... somewhat different.

However, she still walked over.

"What's wrong?"

Lu Huaiyu raised his head to look at her before grasping her hand and easily pulling her into his arms.

Ning Li's hands were pressed against his chest, staring at him blankly.

Lu Huaiyu gently pressed his forehead against hers, remaining silent for a long time.

He had investigated Ning Li's background a long time ago.

He knew that her life had been.

However, when he saw that photo, his heart had still felt as if it had been stabbed by something.

All he could think about was how had his little girl had grown up.

Ning Li seemed to have sensed something as well. She softened her body, hugged him, and obediently buried her head in the crook of his neck.

Lu Huaiyu tightened his arms. After a long time, he said, "Ah Li, you have to follow me closely from now on, understand?"

Ning Li nodded.

"Okay."

Chapter 565: Selling Misery

Lin Fengmian's Weibo post quickly became a trending topic.

The direction of public opinion quickly changed.

However, after just an hour, a marketing account came out again, posting questions.

[Dou'er Gua group: I wouldn't know this if I had not looked into it further. Lin Fengmian is the only child in his family. Where did he get a sister?]

A lot of information about Lin Fengmian's childhood had been compiled in this post.

It included his background in Lincheng, the primary school and middle school that he went to, as well as his family background.

Several people who claimed to be former classmates of Lin Fengmian had also spoken anonymously.

[Lin Fengmian doesn't have a sister at all, okay? The two of them are just neighbors who live close to each other, and their birthdays are less than a month apart. Rather than saying that she's his sister, it would be better to say that she's his childhood sweetheart.]

[Agreed. They used to be in the same junior high school. The two of them were notorious for their love of fighting and causing a lot of trouble together. But now that he's entered the entertainment industry, does he think that he can just start again with a clean slate? What a joke!]

[It's hard to say whether he is protecting his sister or whether he has romantic feelings for her, right? After all, they are not related by blood, so why did he call her "Sister" so smoothly?]

[His fans are so pitiful. Their idol has failed to live up to his standards, publicly becoming close to other girls. In the end, his fans have to follow him and call her 'sister'. Tsk, it's still the fans who are the most pitiful.]

[Lin Fengmian is really interesting. How can you be that close to someone who isn't related by blood? I can only say that it's an eye-opener! Why can't I find a 'sister' as well?]

...

The moment this question post was posted, it quickly caused a huge commotion.

This was because everyone's first reaction after seeing the photo was to silently agree that the girl was Lin Fengmian's biological sister.

But now, it was said that they weren't even family?

Then...

Thus, countless people flooded Lin Fengmian's Weibo.

[Are they really biological siblings?]

[I thought this was a family photo, but it's not?]

[Braindead fans, take a good look. Your brother is rubbing your faces into the ground! What sister? What a joke!]

Fans and passersby might not investigate Lin Fengmian's background, but it did not mean that his rivals and haters would not.

In this circle, he had no capital and no backing. He had relied solely on himself to get to where he was today.

He was indeed very popular, but it was not difficult for those people to discover information about him.

This content had obviously been prepared by someone long ago, but they had chosen to reveal it at this time.

Their purpose was just to blacken Lin Fengmian's reputation.

Other than Lin Fengmian, there were also people who had started to pick on Ning Li.

[Why do I feel that this sister of Lin Fengmian's looks a little familiar? Is she the one who used to bully students in some school in Yunzhou?]

[Ah! It does seem to be her! This face is very recognizable. It's impossible to mistake her!]

[I remember something else. Is this girl called Ning Li? Do you remember the Ye family from the Qinghe Bridge project in Yunzhou a few months ago? She seems to be the stepdaughter of the Ye family. Her mother was the wife of the head of the Ye family at that time. The woman in the photo is absolutely not her.]

[Ning Li, Lin Fengmian— they are obviously not in the same family!]

Someone took advantage of the situation and started to add to the conversation.

More and more people began to question the relationship between Lin Fengmian and this so-called "sister."

If she had been Lin Fengmian's biological sister, of course, there would be no problem.

But if she wasn't... then what were they doing?!

...

The tables had turned so quickly that Huayi Entertainment was caught off guard.

Initially, they had thought that once Lin Fengmian had made his Weibo post, the problem would be solved.

Who knew that those people could be so unreasonable?

If it was not handled properly, Lin Fengmian would be labeled as having "deceived his fans"!

Fans were the most sensitive.

Therefore, at this time, every word and action had to be taken with extreme caution.

At Lan Di Apartments.

Wu Yuanfan had a headache as he looked at Lin Fengmian.

“Fengmian, is she really not your biological sister?”

Lin Fengmian had always said that he had a sister, and he knew that this sister was extremely important to Lin Fengmian.

Therefore, he had always tacitly acknowledged her as his biological sister.

Who knew—

Lin Fengmian’s expression was calm.

“She is my biological sister. We are just not related by blood.”

Wu Yuanfan’s head was about to explode.

If they were not related by blood, then what kind of biological sister was she??

If he used this statement to explain to his fans, they would probably immediately go crazy!

