

RTAMM 461

Chapter 461: Transfer Student

When would this kind of days end?

“Don’t bring it up. I feel so depressed thinking about it. My parents said that when there’s pressure, there’s motivation. When I am admitted to a good college, they will stop being so hard on me and I will have more freedom. But there’s still two more years to college.” To the students, the college represented freedom!

“Transfer student?” Qiao Nan put down the book in her hand. “Are you sure there will be a transfer student in our class at this time of the year?”

“Yes, the transfer student will be here next week.”

“Next week?” Qiao Nan was shocked. “There are three weeks until the final term exam. The teachers have already covered all the knowledge points for this semester. If the transfer student joins at this time, does that mean the transfer student is only here for the final term exam?”

“That’s right. Nan Nan, you find it weird as well, right? The transfer student must be foolish. If the transfer student is bent on a transfer, it will be more reasonable to do so in the next semester. The transfer student must be crazy to join us at this time.” It was rare that Qiao Nan shared the same opinion with Tang Mengran. She was very enthusiastic about going into details.

“This is someone else’s affairs. We can’t do anything about it. We just have to make sure that we do well.” Tao Zhenqin gave Tang Mengran a pat on her shoulder. “The next semester, all of us from the same dormitory will be in the same class except for you if you don’t work hard now and screw up in the final term exam.”

“Don’t, don’t say that. You’re scaring me. Just imagining it is terrible. Forget it. I won’t chat with all of you. I’d better do my revision.” Tang Mengran trembled slightly. She bucked up and started to read her book. She did not want to be by herself in the next semester.

Tang Mengran put all her attention on her studies and put the topic of the transfer student at the back of her mind.

When the weekend was over and Qiao Nan returned to the school, she had yet to find out about the transfer student when she saw someone that she did not expect to see at school. “Brother Zhai?”

Zhai Sheng was in his green military uniform, looking serious and stern. He pursed his thin lips slightly, his thick eyebrows slightly arched. There was a controlled look in his dark and serious eyes, making him even more charming. He looked righteous and compelling. Many second-year and third-year female students could not help but swoon at the sight of him.

“Isn’t that our instructor when we went for our military training last year?” Zhai Sheng was too outstanding and eye-catching. Even though he wore a simple green military uniform, he stood out among all the female students and their attention were on him. They only had eyes for him.

The students from first-year’s class one could recognize Zhai Sheng right away at first glance.

“Brother Zhai?” Fang Fang adjusted her glasses and was reminded of her own guess back then. Fang Fang smiled. It seemed that Nan Nan’s relationship with Instructor Zhai was much closer than she had imagined. However, if that was the case, what about Instructor Zhou?

“They seem to be coming out from the principal’s office.”

“Hey, who is the young lady next to the instructor? She looks so beautiful! The skirt that she wears is very pretty. Why haven’t I seen it before? If I have seen it, I will definitely get my mom to buy it for me!” Tang Mengran pulled excitedly at Tao Zhenqin’s clothes, pointing to the skirt worn by the young lady next to Zhai Sheng.

“It is natural that you haven’t seen it. I heard that this skirt is only available in Beijing. You can’t find it elsewhere. It is a foreign brand. It’s difficult to find in China. I heard that it is a limited edition and its price is astoundingly high. Even if you manage to maintain your standards and stay in class one for three years in high school, your parents won’t be able to buy it for you.” Zheng Lingling tried to calm Tang Mengran down. Not everyone could buy this skirt.

“Isn’t it just a skirt? Is it so expensive? Can it be made of gold?” Tang Mengran did not believe it. The skirt was so beautiful. She must find a chance to buy it to wear!

“It’s indeed very expensive.” Zheng Lingling rolled her eyes. “I heard that a transfer student will be coming. I haven’t seen this girl before. Is she going to transfer to our class?”

“Nan Nan?” Fang Fang gave Nan Nan a concerned look. Ever since the instructor came to their school, Nan Nan did not look very well.

If the girl was indeed the transfer student, and Instructor Zhai did not inform Nan Nan that he would accompany the girl to the school, it was no wonder that Nan Nan was angry.

“I’m fine.” Qiao Nan took a deep breath and told herself that she must believe in Brother Zhai. Although she did not know what was going on, from the expression on Brother Zhai’s face, he did not look very pleased.

Besides, Brother Zhai knew that she was a student at Ping Cheng High School.

If Brother Zhai had something going on with the girl, he would not be so foolish as to bring the girl with him and show up in front of her.

“Shall I get a student to bring you to first-year’s class one?” Principal Meng looked at Shi Qing kindly, as if she was the daughter of his close friend.

“Principal, thank you. There’s no need for that. With Brother Zhai around, I’m sure I will be able to find the classroom.” Shi Qing gave a smile as bright as the sunflower. She looked very sunny and cheerful, spreading warmth to people around her. “Brother Zhai, this schoolbag is very heavy. Can you help me carry it? It’s packed with books. I can’t carry it anymore.”

Shi Qing took the schoolbag and handed it to Zhai Sheng.

Zhai Sheng gave Shi Qing a warning glance, reminding her to know her limits. Regardless, he still took the schoolbag from her.

Shi Qing raised an eyebrow and smiled smugly. She walked with light footsteps in the front, as if she already knew where the classroom was. She did not need anyone to show her the way.

Previously, a group of people were staring at Shi Qing. When they realized that she went in the direction of first-year’s class one, the students from the class quickly rushed back to their classroom and sat down quietly on their seats.

“Brother Zhai, what are you looking at?” Although Shi Qing walked in the front, she seemed to know what was going on behind her. She did not turn back, but she knew that Zhai Sheng was looking at someone.

Zhai Sheng frowned and turned impatient. “Shi Qing, one must know their limits and I am known for my impatience.”

Shi Qing pouted. “Why did I hear that you are very patient with a certain someone?”

“You have already said it yourself that I am only particularly patient with that certain someone,” Zhai Sheng replied bluntly. If he had a choice, he was never one to conceal his true emotions.

Chapter 462: Show Some Concern for Your Classmate and Let Me Have Your Seat

“Brother Zhai, what’s the hurry? One day, I will make sure that I will be the one who you are patient with.” Shi Qing had no thoughts of giving up.

“Hmph.” Now that Zhai Sheng and Qiao Nan had been together for quite a while, like her, he had the same habit of sneering coldly at others.

Even though Shi Qing wore a skirt, she strode to the classroom in big steps. As soon as she entered the classroom, she scanned around like a searchlight, looking for something in particular.

Initially, Shi Qing was worried that Qiao Nan would be too ordinary and she would not be able to find her or recognize her right away.

However, when her gaze rested on Qiao Nan, Shi Qing realized that it was an unfounded worry. The woman that Brother Zhai was interested in could never be ordinary.

Qiao Nan was not well-dressed. In fact, she was dressed shabbily. The clothes that Qiao Nan wore had the same color as her white skirt, but the difference was that her skirt was white in color, whereas Qiao Nan’s clothes, though were made from good material, had turned whitish from too much washing.

To Shi Qing, this was the first time that she saw someone who wore clothes that had turned whitish from too much washing.

She looked glamorous like a white swan, while Qiao Nan looked grey and dull like the ugly duckling.

What made Shi Qing angry was that she looked as proud as a white swan, but Qiao Nan did not seem to feel inferior for being the ugly duckling. Her slender neck was slightly arched, her posture looked elegant, and she did not pale in comparison to her.

Even when Shi Qing kept staring at Qiao Nan, she still maintained her composure. She was neither overbearing nor self-effacing, and there was a cool look on her face. She had no whatsoever reaction to Shi Qing's surveying glance. Shi Qing could not help but darken her expression.

She took the risk of being scolded by the principal to wear a limited edition skirt to agitate Qiao Nan, yet she remained expressionless to her presence. Was Qiao Nan normal? Why did she not behave like girls her age?

Many of the students kept glancing at her skirt, envy and jealousy in their eyes.

