

RTAMM 261

Chapter 261: Qiao Nan Is a Big Swindler

Qiao Nan was finally willing to take the three letters back from Xu Tingting. “But Xu Tingting, it’s best that you remember this. Today’s matter is not over. If this happens again, I will not give you any more prior warning. Please be mentally prepared for the consequences.”

Having that said, Qiao Nan simply went back to the classroom without looking at Xu Tingting.

Looking at the three letters in her hands, except for the letter from Zhai Sheng, she actually wanted very much to tear away the other two letters from Chen Jun.

After some consideration, Qiao Nan knitted her brows and simply ignored the two letters from Chen Jun. She then opened the letter from Zhai Sheng to read it. The content of the letter was very simple. In short, it said ‘No puppy love’.

If Qiao Nan dared to do that, he would definitely ‘deal’ with her when he came back from the army.

The serious tone, strict manner, and threatening way that the message was conveyed in the letter stunned Qiao Nan. When she’s with Zhu Baoguo, she felt like she had a son. But in front of Brother Zhai, why did she feel like she had another father?

In her impression, there were already three people who warned her not to get involved in a romantic relationship in high school. Coincidentally, these three people were her ‘son’ and two ‘fathers’.

“What are you looking at?” Zhu Baoguo sat down, sulking.

“Nothing.” Qiao Nan folded the letter calmly and placed it back into the envelope. She did not understand. Had she done anything in particular recently to make these three men of different ages so worried about her that they had to ‘remind’ her out of ‘good intention’ simultaneously?

“Is there really nothing? I heard someone wrote to you. Who was it?” Zhu Baoguo had the ears of the great monkey sage. He actually knew about this matter just as Qiao Nan got to know about it.

“Who do you think it was?” Qiao Nan flipped her book. “Someone told me that I’m still young and it’s not appropriate to be romantically involved.”

“Oh?” Then that must not be Chen Jun. “Who’s so wise as to have observed your behavior and give you such advice? This is a real friend. Xiao Qiao, you can interact more with this friend.”

“Crap.” Qiao Nan rolled her eyes at Zhu Baoguo and ignored him thereafter. She started to read her books conscientiously.

“Teacher Liu is here. Oh yes, have you all heard about the results for the monthly exams?”

“Nope. Did you receive any news?”

“Yes, I heard that the top scorer in the cohort is from our class.”

“That goes without saying. We’re in class one. If the top scorer of the cohort is not from our class, do we still deserved to be called class one? Guess, who came in first in the cohort?”

“That... Isn’t Qiao Nan the top scorer in the middle school examination?”

“Hmm, will she be the top scorer forever just because she clinched the top place in the middle school examination? It’s hard to say. After all, the curriculum between junior high school and senior high school is very different. The difficulty level is also higher in senior high school.” Xu Tingting’s dormitory mate was not pleased. Xu Tingting, who was in the same dormitory as her, was capable. Xu Tingting knew the solutions to all the questions she did not know the answers to.

Moreover, she asked Xu Tingting and the latter said that she did very well for this examination. There would be a change in the top scorer of this class.

Xu Tingting, who was writing a letter to Chen Jun, happened to hear these conversations. She could not help tightening the grip on her pen as her eyes flashed with ambitions. Since she attended senior high school, her learning attitude had improved. She lost to Qiao Nan in terms of romance, but she did not believe that she would also lose to her in academic performance.

Within a short span of one month, there were three outstanding men who appeared consecutively in Qiao Nan's life. If Qiao Nan was not distracted by this, could she still be considered a woman?

Regardless of whether Qiao Nan liked them, at the very least, she should feel a little proud. As long as Qiao Nan was distracted, she would be able to grab the opportunity to surpass Qiao Nan. Based on her previous experience, anyone whom she managed to outdo could forget about doing better than her in the future.

"Alright. Be quiet everyone. The teachers have finished grading the monthly exam papers a couple of days ago. We are very pleased that many of you did not disappoint us. You did very well. However, the teachers don't wish to give you too much pressure. Hence, on this occasion, we will not announce the ranking of the students. Of course, we hope that all of you will continue to work hard. Those who performed well will continue to do so, and those who are slightly lagging behind could put in more effort and catch up. We'd also like to give you some prior information. When you go home two weeks later, bring a letter back. The school will be organizing a parent-teacher conference for first-year students."

Teacher Liu was glowing and all smiles, especially when he talked about the results of the monthly exam. His eyes were smiling and constantly forming the shape of a crescent.

"Can the subject representative please come up to give out the exam papers for this subject? Solutions to the problems will be explained. After the lesson ends, please collect the papers back."

When Teacher Liu finished his words, the subject representative went up and took the stack of exam papers. She then proceeded to distribute them.

Seeing that Xu Tingting actually scored ninety-five marks, as her dormitory date, the subject representative's eyes lit up. She then winked at Xu Tingting before passing the paper to her.

As she took over the paper with ninety-five marks in bright red, Xu Tingting pursed her lips and gave a reserved smile. While maintaining eye contact with the subject representative, she cast a glance at Qiao Nan and lifted her eyebrows to enquire about the latter's scores.

The subject representative shook her head and then showed Xu Tingting a thumbs-up. She was telling Xu Tingting that she did not know Qiao Nan's scores but Xu Tingting's score was the highest among the few papers she had given out.

Moreover, what she gave out earlier were all the papers with more than ninety marks. If she had finished distributing the batch and did not see Qiao Nan's paper, then Qiao Nan definitely did not do better than Xu Tingting.

Students were students after all. As soon as they received their papers, many could not help turning to others who had received their papers to compare their scores. Upon comparing, Xu Tingting was the one who scored the highest. Many were shocked.

This was mathematics. Didn't they say that boys typically perform better than girls in science subjects? Why was the top scorer in the class for this subject a young lady?

Sensing that many were looking at her with envy and admiration, Xu Tingting straightened her posture. Don't assume that she was a mere boy-chaser who only focused her efforts on the opposite gender! She had never done poorly in her studies. If she did not perform well academically, how would she be able to find an outstanding partner who was compatible with her?

When she finished giving out the batch of papers with more than ninety marks, the subject representative signaled to Xu Tingting the number 'eight' to inform that the next batch was most likely those with over eighty marks. Besides, she had not seen Qiao Nan's paper.

At this moment, Xu Tingting lifted her chin as if she was a proud rooster. She was only missing a high tail.

She did not expect that the top scorer of the middle school examination, Qiao Nan, was in fact, a swindler. She was too pretentious. She not only did not continue to be in the top place but also did not score more than ninety marks.

Chapter 262: Fake Swindler and Real Pervert

High school lessons were difficult. However, to maintain the academic performance of the outstanding students, the school would never lower their expectations of the students. Hence, although they were in senior high school, the good students were expected to score not less than ninety marks for each subject. For outstanding students, the minimum expected score was ninety-five marks.

If she had known that Qiao Nan was a swindler, she would not have taken Qiao Nan so seriously. She had overestimated Qiao Nan.

Xu Tingting calmed down and focused on reviewing the question she had answered wrongly. However, the mathematics representative was unable to do so. She was a little surprised that Qiao Nan's name was not in the batch of papers with more than ninety marks. However, she had already given out the batch of papers between eighty and eighty-nine marks and had not seen Qiao Nan's name either. This was a big surprise!

She had only two exam papers left for distribution, and there was one paper with a little over seventy marks. The representative was a little dumbfounded.

As the middle school examination scholar, Qiao Nan did attain the first place. However, she did was not one of the top three. Her name was not even seen in the list of the top ten scorers. Could she have scored top and second in the reverse order of ranking? It was impossible!

She remembered that Qiao Nan was usually very conscientious when she was in class. No matter what, she would not have fared that badly.

It was only when the representative gave away the paper with over seventy marks that she saw the marks on the last paper. She was stunned. Her face turned pale as she pursed her lips and quietly walked to Qiao Nan to pass her the paper.

“Alright. Next, I'll talk about the few questions with the highest rate of error based on overall statistics. After I explain, if there's anything you do not understand, please come and look for me individually. For those without any questions, please do self-study.” Teacher Liu did not waste time talking nonsense. He immediately directed the class' attention to the important matters as soon as all the students received their papers.

In about ten minutes' time, he had finished explaining the solutions to the few questions with the highest error rate. “Alright, if anyone has questions, please come and ask me individually. Everyone, please keep quiet to avoid disturbing the others who are studying.”

Xu Tingting did not see Qiao Nan's results but she was extremely curious. Hence, she took a piece of paper, crushed it, and threw it at the representative.