“If that’s the case, she can’t be considered your sister! You—”

Before Wu Yuanfan could finish his sentence, he noticed Lin Fengmian suddenly looking over.

The rest of his words were stuck in his throat.

After a long while, he said, “Well then, what do you think we should do in this situation?”

Lin Fengmian was silent for a long time.

“I will solve it.”

...

As time passed, the public opinion was still fermenting.

Countless questioning voices came from all directions, almost drowning Lin Fengmian.

At the same time, some people were already angry at Ning Li, and their words were extremely unpleasant to hear.

Lin Fengmian

Lin Fengmian, sister

Lin Fengmian, liar

A few words made it onto the hot searches, and the popularity remained high.

Clicking into the topic square, one could see that many people were scolding Lin Fengmian, and some were scolding Ning Li.

[Did you think just posting a photo would fool people? You called this person a sister for so long, yet it turns out that she's not really your sister at all! ?]

[I told you that the two of them don't look alike at all, and I was proven right!]

[I always thought that the look in Lin Fengmian's eyes became different every time he mentioned his sister!]

[This Ning Li is really pretty. It's no wonder that her younger brother likes her...]

[The two of them just came out together to show off. Bah!]

...

"I'm so angry!"

Gu Siyang jumped up from the sofa.

Gu Tingfeng, who had just come out of the study and was about to rest, frowned when he heard him cry out.

"Gu Siyang, why are you crying about?!"

Gu Siyang gritted his teeth.

"Dad! Don't you know that those people have gone too far?!"

Gu Tingfeng was unbothered.

“Isn’t it common for you to be scolded? You’ll get used to it.”

Gu Siyan, “???”

“It’s not about me! It’s about Ning Li!”

Gu Tingfeng stopped when he heard Ning Li’s name and frowned.

“What’s going on?”

Gu Siyang handed the phone over.

“It’s all because those people are too free! Look at what she used to wear and where she used to live! Why are those people so mean?”

He felt uncomfortable and kept on muttering, “Ning Li used to earn her living by drawing sketches for people in the park. How miserable was her life then?”

Gu Tingfeng’s gaze fell on the phone screen, and he suddenly froze.

Chapter 566: People You Don’t Want to Think About

“Let me see your phone,” he said.

“Huh? Hey!”

Gu Siyang was stunned at first, then subconsciously handed his phone over.

He actually did not check Weibo often. However, mainly because this incident was too big, and many media platforms were pushing it, when he casually opened it and took a look, he saw that the issue had exploded.

Gu Tingfeng took the phone, clicked on the photo, and zoomed in.

The dilapidated and narrow tube-shaped building, the wilting potted plants in the midsummer heat, the mottled walls reflected in the puddles and accumulated water...

And the girl who was looking at the camera with an indifferent expression.

Gu Tingfeng's heart seemed to have been hit by something.

For a moment, he almost thought that he had seen this photo and this girl before.

However, it was clear that he had not.

Gu Siyang leaned beside him and muttered, "Dad, look, Ning Li lived here when she was young. She..."

He suddenly did not know what to say as he scratched his head in annoyance.

He knew that Ning Li's home was in the old city district of Lincheng.

When he had gone to Lincheng with Gu Tinglan to get his car repaired, they had coincidentally met Ning Li.

At that time, she had said that her home was nearby.

However, it was not until he had seen this photo that Gu Siyang had a tangible idea of the "home" that she had mentioned.

This was even more ancient and dilapidated than he had expected.

“The person beside her is Lin Fengmian, a very popular celebrity now.”

Gu Siyang did not know that Ning Li actually had such a relationship with Lin Fengmian.

However, surely anyone who was even a bit suspicious would not be able to say such offensive words after seeing such a photo, right?

He asked eagerly, “Dad, doesn’t Third Uncle have a few media companies under him? Why don’t you look at...”

After talking for a while, he realized that Gu Tingfeng did not seem to be listening at all. He was still staring at the photo.

In confusion, Gu Siyang called out.

“Dad? Dad?”

Gu Tingfeng finally came back to his senses.

He looked at the photo and slowly frowned.

Gu Siyang looked at him and noticed that the expression on his face did not look very pleasant.

No, in fact, it could be said that he was in a bad mood.

He took half a step back quietly and asked carefully, “Dad? What... What did I do wrong again?”

Gu Tingfeng closed his eyes, his brows filled with a hint of frustration.

“It’s none of your business.”

However, this photo reminded him of a person he really did not want to remember.

When he had first seen the photo, the young girl in the photo really looked like Yinyin when she was young.

However, when he zoomed in and took a closer look, it did not look like her anymore. Instead, it faintly overlapped with another face in his memory.

Yinyin had loved to smile, and the corners of her eyes and brows had always seemed to be smiling.

Every time she smiled, her brows and eyes would be curved, and the dimples at the corners of her lips were shallow.

However, the girl in the photo had an indifferent expression. Her brows and eyes were cold, and there was a faint trace of rebellion and pride deep in her bones.

She looked so similar to Yinyin, yet they were completely different.

This silent, arrogant, and cold appearance was really... ..

