

RTAMM 911

Chapter 911 Not Easily Bullied

Qiao Nan could vaguely hear Shi Qing sigh in her room. She felt bad. Nevertheless, when she thought of what Zhai Sheng told her previously, she stood by her guns.

Brother Zhai said that the Feng family was a huge pit. She must not jump into it!

At the thought of Zhai Sheng's words, Qiao Nan felt more level-headed. She lay on her bed and fell asleep soon after.

Before Shi Qing went back during the weekend, Feng Cheng gave her daughter a call. "Qing Qing, do we go over and fetch both of you on Friday night or Saturday morning?"

When she heard her mother sound so confident, Shi Qing's expression was very awkward. Could she tell her mother that Qiao Nan did not even agree to go to the Feng's residence?

"Hello, Qing Qing. Did you hear me? When should I get someone to fetch both of you?" Feng Cheng asked again. "Didn't they say that college studies are more relaxed? Don't tell me you have been tired out? If that is really the case, when you come back this time, Mom will get people to prepare nice food for you so that you can nourish your body."

Due to the national family planning policy, Feng Cheng only had Shi Qing, one daughter. How could she not dote on her?

Furthermore, Feng Cheng was treated very well by the family. Hence, she did not have the habit of favoring males over females. She thought that her daughter's reactions were slower as the latter had been exhausted from her studies.

"No need, Mom. I'm doing quite well. I was distracted earlier because I was thinking about an academic question. Come and fetch me on Saturday."

Feng Cheng had been mentioning 'both of you'. At this moment, Shi Qing only said 'me'.

Feng Cheng was very open and honest in front of her daughter. Furthermore, in Feng Cheng's opinion, given Qiao Nan's family background, Qiao Nan would only worry about not having a chance to fawn on the Feng family.

Now, the Feng family was willing to extend an olive branch, how could Qiao Nan possibly reject it? Qiao Nan would certainly feel elated, as if she was floating in the air.

"Mom will get people to prepare a lot of delicious food for both of you then. Studies are important but your health is even more so. Don't pick up those bad habits from your dad. You're still young. You have to take good care of your health. Understand?" It was not that Feng Cheng did not wish to intervene in her husband, Shi Peng's matter. It was because she could not do so. After a long time, Feng Cheng had also given up on it.

However, it was different for Shi Qing, this daughter. Feng Cheng not only could manage her but also succeeded in doing so. No matter what, she could not let her own daughter become as bad as her husband.

"I know... Mom, I know my limits." Her father was born with excellent health. It was just that he had been burdened by the Shi family's situation. Hence, she had also inherited good genes. Her mother was just being paranoid. "Mom, let's not talk anymore. I will see you on Saturday."

As she had a guilty conscience, Shi Qing hung up the phone very quickly. She was afraid that Feng Cheng would suddenly pop a question such as 'how is Qiao Nan?'. What if she could not answer it then?

Qiao Nan did not wish to go to the Feng's residence. Shi Qing was also not willing to force her to do so. However, the Feng family seemed to be very serious in inviting Qiao Nan this time. Shi Qing, who was sandwiched between the two parties, was extremely depressed. Why did the situation become like that without an apparent reason?

When it was Saturday, Qiao Nan went to the place that she had registered as a volunteer guide interpreter.

After Qiao Nan left, the car of the Feng family arrived at the designated location to fetch Shi Qing.

When the chauffeur of the Feng family saw that only Shi Qing was present, he looked puzzled. "Miss, the old master told me that I would be fetching two people today. Where is the other one? Do we still have to wait for a while?" If he were to wait for a while, that would mean that the Feng

family had to do so as well. Who exactly was the person that would be coming home with the young miss?

“No need.” Shi Qing opened the car door and sat in it directly. “Let’s make our way back.”

“How about the other person?”

“She is not going.”

“Oh.” The chauffeur did not question further. He stepped on the accelerator and headed toward the Feng’s residence.

“Oh, my goodness. That Shi Qing who came with Qiao Nan from the countryside-what exactly is her background? She even had a chauffeur to fetch her. Didn’t they say that she came from the countryside?” Coincidentally, the ‘dormitory trio’ who was left after Qiao Nan’s departure bumped into this situation. All three of them were stunned.

There was a shimmer in Lü Yan’s eyes. “Tang Jiayun, you have not found out who Shi Qing is?” How was it possible that Shi Qing came from the countryside? Clearly, she had relatives in the capital. She was from the capital.

“No,” Tang Jiayun said indignantly. After knowing that the owner of the Mercedes-Benz car was not related to Qiao Nan, of course, Tang Jiayun wanted to lay her hands on Shi Qing directly.

Unfortunately, Shi Qing and Qiao Nan were staying outside the school.

In addition, Tang Jiayun was not in the same course of study as Shi Qing. Hence, it was not so easy for Tang Jiayun to look for Shi Qing.

One who knows his own strength and that of the enemy is invincible in every battle.

During this period, Tang Jiayun spent much time and energy trying to find out Shi Qing’s background. This was the only way that she could determine what she needed to do when she was with Shi Qing.

However, to Tang Jiayun's surprise, although Shi Qing clearly had a powerful background, she usually kept a very low profile when dealing with people and things. She had never mentioned to others what her family did or who her next-of-kin was.

If Tang Jiayun did not mention it, Shi Qing's classmates would not even be aware that she had a relative who drove a Mercedes-Benz car.

Yu Xiaoxiao stood up straight as she took a glance in the direction of the car that left after fetching Shi Qing. "If you really want to find out anything, you most likely have to seek Qiao Nan's help."

"Crap!" Tang Jiayun refused to believe in fate. "Shi Qing keeps such a low profile normally and does not tell others about herself. Are you certain that she will tell Qiao Nan? In my opinion, Qiao Nan and Shi Qing do not belong to the same social class at all."

"However, I found out that Shi Qing made arrangements to stay outside the school on the same day that Qiao Nan did. We saw Qiao Nan move out her luggage that day and Shi Qing was with her. That car left while carrying both Qiao Nan's and Shi Qing's daily living necessities. Tang Jiayun, tell me, would Shi Qing and Qiao Nan stay in separate places?"

Yu Xiaoxiao's sixth sense told her that nothing would be so coincidental in this world. One was moving out and the other also followed suit.

Furthermore, they had known for a long time that Shi Qing and Qiao Nan were good friends.

Was it not normal for Shi Qing to tell her good friend, Qiao Nan, about her family situation?

Most probably, the two of them not only made arrangements to stay outside on the same day but were staying together now as well!

Every inch of land was gold in the capital. The rental fee for a basement the size of a nest was shockingly expensive. It was not something that students like them could afford. At the thought of this, Yu Xiaoxiao pondered deeply over where Shi Qing and Qiao Nan could possibly stay at in such a big city after they left the school.

The two of them left the school and made arrangements to stay outside. They must be very confident to have taken this step.

Qiao Nan was from the countryside but Shi Qing had relatives in the capital. In that case, Qiao Nan was the one who basked in Shi Qing's glory and relied on the latter to get a place to stay in the capital.

This was such a good matter. Although Yu Xiaoxiao was level-headed, she could not help feeling jealous of Qiao Nan.

Chapter 912 It Is All Tang Jiayun's Fault

Why didn't she have a good childhood friend that had relatives in the capital and could lend her a house to stay?

Qiao Nan had taken a huge advantage from this.

Yu Xiaoxiao's eyes were red. She did not expect that the reality was contrary to her thoughts. Qiao Nan was not the one who basked in Shi Qing's glory. It was the other way round.

Without Qiao Nan, Shi Qing could not stay in that small courtyard as well.

At this moment, Tang Jiayun felt like biting her handkerchief. She could not refuse to admit that Qiao Nan was quite lucky. Actually, one did not have to know many friends. As long as they had one or two friends like Shi Qing, life would be complete.

"I still have something on today. I won't keep you company then. I'm leaving first." Tang Jiayun's eyeballs swiveled. She bid goodbye to Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan and left.

Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan's faces turned black. Lü Yan bluntly said, "That means she doesn't need us anymore? Is she dumping us?"