After gaining the representative's attention, Xu Tingting immediately sought Teacher Liu's permission to go to the restroom. Teacher Liu waved his hands to approve and also told the other

students to do so if they wished to, on the condition that they remained quiet. After he said that, Xu Tingting and the representative got up from their seats simultaneously and went to the restroom 'together'.

At the sight of the eighty marks on her paper, Zhao Yu gritted her teeth and also stood up to go to the restroom 'together'.

Zhu Baoguo rolled his eyes. Why were all the girls except for Xiao Qiao acting strangely? It was just a trip to the restroom. Why was there a need to go together? Could it be that there was a ghost in the restroom and they dared not go alone?

"Wang Li, when you gave out the papers earlier, didn't you see Qiao Nan's grades? How was it? How did she rank in our class?" Xu Tingting could not help asking as soon as she reached the restroom.

When she saw Zhao Yu came in, Xu Tingting snorted. "Why are you here?"

"This is the restroom. Why do you think I came?" Zhao Yu bit her lip and opened one of the cubicle doors. She forced herself to urinate a little and then straightened her ears to eavesdrop.

"It's... not very clear," Wang Li said incoherently.

"Not clear? What's there to be unclear of? Her marks will be whatever she had scored! How could it be unclear?!" Did Wang Li become retarded from studying too much for the exam the month before?

Wang Li's mouth drooped. "You're the one who asked me about it. I'm not very clear because I don't know whether I should say 100 or 105 marks. I saw 100+5 marks on her paper. Tell me, then. How many marks is that?"

It should be written as 105 if she scored 105 marks and 100 if she scored 100 marks. What did 100+5 marks mean?

Wang Li had been a student for many years. She was confused as she had not encountered this type of situation. How many marks did Qiao Nan score exactly?

“100+5? What did that mean?” Xu Tingting was stunned too.

Zhao Yu sneered. Qiao Nan was undoubtedly Qiao Nan. Her grades were still so annoying even after she came to Ping Cheng High School. She came out of the cubicle and said as she washed her hands, “It was written as 100+5 because the maximum marks one could attain is 100. However, Qiao Nan must have also attempted the additional difficult question and answered it correctly. Thus, 100+5.”

“How did you know?” Xu Tingting stared at her.

Zhao Yu shook the water from her hands and smiled grimly. “How did I know? You seemed to have forgotten. I was classmates with Qiao Nan in junior high school. Since secondary three, especially from the second semester onward, she never had a different score. Tell me, how can I not know?”

No one knew better than her that Qiao Nan was a big pervert.

The additional question was prepared for people like Xu Tingting who had five marks deducted from the 100 marks. If she had answered the additional question correctly, she would still be able to score 100 marks.

However, people like Qiao Nan, who already had 100 marks and yet answered the additional question correctly, would receive the perverted score of 100+5 marks, making others feel nightmarish!

“Is... is that the case?” Wang Li was stunned. Since she attended junior high school, she had hardly seen 100 marks, not to mention 100+5 marks. Who knew that 100+5 was given for such situations?

“!” Xu Tingting was so furious that she hit the tap.

“Ha.” Zhao Yu smiled wryly and gave a scornful look to Xu Tingting. Her eyes were full of sarcasm.

Xu Tingting was annoyed. She grabbed Zhao Yu and refused to let her leave. “Why did you shoot that look at me just now?”

“Whatever you think the reasons might be.” Zhao Yu sent the helve after the hatchet. “You may not know. I can’t do any better than this for my studies. I have been waiting, waiting for the person who can crush Qiao Nan to appear. Initially, I thought that the person will be you, but now I know that I’ve been thinking too much.”

If not for the fact that she still harbored some hopes toward Xu Tingting, she would not have followed them to the smelly restroom.

Zhao Yu disliked Xu Tingting, but she hated Qiao Nan more. If possible, the best situation was to see the two of them leading unhappy lives. She would feel happy at the sight.

When the two of them could not be down on their luck simultaneously, she would be very pleased to see one of them outdo the other. Hence, Zhao Yu would feel better when either of them lost their face.

“Let go of me. I’m going back to the classroom. We’ve been out for a long time. Teacher Liu is coming to get us.” Zhao Yu withdrew her hand forcefully and moved forward without even looking at Xu Tingting.

With the outcome of this examination, Zhao Yu could clearly confirm that Xu Tingting was not the person she was looking for. Regardless of interpersonal relationships or academic performance, Xu Tingting was not comparable to Qiao Nan and posed no threat to the latter.

To think that she had wasted so much time and energy on Xu Tingting since school started...

“She’s driving me mad.” Xu Tingting did not expect Zhao Yu to be so daring and arrogant. It seemed like she had not bullied her enough in the dormitory. She was not fearful at all!

Chapter 263: The Broken 2B Pencil

Qiao Nan was not afraid of her, and even Zhao Yu dared to be unruly to her. She was unable to outdo Qiao Nan now, but it was much easier to deal with Zhao Yu!

“Tingting, Zhao Yu is right. Let’s go back.” Wang Li pulled Xu Tingting. “Besides, if I did not remember wrongly, the five girls from the same dormitory as Qiao Nan did well too. Tang Mengran

fared the worst, but she still received eighty-eight marks at the very least.” In other words, He Yun, Zheng Lingling, and the rest scored more than ninety marks!

Damn, all the good students were in the same clique?

At the thought that she had only scored eighty-five marks, Wang Li felt like she had swallowed a piping hot dumpling before biting it. It was as if the dumpling was stuck, unable to be swallowed or vomited. She felt so uncomfortable. Why was she still holding the role as the mathematics representative? It was so embarrassing!

“Tingting, when you have time to spare, please help me by giving me some supplementary lessons. My results are too lousy.”

“Help?” Xu Tingting swiped her hands and wanted to refuse right away. If she had the extra time and energy, she might as well spend more effort and think about how she could score 100 marks to catch up with Qiao Nan.

However, as she realized that Wang Li was still of some use to her, she suppressed her anger. “It’s not possible to give you supplementary lessons since I don’t know where your problems lie. Why don’t we do this? Look for me if you encounter any areas that you do not understand and I will guide you, just like in the past. Will that do?”

“That’s fine.” Wang Li knew that her request was too demanding. Most of the time, one had to rely on oneself to utilize many information and knowledge flexibly after mastering the basics, after all.

“Everyone, the class is dismissed. Take a break and do some exercise.” Xu Tingting and Wang Li just returned to the classroom when Teacher Liu announced the break time.

Upon hearing Teacher Liu’s words, Zheng Lingling and the group surrounded Qiao Nan. “Nan Nan, come and let us see your results that will make us more motivated and driven.”

“Nan Nan, it’s all thanks to you that I was able to attain eighty-eight marks this time. I’m glad my little ass will be fine and don’t need to endure any caning this time,” Tang Mengran said. True enough. The students in class one were all perverts. They were already in senior high school and scoring eighty-eight marks was only considered as average. This was so depressing.

“I scored ninety-three marks.” Fang Fang adjusted her glasses. She was obviously pleased with her results. Fang Fang usually fared the best in humanities and arts. She had been working hard in science so that it would not pull down her humanities and arts’ grades and neglect the subjects she preferred less.

She did not expect that she had progressed so much for science this semester. She should write an essay: The Importance of Having a Good Dormitory Mate.

“Zhu Baoguo, let’s change our seats.” He Yun blinked her eyes at Zhu Baoguo. She heard that Zhu Baoguo’s grades were extremely lousy in the past. He could not even meet the entry criteria to senior high school, not to mention Ping Cheng High School. They could become classmates today all thanks to Qiao Nan who taught Zhu Baoguo alone. She did not believe it initially, but judging from the current situation, that seemed to be true.

The average score of mathematics in their class was the highest in the whole cohort. In addition, the average score of their dormitory was also the highest!

“Do you think I’ll allow this?” Zhu Baoguo resisted the urge to hit He Yun’s face. What kind of tactic was this? Snatching seat?

“Damn, crazy pervert!” Zheng Lingling was more direct. She simply took Qiao Nan’s paper and could not help cursing when she saw Qiao Nan’s grades. “Qiao Nan, are you trying to aggravate us and drive us to our graves? I know that you’ll definitely do well, but you don’t need to go so overboard!!”

“How is it?”

“How much did she score?!”

Fang Fang and He Yun stretched their necks to look at the grade on the paper. Fang Fang did not see anything else but big red ticks for all the questions at the back of Qiao Nan’s papers. There was not a single cross, not even for the additional questions. She already knew the answer in her heart.

Zheng Lingling was right in her scolding. Crazy pervert!