Shi Qing had intended to establish an imposing air for herself by wearing that skirt, but Qiao Nan's calm reaction infuriated her. "You, stand up. I will sit in that place. From now on, this seat is mine. You can find another seat!"

Shi Qing did not care how Zhai Sheng would think. She stopped in front of Zhu Baoguo and ordered him to give up his seat.

As a bully, Zhu Baoguo had always been the one who ordered people around and would never take orders from others. "Are you sick? Since you are sick, you should remember to take medicine when you come out. It's okay if you have forgotten, but since you know that you are sick, you should have the medicine with you so that you can have them when your sickness acts up."

"So what if I am sick and didn't take medicine? Since I am sick, can't you show some concern for your classmate and let me have the seat? Are you a man? Why are you so wishy-washy? You should agree to it right away!"

Shi Qing was not fearful that Zhu Baoguo snapped at her. Instead, she admitted that she was ill. She was so straightforward that Zhu Baoguo was stunned momentarily.

Zhu Baoguo's face turned red. "It has nothing to do with you if I am a man or not. You do not need to know."

"What nonsense! I am not interested!"

"If not, why do you ask?"

While Zhu Baoguo engaged in childish banter with Shi Qing, Qiao Nan looked at Zhai Sheng as if asking why he was here.

Zhai Sheng placed Shi Qing's schoolbag on Qiao Nan's desk and stood by her side. "She is the daughter of an elder that I know. She is transferring to this school and the elder asked me to send her here."

"Is it very complicated?" Qiao Nan raised her eyebrows. The transfer student must have an impressive father such that she would dare to ask the future chief of the army to carry the schoolbag for her.

"It's not complicated at all." There was no obstacle between him and Nan Nan. Shi Qing did not pose a threat to them.

"Really?" She could not help but feel that Shi Qing was up to no good.

In fact, she had already noticed that ever since Shi Qing entered the classroom, she scanned the classroom before resting her gaze on Qiao Nan and had been staring at her for three minutes.

If Qiao Nan had thought too much and misunderstood Shi Qing, her move to take the seat from Zhu Baoguo undoubtedly proved that she was after Qiao Nan.

"Yes."

"That's good." Qiao Nan did not hesitate to believe in Zhai Sheng and neither did she probe further.

Qiao Nan and Zhai Sheng had finished their conversation, but Zhu Baoguo and Shi Qing had yet to end their quarrel.

Seeing that Zhu Baoguo was not easy to deal with, Shi Qing clenched her fists in annoyance. When she saw Zhai Sheng, she immediately loosened her fists. "It's fine if you refuse to give up your seat. You show no concern for your classmates, but I'm sure others will. This classmate over here, can you let me have your seat? I am not feeling well and I feel very tired right now. I need to sit down and rest."

Shi Qing gave up on Zhu Baoguo's seat. She turned and spotted a seat right behind Qiao Nan.

"Okay, but can we change the seat without informing the teacher? Do we need to tell Teacher Liu?" The boy's eyes lit up. He was happy to be engaged in a conversation with the new transfer student. Besides, she looked very beautiful.

"No problem. I will let Teacher Liu know. You are so kind, unlike someone who does not know to behave like a gentleman and is as noisy as a girl."

"It's nothing." The boy smiled with an infatuated look on his face. Without another word, he stuffed his books into his schoolbag and gave up his seat to Shi Qing.

"If you want others to behave like a gentleman, you have to act like a lady. Look at you. You're so rude and unreasonable that a shrew pales in comparison to you." After being friends with Qiao Nan, the only noticeable difference in Zhu Baoguo was that he became clever with words.

Shi Qing pinched her fingers and thought about the skirt that she wore. She smiled. "Brother Zhai, thank you for taking the time to send me to school. I am sorry to trouble you for the whole day. Let me treat you to a meal someday."

"No need." As soon as Shi Qing sat down, Zhai Sheng returned the schoolbag to her. "After all, it was your dad who asked me to send you to school. Now that you are at school, I have completed the task that your dad asked of me. Your dad used to look out for me. It's right of me to help him send you to school."

In fact, Zhai Sheng was telling Qiao Nan that it was Shi Qing's father who asked him for a favor. The reason why he accepted it was because Shi Qing's father had helped him in the past and he was simply returning the favor.

“Your dad’s health is not good. You must watch your behavior. You will not want your dad to worry about you and come out of the hospital to look for you. Understand?”

Father Shi was too weak to send his daughter to school. Otherwise, Zhai Sheng would not be willing to take on this job.

Chapter 463: How Many ‘Close Sisters’ Do You Have?

Qiao Nan tucked her chin and lowered her face. She tried to control the corners of her lips that curled upward. She finally understood what was going on.

However, when there was a chance next time, she would definitely ask Brother Zhai the details. There was no way that she would be dismissed by his brief explanation.

Zhai Sheng was not at the Zhai family’s residence. He must have rushed back from the army to send Shi Qing to the school. Qiao Nan wanted to know what help did Father Shi rendered that Zhai Sheng would go to great lengths to return the favor.

Shi Qing was not stupid. Initially, she had thought that Zhai Sheng cared for her, but when Zhai Sheng mentioned that her father was in the hospital, she knew that Zhai Sheng did not care for her. He was just explaining to Qiao Nan.

Shi Qing, who realized the truth, gritted her teeth. Qiao Nan, who heard it, looked toward Zhai Sheng. Why would the transfer student have such a huge reaction? Was there something that she did not know of?

Besides, it seemed that Qiao Nan was the reason why she transferred schools. But what was the reason?

Zhai Sheng lifted the corners of his lips. He was reluctant to answer Nan Nan’s question.

Qiao Nan massaged her temple. It seemed that besides Qiu Chenxi who had yet to give up, the transfer student was also interested in Brother Zhai. Next time, she must ask him how many ‘close sisters’ he had.

The transfer student looked quite bright. Given the way Brother Zhai explained to her, she must have known about Brother Zhai's relationship with her.

Zhai Sheng tapped his finger lightly on Qiao Nan's desk, telling her not to worry. Even though Shi Qing knew about their relationship, it would not be a problem for them.

Be assured?

Qiao Nan could not help but worry. She even suffered from gastric pain now.

If the transfer student told Auntie Miao about their relationship, all her efforts of keeping it from Auntie Miao would go down the drain.

Qiao Nan scratched her scalp. Forget it. She could only take one step at a time. With the final term exam in a few weeks' time, she had no time to worry about all those messy affairs like the transfer student or Chen Jun.

After sending Shi Qing to Ping Cheng High School, Zhai Sheng left straightaway.

Qiao Nan told herself that she should focus on her studies and set the matter of Shi Qing aside for now. She could only be passive and react to whatever she had up her sleeves.

However, it was weird that after Zhai Sheng left, Shi Qing changed her attitude toward Qiao Nan. She acted as if she was not interested in her and treated her just like any other classmates. She greeted her normally. She was neither like Qiu Chenxi, who showed her displeasure to her openly, and nor was she like Xu Tingting, who disregarded her completely. Qiao Nan was perplexed by her attitude.

"What's wrong with you?" There was only one week left before the final term exam. After lunch, Qiao Nan returned to the classroom to work on the last question. Zhu Baoguo, who returned to the classroom, looked miserable. His clothes were disheveled and there were a few strands of leaves in his hair.

Zhu Baoguo, who was grimacing in agony, pretended to be perfectly fine upon seeing Qiao Nan. "Nothing. There's nothing wrong with me at all."

“Nothing? What’s wrong with your pants? Why is there dust on your pants?” Qiao Nan looked at Zhu Baoguo’s pants.

Zhu Baoguo looked down and saw that the dirt on his pants was, in fact, a shoe print. His face turned black in anger. That woman was a monster! She was better with her fists than him and she was one who bore grudges. Their quarrel happened days ago, yet she bore it in mind and made trouble for him now!

