

## **RTAMM 411**

### Chapter 411: The Wang Family Was in Trouble

However, Gao Yan knew that he did not need to thank God. The one he needed to thank was Qiao Nan.

After listening to it for a long while, Qiao Nan finally understood what had happened. “So it is like this.”

“Thank you,” Gao Yan said very seriously.

“Well, allow me to ask an impolite question. If this is the case, the person who should thank me is Fang Fang. Why would you thank me on her behalf?” Gao Yan seemed to have some feelings for Fang Fang.

“It was my fault that Fang Fang went down a dead end and was bent on choosing the science course. If she chose the wrong class because of me and ruined her future, I would have to bear the responsibility. Your unintentional words have affected Fang Fang and resulted in her making the correct decision. You have corrected the mistake that I made in the past, thus I have to thank you.”

Gao Yan was one of the top students in The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. He would not be stumped by Qiao Nan’s question.

“Is that so? I understand.” Qiao Nan shot Gao Yan another glance. “If there is nothing else, I have to go back to the classroom. I have caught a cold, and I feel cold standing outside.” Besides, it was so late. Was there no nighttime self-study at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China? Was it alright for Gao Yan to come all the way to her school to look for her?

“I am sorry.” Gao Yan blushed slightly. He was so glad that Fang Fang could change her mind that he did not notice that Qiao Nan had a cold.

At Qiao Nan’s mention, Gao Yan noticed that Qiao Nan’s voice had a nasal-sounding timbre to it. “Sorry for disturbing you. I will get going.”

Gao Yan then deftly stepped onto the perimeter wall of Ping Cheng High School and jumped over to the other side of the wall. Qiao Nan was left gaping in shock.

Did he have the habit of climbing over the walls?

Why was it that both Brother Zhai and Gao Yan had the habit of climbing over the walls?

Wait a minute. Since Gao Yan climbed over the wall to Ping Cheng High School, did it mean that Gao Yan actually skipped classes and climbed over the wall to leave The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China?

When Qiao Nan went back to the classroom with a stunned look on her face, Zhu Baoguo was already in the classroom. “Where have you been? I heard a good-looking kid was looking for you. Who is he?”

“Gao Yan.”

Zhu Baoguo had never heard of Gao Yan. Who was he? How dare he tried to talk to Xiao Qiao with him around!

“Don’t misunderstand. Gao Yan is Fang Fang’s childhood sweetheart. He has nothing to do with me. He came looking for me due to Fang Fang.” Qiao Nan took a sip of hot water and her itchy throat finally felt slightly comfortable.

Zhu Baoguo relaxed slightly. “So he was not here for you. Fang Fang’s childhood sweetheart? I have not heard about such a boy in our school, though?”

“He is not from our school. He is from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.”

“A student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China came to our school at this time! What a bad boy!” Zhu Baoguo used to be mischievous, thus he was aware that Gao Yan must have skipped his classes in order to come at this time. “Since he is Fang Fang’s childhood sweetheart, why didn’t he study at Ping Cheng High School?”

Since Gao Yan could climb over the walls of his school to come to another school all for the sake of Fang Fang, and Ping Cheng High School could be considered as a first tier high school as well, why did he not transfer to this school for Fang Fang's sake?

Qiao Nan sneaked a peek at Fang Fang. "According to my guess, these childhood sweethearts are having some conflicts. Gao Yan is a level higher than us. He is in his second year like Qiao Zijin. I guess his initial intention was to wait for Fang Fang to go to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. However, even though Fang Fang was admitted to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, she chose Ping Cheng High School instead."

"It's so complicated?" Zhu Baoguo, who was less sensitive to these things, found that it very complicated for him to understand.

"Alright, since you are clueless, you should not worry about other people's affairs." Qiao Nan shot Zhu Baoguo a disdainful look. Zhu Baoguo did not need to be concerned about others. He should be concerned about his own affairs.

"By the way, there is something I forgot to tell you."

"What is it?"

"Wang Yang." Zhu Baoguo's eyes lit up at the mention of Wang Yang. "It seems like my uncle has met some troubles recently. My auntie has been coming over to my house and seeking my dad's help. You should know that people from the Wang family are up to no good, yet they pretend to be good and upright. Without my dad, could Wang Qinglin achieve what he has today? Whenever he has anything to ask of my dad, he will not speak to him directly. My auntie will speak to my grandpa and he will talk to my dad. This time, it is somewhat strange. My auntie comes to my house every day for about half a month, but it seems like the trouble remains unresolved. Xiao Qiao, what do you think happened to the Wang family? My auntie has been given cold treatment, yet she does not give up and keeps coming to my house. I remember the Wang family likes to keep up appearances."

Zhu Baoguo was very much against the Wang family.

Whenever the Wang family encountered any problem, they would come asking for help. Zhu Qin would always be the one who came to ask for help on behalf of the Wang family.

In the end, when everything was settled, the Wang family would behave as if Zhu Qin was too willful to seek help from the Zhu family and that they could not stop her from causing trouble to the Zhu family. They acted as though they had no problem settling the problem given their capability.

Zhu Baoguo felt disgusted at the Wang family's behavior.

Whatever the Wang family said was putting the Zhu family down.

They said the Zhu family had doted and pampered on Zhu Qin such that she was too willful and stubborn and that nobody dared to persuade her to rein in her temper.

It was nonsense!

He believed that it must have been the Wang family who encouraged his auntie to seek help from her parents.

Grandpa had said that before his auntie got married, she was very good to Zhu Baoguo. The Wang family obviously had a bad influence on her.

According to the Wang family's usual style, if the Zhu family still refused to help after Zhu Qin came asking for help three times, the Wang family would solve the problem themselves so as to preserve their dignity.

However, his auntie kept coming to the Zhu family to ask for help this time around. Zhu Baoguo was puzzled and surprised.

"Have you ever asked your grandpa or your dad?" Qiao Nan lowered her eyes.

"Of course I did, but Grandpa refused to say a word. As for my dad, I only get to see him a few times in a year. It will be useless to call him on the phone. I suppose he will not say anything as well." He could not even get his grandpa to say anything, let alone his father.

Now that Elder Zhu and Zhu Chengqi refused to tell him what happened, Zhu Baoguo was all the more interested to find out what happened.

Zhu Baoguo could not think of a solution. He could only discuss it with Qiao Nan, hoping that she would come up with some ideas.

#### Chapter 412: Cozy Up to Someone Powerful

“Even if you know what happened to the Wang family, what can you do about it? Are you thinking of coming up with tricks to make matters worse?” Zhu Baoguo was asking for trouble. It was already good enough that he could stay sharp and was aware of the traps that Wang Yang had for him. Why would he have the audacity to meddle with the Wang family’s affairs?

“Xiao Qiao, you must not dampen my spirits. It will be good for me to know and learn more. You can’t deprive me of the opportunity to learn and improve!” Zhu Baoguo was displeased. He was clueless in the past. Now that he knew, he was learning and making progress!

Zhu Baoguo was so noisy that Qiao Nan could not concentrate on her book. She put down her book and asked, “Then, what do you want?”

“I want to find out what happened to the Wang family. Since the Wang family asked us to help them, my goal is to mess things up so that the Wang family can no longer take advantage of us and pretend that they are the ones who suffered.” Given that the Wang family behaved unlike their usual ways, it proved that what happened this time was very serious and not easy to deal with.

“As you said, there is only one purpose for the Wang family to keep coming to the Zhu family, and that is to ask for help. When you are back at home next week, you can sound your grandpa out. You can say that Zhu Qin is your auntie, and you can’t bear seeing her coming over to the Zhu family’s residence every single day, so you want to know whether it is possible to help her this time.”

“Isn’t the question too general?” He wanted to know the details.

Qiao Nan pursed her lips and said, “You should come up with ideas by yourself. Don’t forget about Grandpa Lee as well. Zhu Qin is Grandpa Zhu’s daughter. Since one doesn’t wash dirty linen in public and Zhu Qin is your auntie, he may not tell you everything. But Grandpa Lee is different. You are his only grandson. After Wang Yang plotted against you previously, he is very concerned about you. If you ask Grandpa Lee, I’m sure he will tell you everything. You must use your brain and maintain your relationship with Grandpa Lee. You should not neglect him just because you are not used to being close with him.”