"Both," Yu Xiaoxiao said rationally. "Tang Jiayun's target is Shi Qing. She certainly needs Qiao Nan's help if she wishes to get close to Shi Qing. We won't meet Shi Qing but Qiao Nan will. I suspect Tang Jiayun will try to get close to Qiao Nan and treat the latter as a stepping stone."

Lü Yan's expression turned stiff. She then smiled. "That's true. Tang Jiayun, this kind of person, will never do things without a purpose or gain."

“However, Tang Jiayun should not be happy too soon. Qiao Nan doesn’t seem easy to manage at all. Although she is not the type who seeks revenge for the slightest grievance, she is certainly not good-tempered and easy to talk to. Don’t treat someone quiet as one who doesn’t have a temper. When this kind of person flares up, it will be worse than when others do. Haha! Regardless of what Tang Jiayun has in mind, whether she can eventually fulfill her wish is going to be tough.”

At this point in time, the phrase ‘white lotus flower virgin Mary’ was not popular. Hence, Yu Xiaoxiao did not use it.

Nevertheless, she wanted to express the same meaning. Qiao Nan would not forgive someone without any principles or reasons. Similarly, she would not target someone just because of some trivial matters.

The things that Tang Jiayun did previously were ugly and shameful. Most importantly, those who were not blind would think that Tang Jiayun had gone overboard.

With that, Tang Jiayun still hoped to become good friends with Qiao Nan so that the latter would introduce her to Shi Qing? Tang Jiayun’s brains were really soaked in water.

After hearing Yu Xiaoxiao’s words, Lü Yan’s anger subsided a little. “Back to the topic. Now that we know what is on Tang Jiayun’s mind, are both of us still going to...?”.

Shi Qing obviously had a powerful background. Certainly, they were first-year students in college now. However, they were also worried about the social practice required during their third-year studies. They had to make preparations as well.

It was not that easy to get into a good career or department. Not every company would be willing to open up such vacancies.

If they truly encountered such a situation, they heard that one would be badly battered fighting for one such vacancy.

Nevertheless, if they were successful in grabbing it and performed well during the practice, they would be able to become a formal employee of such big companies. They could also pull some strings or pay some money to get in. They heard that these were all high-paying jobs.

Upon reaching that stage, they could then truly be considered a golden phoenix that soared out of the chicken nest! After another ten years of hard work, they could most probably buy a house in the capital and become a resident there.

Lü Yan and Yu Xiaoxiao were lacking most in connections. In actual fact, every student who had just come to the capital faced the same issue.

The appearance of Shi Qing was undoubtedly a bright and dazzling ray of light that shot out from this dark truth.

Anyone who was able to drive a good car in the capital was either a wealthy man or a government official. Regardless of which, as long as they could get close to the powerful Shi Qing, they would have a bright future ahead.

Perhaps the most correct thing that they had done in this life was not that they had chosen to study at Peking University but having met a classmate like Shi Qing!

Lü Yan was well aware of this point. Although she laughed at Tang Jiayun, she also wanted to give it a try and get into Shi Qing's good books, knowing that Shi Qing could be of some help in the future.

Although all are humans, there are huge gaps between them. They could not achieve certain things despite working so hard, while others could do so with just a few words.

"Sigh..." After some time, Yu Xiaoxiao gave a sigh. "Do you think I don't wish to? Let me advise you. Forget it. Unless you can get to know Shi Qing directly and make her accept you, it certainly won't work even if you go through Qiao Nan. If Tang Jiayun won't be able to succeed, we won't be able to either. Otherwise, why do you think Qiao Nan insisted on moving out?"

Qiao Nan's attitude was already very obvious.

"It's all Tang Jiayun's fault." Lü Yan was feeling increasingly unhappy. She vented all her resentment and anger on Tang Jiayun.

Yu Xiaoxiao shook her head. Was it really all Tang Jiayun's fault?

Not really...

Everything was quite smooth for Qiao Nan on her first day at work.

At this point in time, it was not so common for one to know English. The problem was that China was developing at a rapid pace. The economy had been developing and achieving favorable progress. As such, it had garnered the attention of many other countries.

It was not strange that the Palace Museum, one of the major places of interest in the capital, had numerous visitors every day.

In particular, the foreigners were all aware that the capital had such a famous and prominent ancient archeology. The building structure was well-maintained and the style was bright and distinct. It also exuded a strong historic feel. Hence, any international visitors to the capital would definitely make a trip to the Palace Museum.

In the past, whenever they had to manage so many tourists in a day, the personnel managing the Palace Museum would be anxious and at a loss of what to do.

Even after the top made some arrangements, they were still lacking in manpower.

It was truly very important to have one more volunteer such as Qiao Nan, who was proficient in English. In fact, the more the merrier.

In order to let Qiao Nan assume the role well, the unit gave her some training before she took on the job. Mainly, they guided her on the rules and important things to note in the Palace Museum.

Of course, to become a qualified guide and interpreter, Qiao Nan had to be very familiar with the various scenery and places of interest in the Palace Museum. She had to fully memorize all the information such that they would be at her fingertips.

After going through a round of training and test, Qiao Nan could then carry the shoulder emblem and badge of an employee.

Qiao Nan had always been strong in humanities. Hence, to her, memorizing information was a piece of cake.

When Qiao Nan registered last week, the management unit had already given her all the information as well as what was required of a tour guide and things to note for the job.

The other party had also strictly emphasized to Qiao Nan that she could become a volunteer only after she met all the requirements.

She had one week to prepare. If she could not pass the test, she would be too embarrassed to tell others that she was a student from Peking University when she went out next time.

When Saturday came, the management unit tested Qiao Nan's professional knowledge as soon as they could.

Chapter 913 Silver-Tongued

Fortunately, Qiao Nan came fully prepared. As a freshman who just finished college entrance examination this year, she was not afraid of sitting for tests.

Qiao Nan finished her written test and oral interview in a very short period of time and she did very well in them. Right now, Qiao Nan was finally given the position that she had been waiting for a long time.

Regardless of nationality, gender, or age, everyone enjoyed the company of beautiful people.

Not only was Qiao Nan beautiful, but she was also young and cheerful. She had a beautiful, sweet voice and a good temper. She was also fluent in English. The tourists found it a joy to speak with her and it left them a good memory.

Several tourists were very satisfied with Qiao Nan's service. They offered to give her tips as this was what they did in their country to commend good service. However, Qiao Nan refused politely.

Qiao Nan was a newcomer. She felt that it was not right of her to accept their tips.

By the time Qiao Nan ended her day, she was still in high spirits although she felt tired to the bones. She reached the Lin family's small quad and to her surprise, Shi Qing was at home. "Aren't you supposed to be at the Feng family's residence, being treated like the heiress of the family? Why are you back so early?"

Shi Qing propped her head on her hands, staring at Qiao Nan with a gloomy expression on her face. "That's not it. They want me to bring you with me tomorrow. My grandpa said that if there is any misunderstanding, things will be fine once we meet up and explain clearly."

In short, the Feng family had yet to give up. They still wanted to meet Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan was amused. "I am just an outsider to the Feng family. At most, I am your classmate and your friend. I am not someone important. Even if we have any misunderstanding, so be it. I understand what they mean, but why do I have to join them for a meal? Doesn't this seem like a treacherous plot?"

Shi Qing was put in a difficult position. "Qiao Nan, how will I know? Do you know anything?"

Qiao Nan was not someone who spoke indiscriminately. She must have known something to say that the meal was a treacherous plot.

Qiao Nan shook her head. "Not for now. But the Feng family's attitude is indeed strange. They are elders, while I am their junior. According to our Chinese customs, the elders would not apologize to me. Talking to me would be seen as giving in to me. If you were me, wouldn't you find it odd that the Feng family is so insistent on treating you to a meal?"

Qiao Nan touched her chin. She was not so charismatic that it made the Feng family be interested in her.

"Shi Qing, let me ask you a question. If you feel that dirty linen should not be aired in public, you can choose not to answer. If you feel comfortable, you can tell me as much as you like. How about that?"

"Sure." Shi Qing hesitated and thought seriously about it before she nodded.

