

Chapter 171: Attitude

Jiang Jin looked at Ning Zhe as the smile on her face gradually faded. "Mr. Ning, I'm not trying to be unreasonable. However, Song Ning has a knot in her heart that can't be resolved in just a short time. I think you should give her more time and space. When she finally makes up her mind, we will definitely follow her wishes. I don't want Song Ning to suffer any more grievances. She's now the most precious person in our Mu family."

Su Tong's smile was extremely unnatural as she said in a low voice, "Old Madam really cares about her."

Jiang Jin nodded and smiled kindly. "That's right! I have liked her since I first met her. I can't help but want to spoil her. I can't bear to see her suffer at all."

Ning Zhe's smile was a little bitter as he said, "She's really blessed. Thank you, Old Madam."

They continued to exchange pleasantries while Mu Chen remained quiet.

Meanwhile, Ning Dong sat next to his father with a straight back. He was seated quite close to Mu Chen. Seeing that his father was talking to Mu Chen's grandmother, he asked Mu Chen softly, "Can I meet my sister?"

Mu Chen looked at Ning Dong in surprise.

Ning Dong averted his eyes as he said in a soft voice, "I want to see my sister; I want to talk to her..."

Mu Chen looked at the skinny teenager and said in a gentle voice, "Why don't I convey your message to her?"

Ning Dong's eyes flashed with disappointment. Then, he bit his lips as though he had just made up his mind and said decisively, "Then, please tell my sister I have no intentions of fighting with her for the Ning family's assets. Please tell her to come back and visit if she has time. Father has restored the house to the way it looked when she was young. Her room is the same as before she left. Please ask her to come back. Otherwise, my mother and I will be sad as well. And..." He paused for a moment before he said, "By returning to the Ning family and resuming her position as the Eldest Young Miss of the Ning family, it'll prevent people from saying she's a social climber who's clinging to the Mu family."

When Ning Dong spoke, he lowered his head as though he was trying to hide his tears. His words attracted the attention of Jiang Jin, Ning Zhe, and Jiang Jin.

Su Tong laughed. "This child of mine. He has always been worried about his sister; that's why he said such words..."

Mu Chen looked at Ning Dong and smiled faintly. "You don't have to think that way. I'm the one who's clinging to her. I'll make sure to make her happy for the rest of her life..."

A flash of indescribable emotion flashed in Ning Dong's eyes. It was as though he had completed his mission, he returned to acting like a statue again.

The three members of the Ning family did not stay for long before they decided to leave.

Mu Chen was polite and sent the guests out. When he entered the house, he saw Song Ning standing in the corridor waiting for him. However, her expression was not very good. He smiled and pulled her into his arms. "Why are you standing here? You're wearing such light clothing; what if you catch a cold?"

As Mu Chen pushed Song Ning into the house, she looked at him and smiled bitterly. "Mu Chen, I've tried. I can't accept them no matter what..."

Mu Chen hugged her. "I understand. Then let nature take its course. You have me, Grandma, and our family. I'll be responsible for your happiness in the future!"

Song Ning leaned against him and said softly, "I know. He's just a child, but... but that year, it was because of him that my mother suffered a miscarriage. Even if he was a child at that time, I can't forgive him because my biological brother is gone." She could not hold back her tears when she spoke about this.

Mu Chen quickly coaxed her. "Don't cry, don't cry. Grandma said that we have to be happy on the first day of the new year. This way, we'll be happy the entire year. If you cry, won't it rain the entire year? There's no need for you to overthink things. We can just live the life we want. Just follow your heart and do what you want. Grandma and I will always support you..."

Song Ning took the piece of tissue from Mu Chen and wiped her tears. "After my mother left, I spent the new year alone. This is the first since then that I spent it with so many people..."

Mu Chen was surprised. "Didn't the Fu family invite you to join them?"

Song Ning shook her head. "The Old Madam of the Fu family thinks my parents are all dead so she considers me unlucky. How could she invite me to the house on an auspicious day?"

Mu Chen thought the Fu family was worse than beasts. How despicable. He wished they would vanish off the face of the earth. They never treated her well and took her for granted, but when they needed her, they shamelessly came to her.

In comparison, Ning Zhe was rather smart. He knew he had to change his attitude. Unfortunately, the scar he left on Song Ning was too deep.. Moreover, how could he move Song Ning with his fake feelings?

Chapter 172: A Disaster

In the Ning family house.

Ning Zhe was very satisfied with Ning Dong's performance.

"Dongdong, don't worry. If your sister comes back, what will be yours won't be any less than hers. The Ning family belongs to both of you. Study hard so you can share my workload with me as soon as possible."

