

RTAMM 661

Chapter 661: The Phone Could Not Get Through

They were of the same age, with a difference of a few months at most.

Why did Qiao Nan have so many suitors while she had no suitors? Perhaps she should do some self-reflection?

“Alright, stop being such a busybody. I think I know what Qiu Chenxi was up to yesterday. Hurry, I have to give Brother Zhai a call. Otherwise, it will be too late.” Qiao Nan was filled with trepidation.

The reason why she did not invite Zhou Jun into the house for a cup of tea was for this reason.

Shi Qing blinked. Qiao Nan said that she understood Qiu Chenxi’s intention as soon as she saw Zhou Jun, but why did she not understand?

Qiao Nan rushed back to the house. Zhou Jun and Zhai Sheng were in the same unit. If Zhou Jun had heard about it, Zhai Sheng could probably have heard about it as well.

After hearing of the news, Zhou Jun had come right away to look for her. Even if Zhai Sheng learned of the news later than Zhou Jun, he would set off for her house soon.

No matter what, she had to make a phone call to Zhai Sheng before he left the camp.

“Please let it get through. It must get through!” Qiao Nan dialed Zhai Sheng’s number and was in a panic when she heard the dial tone on the other end of the phone.

“What happened?” Shi Qing was clueless. “What does Qiu Chenxi want to do?”

“She has one intention in mind. She still hasn’t given up on her plan to find out who Brother Zhai’s girlfriend is. You have seen what happened yesterday. Even though she was sure that I am not

Brother Zhai's girlfriend, she still used the Qiu family's influence to make trouble for me. If she knows that I am the one, I can't imagine what kind of crazy things Qiu Chenxi will be capable of." Qiao Nan clenched her fist and hit her knees rapidly. "If my guess is correct, Qiu Chenxi will definitely have someone hide near the camp. Once Brother Zhai comes out from the camp, the people that Qiu Chenxi hired will follow him all the way here."

"My goodness! Qiu Chenxi's real goal is to alert the enemy so that she will be able to find out who Brother Zhai's girlfriend is!" Realization dawned over Shi Qing. "She used you as a bait to create a ruckus and make sure that everyone in the army learned of it. When Brother Zhai hears of it, he will definitely be worried and will check on you and his girlfriend. As long as the people that Qiu Chenxi hired follow Brother Zhai, he will track him to your place."

In this case, Qiao Nan's identity as Brother Zhai's girlfriend would have a high risk of being exposed.

As Qiao Nan said, even when Qiu Chenxi did not know that Qiao Nan was Brother Zhai's girlfriend, she already did crazy things.

If she was sure, Qiu Chenxi might do crazier stuff.

To be on the safe side, Qiao Nan must be on her guard at all times and be careful not to be discovered by Qiu Chenxi.

"Qiao Nan, other students are in relationships as well, but why is it that your relationship is so heart-stopping?" For other students, teachers and parents would be watchful of them and give them a stern warning at most.

But for Qiao Nan, once she was discovered by Qiu Chenxi, she would be in a life-threatening situation and might even lose her life.

It angered Shi Qing that such things would happen in a lawful society.

Qiao Nan smiled bitterly. "Who do you think is unlucky, me or Brother Zhai?"

"Both of you are unlucky. None is better than the other." Shi Qing was helpless. "Of course, I am unlucky as well to have such a relative. You have not known her for long, but she is older than me

and I have known her from a young age. It can be said that I have been tortured by her since I was a child. Or I should say that it is unlucky of me to have known this pair of mother and daughter.”

“What should I do? It won’t get through. Could it be...” Qiao Nan was getting more and more anxious. Could Brother Zhai be on his way to Ping Cheng?

Fortunately, when Qiao Nan was about to give up and hang up, the phone was answered. “Nan Nan?”

“Brother Zhai, you haven’t left the army? I must be a fool.” Qiao Nan slapped her forehead. She had been too anxious that she lost her senses.

“Are you okay?” She could tell from Zhai Sheng’s urgent tone that he was anxious. In fact, Zhai Sheng was about to leave the camp. People would be prone to mistakes when they were anxious. Originally, Zhai Sheng was training the soldiers, but during the short rest in the middle of the training, he heard from someone that ‘Teacher Xiao Qiao was injured’. After hearing that, he was in a hurry to look for Qiao Nan.

However, no car traveled from the camp to Ping Cheng. If Zhai Sheng wanted to go to Ping Cheng, he had to drive his own car.

However, he could not carry his car keys with him all the while when he was training the soldiers.

Zhai Sheng had dashed to the entrance of the camp before realizing that he did not have his keys, hence he made a turn back to his office to retrieve his keys.

It was also because of this that Zhai Sheng was in time to answer Qiao Nan’s phone call before leaving the camp.

Qiao Nan breathed a sigh of relief. “Brother Zhai, have you heard of it as well?”

“Yes, are you okay?”

“I’m fine. Those rumors are not true. Brother Zhou just came to check on me, and I have sent him away. You must not believe the rumors.” No matter what, thankfully, she was in time and the situation did not get out of hand.

“What happened? Did someone attack you?” Zhai Sheng could tell that the rumors were laden with truths and lies.

Since Qiao Nan was at home, her injuries must not be too serious, or she might not have been injured. But that did not mean that she was not besieged.

“Let me do the saying!” Seeing Qiao Nan look hesitant, an impatient Shi Qing grabbed the phone. “Brother Zhai, this is the case. Qiu Chenxi has gone crazy, she... Luckily, Qiao Nan was smart. If not, what you heard would not be rumors, but the truth.”

If they had not made a quick escape, and without Zhu Baoguo’s help, she and Qiao Nan would have been lying motionless in a hospital bed now.

“Qiao Nan said that Qiu Chenxi did it deliberately to trick you to leave the camp and to follow you so as to find out who your girlfriend is.”

“I understand.” When Shi Qing started to tell him what happened yesterday, he had already guessed that what he heard at the army just now was a trap that Qiu Chenxi laid for him. It was for him to reveal who the lady that was on his mind was.

In fact, he had almost fallen for Qiu Chenxi’s trap.

Zhai Sheng did not expect that Qiu Chenxi would be so ruthless.

“Pass the phone to Nan Nan.”

“Brother Zhai wants to talk to you.” Shi Qing could tell that Zhai Sheng was unhappy. She plastered an innocent look on her face even though he was angry because of what she said. She ran to her room to do her homework, leaving Qiao Nan to deal with an angry Zhai Sheng.

Even though Qiao Dongliang had given the keys to Shi Qing, Shi Peng had not moved into the new house. Hence, Shi Qing continued to stay at the Qiao family’s residence, sharing a room with Qiao Nan.

Chapter 662 Did Not See Anyone

“Why didn’t you tell me?” Qiao Nan had just placed the phone against her ear, and Zhai Sheng barked at her in anger. 1

Qiao Nan smiled bitterly. “Yesterday, it was fortunate that Zhu Baoguo arrived in the nick of time. Shi Qing and I weren’t hurt. It was Qiu Chenxi who was embarrassed. I thought it was over. I didn’t even tell my dad.” She did not tell anyone, and Brother Zhai was no exception.

Zhai Sheng was still dissatisfied with her answer. “If there is anything in the future, you must tell me right away. Looking at today’s situation, you should understand how important it is to communicate in time.”

He and Uncle Qiao were different. She could not lump them together.

“I understand.” Qiao Nan agreed abidingly after being lectured by Zhai Sheng.

“Are you sure that you aren’t injured?” It was rare that Qiao Nan was willing to listen to him. He could no longer stay angry with a gentle Qiao Nan. Besides, what happened this time was no fault of Qiao Nan. It had to do with Qiu Chenxi.

In fact, Zhai Sheng was angry with himself for not protecting Qiao Nan. He was the reason why Qiu Chenxi found trouble for Qiao Nan.

He did not expect that Qiu Chenxi would have so many tricks up her sleeves and that she would use such methods. “From today onward, you must be careful. As for the Qiu family, I will find a way to deal with them.”

“Brother Zhai, don’t mess around, or else Chief Zhai will be upset.” Qiao Nan felt worried.

“I know what to do.” Zhai Sheng thought before saying, “You must pay more attention to your safety. As for other issues, don’t think too much. I will take care of everything else.”

“Yes.” Initially, Qiao Nan felt uneasy and was worried that Qiu Chenxi would be up to other tricks. However, she felt more assured now and was no longer afraid. 1

Qiu Chenxi had no idea that Qiao Nan had already informed Zhai Sheng about her trap.

