

Weak B 731

Chapter 731: Do You Want Me to Swear with a Raised Hand?

"Comrade Kang Li, you've brought glory to our nation and that is truly remarkable. As your colleagues, we all feel proud and honored!"

These were the words of Station Chief Zhang, as he walked up to Kang Li, beaming with a smile and shook her hand.

This made Kang Li all the more uneasy, but due to social conventions, she quickly adjusted her mood and exchanged pleasantries with Station Chief Zhang.

Afterward, with a wave of his hand from Station Chief Zhang, everyone returned to their respective positions.

"You have another competition to participate in, right?"

As soon as Kang Li sat down on the sofa in Wu Yue's office, she heard Wu Yue ask and couldn't help but smile as she hummed in agreement.

"Yet you made a special trip to bring me this gift. Really, don't you know how to rest properly at home?"

Wu Yue was a bit distressed for her friend Kang Li and couldn't help but feign anger, "Couldn't you have just called? If you had phoned me, I would have cycled over to pick it up, sparing you the trouble."

Kang Li's eyes twinkled with amusement. "I'm not made of clay, what's the big deal about coming to the TV station? Besides, it was on the way."

"You expect me to believe that?" Wu Yue said as she placed a cup of tea on the coffee table in front of Kang Li, "Your body isn't in great shape, yet you like to act tough. I really can't handle you sometimes."

At this, Kang Li chuckled, "Are you scolding me like a child now? Actually, I went out today to the post office to mail a package, so I thought I'd drop by and bring your gift."

Wu Yue still looked skeptical, "Are you sure it was on the way?"

"Do I need to raise my hand and swear?"

Kang Li asked with a laugh.

"No need."

Wu Yue huffed and then, leaning on the edge of her desk with her arms crossed facing Kang Li, she said, "It's your own body, you'd better take good care of it, and don't be a memory for me to mourn while you're still young."

"If I didn't know you better and knew you were just concerned about me, I might think you were wishing me an early grave!"

Kang Li said, chuckling and shaking her head, "At a glance, I might look frail and indeed, my health isn't the best, but honestly, it's not as dire as you make it sound."

She certainly wouldn't die young!

After all, she had Dwen Dwen. She would ask about converting the accumulated happiness points and affection value into Points, and together with Life Points, see if she had enough to purchase the body strengthening pill or perhaps the Transformation liquid from the Mall.

Wu Yue: "I'm not cursing you, I just want to remind you to take more care of your personal health and not wear yourself out."

"I know, I know, we are friends, and your concern definitely comes from the heart."

With a smile curling her lips, Kang Li chuckled.

Unexpectedly, Wu Yue suddenly asked at that moment, "Your eyes reveal fatigue, haven't you adjusted to the time difference yet?"

Kang Li: "A bit, yeah."

"What do you mean 'a bit'? Is there something else going on?" Wu Yue asked with undisguised concern, "Don't hide it from me, tell me."

"Last Saturday, something happened at home..."

Kang Li briefly explained how Hanhan and the other kids were frightened by Meng Xingsheng's actions that day, then she said, "These past few nights, I haven't dared to sleep deeply, just in case Hanhan has a nightmare and wakes up needing comfort."

Wu Yue's expression darkened, "That's quite audacious!"

"Yes, quite audacious indeed. Thankfully, it was without incident, otherwise, I would have gone mad," Kang Li sighed, and then said, "You might mention this to your uncle and aunt, and you should be cautious as well,

Chapter 732: Kang Li Does Not Agree

"From now on, when picking up and dropping off the kids at school, you must keep a close eye on them; otherwise, accidents can happen at any time."

"I'll mention it to my family when I get off work today," Wu Yue nodded, then asked, "Are the kids feeling any better now?"

Kang Li: "Much better, they all went to school normally today."

"That's good to hear."

Relieved, Wu Yue was about to say something else when her expression changed, her lips moved slightly, but she hesitated to speak.

"If you have something to say, say it. Being hesitant isn't like you."

Kang Li watched Wu Yue struggle and stop short of speaking, finding it somewhat amusing.

"Then I'll just say it, but I hope you can help me out a bit after you hear what I have to say."

Wu Yue slapped her own face and said, "I haven't even said it yet, and I already feel a bit shameless!"

Seeing this, Kang Li's eyes were mocking: "In that case, maybe you shouldn't say it after all!"