Gu Tingfeng’s mood suddenly became extremely bad.

With a dark face, he shoved the phone back into Gu Siyang’s hand and turned to leave.

Gu Siyang was confused by his reaction.

No.

Had he not been fine just now?

Why had he gotten angry in the blink of an eye?

Seeing that Gu Tingfeng was really going to leave, he hurriedly asked, "Dad! Do you really have the heart to watch my employee be bullied like this?"

That would mean he was too incompetent as a boss!

Gu Tingfeng stopped in his tracks.

"Go look for your Third Uncle."

Hearing his words, Gu Siyang knew that he was safe!

He immediately laughed.

"Thank you, Dad!"

Gu Tingfeng continued to walk forward, but after a few steps, he stopped again.

He said in a deep voice, "Send me that photo."

Gu Siyang was about to throw himself back into the cursing war and fight with the haters when he heard this sentence.

"Which photo?"

Gu Tingfeng turned around and glanced at him.

Gu Siyang felt a cold sensation on his neck. His strong desire to survive immediately made him understand.

“Ah! This photo! Okay, okay! I’ll do it right away!”

Gu Tingfeng then returned to his room.

He did not like and was not interested in the software that young people played with, but that photo...

Ding.

Gu Siyang sent it over very quickly.

Gu Tingfeng sat down in a chair and clicked on it.

Then, he frowned again. He did not want to look at it anymore, so he backed out and held his breath.

He rubbed the space between his eyebrows. His mind was in chaos for once.

After a while, he picked up his phone again as if he could not control himself.

This time, he did not zoom in. He only looked at the small picture.

The room was quiet. He merely stood still and stared at it for a while.

Liang Su walked in. Seeing that he seemed to be lost in his thoughts, she asked, “Tingfeng?”

Gu Tingfeng snapped out of his daze and touched the screen with his finger. The picture was clicked open again.

His jaw tightened slightly. Two kinds of emotions crossed his mind.

He made a long press to delete it.

A prompt popped up on the screen: Are you sure you want to delete it?

Gu Tingfeng's hand paused for a long time, but the hem of the girl's clothes rolled up, the dilapidated apartment building behind him, and the dirty puddles at her feet appeared in his mind.

He suddenly asked, "I heard that he has returned to the Capital?"

His voice was tense and cold.

Liang Su was slightly stunned.

She and Gu Tingfeng had been husband and wife for many years, so their minds were in sync. Thus, she quickly understood who he was referring to.

That was a name that the entire Gu family was unwilling to mention again.

For some reason, Gu Tingfeng had suddenly asked about him today...

She nodded lightly.

"Yes."

Gu Tingfeng did not speak again.

Liang Su thought of something and sighed softly.

“Actually, all these years, he also...”

Gu Tingfeng suddenly frowned.

Liang Su did not continue speaking.

After a long time, Gu Tingfeng looked at the photo again.

Long press, save..

Chapter 567: National Sister

By night time, the situation became more and more intense.

More and more people had begun to denounce Lin Fengmian, demanding an answer from him.

However, for the entire night, there was no movement from Lin Fengmian’s side.

It seemed as if he was feeling too guilty to respond.

Or perhaps he simply wanted to play dead and deal with it by ignoring it.

However, this time, it was obviously impossible to rely on such a method to brush it off.

Under his Weibo post, disappointment, curses, stirring up of trouble, and humiliation flooded in like a wave.

...

Wu Yuanfan felt like he was about to go crazy, and the entire public relations department of Huayi Entertainment was on the verge of collapsing.

At first, no one had expected that things would develop to such a stage.

Now that things had developed to such an extent, no matter how they dealt with it, Lin Fengmian would probably suffer a great loss.

But now that Lin Fengmian was injured, no matter how angry Wu Yuanfan was, there was nothing he could do.

In the end, he could only go back with a heart full of sorrow.

...

Rongyue Mansion.

It was almost midnight, and the public opinion on the Internet was now almost one-sided.

Ning Li sat on the sofa as she sent a message to Lin Fengmian.

Lu Huaiyu walked over and raised his eyebrows slightly when he saw this.

“What did Lin Fengmian say?”

Ning Li shook her head.

“He only said that it’s not good to stay up late, so he told me to sleep well.”

Lu Huaiyu smiled faintly.

“That’s quite sensible.”

Ning Li looked at him speechlessly.

It seemed that in their eyes, whether she had a good sleep or not was the most important thing.

As for the storm on the Internet... they were really not worried at all.

Lu Huaiyu walked around the sofa and bent over to pick her up.

“Be good, go to sleep.”

He smiled.

“You don’t need to worry about these things.”

Ning Li had been running around outside all day today. After going to see Lin Fengmian, she had been busy at G&S for a long time. She was very sleepy now.

The matter was a little tricky, but it was not completely unsolvable.

Subconsciously, she rubbed against Lu Huaiyu while she was cradled in his arms.

Lu Huaiyu carried her back to the bedroom and coaxed her to sleep. Only then did he leave the room.

He took his phone out and narrowed his eyes.

...