Qiao Nan wished she could give Zhu Baoguo a smack on the head. “Why don’t you learn from Wang Yang and be close with whoever that will bring you benefits? The Zhu family is influential. Hence, Wang Yang stays close to Grandpa Zhu. Think about it. Isn’t Grandpa Lee just as influential? Why don’t you cozy up to him? Grandpa Zhu has to spare a thought for your auntie and subsequently, he will preserve the dignity of the Wang family. But Grandpa Lee won’t. You should make full use of this.”

Zhu Baoguo slapped his head. “That’s right! How could I forget about this? When I go back this time around, I will have to stay at the Lee family’s residence over the weekend. I won’t stay at the Zhu family’s residence.”

“In any case, if you want to know about the workings of the adult world, you do not need to ask Grandpa Zhu. You should ask Grandpa Lee instead.”

She heard that Elder Lee was the one who taught and guided her father.

At that time, when her father was in the army, he had a very good interpersonal relationship with his colleagues. That was why he almost became a battalion commander at a young age.

Since Elder Lee put in so much effort on the son of his old friend, he would definitely teach his only grandson everything that he knew.

“Alright, now that you have sorted out your thoughts, I want to continue with my reading. Don’t disturb me anymore. By the way, after you figure it out, let me know the details.” Qiao Nan opened her book, lost in her thoughts. Wang Yang not only worked with Chen Jun to plot against her, but he also dragged her mother and Qiao Zijin into it.

If the Wang family was down on their luck, her mother and Qiao Zijin would be having a hard time as well.

The Wang family was busy with solving their own problems.

She did not believe that Wang Yang, who had the interests of the Wang family as his priority, would have the time and effort to work on her until she stayed away from Zhu Baoguo.

Wang Yang did not seem like the type of person who did not know how to sort out his priorities.

Zhu Baoguo did not think much about it. He smiled and agreed. "Alright, no problem. Wait for my good news."

"Dad, I am back." Qiao Nan's days were fully occupied with her schoolwork and studies that the first half of the second semester seemed to have passed in the blink of an eye.

"You are so early today. Are you having midterm exams?"

"Yes." Qiao Nan nodded. "Dad, Brother Yang is married?" Looking at the pile of wedding candies on the table, Qiao Nan asked out of curiosity.

"That's right. It's a pity that you missed it. It was really lively. Uncle Yang spent a lot of money to invite his relatives and friends to the wedding dinner. The bride is quite pretty. Brother Yang is blessed." At the mention of the wedding, Qiao Dongliang seemed to be in high spirits as if he was marrying off his children.

In fact, Qiao Dongliang had really thought about it. When he saw that the Yang family had such a lively and happy wedding, he could not help but think about how it would be like when Qiao Nan got married in the future. "How's the midterm exam?"

"It's about the same as before."

"That's very good." Qiao Dongliang beamed with happiness. He was way more exhilarated than he was when he talked about the wedding in the Yang family. "Nan Nan, is there anything that you will like to eat? I will prepare it for you."

"Dad, I will eat whatever you prepare. The stir-fried spicy chicken was very delicious. Should we settle on that?" Qiao Nan did not get to eat stir-fried spicy chicken at the canteen in school. She could only have them at home.

"Sure. I will buy some fresh chicken tomorrow." Qiao Dongliang looked very energetic, completely different from his gloomy look from a month ago.

Qiao Nan sat down, her eyes swirling with thoughts. She looked at Qiao Dongliang. "Dad, it's been more than a month. Have you been to see Mom and sister? Did they come looking for you?"

Since the Wang family had encountered some troubles, Wang Yang should not have the time for her mother and Qiao Zijin. Without his support, her mother and Qiao Zijin would definitely come back to Qiao Dongliang for money.

Qiao Dongliang was slow to react. He smiled and replied, “No. Why did you mention your mom and sister?”

“Nothing in particular. It’s just that I heard from Zhu Baoguo that the Wang family is very busy recently. Wang Yang is in his third year of junior high school. He has to study and worry about his family, so...”

Qiao Dongliang was silent. He then smiled in a mixture of mockery and indifference. “Your mom and sister are very capable. If Wang Yang is busy and forgets about them, they can take care of themselves. We don’t have to worry.”

“Oh, I will listen to whatever Dad says.” It was all for the better that Qiao Dongliang did not wish to pay more attention to Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi.

However, she had been used to Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin creating troubles for her. She could not help but feel odd that they had been quiet and without any news for more than a month. Qiao Nan was not used to it. It was not that she was asking for trouble, but she was worried that they would be up to no good.

This was like the calm before the storm!

Chapter 413: Boyfriend from Nowhere

It seemed like the saying ‘The good never comes true, but the bad comes true’ was very right.

Or rather, Qiao Nan had sensed something, thus she mentioned her mother and sister to Qiao Dongliang.

After making a brief phone call to Zhai Sheng, Qiao Nan rushed back to school on the weekend afternoon.



Qiao Nan had yet to arrive at school, but there was already a boy pushing around with the guards at about ten meters away from the school gate. The boy seemed to want to enter Ping Cheng High School but was stopped by the guards.

“I have already said no. You are not a student from our school, so you can’t enter our school. Today is the weekend. Why aren’t you going back to your school? Why did you come here? Go back.” The guards were helpless. Fortunately, there were not many people like him. Otherwise, they would be very busy.

“I have said that my... my girlfriend is studying at this school. I am here to see her. Please let me in.” The boy’s face was flushed. It seemed that he had to muster his courage to say that his girlfriend was in that school.

Qiao Nan noted that he was here to look for his girlfriend.

But on second thought, she found it odd. The students in their school would use going to the library as an excuse when they were in a relationship. They would never dare to address each other as boyfriend or girlfriend.

“Impossible. Students in our school do not go into a relationship. We are very strict with our students. What school are you from?” The guards were mad. Ping Cheng High School was a good school and was very strict. It was impossible for the students to go into a relationship and for the party concerned to come looking for them at school.

“I...” The boy stuttered and did not say which school he was from.

“Hey, look at his pants. Isn’t that the school uniform of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China?” One of the students who walked into the school noticed the pants that the boy wore and pointed out that the uniform was that of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

“The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China?” The guard looked at the boy in surprise. “Do your teachers allow you to get into a relationship? If so, do so at your school.” One should not mess around with the female students in their school.

“I-I’m not...” The boy looked very awkward and embarrassed. He wanted to deny but his pants gave himself away.

The boy had no other way but to come up with another idea. “Why don’t we do this? I won’t go into the school. Can you let my girlfriend come out to see me? She is very shy. You can tell her that someone is looking for her. In fact, I don’t really want to affect her reputation at school.”

“Oh.” The guards glared at the boy. He had already created such a fuss, yet he said he did not want to affect his girlfriend’s reputation at school. He must be bluffing.

It would only take a day for the teachers and students in their school to know that a female student from their school was in a relationship with a male student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China and that he came to the school to look for her.

The guard was upset. Since they did not concentrate on their studies but went into a relationship, they must not be good students. He must report to the principal so that he would do something about it. “Who is your girlfriend? I will let her know.”

“Qiao Nan.” The boy’s eyes lit up. He was especially excited at saying her name.

“...”

“...”

Several students at the school entrance were stunned upon hearing Qiao Nan’s name. They stared dazedly at the boy.

The guards dug their ears to make sure that they did not hear wrongly. “Can you repeat it? What is your girlfriend’s name? Which grade and which class is she in?”

“Qiao Nan from the first year’s class one!” The boy said loudly and confidently. How could he not know his girlfriend’s class and level? They must have wanted to test him.

Ping Cheng High School’s first year’s class one was an important class. He was a student of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China and was very compatible with Qiao Nan.

With that, the atmosphere grew to be very awkward.

