

Rebirth to a Military Marriage: Good Morning Chief

Chapter 26: How's Your Result

It could have been such a good excuse. Look at Qiao Nan from their class who always ranked among the top three, she flunked her exams this time. So should it not be acceptable that they did not do well?

But Qiao Nan deprived them the chance of using this excuse with her full marks English test paper.

“Liar, she must have copied the answers!” Zhao Yu shouted, with a look of disbelief, “There has never been a student who gets full marks in secondary three!”

Teacher Yu knitted the eyebrows, what was this?!

“Who does she copy from, you? The student besides Zhao Yu blinked her eyes at her and asked curiously.

The classroom resounded with laughter.

Teacher Yu had said that among the two hundred students, Qiao Nan was the only who had full marks.

If she had copied her answers, who could she have copied from?

Zhao Yu flushed red in an instant. She knew that she was too agitated and had blurted out something silly.

Qiao Nan was the only student in the level who had the highest English results. There was no way she could copy from other classes let alone her class. Qiao Nan had the highest score; it was other students who would copy from her; if she was to copy from others, then she would not be able to get her full marks.

Qiao Nan walked calmly to the platform to get her test papers. Among all the subjects, she was most confident in her English.

In order to earn more money to satisfy her mother and to let Qiao Zijin lead a good life, she would always take up part time jobs.

But after all she was a human not a machine. As time goes by her body could not take it anymore.

Then she found out that there was this job of English-Chinese translation where she could work from home. It paid well and the work was not tough. Qiao Nan worked hard to learn English and attained a level six certificate. She then started to take on translating jobs.

Up till the point where Qiao Nan was knocked down by a car and driven to her grave by Ding Jiayi, there were still a few translation documents at her rented apartment.

“Qiao Nan, I could tell that you did not waste your time in this summer break at all. The grammar was fabulous and way beyond your level!” Teacher Yu looked at Qiao Nan smilingly, and commented on a line in her essay.

Teacher Yu had never taught them this grammar. It was not in the syllabus of junior high school either. It would be only be covered in high school.

A junior high student could use the grammar taught only at high school in her English essay. If this did not warrant full marks, what would?

Qiao Nan’s face stiffened, she paused for a moment before saying, “This... This summer break I met a foreign friend. He taught me all these.”

“Well done.” Teacher Yu was extremely pleased. “As I have said, if you want to muster English, you have to work up your courage. Do not be afraid to speak. This would be a good training to help you to speak the language well. Qiao Nan is a very good example. If you all have the chance, you can do so as well. Foreigners are usually more enthusiastic and friendly. This is an excellent learning opportunity.”

Because of an exam, Teacher Tan and in particularly Teacher Lee were dismayed. Teacher Yu was the only one who was all smiles to the extent that Teacher Yu seemed to be walking on air.

Qiao Nan used to come in the the top five places if not top three places among the whole level. But this time round, she did not even ranked among the first ten places.

Thanks to her English results, Qiao Nan’s overall ranking for the three subjects did not fall very far behind. She was placed 49th in the level and around 10th place in her class.

Qiao Nan let out a sigh of relief after knowing her results.

There was no doubt that her results would suffer, but it was not as bad as she imagined.

Qiao Nan knew that she was lucky this time. Besides from Chinese, she had picked up Mathematics not long ago.

She happened to have just finished revising on the knowledge points tested during the exams.

Otherwise, not to mention 80 points, she might have failed her exams or scored only 40 points.

It was the same for all the six classes, they were all discussing the exam results on the first day.

After Qiao Nan's essay was pasted on the blackboard at the back of the classroom, most of her classmates took a look and had to say that it was truly well written.

But what was weird was that the students from the remaining five classes all crowded around to look at Qiao Nan's essay.

Her classmates was proud yet unhappy. "You aren't from the same class, why do you all keep coming to our class? Get out, get out."

Qiao Nan's essay was considered a study resource for Class One. Students from other classes should not be allowed to share the information.

Students at this age were mostly sensitive and thin-skinned. They followed their Chinese teachers' words and plucked up their courage to go to the other class to look at the essay. But they all went back red with embarrassment when they were told off by Qiao Nan's classmates.

This soon reached the ears of the six Chinese teachers.