Late that night, a blogger named “Author Lin Lin” posted a long Weibo post.

[Hello, everyone. I am the editor-in-chief of Lincheng Evening News, Lin Zhichu. I have only just learned how to use Weibo. There are many things that I don’t understand so if there are any mistakes, please correct me.]

[I don’t mean to bother you, but there have been many untrue rumors about Lin Fengmian and his sister on the Internet recently. As one of the few people who has some understanding of this pair of siblings, I’d like to take this opportunity to clarify some things.]

[Ten years ago, I was still an ordinary reporter for the Lincheng Evening News. That year, on October 17th, we had received news that an eight-year-old boy had been saved from gas poisoning by another eight-year-old girl. She had smashed a glass window in his home in the Old City District in the west of the city to reach him. After hearing this, we had originally wanted to do an exclusive interview, but the guardians of the children refused. In the end, we could only produce an ordinary press release.]

[A month after the incident, I went back to visit them again. However, I saw that the two children were being beaten up by a few older children. I quickly rushed forward to pull them apart.]

[I asked them why they were being bullied, but they refused to speak. Later, when the girl’s grandmother and mother came back, I told them about the incident and got a rough understanding of their situation.]

[When the boy was very young, his father had died of illness. His mother then raised him alone. On that day, the gas poisoning incident had happened only because he had been locked up at home and was so hungry that he had tried to cook for himself. As for the girl, her parents had divorced, then her mother had remarried, and her father had gone to prison. She was left alone with her grandmother.]

[Due to the special circumstances of their family background, both of these children were rejected and bullied by their peers. That chance rescue then became an opportunity for the two women who each had a child. Under the most difficult circumstances, they had supported each other.]

[When the boy was 15 years old, his mother died of an illness. He had amazing musical talent, and he wanted to be on the stage. Originally, he had not been worthy enough to talk about his “dream”. However, fortunately, his sister would help him by selling her sketches in the park and making coffee in the cafe. His sister had saved up money and bought him a plane ticket to go abroad. I forgot to mention that I was the one who helped the siblings get their bank cards.]

[During the two years I was abroad, the sister would give her brother a monthly stipend. I offered to help him several times, but I was declined. The sister said that she could take care of her grandmother and brother, and she didn’t need anyone’s help.]

[Last year, the old lady passed away. The sister and brother had no parents to rely on and no other family members to rely on. Fortunately, the brother finally has a name now, and his name is Lin Fengmian.”

Under the long article, the blogger also attached a photo.

It was the Lincheng Evening News from ten years ago, on October 18th.

At the bottom right corner was the news bulletin from that year.

It only took up a very small space. As time passed, the paper had yellowed.

Only two people had been mentioned in it—

An eight-year-old boy named Lin.

An eight-year-old girl named Ning.

At the end of the post, he asked:

[It is true that there is no blood relationship between the two of them, but is it really the most important thing to have such a bond?

...

Because this blogger was a newly registered account, he did not have many followers. Plus, it had been posted in the middle of the night, so at first, no one had paid attention to it.

Later, an entertainment blogger with a million followers had shared it, and it quickly received a response from everyone.

After that, all the marketing accounts went down one after another, and Lin Fengmian's fans rushed over one after another.

By morning, the number of reposts had already exceeded 50,000.

This reversal shocked everyone.

[Oh my god, before this, all I thought was that Lin Fengmian's family's conditions weren't too good, but it turns out... It was so miserable?]

[I burst into tears! My heart really, really hurts!]

[First, he lost his father when he was young, then his mother when he was young. Later on, his grandmother passed away too. So, Fengmian only has his sister left as his family, right?"

[His life was saved by his sister. His plane ticket was bought by his sister. When he was injured, the porridge that he ate had been cooked by his sister... We are just strangers who admire his starlight. Only his sister is the closest person to him!]

[His sister is so pitiful. She is the same age as him, but she has had to endure so much. Fans, thank you so much!]

At the same time, another blogger made another Weibo post.

[Fengmian's Ears: Sisters! Come and see if this is really the sister or not!]

There were two photos.

One was the photo of Lin Fengmian and Ning Li that had been taken in their apartment, and the other was of a photo of a girl wearing a military uniform who was standing at the podium during the 120th-anniversary celebration of Xijing University.

The bloggers were screaming excitedly in the comments section.

[Ahhhhhh! This was Ning Li, the top scorer in science in this year's college entrance examination of M Province! This was the photo of her speaking at the anniversary celebration as the representative of this year's freshmen of Xijing University! If I remember correctly, she even won first place in the national physics competition with a perfect score last year! Her learning abilities are at a god-level! Ah! So she's the one who is his sister! It's no wonder that he's so good at math and physics.]

[Big sister is awesome! She taught her little brother well.

[Sister, I'll call you big sister first!]

Chapter 568: Good Morning, Sister

The girl in the two photos was indeed the same person.

Once this Weibo post had been posted, it had ignited Lin Fengmian's fans first.

Countless fans rushed over when they heard the news. When they saw this picture and the comments of the blogger, they were all excited.