Qiao Nan was the star student at Ping Cheng High School. Everyone from every level knew her name.

Everyone, including Qiao Nan herself, was shocked. She felt as if she was struck by lightning and there was a current going through her body, feeling burnt inside out.

She had a boyfriend, but her boyfriend was Brother Zhai. When did she have another boyfriend from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China? It was absurd.

Qiao Nan stared at the back of the boy. Gao Yan was the only boy from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China that she had seen before. But this boy was shorter than Gao Yan. His voice was unpleasant and he was short in stature.

In order to figure out where on earth this 'boyfriend' came from, Qiao Nan walked a few steps forward. "This classmate over here, hello, do we know each other?"

The people nearby widened their eyes when they saw Qiao Nan. They were ready to see a scandal unfolded right in front of them.

"Who are you?" Although the boy did not wear glasses, it seemed that he had myopia. He squinted his eyes and looked at Qiao Nan. After staring at her for more than a minute, he finally came to his senses and said in surprise, "You are Qiao Nan?!"

"Oh my god! Where did this lunatic come from?" Students from Ping Cheng High School were ready for a good show.

Everyone could tell from his tone that he did not know Qiao Nan at all. Otherwise, he would not take so long to recognize Qiao Nan. The two of them did not know each other, yet he claimed that Qiao Nan was his girlfriend. He must be crazy.

Qiao Nan sighed in frustration. She did not know the boy at all. "Since you don't know me, why did you tell others that I am your girlfriend?"

“You are my girlfriend!” The boy said with certainty. “I-I have long wanted to come to see you, but the workload in The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China is very heavy. Now that the midterm exam is over, I have more time, so I came right away to see you. Qiao Nan, are... are you angry at me?”

Qiao Nan pursed her lips. Was he really a madman that escaped from the hospital?

Seeing that the boy had clear and rational eyes, Qiao Nan took a deep breath. “I have never seen you, and neither do I know you. Can you tell me why do you claim that I am your girlfriend?”

“How can you not know me? We have been conversing through letters for three months. I am Sun Lei. Did you not promise to be my girlfriend in the letter?”

As soon as the boy said that, the guards were the first to misunderstand.

The guards remembered that some time back, there were indeed letters addressed to Qiao Nan about once a week. However, the timing did not seem to match. That happened during the first half semester of last year.

“Letter? What letter? I have not written any letter.” Qiao Nan was even more perplexed. She did not even write many letters to Brother Zhai. How could she possibly write to other boys? This was getting even stranger. Where did this boy come from?

Sun Lei?

Qiao Nan was certain that in her previous life and current life, she did not know this boy by the name Sun Lei from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

“O-of course there is.” Sun Lei’s face turned bright red. “Are you too shy to admit? L-let’s talk in another place?”

“There is no need to change to another place and there’s nothing for me to admit. I really didn’t write any letters to you. I don’t know you at all. I find it ridiculous that you claimed that I am your girlfriend. I am in my first year of high school. I don’t intend to go into a relationship.” If they changed to another place to talk, she might be unable to clear her name.

“You... you are talking nonsense. How could you play with my feelings? I am serious about you. I have thought it through. After we finish the college entrance examination, I want to marry you. I am so serious about you. How could you tell lies?” Qiao Nan was full of grievances, and Sun Lei felt he had been wronged, his eyes turning red.

“Who are you?” Zhu Baoguo happened to come at this time.

When he heard the boy said that he was Qiao Nan’s boyfriend and that he wanted to marry Qiao Nan, Zhu Baoguo felt a ball of anger building inside him and without another word, he threw a fist at Sun Lei’s face.

“Don’t fight! Hey, I said don’t fight!”

Zhu Baoguo gave Sun Lei a vicious punch.

Sun Lei was a student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, and Zhu Baoguo was a student from Ping Cheng High School. It was not appropriate for two students to fight, especially if it was about an affair.

The guards hurried forward to pull them apart. One stood in front of Sun Lei, while the other pulled at Zhu Baoguo. “Calm down! Things have not been clarified yet. Hurry up and call the principal!”

Upon receiving the call, the principal immediately ordered the people concerned to go to his office.

But when the principal saw Qiao Nan, he was worried and, at the same time, angry. “Qiao Nan, it’s you again...”

“What do you mean by that? Did Xiao Qiao create all these troubles? She is helpless as well. She is too unlucky that others like to provoke her!” Zhu Baoguo, who started the fight, was angry that Xiao Qiao was innocent and yet she was dragged into the incident. It was this madman who came looking for her! Xiao Qiao did not know him at all!

“Tell me what is going on.” The principal looked at Zhu Baoguo helplessly. It was undeniable that Zhu Baoguo was telling the truth.

“Can ladies go first?” Qiao Nan asked calmly. She did not look at Zhu Baoguo. Instead, she looked at Sun Lei.

Sun Lei was unwilling to let her go first. He was afraid that Qiao Nan would badmouth him in front of the principal and tell lies. He had finally understood that he was fooled by Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was a good student, and so was he. He was a student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

He was not afraid of danger and came looking for Qiao Nan as he loved and yearned for her. They had agreed to meet at her school, but Qiao Nan refused to acknowledge him. She might have good results, but she did not have a good moral character.

However, Qiao Nan appeared to be very calm. Sun Lei had no choice but to agree with her request.

When Sun Lei realized, he was angry at his foolish act.

Sun Lei comforted himself that it did not matter that Qiao Nan went first. No matter what lies Qiao Nan spun, he would expose her right in front of the principal of Ping Cheng High School.

“Principal, this boy, Sun Lei, came to our school today and said that he is looking for his girlfriend. He claimed that I am his girlfriend and that we communicated through letters for three months. But strangely, when he saw me, it took him more than a minute to recognize that I am Qiao Nan. The guards and several other seniors who were at the entrance can testify. Sun Lei, is that what happened?”

The principal relaxed slightly. It seemed that it had nothing to do with Qiao Nan.

“It’s normal that I don’t know you. We are pen pals. I have only seen photos of you when you were younger, but I still managed to recognize you in the end.” Seeing that the principal nodded at Qiao Nan’s words, Sun Lei was angry. The principal was biased. It was unfair!

“Principal, all I said is true. Qiao Nan wrote to me, and in the letters, she promised to be my girlfriend. I keep each of the letters. I can show them to you. I could recognize Qiao Nan because she has sent her photos with the letters.”

Sun Lei sounded very sure and detailed. The principal began to have doubts. He was not sure if he should continue to investigate. If it turned out that...

“You said you have the letters with you? That would be great. We can take a look at the letters. But let me ask you. You are a student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, while I am a student from Ping Cheng High School. How do you know me?” Qiao Nan smiled. She feared that it was all empty talk, especially since Sun Lei seemed to be very sure of himself. “I have never been to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, and it seems like you have never been to Ping Cheng High School as well.”

As long as there was evidence, she could prove that she was innocent.

“Don’t try to shirk responsibility! Not only do I have physical evidence, but I also have a witness!” Sun Lei said angrily. He had taken a punch from Zhu Baoguo just now and it was burning in pain. “You have not been to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, and this is my first time at Ping Cheng High School, but your elder sister is in the same school as me. Your sister introduced us to each other. She said that you regretted choosing Ping Cheng High School and wanted to know people from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. She thought that I am a good choice and so she introduced you to me. We both started to be pen pals then.”

When Sun Lei said that Qiao Nan regretted choosing Ping Cheng High School, the principal’s expression darkened.

“Hehehehe...” Qiao Nan had a fake smile on her face. Initially, she was exasperated at the mess that she was in, but she finally knew what happened when Sun Lei mentioned Qiao Zijin. “Principal, there wasn’t such a thing. I honestly don’t know Sun Lei, and I never said all those things to my sister. The teachers and principal at Ping Cheng High School are very good to me and my grades have always been better than those of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China’s students. I can’t figure out why I would regret my choice. Sun Lei, say no more. Didn’t you say that you have the letters with you? Principal, can you call my form teacher over and get my assignments as well? We can do a comparison.”

It was a waste of time and effort to do any more explanation.