Ever since she left the army, her only spy in the army was Qian Yanyan. But given her position in the army, she was not able to monitor Zhai Sheng's phone.

Therefore, Qiu Chenxi could only wait at home for the people that she hired to relay the information to her. But she did not receive any news until nighttime.

At seven o'clock in the evening, the phone rang. Qiu Chenxi answered it right away. "Is this how you do things? Do you still want to get paid?" "Miss Qiu, it's not that we don't want to earn money. The person that you want us to follow has not left the camp at all. There is no sight of his car. We did not even see the dispatch delivery car of the camp. Miss Qiu, are you sure that the clues you provided are correct?"

"He did not turn up?" Impossible. "Did you overlook

it?"

Miao Jing treated Qiao Nan really well. She was almost as good to her as she did Zhai Hua.

It was impossible that Miao Jing would not do anything when she knew that Qiao Nan was in trouble.

Since Miao Jing regarded Qiao Nan as her daughter, Brother Zhai would be Qiao Nan's brother. It was impossible that he did not ask about her when she was in trouble.

Qiu Chenxi's original plan was to make use of what happened to Qiao Nan so that Zhai Sheng would be able to give his family a valid reason to leave the camp.

In the meantime, upon hearing the news that Qiao Nan was hurt, Zhai Sheng would be worried about that vixen as well.

Qiu Chenxi did not need to do anything but stay at home, waiting for the vixen to be exposed.

“Overlooked it?” The other party smirked at Qiu Chenxi’s irresponsible words. “We are professionals in this field. If we overlooked it, would we have the face to take your money? Besides, even if we missed it when he went out, we would definitely see him when he’s back. We can no longer stay guard at the camp. If we continue to do so and are discovered by the army at night, we will be treated as posing a danger to the army.”

They were just normal citizens in China. They might have special occupations, but they were just earning their keep.

It would be alright if their target was an ordinary person, but their target this time was a soldier, and he was the regiment commander. They could not offend someone like him.

“Qiu Chenxi, no matter what, we have failed to accomplish this mission. We will not ask for the rest of the money for this mission, but it’s just that we can’t return the deposit. If there’s a need, or if you have other jobs in the future, remember to come to

us.”

It was not easy to earn Qiu Chenxi’s money.

“Miss Qiu, if there’s a chance, we shall meet each other again in the future.” With that, the other party hung up the phone.

“How dare you hang up!” Qiu Chenxi slammed the phone in anger. They were to blame for not delivering what they promised. She did not say that the task was called off. How could the other party behave in such a manner? It was too unreasonable!

“Why did you slam the phone?” Old Master Qiu happened to witness the scene. “Since you don’t manage the house, you don’t know how difficult life is. Chenxi, you can’t behave like your mom, who throws things at home as she pleases. You can’t think that because we have money, it’s okay to throw things around. You must change such a corrupted way of thinking.”

Qi Minlan could no longer have any children, but the other woman that his son had was able to bear them a grandson.

It was rare that he did not need to nag at his son and his son was able to think it through and tried his best to have a son.

As the elder, what Elder Qiu could do was to safeguard everything in the Qiu family so that he could pass them to his grandson. He must protect them from Qiu Chenxi.

“Since I have already thrown several of them, it doesn’t matter if I throw some more.” Qiu Chenxi was angry. Hence, she acted unruly toward Old Master Qiu. “In our house, I never have such a habit. Grandpa, isn’t it too late for you to teach me the right ways?”

Old Master Qiu pulled a long face. “You have been led astray by your mom. Is this the appropriate attitude that you should have when talking to your elders?”

“I can’t help it that grandpa values a telephone more than me.” Qiu Chenxi snorted to express her dissatisfaction.

Old Master Qiu was displeased. “It’s not that the telephone is more important than the person, but that it’s pitiable that the person has less use than the telephone. Before you complain, you should look at the situation that you are in now. What good is there to ask for an insult? In the Qiu family, one should not have this kind of corrupted thoughts.”

This was the first time Old Master Qiu lectured her in front of the servant. Qiu Chenxi’s eyes turned red. “Corrupted? Well, who is the most corrupt person in this house?”

With that, Qiu Chenxi left to look for her mother. “Mom, how’s your preparation going? Grandpa no longer treats me as his granddaughter and is very stingy toward me now. He can’t wait to keep everything in the Qiu family’s residence away from me. He forbids me from using them so that he can leave everything to the son of that woman.”

Chapter 663 ‘Invited to Tea’ by the Police Officer

Qiu Chenxi was so upset that she felt like crying. What used to belong to her had become someone else’s possessions.

“Don’t worry. I am already in the midst of it.” Qi Minlan let out a sigh, refusing to take it lying down. “I will not do things that do not benefit me.”

“Mom, I have failed again. This time, I paid people to besiege Qiao Nan, but Brother Zhai did not turn up and I still don’t know who the woman is.” When it came to this, Qiu Chenxi looked defeated. She was bewildered. Ping Cheng was not that large, and the Qiu family had power and influence, so why couldn’t she find out who the woman was? Why did she not have any clues at all? “Mom, if this goes on, I am afraid I will not make it in time.”

If she was not able to find out the woman’s identity as soon as possible, that woman would make use of the time to strengthen her relationship with Brother Zhai.

“No. Didn’t you say that the woman is quite young and she will not marry Zhai Sheng at least in one or two years’ time? But then again, I have been very curious. Why will Zhai Sheng have such a young girlfriend? How young is she? Is she as young as Qiao Nan?”

Among the people that Qi Minlan knew, Qiao Nan was the youngest and she was way too young. She was even younger than Shi Qing by a few months.

“Mom, do you mean that... that woman is still a student like Qiao Nan and Shi Qing?”

“This...” Qi Minlan hesitated for a moment and felt that it was difficult to come to a conclusion. “If we are to look from this aspect, it will be too general to narrow down to a few ladies, and it will be even more difficult to find out who she is. How about the private detectives that you hired? Have they found anything? Where else besides the Zhai family did Zhai Sheng go whenever he left the army camp?”

Qi Minlan felt perplexed as well. Back when Zhai Yaohui did not want her, there was Miao Jing who stood between them. 1

Unfortunately, she did not have the power and money that her daughter had now at that time and was powerless to do anything.

But when it was Chenxi’s turn, the woman was tucked safely away by Zhai Sheng.

Qi Minlan could not understand. Back then, Zhai Yaohui let her down. Could it be that now it was Zhai Sheng’s turn to let her daughter down?

Could it be that the mother and daughter owed the men in the Zhai family and had to suffer time and again in their hands?

“Nothing special. When Brother Zhai was back at Ping Cheng, he spent most of his time at home and was not in touch with anyone. The only person he had contact with was Qiao Nan, and it was always because of Miao Jing. Without Miao Jing, Brother Zhai would not have contacted Qiao Nan.”

“Are you sure?” Qi Minlan found it odd that Qiao Nan seemed to be brought up very often. “Chenxi, do you think that we have been looking in the wrong places? Qiao Nan seems to be quite unusual. It’s not easy to be the only female around Zhai Sheng.”

“Mom, what nonsense are you talking about? Qiao Nan is just a silly young girl. How can she be compared with me?” Qiu Chenxi puffed up her chest confidently. “What happened when we taught English in the army is a good illustration. Brother Zhai is looking for a wife, not a teacher. If he is looking for a teacher, Qiao Nan is the best candidate. I have nothing to say. But if we are talking about his wife, Qiao Nan will definitely lose to me. Besides, Miao Jing arranged a blind date for Brother Zhai recently and Miao Jing and Brother Zhai ended up in a quarrel because of that. If Qiao Nan was the vixen that Brother Zhai is hiding, do you think she would be willing to console her boyfriend’s mother and help them patch things up after knowing that her boyfriend’s mother had arranged a blind date for her son and things had become unpleasant since?”

Nobody would do this.

“Even if we did not take into consideration Qiao Nan’s performance in school, Qiao Nan couldn’t be Brother Zhai’s girlfriend. If I were his girlfriend, and Miao Jing arranged a blind date for Brother Zhai, I would definitely hate her to the core. Mom, wouldn’t

you?”

“Yes!” If she were in that position, she would not persuade Miao Jing to go home after the quarrel and mend her relationship with her children. Instead, she would hope for the worst for Miao Jing.

“There you go. In that case, do you think your suspicions are reasonable?”

Qi Minlan turned silent again.