Su Tong was delighted by these words. After Ning Zhe left, she hugged her son and shook him excitedly. "Dongdong, Dongdong, did you hear that? Did you hear that? Your father has acknowledged you!"

Ning Dong allowed his mother to hug him, but his face was expressionless.

After a moment, Su Tong finally realized something was amiss. "Dongdong? What's wrong?"

Ning Dong pushed his mother away impatiently. "What's there to be happy about? Don't you think this is what I deserve in the first place?" Then, he walked upstairs, ignoring the shocked Su Tong.

Ning Dong kicked his door shut and threw himself on his bed. Following that, he took his phone and sent a text: Brother Ji An, help me select a few capable men. I might have use for them.

Ji An replied instantly, "Okay!"

Ning Dong tossed his phone aside before he inhaled deeply and buried his face in the blanket. He wanted to make those who looked down on him regret their actions toward him.

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At the same time, Ye Cheng smiled when he read the message Ji An forward to him before he put down his phone. Ning Dong was walking step by step in the direction he had hoped for. What troubled him the most now was the people and things in front of him.

Ye Xin had already broken most of the things in the living room.

Ye Cheng massaged his temples, thinking he should replace the furniture and decorations in the house with materials that were not easy to break. With his sister's temper, this was bound to happen again. If he replaced everything with things that were hard to break, his sister could lose her temper as much as she wanted; there would be no loss.

Meanwhile, Gao Wen was so anxious, but she could only stomp her feet helplessly. She wanted to console Ye Xin but was afraid that she would be hurt by the things that Ye Xin was throwing around.

The reason for Ye Xin's tantrum this time was due to the release of the drama version of Yi Yao that was released on the first day of the new year.

Ever since the drama was announced, it had attracted a lot of attention.

Moreover, Ye Xin's company had spared no effort in promoting her. Even her fans had gone to great lengths to create hype for her.

Even before the drama was aired, small clips of the drama had been circulating on the Internet, whetting people's appetite. Before the drama aired, there were already all kinds of comments praising Ye Xin to the heavens. They said just by watching the short clips they could see Ye Xin's skilled acting. All of them said she was not Little Ning Xia; her acting skill was enough to get her out of the shadow of Ning Xia.

On the last day of filming, Ye Cheng even treated everyone in the production to a meal on Ye Xin's behalf.

With all these, one could only imagine how popular Ye Xin was before the drama even began to air.

With the strong support of the Ye Group, Ye Xin's company sold the show at a high price to the broadcasting station and even managed to snag the prime airing time that was the first day of the new year.

On the night of new year's eve, Ye Xin held a live broadcast to interact with her fans and even sent a large number of photos and autographs to her fans.

There was no doubt the hype for the drama was at an all-time high. In comparison, the movie from ten years ago suddenly seemed shabby.

Both fans of Yi Yao and Ning Xia also had high hopes for the drama version of Yi Yao. Although they had caught a glimpse of Ning Xia during the film festival, she had made it clear she had no intentions of returning to the entertainment industry. Yi Yao was like their emotional sustenance so they were naturally excited about the drama.

There had never been a drama that garnered so much attention. It became the drama that everyone looked forward to the most.

Alas, as the saying went, 'The higher you are, the harder you'll fall'.

When the drama first aired, the film critics were silent.

On the third day, the Internet finally exploded. All sorts of articles and comments that praised Ye Xin were dug out and mocked. Ye Xin had been mocked and criticized until there was almost nothing left of her. All the praises had turned into jokes.

After ten episodes were aired, fans of Ning Xia began to get angry. All of them clamored that Ye Xin was not worthy of the title Little Ning Xia. In fact, it was an insult to Ning Xia! Ye Xin should just promote as Ye Xin and discard the title of Little Ning Xia. There was only one Ning Xia in this world; no one could imitate her.

The nostalgic and heartbroken netizens tried their best to find clips of the original movie and posted them on the Internet. The situation escalated, and some netizens even edited the movie and drama scenes and placed them side by side for comparison. They were the same lines and same scenes, but the acting skills were too different.

Everyone came to a conclusion: Ye Xin had no acting skills at all! Her expressions consisted of her staring blankly in the air, biting her lips, giggling foolishly, and acting pretentiously. Perhaps, her previous works were idol dramas, and the characters were in line with her real personality, no one discovered her bad acting. Moreover, with a romantic plot, many young fans did not place much importance on acting skills..

Chapter 173: A Storm on the Internet

Yi Yao, the movie, had achieved classic status. The titular character, Yi Yao, was a girl with a rough background. Despite her background, she was kind, strong, and determined. Although she had experienced various hardships, she was not tarnished by the darkness of the world. In the end, through her own efforts, she managed to achieve her dream and find love.