"No, I can't. If I don't ask for your help, my eldest uncle may end up sending a white-haired person for a black-haired one."

Wu Yue looked incredibly serious as she said, "While you were abroad, Dandan's Cultural Work Troupe went to a county town to perform..."

As Wu Yue spoke, Kang Li's expression became involuntarily shocked.

"What do you think I should do? I know Yangyang was being a hero when he chased away the villain who was about to assault my cousin, but... but Lin Dan's state at the time... Yangyang witnessed the whole thing, and he even took off his shirt to cover my cousin,

Although...although nobody else knows about the incident except for the perpetrator, Lin Dan herself, and Yangyang, Lin Dan can't get over the hurdle in her heart, feeling that she... Anyway, the foolish girl has been on a hunger strike lately, wanting to die, shutting herself in her room every day, crying quietly."

Kang Li: "Didn't they catch the man?"

Wu Yue shook her head: "It was dark at the time, and the villain ran away when he heard footsteps approaching."

Kang Li: "Why didn't your cousin go to the bathroom with someone?"

Wu Yue: "There was a performance going on. Those who were not on stage were doing their makeup. Maybe Lin Dan drank too much water that day, or maybe it was nerves, but she and several other women from the troupe had already gone to the bathroom before the performance. Who would've

thought she'd need to go again so soon after returning backstage? When she asked the other women, they didn't feel the need, so she had to go by herself..."

Kang Li furrowed her brows slightly: "No matter how poor the county theater's facilities were, wasn't there lighting on the way to the bathroom?"

Wu Yue: "There was, but the light was very dim."

With her eyelids lowered, Kang Li was silent for a while, then looked up at Wu Yue, "Are you hoping I can persuade Yangyang to accept Lin Dan?"

"I...I know feelings can't be forced, and I know that making such a request to you may seem like repaying kindness with malice, but it truly distresses me to see my eldest uncle and aunt aging so much in just a short time over Lin Dan's situation," Wu Yue said with sorrow in her eyes.

"Look, is this okay? Have Yangyang pretend to be in a relationship with Lin Dan for now. Once her emotional state improves and she stops thinking about..."

"Enough, I understand what you mean, but I can't agree to it."

Kang Li shook her head in refusal, saying, "Feelings can't accommodate deception. To add to that, if Yangyang did as you say and pretended to be in a relationship with your cousin, what happens when he meets someone he truly likes and he has to explain the situation to your cousin? The hurt she would feel then would only be greater."

Chapter 733: 733: Will Go Take a Look

After a brief pause, Kang Li continued, "Actually, in my opinion, Lin Dan's current hunger strike and her desire to die stem from her concern about how she perceives herself in Yangyang's heart.

After all, you've mentioned before that she has feelings for Yangyang, but that night's incident undoubtedly allowed Yangyang to see her at her most disheveled. She feels embarrassed, especially since Yangyang is the boy she likes,

Even though he saved her in time, she still cannot accept the tarnished image of herself in front of the boy she adores... She's filled with self-loathing and self-deprecation, and she wants to escape, worried that the boy she admires will look at her differently, which is why she's contemplating suicide."

"You mean... even if Yangyang pretends to like Lin Dan and pursues her, it might not necessarily turn her situation around? Or it might even make things worse?"

Wu Yue's expression became grave.

"Mm-hmm. I haven't seen your cousin many times, but I can tell she's a simple yet strong-willed girl who strives for perfection. She's now facing a psychological barrier. As long as we can untangle that, she should quickly return to her normal self."

Reaching this point, Kang Li thought for a moment and then continued, "How about this, I'll call Yangyang when I get back today and arrange a time to go see Lin Dan together."

“Thanks, sister!”

Gratitude shone in Wu Yue’s eyes.

Kang Li waved her hand dismissively, “Your cousin has just hit a rough patch, it’s not a big deal. She just needs some comforting, and she’ll surely return to her usual self.”

“I hope so,” Wu Yue said with a bitter smile. “Lately, the atmosphere in my uncle’s family has been very gloomy; there’s not one of them who hasn’t lost a good few pounds.”

“It’s just a small hurdle in life. Once they get over it, they’ll be fine.”

Standing up, Kang Li said, “You should get back to your work, I need to go.”

Wu Yue: “Since you’re here, why not stay a while longer? It’s not even nine o’clock yet.”