Tao Zhenqin finally saw Qiao Nan’s grade after much effort. She then sighed. “I have a school bully as my dormitory mate. Should I feel happy, happy, or happy?”

Fang Fang adjusted her glasses properly. She revealed a scheming smile. “Since there’s a free little teacher, of course we should be happy, happy, and happy!” She felt that her base knowledge was much better than Zhu Baoguo.

“How many marks did she score?” Upon hearing the noisy discussion, many could not help but squeeze themselves into the group.

“This is a paper without any cross mark. Tell me what the score is?”

“Full marks?!” The little mathematics prince in junior high school expressed his trauma. Didn’t they say that girls would fare badly in such subjects after they entered senior high school?

“There’s no cross mark. Then, how about the additional question?” Another male student in the class asked. The reason was that he had cross marks in his papers but he answered the additional question correctly. Hence, he received an additional five marks.

“What do you all mean by no cross mark? Your mathematics is good but don’t return all your language knowledge to your teachers.” Tang Mengran rolled her eyes. “Alright. Don’t try to fight for your last breath. The grades of our Nan Nan this time... You will feel beyond utter despair and hopelessness. Please try harder next time.”

Xu Tingting broke the 2B pencil she was holding in her hands. Who said that? This was only the mathematics subject. There were still a few other subjects. She only lagged behind Qiao Nan by five marks. As long as she scored better than Qiao Nan in other subjects, how could she not surpass Qiao Nan!!

It was a pity that this was the Friday self-study time. Besides Teacher Liu who announced the mathematics results, the other teachers did not attend class, and thus did not give out the papers.

Hence, even if Xu Tingting was eager to know the answer, she had to endure the anxiousness and wait for one whole night before she could get the answer.

“Why is my blanket wet?!” When she returned to the dormitory, Zhao Yu wanted to spread out her blanket. But when she touched it, it was all wet. “Tell me, who did this? Do you believe that I’ll look for the auntie in charge of the dormitory to settle this for me? Don’t think that you’ll be alright after doing this! If you bully me too much, I’m not afraid of kicking up a big fuss. In the future, you

can forget about receiving any awards for an outstanding class committee member or top three model students. You can forget all about them!!”

She no longer had the opportunity to receive all these awards anyway. If the people in the dormitory offended her badly, they would not have a good life!

Wang Li's reaction was the greatest. Besides Xu Tingting who was the vice class monitor, Wang Li was the mathematics representative and the head of the dormitory. She thus had higher chances to be assessed for the awards.

After Xu Tingting finished her shower, she took out the clothes that she had washed. She twisted her tiny waist which was slightly revealed and said insincerely, “Zhao Yu, you're back. Don't be angry. I just wanted to tell you that I accidentally wetted your blanket. When I was carrying the water, I slipped and accidentally spilled the water over it. Fortunately, it is September now and the weather is not that cold. It's not December. It will not be a big issue. I apologize to you.”

“You did it on purpose!” Zhao Yu was not a three-year-old child. There was disagreement with Xu Tingting during the evening self-study time and this incident happened on the same night. Xu Tingting said she did not do it intentionally. Zhao Yu cursed that she would see a ghost if she believed in her words.

Chapter 264: Her Feet Stink

“Zhao Yu, you're too unreasonable. I've already apologized to you. I really didn't do it on purpose.” Xu Tingting said hypocritically. “The sunlight is very strong nowadays. It'll be fine if you take the blanket out to dry under the sun tomorrow. Don't throw a fit for such a small matter. You're exaggerating. Oh yes, I must remind you out of good intention. You should just remove the cover and wash it instead of drying it under the sun. That water of mine... it's used to wash my feet.”

“Xu Tingting, I'll fight it out with you!” Zhao Yu, who usually had a bad temper, could no longer tolerate this. Tears welled up in her eyes. She looked like a shrew as she pounced at Xu Tingting and started fighting with her.

“Stop fighting, stop fighting!” Wang Li was frightened at the sight. Fortunately, she was not the one who splashed that basin of water. Otherwise, the person Zhao Yu was hitting now would be her.

“What should we do? We’re unable to pull Zhao Yu away.” The others in the dormitory had no choice. Of course, they sided with Xu Tingting as she was the vice class monitor and had good academic performance. However, Zhao Yu was like a mad woman today that they could not separate her from Xu Tingting. The two fought so badly that even their faces were scratched. Those in the dormitory were scared out of their wits.

“Hurry! Find someone. Why are you all still standing there? Look for the auntie in charge of the dormitory!” Wang Li shouted as she stomped her feet.

“Okay!” Some went to look for the auntie in charge of the dormitory while others ran to Qiao Nan’s dormitory to find Zheng Lingling. In fact, it was more appropriate to look for the class monitor, but the class monitor was a boy. Hence, it was not suitable for him to be involved.

“What? Zhao Yu and Xu Tingting are fighting?” Zheng Lingling was shocked. Wasn’t Zhao Yu the lackey of Xu Tingting? Why were the two of them fighting and creating a commotion? “I’ll go and take a look.”

“Nan Nan, are you going?” He Yun gave Qiao Nan, who was lying on the bed, a push.

Qiao Nan rolled over and moved away. “I’m a person whom no classmates like. The student dormitory is only so big, and Zheng Lingling has already gone there. Most likely, people from other dormitories, including those from other classes, are also there to watch the fun. I’ve just finished bathing and don’t wish to perspire again by squeezing with the crowd. It’s not as though this is a game of kids squeezing pork lard.”

This made Tang Mengran, who liked to watch the fun, quietly retracted her legs and leaned on her pillow. Actually, she had already left her bed and was wearing her slippers. “Ah, I’m so tired. Sleep. Sleep.”

Fang Fang secretly gave Qiao Nan a thumbs-up. She then removed her glasses from her nose bridge and lied down on the bed to turn in too. As long as the auntie in charge of the dormitory went over, the fight would end.

True enough, in ten minutes’ time, Zheng Lingling came back. “Xu Tingting was really ‘good’. She splashed her foot bath water on Zhao Yu’s blanket. No wonder Zhao Yu fought with her. Xu Tingting belittled others too much.”

Qiao Nan, who was about to fall asleep, knitted her brows. She was very clear-minded.

Zhao Yu was not someone who would act so rashly. In the past, when Zhao Yu broke her pens, she secretly did it and was never caught red-handed. Although Qiao Nan suspected her, she had no evidence. In the end, she had to trick Zhao Yu into admitting her wrongdoing in front of the teacher.

How was it possible that Zhao Yu fought with Xu Tingting blatantly?

“Did I tell you that after Zhao Yu had a conflict with Xu Tingting previously, she looked for me and wanted to stay in our dormitory?” In the silence, Qiao Nan said with a voice that’s neither too loud nor soft.

“Yes, you did. At that time... wait, Qiao Nan, do you mean...?” He Yun pursed her lips. “I don’t think so. Is Zhao Yu so scheming? We’re all just students.”

Fang Fang habitually adjusted her glasses again, but she could not feel anything on her bare nose bridge. “I’m not sure of other matters, but Xu Tingting is the vice class monitor. She’ll definitely be given a demerit point since she’s involved in a fight and created so much trouble. This will not affect Zhao Yu much, but if Xu Tingting has a black mark in her student record... Tell me, can she still be our vice class monitor?”

“Fang Fang, your words are so scary. You’re scaring me. Is it that complicated? Xu Tingting has a bad temper. She must have bullied Zhao Yu too much and the latter retorted.” Tang Mengran covered her ears. She thought that Xu Tingting was bad enough. Given what Qiao Nan and Fang Fang said, Zhao Yu was worse. “Moreover, if Xu Tingting loses her position as the vice class monitor, Zhao Yu will not be able to assume the role too.”

“Forget it. Let’s not think about it. Sleep early.” Zheng Lingling had the ugliest expression on her face. Regardless of the truth, a black sheep like Zhao Yu definitely could not stay in their dormitory. When the school started, Zhao Yu had already sowed discord by talking bad about Nan Nan to her. If she came to their dormitory, she could not imagine what would happen.

“Lingling, if any situation occurs, we will depend on you. You have to be firm in front of Teacher Liu!” He Yun added, sounding very worried.

“Don’t worry. I know what to do. We definitely can’t let that happen.” Zheng Lingling nodded in a serious manner. She then went to bed with an unsettled heart.

True enough, Teacher Liu got to know about the fight between Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu immediately.

If not for the fact that the auntie in charge of the dormitory arrived in time, the two ladies would have fought more viciously and disfigured each other. Despite arriving in time, the auntie saw that they had already ripped off a lot of hair from each other. They were too merciless.

They had gone overboard and the auntie dared not hide this matter. She directly reported this to Teacher Liu.