[So, sister is so awesome! I'll kneel to her!]

[Ahhhhh! I seem to remember this! At that time, when the results of the National Physics Competition were released, there was an unprecedented perfect score! Our physics teacher even specially praised this in class, saying that this was a rare physics genius! I didn't expect that it was actually this sister!]

[I'm crying. Sister took such good care of my younger brother, and she was even able to enter Xijing University with the top grade in the whole province. She was even speaking as a representative of the new students. What kind of immortal sister is this!]

[Ning Li... Ning Li! Ah!! So maybe when little brother wrote, "Colorful clouds are easily dispersed, like fragile glass"? His sister's name is in that poem, so... he must have deliberately changed the word "fragile" to "green"!]

This comment was quickly pushed to the top, attracting countless replies.

[So that's how it is... That must have been what really happened! I really misunderstood him!]

[I knew it! My brother knows how to derive functions and knows Boltzmann's constant. How could he have made such a mistake? So, it was all for his sister, right?]

[Really, why is he so good? Thank you, sister, and thank you, brother. Thank you for growing up so well.]

[My brother is the best brother in the world, and my sister is the best sister in the world! I don't care! From now on, my little cub's sister will be my sister! Whoever dares to bully my sister again, I will be the first to disagree!]

[Me too! Sister is worth it!]

[Ditto! The fans will always protect Fengmian, always protect sister!]

...

At 6:43 in the morning, Lin Fengmian posted on Weibo.

The accompanying picture was a picture of the sun that was just rising.

The red morning sun leaped out from behind the thin clouds in the sky. The warm light illuminated the horizon, dyeing it with a layer of light.

The city that was forged by the steel forest was very quiet. It was shrouded in that layer of light, as if it was only just about to wake up.

He said—

“The sun is shining well today, and the weather is beautiful. Good morning, Sister.”

After an entire night, Lin Fengmian had finally responded to the countless doubts and curses on the Internet.

He did not refute or explain anything. He only looked at the new sun as he gently and calmly wished his sister a good morning.

However, such a simple post, which could not even be considered as a refutation or explanation, had made countless fans’ hearts ache.

[If not for my sister, my brother might not have been able to see a new day or a new sun, right?]

[Do not be sad, little cub. In the future, the fans will watch the sunrise and sunset with you. Watch the clouds gather and disperse! Brother, good morning! Sister, good morning!]

The comments section was quickly flooded with this sentence.

[Good morning, little brother! Good morning, sister!]

[Good morning, little brother! Good morning, sister!]

[Good morning, little brother! Good morning, sister!]

...

Almost at the same time, the media that had exposed Lin Fengmian's scandal suddenly released a video that was over four hours long.

It was the entire recording of the afternoon that Lin Fengmian had been filmed.

First, Ning Li had entered the building. A few minutes later, the scene had changed and she had appeared in the living room of Lin Fengmian's apartment.

Then, she took a computer and a stack of paper out of her backpack and sat down at the long table.

Not long after, Lin Fengmian walked over.

He was injured and his left ankle was still in a cast which made it very inconvenient for him to move.

However, he still came over and sat down opposite Ning Li.

There was a book in his hand, which looked vaguely familiar.

Some people recognized it as “The Kinetic Theory of Matter” that he had selected from the haunted house when he participated in “King of Escapes.”.

The two of them sat on either side of the long table, one facing the computer, while the other reading a book.

After about an hour, Lin Fengmian had fallen asleep at the table.

After another two hours, Ning Li had gotten up and left.

When she appeared in front of the camera again, she was holding a bowl of porridge.

Lin Fengmian had woken up at that moment.

Ning Li placed the porridge in front of him. Then, the two of them had stood up and left together as if they were conversing with each other.

A few minutes later, Lin Fengmian had reappeared in the camera frame.

He pulled out a chair and sat down. He held the bowl in his hands and quietly finished the porridge.

...

Once the original video had been released, it had completely shattered the last bit of doubt.

Everyone could see it clearly. The entire process was very simple and clear. Ning Li had visited Lin Fengmian and cooked a bowl of porridge for him.

For four hours, the siblings had spent their time together, quietly and peacefully. One had been reading a book while the other had worked on a computer.

It could be seen that this was their usual way of getting along.

To others, this was extremely boring.

But for some reason, seeing them quietly together, even if they were just doing their own thing, made people feel a strange sense of bitterness and relief.

The two conflicting emotions were interweaved.

It was a feeling that was difficult to describe with words.

For the past ten years, they had also relied on each other as they grew up, right?

However, in the span of one day and one night, the whole incident had flipped around several times. Finally, the dust seemed to have settled now.

The mysterious girl who had gone in and out of Lin Fengmian was the elder sister that he missed dearly.

They were not related by blood, but they were each other's closest family members.

In the end, they were just two pitiful and adorable children who had worked hard to grow up together.

...

Ning Li woke up late in the morning.

Lin Fengmian's Weibo post was within her expectations.

However, she was a little surprised to see the long Weibo post that Lin Zichu had posted late at night and that the media had taken the initiative to release the original video.