“Furthermore, Miao Jing does not like that Qiao Nan comes from a humble background. If Qiao Nan is Brother Zhai’s girlfriend, will Qiao Nan be able to have such a good relationship with her?” Unless Qiao Nan was out of her mind, she would not do that.

Anyway, if she considered Qiao Nan as Zhai Sheng’s girlfriend, Qiu Chenxi felt that it was impossible and she would come up with all sorts of excuses.

“Mom, I feel that Brother Zhai treats Qiao Nan as his younger sister under Miao Jing’s influence.”

“Are you sure?” In fact, Qi Minlan was merely making guesses. They could not find out the woman’s identity and yet Qiao Nan’s name kept coming up. She was so frustrated that she said that Qiao Nan might be Zhai Sheng’s girlfriend.

“Mom, you are such a bother!!” Qiu Chenxi was impatient. “What’s the use of picking on Qiao Nan? If it’s useful, I would have already found out the identity of that woman. It will definitely not be Qiao Nan. No matter how I think about it, she will definitely not be the woman.”

“Well, since you are unhappy, I will say no more. It’s good that it’s not Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan is young but smart. If she is indeed Zhai Sheng’s girlfriend, then I am afraid that you will stand no chance to be with Zhai Sheng.”

Currently, not only was Qiao Nan getting along well with Zhai Sheng and was treated like a younger sister by him, but Miao Jing also treated her like her daughter.

In other words, if Qiao Nan was the woman they were looking for, Qiao Nan did not need to do much to get Miao Jing to accept her. After all, Qiao Nan and Miao Jing had always been close.

Once Miao Jing agreed to it, and Zhai Yaohui did not oppose it, it would mean that Qiao Nan would likely be the Zhai family’s daughter-in-law.

At the thought that if the woman was Qiao Nan and that the situation would be extremely unfavorable to Qiu Chenxi, Qi Minlan could not help but pray silently, hoping that no matter what, it must not be Qiao Nan.

If Qiao Nan was the opponent, even if her daughter had a lot of tricks up her sleeve, she might not have the last laugh.

“Mom, there’s a commotion downstairs. What happened?” Right then, Qiu Chenxi could hear loud noises coming from outside. She walked to the balcony and took a look. “Mom, there are two police cars at the entrance to the yard. What is the situation? Why did the police officers come to our house?”

“Police cars? Are you mistaken?” Qi Minlan jumped up in shock and ran quickly to the balcony to see for herself. She almost fainted upon seeing police cars were indeed at the entrance to the yard. “Chenxi, my heart is thumping wildly. Is something going to happen?”

Qiu Chenxi was dumbfounded. “Mom, don’t frighten me. What, what could happen to our family?”

Chapter 664 Bristled with Anger for a Beauty

Qi Minlan thought for a moment. “Chenxi, have you gotten into any trouble?” 1

“I, even if I did something, it was nothing.” Qiu Chenxi was confident. Yes, she had hired a group of people to give Qiao Nan a thrashing, but Qiao Nan escaped unscathed.

Furthermore, those people had already left with her money. Even if Qiao Nan reported to the police, it would be useless. A night had passed. The police officers would not come all the way to their house over such a small matter.

“It’s good that it’s not you.” Qi Minlan trusted her daughter. Since she had said so, she did not ask anymore.

“But what is the situation now? Mom, should we go down and take a look?” Qiu Chenxi felt uneasy. Given the Qiu family’s status, the police officers usually would not come to their house.

“Of course we have to take a look.” Qi Minlan sneered. There were only a few of them at the Qiu family. Since Chenxi had not committed a mistake, and it was unlikely that it was her parents-in-law, the only person left would be Qiu Qin.

Thinking of Qiu Qin’s betrayal, Qi Minlan was not the least worried now that he was in trouble. In fact, she was thrilled.

She did not need to do anything and the Qiu family was already in trouble.

“Lan Lan, Qiu Qin has been taken away by the police officers. Call your brother now and ask what is going on. Qiu Qin has always been honest. How could this happen?” Her parents-in-law looked anxious and worried, at a loss. They grabbed Qi Minlan as if she was their only hope now, hoping that she could rescue Qiu Qin as soon as possible.

Qi Minlan shrugged her hand away. “Dad, what you are saying? I have no idea what Qiu Qin has done. I am not sure whether he is innocent. I don’t even know what happened, so how am I supposed to ask my brother for help?”

“Lan Lan, you are Qiu Qin’s wife. You must help him.” Grandma Qiu was at an advanced age. She had a terrible shock when she saw her son being taken away by others.

Qi Minlan sneered covertly. A few days ago, they called her by her full name, yet now, when they needed her help, they addressed her affectionately.

“Dad, Mom, as long as Qiu Qin is innocent, it will be alright. Even if he is asked to go to the police station, at most, it is only to aid in the investigation. Qiu Qin is your son. You should know him. Think about it. Has he done anything recently that could be used by others against him?”

“This...” Grandma Qiu hesitated.

But it would be impossible for everyone who worked in the government to be completely upright. They more or less had a few problems, but it was alright as long as it was not too much.

Therefore, whatever Qiu Qin had done was enough to warrant an investigation, but it would not cause much harm.

Apart from that, Grandma Qiu could not think of any other things that her son did that was wrong.

Grandma Qiu could not understand, but Old Master Qiu knew what Qi Minlan was referring to. His expression darkened. He never expected that Qi Minlan would have a change of heart now. She was such an ingrate. To think that both of them had treated Qi Minlan kindly! “Fine, I will handle Qiu Qin’s affairs by myself!”

Even if the country was strict on ensuring that the officials were upright and followed the code of ethics, he believed that whatever Qiu Qin had done would not amount to serious offenses.

Qi Minlan and the Shi family were unwilling to help?

He could not be bothered to ask them!

“Old man?” Grandma Qiu looked at Old Master Qiu helplessly. If he had a way, her son would not be taken away. “Old Master, don’t act in a fit of anger.” Nothing was more important than their son, Qiu Qin.

“Rest assured. I know what I’m doing.” Old Master Qiu refused to resign to circumstances. It had been so many years. He did not believe that the Qiu family had to seek the Shi family’s help when they encountered problems.

It was no wonder that Qi Minlan was ill-disciplined and out of control at their house. It was time to let Qi Minlan understand that they did not need to count on her.

As soon as Qiu Qin was invited to a drink by the police officers, Qiao Nan and Shi Qing were informed of the news by Shi Peng, who was about to be discharged from the army.

Though Shi Qing felt thrilled at the news, she had her doubts. “Dad, Qiu Chenxi was already shameless enough to find trouble for Qiao Nan and me before. Now that the Qiu family is in a mess, and Qiu Chenxi’s temper is similar to my auntie’s, will my auntie come to the Qiao family’s residence to make trouble for us?”

Once bitten, twice shy.

Shi Qing had a taste of Qiu Chenxi’s crazy antics. Hence, she was not hopeful that Qi Minlan would be rational. But it was not right of her to always implicate the Qiao family.

“Don’t worry, it won’t happen,” Shi Peng said with certainty. “Qi Minlan and Qiu Chenxi are not in the same situation. Alright, tell Qiao Nan not to worry. She may not be as worried as you. What happened to Qiu Qin... I suppose it’s Zhai Sheng who is standing up for her. But Qi Minlan and Qiu Chenxi failed to understand the seriousness of this matter.”

When the nest was overturned, no egg stayed unbroken.

Right then, Shi Peng fully understood that it was not a good thing that a person's path was too smooth-sailing

Qi Minlan was the best example. Since a young age, she did not suffer any setbacks. Hence, she was rude and impetuous and would do things her own way without careful consideration. 1

"They certainly don't understand. They probably thought that without the Qiu family, they still have the Shi family." However, after her father left the army, the Shi family would no longer have any power and influence. "Dad, I won't chat with you anymore. I will hang up now."

"Okay."

"You have also heard that the Qiu family is going to be down on their luck." Now that Brother Zhai had records of his wrongdoings, her uncle had no chance to start over.

"One's successes and failures are both due to the same person." Qiao Nan sighed. Qiu Qin had to attribute his successes to Qi Minlan and Qiu Chenxi. But right now, they were the reason he fell from grace. "What do you think Qi Minlan and Qiu Chenxi will do now that the Qiu family is down on their luck? Will they leave Ping Cheng?"

Qiao Nan was, in fact, wary of the mother-daughter pair that was rash and reckless in their actions and did as they pleased.