The teachers from the other classes went to speak with Teacher Chen and Teacher Lee, remarking that it was too overbearing of the students. After all they were schoolmates, and everyone should learn from each other.

Teacher Lee was still grouchy over the deduction of that one mark. She refused to give in, with a slight lift of her chin she said, "Oh, what's there to look at, after all it's one mark short of full marks. Qiao Nan's standard is good enough for our class. For other classes, they should learn from the better students.

At her words, all the teachers from the Chinese team knew that Teacher Lee has not gotten over that one mark, so they gave an awkward smile and left.

But for the Chinese teachers who read Qiao Nan's essay, they all knew that the results this time did not mean everything.

Judging from her exam papers, if Qiao Nan was to memorize all the classroom knowledge, she would definitely emerge as the dark horse of the Chinese subject, and her results would no doubt be astounding.

In that case, no matter how mischievous or lazy Qiao Nan was, Teacher Lee knew that she only had to get her to copy the knowledge points that had to be memorized for one

whole semester, if not one whole year, and there was surely no way that she would score zero for the memory component in her middle school exams.

Besides, Qiao Nan had always been a good student. It's just that she did not perform up to standard this time.

Teacher Lee finally sent off her colleagues. Wearing an excited expression on her face, she said proudly, "Qiao Nan the little girl, she kept on fumbling the ball. Next time I must make sure to supervise her so that she do not commit the same mistakes again. No, I shall make her report to the office everyday and to memorize a lesson a day."

As a colleague, Teacher Chen could not tell if Teacher Lee said it out of anger or was in fact proud of her student.

Teacher Lee had found a way to help Qiao Nan, but Teacher Chen was still very troubled.

Teacher Lee only had to get Qiao Nan to memorize by hard and she could catch up sooner or later. But what about her Mathematics?

Qiao Nan did not mention and he was unclear as well. Which part of the lessons was Qiao Nan unfamiliar with?

While Teacher Chen and Teacher Lee were trying to think of ways to help Qiao Nan, the English teacher, Teacher Yu was the only one who was sipping tea leisurely, saying that it tasted especially good today!

A day passed by quickly. After getting her results for the three subjects, Qiao Nan went home and realized that everyone had reached home, including Qiao Zijin.

As soon as she stepped into the house, Qiao Zijin wasted no time to ask her, "Nan Nan, I heard your results were out, how did you fare?"

Chapter 27: Set Ground Rules

Qiao Nan was stunned momentarily, she curled her lips and said, "I didn't do very well."

As expected!

Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi heard this and their eyes sparkled. Ding Jiayi jumped in to bombard Qiao Nan. "Look at this, Old Qiao, you insisted on letting her continue with her studies. Alright, we let her study, but look at what kind of results she got. She has let you down and wasted all your hard earned money. Never mind about the school fees that has been paid. After this half year, why not let her quit school and work. She is not

good in studying and does not have any good prospects, she might as well start work early and earn more money. For all you know, we might be able to lead a better life.”

Ding Jiayi seemed like she was planning for Qiao Nan, but among their family of four, aside from Qiao Dongliang, the three of them all knew that if Qiao Nan were to quit school and work, all her pay would be taken away by Ding Jiayi.

Qiao Dongliang let out a deep breath, “What are you shouting for? Nan Nan did not do well this time, and whose fault is this?”

Fortunately Qiao Nan had given Qiao Dongliang a heads up, so aside from a slight disappointment at the start, he was able to accept it readily.

“Who is to blame, definitely not me!” Ding Jiayi flared up, she was not the one who went to school.

Qiao Dongliang said bluntly, “It’s all your fault! Who sold off Nan Nan’s books? You sold her books, even if she wanted to study, there was nothing for her to read! Nan Nan won’t even keep her books at home and you still refuse to repent. If news gets out, won’t you find it a disgrace?”

Qiao Dongliang never once asked Qiao Nan about the books, he was doing it for Ding Jiayi, to preserve her dignity.

A daughter had to guard against her mother. If people knew of this, Ding Jiayi would be so disgraced.

He tried to maintain her pride time and again, but Ding Jiayi did not know her limits. She looked so high and mighty as if she was about to take flight!