Zhu Baoguo dusted the shoe print off his pants. Shi Qing, who wore a sports suit, walked happily into the classroom, humming an unknown tune. She was unlike the lady-like image that she portrayed when she first came to the school. Instead, she looked like a ruffian.

When she walked past Zhu Baoguo, she snorted at him.

Zhu Baoguo was so angry that he clenched his fists and could not wait to fight it out with Shi Qing. But when he was reminded of how good she was with her fists, he could only stop himself from acting rashly.

“Xiao Qiao, let me tell you something.”

“What?” Seeing that Zhu Baoguo lowered his voice deliberately, Qiao Nan cooperated by whispering to him.

“You must not offend Shi Qing. If you must, wait until the next semester starts.”

“Why?” Why must she offend Shi Qing and why must she wait until next semester?

“This...” Zhu Baoguo blushed. He could not tell Xiao Qiao that Shi Qing was a violent woman. Even though he had been in the army, he could not win against her!

If Xiao Qiao offended Shi Qing, there was no way that he could help her as he was defenseless against her.

But when summer break came, he would train in the army to toughen himself. By then, he would be able to help Xiao Qiao and she would not need to give in to Shi Qing.

“It’s alright if you don’t wish to say.” Qiao Nan stopped Zhu Baoguo when she noticed that his face turned so red that it was about to burst. “Don’t worry. The exams are coming, and I don’t provoke others as well.”

Besides, the issue was not whether she wanted to provoke Shi Qing. It was whether Shi Qing was willing to let her off.

Qiao Nan never expected that Shi Qing had the ability to make Zhu Baoguo, the bully, avoid her and stop provoking her.

Bearing in mind Zhu Baoguo’s kind reminder, like usual, Qiao Nan spent her days doing her revision and the final preparation for the upcoming final term exams.

Shi Qing seemed to be even more serious than her. This put Qiao Nan at ease. It seemed that, like Qiao Nan, Shi Qing was serious in her studies. She was not as terrifying as what Zhu Baoguo made her to be. It was no wonder that Brother Zhai told her not to worry about Shi Qing.

Although Qiao Nan did not get to spend a lot of time with Shi Qing, from the one month that they were classmates, Qiao Nan noticed that Shi Qing was quiet, and at times, she would exchange glares with Zhu Baoguo. But apart from these, Shi Qing had a very serious attitude toward learning. She was as studious as her.

It could be said that after Qiao Nan went through rebirth, apart from her roommates, Shi Qing caused her the least trouble among all the women she met.

Did Shi Qing really like Brother Zhai? What was her motive to transfer to her class? Qiao Nan was perplexed.

Shi Qing knew that Qiao Nan must have felt jealous and worried, but she did not care about what Qiao Nan thought. No matter what, her objective would not change.

“We are finally having the exams tomorrow. I have grown thinner from the daily revisions. I will rather die earlier and be reincarnated.” Tang Mengran bent over the table. She could not help but complain. “Nan Nan, you have nothing to worry about as you will always rank first in the level.”

“That may not be the case.” Shi Qing, who sat behind Qiao Nan, closed her book and voiced her opinion in front of Qiao Nan for the first time. “It’s about time someone else takes the first place in the level.”

Chapter 464: Last-Minute Preparations

After Shi Qing said those words, everyone in the classroom grew silent.

Even though Qiao Nan had only been at Ping Cheng High School for more than one semester, she ranked first in the level for almost all exams. It was precisely because of her capabilities that every first-year student had taken it as a fact that Qiao Nan would always rank first in the level.

As long as there was Qiao Nan around, nobody could beat her in exams.

However, today, someone dared to challenge Qiao Nan. Hence, everyone in class one was intrigued by her words.

“That’s right. Someone else should be the first in the level.” Xu Tingting pointed her nails that had just been trimmed. She smiled brightly and gave Qiao Nan a smug look. “When I went to Teacher Liu’s office last time to collect some stuff, guess what did I see? I saw Shi Qing’s past transcripts. Wow, I finally knew that there is someone who is so brilliant in this world. Her results were so perfect and outstanding that nobody is capable of that.”

Xu Tingting had waited a long time for a good show. She did not expect that Shi Qing was bold enough to challenge Qiao Nan on the eve of the final term exam.

“Shi Qing had a perfect score from elementary school to high school. Her scores for all her subjects were full marks, unlike some people whose results were pretty good in elementary school and at the beginning of junior high school. It was nothing compared to Shi Qing. I have high hopes for Shi Qing in this coming final term exam. Shi Qing, you must do our class proud!”

Qiao Nan touched her chin and smiled. She must be the person that Xu Tingting was talking about.

Indeed, although her grades from elementary school to the second year of junior high school were good, they were not as good as her grades now.

Shi Qing seemed to be formidable enough of an opponent to be praised by Xu Tingting.

“It is useless to talk about past results. What matters is now. Nan Nan will still be the first place in our level.” Tang Mengran would not take it lying down. Xu Tingting was resolute to be at odds with Nan Nan to agitate her with those words. “Nan Nan, some people are evil by nature. They did not do well in their exams, so they said all these to affect you. Nan Nan, you must not take those words to heart and let them affect your performance tomorrow. Facts speak louder than words. It’s useless to argue. It all depends on the results!”

“Yes, let’s look at the results.” Xu Tingting ground her teeth. Ever since Tang Mengran shared a dormitory with Qiao Nan, she was like Qiao Nan’s dog, always siding with Qiao Nan. To think that they used to be classmates!

Tang Mengran was a villain who curried favor with the powerful.

Just because Qiao Nan was still the vice class monitor while she was not, and that Qiao Nan ranked first in the level, Tang Mengran always helped and supported Qiao Nan. She was too shameless.

Xu Tingting and Tang Mengran almost ended up in a quarrel. On the contrary, as the parties concerned, Qiao Nan and Shi Qing were calmer, particularly Shi Qing. After challenging Qiao Nan, she kept herself busy with her own work. Even when Xu Tingting praised her deliberately, she acted as if she did not hear her and did not appear to be smug or happy at her words.

“Hehehe, there are people who are all brawns and no brains and yet they want to challenge Nan Nan. Dream on!” Zhu Baoguo ranted to himself. People like Shi Qing, who was athletic, could never be good in her studies. Xu Tingting must have not slept well yesterday, and thus was daydreaming in broad daylight!

Shi Qing smiled at what Zhu Baoguo said. That stupid fool thought that everyone was like him, that they would not be smart if they were athletic.

Qiao Nan did not care much about Shi Qing’s challenge. However, Tang Mengran was very worried about it because of her quarrel with Xu Tingting.

At night, Tang Mengran massaged Qiao Nan’s shoulders in the dormitory. “Nan Nan, Nan Nan, you must do well tomorrow for my sake. As long as you keep calm and maintain your standard, Shi Qing will be far behind you. Xu Tingting, that woman, is too wicked. Nan Nan, you have to preserve my dignity.”

“Tang Mengran, don’t be too much. If you say so, Nan Nan will feel the pressure. If you are so unhappy and have to go against Xu Tingting, you should do better than Xu Tingting in the exams.” Zheng Lingling was slightly annoyed. From what she heard, Tang Mengran did not have a happy time at home, but her personality was just like a child. She had no regards for other people’s feelings. She would only think of herself. It was as if she had never grown up and was unschooled in the ways of the world.

It seemed that Tang Mengran had been pampered by her parents and so she turned out to be so naive.

“Zheng Lingling, don’t be angry. I... I don’t mean that. If I could do better than Xu Tingting, I would have already done so. But she is so much better than me,” Tang Mengran said, disheartened.

In the class, her results were slightly below average or slightly better than those in the bottom.

On the contrary, even if Xu Tingting performed not as good as in junior high school, her results were still very good.

Tang Mengran did not understand. Xu Tingting had so many tricks up her sleeves, yet she could do so well in her exams. For her, she was devoted to her studies, but she could barely maintain her standard. It was so unfair.

Why would people like Xu Tingting be so smart?