"God knows. Anyway, now that Qiu Qin is in trouble, the Qiu family will be affected badly as well. It will not be easy for Qiu Chenxi to continue with her arrogant and despotic ways and to hire people to ambush us. It has not been long since the Qiu family has gotten into trouble. My auntie and Qiu Chenxi will not have realized anything amiss. By the time they realize that everyone in their circle has steered clear of them, they will be fearful and regretful of their behavior."

Shi Qing felt helpless to have such relatives.

"But then again, you should be happy. My dad said the reason why the Qiu family is down on their luck is because of Brother Zhai." This should be the way. Brother Zhai should give them some warning lest the people in the Qiu family had an exaggerated opinion of their abilities, and regarded themselves as the 'local tyrant' of Ping Cheng. "What's there to be happy about? I am worried sick.

Hopefully, Brother Zhai will not get himself into trouble for what he did to the Qiu family. If so...” Qiao Nan smiled bitterly.

Chapter 665 One-Track Mind

Yesterday, Qiu Chenxi was still insufferably arrogant, yet today, it was likely that her father would fall from grace. In the political circle, there would be myriad changes in an instant. It was so much more volatile than the stock market. If one made a mistake, there would be no hope of reprieve.

This time, Qiu Qin had done nothing wrong. It was his loved ones who were in the wrong.

“Don’t worry, it will be alright. You merely have a guilty conscience.” Shi Qing looked assured as if it did not bother her at all. “You should trust Brother Zhai in everything that he does. It is your fortune to have someone who is willing to stand up for you at any time. It is also Brother Zhai’s fortune to be with you.”

She did not know if she would be able to encounter a man who was willing to do anything for her and that she was willing to go all out for.

“Guilty.” Qiao Nan nodded honestly. She had no confidence in front of the Zhai family.

Sister Zhai Hua’s attitude was unpredictable. Chief Zhai would always keep his silence, while Auntie Miao was still against their relationship.

Given the situation at the Zhai family, Qiao Nan could not help but feel the lack of confidence. “Thankfully, I am very determined. Otherwise, Brother Zhai would have fallen out of love multiple times.”

Dating was a matter between two people, but getting married was a matter between both families.

She and Brother Zhai faced too many obstacles, but Brother Zhai was a soldier. He could not stay by her side to give her a sense of security.

“I feel that your biggest problem is not the lack of confidence but thinking too much. Relax. You have to remember that it was Brother Zhai who took the initiative to pursue you, not the other way round. If the Zhai family is unhappy, you should push all the responsibilities to Brother Zhai. You

should not be swayed by other people or be affected by how they look at you and believe that Brother Zhai is beyond your reach. You should look at it from another perspective. Brother Zhai is much older than you. It's obvious that it's Brother Zhai who 'kidnapped' you."

Shi Qing was protective of Qiao Nan. She put down Zhai Sheng while she was all praise for Qiao Nan.

"Haha, that's true." Qiao Nan laughed at the way Shi Qing put it. She suddenly thought of a popular saying in future generations. It was said that if a woman maintained beautiful, youthful skin, even if she was much older than her husband, she would look as young as him and they would look good together. Otherwise, her husband would be tired of her and would have an affair with a much younger woman.

By next year, she would only be taking her college entrance examination.

Qiao Nan realized that she was indeed quite young, and it was Brother Zhai who was robbing the cradle. "Thank you for your words of comfort. I feel much better now. Yes, why should I feel inferior? Brother Zhai is so much older than me, and I did not shun him."

"That's right." Shi Qing felt assured. "Since you are in a relationship, you should enjoy it and be happy. If I have to suffer like you and take so many things into consideration, I would rather not date at all."

"Cool." Qiao Nan gave Shi Qing a thumbs-up. "Now that the Qiu family is in trouble, even if Qiu Chenxi and Qi Minlan were born to have a one-track mind, I suppose it will not be so easy for them to create trouble for me. It seems that I am not calm enough and easily affected. I am already in my second year. I should focus on my studies."

"Right. Come, I will accompany you to do homework." After knowing Qiao Nan for so long, Shi Qing was really not used to seeing Qiao Nan being out of sorts.

Since Qi Minlan and Qiu Chenxi were no longer a problem, Qiao Nan should focus on herself and take things slowly according to her plan.

Her auntie and Qiu Chenxi were just an unexpected circumstance in their relationship. Qiao Nan could leave it to Brother Zhai to handle. She did not need to be affected by it. What Qiao Nan could do was watch by the side, be aware that there were such things, and see how Brother Zhai would deal with it.

Putting aside Qiu Chenxi's matter, Qiao Nan focused her attention on her studies once again. She was back to leading her life as what an ordinary high school student would.

Even though Qiao Nan was very conscientious in her studies, she still found it somewhat difficult to deal with the amount of learning in high school.

The situation in the first and second years of high school was similar to that in junior high school. There were quite a lot of competitions for students to take part in. The school intended for Qiao Nan to participate in these competitions. If she managed to have a good ranking, it would help add points to her college entrance examination.

However, Qiao Nan refused to take part in the competitions and was focused single-mindedly on revising and reinforcing what she had learned during lessons to avoid any slip-ups.

After listening to Qiao Nan's plan, the teachers agreed with Qiao Nan's decision. From then onward, they no longer asked Qiao Nan to take part in any competitions.

"Can you go faster?" Qiao Nan kept walking ahead to reach home as quickly as possible. Ever since she received news of what happened to the Qiu family, she had put their matters aside and was solely focused on her studies, like what she used to be in the past. "Today is the Mid-Autumn Festival. Your father should have come out of the camp. At the very least, he could spend this day with you, couldn't he?"

The Shi family had bought the house for a while. Officer Shi should have handed over all his duties.

"Don't rush me." Shi Qing knitted her eyebrows, feeling gloomy. "Why does the science class have more classes and homework than the humanities class?" If not, she would not feel so tired from her lessons.

"How would I know? I did not arrange the classes for the humanities and science courses." Qiao Nan was amused. "As a student in China, it is necessary to experience these painful six years. Young girl, think about it. At least, we have been through one-third of it and will complete half of it very soon. Persistence is victory, and the rays of hope are right before us."

"True. We seem to have completed half of it. We must encourage ourselves." Shi Qing dragged her tired feet, hoping to throw away the heavy schoolbag that she was carrying on her back. "Qiao Nan,

tell me honestly. All of us are high school students, yet why is it that after mixing with you, your roommates seem to be having an easy time at school and their results are getting better? We spend a lot of time together as well, but why is it that I am tired to the bone?"

Qiao Nan's dormitory was well-known among the second-year students.

Everyone knew that there was a dormitory in the second year whereby all the roommates had good performance in school. They might not rank in the top ten places in the humanities level, but all of them would be in the top fifty places. Most importantly, the first place in the level was from that dormitory.

Many people began to wonder if the room that Qiao Nan and the other girls stayed in had good geomancy, hence the six of them had good results and were able to maintain their standards and keep on improving. Even a student like Tang Mengran was able to maintain her results and secure her ranking in the top fifty, coming in the forty-fifth place in the level.

Of course, some people knew that the dormitory did not have good geomancy, or rather, it was because of Qiao Nan that there was good geomancy.

The other girls in the dormitory would not be bothered with such gossip. But Tang Mengran, the silly girl, would tell her classmates the truth when they asked her about it.

Chapter 666 Teacher Xiao Qiao's Reputation Rose Again

Prior to each examination, Qiao Nan had the habit of helping them spot the exam questions. Tang Mengran expressed that, since the first year, Qiao Nan's capability in spotting questions had been excellent.

Qiao Nan had even spotted the exact questions before, not to mention those with similar content.

Fortunately, Tang Mengran had been quite restrained. Hence, she did not tell others of the high accuracy rate that Qiao Nan had in spotting questions. Even the teachers paled in comparison.

Before the examination papers were issued, she had already guessed most of the contents. She could even find the answers beforehand or seek guidance from Qiao Nan.

If she could not even fare well with such an examination, then she could really forget about continuing with her studies.

Moreover, as Qiao Nan's reputation for spotting questions rose, other classmates would also occasionally seek her help.

Everyone was classmates. Qiao Nan would feel embarrassed if she did not render any help. At the very least, she would give them some guidance.

Hence, in class one of humanities course, phenomena gradually formed whereby many would gather around Qiao Nan when examinations were coming close.

These students did not even seem so enthusiastic and cooperative when they were consulting the teachers.

Gradually, Qiao Nan also earned herself the nickname of Teacher Xiao Qiao' amongst the second-year cohort of students in Ping Cheng High School.