As such, Zhao Yu and Xu Tingting were called into the office early in the morning. At the sight of the two students, who were well yesterday, looking like crazy women today, Teacher Liu's face turned black. "Had a fight? You're too daring. Are you asking for demerit points!"

"Teacher Liu, I didn't do it on purpose!" Xu Tingting felt wronged and tears welled up in her eyes. She acted pitiful first. "I've already explained to Zhao Yu and apologized to her. But I didn't know that she'd do that. It's an accident. Nobody wanted it to happen."

Zhao Yu pursed her lips and sneered. "Teacher Liu, I don't believe that Xu Tingting didn't do it on purpose. I'll also not accept Xu Tingting's apology. She splashed her foot bath water on my blanket. Fortunately, it's September now. If it's December or January, what should I do? Xu Tingting purposely reminded me that that's the water used to wash her feet and asked me to wash it today. I feel that if she's really sincere in apologizing to me, she should have taken the initiative to help me wash and dry my blanket. Xu Tingting's apology last night was insincere. She's just cracking wise."

Zhao Yu simply used Xu Tingting's words yesterday to retort the latter and hit her in the face.

Teacher Liu did not know whether to laugh or cry. "Nevertheless, the two of you should not have fought. Zhao Yu, if you thought that Xu Tingting was insincere and you're not satisfied with her attitude, you could have come and look for me."

"Teacher Liu, you don't know anything about it. I can't tolerate this. Xu Tingting's feet stink. I suspect she has athlete's foot. The foot bath water was splashed onto my blanket. The smell is unbearable."

Chapter 265: 'Share Weal and Woe'

“Unfortunately, there isn’t any extra bed in our dormitory. I’m not afraid of catching a cold without the blanket, but I’m afraid I’ll be smoldered to death!” Zhao Yu had a sharp and vicious tongue. The way she put across the matter made Xu Tingting’s face turned pale. “If Xu Tingting’s attitude was more sincere when she apologized, I’d definitely not take it to heart. However, I can’t accept her sarcasm.”

Xu Tingting’s face was pale, but Teacher Liu’s face turned red. He did not expect that Zhao Yu would come up with such a reason. Moreover, Teacher Liu could not ask if Xu Tingting had athlete’s foot or if her feet really stank. After all, Xu Tingting was a young lady.

“You’re talking crap. You’re the one with stinking feet!” Xu Tingting exploded in anger. She never had athlete’s foot and her feet never stank, and she was very particular about personal hygiene. Zhao Yu was obviously talking nonsense!

Zhao Yu laughed in her heart. Yes, she was driveling. But what could Xu Tingting do to her? If Xu Tingting was determined, she could remove her shoes in the office and let Teacher Liu smell whether her feet stank.

“Alright, stop arguing. No matter what, it’s wrong to fight. Xu Tingting, as a class committee member, you should take the lead and set a good example. Judging by the situation, do you think you have fulfilled your duty as the vice class monitor? It’s definitely wrong for Zhao Yu to fight with you. However, Zhao Yu’s words are not without a reason. Since today’s weather is good, take the opportunity to wash Zhao Yu’s blanket. Zhao Yu, you have to apologize to Xu Tingting. The two of you also have to write a letter of self-reflection as soon as possible. If this happens again, I’ll report this to the school directly and let the school put this on official record!”

Teacher Liu had a great headache. Class one of the school had traditionally been labeled as the ‘class of nerds’.

There were advantages to this and Teacher Liu did not mind that his students were not as lively. He was most fearful of encountering students such as Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu who were too ‘lively’.

“Teacher Liu, I have something else to say.” Zhao Yu’s face turned black after hearing that she was to write a self-reflection. She had a streaky clean record in junior high school. Nevertheless, she expected to be punished. She considered herself lucky that they did not put this on record.

“You...” Xu Tingting was anxious. What was Zhao Yu trying to do? She was not done with the matter yet?

It was only at this point that Xu Tingting understood that Zhao Yu was being serious and not joking with her.

The reckless one was afraid of the unreasonable one, and the latter was fearful of those daring ones.

Zhao Yu was not a class committee member, and neither was she holding a junior role such as subject representative or team leader. Hence, Zhao Yu was not afraid of losing any 'official designation'. On the contrary, Xu Tingting cared very much about the vice class monitor position she was holding. Otherwise, she would not be at odds with Qiao Nan.

However, with Zhao Yu stirring up this matter, Xu Tingting might have to step down from the position.

“What’s the matter? Speak.”

“Teacher Liu, although she’s our vice class monitor, Xu Tingting actually led the classmates in our dormitory to isolate and bully me. Since she’s the vice class monitor, everyone in the dormitory listened to her and ignored me. Teacher Liu, if this continues, I’ll feel so stressed and may not be able to continue studying here. I’ve had a few sleepless nights in the dormitory. Each time I carried a basin of water in the dormitory, a selected few in the dormitory would always bump into me ‘coincidentally’, making me spill my water and wet the clothes I’d just changed into. This time, it occurred in September. If this happens again in December, it’ll be hard for me to dry my clothes and blanket.”

In the past one month, Zhao Yu had endured much bullying. What she said earlier was true.

Zhao Yu tolerated until today as she intended to blow up the matter all at once and lodge a vicious complaint against Xu Tingting.

“Is there such a matter?” Teacher Liu was shocked. It had not even been a month since the school started. He did not expect that so much conflict would arise between the students. “Xu Tingting, is this true?”

“No!”

“Really? Then, should I call your dormitory mates in for questioning?” Teacher Liu’s attitude was even more serious. Teacher Liu would definitely not allow the behavior of ganging up to isolate and bully one classmate.

“I...” Xu Tingting’s face turned crimson. She was in tears and finally fearful.

“Fine, judging by your reaction, I know what has happened.” Teacher Liu’s face stiffened. “Xu Tingting, given your character, you’re not suitable to be the vice class monitor. Alright, the two of you should go back and write the self-reflection letter.” He had thought that Xu Tingting was at most a little spoiled, but it seemed that she was also quite mean.

“Teacher Liu, it’s not like that...” Xu Tingting wanted to compete with Qiao Nan for the vice class monitor role. Now, with Zhao Yu stirring this matter up, she had to pull out of the race and Qiao Nan did not even need to lift a finger.

“Alright, go back. If the self-reflection letter is not sincere enough, I’ll not let it pass. I’ll also keep a record of the letters.”

“Teacher Liu, I have a request.” Zhao Yu covered her mouth and smiled secretly.

“What request?” Teacher Liu frowned. He did not like the fact that Zhao Yu had so many issues.

“Teacher, please change my dormitory. Those people have gotten into the habit of bullying me with Xu Tingting. Even if they stop bullying me in the future, they will definitely ignore me.”

“Change your dormitory? But all the dormitory arrangements have already been finalized. Where can you go to?”

“Qiao Nan’s dormitory. I heard that there are two empty beds in their dormitory. I can move to that dormitory. It won’t be too cumbersome.”

Xu Tingting gritted her teeth. She nearly wanted to spit at Zhao Yu, this scheming bitch. After kicking up such a fuss, Zhao Yu’s ultimate objective was actually to move in to Qiao Nan’s dormitory. She had been thinking. Was there a need to blow up the matter in the first place? It even resulted in her losing the vice class monitor position.

In the future, she vowed to be irreconcilable with both Zhao Yu and Qiao Nan.

In fact, Xu Tingting really wanted to expose Zhao Yu in front of Teacher Liu. The matter had been blown up because she was just a pawn of Zhao Yu.

She was now down on her luck, yet Zhao Yu had her wish granted!

After blinking her eyes a couple of times, Xu Tingting let out a long breath. She sneered. No, she would not expose Zhao Yu.

Zhao Yu had been bullied by her for one entire month. In this entire month, Zhao Yu did not even murmur a single word, not to mention picking a fight. She was too careless and oblivious to assume that Zhao Yu was a pushover that could be easily bullied. Zhao Yu was clearly a rattlesnake with shimmering fangs that had been ambushing.

She had already suffered a big loss due to Zhao Yu. It did not make sense to allow Qiao Nan to watch the fun merrily from the side. After all, Qiao Nan was Zhao Yu's junior high school classmate. The two of them could 'go through thick and thin together' for all she cared.

Chapter 266: Consensus to Disagree

If Zhao Yu went to Qiao Nan's dormitory, then she believed it'd be Qiao Nan's turn to lead an exciting life.

"Teacher Liu, can we do that?" In the class, Qiao Nan's dormitory was the only one with vacancies. It was most convenient for her to move to that dormitory.