“Nan Nan, ignore your Mom. It’s alright, don’t you still have a semester to go?” After lecturing Ding Jiayi, Qiao Dongliang went on to encourage Qiao Nan, “Let me have a look at the three test papers. Is there anything that you do not know, we can pick it up bit by bit, You can also ask your teacher, take it easy.”

“Okay.” Qiao Nan nodded and took out her test papers.

The Maths papers was on the top of the stack. Qiao Dongliang let out a breath of relief when he saw that Qiao Nan had scored 85 points for it.

When he heard from Nan Nan that she had lagged behind, he was worried that she might have fared badly. But 85 points was not considered a low grade.

Qiao Nan had 85 points for both Maths and Chinese.

Qiao Dongliang's eyes brightened when he saw that Qiao Nan had scored 100 points for her English test. The sparkle in his eyes was so much brighter than that of Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin when they learned that Qiao Nan had scored badly for her exams. "One... one hundred? Nan Nan, is the English exam difficult, how many students scored one hundred points?"

"I am the only one in school who scored full marks. The student in the second place had 93 points."

Qiao Dongliang moved his mouth, faced flushed with pride, after a while he only managed to say a word – good. He patted Qiao Nan and consoled her, "Actually, actually this is already pretty good."

"What's good about it, how did you rank this time?" Ding Jiayi did not notice that the elder daughter had turned pale. She carried on to rebut Qiao Dongliang's words.

"49th."

When Ding Jiayi heard that Qiao Nan ranked 49th place, she jumped in elation. "Old Qiao, did you hear that? You spent all that money on her school fees, and this is how she repays you? 49th? In the past, she never even ranked below ninth place—which was already a bad grade – let alone 49th place. Look at her wild nature, and yet you still let her continue with her studies, isn't that a waste of money?"

Qiao Nan arched her eyebrows and smiled.

"Laugh, you still have the nerve to laugh." Ding Jiayi was enraged. To think that she could still laugh after the scoldings, she must be a dimwit.

"Mom, can you preserve some dignity for sister. Can't you see that she is on the verge of tears?" Qiao Nan said coldly.

She ranked 49th place; but her worst results were in fact Qiao Zijin's best results in secondary three.

"Did you hear what Nan Nan said? Zijin, don't worry, I will treat everyone equally. I supported Nan Nan to continue her studies, and that is the same for you. You just have to work harder in high school and buck up." Qiao Dongliang's expression turned cold.

The younger daughter's worst results was the best results of the elder daughter. When the elder daughter made improvements last time, he even thought of having a celebration.

If one were to judge the right to schooling based on results, the elder daughter would be the first to be disqualified.

“Old Ding, I suddenly find that what you said is very true. If one has the aptitude, then she should study, if not there is no point in forcing them. After all, not everyone has the talent for studying. Zijin, don’t be stressed out, if you feel it’s alright, you can continue with your studies; if you feel that you are not cut out for studying, it’s okay, you can start work earlier. Your Mom is right, one won’t make it big by studying. In that case, it might be good to pick up a skill and start earning money, you can also lead a good life in future.”

Ding Jiayi placed importance on results purely to go out against Qiao Nan; but Qiao Dongliang meant it with all his heart.

“Old Ding, there’s no taking back of your words. Let’s set some ground rules to prevent future arguments. You have always been supportive of Zijin in her studies and you also enrolled her in high school. Let’s do this, if Nan Nan fails to do well in her exams, and the results are worse than the lowest results of Zijin’s, then we will consider whether she should continue or not. Otherwise, if you bring up this topic again, my attitude towards you would not be this pleasant.”

Qiao Zijin paled at Qiao Dongliang’s words, while Ding Jiayi’s expression turned sullen.

No matter how angry and unwilling Ding Jiayi was at Qiao Dongliang’s words, and for comparing her beloved elder daughter with the younger daughter, she could not come up with words to rebut him.

Because they had to be fair!

In fact, Qiao Dongliang’s suggestion was not fair from the start.

Why must Qiao Zijin’s worst results be used as a benchmark to decide if Qiao Nan had the right to study?

That was because Ding Jiayi favored Qiao Zijin, and Qiao Dongliang had to at least maintain her dignity.

Qiao Dongliang was being considerate, but Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin did not give him any credit for it.

The two of them had waited for ages before Qiao Nan finally flunked her exams this time. There might not be a next time.