“I think it’s better to talk to Yangyang in person. Since I’m out today anyway, I’ll cycle over to the Cultural Work Troupe.” Kang Li said with a smile and walked towards the office door.

Wu Yue was apologetic, “I’m sorry to trouble you with this.”

“Are you being formal with me?! It’s just a small errand; don’t be polite with me.”

Kang Li looked at Wu Yue, her smile tinged with helplessness.

Wu Yue: “It won’t affect your participation in the competition, will it?”

“I’ll rejoin the team on Friday, today is Monday. I’m going to see Yiyang now, check if he’s free tomorrow at noon, and if he’s not busy, you remember to take us to Commander Lin’s house.”

“Sure, I’ll wait for your call.”

Wu Yue saw Kang Li to the bike shed and felt truly grateful, thinking what a friend she had made.

“I’m off, you better get to what you need to do.”

After pushing her bicycle out of the TV station’s gate, Kang Li waved to Wu Yue before cycling away.

“Be safe on the road!”

Wu Yue called out.

Kang Li replied and then pedaled into the distance under Wu Yue's watchful eye.

North City Cultural Work Troupe.

"Little aunt... little aunt, is it really you?!"

Kang Yiyang had been in the rehearsal room practicing a new erhu piece he had learned when he was suddenly informed by a colleague that a very pretty Comrade had come looking for him. Almost instantly, Yiyang thought of Kang Li, his little aunt,

so he immediately set down his erhu and rushed out of the rehearsal room, only to see his dear little aunt standing with her bicycle outside the doors of the Cultural Work Troupe, nearly sending Yiyang over the moon with joy.

"Silly, if you're not seeing me right now, then who do you think it would be?"

After Kang Yiyang had run up to her and stopped, Kang Li smiled and shook her head.

"I thought you hadn't come back from abroad yet."

Chapter 734: She Cares About Your Opinion

Scratching his head, Yiyang stretched his mouth into a wide grin, revealing a set of white teeth.

"Been back for a couple of days."

Kang Li smiled and said, "I brought you a gift, but it's at home. I'll have your aunt bring it to you later."

"Thanks, Aunt!" Yiyang's smile brightened, "Oh, did you come here just to see me?"

Kang Li nodded.

Yiyang: "You have something to tell me?"

Kang Li nodded again.

Yiyang: "Then go ahead, I promise I'll listen carefully."

Kang Li didn't beat around the bush, her lips slightly parting, "Have you been busy lately? If not, could you take half a day off tomorrow and accompany your aunt to visit Lin Dan?"

Upon hearing this, Yiyang immediately frowned, "Has Aunt Wu Yue been in touch with you?" Without waiting for Kang Li to respond, he added, "Did she tell you everything?"

What exactly it was, Yiyang didn't say, but he believed his aunt must be well aware.

Kang Li smiled, "Yes, Wu Yue told me. Before I came here, I had stopped by the TV station and she mentioned something about Lin Dan."

"Aunt... I don't want to lie to you, I really have no feelings for Comrade Lin Dan, at least not so far. Besides, I believe Comrade Lin Dan doesn't need my sympathy, nor does she need me to date her out of pity. And frankly, I don't think there's anything to pity about her, as I see it as no big deal."

Kang Li raised an eyebrow, "Did Wu Yue talk to you privately?"

Yiyang: "A couple of days ago... we met in Commander Lin's office."

Kang Li, smiling, asked, "You didn't agree to help with that matter?"

Yiyang: "No."

Kang Li's eyes gleamed with approval, "You did right not to agree. Even if it's well-intended, you shouldn't deceive with emotions; it would only hurt someone deeper."

There was no one else around, so the aunt and nephew could speak in quiet voices without worrying about being overheard.

"Aunt, you don't think I did anything wrong?"

Yiyang looked surprised.

"Why would you think that?"

Kang Li gently shook her head, "You were just being responsible to yourself and to Lin Dan. There's absolutely nothing wrong with that. Besides, you already said she doesn't need pity, and it's really not a big deal if you think about it. But..."

Hearing Kang Li mention "but," Yiyang couldn't help but tense up, fearing that his beloved aunt might make a complete turnaround and persuade him to date Comrade Lin Dan for some other reason.

"But what?"

A trace of repulsion lingered in Yiyang's eyes, though he was unaware of it.