"Back then, what was the Feng family's attitude when Qiu Chenxi said that she wanted to be engaged to Brother Zhai? The Feng family knew that Qiu Chenxi kept bullying you in the Shi family, and Old Master Shi was biased toward Qiu Chenxi. Did they say anything about that?" The more Qiao Nan thought about it, the more she felt that what the Feng family wanted had nothing to do with herself.

Since the Feng family was not interested in her, it would only mean that the Feng family was interested in the people around her—for instance, Brother Zhai.

“Well...” Shi Qing thought about it carefully. “They would be angry on my behalf whenever they heard that I was bullied by Qiu Chenxi and grandpa was biased toward her. They would feel wronged on my behalf. They said that my grandpa was blind to like Qiu Chenxi more than me, that I am actually so much better than her.”

“Then, did they teach you to fight for what you want? For instance, did they tell you to retaliate when bullied by Qiu Chenxi, or that when Old Master Shi was being biased, you had to point it out on the spot?”

“No.” Shi Qing shook her head honestly. “They told me that grandpa is old and muddleheaded, that I should not anger him since he is advanced in years. They also said that if I suffer any grievances, I should tell them instead. Since he is my grandpa, it is unnecessary for me to anger him and lose my temper. As for Qiu Chenxi, she was a guest at the Shi family and would have to leave eventually. My grandpa would not be biased toward her forever. I am the one who would have his love and attention in the end. Similarly, Qiu Chenxi would only bully me for the time being and would leave the house sooner or later. Since she is my sister, I couldn’t provoke her. The only way out was to avoid her as it would be narrow-minded of me to take issue with her.”

It turned out that it was because of the Feng family that Shi Qing was so tolerant of Qiu Chenxi.

If not for the Feng family who persuaded Shi Qing to give in to Qiu Chenxi, causing her to develop the habit of tolerating Qiu Chenxi’s obnoxious ways, given Shi Qing’s temper and physical abilities when she fought with Zhu Baoguo back then, she would have duked it out with Qiu Chenxi long ago.

Qiao Nan sighed. She patted Shi Qing on her head. True enough, the Feng family was insistent on apologizing to her and treating her to a meal because they were after Brother Zhai.

She did not expect that after becoming Brother Zhai’s fiancée, she would be given special treatment. The family who used to look down on her now treated her like a special guest.

Qiao Nan had to admit that it was indeed good to have a capable fiancé like Zhai Sheng. It was no wonder that after learning about Chen Jun’s family background, Qiao Zijin used all means and ways to gain Chen Jun’s affection in the previous life, and her mother cooperated with her to help her achieve her goal.

Having a capable and outstanding fiancé was so much more useful than working hard by oneself.

As a student of Peking University, she was looked down upon by the elderly couple in the Feng family. However, as the fiancée of Zhai Sheng, the Feng family insisted on apologizing to her and treating her to a meal.

“What are you up to?” Shi Qing stifled the bitterness in her heart and slapped Qiao Nan’s hand away.

“Such a pitiful girl.”

“Hey, I am in no way pitiful. I admit that grandpa is muddleheaded and Qiu Chenxi is a bad person who is bent on bullying me. But my maternal grandpa and his family treat me very well. They have their difficulties as well.” Shi Qing refused to admit that she was pitiful. She was in Mo Du while the Feng family was in the capital. They had no way to help her.

That must be the case.

Qiao Nan could not stand that Shi Qing kept deceiving herself. “Poor kid, let me tell you a story.”

“Tell me a story? Do you take me for a three-year-old kid?”

“I don’t doubt your intelligence. On the contrary, a three-year-old kid will definitely not understand my story.”

“Go ahead.” Shi Qing took a few deep breaths. She knew that given Qiao Nan’s personality, what she said right now would not be pleasing to the ears.

Qiao Nan thought for a while, organizing her thoughts before she started. “There were a mother and a daughter. The daughter grew up and had a job and a boyfriend. The mother asked the daughter about her boyfriend. The daughter said that her boyfriend was a good man.”

Chapter 914 Actions Speak Louder Than Words

“The daughter said that when she goes to work, he will wait to go home with her and to take public transport with her. When her boss is harsh toward her, he will join her to complain about him. The mother thought about it and told the daughter that she would rather the daughter find another boyfriend who had a car so that he could drive her to work and fetch her after work. When she complained about her boss, the boyfriend could tell her to quit and he would provide for her.”

“What story is this?! My situation is different from the story that you mentioned. The mother was being too practical.” Shi Qing waved her hands. When in love, one was not after material gains but comfort and company.

“Look, you just refuse to admit that you are foolish. The moral of the story is that at times, actions speak louder than words, but you insist that I am talking about material gains. This is the reality. There is a saying in China: a wife who shared her husband’s hard lot must never be cast aside. But the problem is that a lot of wives who suffered hardships with the husbands were ditched when the husbands made it to success. Alright, my story is not good enough and is not relevant. Regardless, what you have to remember is that words of concern and kindness are not as good as helping you alleviate your situation.”

Qiao Nan knew that the analogy was not very appropriate. Therefore, the story was not as convincing. She would do better next time.

As someone who was reborn, Qiao Nan suddenly turned obstinate and wanted to right her wrong. She took out a piece of paper and started to draw on it.

Qiao Nan rarely drew in front of Shi Qing. Shi Qing sat by her side and watched her as she drew on the paper seriously. “This is a comic. What is the big pit supposed to mean?”

Qiao Nan was silent and continued with her drawing. This was a comic that was meant to be ironic.

There was a huge pit in the picture and someone was standing in the pit. There was another person who was outside, sprawling flat on the ground around the pit. He stretched his hands toward the person in the pit, wanting to pull the person out of the pit.

But what was ironic was that there was a ladder that was placed beside the person who sprawled flat on the ground.

The drawing was much more straightforward. Shi Qing understood it right away. If she could not understand this simple comic, she was not qualified to study at Peking University.

“Shi Qing, let’s look at it this way. When Qiu Chenxi bullied you in the past and Old Master Shi was biased toward her, what did your parents do about it?” Qiao Nan posed another question to Shi Qing. “I am just asking. There is no need to give me an answer. I have worked for the whole day. I am so tired that my bones are breaking. I will go to sleep after a shower. You must not stay up too late.”

The Feng family was too good at keeping up pretenses in front of Shi Qing. Unless Shi Qing suffered setbacks, she would not understand what the Feng family was up to.

Of course, the Feng family was not as vicious to Shi Qing as what was illustrated in the drawing. But there was definitely something off about the Feng family’s concern toward Shi Qing. They were silver-tongued, but they did not follow through with actions.

Shi Qing was such a silly girl. If Qiao Nan did not give her any hints, Shi Qing might be kept in the dark forever.

In the past, Qiao Nan used to think that she must be very unfortunate to have a mother like Ding Jiayi.

She must have committed a lot of evil deeds in her previous life and thus had to repay her debts for having such a mother. But no matter what, she had already repaid her debts.

However, after getting to know Shi Qing, Qiao Nan realized that she was not the most unfortunate person.

Her mother might not be good to her, but she did not hide her dislike of her. It was just that she was not able to sort out her thoughts in the previous life. Her mother made it very clear that she did not like her, yet she was bent on being a filial daughter to her. She thought that there would be a day when her mother would be touched by her actions.

On the other hand, Shi Qing’s relatives acted affectionately to her, but in fact, they might betray Shi Qing anytime and she would still be deceived by them thereafter.

At the very least, Qiao Nan knew who her enemies were.

But for Shi Qing, she did not even know who the real culprit who caused her misery was.

Qiao Nan knew that the biggest reason why her situation was different from Shi Qing was that Ding Jiayi was an ordinary housewife. She did not understand what it was like to manipulate and keep up with pretenses, treating her nicely on one hand while plotting and scheming against her on the other hand.

If Ding Jiayi knew all these schemes, she might have done it to her.

It was better to have relatives who were not as smart.

Qiao Nan did not know that after she left, Shi Qing stared at the comic for a very long time until midnight.

Shi Qing rubbed her teary eyes under the yellow light. She could feel tears on her fingers. "Let's change the light bulb. The yellow lights are too uncomfortable for me." Her eyes were in pain from the lights.