Besides, Qiao Dongliang said that the condition was that Qiao Nan must perform even worse than the lowest grade of Qiao Zijin. At the thought of this, Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin felt hopeless.

They both knew, no matter how badly Qiao Nan did for her exams, there was no way that she could have performed even worse than the lowest grade of Qiao Zijin.

Ding Jiayi paused for a moment. Since the younger daughter did much better than the elder daughter, why was she so sure that the elder daughter had better prospects than the younger daughter, and insisted that the younger daughter quit school?

“Old Ding, did you hear what I said just now?” Qiao Dongliang repeated when there was no response from Ding Jiayi.

Chapter 28: Class Committee

“I heard them.” Ding Jiayi was about to continue her sentence, but she saw Qiao Zijin, pulling a long face and heading back to her room without a word.

A look at Qiao Zijin’s expression and she knew that she must be angry. “Zijin...”

Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi both left. Qiao Nan made a funny face at her father, “Dad, you talked about sister’s results just now, she must be upset.”

So her mother was on her way to console her.

“Your sister...” Qiao Dongliang sighed and shook his head in frustration. “I finally realized that your sister might be sensible but that temper of hers... she has been spoiled by your Mom.”

Nan Nan was just back from school, yet the elder daughter rushed up to ask her about her exams.

Qiao Dongliang thought of what happened just now and felt dismayed. When the younger daughter said that she flunked her exams, the elder daughter curled her lip and sneered.

Why would the elder daughter find joy in Nan Nan flunking her exams? Did she have the same perception as Old Ding? Did she hope that Nan Nan would quit school?

“Nan Nan, how is your relationship with Zijin recently?”

Qiao Nan pursed her lips. Could she say that they had never been close? It was only a one-sided relationship where Qiao Zijin cajoled and lied to her? She was the only one who was nice to her sister?

“As usual.” Qiao Nan gave an objective answer of their relationship. But Qiao Dongliang failed to read between the lines.

“Nan Nan, your sister... you are much more sensible than your sister. I am not telling you to give in to her, but if she gets stubborn, don’t be mad at her or take it to heart.”

Unlike Ding Jiayi, Qiao Dongliang was fair and just. It is usually the elder siblings who give in to the younger siblings. He could not bring it to himself to tell Qiao Nan to give in to Qiao Zijin.

The two sisters were not too far apart in age, so it was normal to have small arguments.

But they were one family, Qiao Dongliang's only hope was that despite all the quarrels, they would not take it to heart. After the quarrels, they should make up and not bear grudges.

"Okay." Qiao Nan nodded in agreement. Qiao Dongliang did not make excessive demands of her.

"Alright, you should go back to revise. You have lagged behind this time, you must work hard."

"Okay."

Qiao Nan barely made it past the exams on her first day of school. For the rest of the school year, she diligently went to school everyday, and set more reading targets for herself.

Teacher Chen and Teacher Lee also gave her additional assignments to work on.

Luckily Qiao Nan was not in actual fact a fifteen-year-old kid, if not she would not be able to handle the increasing workload.

Even though they might understand that what the teachers did was all for the good of the student, but they might not be able to accept it after all.

The two teachers were also worried that the huge workload would result in a backlash.

But Qiao Nan had a very positive attitude and was serious in her work. She always did a great job on the additional assignments. The two teachers were pleased and always gave her special treatment.

It was the second week after school reopened. This Monday it was Qiao Nan's turn to be on duty. She had to stay back after lessons and could only go back at a later time.

Qiao Nan let the other students go after they cleaned up the classroom.

She checked the classroom, making sure that the windows were locked. With that she closed the door, took her bag and left.

She had finished reading a volume of books within a week's time. She decided to stop over at Zhai's house in exchange for more books to revise. And so she did not take the main road home, instead she took the side road to the back door of Zhai's house.

"Beat him to death!"

"In future he won't dare to mess with us again."

"You disgusting piece of filth, try getting up and shouting at us again."

As soon as she turned into the side road, Qiao Nan heard quarreling sounds. It sounded like someone was in a fight.

Qiao Nan was scared stiff. She did not want to meddle in others' affairs and was about to turn and walk away.

Zhu Baoguo took blows from all directions. While he was in a daze, he heard footsteps coming towards him, though light and almost inaudible, he could hear them clearly.