“I am sleepy. I will sleep first. All of you can continue with the revision.” They knew Tang Mengran’s temper. Although she was willful, she did not overstep the boundaries. Even if she went overboard, the people in the dormitory would remind her. That was why Tang Mengran did not end up doing anything that was unacceptable and she could still get along well with her roommates.

“Nan Nan, it’s too early to sleep. It’s only half-past ten. How about doing more revision with us? Maybe you can sleep at twelve midnight?” Tang Mengran felt like crying. It was only half-past ten. All of the students would burn the midnight oil for the final sprint.

Although it was last-minute preparations, it was better than nothing.

Qiao Nan yawned, her sleepy eyes drooping. She shook her head. “No, all of you can do your revision. I want to have a good sleep now.”

“Nan Nan...”

“Alright, do your own revision.” Fang Fang took a book and stuffed it into the arms of Tang Mengran. “Rather than wasting time, you should do more revision. You don’t have to worry about Nan Nan now. You should be worried about yourself.”

Given Nan Nan’s results, there was no need to worry about her.

“That’s right. Don’t forget that if you don’t do well this time, all of us may be in the same class except you when it’s time to choose a course. Don’t come crying at us then. We won’t be able to help you.” Tao Zhenqin smiled. Given Tang Mengran’s results, she should worry about herself. Otherwise, she might sob her guts out when she did not do well.

Chapter 465: Skip a Grade and Recommended for Admission

“You’re right. Oh my god, tomorrow is the day of the exam. There’s only one night left. I’m going crazy. I have to make use of the time to revise.” Tang Mengran scratched her scalp in desperation. She flipped the books open and spread them on the table. Besides revising her notes and the knowledge points, she also tried out the examples.

Once Tang Mengran focused on her revision, Qiao Nan finally got a moment of peace.

Actually, they were going against the dormitory rules of switching off the lights to revise late into the night.

Nevertheless, it was the final term exam. As long as the main lights were switched off, and the students used their own torchlights, the teachers in charge of the dormitory would not punish them for it.

Qiao Nan covered her stomach with the blanket. She faced the wall with her back to the creaking electric fan and the light that was coming from He Yun and the rest who were revising. In almost three minutes’ time, Qiao Nan’s breathing turned heavy, falling into a deep sleep.

“Crap!” Tang Mengran, whose hair was messy, looked at the back of Qiao Nan, envious and jealous. “Nan Nan fell asleep in an instant. She did not even need time to settle down.”

“Alright, we have been classmates for almost a year. This is not the first time Nan Nan behaves like this. Haven’t you gotten used to it?” Zheng Lingling lent a pen to Tang Mengran. “From the way you threw your pen, I don’t suppose you can use it tomorrow. This is for you to keep as a spare. If you’re unhappy, don’t take it out on the pen.”

“Thank you, I really need it. Tomorrow’s the final term exam. The money I have is only enough for me to go home. If the pen is broken, I can’t even sit for the exam. When I go back home, I will definitely be scolded.” Tang Mengran behaved as if she was given a treasure. She kept the pen nicely in her bag.

In the past, Qiao Nan had always been the one who slept the earliest and woke up the earliest in the dormitory.

But when it was time for exams, Qiao Nan was still the one who slept the earliest. However, she would not be the first person to wake up.

When Qiao Nan woke up and folded her blanket, the other girls in the dormitory had already woken up and were doing their revision.

Seeing that everyone, including Fang Fang, had this habit, Qiao Nan could only shake her head helplessly. In fact, among her roommates, apart from Tang Mengran who would skive occasionally and needed to cram what she learned in a short period of time, the rest were very conscientious in their studies and had no need to do that.

“Nan Nan, hurry up. After breakfast, let’s go to the classroom to do our revision for another two more hours.” Zheng Lingling reminded her.

“I am done. Let’s go.” In order to save time, Qiao Nan had wanted to cut her hair short in high school so that it would be more convenient to wash and comb, but Zhai Sheng objected strongly to it. They argued for a long time before Qiao Nan was allowed to cut her hair to shoulder length.

In fact, if she cut her hair short, she would look less feminine and would not attract the attention of the boys. Qiao Nan had no idea why Brother Zhai was so against it.

“Let’s go.” Tang Mengran pulled Qiao Nan along with her and ran outside the dormitory.

The six of them used the fastest speed to finish breakfast and rush to their classroom.

By the time they reached the classroom, most of the students were already in their seats.

Shi Qing, who had already done a few questions, looked at Qiao Nan with a puzzled look. Qiao Nan seemed to have arrived too late. What was she doing? Why would she be so nervous and think so highly of Qiao Nan?

“Shi Qing from first-year’s class one, someone is looking for you. Come down now,” the guards shouted toward the classroom.

Shi Qing frowned, reluctant to stop her revision. But she still went to the school gate to find out who was looking for her.

At this time, all of the students in the class were concentrated on the book in their hands. Even Xu Tingting, who was a busybody, did not lift her head to look. Her eyes were glued to her book, and she was mouthing the contents of the book.

The students had not even noticed that Shi Qing had left before she returned with someone beside her.

“All of you are so hardworking. It’s so early in the morning and you’re already doing your reading.” The woman next to Shi Qing smiled and looked at the scene in the classroom, her eyes sweeping over the class. She seemed to be looking for someone.

Shi Qing lifted her chin and the person beside her located Qiao Nan right away.

Qiu Chenxi’s cold and raised voice sounded especially jarring and noisy in the quiet classroom. But she was oblivious to it.

The students in the class looked up reluctantly. They stared at the person who spoke loudly and disturbed their revision. When everyone realized that the person was not from their class and that they had not seen her before in school, they could not help but frown at her.

“Sorry, she is my cousin.” Shi Qing pulled at Qiu Chenxi. “Sister, what are you doing?” It was already very weird that she would look for her early in the morning, and she still shouted in their classroom. What did she mean by that?

Qiao Nan, who was writing, halted. “Cousin?” Shi Qing and Qiu Chenxi had such a relationship? Why did Brother Zhai not tell her?

Was Shi Qing hostile and declared war to her because of Qiu Chenxi?

Did Shi Qing come to take revenge for Qiu Chenxi and so she wanted to fight for the first place in the level?

“I am here to see you.” Qiu Chenxi looked at Shi Qing with a smile on her face. “Qing Qing, you are too willful. No matter how your mom and I persuaded you, you refused to listen. With your grades, you could skip a grade to study in the third year next semester and take the college entrance examination the following year. Your school has already promised that as long as you maintain your standard and remain in the top three, they will ensure your admission to Peking University. You could have saved one year’s time of hard work, but you insisted on doing it the difficult way. For the sake of me, you decided to go to... I don’t know what to say of you. You take things too seriously.”

“Skip a grade?”

“Peking University!”

Could it be any more exciting?

While they were struggling for the first-year final term exam, Shi Qing had the chance to skip a grade, and as long as she could remain in the top three places, she would be recommended admission to Peking University. This was such a privilege!

They had worked so hard, but they might not be able to go to Peking University, yet Shi Qing could be directly admitted to the university because of her excellent performance. She was simply the envy of all the other students.

Why would Shi Qing, who could have secured her admission to Peking University, transfer to Ping Cheng High School? What was she doing here? Was she seeking fun and excitement?

It was no wonder that Shi Qing dared to challenge Qiao Nan. She had the capability to do that.

It seemed that what Xu Tingting said yesterday was true. Shi Qing's past results were very outstanding. It was no wonder that the principal was willing to accept her transfer to the school at this time of the semester.

One was merely the top student in the first year, while the other person was someone who could have skipped a grade, advanced to the third year, and maintained her place in the top three. The students in the class looked on in anticipation for the good show that was about to unfold in their class.

Chapter 466: Do Not Give Yourself Too Much Pressure

In the last first-year final term exam, someone else besides Qiao Nan could rank first in the level.