Kang Li laughed, "No need to be nervous. I definitely won't make you do anything you dislike or don't want to. That 'but' was just to let you know that Lin Dan's situation is a bit messy right now. To be more precise, she's worried, scared, and avoiding something. Do you know why?"

"No."

That was a typical straightforward man's reply.

"She cares about what you think, worries that you might look down on her, afraid you might see her differently, so... do you understand now?"

After hearing Kang Li, Yiyang stayed silent for a while before speaking, "What would you like me to do, Aunt?"

Kang Li: "Come with me to see her. I'll try to console her, and all you need to do is share your honest thoughts about the matter, revealing whether it has changed your impression of her."

Yiyang: "Is that all?"

Kang Li: "Yes, that's all."

"Alright, I'll take half a day off tomorrow."

Chapter 735: 735: Understanding

Yiyang nodded in agreement and then said, "This afternoon, I have more time in the afternoon."

"Then this afternoon it is. I'll call Wu Yue when I get back and set the time for after lunch tomorrow. It'll be perfect after finishing our errands, and we can go back to the compound together."

"Okay."

"Isn't your first movie about to be released?"

Changing the topic, Kang Li smiled when he heard this, nodding a bit uneasily, "I don't know if it turned out well or not."

"Aunt believes in you. When I have time, I will take your grandma and Ruirui to watch it at the cinema."

Seeing his slightly shy older nephew, Kang Li laughed, "There's nothing to be shy about. Whether it's good or not, the audience's eyes are sharp. Aunt will help you listen to the feedback at that time."

Yiyang said, "I've been quite nervous recently."

"Aunt understands." Kang Li's gaze was gentle, her lips curved in a smile, and she said, "You must have confidence in yourself."

Yiyang said, "I am confident, just worried that my performance might not be up to the mark."

"Don't worry, it's your first time making a movie, it's normal to have some deficiencies. But you shouldn't worry too much. If the director approved it during the shooting process, that means your performance wasn't a big issue at the time."

Kang Li's eyes were filled with encouragement, "Success doesn't come overnight. If you fall, just get back up, and if you fall again, we'll just stand up again as long as we don't get discouraged, success will come eventually."

Yiyang's smile turned bright, he said, "Aunt, you are really good at comforting people, I'm not nervous at all now."

"Well done." Kang Li's eyes beamed with pride, looking at her older nephew, "That's enough talk, your aunt needs to head back."

Yiyang said, "Don't ride too fast!"

"Okay!"

Waving her hand, Kang Li mounted her bicycle and in a blink, she was several yards away.

Reaching Min Rui's elementary school gate, Kang Li waited for about ten minutes before the school bell rang.

"Mom!"

Seeing his mom right as he exited the school gate, Min Rui's eyes lit up, and with a smile, he hurried towards Kang Li with his little short legs.

Kang Li's eyes smiled as she spoke, "Did you understand the lessons from this afternoon's class?" Lifting the little guy to the back seat, Kang Li softly asked.

"I understood everything, it was very simple."

Sitting in the back seat, Min Rui responded with his youthful voice.

Kang Li spoke cheerily with a smile, "Our Ruirui is so smart, but remember, you shouldn't get cocky."

"Mom has said, learning never ends, I always remember, I won't be arrogant."

Hearing her eldest child say this, Kang Li felt both relieved and happy, thinking her son was just wonderful.

They had rice for lunch.

Around quarter past one, Kang Li bicycled Min Rui back to school, and once she returned home, she made a phone call to Wu Yue to finalize their visit to Lin Dan's place.

...

"Mom, your darling Vivi is here too!"

Before bedtime at night, Xiao Ming Wei came to Kang Li's room with her little pillow, "Daddy is naughty, at home he never lets Vivi sleep with mom, just allows big brother to sleep in mom's room. Now that dad is not home, Vivi isn't scared."

"Bad Uncle scared me, only then did Dad let me sleep with mom!"

Milk Bun Ming Han glared at his sister Ming Wei.

However, Xiao Ming Wei didn't even glance at her brother Ming Han; she placed her little pillow on the bed, climbed up with a "hey ho hey ho," put her own pillow next to her mom's, settled in and said, "I'm not listening, I'm not listening, nonsense talk."

"I am talking to you."

He was no fool, naughty sister, not cute at all.

Chapter 736: Where Did I Go Wrong?