His body was numb with pain, at the brink of losing consciousness. Zhu Baoguo desperately hoped that someone would save him. But the light footsteps drifted further and further away.

Holding his breath, a disappointed Zhu Baoguo closed his eyes, and was about to give in to his pain, letting out his breath. There was no-one in this world who cared for him.

"Hurry up, right here." Soon after the fading footsteps appeared again. It seemed like there were two other people.

The footsteps were fast and hurried.

"What are you all doing? Stop now."

"Crap, someone is here."

"F**k, they have guns!"

"Run!"

The group of people who were punching Zhu Baoguo looked up, and saw a young lady running towards them with two police officers. They paled and ran off hurriedly without Zhu Baoguo.

They only knew how to throw fists. But the two people who ran towards them had guns. A bullet could take a life.

“Isn’t he the son of Zhu family? It’s not good, his injuries are very serious, we have to take him to the hospital as quickly as possible.”

“Okay, you take him to the hospital, I will go back to inform them. We need to have someone around.”

This was the last conversation Zhu Baoguo heard before losing consciousness.

After making sure that Zhu Baoguo was safe, Qiao Nan patted herself on the chest and finally relaxed, letting out a sigh of relief.

The kids nowadays were so vicious. Every blow was so ruthless. She could not even tell what the injured person looked like as his face was all covered in blood.

Zhu Baoguo, the name seemed familiar.

Qiao Nan wasted a lot of time here and there. She quickly exchanged a new set of books and sped home.

“Nan Nan, you are slightly late today.” Qiao Dongliang saw the younger daughter and asked her out of concern.

“Oh, I am on duty today. I am the last to leave. From now on, I guess I will be slightly late every Monday.”

Qiao Zijin had started school. Unlike Qiao Nan who walked to school, Qiao Zijin who studied in high school had to live on campus. She came back home at most once a week.

Now Qiao Nan was the only child at home.

“It’s already secondary three. Your class should have selected their class committee. What did you get assigned to this time? Ding Jiayi asked coldly, with a mocking tone in her voice.

The younger daughter has always been quiet. She did not know how to please people. At home, she would not even speak up to 24 sentences in 24 hours. Unlike the elder daughter who was a smooth talker and well-liked by everyone, she was guarded and reserved. People like her might be unpopular and found it difficult to adapt when they entered society.

“I heard Zijin was the literary committee member at school.”

Qiao Nan laughed, “Mom, the high school curriculum is even more demanding than junior high school. Sister has been selected as a committee member? Does she not intend to study?”

Qiao Dongliang paused for a moment. At first he thought that it would be good to be selected as the committee member, but at the mention of results, he has some hesitation. "Nan Nan, if given the opportunity it would be a wonderful training, but it's okay if you aren't selected, studies are more important."

Qiao Dongliang was more sincere, hoping to give the younger daughter some encouragement.

"What's so good about her, it's obvious that she was not selected."

"Who said that I am not the class committee member?"

Chapter 29: Take In Hand One Each

Qiao Nan was pleased, Qiao Zijin was just a Literature and Art Committee Member, and her mother was so proud and flattered.

Qiao Nan suspected that Qiao Zijin managed to land the role because of the money from her mother.

In high school, Literature and Art was not popular, the fewer activities they had in school the better. Literature and Art had the most arduous but thankless jobs, unless Qiao Zijin was interested in a career path in this field.

Otherwise, whenever there were school activities, the Literature and Art Committee members worked the hardest, could she still study?

Qiao Zijin did not have good grades, by putting Literature and Art under her charge, was she being valued or mocked? It did not cross her mother's mind.

"Nan Nan, what role did you take on?" Qiao Dongliang smiled, to him, being a school committee member was a good matter.

"Vice Class Monitor in class. Dad, I've always been the Vice Class Monitor. Every semester, I bring home the certificate of award to me for being one of the top three model students and outstanding class committee member."

"Vice Class Monitor?" Qiao Dongliang was surprised. He did not know that his younger daughter had been the Vice Class Monitor for years. "Where's the certificate of award? I don't think I have seen it at home before."

Top three model students and outstanding class committee member, these awards were worth being proud of!

Each year, when Qiao Dongliang saw other children instead of his own receiving an award, he would console himself that it did not matter. As long the elder daughter was obedient and sensible and the younger daughter was good in her studies – these mattered the most.