The next day, Shi Qing did not ask Qiao Nan to join her to go to the Feng family's residence. The Feng family's car arrived after Qiao Nan left the house. "Miss Shi, how come you are by yourself?" The old master had mentioned that there would be two ladies today and he told him to treat the other lady well.

"I am by myself." Shi Qing did not look too well. She had dark eye circles. It seemed that she did not sleep well yesterday. "Let's go."

"Okay." The chauffeur dared not probe about his master's family affairs. It was a fact that Shi Qing was the only person around. Since she was pampered by those of the Feng family, the chauffeur had to give her the best treatment as well.

By the time Shi Qing reached the Feng family's residence, everyone in the family was present. Like yesterday, all of them were in full attendance. Under normal circumstances, there was seldom full attendance of her family members even during Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn Festival.

Shi Qing turned teary-eyed. She sniffed, took a deep breath, and walked inside.

Feng Cheng frowned when she noticed that her daughter was alone by herself like yesterday. Qiao Nan, the young lady, was absent today as well. "Didn't I tell you to bring the person with you? Where is she?"

"I have said that she is busy. She may not be able to come today." Shi Qing sat down.

The Feng family was unhappy. "Your friend is too much. She is on good terms with you, yet she has no respect for us and acts as she pleases. At the very least, we are her elders. She is too rude!" Feng Cheng was baffled. Why would the Zhai family approve of Qiao Nan, who was so ill-mannered and ill-disciplined? Qing Qing was so much better than her.

Shi Qing sized up Feng Cheng. "As I have said, she is busy. She asked me to tell all of you that she is busy. Therefore, she is unable to make it."

Did it mean that one must go whenever their elders invited them?

To Shi Qing, the elders in the Feng family were not Qiao Nan's relatives in any sense.

If other people ordered Qiao Nan around just because they were her elders, it would be better if Qiao Nan did not marry Zhai Sheng. She would have a lot of elders to entertain when she married Zhai Sheng. "Mom, why do I feel that all of you are behaving strangely? Why do all of you insist that Qiao Nan comes to the Feng family's residence? Besides, if Dad knows what you said just now, he will be unhappy. According to what you said, does it mean that I have to visit Qiao Nan's house whenever her mom asks me to? Otherwise, I would be deemed as impolite?"

Chapter 915 One Does Not Allow Benefits Created by One's Own Work to Accrue to Others

This was too ridiculous.

Shi Qing would not do something like that.

If Ding Jiayi dared to look for her, Ding Jiayi had to thank her lucky stars if she merely ignored her. If Ding Jiayi angered her, she would roll her sleeves and give her a round of beating. Given what Ding Jiayi had done to Qiao Nan, she totally deserved it.

Shi Qing was thinking of giving Ding Jiayi a thrashing, yet Feng Cheng felt that Qiao Nan was being rude to her elders.

Shi Qing was not as muddleheaded as she used to be in the past. She would not agree with what her mother said. She was simply being ridiculous and too sure of herself.

“Qing Qing, is that how you speak to your mom?” Feng Cheng was shocked. She did not expect that her daughter would use this attitude on her. “Why do you favor an outsider instead of someone on your own side?”

Shi Qing was upset. She seldom spent time with her mother. Since she was studying in the capital, her original intention was to be filial to her mother and spend more time with her before she changed her course of study. She did not expect things to come to this state. “Mom, reason comes before loyalty.”

Qiao Nan’s mother was unreasonable and she was not a good person. Right now, her mother was acting unreasonably as well.

Old Master Feng looked grim. He calmed himself before he looked at Shi Qing. “Qing Qing, did Qiao Nan misunderstand us, or did you not relay my message clearly to her?”

This should not be the case. It was impossible for Qiao Nan to refuse the Feng family’s kind intention.

Qiao Nan befriended Qing Qing simply because she wanted the Feng family to look after her on account of Qing Qing. Regardless of the Feng family’s attitude toward her initially, Qiao Nan had no reason to reject them now that they had changed their attitude toward her.

Shi Qing shook her head. “No. I have relayed your words to Qiao Nan. Qiao Nan understood as well.”

“Then, why did she...” refused to have dinner at the Feng family’s residence?

Shi Qing mustered her courage and looked at Old Master Feng. “Grandpa, there is something that I don’t understand. Why did all of you have a bad impression of Qiao Nan after a phone call with Qiu Chenxi? Now that the misunderstanding has been cleared up and I have relayed your words to Qiao Nan and she understood, why do you still insist that she joins us for dinner? If she is willing to join us, it will be on account of our friendship. There is nothing wrong as well even if she doesn’t.”

Most of the Feng family members were present yesterday and today. At times, she was not given such treatment when she was back at home.

Previously, Shi Qing did not read too much into it. But right now, she wanted to have an answer. “Grandpa, why do I feel that all of you are acting strangely? You seem to value Qiao Nan. Is it that important to treat her to a meal?”

There was a glitter in Old Master Feng’s eyes. Was Qing Qing trying to sound him out?

“Of course. You are my only granddaughter. Since you are friends with Qiao Nan, naturally, we value her as well. Previously, we were misled by rumors and misunderstood such a well-behaved child. We owe Qiao Nan an apology. If Qiao Nan was an ill-behaved child, we would definitely forbid you to befriend her. Now that we know she is a good child, we should express our sincerity by inviting her to a meal. If not, she might be angry at us and will ignore you in the future. Did you not tell me half a month ago that you have learned a lot after getting to know Qiao Nan?”

“That’s right. Qing Qing, you must understand that whatever your grandpa does is for your interests.” Feng Liang smiled, patting Shi Qing on her head. “If Qiao Nan is not your friend, there is no need for the Feng family to do all these. Like you have mentioned, Qiao Nan is a good child, and we are reassured that she is your friend. You have been pampered by us and you are too innocent. Gifts blind the eyes. We must think of ways to ‘bribe’ Qiao Nan so that she will continue to keep a lookout for you.”

Therefore, could it be that Qiao Nan told Qing Qing something, causing her to be full of doubts today?

Shi Qing stiffened when Feng Liang patted her, but she recovered quickly and relaxed. “It turns out that you are worried about this. If so, there is nothing to worry about. We are very close to each other. There is no need to treat her to a meal. Qiao Nan did not find fault with me given how you treated her previously. Grandpa, you have been thinking too much.”

Feng Meng kept silent all the while. At the thought of what Feng Liang told him yesterday, he pursed his lips and joined the conversation. “One may know a person for a long time without understanding their true nature. You are not Qiao Nan. How do you know that she is not angry? You should know very well that women’s biggest flaw is to say one thing and mean another.”

Qiao Nan failed to appreciate their kindness.

If Qiao Nan did not know Qing Qing, given her social status, she would never have the chance to get to know the Feng family. Now that she had a chance, she should count her blessings.

Feng Cheng was confused about the situation, but she was used to siding with her family. She pulled Shi Qing's hands. "Qing Qing, your grandpa and uncle are being reasonable. As the saying goes, nobody will find faults with extra courtesy. It will never be wrong to be on closer terms with her."

Shi Qing felt annoyed. There was simply no way to make them understand. "You can't force your kindness on others. Since you have apologized and Qiao Nan has accepted it and she has no misgivings about the Feng family, it's fine even if she is not here for a meal. In the past, she never came to my house either. It doesn't matter if she is here or not. Why do all of you take it so seriously?"

Apart from Feng Cheng, all of the men in the Feng family were dumbfounded. They did not know how to answer Shi Qing's question.

What was the reason?

It was because of the Zhai family!

Qiao Nan would marry Zhai Sheng in the future. For that reason alone, the Feng family had to make sure that Qiao Nan had a meal at their house.

Feng Meng had the worst temper. He once met Qiao Nan and did not have a good impression of her. He could not help but say impolitely, "This is your grandpa's house. We are being polite by inviting her over for a meal. If she really treats you as her friend, she should take the initiative to pay us a visit. She does not behave like a junior at all. Nevertheless, we do not take issue with her. But she still refuses to come. Qing Qing, there is no point in befriending her. She is not serious in being friends with you."