Qiao Zijin might be able to spin tales easily, but she did not believe that she could imitate her handwriting.

The principal frowned. “Qiao Nan, are you sure?” Once the matter was blown up, they would not be able to cover it up. Qiao Nan could not back out anymore.

#### Chapter 415: Get Everyone Here

“I’m sure.”

“Alright.” The principal also wanted to find out the truth. The school had spent a lot of effort on their students. He did not wish for them to turn out to be such a disgrace.

The principal picked up the phone and dialed Teacher Liu’s cell phone directly. The midterm exam was just over and Teacher Liu was on the night shift, disciplining the students. He came to the office with the documents as soon as he received the phone call.

In fact, after what happened at the school, some of the students had already reported the incident to Teacher Liu.

“Principal, here is Qiao Nan’s homework for the few main subjects. You can take a look. Principal, I absolutely don’t believe that the students in my class would do such things. I hope the principal can look into this matter and give her fair treatment. It is not easy for her to come in the first place in the level. We must do our best to protect students like her. I heard that the boy is from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China?”

Teacher Liu cast Sun Lei an unpleasant look. Qiao Nan could not have taken a fancy to such a short boy like him.

The principal paused and pondered Teacher Liu’s words.

Qiao Nan was the top student among her peers in Ping Cheng High School. Within one and a half semesters, she had always scored better than the top student in The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

Now, this boy from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China came out of nowhere to create trouble. Could it be that it was The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China’s plan to remove their most competitive opponent?



If that was the case, the principal at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China was too much.

“Wait a minute. We cannot just let things off easily. Since you’re from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, I will call your principal and get both your principal and form teacher here. We have to get to the bottom of this matter!”

The people from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China were bent on bullying them. If as the principal of Ping Cheng High School, he did not do anything about it, the other party would think that they were pushovers.

To make things clear, they would have to get everyone concerned to come together to clarify things.

He was worried that even if they managed to prove Qiao Nan’s innocence, the people from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China insisted would say that they bullied a second-year student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China at their school. Ping Cheng High School would definitely not be the scapegoat for this.

Teacher Liu nodded. “Principal, this is a good idea.”

“There’s no need for that, is there?” Sun Lei was scared out of his wits. He only came to look for his girlfriend and spend some time with her to discuss their future plans. Why did he end up having to see the principal?

Sun Lei was not afraid of seeing the principal of Ping Cheng High School. After all, he was a student of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, and his school was better than Ping Cheng High School.

No matter how strict the principal from Ping Cheng High School was, he could not discipline him.

However, Sun Lei was worried that his school’s principal might be here.

His performance was only average, and his school did not allow students to start a relationship when they were still in school. If things were blown up, he would be issued a warning by his

school. "It may be a misunderstanding. I might have got the wrong person. The Qiao Nan I am referring to could be from some other school."

"Stop talking nonsense. Just now, you insisted that your girlfriend is Qiao Nan and that she is from first year's class one. Why is she from another school now? Are you asking for a beating?" Zhu Baoguo yelled at Sun Lei. "Principal, this brat said it was Qiao Zijin who introduced Xiao Qiao to him. In order to avoid trouble, maybe you should get the principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China to bring Qiao Zijin with him. If Qiao Zijin does not come with him and we need to verify with her later, the principal may make use of the time he goes back to bring Qiao Zijin to come up with an excuse to shirk responsibility."

"You're right!" The principal agreed with Zhu Baoguo. He did not think of this.

Qiao Zijin was Qiao Nan's sister who was studying at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, wasn't she?

The principal could not help but frown at the mention of Qiao Zijin.

Last time, when Ding Jiayi came to the school to create a fuss, he had already known about Qiao Zijin. Regardless of whether this was the truth, as Qiao Nan's sister, how could she introduce a boyfriend to Qiao Nan at this time? She must have harbored ill intentions.

"Fine, go ahead. Do you really think I am afraid of you? I merely want to give you a way out. Yes, we should get Qiao Zijin to come here. By then, you will know what kind of person Qiao Nan is!" Sun Lei was enraged.

He was deceived for such a long time, and his feelings were being toyed with. He also suffered a blow from Zhu Baoguo today.

He could not wait to expose Qiao Nan's true colors. Since she did not appreciate his good intention to keep things between themselves, he might as well blow things up. After all, he would not be on the losing end.

"You are a piece of crap!" Zhu Baoguo glared at Sun Lei and was about to kick him.

Teacher Liu's demeanor changed and he quickly pulled Zhu Baoguo back. "That's too much." It was fine if he gave Sun Lei a few blows, but things might become ugly if he really kicked Sun Lei.

The principal stared at Sun Lei coldly. He not only called the principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China and asked that he brought Qiao Zijin and Sun Lei's form teacher with him, but he also notified Qiao Zijin's form teacher to ask Qiao Zijin's mother to come to Ping Cheng High School.

The principal knew that Qiao Nan had a phone at home, so he phoned Qiao Dongliang to inform him to come to the school as well.

The principals made several phone calls to notify different people to come to their school. Qiao Dongliang, who stayed near Ping Cheng High School, was the first to arrive. "Principal, what's the matter? Nan Nan?" Did Nan Nan fail terribly in her midterm exams, so the principal wanted to talk to the parents?

"Qiao Nan's father, don't worry. Let's wait until everyone arrives," the principal took a deep breath and said calmly.

Qiao Dongliang looked at Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan shook her head, telling him not to worry.

After a quarter of an hour, the principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, the form teacher of Sun Lei, Ding Jiayi, and Qiao Zijin arrived.

The principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China pulled a long face. "What exactly happened?"

Qiao Nan looked at the four people who came in. She narrowed her eyes and looked at Qiao Zijin.

Qiao Zijin looked like a chicken that had fallen into the water during winter time. The feathers were plastered to its body and it shrunk, seemingly smaller than its actual size and looking particularly pitiful. Qiao Zijin had a pleading look in her eyes, hoping that Qiao Nan would help her through this ordeal.

Qiao Nan sneered. She had nothing more to say to Qiao Zijin.

Qiao Zijin had tried time and again to create trouble for her. Even though she failed every time, she never gave up.

She did not understand. It had been almost two years. Why Qiao Zijin could not learn from her mistakes? Why could they not mind their own business and not interfere with her life?

“What’s the matter? Zijin is not a student at your school.”

Chapter 416: The Issue of Puppy Love Can Be Discussed

“Zijin is already in her second year of senior high school. It’s the critical period of her studies. Why did you ask her to come?” Ding Jiayi’s tone was full of resentment. It was as if the principal of Ping Cheng High School was holding back Qiao Zijin from her studies and future.

“Qiao Zijin’s mother, trust me. If it’s not necessary, I’m not willing to ask you to come to Ping Cheng High School as well.” The principal was both amused and angry.

In the Qiao family, besides Qiao Nan and her father, her sister and mother were quite abnormal.

“Since everyone is here, let me first tell everyone what happened.” The principal knitted his brows and told everyone the whole story. “Sun Lei insisted that Qiao Nan is in a romantic relationship with him and said that Qiao Nan refused to admit it. However, Qiao Nan said she doesn’t even know Sun Lei and today was the first time she met him. After all, this matter concerns the students from both schools. Hence, I feel that there’s a need to have a face-to-face meeting to investigate this matter clearly.”

“Is there such a matter?” The expression of the principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China was very ugly. The school forbade puppy love. Students would receive a demerit record if they were discovered to be in such a relationship.

He did not expect that, despite being in the second year, someone dared to go against a regulation that the school strongly advocated.

“This matter is between Qiao Nan and this guy. Why did you ask Zijin to come?” Ding Jiayi did not understand. They could settle the scores on their own. Why did they have to waste Zijin’s precious study time?

“Don’t be anxious. We’ll explain the matter one by one.” The principal of Ping Cheng High School cast an even colder look at Ding Jiayi. It was no wonder she could say such ugly words the last time she came. In the eyes of this parent, Qiao Zijin was the precious biological daughter. It was as if Qiao Nan was picked up from the streets and was not part of the family.