Qiao Nan might be outstanding, but she was only outstanding among the first-year students. Shi Qing, who just transferred to their school, was different. She was far superior to the students in her same level and could compete with third-year students for the first three spots. Their abilities were miles apart.

“Xiao Qiao, don't give yourself too much pressure. It is just the first place in the level. There's nothing so great about it. We just have to do our best. It doesn't matter if we end up with the first or second place.” Zhu Baoguo's countenance changed. He could not wait to treat Shi Qing like a football and kick her out of first-year class one and Ping Cheng High School.

What was this? Since she could skip a grade to study in third-year curriculum, why did she come to first-year class one? She must be sick!

Tang Mengran almost wanted to bite off her tongue. Yesterday, she encouraged Nan Nan to compete with Shi Qing to secure first place in the level and do better than Shi Qing.

This, this was simply impossible. Their standards were too far apart.

She did not know that Shi Qing was so intelligent. She was the same age as them, yet she had such high IQ and was qualified to skip a grade and recommended for admission to a university.

If she had known about Shi Qing's capability, she would not have told Nan Nan to do something impossible.

She had no intention of making things difficult for Nan Nan or to see her make a fool of herself. Would Nan Nan misunderstand her?

Those girls who shared the same dormitory as Qiao Nan were worried for her, while the rest of the students in the class were anticipating the events that would unfold.

Since they would never be able to rank first in the level, it did not matter if another person other than Qiao Nan ranked first. As for Xu Tingting, she was all smiles. She was in for a good show. Qiao Nan could no longer act arrogant and proud in front of them. She had met her formidable opponent.

Did she really think that she was the smartest girl in the world?

It was high time that a real genius like Shi Qing taught Qiao Nan a lesson. Otherwise, she would become too insolent and arrogant, and would be hated and shunned by others.

"Qiao Nan, Teacher Liu wants to see you in the office." While everyone stared at Qiao Nan to see her reaction, a student from the next class passed the message for Teacher Liu.

"Oh, okay, thank you." Qiao Nan put down the book calmly and stood up. When she walked past Qiu Chenxi, she asked politely, "Excuse me, you are blocking the door."

"There is more than one door in this classroom. You obviously know that the door has been blocked and that someone is here. You should be smart and use the other door." Qiu Chenxi refused to stand aside and gave a double-edged remark in reply to Qiao Nan.

"Shi Qing's cousin, this is first-year class one. Every student in the class can use this door. You're only here to look for Shi Qing. Isn't it impolite of you to block the door?"

Qiao Nan was amused. Qiu Chenxi had not figured out the rightful owner of the 'door'.

Qiu Chenxi was standing in front of someone else's 'door', yet she was so bold to act as if she did nothing wrong and told her to use another 'door'. She was so ridiculous.

"Cousin!" Shi Qing was unhappy. She pulled Qiu Chenxi to a side. "Qiao Nan, this way."

Qiu Chenxi who was pulled to a side turned even more unhappy. She looked at Shi Qing in anger as if to say, 'Are you here to help me or to help Qiao Nan to bully me?'

Shi Qing stared back at Qiu Chenxi. She was not here to help either one of them. She was here to help herself. On the other hand, did her cousin not feel that her behavior was too petty and embarrassing?

It was very insulting to block the door and insist that Qiao Nan used the back door.

Her cousin had graduated from college, but she did not seem to know of the saying, 'He that shames shall be shent.'

Whatever Qiao Nan said to her cousin just now, it was her cousin who asked for it!

Qiao Nan did not look at Qiu Chenxi's reaction. She walked past the two of them and went to Teacher Liu's office.

She did not care if Shi Qing was sent by Qiu Chenxi to deal with her. Qiu Chenxi must have been indulging in fantasy if she believed that Qiao Nan would be defeated and lose her confidence, and that she would give up Brother Zhai just because Shi Qing ranked first in the level.

But then again, Qiu Chenxi had always doubted that she was the girl Brother Zhai was interested in. Last time, Qiu Chenxi even came to the conclusion that anyone could possibly be Brother Zhai's girlfriend except for her.

If that was the case, why would Qiu Chenxi target her and insist on making life difficult for her?

Qiao Nan did not know that, in fact, Qiu Chenxi was targeting Qiao Nan so as to force the real girlfriend to come out of hiding.

“Teacher Liu, were you looking for me?”

“Yes, come over and have a seat. There’s only an hour to the exam. Qiao Nan, are you nervous?”
Teacher Liu asked.

Qiao Nan smiled. “Teacher Liu, we have gotten used to the exams. We used to have tests and exams every once in a while. How can I be nervous?”

Teacher Liu smiled. “It’s good that you don’t feel the stress. By the way, Qiao Nan, there’s a new transfer student in our class. She has already submitted the form and will take the science course in the second half of the semester. In other words, both of you will not be classmates in the future. The knowledge that both of you learned and the content of the exams will be slightly different. Therefore, you must not give yourself too much pressure or be nervous. There are some things that we don’t have to be too mindful about. In this world, one can’t possibly stay ever victorious. It’s more important to be humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Do you understand what I mean?”

Qiao Nan nodded blankly. She did not know how to respond to his words. “Teacher Liu, did you say all these as you feel that Shi Qing’s past results were very good and I may not be able to do better than her? Hence, you are worried that I will not be able to take it and so you decided to comfort me in advance?”

Did Teacher Liu not realize that his words might put too much pressure on Qiao Nan and she would not be able to perform well in the final term exams?

She wondered how good Shi Qing’s results were that Teacher Liu felt that she would never do better than her and would be discouraged because of it.

“Teacher Liu, in fact, you don’t have to do this. I don’t have the ambition to rank first in the level all the time. I just want to do my best and perform according to my standard. I won’t stress myself out or set a goal such as ranking first in the level. I will simply do my best. As for the first place in the level, let’s leave it to fate.”

She indeed did not have such ambitions.

Chapter 467: Give Up on Oneself

She did not think too much. It was Teacher Liu who worried too much.

“It’s good if you think that way.” Teacher Liu sighed with relief. Being a teacher for so many years, he had seen many students who stirred up trouble because of competing with other students to be the top student. Some of them felt the stress at being overtaken by others and pushed themselves to get back on the tracks, but their grades worsened instead. They used to be top students but ended up to be students with fluctuating results.

Teacher Liu was worried that this time was no exception. Hence, he told Qiao Nan beforehand, lest she went down a blind alley.

Besides, Shi Qing also came at an inopportune time. Teacher Liu was busy doing revision with the students in class one and she transferred to their class at this time.

Teacher Liu heard from President Meng that Shi Qing’s results were very good and her standard was definitely good enough for her to transfer to first-year class one.

Teacher Liu knew that President Meng would not possibly tarnish the reputation of class one. Thus, he was sure that Shi Qing’s grades were good enough to join class one. However, he did not find out how her past results were.

Teacher Liu was surprised when he looked through the documents that Shi Qing submitted for the transfer today. He did not expect that there would be someone as outstanding as Qiao Nan in this world. More importantly, both of the students were in his class.

When he found out that Shi Qing almost skipped a grade and was recommended for admission to a university, Teacher Liu could not help but worry for Qiao Nan.

There was hardly any difference between their results.

But with the chances of skipping a grade and recommended for admission to a university, Shi Qing seemed to have the upper hand.

“Alright, go back and do your revision.”

“Thank you, Teacher Liu.” Qiao Nan thanked the teacher and returned to the classroom.

By the time Qiao Nan returned to the classroom, Qiu Chenxi was no longer there. Shi Qing had returned to her seat and was reading quietly.

Qiao Nan lowered her eyes and sat down in her seat.

As soon as Qiao Nan took her seat, Zhu Baoguo posed a question to her. “Xiao Qiao, why do I feel that Shi Qing’s cousin behaved strangely toward you?” Shi Qing’s cousin wanted Xiao Qiao to use the back door in their own school. Shi Qing was sick. Her cousin must be sick as well!