Relying on Qiao Nan's help, Tang Mengran and those few silly girls transformed from slackers to outstanding students. When she saw this, Shi Qing reflected on her own situation. From the once leading top student who could easily attain good grades to an ordinary top student that abidingly did her homework and carried her schoolbag home, Shi Qing felt both envious and hateful. "Qiao Nan, why don't I transfer from science to humanities? You can then help me spot questions too."

Only an idiot would opt for the longer road when there was an easy way out.

"Don't mess around." Qiao Nan flicked her fingers on Shi Qing's forehead. "You're not happy being the top student in the science course? If you transfer class, will those with poorer grades than you follow your example and transfer to the humanities course, or should they light firecrackers and celebrate the leaving of the cohort's top scorer as they have more opportunities to rise in the rankings?"

Shi Qing lifted her chest. "Whatever. It's their happiness and thoughts. I have no comments."

"How's it? Teacher Xiao Qiao, you've helped so many people. Do you want to help me spot questions too? Anyway, your mathematics is quite good as well." Only a fool would not slack when there was a chance to.

“What Teacher Xiao Qiao? Don’t follow suit and blindly kick up a fuss.” Qiao Nan rolled her eyes. “This is the nickname some people gave me. There’s no basis. I’m not planning to be a teacher. It’s too tiring. I can’t teach that many students either.”

Qiao Nan was aware that her classmates had given her the nickname of ‘Teacher Xiao Qiao’.

Anyway, she rejected the nickname in the face of those who addressed her as such.

“You should feel proud of it. The nickname Teacher Xiao Qiao was first heard from your class one of humanities. So many outstanding students want to address you as Teacher Xiao Qiao. Don’t you feel very proud of it?” Shi Qing did not believe that Qiao Nan would be as calm as she appeared to be.

The top students in class one of Ping Cheng High School could be considered as ‘superheroes’ in studies and the cream of the crop.

At the top position of the food chain, Qiao Nan actually stood at the tip of it as the leading one. When Qiao Nan heard the words ‘Teacher Xiao Qiao’, how could she not feel secretly elated?

“There is glory.” Qiao Nan nodded. “For the one month of the winter vacation this year, there are neighbors who have already booked me to give tuition to their kids who are in primary school.”

If she was not the top student of humanities in Ping Cheng High School, this job would most probably not land on her.

The situation of the family was quite good. It was an employer that did not lack money.

They had purchased a property in a good location within the school’s vicinity, near Ping Cheng High School. However, it was sheer pity that the couple had been busy with making money and their business and had paid too little attention to their child.

When the child was young, he was insensible and lacked self-discipline. Upon reaching the rebellious age, he had various problems. The combination of all these problems was terrible for the parents.

Hence, this family pleaded in every way that they could and finally persuaded Qiao Dongliang to let Qiao Nan give tuition to their child during Qiao Nan's winter vacation time. They wanted to see if there was any possibility of salvaging the studies of their child.

Previously, after Zhai Hua looked at her in a strange light because of money, Qiao Nan also hoped to earn more money. Let alone other matters, the medical expenses incurred from Qiao Dongliang's car accident were all borrowed from Zhai Sheng.

She had to find ways to return this sum of money soon.

Otherwise, even if Zhai Hua did not perceive her differently, she would feel uneasy about it.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk..." Shi Qing clicked her tongue but did not continue to speak further.

"Is there someone at home?" As the two of them walked and chatted, they arrived at the doorstep of the Qiao family's residence very quickly. When they heard peals of laughter coming from the house, both Qiao Nan and Shi Qing was stunned for a moment. "My dad came back? No, when did he become a woman?"

That was not the voice of her father. Besides, she had never heard the voice of this woman before.

Following this, Shi Qing widened her eyes and looked at Qiao Nan. There was a woman in the house. Did this mean that... Uncle Qiao was looking for a second relationship?

Qiao Nan looked at Shi Qing from the corners of her eyes. Her parents had not divorced yet. If there was really a second relationship, then that would mean that her father was having an affair. Furthermore, the laughter of that woman sounded very familiar. She was a relative that she had been living with for seventeen years since she was a child. How could it not be familiar?

"Nan Nan is back." Upon hearing movements outside, Qiao Dongliang secretly heaved a sigh of relief. He quickly stood up to open the door for Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was initially feeling quite upset. Nevertheless, when saw Qiao Dongliang coming to open the door for her as if he was trying to escape from a calamity, she felt much better

Qiao Nan raised her brows. Why did she see awkwardness and helplessness in her father's eyes? It was as if he was not the one who was laughing loudly earlier, and that someone with him was not his biological daughter but an anonymous woman that suddenly appeared.

Qiao Nan was unaware that, to Qiao Dongliang, Qiao Zijin was more difficult to deal with than an anonymous woman that sprang out of nowhere.

If it was someone that he did not know, whether the other party was a man or woman, he could just chase him or her away. He did not need to waste so much breath then.

Nevertheless, Qiao Zijin was Qiao Dongliang's biological daughter. He could not chase her out and could only invite her into the house.

One year had passed. The total time spent between the father-daughter pair did not even exceed two hands. Coupled with what happened before they went their separate ways, there were no beautiful memories to speak of. Instead, it was too sad to look upon the old days. A long time had passed. Naturally, when Qiao Dongliang faced Qiao Zijin again, besides feeling happy to see her, he also found himself in an awkward situation where he was at a loss of what to do.

Qiao Nan was not aware as she was not with them earlier.

When Qiao Dongliang was with Qiao Zijin, they appeared to be getting along happily. However, only Qiao Dongliang himself knew what the actual situation was.

"Nan Nan is back. Quickly come in. Isn't the Mid-Autumn Festival nearing? It's nice of your sister to visit us."

Chapter 667 Poor But Generous

"Why don't we do this? You two siblings and Shi Qing are all young ladies of similar age. You can chat with one another. I, I'll go and prepare dinner."

Qiao Nan was back. Qiao Dongliang thus heaved a huge sigh of relief. After leaving these words behind, he hurried into the kitchen.

Shi Qing blinked and smiled. "Why do I feel that Uncle Qiao seemed to have escaped? It's as if there's a ghost chasing after him."

“I...” Qiao Nan’s tone sounded stiff. “I haven’t quite figured that out too.”

Even if her father and Qiao Zijin were not on the best terms, her father should still feel happy to see Qiao Zijin. This time, her father’s reaction seemed odd. Just as Shi Qing had said, it did not seem better to see Qiao Zijin than to see a ghost.

Qiao Nan was unaware of something. In the past few months, she had got along well with Shi Qing. Shi Qing was quite good to Qiao Dongliang as well.

Qiao Dongliang then realized that two daughters in the family could actually get along harmoniously, such as Qiao Nan and Shi Qing. He was enjoying twice the filial piety. Given this, Qiao Dongliang then felt awkward about Qiao Zijin coming back.

This was because if Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi were around, he would never have the opportunity to experience such an atmosphere.

Qiao Dongliang had now been used to a cordial and harmonious family atmosphere. If he had to return to that family that practiced favoritism and was forever filled with tit-for-tat struggles, of course, he could not tolerate it anymore.

Qiao Zijin was still his daughter. It was just that he was not as persistent as before on Qiao Zijin, this daughter of his. After all, humans were selfish. They wished to lead a good life and not endless arguments and verbal abuses.

Qiao Zijin, who was walking out and hoping to get closer to Qiao Nan, happened to hear Shi Qing’s ‘ghostly talk’. Her expression could not help changing. “Nan Nan, you’re back. Quickly come in. I brought some freshly baked moon cakes. Try it and see if it’s nice.”

When Qiao Nan and Shi Qing entered the house, they saw moon cakes on the table. The two of them faced each other but none dared to lay their hands on the box of moon cakes. Qiao Nan was afraid that her life would be shortened after taking it and Shi Qing did not fancy such food.

“Nan Nan, why aren’t you eating it? It’s very tasty. It’s freshly baked and smells good.” Qiao Zijin smiled. She then took the initiative to take one piece of moon cake and took a huge bite out of it. “The crust is soft and crispy and the stuffing smells fragrant. Nan Nan, this is your favorite red bean paste flavor.”

“Hmm...” Qiao Nan smiled. “I’m not hungry yet. Besides, we’re going to have dinner soon, so I won’t eat moon cake first.” Even if Qiao Zijin had eaten the moon cakes, sorry, she really did not dare to touch anything that Qiao Zijin brought with her.

“You’re Qiao Zijin, right? Sorry to interrupt. Qiao Nan and I will go back to the bedroom and put away our schoolbags first. You won’t mind, will you?” She had finally met the infamous Qiao Zijin. Shi Qing felt that Qiao Zijin did not seem that threatening. Why did Qiao Nan suffer so much in Qiao Zijin’s hands?