It only occurred to Qiao Dongliang today that his child had actually received awards before, and these were the best awards. Top three model student, that was not an award that could be given to any Tom, Dick or Harry.

“It’s just Vice Class Monitor, not Class Monitor. What is so great about this.” Ding Jiayi’s face was awkward.

“Aren’t you quite pleased that Zijin became a Literature and Art committee member? Don’t tell me that Vice Class Monitor is worse than Literature and Art committee member.” Qiao Dongliang was speechless. What was Old Ding’s logic?

If this continued, even if the elder daughter’s feet stank, Old Ding would think that it was fragrant.

“Nan Nan, four semesters have passed. Two certificate of awards for each semester, you should have received at least eight, take them out and show me!”

His child was an award-winner!

In future, when his colleagues from the same department asked, he finally had something else that he was proud of to talk about besides his younger daughter’s academic results.

“Aren’t they just a few pieces of lousy paper, there’s nothing to see. It’s already so late, are we still eating?” Ding Jiayi interrupted Qiao Dongliang and quickly served the food.

As Qiao Zijin was not at home, Ding Jiayi initially did not want to buy any meat. After all, the family funds were low.

But Qiao Dongliang requested, so Ding Jiayi had no choice but to prepare meat for today’s dinner.

To shut Qiao Nan up, Ding Jiayi filled Qiao Nan’s bowl with meat using her chopsticks: “Hurry up and eat, then go back to your room to revise your homework. Don’t waste the money that was used to let you go to school.”

Qiao Nan’s eyes flashed with sarcasm, she did not argue with her mother and proceeded to eat her meat.

“What do you mean?” The then Qiao Dongliang frowned. “Old Ding, Nan Nan’s awards, where have they gone?”

Ding Jiayi slapped the chopsticks on the table. "Aren't they just a few pieces of paper? How should I know where they are? They do not belong to me. It's paper, not gold. Isn't it normal for them to become rotten?"

"Rotten?" Qiao Dongliang's face changed. "Even if it's paper, there is no reason that it would be rotten after two years. Tell me honestly, where did Nan Nan's awards go?"

Nan Nan had clearly received many awards but he did not get to see or hear about them once. Of course, this was all his wife's doing.

Qiao Dongliang pressed on and refused to stop, Ding Jiayi wanted very much to throw a fit but could not lose her temper when she saw Qiao Dongliang pulling a long face. She reluctantly said: "I used it to start the fire while I was cooking."

Yes, Qiao Nan's awards were always burnt and used to start the fire by Ding Jiayi shortly after she brought them home.

Therefore, it was impossible for Qiao Dongliang, who was always the last to reach home after his work, to see the awards that Qiao Nan had won.

"Start the fire?" Qiao Dongliang raised his voice. "Why don't you burn yourself? Aren't there any ignition straws at home? You have to use Nan Nan's awards to start the fire? Do you want to go out and ask others, which parent will use the awards received by his child to start a fire, you're really proud."

"What is there to be proud of? Isn't it just a piece of paper, can keeping it make it produce gold or lay eggs?!" Ding Jia was angry. She even used all the money at home, not to mention that few pieces of paper.

Those few pieces of paper, keeping them would only take up space, burning them would at least put them to some use.

"Fine, you're good, you can. Satisfied?" Qiao Dongliang would not bother to talk to Ding Jiayi anymore. His wife could not hide the younger daughter's academic results as he would ask about them.

As for these awards, they were all burnt by his wife. Nan Nan said that she had won the awards but that now they were just all words and no evidence.

Fine, it seemed that for many years, his wife had hidden a lot of matters from him.

"Zijin became a Literature and Art Committee Member and you were so pleased. You insisted to wait till the weekend to prepare food for her. Nan Nan is Vice Class Monitor and that is not good enough, even her certificate of awards are just waste paper. Okay, you dote on Zijin, I dote on Nan Nan. Each of us will take care of one, no-one is being left out."

“What do you mean by this?” Ding Jiayi’s face was red with fury. “Zijin is not your daughter, are you so biased?”

“Then Nan Nan is not your daughter? You only have Zijin in your heart. Both are my daughters, I will not treat one worse than the other. With you, I am not worried that Zijin will suffer and be wronged. With me around, I will not let Nan Nan continue to live like she did before.”