Feng Meng's motive was to agitate Shi Qing.

Feng Meng watched her as she grew up. He knew that Shi Qing would be easily agitated and egged on by others.

Given her temper, Shi Qing would definitely try all means to get Qiao Nan to come to the Feng family's residence.

As long as Qiao Nan stepped into the Feng family's residence, by the time she left, he would make sure that the entire capital knew that Qiao Nan was the goddaughter of his uncle.

By the time Qiao Nan married Zhai Sheng, everyone in the capital would know that the Feng family was in-laws with the Zhai family!

Chapter 916 Who Is Spouting Nonsense?

However, Feng Meng did not expect that under Qiao Nan's influence, Shi Qing was no longer the ignorant girl in the past. "Qiao Nan has to take the initiative to pay a visit to the Feng family just because she is my friend? Brother Feng Meng, you have a lot of friends and girlfriends. Why did you not bring them home for dinner? You sound as if Qiao Nan is not here for a meal, she is unappreciative of your kindness, and it is her great honor to be invited to the Feng family for a meal."

She had been away from the capital for many years. She had no idea that it was such an honor to dine in the Feng family's residence.

Feng Meng pulled a long face. "Qing Qing, we are a prominent family in the capital. Many people want to be associated with us. It is indeed Qiao Nan's honor to be able to join us for a meal."

Shi Qing could no longer hold herself back. "The Feng family may be prominent, but Qiao Nan is Brother Zhai's fiancée. She is the future daughter-in-law of Chief Zhai and Auntie Miao. If Qiao Nan's identity is exposed, many families will be queuing up to invite Qiao Nan to a meal! The queue will be as long as the Great Wall of China!"

Qiao Nan had Brother Zhai. She did not need the Feng family's support.

It was ridiculous!

Shi Qing's outburst shut the mouths of everyone present. Everyone looked sulky.

They wanted to befriend Qiao Nan before other prominent families knew about Qiao Nan's background. They wanted Qiao Nan to be their goddaughter and to act before other people did.

If other people found out about Qiao Nan's identity, like what Shi Qing had said, people would be queuing to invite her to a meal.

By then, Qiao Nan would not care about the Feng family anymore.

Feng Cheng finally realized what her family was up to.

She sat by her daughter's side and held her close to her side. "Qing Qing, don't be upset and don't be muddleheaded. You should know Zhai Sheng's relationship with Qiao Nan. How can you tell everyone about their relationship? This is your grandpa's house and we are your relatives. As the saying goes, one does not allow benefits created by one's own work to accrue to others. With you around, you have to try your best to get Qiao Nan on our side."

She had almost forgotten that Qiao Nan was the one who snatched Zhai Sheng from her daughter. But Qiao Nan was on close terms with the Zhai family, so they could not afford to offend Qiao Nan.

Initially, she felt angry on her daughter's behalf that Qiao Nan gained the affection of the man that she liked, and she was so shameless to befriend Qing Qing.

On the other hand, although Zhai Sheng could not be her son-in-law, he would be able to be the fiancé of her daughter's best friend.

Feng Cheng knew that the Feng family wanted to be close to the Zhai family.

Feng Cheng also knew that previously, Qiu Chenxi had been approved by Chief Zhai and Madam Zhai and she would be engaged to Zhai Sheng. Back then, the Feng family had wanted to make use of their relation with the Shi family to be acquainted with the Zhai family once Qiu Chenxi was married to Zhai Sheng.

Right now, it seemed to be easier for the Feng family to be acquainted with the Zhai family.

Feng Cheng always put the Feng family's interests as her top priority. She came back to her senses and persuaded Shi Qing to get Qiao Nan on the Feng family's side.

All the men in the Feng family were very pleased with Feng Cheng's words. This was how the women in the Feng family should behave.

Shi Qing had her doubts previously. But from what Feng Cheng told her just now as well as the satisfied expression of the remaining family members, she had confirmed her doubts.

Shi Qing bent down, cupping her face in her hands, seemingly in a dilemma.

Feng Cheng tightened her grip on her daughter. "Qing Qing, don't think too much. You are not making use of Qiao Nan. After all, you are good friends. As long as she is sincere in being your friend, she will be happy for you. Even if she is not, you don't have to feel burdened. You have grown up. You should understand this. No matter what, you must remember that under all circumstances, you have to side with people who will benefit you the most."

Shi Qing felt bitterly disappointed at Feng Cheng's words.

Perhaps the Feng family had always been used to choosing sides that were most beneficial to them. She had been foolish for not understanding them.

Was getting Qiao Nan to come to the Feng family's residence beneficial to her?

No, it was beneficial to the Feng family!

Shi Qing behaved like how Qiao Nan used to do. She rubbed her face with force and felt much better. She was more determined now. "Grandpa, it seems like instead of having a meal as a family, your goal is to invite Qiao Nan for a meal. I have had a meal here yesterday. It is getting late, so I will go back now. Grandma, Mom, if there's anything else, you can call me."

Like what Qiao Nan had said, there was no need for one to spell things out clearly. It was fine as long as one understood what was going on. This was particularly so for her current situation.

All of them who had vicious intentions were her close relatives. They used to dote on her and care for her when she was young.

Shi Qing had no wish to find out whether they were genuine when they doted on and cared for her. She would take it that they were being true to her.

The Feng family was her close relatives and she would treat them as her maternal grandparents forever. Qiu Chenxi and her family were her relatives as well. She would treat the Feng family similar to how she treated Qiu Chenxi and her family.

“Qing Qing?” Feng Cheng was dumbfounded. They were in the middle of a discussion about Qiao Nan. Why would Qing Qing leave all of a sudden?

“Mom, I will visit you next time.” Shi Qing was determined to leave. There was no way that Feng Cheng could stop her.

Shi Qing used to be too innocent and simple-minded in the Feng family. But starting today, she was no longer her past self.

Old Master Feng shot a glance at Feng Meng, and he stood up immediately. “It’s difficult to hail a cab, and there are not many cabs in this area. Let me send you back.” He wanted to check if Qiao Nan was really not at home, or whether she came up with an excuse just to reject the Feng family’s invitation.

Shi Qing wanted to reject his offer, but she noticed that there was a glitter of anger in Feng Meng’s eyes. She knew that his real intention was not to send her back.

Feng Meng would never act as such toward his family. Shi Qing suspected that his anger was directed at Qiao Nan.

Shi Qing curled the corners of her lips. She decided not to reject his offer. “Alright.”

After Shi Qing left, Old Master Feng and Feng Liang went to the study room together. “Dad, Qing Qing seems to know something. Perhaps someone has been spouting nonsense to her?”

The father and son knew very well who the person Feng Liang was referring to.

Apart from Qiao Nan, no one else could have influenced Shi Qing.

Chapter 917 Offer Her Some Favors

Qiao Nan was about the same age as Shi Qing. In fact, she was one year younger than the current batch of freshmen. Why she was so sensitive and perceptive?

Shi Qing used to lead a simple and sheltered life at the Feng family. Qiao Nan did not have much contact with the Feng family, but she was able to have a big influence on Shi Qing. Feng Liang could not help but be worried. "Dad, Qiao Nan seems to be someone who is not easily manipulated. Things may not be as simple as what we imagined."

Previously, Feng Liang could not be bothered with Qiao Nan. Although Zhai Sheng might be serious about Qiao Nan, Feng Liang felt that Zhai Sheng was purely after novelty and had thus taken a fancy to a girl like Qiao Nan.

Feng Liang did not believe in love. This was something that youngsters would do.

Old Master Feng was hesitant. "She is only in her twenties. I don't think she is capable of that."

Old Master Feng pranced around the study room anxiously. He felt that Qiao Nan could not be that intelligent. But Shi Qing's attitude had alerted him and aroused his doubts. "Women are not so perceptive and farsighted. What I am more worried about is that it may have to do with Zhai Sheng. You should know Qing Qing's feelings toward Zhai Sheng."

"Dad, do you mean that Qing Qing is influenced by Zhai Sheng?" Did it mean that Zhai Sheng was on guard against the Feng family?