“No problem,” Qiao Zijin said graciously. She did not seem petty at all.

Since Qiao Zijin had already said so, Shi Qing then pulled Qiao Nan and went to their bedroom. “Qiao Nan, what is your sister trying to do? Why did she come back during this period?”

“Didn’t she say it? It’s the Mid-Autumn Festival,” Qiao Nan replied without much emotion.

“Then, how about your mother?” If it was a reunion during the Mid-Autumn Festival, then shouldn’t Qiao Zijin’s mother be back too?

Qiao Nan put away her schoolbag and changed into a clean set of clothing. She was not worried at all. “Don’t worry. It won’t happen. Last time, when my mother and Qiao Zijin left, they committed grave mistakes. Judging from my dad’s behavior, he most likely feels very awkward when facing Qiao Zijin, this daughter of his, since it has been a long time since they last met. Even Qiao Zijin can’t smooth it out with my dad, yet my mom wishes to come back? Tough.”

What she was most concerned about was that ‘steady’ behavior of Qiao Zijin. It was as if she was simmering the frog slowly. What exactly was she trying to do?

Having been used to Qiao Zijin’s straightforward and direct ways of doing things, Qiao Nan felt a great panic in her heart when she suddenly had to face this torturous and circumventing tactic of Qiao Zijin.

Shi Qing leaned on Qiao Nan’s shoulders. “We will take things in our stride. Regardless of what methods she uses, don’t be afraid. I’m here with you. I’ll definitely be able to protect you.” Wasn’t it just one Qiao Zijin? If she rolled up her sleeves, Qiao Zijin could not even escape one move of hers.

Qiao Nan smiled but remained silent.

Hard knives were not terrible, but the invisible ones that kill silently were.

With the appearance of Qiao Zijin, Qiao Nan, whose emotions were usually not easily affected, would unknowingly look as though her greatest enemy was approaching. It was no exception this time.

Fortunately, Qiao Zijin only stayed for one night. Before the Mid-Autumn Festival was over, she went home. “Dad, I’m going back. Mom is alone there. I’m worried. After all, it’s the Mid-Autumn Festival. Even if our whole family can’t be together, I can’t let Mom spend the festival alone. I’ll visit you again during my next school break.”

“Ah, okay.” Upon hearing that Qiao Zijin was going to leave after just one evening, Qiao Dongliang did not hold Qiao Zijin back like before. On the other hand, he could not help but feel relieved. “Take these things and eat them on the way.” Qiao Dongliang passed to Qiao Zijin a bag of items.

Qiao Zijin did not decline. She took over the bag, smiled at the three of them, and then left with self-awareness. She did not need anyone to send her off.

At the sight of Qiao Zijin leaving, Qiao Dongliang sighed.

If Zijin and Nan Nan could get along in this manner in normal times, how good would that be? Perhaps their family of four could still lead a nice life together.

These were regrets but the reality was different. Qiao Dongliang sighed but did not exclaim any regrets in front of Qiao Nan. Soon after, the life of the Qiao family went back to normal.

“Qiao Nan, you’re thinking of ways to earn money to pay back Brother Zhai, but today, Uncle Qiao...” At the thought of that bag of items that Qiao Dongliang passed to Qiao Zijin, Shi Qing was not especially pleased.

Qiao Nan, who was furiously writing and studying, paused. “No matter what, one is my dad’s wife and the other is his elder daughter. I can’t help it if my dad wants to give them money. I don’t have any reason to stop him from doing so too. Whoever bothers about this kind of things will suffer.”

Shi Qing felt unfair that Qiao Nan alone had to pay back the medical expenses of Qiao Dongliang. However, Qiao Zijin, like Qiao Nan, could also enjoy the support that Qiao Dongliang felt obligated to give her.

“Poor but generous.” Shi Qing mumbled to herself and simply went to her bed to prepare to sleep. “Unfortunately, my dad still can’t come back during this Mid-Autumn Festival...” Otherwise, she would not have seen that worrisome scene.

Regarding Qiao Dongliang handing some money to Qiao Zijin, Shi Qing could not judge if Qiao Dongliang was right or wrong in his actions. Anyway, she just felt unhappy and unfair for Qiao Nan when she saw that.

After Shi Qing fell asleep, Qiao Nan then listlessly held her head and stared into space. It was fine that her father gave money to Qiao Zijin. She was most concerned about whether Qiao Zijin would use her father’s money to deal against her!

If that was truly the case, it would be most depressing. Without her cooperation, it was not that easy for her father to save some money.

Chapter 668 Over-Emphasis on Trivial Matters

In actual fact, Qiao Nan felt more troubled than Shi Qing regarding that small sum of money that Qiao Dongliang gave to Qiao Zijin.

As she felt that she could no longer continue to attempt the questions, Qiao Nan simply went to bed. If she continued to sit around, she would only space out. Hence, she might as well lie in bed and sleep, replenishing her energy.

Qiao Nan was troubled that Qiao Zijin would use the money that Qiao Dongliang gave her to deal against her. On the other hand, when Qiao Zijin, upon boarding the car, opened the bag of items and saw the money inside, her eyes were full of disdain. “He doesn’t even feel ashamed to give me so little money. It’s so easy to be a father. No matter what, it’s better that I spend it than leave it to Qiao Nan.”

Having said that, Qiao Zijin happily put away the money and no longer minded the quantity of it. As long as she was spending what belonged to Qiao Nan and took more of it, Qiao Nan would have less. She would feel happy then.

‘Qiao Nan, do not be anxious. I would be taking the college entrance examination in half a year’s time. When that time comes, the two of us sisters would then ‘bond’ with each other.’

Time passed by as quickly as the blink of an eye.

“Qiao Nan, it’ll be our turn to take the college entrance examination during this time next year. What are your thoughts on this?” It was now July and the weather was hot. Most were reluctant to go out at the sight of the vicious-looking sun outside.

Shi Qing was not worried about other things. She did not wish for much but she was hoping for more storms and rains so that the weather would be cooler when it was her turn to take the college entrance examination next year. If the sun was so bright, she was afraid that she would suffer heatstroke and not be able to concentrate on the examinations.

“Any thoughts?” Qiao Nan raised her brows. “What kind of thoughts can I have? Just take the exams properly.” Time passed so quickly. It was already July. Qiao Zijin would be having her college entrance examination during this time.

At the thought of Qiao Zijin’s grades in her previous life, Qiao Nan did not harbor much hope for Qiao Zijin. Whether she scored well or badly, that was Qiao Zijin’s own matter.

“Furthermore, we still have another half a year to go anyway. We have basically finished learning the contents of the core curriculum. Thereafter, we’ll have to see how the teacher conducts the revision.” During this period, Qiao Nan strictly followed her study plan. She not only successfully completed the core curriculum of high school but also memorized all the contents of the Oxford Dictionary.

She dared not say that she had it all at her fingertips but she had certainly memorized most of the knowledge and content.

“You’re the greatest pervert.” At the thought of that exaggerated study plan of Qiao Nan, Shi Qing expressed that Qiao Nan was not a human being. Even if it was a machine, there would be times whereby it would be broken and needed repair. Qiao Nan did not seem to have any such moment. That persistence and motivation of hers were truly frightening.

Nevertheless, her father kept saying that someone with a character like Qiao Nan would attain success easily. Furthermore, if Qiao Nan was not someone that was strong-willed and determined, she must have suffered very badly before. Otherwise, a child of Qiao Nan's age would not have been able to do what she did.

"Thank you for your praise." Qiao Nan was very used to the one or two words of pervert that popped out of Shi Qing's mouth. "Right, ever since you transferred to Ping Cheng High School, your results have been quite good. Your name should be on the list of students who are guaranteed admission to college,

right?"

"Yes, but I rejected." Shi Qing was yawning. "Even you're not willing to be guaranteed admission, so why would I be eager to do so? Whoever is interested can go ahead. However, I heard that the students from your class one are very grateful to you." During the year, the reputation of Teacher Xiao Qiao had been rising.

In the past, only the second-year class one's students would address Qiao Nan as such. Now, almost all the students from the second-year cohort addressed Qiao Nan as 'teacher'.

The revision materials that Qiao Nan came up with would definitely be treated like the bible by the students of the second-year cohort. They would revise it thoroughly. That enthusiasm and importance that they placed on the materials exceeded that of the main pointers and summary given by the teachers.