Xiao Ming Wei pretended not to hear and hugged her mother's hand, speaking in a cute, childish voice, "Mommy, you smell so good, Vivi loves Mommy the most!"

"Our Vivi also smells nice."

As Kang Li tucked the little girl in, her gaze was both tender and indulgent.

Milk Bun Ming Han: "Mommy, I want to sleep next to you too."

Kang Li: "Then you sleep on this side." She patted the spot beside her and took Milk Bun Ming Han's little pillow to set it in place.

"Thank you, Mommy!"

Milk Bun Ming Han grinned.

"Big Brother and Grandma are already asleep, Mommy, let's go to sleep too and not bother with Second Brother."

Xiao Ming Wei was trying to provoke rivalry with her brother, Ming Han.

"Luo Mingwei, you have a bone to pick with me today!"

Milk Bun Ming Han puffed up his cheeks.

"I do have a bone to pick with you, what are you going to do about it?"

Stinky Ming Han, nasty Ming Han—today at school he had sided with the new kid to bully her. She would see if she still wanted to pay attention to this bad brother of hers.

"Did you two have a conflict at school today?"

When she picked up the twins after school, she noticed that there was something quite strange about the atmosphere between them.

Not talking to one another, their eyes meeting then immediately diverging, and both of them "hmping" in unison—it was quite a funny sight.

To say that nothing happened between them, she didn't believe it.

Milk Bun Ming Han: "No."

Xiao Ming Wei: "Yes."

Milk Bun Ming Han: "I said no."

Xiao Ming Wei disregarded her brother Ming Han this time and complained to her mother: "Mommy, our first grade class had a new student join yesterday, and she's a girl just like me,

her name is Han Qian, and she looks just average. Whenever she talks with us girls, her eyes turn red after a while, as if all of us are bullying her. This afternoon during recess,

I got pushed by a classmate from behind and accidentally bumped into Han Qian. I apologized to her, but as she looked at me, her eyes turned red again,

and then she started to cry golden beans. Second Brother saw this and came over to say it was wrong of me to push Han Qian. I said I didn't, but Second Brother didn't believe me, and even when other kids testified for me, he wouldn't apologize to me. He is so annoying!"

After listening to the little girl's story, Kang Li shifted her gaze to Milk Bun Ming Han and asked, "Hanhan, tell Mommy, is this true?"

"...Yeah."

Milk Bun Ming Han climbed onto the bed and buried his little head in the pillow, not daring to look at his mother.

"I want you to look at Mommy when you speak."

Kang Li's voice was gentle, but Milk Bun Ming Han felt very nervous inside.

Lifting his head, Milk Bun Ming Han looked at his mother: "I know I was wrong."

Kang Li: "What did you do wrong?"

Milk Bun Ming Han: "I shouldn't have wronged my sister."

Kang Li: "Then why didn't you apologize to your sister?"

Milk Bun Ming Han: "At the kindergarten, I was too embarrassed, and when I got home...I forgot when I got home."

"What needs to be done today should be settled today. What should you do now?"

Kang Li smiled as she looked at the little one.

"Sister, I'm sorry, I was wrong this afternoon. I shouldn't have accused you. Can you forgive me?"

Milk Bun Ming Han got up and looked at his sister Ming Wei, his eyes filled with sincerity.

"Alright, for Mommy's sake, I'll forgive you today, but if you wrongly accuse me again, I...I will never speak to you again!"

Xiao Ming Wei's face was stern, clearly meaning that she would follow through on her word.

Milk Bun Ming Han: "It won't happen again, I promise you."

Kang Li looked at them both, her lips curving into a smile, the laughter almost spilling out of her fox-like eyes.

However, what she was thinking was that when the time was right, she'd tell her three little ones the stories of white lotuses and green teas.

Chapter 737: 737: Paying a Visit

Around two o'clock in the afternoon the next day.

"Let's go."

When Kang Li made an appointment, she naturally wouldn't stand someone up. There she was, having rode her bike to the TV station, and she saw Wu Yue already waiting outside the entrance with her bike. Without another word, she called to Wu Yue to head to the Cultural Work Troupe, calling on Kang Yiyang to visit Lin Dan.

"You really know how to time it just right, sister,"

Wu Yue teased.

"I'm just punctual, I don't intentionally time things."