“You’re Sun Lei, right? You said that you’ve been keeping the letters from Qiao Nan, didn’t you? Did you bring them? Can you take them out?”

“Sure.” True enough, Sun Lei took out a number of letters from his schoolbag. Anyway, his own principal was present. He did not believe that the principal of Ping Cheng High School would tear all the letters from Qiao Nan in front of everyone to destroy the evidence.

“Principal Wei, this is Qiao Nan’s homework.” Teacher Liu also placed Qiao Nan’s homework on Principal Meng’s office table so that both principals could see them clearly.

When Qiao Nan’s homework was placed on the table, Qiao Dongliang was the first to reach out and look at them.

As if the matter had nothing to do with her, the snobbish Ding Jiayi turned her head without care. She looked as if she did not wish to be associated with Qiao Nan’s scandals.

Qiao Zijin was the only one who had a strange look on her face, shivering with fear.

Qiao Zijin mustered her courage and walked a few steps toward Qiao Nan. She then lightly tugged at Qiao Nan’s sleeves, looking at her with a pair of pleading and pitiful eyes as if to say, ‘Help me. Just this once. We’re biological sisters, aren’t we? Don’t watch me die.’

She could not allow the matter to continue to stir up. She must think of a way to make Qiao Nan admit and take responsibility for everything.

If the fuss continued, Sun Lei was also not someone to be trifled with.

This time, she really would not be able to continue with her studies at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China if the truth came to light.

She swore to heaven that if Qiao Nan was willing to help her tide through this occasion, she would definitely treat Qiao Nan as her next-of-kin and be extremely good to her. She would not talk bad about Qiao Nan in front of her mother again or plot against Qiao Nan anymore.

At this juncture, Qiao Zijin realized that the only people who would forgive her again and again regardless of the situation were these few next-of-kin of hers.

She did not wish to be given a written warning or be expelled from the school. If Qiao Nan admitted that she was dating Sun Lei and was the one who wrote all these letters, then she would be able to safely pass this hurdle.

In this way, no matter how unhappy Sun Lei was, he would only vent all his frustration on Qiao Nan and would only scold Qiao Nan.

When that time came, she just had to give Sun Lei a few words of comfort and fawn on him a little. This matter would then come to a closure.

Qiao Nan and Sun Lei were not schoolmates. Qiao Nan would not be able to hear Sun Lei scolding her. Hence, Sun Lei's words would have no impact on her at all. It was different for her. She and Sun Lei were not only schoolmates but also classmates.

Therefore, all of Sun Lei's resentment and anger must be targeted at Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan's grades were so good anyway. Even if she was truly involved in a romantic relationship, Ping Cheng High School would not give up such a good student. Besides a few words of scolding, Qiao Nan would not lose anything else.

In actual fact, it was not that difficult for Qiao Nan to help her and be the scapegoat.

They were biological sisters, right? Qiao Nan would definitely help her on this occasion, right?

"What are you doing?!" Before Qiao Zijin could receive a definite answer from Qiao Nan, Zhu Baoguo jumped in immediately and gave an extremely hard slap on Qiao Zijin's hand that was gripping the back of Qiao Nan's hands. "Let go of Xiao Qiao! Don't hold on to her right at this moment as if you are pleading her! What do you mean by this?!"

“Nan Nan, come here.” Qiao Dongliang’s face was sullen. Puppy love! What a serious matter!

In the face of major issues regarding right and wrong, Qiao Dongliang was not willing to give up on Qiao Zijin umpteen times, so why would he give up on Qiao Nan now?

Before Qiao Nan could react, Qiao Dongliang was already acting like a cow shielding his calf, pulling Qiao Nan to his side. “Nan Nan, stand beside me.” Having that said, Qiao Dongliang even swapped places with Qiao Nan and used himself as a barrier between Qiao Nan and Qiao Zijin.

As biological sisters of the same family, Nan Nan could help Zijin in all matters.

Zijin did not differentiate between the good and the bad. She was always together with Wang Yang. Nan Nan certainly should warn Zijin about Wang Yang’s character, and Zijin should not be too close with him. If Zijin committed any wrongdoing, Nan Nan not only had to testify against her. As a family, the more she should not give up on Zijin, her sister. Before Zijin changed for the better, she should lend her a helping hand when Zijin encountered difficulties.

But this did not mean that Nan Nan should step forward to be Zijin’s scapegoat when Zijin committed wrongdoing and dared not bear the responsibility for her own actions.

This was not helping Zijin but indulging and covering up for her!

In the end, Qiao Zijin’s hand not only held on to nothing but was also hit by Zhu Bague. Ding Jiayi was full of heartache as she quickly held Qiao Zijin’s hand and blew on it.

Tears welled up in Qiao Zijin’s eyes. She then quietly leaned on Ding Jiayi’s shoulders and said, “Mom, help me...”

Ding Jiayi was stunned. She looked at Qiao Zijin with shock and disbelief. Did today’s matter really have something to do with Qiao Zijin?

Qiao Zijin tugged at Ding Jiayi’s sleeves. She then shook her head to express that they could not let this matter continue to spiral out of control. Someone had to take the plunge and bear the responsibility. Otherwise, she would be in deep trouble.

Ding Jiayi was at a loss but she understood what Qiao Zijin meant. She cleared her throat. "I... I heard you and I understand. Isn't it just two kids having a relationship? These two kids are not really that young anymore anyway. This matter can be discussed."

Chapter 417: Wishful Thinking!

"On the pretext that they can continue to perform well in their studies, let them date. I have no objections."

When Ding Jiayi said this, both Principal Wei and Principal Meng rolled their eyes at her simultaneously.

Damn, she's sick!

"Nan Nan, both principals are busy people. They have to spend so much time and effort for that small matter of yours. Don't you feel ashamed? Don't you blame yourself? Step forward and bear the consequences since this is your responsibility. Don't drag everyone down to suffer with you. You're Mom's daughter and Mom only has Zijin and you as daughters. No matter what mistakes you have committed, Mom's heart will always be with you and you'll always be my good daughter. It's normal for humans to make mistakes. It's fine as long as you change. Mom is not angry and won't take issue with you. So, if you have anything to say, be good and quickly make yourself clear."

Ding Jiayi half pleaded and threatened Qiao Nan to take responsibility for the entire matter.

Although this would leave a black mark on Qiao Nan's life, it was fine. She would continue to treat Qiao Nan as her daughter and would not disown her because of this.

In regard to this, Qiao Nan did not need to feel burdened at all. She just had to bear the responsibility and there would be no more issue. At the very least, this would not affect their family.

Qiao Dongliang stared coldly at Ding Jiayi. He then grabbed Qiao Nan's hand strongly.

Qiao Nan looked down and saw the green veins on the back of Qiao Dongliang's hands, nearly exploding.



“Both principals, is there a difference in the handwriting?” Qiao Dongliang asked in a deep voice.

“Yes.” Principal Meng did not say a word, but Principal Wei did. “There are some differences between the two handwritings. However, it’s easy for people who can write well to make their handwriting look uglier. On the other hand, it’s hard for people who can’t write well to make their handwriting look good.” Principal Wei was, of course, helping his own student.

Teacher Liu tugged at his face, which was frozen stiff, and smiled. “Principal Wei, don’t need to worry about this. Can you let me make a call?”

“Please do.” Principal Meng glanced at Teacher Liu and let the latter used the phone in his office to make the call.

Teacher Liu picked up the phone and dialed a number.

Although Qiao Nan had not dialed this number many times, she had memorized it by heart. She gave a stare and looked at Teacher Liu in disbelief. She then heard Teacher Liu say, “Is this Zhai Sheng? I’m Uncle Liu. This is what happened. You know quite a number of professionals. Can you help us find an expert who can verify handwriting? A student from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China brought a few letters and insisted that one of our students is dating him, but the girl refused to admit to the relationship. Principal Wei feels that it’s easy for someone who can write well to make the handwriting look uglier. Therefore, we need your help. Sure, fine, fine. You... you can lend us a hand, can’t you?”