Fortunately, the teachers were not petty. Otherwise, it would be embarrassing to have their limelight being stolen by their own student.

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The most amazing thing to Shi Qing was that the third-year students did not address Qiao Nan as their junior. Instead, they addressed her by her name, Qiao Nan. It was as though Qiao Nan belonged to their cohort.

As for the first-year students, they treated Qiao Nan's notes as treasures. They would cherish any belonging of Qiao Nan that they could get hold of. They would then pray with it and believe that they could certainly receive some luck and influence from the top student. They were simply going mad.

It was good that, although Qiao Nan wished very much to earn money, she would never harbor these ideas.

Otherwise, Qiao Nan only needed to sell everything that she had used before. Perhaps she could even gain enough profits to pay for half the medical expenses of Qiao Dongliang's surgery and hospitalization.

With such a situation, how could Shi Qing not call this amazing?

Which school were they studying at? They were studying at Ping Cheng High School, the second-best high school in Ping Cheng. They were comparable to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China now.

Everyone knew that the principals of the two schools were looking forward to next year's college entrance examination. Principal Meng was hoping that there would be a swap of the school ranking between the top and second places.

Regarding this, everyone was aware. However, the outsiders did not know that, in actual fact, the competition had already begun this year.

The reason Qiao Nan had been cramping books during the period when the third-year students were having their college entrance examination was that Qiao Nan had been 'forcefully recruited' previously.

In the past two years, Qiao Nan had been very famous in the school for her ability to spot questions. Even the principal and teachers had heard about it.

The questions for the monthly mini examinations could be set by her own teachers. However, everyone would attempt the same papers for the middle school examination and final term examinations. Hence, Qiao Nan could not possibly be aware of the likes of the teachers who set the questions. Furthermore, she did not even know which teachers would be setting them.

Despite that, Qiao Nan's accuracy rate in spotting questions was still very high.

Hence, Principal Meng decided to 'cheat' a little for the college entrance examination this year.

In other schools, the revisions for the third-year students were all conducted by the teachers. But not for Ping Cheng High School. Last week's revisions at Ping Cheng High School were conducted by Qiao Nan for her seniors.

As such, although the third-year students addressed Qiao Nan by her name, she was steadily assuming the position of 'Teacher Xiao Qiao' in Ping Cheng High School.

There was only one week left. The teachers had long completed their normal revisions according to schedule. The principal thus handed this last week to Qiao Nan for her to 'mess around'.

Qiao Nan had initially wanted to decline. This kind of matter would put her in great limelight. Furthermore, it was too unbelievable.

A second-year student conducting revisions for the third-year students would be a laughingstock to outsiders. It was enough that the third-year students could not be compared to the second-year students. Would the revision materials prepared by the teachers be worse than that of a student?

Qiao Nan, who had been forced to do this, spent three days, suffered panda eyes, and came up with four test papers for her third-year seniors.

The tragedy was that there were also science subjects. Four papers for humanities and four papers for science. In the end, Qiao Nan had to come up with eight papers in total to help spot the questions for the third-year students.

The only requirement that Qiao Nan had for the four test papers was that everyone had to attempt the papers on their own. No discussion was allowed. Subsequently, they could not compare answers with one another. The strict regulations were no different from that of a formal examination.

Chapter 669 Heaven's Wish to Perish Him at the School

The requirements were the same as the formal examination but there would be no separate examination halls or seats. Throughout the entire process of attempting the questions, one had to be independent and rely on their own integrity.

It was already an opportunistic behavior to spot the questions before the examination.

Qiao Nan felt that, as third-year students, it would be meaningless for her to help spot the questions if they did not even possess a sense of integrity.

Spotting questions might not be spotting the exact questions but the same kind of questions. If they relied on copying, they could copy for one question. However, if the description or measurement unit in the questions were altered, then the 'copycats' would simply be dumbfounded.

Initially, when the teachers heard of Qiao Nan's plan, they were a little hesitant. The requirements were the same as that of the formal examination but the enforcement was not as strict. If they did not change classrooms and separate the tables, would it work out? After all, they were still a bunch of kids. There were both outstanding and poor students.

Nevertheless, Principal Meng gave an overriding decision and approved Qiao Nan's arrangement.

This method of Qiao Nan had the same logic as the normal circumstances where the teachers taught lessons in class.

Regardless of how well the teacher taught and how greatly they appealed to the students, if the student was reluctant to learn or their heart was not into learning, the best teacher could have a student with poor grades. After all, there was no one-size-fits-all solution to teaching now. It was all customized.

The situation of a second-year student spotting questions for the third-year student was already unbelievable. If the third-year students did not even have this sense of self-awareness, then Principal Meng felt that these students were not deserving of the efforts put in by Qiao Nan.

Besides, to convince the third-year students, Principal Meng had made arrangements for Qiao Nan to participate in the final term examination with them in the first semester.

The difference was that the humanities and science students only needed to take the examinations for their respective subjects but Qiao Nan had to take the examinations for both the humanities and science subjects. She then had to put up her grades on the notice board.

It was only until that moment that the students in Ping Cheng High School found out how perverted Qiao Nan, the top student, was.

She was clearly a second-year student but her grades were actually not worse than that of the third-year students. She could even be considered as one of the top students in the third year. At most, it was just that she did not clinch the top place in the cohort.

Even though Qiao Nan was not the top scorer in the cohort, everyone dared not underestimate her. Those who scored better than her were fearful of her existence.

Qiao Nan was one year younger. That meant Qiao Nan had already self-studied all the curriculum of the third-year studies.

Qiao Nan relied on her own effort to study and participated in the examination of the third-year students. In the end, she scored better than those third-year students who had attended formal classes. Such a difference was akin to that between a genius and a fool.

Furthermore, all of Qiao Nan scores were rather perverted for both science and humanities subjects!!!

In other words, Qiao Nan had studied one year less. She could effectively skip to the third year and take the college entrance examination with them and then be admitted to a top tier university.

As seniors who were older than Qiao Nan by a year, they expressed that they did not even know for sure if they could be admitted to a top tier university, whereas their junior scored even better than them. They were thus very ashamed.

They were students studying in a single course, yet they did not even score well for the subjects. On the contrary, their junior received wonderful grades for both courses. As seniors, they were really ashamed.

As such, when the principal let Qiao Nan spot the questions for the third-year students, the students were more convinced and willing to accept it.

Initially, all the teachers who gave out the revision test papers to the students taking part in the college entrance examination were quite worried. They were afraid that the enforcement rules set by Qiao Nan was too forgiving and some 'mischievous' students would flout the regulations and carry out some 'cheap tricks'.

Miraculously, it seemed that nothing of such happened in the entire third-year cohort of students. Everyone was conscientiously attempting the revision test papers set by Qiao Nan. That serious attitude displayed was comparable to that at the final term examination.

This outcome was something all the teachers did not expect.

From the students' attitude, it was not difficult to tell that although the third-year seniors felt embarrassed to address Qiao Nan as Teacher Xiao Qiao, the respect they held for her was less than that for the form teachers.

As one would have imagined, Qiao Nan was the one who had the greatest limelight in the entire Ping Cheng High School this semester.

Because of this, Shi Qing simply laughed at Qiao Nan that the latter had become addicted to teaching since she taught in the army.

"I also rejected it." Qiao Nan had the ability to be admitted to a top tier university. Hence, among all names in the guaranteed admission list, Shi Qing's grades were comparable to that of Qiao Nan. After the streaming of classes in the second year, Shi Qing regained the position of the top scorer in the cohort.

In view of this, both Qiao Nan and Shi Qing's names were in Ping Cheng High School's list of students who were guaranteed admission to a top tier university.

The unexpected yet unsurprising thing was that, facing such a good offer, these two top scorers in the cohort adopted the same stance of declining the offer.

"I've guessed it." Qiao Nan smiled gently. "Both of us rejected. There will be more chances for other students in the humanities and science courses to be on the list. Nevertheless, Principal Meng, and not these schoolmates, is the one that feels most happy about this."

"That's for sure." Shi Qing snorted proudly. "Both of us will be taking the college entrance examination. There will be a chance for us to compete for the top scorer of humanities and science in Ping Cheng. If both the top scorers come from Ping Cheng High School, the school will definitely rise to fame and become a top tier high school in Ping Cheng. When that time comes, The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China will drop to second place. It will be a fact that cannot be changed."

Shi Qing was aware that Ping Cheng High School and The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China were competing with each other.