"I need to confirm this first. You all can go back." Teacher Liu did not agree to the request immediately but neither did he reject it.

"Thanks, Teacher Liu!" Zhao Yu smiled and left the office feeling satisfied.

Xu Tingting gritted her teeth. She also left the office and caught up with Zhao Yu. “Zhao Yu, we’ll wait and see!” This time, Zhao Yu set her up and she became Zhao Yu’s stepping stone. Next time, she would definitely make Zhao Yu suffer.

When she heard Xu Tingting’s warning, Zhao Yu halted her steps for a while. She then continued to move on.

Xu Tingting was never keen on getting along well with her. She had been bullying her for the past month. Even if she did not lodge a complaint against Xu Tingting today, she did not believe that Xu Tingting would stop bullying her.

As such, she was indifferent to Xu Tingting’s ‘wait and see’ threats. At the very least, she had dealt with Xu Tingting and taken revenge for herself.

Xu Tingting reached the classroom slightly earlier than Zhao Yu. At the sight of her table piling with a few exam papers, Xu Tingting was momentarily stunned. “All the papers have been given out? Who’s the top student in the class? What’s the score?”

“Don’t ask anymore.” Wang Li waved her hands to signal to Xu Tingting. It was best if she did not know the answer to the question. Otherwise, Xu Tingting would definitely be so furious that she could forget about sleeping well tonight.

“...” Xu Tingting refused to believe in fate. She took a pen to calculate her aggregate score. At the sight of her result, she was quite satisfied as the average score of her subjects was already ninety-three.

She already knew her result. Next, she had to find a way to find out what Qiao Nan’s score was.

She did not believe that Qiao Nan would fare as well as she did in mathematics for her other subjects. Attaining 100 marks for mathematics was rare, but the Chinese language was more difficult. As long as Qiao Nan dropped the ball in one of the subjects, she would have the opportunity to surpass Qiao Nan in this examination and become the top scorer in the class.

As Xu Tingting looked for the chance to find out how Qiao Nan fared in the examination, it was already noontime in the blink of an eye.

Just as Qiao Nan returned to the classroom after lunch and was preparing for the next lesson, she was called into the office by Teacher Liu.

Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu's reactions were the greatest among the classmates when Qiao Nan was requested to go to Teacher Liu's office.

"What? Zhao Yu will be moving to our dormitory?" Qiao Nan wanted to hold her forehead. What she was most fearful of was happening. She said before that Zhao Yu was not an ordinary seventeen-year-old kid. She was much more scheming than those of the same age.

"Yes. It's regarding this matter. Qiao Nan, what are your thoughts on this?" Teacher Liu asked.

"Teacher Liu, after a month of adjustment, the six of us are finally getting along well and harmoniously. I'm not the only one who stays in the dormitory. If you really wish to know, I think you should also seek the rest of my dormitory mates' opinions."

"How about you? What do you think?" Teacher Liu was more concerned about Qiao Nan's views. "I heard that Zhao Yu was your classmate in junior high school. Both of you have always been in the same class, haven't you? Your relationship with each other should be better than that of typical classmates." After all, both were more familiar with each other.

"Teacher Liu, even if you ask me, it's not appropriate for me to tell you certain things. Can I trouble you to make a call to the junior high school to look for Teacher Chen to have a better understanding?"

"Is it so inappropriate?" Teacher Liu was slightly stunned.

"Yes." Qiao Nan nodded. "After Teacher Liu heard Teacher Chen's words, you should know my stance toward this matter."

"Alright, then you may go back. Call the rest of your dormitory mates here." Qiao Nan's result was not only the best in his class but also the whole school. Moreover, the few young ladies in Qiao Nan's dormitory had good learning attitudes. He could not simply transfer Zhao Yu to their dormitory without careful consideration.

"Thank you, Teacher Liu." Qiao Nan bowed and left. She then called the rest of her dormitory mates to Teacher Liu's office.

“Nan Nan, why is Teacher Liu looking for us?” Tang Mengran asked curiously.

“You’ll know after you make the trip.” Qiao Nan drank some water. She did not wish to remember what Teacher Liu said to her earlier.

“Is it because of Zhao Yu?” Fang Fang was always the most sensitive one. After all, one was called in after another. It was quite obvious.

“It can’t be, can it?” He Yun’s face looked as if she had stepped on dog’s poop.

“Teacher Liu most likely requested to see us to find out how we feel about this. Nan Nan, what did you say? You didn’t agree, did you?” Zheng Lingling was most worried about this. Teacher Liu must have called Nan Nan to his office first because he placed great importance on Nan Nan’s thoughts.

If Nan Nan had agreed, then this matter would be troublesome.

“Am I stupid? I’ve never had chemistry with Zhao Yu. She’s my classmate again in senior high school. Most probably, she regretted not going to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. I used to believe that she would attend The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. Her family is wealthy and she mentioned before that she must become a student of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.” Furthermore, in her previous life, Zhao Yu studied in The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

“That will do.” Zheng Lingling heaved a sigh of relief. “As long as the six of us sing the same tune, I think Teacher Liu will not force us. Let’s go.” After confirming that they did not have differing views, Zheng Lingling was no longer worried.

It was really because Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu had created so much trouble the night before. Zheng Lingling was afraid of troubles. Be it Xu Tingting or Zhao Yu, neither was the type that she could accept.

After discussion, He Yun, Tao Zhenqin and the group of five conveyed the same stance in front of Teacher Liu. They refused to let Zhao Yu stay in their dormitory.

Before the five of them reached Teacher Liu's office, Teacher Liu had already talked to Teacher Chen, Qiao Nan's form teacher in junior high school. As soon as Teacher Chen heard that Zhao Yu would be in the same dormitory as Qiao Nan, he immediately advised Teacher Liu not to allow that. "The kids nowadays are very different from those of our generation. They are quite scheming. In the beginning, I was not pleased because she did not lend Qiao Nan a pen when Qiao Nan's pens broke. Qiao Nan was in a difficult situation and they were classmates. I only knew thereafter that Qiao Nan's few pens were broken all because of... Teacher Liu, tell me. What's happening to the kids nowadays? Why are they so scheming?"

Teacher Chen expressed that he had been a teacher for so many years and had taught so many students. Among them, Zhao Yu gave him the worst impression. She totally changed his perspective and understanding of the kids nowadays.

"As a teacher, we should believe that the students are good-natured and could change for the better even if they committed wrongdoing. But a student like Qiao Nan is hard to come by. It's even harder for her to continue with her studies. We wish to give the student a chance, but we shouldn't gamble it with another student's studies, should we? We can't afford this gamble. If Zhao Yu disrupts Qiao Nan's studies, this will definitely be a loss to Ping Cheng High School."

Chapter 267: The Mail to the Army

Had someone not lent Qiao Nan a pen at that time, she would not have been able to participate in the essay writing competition. In that case, Ping Cheng Junior High school would have lost the championship for that provincial essay writing competition back then!

"Yes, what you have said made sense. I'll consider it carefully." There was no need for Teacher Chen to persuade him. After hearing Teacher Chen's words, Teacher Liu had completely dispelled the thought of sending Zhao Yu to Qiao Nan's dormitory.

Zhao Yu was already so daring when studying in junior high school. She dared to plot against Qiao Nan in that way during the essay competition. They were in senior high school now. Wouldn't it be a walk in the park for Zhao Yu to do something similar to Qiao Nan again?

Most critically, regarding the fight between Zhao Yu and Xu Tingting, Teacher Liu was able to tell that Zhao Yu had become more daring than before. She did not change for the better despite the lesson learned in junior high school.

Thinking about it, did Zhao Yu really have no responsibility at all for the conflict between Xu Tingting and her?

There were a total of eight students in the dormitory and Xu Tingting did not bully anyone else but Zhao Yu.

What if Qiao Nan's studies were affected after Zhao Yu was transferred to her dormitory? That would be really...

"Teacher Liu, we know why you called us here." Zheng Lingling represented the group and came forward. "Teacher Liu, we'll be forthright about it. All the six of us in the dormitory disagree to this."

When Zheng Lingling said that, the rest in the group nodded furiously to express how reluctant they were.

Fang Fang adjusted her glasses. "Teacher Liu, we initially did not want to tell you certain things. We're all classmates and will be in studying together for three years. However, we really can't agree to this. Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu have conflicts with each other and Zhao Yu wants to move to our dormitory. That won't do. In fact, Zhao Yu is greatly responsible for the conflict. Our class one is the only class with two vice class monitors. Because of that, Xu Tingting already disliked Nan Nan. We don't know what Zhao Yu told Xu Tingting. Regardless, Xu Tingting has not been on good terms with Nan Nan, and she keeps targeting Nan Nan."