Kang Li laughed lightly, and as they cycled side by side, she said, "Besides, after Ruirui has lunch, he usually heads off to school just after one, so after dropping him off at the school gates, naturally I cycled over here."

“Explaining it like that, you’re not serious, are you?” Wu Yue’s eyes were teasing as she spoke, “I was just playing with you.”

“You’re actually suggesting I’m taking you seriously, right?”

Glancing at Wu Yue, Kang Li’s lips curved into a faint, gentle smile, “I’m not one to hold petty grudges; I’m simply respecting you by responding casually.”

Wu Yue: “Seems like I’m the one who’s petty!”

“Is that so?”

Kang Li raised an eyebrow, her clear fox-like eyes brimming with amusement, and just then Wu Yue happened to look her way, capturing her expression, and couldn’t help but respond with mock indignation, “Don’t tell me you’re taking it seriously? Thinking I’m really petty?”

“I never said that, you know.”

With a smile tugging at her lips, Kang Li’s fair and lovely face beamed with a light smile that would captivate anyone who saw it.

Noticing that Wu Yue kept glancing at her, Kang Li couldn't help but laugh, "I know I'm good-looking, but can you pay attention to your cycling now? We can set aside some time later, and I'll sit in front of you so you can get your fill of looking."

"Vain!"

Wu Yue, holding back her laughter, threw out two words.

Kang Li shook her head, "Clearly enchanted by my beauty, yet stubbornly refusing to admit it; I've come to see what kind of person you truly are."

"Are you talking to me?"

Wu Yue feigned confusion.

Kang Li parted her lips lightly: "Saying one thing but meaning another."

And so, the two of them cycled all the way to the Cultural Work Troupe, laughing and bantering with each other.

Kang Yiyang was already waiting outside the gate; seeing them, he immediately greeted them with a smile and took control of the bike from Kang Li's hands, "Aunty, let me push that for you."

Kang Li had no pretenses.

She let go, allowing Kang Yiyang to take her bike as she and Wu Yue walked towards the residential compound of the Cultural Work Troupe.

"Knock, knock, knock!"

Standing outside Commander Lin's house, Wu Yue knocked on the door with her knuckles.

It wasn't long before the door was opened.

"Wu Yue... what brings you here at this time?"

Yuan Li, Commander Lin's wife and Lin Dan's mother, seemed like a straightforward middle-aged woman. She appeared quite astonished to see Wu Yue standing at the door since it was still within working hours.

"I came to see Dandan."

Wu Yue said, as she introduced Kang Li and Kang Yiyang to Yuan Li, "This is my friend, Kang Li. She and Lin Dan have met a few times..."

Before Wu Yue could finish speaking, Yuan Li's expression turned excited: "Kang Li? Are you the Comrade Kang Li who won our country four gold medals at the international sports event overseas not long ago?"

Hearing this, Kang Li nodded her head with a bit of embarrassment.

"Please, sit down! Come on in!"

Once inside, Yuan Li heartily welcomed Kang Li and Kang Yiyang to take a seat, and then she turned her attention to Kang Yiyang, "I know you; you're Kang Yiyang, right? Commander Lin hasn't stopped talking about you when he comes home from work, saying how well you play the erhu."

Chapter 738: Misfortune and Luck

Actually, the one often mentioned at home wasn't Commander Lin, but Lin Dan, though Yuan Li wouldn't pull her daughter into the conversation at this moment.

Especially knowing that her daughter fancied the young man, yet the young man had no interest in her Dandan, compounded by recent events... had it not been for this young man, her Dandan would surely have been ruined for life by those villains,

Yet, as her parents, in order to comfort their daughter and to prevent her from taking her own life, they had come up with such an unscrupulous method, which was really a bit like "The Farmer and the Snake".

However, they hadn't forced him, and the young man hadn't agreed either.

Yuan Li thought this way but was still very pleased that Yiyang could visit now.

This showed that he didn't hold any grudge against their family and was willing to come and see her Dandan. With this, Dandan's mood might stabilize and she wouldn't think about dying anymore, would she?

"Aunt, if you have things to attend to, please go ahead; we will go inside and sit with Dandan for a while."

Wu Yue said, looking towards Kang Li and Kang Yiyang, the two of them understood and got up simultaneously with Wu Yue.