When Ning Xia played the character, Yi Yao, the makeup was minimal. Her eyes were clear and determined; her every action was consistent with the character. This was the reason Liang Zhen, the author and screenwriter for Yi Yao, once said, “Ning Xia brought Yi Yao to life and gave Yi Yao a soul.”

At that time, even the director, Pan Hao, nodded vehemently in agreement. He had said, “Ning Xia is very intelligent and a skilled actress. Perhaps, her sense of empathy is strong, she perfectly grasped Yi Yao’s emotions. Such an actress is rare and can only be found by chance...”

All these interview videos from the past were dug out by resourceful netizens. Although the quality of the videos was rough, due to their excellent content, they spread like a wildfire on the Internet.

Needless to say, the videos further exposed Ye Xin’s shortcomings.

In the original movie, during a crying scene, Ning Xia had cried silently; her eyes expressing unsaid emotions. The viewers were influenced by her acting and were so carried away by her emotions that it was as though they were personally experiencing what she was experiencing.

On the contrary, in the drama, during the crying scene, Ye Xin cried like a spoiled child, which was not in line with Yi Yao’s character as well.

Another example was Ning Xia’s smile that was like the arrival of spring. It was gentle and soothing.

In contrast, Ye Xin’s smile was too ostentatious and bright. It did not convey the character of Yi Yao who had lived a rough life.

Ning Xia perfectly expressed Yi Yao’s character while Ye Xin’s acting only revealed her life as a princess who had never tasted the hardship of life.

The movie was shot in a mountain village west of the country. All of the actors came to the mountain village half a year in advance to adapt themselves to the environment and to also build a rapport with each other. Therefore, everyone’s acting and chemistry were superb.

On the other hand, the drama was entirely shot in a studio. The sets were either created in advance or were computer-generated images.

There were people who commented this was only to be expected since Ye Xin was the Young Miss of a wealthy family; how could she endure hardships?

Naturally, there were people who retorted that Ye Xin should just live her life as the Young Miss of a wealthy family instead of becoming an actress if she could not endure hardships.

Needless to say, comparisons were also made. People pointed out that when Ning Xia was filming for Yi Yao, she was also a Young Miss from a wealthy family. Moreover, she was only a high school student at that time. However, not only could she endure the hardship, but she even acted so well.

All in all, the general consensus was the original movie was like chicken soup for the soul while the drama was like a bowl of instant noodles.

Logically speaking, Ye Xin should not have received so much hate on the Internet. After all, the production team and the investors were to blame as well. However, actors were always the faces of the

films or dramas they starred in. Therefore, it was only natural that the actors would bear the brunt of the negative opinions.

The hate comments on the Internet were like a wave of tsunami that drowned the supportive comments from Ye Xin's fans.

This matter was so popular that even people who did not normally pay attention to the entertainment industry looked up the matter on the Internet. With that, more and more people watched the original movie and the drama for comparison, generating even more hate toward the drama.

Later, some resourceful netizens even dug up Ye Xin's schedule and found that during filming, Ye Xin had participated in two variety shows as a guest and earned a lot of money from her appearance. This, naturally, made people even more dissatisfied with her.

In comparison, the original movie took a year to complete the filming process with no outside interference. Everyone was very professional.

In the first few days when the negative reactions started pouring in, Ye Xin's management company mobilized people to change the public opinion. They tried their best to clean up Ye Xin's reputation and tried to present her as a skilled actress. This, naturally, drew even more dissatisfaction from the public. Things had gotten so bad that even the slightest movement made by Ye Xin or her company was instantly criticized by the netizens. Alas, there was nothing much Ye Xin and the company could do since it was true that Ye Xin did not have any outstanding work. In fact, she did not even have any skills to brag about.

For all these reasons, despite the amount of wealth the Ye family or the company possessed, there were no reputable companies or celebrities who were willing to speak up for Ye Xin. It was not easy for these companies and celebrities to achieve their current status, after all. They knew if they spoke up for Ye Xin, they would be drawn into the drama and generate hate for themselves.

As for those famous but disreputable celebrities, they discovered they could gain free publicity as long as they spoke about Ye Xin. For these people, any publicity, even if it was bad, was still good. Following the trend of the crowd, these people criticized Ye Xin to draw attention to themselves. Some of their words were even more vicious than the netizen's words. Their comments pushed Ye Xin further down the abyss.

At this time, Ye Xin's company's PR department was in chaos, dealing with this matter. They also prohibited Ye Xin from making any comments on social media in order to avoid making things worse.

Meanwhile, Ye Xin was determined to hide at home and never go out again after the drama was aired.