“Since you know that there’s something wrong with them, why should you bother? You won’t stand to gain at all.” It was too complicated, and Qiao Nan had no wish to explain. Besides, other than her father, she did not tell anyone about her relationship with Zhai Sheng.

“I am just worried that you will be wronged and bullied.”

“If you were worried, why didn’t you do anything just now?” Qiao Nan was amused. “Tell me honestly... Forget it. The final exam is coming. I will preserve some dignity for you and will not probe.”

In the past, when Xu Tingting picked on her, Zhu Baoguo would stand up for her and yell at Xu Tingting.

Today, Qiu Chenxi was arrogant and impudent, yet Zhu Baoguo remained seated and kept silent.

Zhu Baoguo was either afraid of Qiu Chenxi or Shi Qing.

Qiao Nan could tell that the dust on Zhu Baoguo’s pants last time was a girl’s shoe print. Qiao Nan wanted to show some respect for Zhu Baoguo’s feelings, so she did not point it out.

Judging from Zhu Baoguo’s words and attitude, Qiao Nan came to a conclusion that a few days ago, Zhu Baoguo not only fought with Shi Qing, but he also lost to Shi Qing.

Qiao Nan was amused that Zhu Baoguo, the bully who used to be ill-disciplined and out of control, was defeated by a young lady.

Teacher Liu had mentioned that Shi Qing chose the science course.

She used to worry that if she was not by Zhu Baoguo's side, would he be able to control his temper or would he revert to his old ways. Now, it seemed like as long as Shi Qing did not transfer to another school, there would be someone who could help her take Zhu Baoguo, the troublesome 'son', in hand.

What Qiao Nan was most concerned about was that Zhu Baoguo was too capable and had a powerful family background. Nobody would be able to control him, and he would gradually go out of control.

Zhu Baoguo did not know that while he was worried for her, Qiao Nan had already decided that Shi Qing would be the one who would be able to take him in hand.

"Oh, right, the exams! I need to revise!" Zhu Baoguo seemed to know what Qiao Nan wanted to say. Gone was his anger, and he started to read his book quietly.

Zhu Baoguo was indeed angry at Qiu Chenxi's arrogant attitude and wanted to shut her up, but she was Shi Qing's cousin and Shi Qing was standing next to her.

The enemy was stronger than him. He knew he would lose and injure himself, hence Zhu Baoguo decided not to act rashly. He would wait until he was stronger before he settled scores with them and got back at them for what happened today!

"Wait a minute, Xiao Qiao. You want me to revise, but what are you doing?" Zhu Baoguo had just started to read before he noticed that Qiao Nan, who was next to him, put away her books, stacked her hands together, and laid her head on them to sleep.

"I feel that I did not have enough sleep yesterday. Anyway, there is still an hour to go. I want to take a nap," Qiao Nan yawned and said in a relaxed manner.

She felt the pressure when she always ranked first in the level.

Now that she knew it was highly possible for someone else to rank first, she felt relieved that she no longer needed to push herself so hard.

She would just perform as per normal. Whatever she needed to revise and study had already been covered. It was useless to do further revision in this one hour's time. She would rather take a nap and rest well.

Zhu Baoguo looked at Qiao Nan and wanted to get her to wake up. She must not give up on herself. But then, he was reminded of Shi Qing's results and kept quiet.

Even though Xiao Qiao could have competed for first place in the level with the violent woman, her days would not be better and she would not stand to gain. In that case, there was no difference being in the first place or second place. Xiao Qiao was already good enough. It would be good for her to slow down her pace.

All the students in the class were doing their last-minute revision except for Qiao Nan, who was the only one who was bent over the table, sleeping soundly!

Anyone who took a closer look at Qiao Nan would notice something amiss. Qiao Nan remained in the same posture and her head did not move. It was only when the electric fan blew at her would a few strands of her hair move slightly.

If she was not asleep, nobody would be able to stay in the same position on a sunny day. It was too warm to stay in the same position.

“At least, she has some sense to give up. In that way, she could save some efforts.” Xu Tingting drank some water. It was very soothing and cooling. She was extremely pleased with what she saw. Back then, in order to catch up with Qiao Nan, Xu Tingting was foolish enough to put in twice the effort and push hard on herself. But no matter what, her results could never be compared to Qiao Nan's results. Xu Tingting felt that her hard work back then was not worth it.

Chapter 468: It Was Hard to Say Who Was the Fool

She was not as wise as Qiao Nan to submit to circumstances and be quick to give up.

Xu Tingting was not the only one who had a similar mentality in class one.

In the next one and a half day, everyone noticed that Qiao Nan did not really do her revision. They felt that Qiao Nan must have felt that Shi Qing was too strong an opponent, and since she had no chance of winning, she simply gave up.

Shi Qing kept frowning and showed her displeasure at Qiao Nan's behavior. She had not worked hard and tried her best, yet she had given up. She did not believe that Brother Zhai would like such a woman.

Even though love was blind, Brother Zhai would never like girls like her.

After the first day of the exam, and when everyone had finished their dinner, Shi Qing asked to meet Qiao Nan in the woods nearby.

“Your shadow didn't tag along with you?” Seeing Qiao Nan came by herself, Shi Qing smiled like a gangster and kicked the small tree next to her. “He was assured enough to let you come by yourself to meet me? He is just a wimp. How dare he act up in front of me!”

“What's your reason for asking me to come here? Tell me now.” Qiao Nan did not answer the question about Zhu Baoguo. He did not know that she was here to meet Shi Qing.

Shi Qing threw the bag that she carried over to Qiao Nan. “These are my class notes. I'll lend them to you.” She was sure that she would beat Qiao Nan in the exams. Apart from Brother Zhai, she had not lost to anybody in exams or fights.

Even though she never felt that she would lose to Qiao Nan, Shi Qing felt angry for both Brother Zhai and herself when she saw Qiao Nan give up so easily. “Aren't you worried that Brother Zhai will be disappointed when he knows what you have done? As far as I know, Brother Zhai will not approve of your behavior.”

“You indeed...” She did know about her relationship with Brother Zhai.

“Yes, I know. I am not stupid and I am not blind. Besides, Brother Zhai's behavior is quite obvious.” Shi Qing's expression darkened. “You are thin and don't have a good figure. Your looks are average and you don't come from a good family. Your only strength is your good results. Now that there's me, don't you feel ashamed of yourself and that you are not worthy of Brother Zhai?”

“Why don’t you just say that you don’t understand why Brother Zhai likes me?” Qiao Nan was amused. Shi Qing was jealous, but her tone was different from Qiu Chenxi. Hence, Qiao Nan was not angry at her. “Well, it goes to show that Brother Zhai likes me not because of any other external factors. He likes me for the way I am. Qiu Chenxi and you...”

Since Shi Qing knew about her relationship with Brother Zhai, Qiu Chenxi would not have behaved in that way yesterday if Shi Qing had told her about it. She would definitely create havoc.

“This has nothing to do with her. It only concerns Brother Zhai, you, and me. I have liked Brother Zhai from a young age. He used to be with Qiu Chenxi, and since we are relatives, and I knew him later than Qiu Chenxi, I decided to back out. But you knew Brother Zhai later than me, and you can’t compare to me in all aspects, so I won’t let you have Brother Zhai. I want to fight for the happiness that I once gave up. Qiao Nan, let’s compete with each other!”

“Compete in the exams?” Qiao Nan raised an eyebrow. “If you rank first, I will give up on Brother Zhai, and if I rank first, you will scram?”

“I am not so childish.” Shi Qing gave Qiao Nan a look of disdain. “It is sheer bullying if I am to compare results with you. Since you are Brother Zhai’s girlfriend, you will have more chances to meet him than me. I am certain I am so much better than you, and I am more suitable for Brother Zhai. As long as I stay at Ping Cheng High School, I will have more chances to meet Brother Zhai. By that time, we shall see whether Brother Zhai only has eyes for you and takes me for nothing.”