Previously, Shi Qing was spurred by Qiu Chenxi to come to Ping Cheng. Principal Wei of The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China heard about Shi Qing's outstanding academic performance. He had pulled strings in the hope of transferring Shi Qing to his school instead of Ping Cheng High School. He warmly and formally invited Shi Qing to admit to The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

Principal Wei only intended for one thing. Qiao Nan's cohort in Ping Cheng High School and Qiao Nan herself were really too brilliant.

To maintain the school's current position in Ping Cheng, he had to find a student as brilliant as Qiao Nan to compete with her. Shi Qing was the one that Principal Wei had his eyes on.

To Principal Wei's utmost grieve and resentment, regardless of how he persuaded and hold her back, Shi Qing would not change her mind and insisted to go to Ping Cheng High School to compete with Qiao Nan directly.

Toward the favorable conditions that Principal Wei offered to her, Shi Qing did not even care.

Given her birth status, she did not lack anything. She thus did not need the school to provide her with anything.

Principal Meng did not know that Shi Qing was transferred to Ping Cheng High School because of Qiao Nan. It could be said that Shi Qing was 'brought in' by Qiao Nan.

Initially, after Principal Wei missed the chance to admit Qiao Nan to his school, he consoled himself that although Qiao Nan's grades were good, she had many issues. If she lost her usual ability to perform during the college entrance examination, it was still possible that she would flunk the examinations.

Having seen the behavior of Qiao Zijin and Ding Jiayi, Principal Wei had felt that it might not be peaceful for Qiao Nan when she took the college entrance examination. This saying was not exaggerated at all.

However, after Shi Qing went to Ping Cheng High School because of Qiao Nan, Principal Wei had to cry.

His school could not even find someone that could compete on the same grounds as Qiao Nan. Now, with Shi Qing's presence, it was simply heaven's wish to perish him at The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China.

Chapter 670 Discerning Sense of Judgment

As such, only Principal Wei himself knew the tremendous pressure he had for the college entrance examination next year.

The more stressful Principal Wei felt, the more proud and happy Principal Meng was.

It was just that, at this juncture, Qiao Nan and Shi Qing were unaware that Principal Wei was amused by the news of Qiao Nan helping spot questions for the third-year students in Ping Cheng High School. "Principal Meng is kidding me. I won't deny that Qiao Nan is outstanding. But no matter how outstanding she is, she's just a second-year student. She hasn't picked up the knowledge of the third-year curriculum. The emphasis of the syllabus is also different for both the humanities and science classes. Is he joking with me by letting Qiao Nan help spot the questions?"

On the other hand, when the vice principal of the school heard about this, he felt relieved. "Principal Wei, this is good too. There's a lot of pressure on school for the coming year. If we can win against Ping Cheng High School this year, there will most probably be less impact on us next year."

In order to minimize the impact of the results of the college entrance examination next year, their students had to gain a beautiful victory this year.

As such, it was advantageous to them if there were more problematic situations at Ping Cheng High School.

The vice principal also felt that Principal Meng of Ping Cheng High School was too reckless. Qiao Nan was only a second-year student. She would not be familiar with the third-year curriculum, let alone knowing the overview and emphasis of the curriculum that already had a revision system in place.

To allow a second-year student to conduct revisions for the college entrance examination for the third-year students... Were Principal Meng's brains leaking?

"You're right. We have to bring Ping Cheng High School down mercilessly with the college entrance examination this year. There's no use attaining good performance only for a year. Moreover, you have to think about the arrangements. In terms of individual top scorers, our school most likely can't compete with Ping Cheng High School."

Ping Cheng High School had Qiao Nan in humanities and Shi Qing in science.

Initially, it was already not easy for The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China to have an individual top scorer in Ping Cheng. Now that Ping Cheng High School had two such strong opponents, Principal Wei did not think that there would be a top scorer from his school.

"Since we can't compete in terms of individual top scorers, we will compete for the aggregate performance. As long as we have sufficient students who are admitted to the top and second-tier universities, at least, we won't be brought down so badly by the individual top scorers of Ping Cheng High School. We can still forcibly maintain the status of our school in Ping Cheng. After Qiao Nan graduates, without Qiao Nan and Shi Qing, Ping Cheng High School will revert to its original state in less than a year's time. Hence, we have to tide over these two years!"

If they could settle these two years of work properly, they would still remain as the number one in Ping Cheng in the subsequent two years.

"Rest assured, Principal. I understand what you mean. This year, we will crush Ping Cheng High School badly and let Ping Cheng High School suffer a huge blow. With this, more students with better quality will enroll in our school during the second half of this year. Ping Cheng High School will feel proud for a year at most. Our school will certainly be the one that has the last laugh."

With this plan in mind, the vice principal also felt more relieved.

It did not matter even if Qiao Nan and Shi Qing really clinched the positions of the two top scorers for Ping Cheng High School and elevated the school to fame. As long as the overall results of the school were not poor, their reputation would not drop too much.

After tiding over this difficult year, the school's status would become better than before.

At the end of the day, students such as Qiao Nan and Shi Qing were hard to come by.

Ping Cheng High School had them once but it was impossible that there would be a second time.

“Okay, keep a watch on the teachers of the second-year students. If it really doesn’t work, utilize the resources on the second-year students first and give them better teachers. Whether our school can maintain the top position in Ping Cheng will depend on the performance of this cohort.”

Having double top scorers was something every principal would dream of.

This happiness and probability were equivalent to that of a gambler buying a lottery ticket and striking a billion yuan prize.

Principal Wei grieved and pitied himself for brushing his shoulders against this lone billion yuan’ big prize. He even had to perk himself up to tackle these two years of college entrance examinations.

Whether it would be a success or a failure, or whether his school or Ping Cheng High School would be the top in Ping Cheng, it would really depend on these two years.

“Will do. I’ll definitely keep a tight rein on the seedlings of the second year and won’t let their grades drop.” The brilliant ones had to do better. The weaker ones had to improve.

As they had too many things on their mind, both Principal Wei and Principal Meng were especially nervous during the college entrance examination this time. They even made various trips to the examination halls of their students to observe the situation.

At times like this, it was inevitable that the two principals would bump into each other.

“Principal Wei.”

“Principal Meng.”

They smiled gently when they met, but the look of nervousness in their eyes did not lessen.

As the principals, there were students taking the college entrance examination from their school every year but never had they felt so anxious and concerned. They even had to come to the examination hall personally to look at the situation.

Just with this gesture alone, the two principals were aware that they were bent on competing with each other.

Principal Meng relaxed his mood a little. "Principal Wei, you also came to observe the examinations this year."

"Yes, as the principal, everyone thinks alike. We all place great emphasis on the students taking the college entrance examination." Principal Wei smiled. "Right, I heard recently that Principal Meng allowed a second-year student to spot questions for the third-year students. Principal Meng, your actions and style are truly daring. You're really someone who loves challenges."

Qiao Nan was a human and not a deity. Furthermore, she was just an ordinary student.

Principal Meng dumped such a heavy responsibility that the teachers could not achieve to a second-year student. This was not considered daring. He was courting death and playing a joke with the destiny of the entire school.

Principal Meng's eyes curved and his smile became increasingly amiable. "Am I? I don't have other good qualities. Courage is my greatest strength. There's a saying that talented people are generally bold. I hope that this saying won't be the reverse if it's used on me."

In the past, Qiao Nan's situation was so complicated. Clearly, she was the top talent in the province during the middle school examination. Principal Wei did not dare to accept her, but he dared to!

Qiao Nan's family situation was not very good. He thus offered favorable terms and helped Ping Cheng High School retain such a good student like Qiao Nan.

Although the matter regarding Qiao Nan's parents occurred subsequently, he continued to hang on until today. Was he not daring?

He was too daring!

Anyway, he had already done many daring things. He did not mind doing a few more.

If he had to gamble, he would gamble all the way!

At this moment, Principal Meng was akin to a recalcitrant gambler who had shown his hand. It was as if he was gambling with his entire fortune as well as those that he borrowed from others.

Principal Wei wanted to watch a good show of Ping Cheng High School and him, and was waiting for Ping Cheng High School and him to capsize like a ship. Principal Meng was aware of all these.

It was not that he was not nervous or frightened, but how many gambles could one have in their life?

Principal Meng gritted his teeth. Gamble then!

“How’s that so? Principal Meng has a discerning sense of judgment. You believe that Qiao Nan will definitely not let down the great hopes that you pine on her. Principal Meng, for this year’s college entrance examination, I look up to Ping Cheng High School. It’s been so many years. Perhaps our The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China will have to let others take the place.”