If Zhai Sheng was on guard against the Feng family, what about the Zhai family?

Feng Liang's expression darkened. His only brother-in-law was Zhai Sheng's master and had guided him when he was in the army. How dared Zhai Sheng look down on the Feng family and told Qiao Nan to be on guard against the Feng family. He was the cause of Shi Qing's anger toward the Feng family.

If the Feng family was powerful enough, there would be no need for them to fawn over the Zhai family and befriend a junior like Zhai Sheng.

Feng Liang might have a bad temper, but the reality was harsh.

All these years, he had tried his best for the Feng family to become stronger in order to avoid such situations.

But before the Feng family succeeded, there would bound to be a lot of similar situations like today. If Feng Liang could not stomach such anger, there would be a day where he would be angered to death.

“There is no hurry. This is just pure speculation. Besides, Qiao Nan and Qing Qing are different from us. They are students and are more simple-minded. Perhaps we do not need to make things complicated. For all we know, Qiao Nan is really busy.”

Although this seemed to be the least possible reason.

Feng Liang lowered his voice. “We will know once Feng Meng is back.”

“Okay.”

Feng Meng came back one hour later. He went into the Old Master Feng’s study room right away. “Qiao Nan is really not at the Lin family’s house. I have asked around. Qiao Nan does not have any lessons today. She has not been seen going to Peking University.”

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Qiao Nan was nowhere to be found. It seemed that what Shi Qing told them was the truth. She was participating in activities for social practice.

After affirming this, the men in the Feng family finally felt slightly reassured and were not as upset as before.

If Qiao Nan was at the Lin family’s house or at school, it would not affect the Feng family’s attitude toward Qiao Nan. However, they would be angry as Shi Qing had helped an outsider like Qiao Nan to deceive her family.

They would be bitterly disappointed in her if that was the case.

“Grandpa, uncle, I will go back to the office.” Feng Meng was furious. He was stood up by Qiao Nan two times in a row. He could have clinched many business deals and earned so much money if not for her.

“Wait a minute.” Feng Liang stopped Feng Meng. “You are closer to Qing Qing, and she is suspicious of us. You are the best candidate for this task now. There is no hurry, but find time to give Qing Qing a call. I want to know what kind of social practice Qiao Nan is participating in. It’s good that Qiao Nan wants to strive to do better. If she wants to gain experience through social practice, your company should have a suitable position for her.”

After calming down, Feng Liang felt that it was too much to ask the future daughter-in-law of the Zhai family to acknowledge a fictive kinship with the Feng family just with a mere apology and a meal.

Although Qiao Nan came from a humble background and did not have much social experience, she had the Zhai family as her backing

Before Qiao Nan came to the capital, the Zhai family must have taught her a lot about the life in the capital.

His father was right. The Zhai family valued Qiao Nan a lot. They had even educated her in the ways of the world.

As an adult, Feng Liang knew that what they did previously was too small-minded. They wanted major returns but they could not bear to invest in their plan. It was no wonder that Qiao Nan refused to take the bait.

“Dad, Feng Meng, Qiao Nan may not be as simple-minded as what we think her to be. The college students nowadays are not as simple as before. But it is good that people are realistic. As long as we offer her some favors, our plan may just work out smoothly. That’s right. Nobody will be willing to do things that do not benefit them.”

Feng Meng had a strange smile on his face. “Do you mean that Qiao Nan feels that we are insincere?”

“The youngsters nowadays...” Old Master Feng sighed. “This is the reason behind bad social norms. People of our generation treasure the relationship with other people, but the younger generation, particularly our grandchildren, value their personal gains over other things. Alright,

Feng Meng, I want you to get a thorough understanding of what kind of person Qiao Nan is. On account that she is Qing Qing's friend, we will offer her some favors. Just don't go overboard."

"Don't worry, grandpa. I understand." He would arrange an internship for Qiao Nan and give her some special privileges. This was not the first time that he gave special treatment to someone.

Qiao Nan should have told them what she wanted long ago. She pretended as if she was not after material pursuits.

"You should go back to your office now." His younger son and his grandson would have to work to support his elder son in his business. They could not put everything on hold for Qiao Nan.

Qiao Nan had no idea that they were discussing her. She simply did not wish to be associated with the Feng family that was up to no good. But the Feng family had jumped to conclusions that she was after material pursuits.

Qiao Nan was glad that she could gain experience from her social practice. She jumped about like a rabbit.

Qiao Nan had lessons on Monday morning, while Shi Qing did not have any lessons.

Qiao Nan bought breakfast for Shi Qing and herself. She did not disturb Shi Qing from her sleep. Instead, she cycled to school for her lessons.

It was good to have a dependable master. She had a place to stay and she had the means of transportation.

The Lin family's house was quite a distance from Peking University. If Qiao Nan did not cycle to school, she would have to wake up at an earlier time. It would be a hassle for her.

By the time Qiao Nan reached the classroom, half of the classroom was filled with students.

Chapter 918 The Zhai Family Protecting Their Calf

School had just started and today's subject was one of the main subjects. Not many students dared to skip lessons.

Qiao Nan found a seat and sat down to eat her breakfast secretly. She was afraid that she would be late. Therefore, she did not have her breakfast at the Lin family's house. Instead, she brought it with her to school.

Qiao Nan, who was eating stealthily like a mouse, did not realize that three pairs of eyes were fixed on her as soon as she sat down. The three of them felt perplexed and were in a fix.

It was only until now that Tang Jiayun and the two of them realized that Qiao Nan and Shi Qing did not have a change of dormitory. Instead, they stayed outside the school.

In other words, Qiao Nan was able to move out because of Shi Qing.

Previously, the three of them still had some doubts. However, they were very certain now.

Shi Qing definitely came from a wealthy and powerful family. It was not surprising that she had houses in the capital. As for Qiao Nan, the freeloader, she was able to stay with her since she was her friend.

Everyone hoped that they would have friends who were ballers, like Shi Qing.

When they still had their doubts before, they had already felt upset and jealous of the lucky Qiao Nan. They did not expect that she would be able to befriend a true friend who was a baller back in the countryside.

Now that they were certain that Shi Qing's family was rich, every one of them, particularly Tang Jiayun, felt anguished at missing such a good chance.

For the first time in her life, Tang Jiayun realized what her blind spot was. She was only concerned about moving up the social ladder through dating men from good families, but she forgot that the powerful families had daughters as well.

If she was in a relationship, she would have to be taken advantage of to a certain extent. But if she had a friend like Shi Qing, she would be the only person who stood to gain from their relationship.

It was more cost-effective to befriend a female friend than to have a boyfriend.

She always thought that she was smart and clever, but she did not expect that Qiao Nan was much better than her.

If she had known that Qiao Nan was so smart, she should have been humble and learned from her.

Qiao Nan disregarded Tang Jiayun and the two of them, focusing on eating her breakfast. She did not even lift her eyes off her breakfast to notice where they were seated.

After she moved out of the dormitory, Qiao Nan treated Tang Jiayun and the two of them as ordinary classmates. She merely nodded to acknowledge them when she saw them in school.

Tang Jiayun and the two of them felt guilty. They wanted to befriend Qiao Nan, but they kept dawdling because they were embarrassed.

The three of them took their time to make a move to sit beside Qiao Nan. By the time they made up their mind, a female student from the same faculty had taken the seat next to Qiao Nan. The three of them could not help but stare at her in anger.

Yu Xiaoxiao gave a resigned sigh. “Lü Yan, I decided that I won’t join the two of you. Qiao Nan is not a pushover. Since birds of a feather flock together, I don’t think Shi Qing is a pushover either. Given that Qiao Nan moved out of our dormitory, and that Shi Qing is on good terms with Qiao Nan, do you think that Shi Qing will still help us?”

It was already good enough that Shi Qing did not target the two of them as they had listened to Tang Jiayun’s words and ostracized Qiao Nan.

Lü Yan looked listless. “Are we really going to give up just like this? What about our internships?”