Even if Principal Wei wanted to have his way, Teacher Liu was not afraid of him. He had his ‘backing’.

Other people might not have a solution to those rogue words of Principal Wei, but he did.

Zhai Sheng had said before that he should look for him for any troubles or problems pertaining to Qiao Nan.

With a huge backing such as Zhai Sheng, Teacher Liu was very confident of protecting Qiao Nan and not let any harm reach her.

“Zhai Sheng? Is it that Zhai Sheng?” At this moment, it was Principal Wei’s turn to change his expression.

“Yes, my family and the Zhai family are a little bit related. Principal Wei, you don’t believe the student’s explanation. Don’t tell me you don’t believe in people from the army too?” Teacher Liu lifted his head and chest. He terribly wished that he had a long and big tail on his bottom so that he could sweep toward Principal Wei.

Since he knew who Zhai Sheng was, the matter would be easier to resolve.

Principal Wei pulled a long face. “Sun Lei, come here and see for yourself.”

Upon hearing Principal Wei’s words, Sun Lei, who had turned as quiet as a quail, went forward. He was full of fear of misgivings. Of course, Sun Lei recognized those letters. He hugged the letters to sleep every day in the past. However, he was extremely unfamiliar with the handwriting on the other workbook. “This is Qiao Nan’s handwriting? This can’t be. Qiao Zijin clearly told me that she and her sister have similar handwriting. The words on this workbook are obviously printed!”

“Oh, the two sisters’ handwritings are similar?” Principal Meng smiled. He looked at Principal Wei.

Didn’t this comment of Sun Lei tell it all?

Principal Wei’s face turned black. He ground his teeth and asked Sun Lei. “What is wrong? What do you mean that the two sisters’ handwritings are similar?” It was not written by the same person. Even the handwritings of twins would be different, not to mention biological sisters.

“I was classmates with Qiao Zijin in my first year of senior high school. So, I know Qiao Zijin. Thereafter, Qiao Zijin introduced her sister, Qiao Nan, to me and we became a couple through letters. I felt odd at that time as to why the handwriting of the two of them was so alike. Qiao Nan’s words were, at most, more untidy than that of Qiao Zijin. Qiao Zijin told me she had a close relationship with Qiao Nan. Thus, Qiao Nan liked to imitate her. As such, her handwriting resembled that of hers. However, Qiao Nan’s results were good. She placed great importance on her studies and didn’t have much spare time. Qiao Nan had to make time to write to him. Therefore, her handwriting was not as tidy as that of Qiao Zijin.”

Principal Meng had the answer in his heart. At this juncture, he was completely sure that his student had nothing to do with today’s matter at all.

Although Zhu Baoguo was a little impulsive for hitting Sun Lei, Sun Lei deserved it.

“You said before that Qiao Zijin was the one who introduced you to Qiao Nan. You’ve only seen Qiao Nan’s photo and it’s the first time that you met Qiao Nan in real life today. Then, the letters that you wrote to Qiao Nan and those that Qiao Nan wrote to you... How did you deliver and receive them?” Principal Meng’s voice sounded normal and he spoke in an orderly manner.

“Qiao Zijin became our goose.”

Sun Lei’s actions made the few teachers present curl the corners of their lips. Goose? What a poetic and artistic description.

Qiao Nan raised her eyebrows and met Qiao Zijin’s eyes. “Really? This is odd, though? I’ve clearly not seen my sister for more than two months.”

“We’re biological sisters from the same family. Whenever there’s a school break, don’t we see each other? When did we not see each other for two months?” Qiao Zijin panicked and tears nearly rolled down her eyes. Help her once, just this once. Once. Couldn’t you?

Qiao Nan turned away without a word, her stance obvious. No way!

It was precisely because she was a family member of Qiao Zijin that she had suffered so much.

Qiao Zijin plotted against her and framed her again and again. If Qiao Zijin was not her family, she would not have kept defending herself all this while and would have actively attacked and thrashed Qiao Zijin to the point that Qiao Zijin would not be able to lift herself up for her entire life.

It was because she was her family!!!

The reality was so depressing and detestable.

Because of the blood ties, the best that she could do was to endure and not actively harm Qiao Zijin and destroy Qiao Zijin’s life. However, as for any other matters... You wished, Qiao Zijin!!

## Chapter 418: Qiao Zijin Is Guilty-Conscious

“This classmate, you may not know the situation, but my wife and I have been living separately. We’re prepared to file for divorce in two years’ time. Qiao Zijin will follow my wife and Nan Nan will follow me. Hence, our family has not seen one another for more than two months.”

They did not even meet during these two months. How could Zijin help Sun Lei and Nan Nan pass letters?

“Ah?!” Sun Lei was stupefied. He initially came to look for his girlfriend to prove his innocence and show that he had not been lying. He did not expect that the domestic affairs of the Qiao family would be brought up in this conversation. “You... what you’ve said... Is it true?”

“True.”

“Divorce is good!” Zhu Baoguo could not help but give a loud clap.

As long as Uncle Qiao divorced this woman, Xiao Qiao would then be able to leave the clutches of this mother-daughter pair and start her life afresh.

Pey! What a lousy sister. She was truly not a good thing.

He was already furious and annoyed by Wang Yang’s deeds, and the latter was just his cousin. Qiao Zijin was Xiao Qiao’s biological sister. Qiao Zijin did so many things that let down and harmed Xiao Qiao. Xiao Qiao’s predicament was a hundred times worse than this.

“Old Qiao, what nonsense are you talking about? Can’t you look at the current situation?” Ding Jiayi’s face was swollen in red. She nearly fainted in anger. “Zijin is your daughter. Before saying all these, you should spare a thought for Zijin!”

Qiao Nan would not suffer much even if she took the blame.

Ping Cheng High School was willing to make accommodation arrangements for that wretched girl. They would certainly not do anything to her because of today’s matter.

It was different for Zijin. She already had a difficult situation at school. She really could not afford to let more negative things happen. As a father, did Old Qiao really have to ruin Zijin for the sake of the wretched girl?

As long as the wretched girl took the blame, both Zijin and she would be fine.

In this way, it would be good for everyone. There's nothing bad about this arrangement!

"Qiao Zijin, right? Sun Lei has been saying that you're the one who introduced him to Qiao Nan. Do you have anything to say about this?" Principal Meng could not be bothered to look at Ding Jiayi. This parent's mind was quite abnormal. Anyway, today was not his first time experiencing it.

"I..." Qiao Zijin opened her mouth but could not even manage a complete sentence.

"What is the meaning of 'I'? Did you do this or not?" Principal Meng asked.

"Principal, what do you mean by this? Just because Qiao Nan is a student of your school, so you're siding with her? Since Zijin is not a student at your school, you don't have the right to interfere." Ding Jiayi pulled Qiao Zijin behind her as she tried to protect her.

Qiao Zijin hid accordingly as she wanted to avoid answering this question.

"Fine. Principal Meng doesn't have the right to ask, but I guess I do?" Principal Wei's expression looked extremely ugly. He had also reached the peak of his tolerance level. "Qiao Zijin, did you do this?"

Qiao Zijin was in so much pain and dilemma. She wrung the clothes behind Ding Jiayi's waist, nearly tearing it. "I... I did it. I didn't think much. I... I initially just wanted to let my sister have one more friend. It's a good thing that everyone can learn from each other and improve. I don't know how the two of them became pen pals, and a couple thereafter. Whatever happened later was not of my concern. I just introduced them to each other as friends!"

"Did you hear that? Whatever developed later was caused by themselves. It had nothing to do with Zijin." Ding Jiayi quickly helped to add on.

Qiao Nan knitted her brows. She narrowed her eyes to assess Qiao Zijin. Normally, Qiao Zijin would deny this. Instead, Qiao Zijin admitted to it. This was abnormal.

No, there was a problem!

Qiao Nan thought about it and pointed a finger at Sun Lei. “Sun Lei, my sister intended to introduce her sister to you as a pen pal. I’m younger than my sister by two years. Compared to you, I’m younger by more than two years. My sister trusted you so much, yet you kidnapped her sister to become your girlfriend and got her involved in puppy love at such a critical juncture. You really let my sister down.”