Hearing the familiar footsteps outside, she got up.

Lu Huaiyu placed the sandwich and milk on the dining table.

“You’re awake? Come and have breakfast.”

Ning Li walked over.

“Second Brother, Editor-in-Chief Lin’s Weibo post and the original video...”

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

“Lin Fengmian was the one who found him. Editor-in-Chief Lin is a very nice person. After hearing about what happened online, he had immediately agreed to help.”

Ning Li took a bite of her sandwich.

“Mian does have Editor-in-Chief Lin’s contact information. However, for such a late-night post by an average person to attract traffic and change public opinion so quickly, everything happened much faster than I would have thought.”

Lu Huaiyu sat down next to her, and his smile deepened.

She was always so smart, really...

“Just give me a lead, and things will naturally develop like that.”

That was because every word and sentence in that long Weibo post had been true.

All he had done was just to casually push it, which sped up the whole process.

“But speaking of the original video... it was not my doing.”

Ning Li was slightly stunned.

“It wasn’t Second Brother? Then why would they take the initiative to release it?”

The gossip had been spread by them. Wasn’t this a self-inflicted slap in the face?

“Someone was one step ahead of me.”

Lu Huaiyu raised his brows slightly, a faint smile on his face.

“The third master of the Gu family personally stepped up.”

Chapter 569: You’re So Likable

Gu Tingyun?

Ning Li was a little surprised.

She had thought of many possibilities, but she had missed this one.

The Gu family was the most prominent family in Hong Kong City, and Old Master Gu was the absolute ruler.

However, the Gu family had many businesses, so they were managed by Old Master Gu's sons.

Gu Tingfeng was mainly in charge of the Gu real estate business, while Gu Tingchuan controlled the shipping industry and transportation.

As for the media... it was indeed under Gu Tingyun's control.

While they had been in Hong Kong City, Ning Li, Old Master Gu, and Old Madam Gu had gotten along very well.

She knew that they were very partial to her.

Even the young masters of the Gu family had treated her very well.

Whether it was from the riding attire, the dessert membership card, or the drink card, she could feel their sincere feelings.

However, she really had not expected this matter to alarm Gu Tingyun.

Seeing her surprised expression, Lu Huaiyu gently tapped the table with his fingers.

"The third master of the Gu family has always kept a low profile, so not many people know about this matter. I only found out about it after asking around. It was the third master of the Gu family who had personally called their boss."

This media company was quite famous in the industry and had exposed a lot of big news in the industry before.

However, compared to the Gu media company, it was nothing.

When Gu Tingyun had called, it was said that the call had only lasted for a minute.

After that, the media company had immediately fired three staff members, including an editor who was quite experienced.

The report about this gossip had been approved by his staff.

Whoever had caused the trouble would take the blame.

Ning Li drank her milk with her eyes closed.

That was true.

The person who could make the media release the original video without hesitation and slap themselves in public was definitely not an ordinary person.

However, it was actually Gu Tingyun...

“Could it be that Gu Siyang had begged for help?”

After thinking about it, this seemed to be the most likely possibility.

Lu Huaiyu laughed.

“Maybe.”

Gu Siyang did not hold that much sway with Gu Tingyun.

It went without saying who Gu Tingyun was helping this time.

Ning Li nodded.

“Then I’ll have to go and thank them in person one day.”

Lu Huaiyu rested his elbow on the table and gave her a sideways glance.

Ning Li was puzzled.

“Second Brother, why are you looking at me like that?”

“Nothing.”

Lu Huayui raised his eyebrows slightly.

“I was just thinking... you’re so likable, what should I do in the future?”

He had only pushed the post from Lin Zhichu first, but he had been one step behind Gu Tingyun.

He was unhappy no matter which way he thought about it.

Previously in Hong Kong City, he could tell that the Gu family liked Ning Li very much.

At that time, he had not taken it to heart.

But this time, he vaguely realized that things seemed to be... A lot more ‘serious’ than he thought...

Ning Li guessed what he was thinking and did not know whether to laugh or cry.

“Second Brother, why are you unhappy over this?”

His thin lips curled up as he pinched her face.

She did not understand, so of course she had to fight.

He kissed the corner of her lips.

“It’s good that there are many people who love Ah Li, but I have to be the one who loves Ah Li the most.”

...

Before she could finish her breakfast, Ning Li received another call from He Xiaochen.

“Xiaochen?”

He Xiaochen did not say anything on the other end. There was only a stifled sob coming from the other end.

Ning Li was stunned.

“What’s wrong? What happened?”

He Xiaochen was sobbing away, “Sob, sob, sob, sob, sob, sob, sob...”

Ning Li took her phone away and looked at it again.

Yes, this was He Xiaochen’s phone number.

She put the phone back to her ear and reminded her.

“Xiaochen, you are seven months older than me.”

“I don’t care! Sob, sob, sob! You are my sister, sob, sob, sob, sob, sob!”

He Xiaochen was so stimulated by her words that she started crying loudly, “Ning Li is the best sister in the world! Sob, sob, sob, sob, sob!”

Ning Li, “...”