“The internship is two years from now. Nobody knows what will happen after two years. We shouldn’t think too much. We are not on good terms with Shi Qing. Even if her family is powerful, they will not be easily bullied by us. Anyway, I will not fawn over Qiao Nan anymore. I have my pride.” Yu Xiaoxiao opened her textbook and focused her attention on her lesson, waiting for the professor to start the class.

Since a young age, she relied on her own efforts to study hard. She would do the same in the capital as well.

Besides herself, there was no one that she could depend on forever. As for other ways to success, it would have to depend on luck.

Lü Yan agreed with her. She had no wish to flunk her exams and fail to get in through the back door. She would lose more than she gained.

After sorting out their thoughts, Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan focused their attention on their studies and stopped worrying about the internship in the future.

Putting that matter aside, let's talk about the other matter.

Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing could not be bothered to argue with people like Wei De. Zhai Yaohui left with Miao Jing, saying that he had work to attend to.

The couple had not been to many places before they received a call from their son. Once Zhai Yaohui hung up the phone, Miao Jing moved to sit beside him. "Are we going to the capital now to see Nan Nan?"

Miao Jing was full of excitement.

"Do you hate the Feng family so much that you want to rush over to support Qiao Nan?" Zhai Yaohui smiled. Miao Miao looked like how she was twenty years ago, full of zest and spirit.

Miao Jing was unhappy. "Nan Nan is my daughter-in-law, the mother of my future grandson and granddaughter. I have to support her no matter what. As for the Feng family, I dislike everyone who is related to Qi Minlan. True enough, they are birds of a feather!"

Miao Jing hated everyone who had the least bit of relation to Qi Minlan. There were times when Shi Qing would get on her nerves as well.

However, one good thing about Miao Jing was that she would not force people around her to hate the people that she disliked.

Miao Jing knew that Qiao Nan had a good relationship with Shi Qing. Miao Jing never hinted or explicitly told Qiao Nan to stay away from Shi Qing or to cut off all ties with Shi Qing.

Zhai Yaohui changed his position so that Miao Jing could lean on him more comfortably. “Your son is simply making use of us.” His son was not able to leave right now. Therefore, he wanted his parents to make the move for him so that the Feng family would not be up to anything and Qiao Nan would not suffer because of them.

Miao Jing slapped Zhai Yaohui on the back of his hand. “One of them is my son while the other is my daughter-in-law. I am willing to go to the extreme to support them. You can do nothing about it! It’s fine if I don’t know the situation about the Feng family, but now that I’ve found out about it, I have to do something. We are the ones who implicated Qiao Nan and caused the Feng family to target her. She has helped persuade your daughter. You must return a favor with a favor. One must not be ungrateful.”

Miao Jing was helpless that Zhai Hua insisted on being with Wei De. Of course, as the father, Zhai Yaohui’s way of solving the problem was not effective as well.

Although Qiao Nan was not able to persuade Zhai Hua to break up with Wei De, at the very least, Zhai Hua was willing to listen to Qiao Nan and had stopped contacting Wei De for the time being so that the two of them could calm down.

Miao Jing felt that as they seldom contacted each other, her daughter would most likely break up with Wei De eventually. The most important thing was that she did not need to worry that her daughter would have a child even before marriage.

Qiao Nan was such a darling daughter-in-law. She had yet to marry Zhai Sheng and was already working to solve the Zhai family’s problems. She could not help but dote on and protect her. There was no way that she would allow her to be bullied.

Seeing that Miao Jing was getting agitated, Zhai Yaohui patted Miao Jing to reassure her. “I didn’t stop you from taking charge. Since Qiao Nan is already engaged to Zhai Sheng, in other words, she is Zhai Hua’s sister-in-law. Since her family is in trouble, it is right for her to help out. You have used the wrong words. I am not being ungrateful.”

Chapter 919 Seen by Others Again

Zhai Yaohui treated Qiao Nan as part of the Zhai family.

They were one family. Qiao Nan had to help out when the Zhai family was in need of help. Now that Qiao Nan was in trouble, the Zhai family could not sit by, doing anything, and allowed her to be bullied.

Zhai Yaohui sneered at the thought of the Feng family in the capital. It seemed that as the Zhai family seldom visited the capital, many of them had forgotten that the Zhai family was like a tiger with sharp claws.

They thought that since the Zhai family was not in the capital, they could go overboard and create havoc under the Zhai family's nose. All of them had to pay for their recklessness and ignorance.

Now that the Feng family had provoked the Zhai family, there was no way that they could escape from the Zhai family's wrath. It was no use even if they got Shi Peng to mediate.

The Zhai family would do anything to protect their calf!

Qiao Nan had no idea that Chief Zhai and Miao Jing had arrived in the capital ahead of Zhai Sheng. By the time she received news of it, her future father-in-law was already right in front of her.

Qiao Nan was reading in the library when a classmate found her and told her that someone was looking for her. Qiao Nan was still puzzled over who would be looking for her at this time.

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Those who wanted to look for her would usually come straight to find her.

Qiao Nan, who was clueless, went to take a look. She had a shock when she saw her visitor. "Chief Zhai?" Brother Zhai did not tell her that Chief Zhai would be in the capital.

"Chief Zhai?" Zhai Yaohui frowned slightly. "It has only been a month and you don't recognize me anymore?"

"Dad..." Qiao Nan blushed, looking guilty. Qiao Nan changed her form of address on the day she was engaged. However, since she stayed far apart from the Zhai family and she wanted to

differentiate between her father-in-law and her biological father, she had reverted to her previous form of address gradually.

Qiao Nan was still in shock over seeing Zhai Yaohui right in front of her today. She had yet to come back to her senses and thus used her previous form of address. “Dad, are you here by yourself? Where is M-mom?”

Since Qiao Nan had already addressed him as her father, she gave up on being shy and addressed Miao Jing as her mother. “I thought that you would only come to the capital half a month later.” If Brother Zhai was here, he would have come to see her.

“Your mom has a slight cold. Do you want to pay her a visit?” This was the reason why Zhai Yaohui came to Peking University to fetch his daughter-in-law.

Miao Jing was sick. It was right for Zhai Yaohui to take care of her. However, Zhai Yaohui was the chief. Now that he was in the capital, he had a lot of appointments and social meetings to attend to.

Zhai Yaohui did not have much time to take care of Miao Jing and he would not feel reassured if someone else took care of Miao Jing. Qiao Nan was the best candidate for this task.

“Mom has caught a cold? Is it serious? Has she been to the hospital?” Qiao Nan was very close to Miao Jing. Even if she was not her mother-in-law, Qiao Nan was still very concerned that Miao Jing was sick. Moreover, she was her close relative now.

Zhai Yaohui was very satisfied with the look of concern on Qiao Nan’s face. As long as she cared very much for them, it was alright that she was not used to the intimate form of address. “She has been to the hospital. She has a slight fever. She has a saline drip in the hospital. Her fever has subsided, but she is still feeling weak. I may have to make trips outside. I have social meetings to attend to. Do you have any lessons today? If not...”

“I will take care of Mom. I have no classes today. I am only doing some self-study in the library.” Qiao Nan had no classes today. But since today was a weekday, Qiao Nan was to concentrate on her studies as per her schedule.

If Qiao Nan did not have classes during the weekdays, she would be in the library the whole day.

Zhai Yaohui relaxed slightly, pleased with what he heard.

Zhai Yaohui knew that Qiao Nan did not have any classes today.

Before he came to Peking University, he had been to the Lin family's house. He saw Shi Qing poring over the materials that Zhai Sheng gave her.

Once Shi Qing knew that he was here for Qiao Nan, she checked Qiao Nan's timetable without another word.

If not for Shi Qing, Zhai Yaohui might not go to the library to look for Qiao Nan and be able to spot her right away. "Qiao Nan, studies may be important, but you must remember that good health is a prerequisite for work. A strong and healthy body will bring you further. Don't forget to exercise when you are working hard."

His daughter-in-law came to Peking University by herself at a young age. She had no elders to discipline her.

Under such a situation, Qiao Nan had self-awareness and self-discipline to arrange her time efficiently. She did not indulge in herself or spend time fooling around.

Zhai Yaohui was very glad about that.

He highly appreciated people who were very self-disciplined.