"That's right. We don't know what happened. All of a sudden, Zhao Yu and Xu Tingting fell out with each other," Tang Mengran added.

"If Zhao Yu is transferred to our dormitory, it will only worsen the conflict," He Yun said sincerely.

"We are really grateful to Teacher Liu for taking the students' opinions seriously. Thank you, Teacher Liu, for giving us the opportunity to express our views. We hope that Teacher Liu can accede to our small request." After making their stand clear, Fang Fang put in a few good words appropriately.

"Alright. I understand your thoughts. You can go back. I know what to do regarding this matter." If Teacher Liu did not ask, he would not know all these. He was shocked to find out that so many things had happened.

"Thank you, Teacher Liu."

Upon hearing Teacher Liu's tone, the five ladies knew that Zhao Yu's transfer to their dormitory was unlikely to happen.

The relaxed look on the faces of He Yun and the group when they returned to the classroom made Xu Tingting laughed. Xu Tingting looked at Zhao Yu as if to say that the latter had lost her face for nothing this time. She was punished to write a letter of self-reflection, but her wish failed to come true.

Zhao Yu was so furious that she simply slammed the ballpoint pen on the table. She nearly cracked the pen's outer shell. Qiao Nan really did not have any love for her classmates. Qiao Nan clearly knew that she had been bullied badly by Xu Tingting but refused to help her. Now, she even ganged up with her other five dormitory mates to deal with and discriminate against her.

In comparison to Xu Tingting, Qiao Nan was not any better!

Moreover, they had been junior high school classmates for three years. Qiao Nan was too malicious. Qiao Nan had better not give her a chance to harm her. Otherwise, she would certainly think of a way to deal with her!

In the face of Xu Tingting's gloating, Zhao Yu curled up one corner of her lips and sneered. She then daringly wrote a number on her own exercise book: thirty. After she wrote that, she lifted it and showed it to Xu Tingting.

Although Xu Tingting had done very well for the four subjects this time, her aggregate score was less than Qiao Nan by exactly thirty marks, neither more nor less.

In other words, Qiao Nan's result for this examination was similar to how she did for the middle school examination. It was exaggerating. She received full marks for more than one subject.

Fang Fang saw what Zhao Yu did and her mood turned sour. If Xu Tingting and Zhao Yu wanted to fight it out, they could do so by themselves. Why did they keep using Nan Nan as the raft? This kind of behavior was detestable.

In the end, Zhao Yu changed her dormitory, but she did not go to Qiao Nan's dormitory. She exchanged dormitory with one of their classmates.

After learning that Zhao Yu and Xu Tingting had a fight with each other, all the students in class one understood the reason for the change.

Teacher Liu had already assigned the tasks. On that day, Xu Tingting made use of noontime to wash and dry Zhao Yu's blanket. The next day, she also handed in the letter of self-reflection in which she wrote her deep regrets to Teacher Liu together with Zhao Yu.

After successfully resolving the matter regarding Zhao Yu's dormitory, Qiao Nan's school life became beautiful again.

On the other hand, it was rare for a certain someone to be in a good mood as though the winter snow had melted and the sky was bright and clear just because of the arrival of a letter.

"Regiment commander, here is a letter for you." The soldier was holding a letter addressed to Zhai Sheng. His eyes were full of curiosity. Having been under regiment commander's wing for so many years, he had hardly seen him receive any letter. The writing on the envelope was straight, small, and sophisticated. It seemed to be written by a lady.

"Bring it here!" Zhai Sheng immediately put down the things on hand and took the letter from the soldier.

Upon taking the letter, Zhai Sheng did not open it anxiously. Instead, he used his hands to feel the thickness and firmness of it. When he felt the square and firm paper had some elasticity, he had a satisfied look on his face.

"Alright, you may leave."

The soldier's feet turned but he continued to face Zhai Sheng. "Regiment commander, who wrote this letter?" What's the content of the letter? From the look on his regiment commander's face, it seemed to have caused a stir in his heart!

"It seems like we had less physical training today. You still look quite energetic." Regiment commander Zhai sneered. "Should I extend it?"

"Haha... No, no need. Please take your time to read, Regiment Commander Zhai. I'm going to run some errands." The soldier's legs turned wobbly and he nearly lost his footing.

Everyone knew that the soldiers in the regiment commander's team had the toughest and most tiring training sessions in the army. He was tired out like a dog every single day. If he had to do additional training, he did not think he could survive anymore.

The soldier not only left but also sensibly closed the door.

"Xiao Jia, why did you go to the regiment commander's office just now?" When Zhou Jun saw Xiao Jia coming out from Zhai Sheng's office, he asked. He was previously summoned to return to the camp and within a day, he really received a mission.

Zhou Jun had just returned to the camp after completing his mission. He was then given a few days' time to allow him to take a break.

In the past, when Zhou Jun was on leave, he would rather stay in the camp. He would not even go home during the Lunar New Year or any other festive occasions. It was rare to be given a few days of leave. This time, Zhou Jun was eager to leave the camp to find that young lady.

Chapter 268: Wish to Marry a Wife

"One week ago, the regiment commander told me that if anyone mail him a letter, I have to hand it to him directly. More than a week has passed, and I thought that the letter would not come. Who knows that it would come today. Company commander, do you know that the regiment commander treated the letter as if it's very precious? He won't even let me see it." Xiao Jia's busybody character was burning with curiosity. "Company commander, who do you think wrote to the regiment commander? Is it possible that, ahem, the regiment commander's heart is moved and he has taken a liking to someone?"

"Impossible. Don't talk nonsense." Zhou Jun was also concerned about Zhai Sheng's love life, but he would not be a big mouth. "It's not like we don't know the regiment commander's family situation. Most likely, he may not even have a say in who he will marry in the future. Didn't someone say before that the regiment commander will be getting engaged with Battalion Commander Qiu's younger sister?"

The regiment commander was born into a good family and he was also very capable. However, many people would not remember the regiment commander's ability because of his family

background. They all said that the regiment commander relied on his family for his achievements today.

The regiment commander's career path in the army was definitely smoother than his, but it was not too bad for him either. He was willing to take it a step at a time.

In his lifetime, he was more fortunate than the regiment commander because he was able to decide whom to marry as his wife. Moreover, his parents liked Nan Nan so much.

"You're not making sense. Does the regiment commander seem like the kind of person with a good temper? Company commander, did you watch too many TV dramas? The regiment commander has a tough character. A wife is someone you marry to live with for the rest of your life. If you don't like her, why do you still want to marry her? It's not meaningful at all." Xiao Jia shook his head. Anyway, he did not believe that the regiment commander did not have a say in this.

"By the way, company commander, what's wrong with you these past couple of days? You've been restless and moving around too much, seemingly having a lot under your butt. Company commander, what happened to you?"

"What kind of description was that?" Zhou Jun slapped Xiao Jia's head. "I'm trying to think of ways to marry your company commander's wife-to-be."

Nan Nan was in senior high school now. He heard that she had to stay in the school dormitory and would not be home every week.

What if Nan Nan was at school when he looked for her? Wouldn't he have missed the opportunity then?

His heart ached at the thought of him finally having an excuse to interact more with Qiao Nan through the military training and deepen their understanding of each other only to lose the opportunity in the end. It was such a pity!

"So something did happen after all! How does our little sister-in-law look like? Is she pretty?" Xiao Jia's eyes lit up. Had spring eventually arrived for the bachelors in his army?!

"Little sister-in-law?" At the thought of Qiao Nan's age, Zhou Jun revealed a sweet and love-sick smile, one that made Xiao Qiao have goose pimples immediately. "You didn't address her wrong.

This little sister-in-law of yours is really young. So, if your company commander, yours truly, really wants to marry her, I have to tough it out for a few years.”

“How young is too young? Company commander, how can you bear to do that?” Xiao Jia covered his teeth. “Don’t tell me she’s a young student?”

“Do you think I’m sick in the mind? Your little sister-in-law is a student, but she’s already a senior high school student. Her results are excellent!” Zhou Jun could not help giving Xiao Jia a punch. He didn’t use too much strength, though.

“Alright alright alright, how could the sister-in-law our company commander has taken a liking to not be good?” Xiao Jia pleaded for mercy continuously. “If the letter earlier was really written to our regiment commander by a young lady... Ah, our team will have lots of blossoming romance this year. Company commander, if you have a chance, please bring our little sister-in-law here and let us take a look so that we can formally acknowledge her.”

“Don’t worry, of course I will.” Zhou Jun agreed readily.