"These past few days, it's been me and your great-uncle forcing her to eat and drink, but it wasn't very effective. Today, she hasn't touched food or water at all..." Yuan Li said, her eyes involuntarily moistening as she sighed heavily, "To prevent Dandan from doing something drastic at home, I took leave from work to stay with her."

"Dandan really likes my friend Kang Li. Perhaps she could talk some sense into her, maybe pull Dandan out of this dead-end."

Wu Yue spoke to comfort her aunt Yuan Li, and then, Kang Li said, "I'll go in first to check on her. If needed later, Yangyang, you can come in then, my cousin will call you."

The gaze shifted from Wu Yue and Yuan Li to Kang Yiyang.

"Okay."

Kang Yiyang nodded.

Yuan Li gently pushed open her daughter Lin Dan's room door: "She has just been lying on the bed like this recently." These words were directed at Kang Li, who responded in a soft voice, "I'm going in now."

As she stepped into Lin Dan's room, the door was gently closed behind her by Yuan Li.

"Lin Dan."

Approaching the bed, Kang Li looked at the girl lying still with her eyes tightly shut, smiling slightly, "I am Kang Li, I came to your house with your cousin."

At the sound of her voice, Lin Dan's eyelashes fluttered slightly.

Kang Li noticed this, sat down on the chair behind the desk, and in a soft, comforting voice, she said, "I know you aren't asleep, and I also know why such a trifling matter has changed you so much.

Do you know? In my heart, you are a cheerful, beautiful, and adorable girl, like a sunflower full of sunshine... But after hearing about your recent condition from Wu Yue, I am a little disappointed in you!

Do you want to know why? Never mind whether you want to know or not, I still have to talk to you about it. Lin Dan, no girl would ever want such a thing to happen to her, but no one in this world has the power of foresight,

so being in such a situation can only be considered unlucky, yet you are also very fortunate... You can't deny that, can you?"

Tears flowed from the corners of Lin Dan's tightly shut eyes, and her lips quivered, "Fortunate?"

Kang Li replied, "Yes, you are fortunate. You were rescued by Kang Yiyang just in time, preventing things from getting worse, and besides, not many people know about the whole incident. What exactly are you worried about, afraid of, or running from?"

"I..."

Lin Dan opened her eyes but stared blankly at the ceiling, her response trailing off.

Chapter 739 Kang Li Directly Exposes the Truth

"Your worries, fears, and the urge to escape... all these issues ultimately revolve around Kang Yiyang."

Kang Li didn't beat around the bush, her words were quite sharp at the moment, "But why should you feel these emotions? Just because you like Kang Yiyang, you don't want to tarnish your image in his eyes?

Lin Dan, if that's really the case, don't you think you're being a bit selfish? Your life isn't just yours, it also belongs to your father and mother, who brought you into this world. And for such trivial matters,

for a Kang Yiyang, you would make them suffer, bear the pain of potentially losing their daughter? Besides, you are an independent individual. Shouldn't you be living for yourself? Why tether your life to a boy?

Moreover, do you even know what Kang Yiyang thinks? Can you be certain that he would look down on you because of what you've experienced? Lin Dan, we live in a new society, not an era that confines women's thoughts.

Not to mention that you weren't truly violated by the scoundrel, and even if you were, is it your fault? No, the perpetrator is the one at fault, it's he who deserves punishment. As the victim,

if we punish ourselves for the wrongs committed by the evildoer, or even wish for death, those who will suffer in the end are the people who love you.

Of course, having gone through such an event, you're worried about the strange looks from others, the gossip, and thus you want to escape, to wish for death—I can understand... However, just like I said before,

except for your loved ones and Kang Yiyang, and now one more person—me—knows about it, no one else does. Based on this, the strange looks and the gossip from others are nonexistent to you, they're simply baseless.

Do I need to continue? Do you want me to go on about what you're worrying, fearing, and running from?"

Lin Dan opened her mouth and suddenly burst into loud tears.

Kang Li let out a silent sigh, got up, walked over to the bedside, sat down, and the next moment, Lin Dan sat up, threw herself into Kang Li's arms, and held her, crying inconsolably:

"Kang Yiyang saw me being stripped, I don't want him to despise or pity me, I'm afraid he won't want anything to do with me anymore. Just thinking about his gaze turning cold, I... I feel so filthy, I don't want to carry on living..."

Gently patting Lin Dan's back, Kang Li said helplessly, "When you truly like someone, no matter what they go through, as the other half, you face it together and offer comfort—that's what love is.