The night before, He Xiaochen had argued with the haters until midnight. Feeling exhausted, she had finally decided to go to sleep first, deciding to continue fighting with this group of people when she woke up.

Eventually, she had seen that long Weibo post from Lin Zhichu.

This time, she could not sleep.

She had wanted to call Ning Li or send a message, but when she remembered that it was the middle of the night, she could only suppress these impulses and cry for a long time under the blanket.

She had not fallen asleep until it was almost five o’clock.

When she had woken up in the morning, her eyes were completely swollen.

However, before she could do anything, she had seen the video that had lasted for more than four hours.

After she had watched it at a speeded-up rate, she had cried again.

It was not until she felt that Ning Li should already have woken up that she had made this call.

She had not intended on crying at first. They had been sitting at the same table for so long, yet she had never known that Ning Li had lived such a life in the past.

She had wanted to give Ning Li a little comfort.

But when she heard Ning Li's voice, she could not help herself. Her nose was sore, and her tears fell uncontrollably.

Ning Li listened to her sobbing over the phone and helplessly pressed the space between her eyebrows.

"Don't cry anymore. Am I not fine now?"

Yes, she was truly fine now.

He Xiaochen thought, with tears in her eyes.

She had won first place in the National Physics Competition, entered Xijing University as the provincial champion of science in the college entrance examination, and had even given a speech on behalf of the students at the school's anniversary.

But the more she thought about it, the more she remembered the unbearable and sad past that had been mentioned in that long Weibo post. That made her feel even more uncomfortable.

He Xiaochen was still crying badly.

"Ning Li, I... I'm so sad... My eyes hurt too..."

Ning Li, "..."

"I... I want... Sob, sob, sob..."

Ning Li's voice was calm and gentle as she asked, "What do you want?"

He Xiaochen cried even harder, unable to speak a complete sentence.

Ning Li silently considered whether she should go to the outer courtyard to visit her.

She seemed to be crying so hard that she was on the verge of becoming injured.

Just as she was about to speak, another familiar voice came from across the room, with an amused and helpless tone, "Isn't the pain enough?"

Ning Li reacted for a moment.

"Is Ren Qian with you?"

He Xiaochen whimpered as she nodded her head.

"I, I can't see anyone with my eyes, so I asked him to help me buy breakfast..."

She was embarrassed to say that she had been crying here for a long time, as Ren Qian had watched from the side.

Her eyes were swollen, and she felt that her appearance was really embarrassing.

Ren Qian had brought her breakfast, along with a towel and ice cubes.

However, He Xiaochen had only cared about talking to Ning Li on the phone.

She looked at Ren Qian with tears in her eyes, and complained in a hoarse voice, "Ning Li and my younger brother are already so pitiful, yet you still think about these things?!"

Ren Qian, "..."

He sighed. He knew that he could not rely on her, so he used his own hands to wrap an ice cube with a towel, pressing it against her eyes.

"You only need to apply it to your eyes, not your mouth. It won't delay you from making your phone call."

He Xiaochen subconsciously stepped back. Ren Qian paused for a moment, then held the back of her head with one hand and gently pressed the ice cube against it with the other.

"Don't move."

He Xiaochen had cried until her eyes were swollen and her face was red.

Now, her ears were finally red as well.

Ning Li asked calmly, "Have you eaten breakfast?"

He Xiaochen felt aggrieved. "Not yet..."

Ning Li nodded.

“Then cry after you eat.”

He Xiaochen nodded obediently.

“Okay, Sister.”

Ning Li was silent for a moment before she hung up the phone.

...

There was a class at 2:30 in the afternoon, so Ning Li took a taxi back to school.

Just as she stepped into the classroom, she heard several excited voices coming from inside.

“Sister! I saved you a seat! Sit here!”

“Me too! Sister, sit here with me! The view is better here!”

“Sister! I brought milk tea and ice cream for you!”

Ning Li looked up and was silent for a moment.

Very good.

It was probably the first time that so many girls had come to the classroom at the Institute of Physics.

Chapter 570: Really Was Little Junior Sister

There were still five minutes before the class started, but the entire classroom was already filled to the brim.

At a glance, it was filled with eager girls, and their extremely enthusiastic gazes were all focused on Ning Li.

They must have specially come earlier. The best seats in the middle and front were all occupied by them.

Oh, and so was the last row.

It was rumored that Ning Li often sat in the last row when she was in class.

Therefore, these seats could not be spared either!

On the contrary, the students of the astronomy department had been squeezed towards the corners.

The entire classroom looked over.

For a moment, Ning Li wanted to turn around and leave.

However, it was too difficult to skip class in front of so many people.

She took a deep breath and finally walked in.

She looked around, but she did not have any seats to choose from.

Fortunately, Zhang Yuanyuan and Yang Liu had also taken up some seats and had left the space in the middle for her.

The two of them waved at her crazily.

“Ning Li! Over here!”

Ning Li could only sit there.

The moment she sat down, the entire classroom was filled with sighs of regret.

“Sigh, sister didn’t sit here with me...”

“Could it be that sister doesn’t like the seat that I chose?”