Zhou Jun was in a good mood at the mention of Qiao Nan. On the other hand, Zhai Sheng, who was reading the letter in his office, was in a better mood than Zhou Jun.

Zhai Sheng not only wrote to Qiao Nan to warn her not to be involved in a romantic relationship at a young age but also requested her to send him a photo of herself.

Although Qiao Nan did not understand why Zhai Sheng requested for her photo, since she was used to obeying Zhai Sheng, she did as she was told without questioning. She used the money Zhai Sheng gave her to take a half-body photo and mailed it to Zhai Sheng.

The palm-sized photo was not big. The young lady in the photo looked like she was being held gently in his hands. She was fair and crisp-looking. Her bright black eyes looked like shining pearls, smiling in the shape of a crescent. She had tiny cherry-like red lips. Her long black hair was tied into a ponytail, with a few mischievous strands curling by the side of her ears. This made the beautiful young lady more feminine and ladylike.

As he touched the face of the young lady in the photo, Zhai Sheng was like the melting ice lake in spring. There were gentle ripples on the calm surface, rendering people with no choice but to sway together with him.

If anyone saw Zhai Sheng's expression at that moment, they would definitely exclaim in shock for having seen a ghost!

Zhai Sheng restrained his smile and took out his wallet as he regained his serious composure. He compared the size of the wallet with the photo. Thereafter, he carefully trimmed Qiao Nan's photo to the usual size of a photo from a photo studio. It was neither big nor small. The size was just right for the transparent slot in his wallet. Qiao Nan's portrait could be seen clearly and was positioned right in the center of the slot.

The wallet photo of the 20th century was born.

After confirming repeatedly that there was no issue with the photo, Zhai Sheng then put away his wallet carefully and started reading the letter from Qiao Nan.

In her letter, Qiao Nan expressed in a serious tone that she was not prepared to be romantically involved in senior high school and neither was she prepared to do so in college. When he read this, Zhai Sheng's expression was both pleased and worried.

He was glad that he would not have any rivals in romance for Qiao Nan's three years in senior high school. He was worried because he had planned to formally ask Qiao Nan to be his girlfriend and fiancée when she attended college. Subsequently, when Qiao Nan reached legal age, he intended to marry Qiao Nan.

Before he could think further about this matter, Zhai Sheng's face turned black when he saw the contents that followed.

The key that he had given to his wife-to-be had been taken back by his mother?

Although Qiao Nan wrote in the letter clearly that she was the one who returned the key, Zhai Sheng understood his mother's character too well. His mother must have shown an unpleasant expression. Qiao Nan had to return the key as she did not want to make his mother unhappy.

It was not clearly written in the letter as to what exactly happened, but Zhai Sheng, as usual, was able to decipher that Qiao Nan must have suffered in this matter.

Every time Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin created a fuss, Qiao Nan would suffer the most and be the only one who had to endure the anger.

After reading the letter, Zhai Sheng put it away properly and immediately made a phone call. “Hello, Zhai Sheng, why do you have the spare time to call me today?” Zhai Hua’s slurry voice could be heard from the other end of the call.

“Let me ask you. Did you all take back Nan Nan’s key?”

“Nan Nan? Who’s that?” Zhai Hua’s mind was in a whirlwind. She had not realized who the ‘Nan Nan’ mentioned by her biological brother was. Did her brother know someone called Nan Nan? “Oh, are you referring to Qiao Nan?” At the mention of Qiao Nan, Zhai Hua’s tone sounded guilty.

Chapter 269: The Mother and Daughter-In-Law Problem

“Do you want to give me an explanation or should I investigate and increase your punishment?” Zhai Sheng pursed his lips in anger.

The two of them grew up together. Zhai Hua’s tone was obviously an expression of her guilt!

“Don’t do that. If you wish to know, I’ll tell you.” Zhai Hua honestly confessed the whole matter. “Zhai Sheng, Qiao Nan is very unlucky. Her situation is worse than what you have described. What kind of mother is that? With such a mother, Qiao Nan will really be down on luck for life.”

After Qiao Nan left that day, Zhai Hua was heartbroken at the thought of Ding Jiayi’s and Qiao Zijin’s behavior.

Those who were sharp and clear-minded had all spoken up to reprimand Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin, particularly Ding Jiayi, who was nearly thrown at with rotten eggs. She did not know why Ding Jiayi could still be so thick-skinned. Her face had clearly turned crimson and she should have just left quietly.

Unexpectedly, Ding Jiayi followed her and questioned how she got to know Qiao Nan. She even said Qiao Nan had given her so much trouble. Ding Jiayi would like to thank her properly and treat her to a meal for helping Qiao Nan so much, saying that she would ask Qiao Nan to invite her.

Initially, Zhai Hua did not wish to take the key back. But at the sight of Ding Jiayi's shameless behavior, Zhai Hua had to agree wholeheartedly with Qiao Nan's decision.

If she were to say Ding Jiayi did not have a sense of shame, then why had Ding Jiayi's face turned crimson that day? She had thought that Ding Jiayi was so embarrassed that her blood pressure would rise and cause her to faint on the spot. She had never expected Ding Jiayi to be able to endure it.

If she were to say Ding Jiayi had a sense of shame, then why did Ding Jiayi keep pestering her mother and her? It's so shameless of her.

She had only interacted with Ding Jiayi for a short while and already had a stomach full of anger. Zhai Hua truly pitied Qiao Nan for having Ding Jiayi as a mother. Qiao Nan had to tolerate Ding Jiayi for her entire life until Ding Jiayi's death.

It's too miserable!

"So, when Nan Nan was bullied, you were just standing and watching from the side?" Zhai Sheng was such an intelligent person. Although Zhai Hua had skipped those scenarios that were disadvantageous to her, Zhai Sheng was still able to notice them without missing any of it. "Zhai Hua, you've become more daring."

"Don't be angry. At that time, I didn't really know Qiao Nan. All this while, I've been hearing from you about her situation. I didn't know what kind of person Qiao Nan is. Dad taught us from a young age not to use only our ears, but also our eyes and heart to experience things. I've used my eyes and heart to feel what was happening. After this incident, I decided to stand on your side completely. It's been hard on Qiao Nan. Besides, let me warn you in advance. Mom doesn't seem to like Qiao Nan. Then, your feelings toward Qiao Nan..."

They were born from the same mother. How could Zhai Hua not feel the change in Zhai Sheng?

"When she's legally an adult, I'll register the marriage and marry her. She'll be your sister-in-law," Zhai Sheng answered without any reservation.

"Are you serious?!" He had already thought of registering the marriage!!!

“Yes, I am. So, you should know what to do in the future.” If Zhai Hua helped Nan Nan, Nan Nan would have a better life in the Zhai family.

“But...” Zhai Hua sighed. “It’s not as though you don’t know what Dad and Mom think. They hope that you’ll be together with Qiu Chenxi. The worse thing is that Qiu Chenxi likes you. She has been finding excuses to come to our house to look for Mom. You should understand what she wants.”

The mother and daughter-in-law conflict had traditionally been a major problem. Her mother not only disliked Qiao Nan but also had another suitable daughter-in-law candidate in mind.

“Zhai Sheng, if you truly love Qiao Nan, you have to spare more thoughts for her. I’m not going to bring up her mother again. She has to deal with such an extreme mother before she’s married. Don’t let her face a mother-in-law who dislikes her after marriage for the rest of her life. Although Mom is different from Ding Jiayi, her psychological abuse is quite formidable.” Zhai Hua was thoughtful for both Qiao Nan’s and Zhai Sheng’s sakes.

If the mother and daughter-in-law problem was not resolved, Zhai Sheng would not have a good life in the future either. Zhai Sheng would lose more than he gain if this affected his future.

“I’ve already thought about this. I’ll let Nan Nan follow me to the army.” In this way, even if her mother did not like Nan Nan, Nan Nan also did not need to face her every day. That would only make them both unhappy.

“This will do. I’ve worried for nothing.” Zhai Hua patted her head. She was really muddle-headed. Why didn’t she think of this? “It looks like you’ve considered everything. Tell me honestly. That plan of yours, is it to resolve her problem with Mom or do you wish to keep her by your side so that you can see her every day?”

“Beep, beep, beep...”

Zhai Hua had yet to receive a response from Zhai Sheng, but the latter had already hung up as soon as he found out the information he was looking for.

“This young brat, don’t ask for my help in the future if you’re capable!” Zhai Hua felt that she had been kicked to the curb after outliving her usefulness. She was so angry that she nearly broke the phone.

After knowing that Qiao Dongliang had moved out of the quad for the sake of Qiao Nan and that Ding Jiayi's attitude had changed for the better, Zhai Sheng felt much better.