As for you and Kang Yiyang, up to now, you've only been comrades. Why care about his opinion so much? In the future, whether it's Kang Yiyang,

or any other comrade who takes an interest in you, as long as he truly wants to pair up with you, to be with you for life, he won't care about your past. Moreover, hasn't nothing really happened to you? Why impose unnecessary burdens on yourself?"

Her tone becoming gentle and soft, Kang Li continued, "Kang Yiyang is right outside. Since you care so much about his opinion, why not call him in and see what he has to say?"

Lin Dan didn't respond. Having cried enough, she let go of Kang Li, sat back a bit, and without responding, instead said, "I'm older than you, but far less perceptive."

Kang Li smiled, "You just got stuck in a rut, but now you seem to see very clearly."

Lin Dan pursed her lips, silent for a long while. She shook her head, "Even if I don't care what Comrade Kang Yiyang thinks of me,

Chapter 740: To put it bluntly, this is purely your own doing

"About that incident. I still care about it, I guess I'll never forget it for the rest of my life. lately, as soon as I close my eyes, I start having nightmares, and I'm really scared. I'm terrified something like that would happen to me again. "

The tears that had stopped once again surged out, rolling down Lin Dan's cheeks in large drops.

"Experience is the mother of wisdom, from now on, don't go out at night if you can avoid it, and if you really need to go out, find someone to accompany you."

Kang Li looked into Lin Dan's eyes, "Even during the daytime, if you need to go to a deserted place, it's best to have someone with you. In any case, when you are outside, you must always be on your guard. By doing so, you should be able to greatly reduce the chances of unexpected accidents."

Having said that, Kang Li paused for a moment, and then spoke again, "Alright, let the past be the past, don't dwell on it anymore. If you're scared when you go to bed at night, have your mom stay with you."

After helping Lin Dan tuck a stray lock of hair behind her ear, Kang Li frowned, "Go look in the mirror, see for yourself how you look right now, skinny and pale. If you walked out like this, I reckon a gust of wind could knock you over."

Lin Dan, ". you're exaggerating a bit, aren't you?"

"Exaggerating or not, see for yourself in the mirror." Standing up, Kang Li took the mirror from the table, "Here, see if the person in the mirror is you."

She held the mirror up to Lin Dan, with a slight furrow in her brow, "See that?"

Lin Dan's eyes immediately widened in shock, "How did I get like this?" Her hair had lost its luster, the dark circles were obvious, her spirit was clearly not well, the flesh on her face had thinned, and her appearance had noticeably deteriorated from before.

"Not eating properly, not drinking enough water, lacking sleep, how could you not end up looking like this—did you expect to become a fairy?" Kang Li put the mirror back on the table and shook her head, "To put it bluntly, you're doing this to yourself."

Lin Dan, "I. it's not that I. "

Kang Li, "Kang Yiyang, right? You're worried and scared that Kang Yiyang will judge you, so you choose to run away, burying your head in the sand. You even contemplated death; I've never seen such a foolish girl!"

Lin Dan with reddened face, "I'm not foolish."

"Not foolish, yet you look for death? Not foolish, yet you care about others' opinions? I really don't understand you. Have you tasted all the world's delicacies, or explored all the scenic beauties, or maybe you've seen all the handsome men around?

"Wake up, young lady. We need to look at the long-term perspective of life. Who knows, someday you might be able to go wherever you want without reference letters, embark on a trip on a whim, eat whatever you desire without needing food coupons—money will be all you need."

Hearing what Kang Li said, Lin Dan's expression was puzzled.

"Don't be surprised, nor think it's impossible. You should know, times are changing, and anything is possible." Kang Li spoke with a calm demeanor, "You have a landline at home, right?"

Lin Dan nodded blankly.

Kang Li twinkled her eyes, "Then just wait, one of these days, you'll be able to make phone calls while walking down the street."

"How can I find that so hard to believe? You have quite the imagination!"

Regaining her senses, Lin Dan was full of disbelief, "No need for reference letters, go wherever you want; no need for food coupons, eat whatever you want. making phone calls while walking down the street? Will there really be a day like that?"

"How do scientists conduct their research?"

Kang Li didn't expect Lin Dan to answer; she simply said, "They dare to dream, you know? It's only by daring to dream that miracles can happen. Just like Edison invented the lightbulb,