“You said that Qiu Chenxi knew Brother Zhai earlier than you and hence you backed out. Now, you know that I am in a relationship with Brother Zhai, but you still insist to fight for his attention. Shi Qing, don’t you think there is a problem with your reasoning?”

“Are you saying that I’m a third party?” Shi Qing’s face turned red. She was embarrassed and angry.

“What do you think?” Seeing that Shi Qing blushed at her words, Qiao Nan knew that Shi Qing’s personality was better than Qiu Chenxi’s. She was not so unreasonable and full of herself like Qiu Chenxi. “Brother Zhai told me what happened with Qiu Chenxi. All along, it was the arrangement between the elders of the two families. Brother Zhai did not agree to the arrangement and has not accepted Qiu Chenxi. I am different from Qiu Chenxi... Forget it. There are some things that I will only say when the exams are over. I’m afraid it will affect your mood.”

Brother Zhai and Qiu Chenxi were not in a relationship at all. Besides, it was Qiu Chenxi who took the initiative, but Brother Zhai never reciprocated her feelings.

In her case, it was Brother Zhai who confessed his love for her, and they had decided to start a relationship.

In the case of Qiu Chenxi, if Shi Qing did anything, she would not be considered a third party. However, since Brother Zhai was already in a relationship with Qiao Nan now, it would be a different matter if Shi Qing tried to fight for his affection.

“Of course, if you are unhappy that I did not tell you the full story, I can continue with what I want to say now.”

“No need!” Shi Qing said in anger. “Actually, I understand, but I just don’t want to give up. People are selfish. I have given up once. I don’t want to give up for the second time. If I don’t try my best, I cannot answer to myself. As for Qiu Chenxi, you don’t have to care about her. I may be here because of her, but whatever I do has nothing to do with her.”

“In short, I called you here because I hoped you would have the correct attitude. I don’t want to win by dishonor. Even if it doesn’t mean anything to rank first, I will definitely not relax and do my best instead.” As long as there was a chance, she wanted to compete with Qiao Nan and strive to be the best.

“Also, Qiao Nan, don’t be too happy. You are different from Qiu Chenxi, and I am different from Qiu Chenxi as well. I have an advantage over both of you. It’s just that you do not know of it. Given that Brother Zhai sent me to school this time, you should be able to tell.”

“Did Qiu Chenxi send you here because of your advantage?” Did it mean that Qiu Chenxi sent Shi Qing to deal with Brother Zhai’s ‘girlfriend’?

“Is this what you should be concerned about?” Shi Qing rolled her eyes. “An honest man does nothing underhand. If I don’t make it clear, I will feel uneasy. In short, this is between you and me. As for Qiu Chenxi, you don’t have to worry about her. Even though we are relatives, I am not very close to her.”

“But Qiu Chenxi seemed to take you for a fool and made use of you.” Yesterday, Qiu Chenxi went to their school and tried to deal her a blow by bragging about Shi Qing’s results.

Shi Qing snorted. "It's hard to say who the fool is." If not for Qiu Chenxi having a hidden agenda, she would not have this chance.

Chapter 469: Are You Not Afraid That I Would Be a Threat?

Qiao Nan smiled in reply. "Perhaps, this is indeed the case." Brother Zhai did not care for Qiu Chenxi, but he was not cold toward Shi Qing. Qiu Chenxi seemed to have created a big problem for herself.

"Hey..." Shi Qing was upset. "How can you laugh at this time? Don't tell me that I pose no threat to you? I have said that I like Brother Zhai." Qiao Nan should be worried.

"Qiu Chenxi obviously does not know your relationship with Brother Zhai. She wanted to make use of me to find out who the girlfriend of Brother Zhai is. Aren't you worried that I will tell Qiu Chenxi the truth?" Qiao Nan was way too calm. It was getting on her nerves.

Qiao Nan still had a smile on her face. "I will be worried if you keep quiet about everything. But now that you have made everything clear, I don't think I have anything to worry about. When Qiu Chenxi came to our school before the exams started yesterday, it was the perfect opportunity to tell her the truth, but you didn't. So, why do you think I should be worried?"

If Shi Qing had meant to tell her cousin the truth, she would have said so earlier.

Once Shi Qing told Qiu Chenxi the truth, Qiu Chenxi would create a fuss at the Zhai family and tell them of her relationship with Brother Zhai. She might not even be able to sit for the exams, let alone do well in the exams.

Since the exams for yesterday were over, Qiao Nan felt that she did not need to be overly concerned.

Shi Qing snorted. "You're quite clever, but it is useless."

"Thank you for your concern. So far, my little cleverness is still enough for me to survive. There's only half an hour to the exam. If we don't go back, we may be late for the exam or we may leave out anything that we need to bring. Shi Qing, even if you deliberately lose to me in the exams, I can't let you have Brother Zhai." Qiao Nan returned the class notes to Shi Qing. "There is only half an hour left. I won't have the time to read the notes. Thank you."

“Don’t pretend to be holy and pure. It’s fine that you don’t want it.” Shi Qing did not pretend to be polite to Qiao Nan. She had made the biggest effort by taking the initiative to lend her the class notes. Since Qiao Nan did not want the notes, she would not be so foolish to insist that she took them.

“Xiao Qiao, you...” When Qiao Nan returned to the classroom, Zhu Baoguo pulled her to the side. He had yet to finish his sentence when he saw Shi Qing coming back right behind Qiao Nan.

Zhu Baoguo stopped in mid-sentence upon seeing Shi Qing. He waited for Shi Qing to leave before he continued. “Haven’t I told you that this woman is not to be meddled with? When school reopens next time, I will help you deal with her.”

If Xiao Qiao looked for Shi Qing now, she would only be bullied by her.

“Don’t worry. Nothing happened. In fact, Shi Qing is quite reasonable, unlike Xu Tingting and the rest.” Among the people that she met, apart from her roommates, everyone, including Qiao Zijin, seemed as if they were scheming against her.

But Shi Qing was different. Even though she was here to fight for Brother Zhai’s affection, she was very frank about it.

There was one thing about Shi Qing that made Qiao Nan at ease. She was not like Qiu Chenxi who had not even started a relationship with Brother Zhai but always said that he was her boyfriend, and made it such that his actual girlfriend was the third party.

“Is that so?” Zhu Baoguo did not believe her.

“Look at me. Do I look as if there’s something wrong?” She looked perfectly fine.

Zhu Baoguo gave Qiao Nan a serious look and sized her up for any injuries. “It seems that you’re fine. Xiao Qiao, you must hang in there. After today’s exams, you will be free. You must not be affected by Shi Qing. Let’s not compete for first place with her. We can go for second place.”

Qiao Nan did not know whether she should cry or laugh. “I didn’t think too much. It’s all of you who think too much. I have never given myself that much pressure. I have never thought of always

being in the first place. I just want to study hard and strive for a good future. I am not foolish enough to push myself to always remain in the first place.”

Even if she was the top student, she was only the top student in Ping Cheng High School, if not the entire Ping Cheng.

China was a huge country. There were lots of talents. She could never be the first in the country!

What a joke!

“Right, it’s good that you think this way. Xiao Qiao, have some water and hydrate yourself. The weather is so hot that we keep perspiring. We must be careful not to suffer from heatstroke.” Zhu Baoguo agreed immediately. He only had one goal in mind, and it was for Xiao Qiao to relax and sit for the exam as per normal, and not to be affected by Shi Qing.

Xu Tingting sneered. Qiao Nan refused to admit that she had lost.

When the exam was over and the results came out, and Shi Qing ranked first, she was interested to know whether Qiao Nan would be as composed and cool as she was now.

“Well, all the exams are over. In five days’ time, remember to come back to school to get the report card. As for the streaming for the next semester, the school will post the results on the bulletin board. In September, some of you may still be my students, while some of you will not be. No matter what, I hope you can still have the learning spirit and attitude of class one throughout your three years in high school,” Teacher Liu stood at the podium and spoke to the students.