Suddenly, he heard a knock on his door.

"Come in."

"Regiment commander, I have some matters to attend to and I wish to leave the camp for three days." Zhou Jun was holding a request report as he stepped into Zhai Sheng's office.

"Three days? Where are you going?" Looking at Zhou Jun's report, Zhai Sheng did not sign immediately.

"Reporting to regiment commander, my parents are not young anymore. My family has been reminding me to settle my marriage. So, I hope to look for my wife-to-be." Zhou Jun could not endure any longer. He wished to look for Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was young, pretty, and good in her studies. She was such a good lady. If he did not watch after her properly, she would definitely be kidnapped by other wild lads!

"Okay." Zhai Sheng signed his big name to approve Zhou Jun's leave.

According to Zhai Sheng's prediction, Qiao Nan would not be at home this weekend. She would be at school. Furthermore, Qiao Nan did not stay in the quad anymore. Zhou Jun would only meet Ding Jiayi if he looked for her there.

"Thank you, Regiment Commander Zhai." Zhou Jun's eyes lit up. He was happy that Zhai Sheng had approved his request. He did not know that he would be making a wasted trip and had to deal with someone he hated to deal with.

As Zhai Sheng had expected, Zhou Jun ran to the house of the Qiao family, but he did not see Qiao Nan. He did not even meet Ding Jiayi. This was because Ding Jiayi was preparing dinner for Qiao Dongliang at the rented apartment.

Ding Jiayi was trying her luck to delay the time, but Qiao Dongliang would not let her stay overnight. Ding Jiayi had to return home unwillingly. By that time, the sky was already dark and Zhou Jun had already gone home.

Nevertheless, Zhou Jun found out from the neighbors that something had happened to the Qiao family again, and Qiao Dongliang had moved away with Qiao Nan.

When he heard about the situation of the Qiao family, Zhou Jun felt extremely awkward and did not know what to do. If he simply looked for them directly, would it leave a bad impression on Qiao Dongliang? After all, dirty linen should not be aired in public. If Nan Nan became angry because of this, he would be making a fool of himself.

Chapter 270: Rejected

After much consideration, Zhou Jun was determined to apply for a leave so that he could make his presence known and create an impression in the Qiao family. He did not expect that he would make a wasted trip.

As such, just as what Zhai Sheng had predicted, Zhou Jun came enthusiastically but left solemnly.

Qiao Nan, who was having lessons at school, did not know that Zhou Jun made a special trip to the quad to look for her after he completed his mission. Since Zhao Yu's plan to be transferred to Qiao Nan's dormitory failed, the more she could not see eye to eye with Qiao Nan.

Facing Zhao Yu's cold and eccentric behavior, Qiao Nan was not surprised or affected at all. Zhao Yu could behave in whatever way she liked.

Xu Tingting was obviously more street smart than Zhao Yu. Although her detest for Qiao Nan was not less than Zhao Yu, she was able to smile at Qiao Nan in front of and behind others. Nevertheless, Xu Tingting dared not touch those letters that belonged to Qiao Nan anymore.

In the first half of the semester, Qiao Nan had consecutively received ten letters from Chen Jun.

At the sight of that stack of letters, Qiao Nan slammed her table. For two lifetimes, Chen Jun was always so patient when he wooed a girl. Clearly, she had not replied to Chen Jun during the past

two months despite having received his letters intermittently. Nevertheless, Chen Jun did not seem to mind at all and had been continuously sending her letters.

Qiao Nan pulled the corners of her lips. She patted Zhu Baoguo's shoulder. "Where's the big envelope that I requested you to prepare?" It was not easy to find this type of big envelope for putting official documents, but Zhu Baoguo had many of those at home.

"I thought that you don't want it anymore." Zhu Baoguo took out a yellow envelope about the size of A4 and passed it to Qiao Nan. "Why do you need such a big envelope?"

"Nothing. To settle some thrash." Qiao Nan placed all the letters from Chen Jun into the envelope. She also included a slip of her handwritten note. Thereafter, she wrote the address, pasted the stamp, and dropped the envelope into the postbox.

"Chen Jun, you have mail." Within a week, Chen Jun received Qiao Nan's letter. "Chen Jun, who sent you this letter? The envelope is so big and it is so heavy. There seems to be quite a lot of stuff inside."

"Thanks." Chen Jun smiled nonchalantly. When he took the letter and saw the address on the envelope, he smiled. After enduring for two months, Qiao Nan finally relented.

Nevertheless, Qiao Nan was already the most restrained and sensible girl among the ones he knew. She was hard to come by.

However, if he revealed his family background to Qiao Nan, he wondered how much longer Qiao Nan could hold on.

Chen Jun was also famous at school. It was not only those girls in his class who had a crush on him and wrote him love letters. There were many other girls from different courses who fancied him as well. When Chen Jun received the letter, one of the girls in his class announced, "Chen Jun, who wrote this letter to you? It's so big. The recipient is really sincere."

It would be great if Chen Jun simply tore the love letter he received and threw it into the rubbish bin just like he always did.

"A little sister in Ping Cheng."

“A little sister? Chen Jun, I recall that you’re the only son. Where did your sister come from? Maternal or paternal cousin?” The male classmate was curious too. Many ladies surrounded Chen Jun indeed, but it was already the second year in college and he had not seen him on close terms with any girl. Chen Jun himself had never admitted that he had a girlfriend either.

“Neither of those.” Chen Jun was not eager to open the letter in front of so many pairs of eyes. Even if he wanted to read it, he would read it alone. He was reluctant to have so many bystanders.

As such, the female classmates’ hopes of Chen Jun immediately destroying the letter were, of course, dashed.

“Aiyoyo, she’s not your paternal or maternal cousin and you didn’t tear this letter. Chen Jun, did something happen? Confess honestly. Is she your childhood sweetheart?!” The male classmate refused to let go of Chen Jun and demanded an explanation.

Many girls in the class were stretching their necks, waiting for Chen Jun to ‘appoint’ them to be his girlfriend.

As long as Chen Jun did not have a girlfriend, the girls from his class and other courses would not give up. As a result, his male classmates who were looking for love could not find anyone to be their girlfriend.

“Childhood sweetheart? It’s not wrong to say that either.” Qiao Nan is still young. If he dated her at this time, he would be the prince charming appearing before the young lady at the right time.

“Oh my, are you serious?” The male student was only joking. He didn’t expect that his dream would come true. Chen Jun was in a relationship with someone. “We have so many pretty ladies in the school. There are course belle, school belle, and many others, but you don’t fancy any of them. How does your childhood sweetheart look like? Can we take a look?”

“Haven’t you heard of the saying that beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder? Alright. Move aside. I’m going back to my dormitory.” The class had ended and Chen Jun did not intend to dillydally in the classroom. He held the heavy mail from Qiao Nan and returned to his dormitory.

“Ladies in the class, please give up. Chen Jun already has a childhood sweetheart and they’re very close to each other. Even if this young sweetheart is not as good-looking as you, Chen Jun has said

that beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. In his eyes, his childhood sweetheart is the prettiest. There's no hope toward Chen Jun now. We have many singles here in our class. Please don't miss out on this opportunity."

When the news, perceived to be great by the guys in the class, was announced, a wail of despair resounded in the audience. Undoubtedly, it came from the ladies in the class.

When Chen Jun returned to his dormitory, no one was around. It was thus convenient for him to open the letter.

When he opened the big envelope, Chen Jun saw many smaller letters in it. Chen Jun's face turned black instantly. He then poured out all the letters from the big envelope.

Of course, he recognized his own handwriting. At one glance, Chen Jun was able to confirm that Qiao Nan had returned him all the letters he mailed to her previously.

The sight of the letters looked like they had not been opened before. Chen Jun's eyes were dark and gloomy, akin to the dark clouds in June, which made people dared not go near him.

All this while, Chen Jun had been the one rejecting the members of the opposite gender. This was the first time that he was 'slapped in the face' by a girl. Furthermore, the other party was a young lady. This was really a 'fresh and new' experience for Chen Jun.

Chen Jun curled his lips and sneered. He then quietly stacked the letters that he wrote to Qiao Nan one by one and clipped them. Lastly, he opened the note written by Qiao Nan. It said 'I am really sorry. The first letter was opened by Xu Tingting'.

That simple note from Qiao Nan only conveyed one message: she had never read any of Chen Jun's letters. In other words, she was not interested in Chen Jun.

The saddened ladies in Chen Jun's class did not seem to know that this 'little sweetheart' of Chen Jun could not be bothered at all with their prince charming.