If he had a grandson in the future, there was no need for him to be worried. He believed that Qiao Nan would definitely teach him well. He would be disciplined as if he was in the army.

Actually, Zhai Yaohui had another concern which Qiao Nan did not know of.

Zhai Yaohui and Qi Minlan were childhood sweethearts. When they were playing around at a young age, Qi Minlan always acted as Zhai Yaohui's bride and said that she wanted to marry him.

Zhai Yaohui had a good impression of Qi Minlan. He was not averse to what she said.

Instead of marrying someone that he was unfamiliar with, it was a good idea to marry a younger female friend who grew up with him.

However, ever since Qi Minlan started school, especially when she advanced to higher levels, she became a different person.

Qi Minlan used to be simple and innocent. However, when she was in high school, she was like a social butterfly. Her life was filled with a lot of social activities.

Initially, Zhai Yaohui felt that Qi Minlan was still young and liked to have fun. However, when Qi Minlan told her classmates that Zhai Yaohui was only her elder brother, Zhai Yaohui was certain that Qi Minlan had had too much fun at school and had changed.

Qi Minlan was a real-life example. Zhai Yaohui could not help but be worried about Qiao Nan.

But from today onward, Zhai Yaohui knew that he could be totally reassured.

“Get in the car.”

“Sure.” Qiao Nan was dumbfounded at the Land Rover car that was parked at the entrance of Peking University. It was the legendary Land Rover car. Qiao Nan was baffled that Zhai Yaohui and Miao Jing would drive the Land Rover all the way to the capital. It was impossible for them to borrow the car.

There were three other people who were dumbstruck as well.

Lü Yan blinked furiously. “That car seems to be different from the cars that we usually see. What car is that? It is very impressive.”

Yu Xiaoxiao knitted her brows. “I am not too sure. I am not into this.” What Qiao Nan did today was beyond one’s imagination.

Chapter 920 Qiao Nan Was a Kept Woman

Qiao Nan could say that the younger man previously was Shi Qing’s relative. But what about the older man this time? She could not possibly say that he was Shi Qing’s uncle.

Shi Qing could not always be her shield!

Qiao Nan was supposed to be engaged. She kept it from her fiancé to be in close touch with so many other men. Qiao Nan...

People had the belief that college students nowadays were more open-minded. She thought that at the very least, students from Peking University would not behave that way. However, she was proven wrong by Qiao Nan's behavior. It was no wonder that she was able to be good friends with Shi Qing. It seemed that Qiao Nan had more tricks up her sleeves than Tang Jiayun did.

"Yu Xiaoxiao, what is on your mind?" Lü Yan had been talking to Yu Xiaoxiao, but she ignored her. Lü Yan gave her a slight push.

Yu Xiaoxiao forced a smile on her face. "Nothing much. Perhaps we have misunderstood the situation." She should not jump to conclusions.

What was wrong with her recently? She was not like this previously.

"Crap! Misunderstanding? I don't believe it." Tang Jiayun snorted. "Lü Yan, didn't you ask about the model of the car? Let me tell you. It is a Land Rover, and it is very expensive. I don't know the model of the car, but I know that this type of car is very expensive. If it is one of those that are very expensive, we won't be able to pay for a single car tire even if we work for our entire lifetime."

Even though Tang Jiayun was exaggerating, it was the truth that they could not afford to buy such a car.

To them, a Land Rover car was a legendary car. Tang Jiayun was upset and jealous that Qiao Nan could get into such a car.

Why was it that all the people that Qiao Nan knew were influential and powerful?

Previously, the man drove a Mercedes-Benz, and right now, this man drove a Land Rover. Would another man come in an expensive car from an overseas brand next time?

Life was unfair. She was concerned about finding a job four years from now, but someone was able to ride in a car that cost as much as the price of housing in the capital.

One of them sucked in their breath.

The other gasped!

Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan were in shock. “Is it that expensive?”

Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan were such country bumpkins. They had not even heard of Land Rover. Tang Jiayun felt proud of herself that she knew about the car. But on second thought, she merely knew about the brand of the car. She did not know the details. Today was the first time that someone she knew had a ride in this type of car. Tang Jiayun realized that she had nothing to be proud of. “Back then at my hometown, people used to say that there are college students who have no self-respect and have messy love relationships. They are so shameless that they are willing to be the kept women of older men. I thought that it was merely hearsay. I did not know that...”

Yu Xiaoxiao pulled a long face. It might be due to Tang Jiayun that she always thought the worst of others. “Tang Jiayun, you must be careful with what you say. This is purely your conjecture. Don’t make it sound as if it is the truth. According to the law, one could be charged for defamation.”

With that, Yu Xiaoxiao pulled Lü Yan away with her.

If they kept on mixing with Tang Jiayun, they would be influenced by her.

They must stay away from Tang Jiayun in order to lead a better life.

No matter how doubtful she was, Yu Xiaoxiao was certain that she saw Qiao Nan with an unfamiliar older man. She even spoke to him and got in the car with him.

But Qiao Nan kept a respectful distance from the man all the while. They were polite to each other, and they did not have any intimate or suspicious behavior.

Tang Jiayun was simply badmouthing Qiao Nan. She would have to bear responsibility for making such vicious comments.

One should not make careless comments, saying that someone was a kept woman!

Lü Yan tried hard to keep up with Yu Xiaoxiao. “Yu Xiaoxiao, slow down. I can’t catch up with you. By the way, I feel that Tang Jiayun is behaving more oddly than before, and her words are very crude.”

Although they were shocked and doubtful about what they saw, they should not speculate about it.

“Qiao Nan is very smart. She moved out of the dormitory right after the military training. If not for the troublesome procedures, I want to move out as well. I have finally sorted out my thoughts. Regardless of whether Qiao Nan is a good person or not, or whether she has done any shameless behavior, Tang Jiayun is definitely a person with a bad personality. She will lead us astray. In the future, I will never mix with her. You can decide for yourself what you want to do.”

She had already signed up for all the clubs that she was interested in.

As for other matters, Tang Jiayun was not able to help her with it.

This was the reason why she continued to be friends with Tang Jiayun. Now that she had achieved her aim, if she continued to mix with her, she might as well give up on her studies and speculate and gossip with Tang Jiayun.

“I... I am with you. I won’t mix with Tang Jiayun either.” Lü Yan hurried to say.

There were a total of four students in the dormitory. Qiao Nan liked to keep to herself. Besides the previous time when Tang Jiayun asked about her fiancé, Qiao Nan did not engage in their conversation and would always keep a distance from them.

Tang Jiayun was the exact opposite of Qiao Nan.

In comparison, Lü Yan felt that she and Yu Xiaoxiao had a similar personality. It would be better for her to befriend her in the future.

Tang Jiayun did not stop Yu Xiaoxiao and Lü Yan from leaving

Tang Jiayun sneered at them as they left. “Yu Xiaoxiao is too realistic. She has signed up for all the clubs that she is interested in and left me now that she has no use of me anymore. How dare she pretend to be virtuous and say that I may be sued for defamation!”

She dared Yu Xiaoxiao not to come begging her for help in the future. If not, she would make sure that she suffered.

Although Tang Jiayun made harsh comments about Qiao Nan, she was determined to be friends with Qiao Nan.

This was a world where it was better to get ahead in life by abandoning one’s scruples than to suffer in poverty. Whoever had the money called the shots. Whoever was able to be acquainted with the big shots would be seen as capable.

She never expected that she would meet someone who had the same views as her. In fact, Qiao Nan was way better than her. Qiao Nan had achieved the goals that she had in mind.

Qiao Nan was clueless about the situation. Otherwise, she would not let her former roommates get away with slandering her.

Although she harbored no expectation that she would have good roommates like the ones she had in high school, her roommates in college were too different from her roommates back then.

The three of them had a bad personality. Therefore, they would think the worst of others.

After Zhai Yaohui told her that Miao Jing was sick, Qiao Nan was only concerned about taking care of her.

Qiao Nan did not know that the Zhai family had a property in the capital as well. In fact, like her master, their house was left vacant. The car belonged to the Zhai family, but it was actually assigned to them by the country.