Sun Lei was older. If this matter truly happened, then Sun Lei certainly had to bear a huge part of the responsibility.

If Sun Lei was the one who initiated a romantic relationship, then he was certainly the one in the wrong.

Even if Qiao Nan initiated it, as someone older than Qiao Nan, Sun Lei should be more mature and serious in handling such matters. Sun Lei should discourage Qiao Nan in an instant, then simply stopped being pen pals and ceased all contact.

Suddenly, Sun Lei was greatly reprimanded by Qiao Nan in front of the two principals and his own form teacher. His face turned crimson. In a state of agitation and panic, he spoke his mind. “I let your sister down? How did I do that? Both of you sisters are not good people and are full of bad ideas. If not for the fact that your sister... Anyway, it’s your sister who promised to introduce a potential girlfriend to me. She even said that your grades were good and that you’re pretty. She said she introduced you to me with absolute sincerity. What pen pals? Your sister clearly introduced you to me as a girlfriend. What pen-pals!”

The saying of pen-pals earlier was just to give everyone some face.

When Qiao Dongliang heard this, he clenched his fists in anger. The veins on his neck and hand were protruding as well.

Principal Wei let out a long breath. He regretted it. Two years ago, he should not have accepted Qiao Zijin into his school for the sake of that meager sponsorship fee. She was not a student. She was simply big trouble!

“Teacher Liu, right? We don’t need to verify the handwriting anymore. Indeed, our students are the ones in the wrong in this matter. The responsibility is on my side and has nothing to do with you all. Qiao Nan classmate, I’m very sorry to have caused you such wrong and suffering. Our school will handle this from here on. I think it’s best that I bring the students back.”

Principal Wei was worried that the school would be utterly disgraced by these two students if they continued with the conversation.

Qiao Nan was a good student. How could she be involved in an early romantic relationship? Furthermore, would she find someone from The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China? If she had the intention, she would now be the top student at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China and not Ping Cheng High School. Her biological sister introduced a boyfriend to her younger sister who was in her first year of senior high school. If words got out, he nearly dared not admit that he was the principal of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China anymore.

Where did such a wonderful ‘sister’ come from? His school!

His students in the first year could not outperform Qiao Nan all this time. He was already very upset about it and this matter just had to happen today. The way Principal Wei looked at Qiao Zijin and Sun Lei was extremely unfriendly.

Sun Lei’s form teacher was simply going along with the flow. However, his mood was also extremely bad at this moment.

Sun Lei was not blind. How could he miss the obvious and ugly expressions on Principal Wei’s and his form teacher’s faces? He was so frightened that he spoke whatever came to his mind.

Chapter 419: A Noob Ally All the Way

“I... I have been wronged. I really don’t know... They’re all Qiao Zijin’s doing! She lied to me! She has been lying to me!” Sun Lei kept harping that he had been wronged and that all the bad things were done by Qiao Zijin and had nothing to do with him. After all, he, too, had been bluffed by Qiao Zijin.

“Qiao Zijin, I helped you so much, but are you even worthy of my help?! You’d better tell the truth to the principal and the teacher quickly and clarify this matter. Otherwise, don’t blame me.” Sun Lei gave Qiao Zijin a malicious and deadly stare.

If Qiao Zijin was not able to help him tide over this, he would be unruly to her and reveal all the bad things that she had done.

“I... No, please don’t...” Qiao Zijin stammered, tears rolling down her face uncontrollably. She was scared out of her wits. “Yes, I did all these. Actually, it was not Sun Lei. It... it was also not Qiao Nan.”

“This had nothing to do with Xiao Qiao? Why did you have to introduce him to Xiao Qiao and not anyone else? What were your intentions? You’re just trying to harm Xiao Qiao!” Zhu Baoguo was driven mad. There was no sincerity in her apology at all. Crying! Would crying help?!

Sun Lei was angered by what Zhu Baoguo said.

Did Qiao Zijin and Qiao Nan have any conflict? Could this be why he was introduced to Qiao Nan? For the sake of getting Qiao Nan into trouble?

He truly wished to have a girlfriend. Qiao Zijin dared to play tricks on him although he had gotten a handle of her. She treated him like a pawn. He would deal with Qiao Zijin when he was back in school!

Upon the scolding from Zhu Baoguo, Qiao Zijin cried even harder.

Ding Jiayi was full of heartache for Qiao Zijin. She kept comforting her. “Qiao Nan, do you have any conscience? Your sister said all this to protect you. You are letting your sister be the scapegoat and bear the consequences for the things that you have done. How did the teachers in your school teach you to be a person? Has your conscience been eaten by a dog?”

“Hahaha!” Qiao Nan could not help but laugh. Her laughter sounded so cold and helpless.

Ding Jiayi scolded her badly. In the end, wasn’t she just trying to make her step forward and take the blame for Qiao Zijin?



Initially, she had wanted to let the matter rest.

But her mother had to protect Qiao Zijin so anxiously. Qiao Zijin had such a ‘fabulous helper’. How could she let the matter rest before making it more exciting?

She would not initiate any trouble or take any action against Qiao Zijin, but she did not say that she would not bring up old scores and reveal all the ‘good things’ that Qiao Zijin did. Qiao Nan then gave Zhu Baoguo, this ‘noob teammate’, a kick.

Zhu Baoguo had clearly voiced out Qiao Zijin’s ill intention a while ago, but he stopped at the most critical juncture. Was he stupid?

Zhu Baoguo, who was kicked, did not quite understand Qiao Nan’s action. He looked at Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan then glanced toward Sun Lei.

Zhu Baoguo was initially a clueless fool. Suddenly, his eyes lit up. He nearly could not react in time. “This is not right. Qiao Zijin, I think you not only wanted to harm Xiao Qiao but also this person called Sun Lei? Xiao Qiao is such a good kid. How could she be involved in a romantic relationship at an early age? Moreover, she did not even know the existence of Sun Lei! Because of your ‘introduction’, Sun Lei really seemed to take Xiao Qiao as his girlfriend. Did you already foresee that Sun Lei would not be able to stop himself from coming to look for Xiao Qiao in person one day? When that time came, this puppy love scandal would then be spread and Xiao Qiao would be given a warning. Most likely, this fool, Sun Lei, will be in trouble as well? You are classmates after all. Sun Lei, did you offend Qiao Zijin before?”

Sun Lei gave a stare. There were two words ‘written’ on his face: confused and cornered!

“No, it’s not like that. Absolutely not. Sun Lei, don’t listen to Zhu Baoguo talking nonsense. He’s on a very good term with my sister. He said this to sow discord between us to help my sister. Please don’t be foolish. Don’t believe him.”

If that matter was revealed, that would be the end of Sun Lei and her. Sun Lei would not be so silly to perish together with her, right?

“That’s enough. We can talk about it further after going back.” Principal Wei was having a bad headache. Could there also be other issues aside from this ‘puppy love’?

“Principal Wei, why are you so anxious? I also wish to know. As Qiao Nan’s biological sister, why did Qiao Zijin have the intention to harm Qiao Nan?” It was really like mother, like daughter. Of course, Qiao Nan was the exception.

In the past, he had felt that Ding Jiayi’s behavior was beyond comprehension. Judging by Qiao Zijin’s behavior today, it was exactly the same as what Ding Jiayi did previously.

Since today’s matter had nothing to do with Qiao Nan, Principal Meng was very interested to know the conflict between Qiao Zijin and Sun Lei.

As a veteran teaching professional and a form teacher, Teacher Liu was able to sense the problems between students with some guessing.

Seeing that the situation seemed a little odd, Teacher Liu suddenly interrupted and asked, “Principal Wei, the student from your school kicked up a fuss at our school. Putting aside the relationship between Qiao Zijin and Qiao Nan, this matter should be between both our schools. It was an ugly sight at the entrance of the school today. Qiao Nan suffered much wrong too. Did Principal Wei think that just a word of apology is enough to settle this matter? I wish to know how your school will handle Qiao Zijin’s and Sun Lei’s situation.”