This time, Qiao Dongliang was determined to stand on the side of his younger daughter.

He really had not known that the younger daughter was so outstanding.

At the thought of the younger daughter’s words earlier, and her results, Qiao Dongliang immediately figured out why the younger daughter was the Vice Class Monitor instead of the Class Monitor.

It was not that the younger daughter was not qualified to be the Class Monitor. It was because the teacher was afraid of tiring out the younger daughter with too many matters. Hence, she arranged for her to take on the deputy role.

The teacher in the school had spared such a thought for his younger daughter. This went to show how highly they valued her. This also proved that the younger daughter was a person with a bright future and had gained the favor of her teachers.

The child who was well-liked by the teacher in the school was neglected to this extent by her own mother. Qiao Dongliang did not know what to say except to sneer.

To think that half a month ago, his wife was still clamoring for the younger daughter to quit school and find a job. Qiao Dongliang broke out in a cold sweat.

Fortunately Nan Nan insisted on studying and he also supported it. Otherwise, they would have held back Nan Nan’s future with their own hands.

“Nan Nan, from today onwards, you don’t need to tell your mother what happens in school, your mother is busy and doesn’t have the time. You tell Dad, Dad will help you think over the matters.”

A man should take care of external matters while his wife take care of domestic affairs – this did not work for his family.

Fortunately he found out about the situation, otherwise he really could not imagined how much longer his younger daughter’s future would be held back by his wife.

“Okay.” Qiao Nan chewed the meat in her mouth hard. Today, the meat seemed to be extraordinary fragrant, extraordinarily delicious.

Chapter 30: Shameless

“Okay, okay, you are happy and pleased to see Dad quarrel with me because of you, are you dying for me to be in bad luck?” Ding Jiayi gave an angry stare and threw her chopsticks towards Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was no longer the Qiao Nan in the previous life – who always turned the other cheek.

When she saw that something was not right with Ding Jiayi’s emotions, Qiao Nan immediately averted her gaze.

Qiao Nan swiftly gobbled up all the food in her bowl, and mumbled to Qiao Dongliang. “Dad, I’ve finished my food, I’m going back to my room to do homework.”

Clearly she had not provoked her mother, but the latter was fiercer than her.

Qiao Nan knew very well that there was no point in fighting with her mother. She would not only lose the argument, but also cause an ugly sight, and her father would not be pleased about it.

Having to go through another lifetime, Qiao Nan found the way of life that would make it work.

The reason why Qiao Zijin could please her mother, and let her father think of her as a good daughter, was because she knew how to put up a “sensible” front before her father.

Being sensible was not difficult. She, too, knew how.

The more her mother did, the more wrong her father knew Qiao Nan endured. There was no need to defend herself, she just needed to walk away silently and, certainly, her dad’s heart would ache for her.

After being taken advantage of by Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin for a lifetime, Qiao Nan knew that, even if they were one family and the closest-of-kin, she needed to play some mind games. Well, they were the ones who had started it.

An eye for an eye.

She did not wish to live like the way she did in her previous life – no dignity and pride. No sense of self-worth.

Upon reflection, Qiao Nan knew that the greatest mistake that she made in her previous life was to have done and said too much in the family.

On the contrary, when she did and said nothing, she sensed that silence was better than words.

Seeing that the daughter was already used to Ding Jiayi's bias and picking, and Qiao Nan's eyes did not have any warmth in them though she was smiling, Qiao Dongliang's heart ached and his tone became more serious. "Who are you throwing the chopsticks at? Pick up the chopsticks."

"I'm not picking them up. Why is Qiao Nan doing her homework now? She saw the chopsticks drop to the floor and she did not even pick them up?" If Ding Jiayi bent down and picked up the chopsticks, she would feel humiliated, so of course she was unwilling to and thus ordered Qiao Nan to do it.

"Not picking them up?" Qiao Dongliang laughed and simply walked over to pick them up himself.

When Ding Jiayi saw Qiao Dongliang doing that, she thought he had relented and today's matter would come to a close. Just when she wanted to heave a sigh of relief, she was shocked and frightened by Qiao Dongliang's next move.