“It’s almost time. All of you should go back. Don’t be too late.”

“Goodbye, Teacher Liu.”

All of the students felt liberated now that the exams were over.

Regardless of how they did, there was at least a five-day buffer period for them to relax.

Qiao Nan stayed close to the school. Hence, among her classmates, she was the first to reach home. “Dad, I am back.”

“Nan Nan, you are back. It’s very hot today. Have a Popsicle to relieve the discomfort from the hot weather.” Qiao Dongliang took a Popsicle that seemed to be steaming and brought it to Qiao Nan. It seemed that it had just been taken out of the refrigerator.

Qiao Nan did not really like cold stuff. In the past, they did not have the money for this. Now, she seldom ate them as it was not good for the body.

But since Qiao Dongliang gave it to her out of kindness, she could not possibly refuse. She took it from her father. “It’s mung beans. Delicious! But Dad, how did you know that I would come back at this time? This Popsicle is very hard. It seems like it has just been taken out of the refrigerator.”

“It has indeed just been taken out of the refrigerator.”

“Oh? You just came back home?” It did not seem so.

“No, it’s not the refrigerator outside. It’s our own refrigerator.” Qiao Dongliang led Qiao Nan to check out the newly bought refrigerator. “Look, I just took out the popsicle from the refrigerator.” Since the Popsicle had just been taken out of the refrigerator, it was very hard.

“Dad, why do we have a refrigerator at home?” Even though they did not need to provide for Qiao Zijin and her mother, her father would not have bought the refrigerator. Did her father win the lottery?

Chapter 470: The Son-In-Law Bought It

If her father had the spare cash, he would definitely save them for Qiao Zijin and her to use when they went to college.

“Why do you think we have a refrigerator at home?” Qiao Dongliang felt slightly displeased.

Back then, Ding Jiayi always clamored to buy a refrigerator. When it was summer, particularly, it would be much more convenient to have a refrigerator at home. However, the Qiao family’s financial condition did not allow them to buy a refrigerator.

They never expected that now that Ding Jiayi was no longer at home, they would have a large refrigerator at home. When it was summer, they did not need to buy Popsicles from the small retail stall anymore. They could have Popsicles in the comfort of their house.

“Is it also from Zhu Baoguo’s father?”

“It was indeed a gift from someone, but it was not from Zhu Baoguo’s father. It was from Zhai Sheng.”

“Brother Zhai?” Qiao Nan was stunned. “Why would he send this to us? Dad, why were you willing to accept it?”

“Accept?” Of course not!

Zhai Sheng, the young brat, was crafty. He knew that he would not have accepted the refrigerator. Therefore, after buying the refrigerator, he got someone else to send it to him. The person left after delivering the refrigerator. Qiao Dongliang did not have a chance to refuse.

Qiao Dongliang did not want to accept it, but he could not possibly leave the refrigerator outside. It would be a pity to be taken away by others.

Since it was already in the house, and it was summer, some fruits and vegetables would last longer if kept in the refrigerator, Qiao Dongliang could not help but end up using the new refrigerator.

“Hahaha.” Qiao Nan was amused. Her father must have fallen for Brother Zhai’s tricks. He had no other choice but to accept the refrigerator.

“Nan Nan, the exams were just over. How do you feel about the exams?” Qiao Dongliang poured a glass of water for Qiao Nan. He seemed to be very concerned.

“It’s the same as usual.”

“That’s good.” Qiao Dongliang clapped in happiness. Given Nan Nan’s standard, it was good enough to perform as per normal.

Qiao Nan changed her shoes. She hesitated before saying, “But Dad, I may not rank first in the whole level in this final term exam. I may only rank second. Will you be disappointed?”

“The second in the whole level?” Qiao Dongliang paused momentarily. Since the third year of junior high school, Nan Nan had always ranked first. “It’s very good to rank second. Besides, it is among the whole level. It’s already a very good result.”

“Dad, are you really not disappointed or unhappy?”

“No, why will I?” Qiao Dongliang smiled. “Initially, I thought that you looked strange when you came back today. So it was regarding this. It is very good to achieve the second in the level. For me, I am not highly educated and my grades were not very good when I was in school. Moreover, judging from your sister’s grades, you’re the only one who is intelligent in a family whose members are not good in their studies. You have inherited the few good genes in the family. If I were given another chance, I would never be able to rank second in the class, let alone second in the level. Nan Nan, you are much more capable than me. I must give you a thumbs-up!”

Qiao Dongliang gave Qiao Nan a thumbs-up proudly. He was already very satisfied and pleased with Qiao Nan’s results.

In short, if he was to sit for the exam, he would only rank second-to-last in the class, let alone in second place.

Qiao Nan smiled, relieved of all tension. “Dad, I must give you a thumbs-up as well!”

Qiao Nan gave her father a thumbs-up. In this world, no other father was better than him.

After eliminating her last bit of worry about her results, Qiao Nan felt lighter and more relaxed. “Dad, I just finished my exams. I intend to give myself a five-day break. After getting the report card, I will then make a study plan. I am really tired out these few days.”

“Just for five days? Why don’t you rest for a few more days? In fact, there is two months’ worth of summer break. Nan Nan, do you want to travel around?” Qiao Dongliang felt that Qiao Nan had pushed herself too hard. The study plan she had was too packed.

The children from other families would enjoy and have fun in the two months of summer break.

As for Nan Nan, she would devote all her time to her studies during the summer break. It was no different from studying at school. The only difference was that in the school, there would be teachers guiding them along, while at home, she would be doing her own preparation work. It was too hard on her.

“Dad, are you saying that you will allow me to travel?” Qiao Nan leaned on the sofa. “Dad, why do you have this idea?” Travel would cost a lot of money. She did not have any income, so how could she spend without any qualms?

“It’s nothing. I just feel that you are still young and should travel more. Since you are still in school, you can travel during summer break or winter break. When you start working, you will not have summer breaks or winter breaks if you aren’t a teacher. By that time, it will not be as convenient for you to travel.”

“Dad, do you miss Mom and sister?” Qiao Zijin had always wanted to travel during summer break.

“Miss them? More or less.” After calming down for two months, Qiao Dongliang was no longer that agitated when mentioning Ding Jiayi and Qiao Zijin. “Nan Nan, do you have any place that you want to visit?”

“Yes.” Qiao Nan nodded. “I prefer exploring nature where there are mountains, seas, or lakes. But I don’t plan to go now. I have already thought it through. When I finish college entrance examination, the summer break is the longest, almost two and a half months. I will take a break for half a month to travel around.” Now, she did not dare to travel around lest she could not concentrate on her studies.

“Alright, when the time comes, I will give you the money to travel. You must have a good time.”

“Dad, what about my college fees? You refuse to let me work to save for college. Dad, have you won the lottery?” Qiao Nan looked at Qiao Dongliang curiously. Her father seemed different. It was as if he had figured out something.

Qiao Dongliang did not know whether to cry or laugh. “Lottery? I never buy lottery. Have you forgotten how I used to teach you and your sister? As for your college fees and your travel fees after the college entrance examination, don’t worry. There are two more years to go. Are you worried that I won’t be able to earn them?”

“Alright.” Qiao Nan gave a faint reply. Her father was indeed successful in the way he taught his daughters. She was never interested in the lottery.

Otherwise, given that she went through rebirth, as long as she remembered a number, she would be able to make a fortune.

“By the way, Nan Nan, you have to give Zhai Sheng a call. Tell him not to buy us stuff like this anymore. This place is lent to us by the school. Now that we have a television set, a telephone, and a refrigerator, it is as if we are staying here forever.”

It was uncertain what would happen to Qiao Nan and Zhai Sheng in the future.

Qiao Dongliang felt uneasy accepting the refrigerator that Zhai Sheng gave them. It was as if he was selling his daughter. Besides, if Nan Nan went separate ways with Zhai Sheng in the future, it would seem like they owed him whatever he gave them.