“That’s right. The matter has snowballed. Most likely, before the day ends, this matter will be spread to the ears of everyone in the school, just like what happened previously. It will also have a great emotional impact on Qiao Nan. If others know about this, what will people think of your school? Principal Wei, don’t spoil the school’s culture and reputation just because of a few individuals.” Principal Meng fully agreed with what Teacher Liu said. Before the situation was clarified, he nearly misunderstood that Sun Lei was purposely sent by Principal Wei to distract Qiao Nan so that she could not continue to perform well in her studies.

“First, your student’s mother came and kicked up a fuss at our school. Today, your student came and created a fuss. In the context of the school, they are your students and student’s parent. Principal Wei, it’s best that you consider this carefully.”

“What do you mean by a student this time and her mother the last time? Are you referring to me?” Seeing that so many adults targeted and bullied her child, and none was willing to be magnanimous and let Qiao Zijin off, Ding Jiayi was both furious and anxious. She was at a loss of what to do.

Upon hearing Principal Meng’s words, Ding Jiayi was like a firecracker that was lit up. She exploded.

“If not?” Principal Meng laughed with ridicule. He could not understand why Ding Jiayi was shameless enough to ask this question.

“What about me? What about me?! Tell me. What about me?! All of you are trying to malign me after maligning my daughter?” Ding Jiayi would not concede defeat. “Don’t think that just because all of you are principals and teachers, you can gang up and bully a mother and daughter like us!”

## Chapter 420: She Cheated

“This parent, the untrue rumors that you spread in the school previously not only hurt Qiao Nan but also affected the reputation of Ping Cheng High School. If not for the sake of giving Qiao Nan’s face, my school would definitely pursue the matter with you. You’re an adult. Don’t tell me you don’t know how to be responsible for your own words and actions?”

Why?

What Ding Jiayi did previously had damaged the reputation of Ping Cheng High School seriously. Even if they did not sue her for defamation, at the very least, they should give her a warning.

“I can tell you clearly now. It is really very hard for our school to welcome a parent like you.”

“Mom?” Qiao Zijin’s tears stopped. When did her mother come to Ping Cheng High School? Why didn’t she know about it?

Ding Jiayi had a look of awkwardness on her face. “Don’t listen to them talking nonsense. They are just trying to shift the blame. It’s nonsense. There’s no such thing at all.”

“Ah-hem.” Principal Meng sneered. “Now, I have some understanding why The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China has a student like Qiao Zijin. It is really like mother, like daughter. She has inherited all her mother’s genes. There is nothing we could do about it.”

Qiao Zijin was a fast-talker. Most probably, she had learned it from Ding Jiayi.

The mother-daughter pair was of the same kind.

Principal Meng suddenly felt pointless to continue with the conversation, particularly with a parent such as Ding Jiayi. “Principal Wei, whether your school decides to punish or record a demerit, that’s your school’s business. Please bring your student and her parent away.”

Initially, Principal Meng wanted to watch the fun. However, because of Ding Jiayi, Principal Meng would rather give up such a rare opportunity and hoped that Principal Wei would bring her away as soon as possible.

“No, I... I don’t want to be punished. I can’t receive a demerit record!” Sun Lei’s face was as white as a sheet. If he received a demerit record, he would not be able to make it to a good college in the future. He might even need to bring this tainted record with him when he stepped out into society. He might not be able to find a good job.

Sun Lei ground his teeth. “Principal, I wish to confess something. Can you be lenient in my punishment for this matter? Principal, I already know that this is a misunderstanding. However, I have been wronged. I was also misled by Qiao Zijin. Qiao Nan is a victim, and so am I. Principal, can you give me one more chance?”

“You can’t say it!” Qiao Zijin’s face turned pale. She could not wait to cover Sun Lei’s mouth. Sun Lei wanted to die on his own but he just had to drag her along!

“What exactly is the matter?” Principal Wei felt annoyed. “Hurry up and speak.”

“Principal, don’t believe Sun Lei. He’s making things up as he doesn’t want to be given a demerit record. W-whatever he said is not true!” Qiao Zijin could not help shouting out.

“Whether it’s true or not, we will judge for ourselves. Sun Lei, what other matter is there?” Principal Wei let out a long breath of air. Forget it. His face had already been lost thoroughly anyway. What else was there to hide?

“Principal...”

Qiao Zijin interrupted just as Sun Lei wanted to speak. “Sun Lei, don’t go overboard. You have to search your own conscience when you say something. We’re classmates after all. Why do you have

to hurt me like this? Who taught you to do so? If you talk nonsense again, I... I... Do you wish to corner me to my death?" Qiao Zijin stomped her feet in fury, her tears rolling down uncontrollably.

The unlucky one in this matter should be Qiao Nan. Why did she become the unfortunate one in the end?

"Teach me about what? I'm not talking nonsense. Whatever I've said is the truth. It's not that I want to harm you. Qiao Zijin, clearly, you're the one who wanted to harm me! You said it yourself that we're once classmates after all, yet you hurt me in this way. You! Why are you so heartless?!"

The more Sun Lei reflected on what Zhu Baoguo said earlier, the more he felt that it made sense.

Qiao Zijin purposely used this matter to frame him. If he continued to withhold his words and be bullied by Qiao Zijin, then he would be the real fool.

"Principal, in the first year of our studies, Qiao Zijin often came in eighth in the class. Actually, she did not achieve the results through her own effort. She got it through cheating!"

"Cheating?" Principal Wei's eyes narrowed. "Is what you said true? You can't talk nonsense about this kind of things!"

Since the establishment of the school, there had never been a scandal about cheating in the school for more than a decade.

"It's true!" Sun Lei said with absolute certainty. "Principal, I have evidence to prove that what I've said is true. All of Qiao Zijin's academic results in her first year were achieved through cheating."

"You're talking nonsense! I didn't! I didn't!" Qiao Zijin's face turned pale and red intermittently. Although she was hiding behind Ding Jiayi, her pair of eyes was emitting a glowing green light. She was constantly glaring at Sun Lei like a snake.

"Hahaha!" Zhu Baoguo sneered in a cold manner. "Do you think everyone is like you? To have so much spare energy to malign people casually?"

Cheating. This matter was something new.

He also heard that Qiao Zijin's results were average when she was in junior high school. Hence, some sponsorship fee was required if she wanted to study at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China. They had to depend on his grandpa to help with this matter. After Qiao Zijin entered the school, her studies improved tremendously.

Because of Qiao Zijin as an example, her school's name had been spread in the quad for a long time. Many parents felt that it was fine to spend money, no matter how much, as long as their children had the opportunity to study at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

The teaching quality at that school was truly excellent after all.

“...”

“...”

Both Principal Meng and Teacher Liu were stunned. The word 'cheating' was very sensitive, capable of affecting a school's reputation.

Ping Cheng High School was a good high school. Students had to achieve a certain minimum score to enter the school successfully.

Hence, all the students who came to study at the school had done fairly well in their junior high school years. At the very least, up until now, the teachers at Ping Cheng High School had never caught any of their students cheating. Unexpectedly, The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China, which was more outstanding and formidable than Ping Cheng High School, encountered this situation, yet none of the teachers discovered it.

Qiao Nan tugged the corners of her lips. She had really guessed it right. With Qiao Zijin's capability, it was impossible for her to rank eighth in the class. This was despite the fact that the class she was in was the most 'special' class in the school.

“No, I didn't do this. My grades were real. I didn't cheat. Sun Lei maligned me. Sun Lei, that's enough. You're the one who wished to find a girlfriend. Yes... I only introduced the two of you. You said my sister is pretty after looking at her photo and that you're very interested to be friends with her. Now that my sister has rejected you, you should not take revenge on me even if you're angry. This is a matter between the two of you. I'm innocent!”

Qiao Zijin was still trying to turn things around, doing her utmost to save the situation. She must reverse the situation.

She definitely would not admit that she had cheated!