It was just a pair of chopsticks, but Qiao Dongliang broke them into half with his hands and threw them on the table. "Since you don't want this pair of chopsticks, there is no point in keeping them. Wash the dishes up, I am sleeping in the study room tonight."

"You..." Ding Jiayi was shaking, and finally said regretfully, "It's just anger, why take it out on the chopsticks. Now, we need to spend money on chopsticks again."

As the family savings were low, Ding Jiayi was trying to cut the expenses by half, racking her brains on ways to gradually save money.

Not to mention the recent expenses, the 5000 yuan savings that was accumulated by the couple for over a decade, it was an impossible target by saving just one or two cents per day, even for 20 years.

However, if any major event occurred at home, such as when illness struck, she definitely had to cough up this sum of money.

Regarding the 5000 yuan, Ding Jiayi was still terrified at the sight of the passbook. She often had nightmares, fearful that Qiao Dongliang would find out about this.

Unless Qiao Nan quit school and worked. If not, she would not be able to make up for the lost savings by herself.

“Each of them are fiercer and tougher than me, all are my lord!” The furious yet helpless Ding Jiayi slapped her thigh, she was full of humiliation, and wiped her tears.

But after she calmed down and finally regained her strength, a table full of stuff was awaiting her to clean up.

In the past, she was always the one who prepared the meals, and Qiao Nan washed the dishes.

However, since Qiao Nan’s fever that holiday, she no longer took on any housework of her own accord.

Both daughters were at home. In front of Qiao Dongliang, Ding Jiayi could not just request for one of the daughters, Qiao Nan, to help out.

While washing the dishes, Ding Jiayi sighed, life in the past was good, she had the final say in everything at home. Qiao Nan was also obedient, she took up almost half the load of the housework.

Whenever she argued with Old Qiao, whatever the matter was, Qiao Nan would always take the blame on her own accord.

It was bizarre. It was just a fever, and Qiao Nan became a changed person.

If she had not given birth to Qiao Nan, Ding Jiayi almost suspected that Qiao Nan was swapped by someone, and this was the fake one.

Qiao Nan, who was doing her homework, could not care less about what happened at home, and she totally forgot about what she had done tonight.

She had forgotten. But it did not mean that others had also done so.

The next day, Qiao Nan attended school as usual, but upon reaching the school, she noticed that many schoolmates, some of whom she did not know, were looking at her strangely.

Qiao Nan frowned but did not take this to heart.

When she arrived at the classroom, Qiao Nan saw that the seat beside her was empty, she did not think much of it. She put down her school bag and started revising.

At this time, Zhao Yu, who was seated nearby, casted her a look of disdain and snorted. “What is there to pretend, who are you trying to fool, shameless.”

After hearing this, Qiao Nan pulled a long face, she was as fierce as a tiger when she glared at Zhao Yu. She told herself that this was just a spoiled brat, and one that was rebellious and going through puberty. She would not take matters to heart with her.

It had been half a month since school re-opened, of course, Qiao Nan knew why Zhao Yu did not see eye to eye with her and why her words always sounded like sour grapes.

It was because Zhao Yu was the class's Chinese Representative.

In the past, Zhao Yu's grades in Chinese were not the best in class, but her essay writing certainly was.

However, this trend was broken by Qiao Nan in the first model exam after school started. Zhao Yu thus started to dislike Qiao Nan.

Recently, Zhao Yu was extremely motivated to read essay writing books, and swore that she would score better than Qiao Nan in the next Chinese test.

Qiao Nan was silent. Zhao Yu, who thought that she was feeling guilty because she did something wrong, was complacent, "Why are you still coming to school? Don't tell me you think that we don't know the shameless thing that you've done. Though you are thick-skinned enough to do it, I am embarrassed to say it. Such a person is not fit to sit with us in the same classroom and be our school mate."

Zhao Yu's words were neither too loud nor soft, but it was audible to the rest of the classroom.

At the thought of the news that they heard this morning, everyone was silent. The way they looked at Qiao Nam was really awkward.

"I already thought it was strange, it was already secondary three and she could get full marks for the exam. No wonder, she had sent someone to steal the English paper and checked the answers. This way, who in the class can't get 100 marks?"

Qiao Nan slammed her books down, hard on the table.

She did not even wish to tolerate her mother and Qiao Zijin, why would she tolerate an outsider?