“It shouldn’t be. They said that sister always chooses the last row for her Advanced Mathematics Class...”

Ning Li silently took out her book. Before she could open it, she was handed a cup of milk tea.

A girl was looking at her with sparkling eyes, her face full of anticipation.

“Sister! This milk tea is super delicious! But I didn’t know what flavor you like, so I chose mango according to my brother’s preference. Please try it!”

Ning Li moved slightly back.

“Thank you, but there’s no need.”

The girl immediately looked disappointed.

However, soon after, a tub of ice cream was handed to her.

“Sister! The weather is so hot, please have some ice cream!”

Ning Li leaned to the left.

“Thank you, but there’s no need.”

The girl also let out a regretful “Ah”.

Just then, a notebook appeared in front of Ning Li.

She slowly raised her head and saw a girl push up her glasses. She said very seriously, “Sister, I helped you take notes for the first three chapters of this class.”

Ning Li, “...”

The two girls next to her were very dissatisfied.

“The score that Sister got for the College Entrance Exam was 746! She got a perfect score in the National Physics Competition! Why would she still need notes?”

The girl seemed to have finally realized this point, and she furrowed her brows as she pondered for a long time.

“Then— what about homework?”

Ning Li’s breathing froze for a moment, and she said to the girl, “Thank you, there’s no need.”

Being rejected by Ning Li, she could not help but be disappointed.

Fortunately, however, she had rejected everyone.

From a certain point of view, this was also a kind of fairness.

Thus, the girls finally had a balance.

Then, they began to focus on inquiring about Ning Li's preferences.

"Sister, then what flavor of milk tea do you like? What about ice cream? Why don't we go for hotpot tonight?"

"The astronomy classes are all so interesting! Sister, which one do you like best?"

"Sister, you went to see your brother recently. How is he? The fans are so worried..."

Hearing the last sentence, Ning Li finally spoke.

"The doctor said that he will be fine after recuperating for a while."

The girls cheered up a little, with a mixture of feelings of heartache and relief.

A group of boys walked in from the back door of the classroom. The one at the front raised his head and looked at the room full of girls. He subconsciously turned around and said to the people behind him, "Hey, we're in the wrong classroom."

As he said that, the group of people was about to leave.

A boy suddenly said, "No, this is right. This is where our class is."

Everyone was stunned. They raised their heads and confirmed the door number of the classroom again.

They looked at the nameplate and then looked at the classroom.

It was not difficult to judge what had happened from the words coming from inside.

So, these girls were all here for Ning Li?!

“What... What should we do?” Someone stammered.

After a long while, someone added, “Skipping class isn’t good.”

As soon as he said that, everyone immediately responded.

“That’s right.”

“Let’s go to class!”

“Awesome, isn’t it just for one class? If there’s no space, then isn’t it the same if we just stand and listen?”

The boy at the front turned around and said earnestly, “When class is over, all of you should go and properly thank our school belle.”

“To be able to be classmates with someone who is willing to help all living things, this must be a sign of how many years of luck you have accumulated!”

...

The bell rang to indicate the start of class, and the classroom finally quieted down.

Ning Li heaved a sigh of relief.

The professor walked in, took a glance, and left.

Half a minute later, he came back.

Looking at the never-before-full classroom, the professor began to doubt his life.

“What... is going on? Why are there so many extra students?”

Everyone looked at Ning Li in unison.

Ning Li held her forehead.

A girl in the front row raised her hand excitedly.

“Professor! Everyone has said that your class is particularly good, so we all came to listen! You don’t mind, right?”

Who wouldn’t like to hear such words?

Looking at the eager faces in the classroom, the professor felt very emotional.

Even though he had taught for so many years, such a scene was very rare.

“I don’t mind. You may all listen together, if you like!”

...

In the laboratory building of the Institute of Physics, Tang Yi was typing away on the keyboard.

Fu Niannian raised his head lazily.

“Junior Brother, you’ve been typing all morning and noon. Are you able to get it done?”

Tang Yi’s expression was solemn.

“Senior Brother, you don’t understand. When you face a hater, you have to sweep away the fallen leaves! You can’t give them even the slightest chance!”

Fu Niannian said, “Oh, you mean about Junior Sister?”

Tang Yi nodded seriously.

Fu Niannian said, “Can’t we just hack their accounts? Search for the keywords and follow the trail. I’ve already hacked four digits.”

Tang Yi, “...”

Fu Nian smiled smugly.

Yan Qiu walked in and saw Tang Yi’s computer. He caught a glimpse of a photo from afar and asked casually, “Junior Brother, why are you looking at the boss’s photo?”

Tang Yi turned around.

“Eldest Senior Brother, can you please look a little closer? This is Junior Sister!”

Yan Qiu had been extremely busy these past two days. He had not even looked at his phone, so he did not know about the things that were happening on the Internet.

He was stunned for a moment and subconsciously said, "Isn't this the boss when he just started attending university— F*ck!"

He took a few quick steps forward and got closer to take a look. His eyes immediately widened.

"It really is Junior Sister!"