As the drama continued to air, things got worse and worse..

Chapter 174: Ups and Downs

People even found out that Ye Xin had a fiery temper and had once hit her manager and assistant during the opening ceremony of the film festival. There were also 'insiders' who revealed Ye Xin used her family background to bully her colleagues in the company and was extremely harsh to the staff in the

company. It was also said that her manager and assistant often had to pay out of their own pockets to buy favors from her colleagues.

Needless to say, this attracted another wave of ridicule and hate; how could such a wealthy young miss be so miserly?

Many people sympathized with Ye Xin's manager and assistant. They left messages on Ye Xin's manager and assistant's social media accounts, urging them to leave Ye Xin as soon as possible.

Every day a large number of people would curse Ye Xin on her social media accounts, even her company's official account was not spared. Most of the comments demanded she leaves the entertainment industry.

Ye Xin now was embroiled in one of the biggest and unprecedented scandals in the entertainment industry because of this issue.

Previously, Ye Xin had been happily spending the days before the new year and the new year at home. Her mood was even better when she heard about the troubles in the Mu family. Her days were leisurely; she thought she had all the time in the world to seek revenge.

Ye Xin wanted to wait for her drama to air and seize the opportunity to participate in various variety shows. She was sure endorsements would come pouring in as well. At that time, she would definitely trample on Song Ning.

Although Song Ning had made it clear she had no intentions of returning to the entertainment industry, Ye Xin did not believe it. In her opinion, if Song Ning had no intentions of returning to the entertainment industry, Song Ning would not have appeared during the film festival in such an ostentatious manner.

Ye Xin, who felt Song Ning had made a joke out of her, was determined to seek revenge. However, currently, she was dumbfounded. She did not understand what was going on? Why was everyone hating on her? Moreover, it seemed to happen overnight.

When she was filming the drama, no one from the production team said her acting was bad. If she was as terrible as the netizen said, the director would have and should have said something at that time. Although she had conflicts with other actresses and minor scandals, it was impossible for her to garner so much hate. She really could not understand what was going on and how so much bad luck had landed on her just like that.

In the end, she could only hole up at home, unable to go anywhere, due to the reporters camping outside of her house.

She felt like she was on the verge of breaking down and could only vent her anger on inanimate objects.

Her father kept sighing while her brother remained silent.

With this, she became even more desperate and angry. In the end, when she was exhausted, she fell to her knees and began to wail loudly.

Needless to say, Gao Wen was incredibly distressed upon seeing this. She hugged her crying daughter as she scolded her husband and son. "Are both of you dead? Can't you think of a way to deal with this

matter? Xinxin is so upset, and yet, you're both so indifferent? Are your hearts made of stone? Don't your hearts ache?"

Ye He and Ye Cheng were scolded for no reason, but they only remained silent. What could they say at this time?

In the end, after hesitating for a long time, Ye He said tentatively, "Xinxin, what's so good about being an actress? It's below you. Why don't you quit? Why are you so upset? It's not a big deal. Don't cry. Why don't your mother and I accompany you to Europe? When we return, I'm sure the dust would've settled. Let's go on a vacation for a few months and enjoy ourselves. Everything will be fine when we return. You're the Eldest Young Miss of the Ye family; what do you have to be afraid of? What's so great about the title of best actress? It's worthless, and you don't need it..."

Ye Xin paused for a moment and glared at her father before she said, "No, I don't want to go anywhere!"

Following that, she began to wail again.

Ye He was so frightened by his daughter's reaction that he instinctively turned to look at his son. He spread his hands and shrugged, showing his helplessness.

Ye Cheng looked up. He never had high expectations for his father. His father had lived a carefree and unrestrained life since he was young until now. It was a classic case of an idle rich man. His father had an unlimited amount of money to spend and enjoy the pleasures of life. The only saving grace about his father was, perhaps, his ability to coax his mother and sometimes his daughter despite having many affairs outside. For everything else, his father relied on him.

Ye Cheng could not even remember when his father began to push all his responsibilities to him. When he began to show potential, his father was even more unscrupulous in pushing his responsibilities to him.

Ye He was not worried his son, who had just come of age, would ruin the family business. After all, the inheritance left to him was enough for him to live luxuriously for the rest of his life. Therefore, even if his son ran the company to the ground, it was his son's problem, not his. He definitely lived a happy and carefree life.

Ye Cheng sighed as he looked at his sister who was crying non-stop. Finally, he rose to his feet and moved to her side before saying, "When you're done crying, look for me in the study."

Ye Cheng did not care if his sister heard him or not, but his mother, who was hovering at the side, must have heard him. He rubbed his temples as he walked to the study. How troublesome!

He could not help but lament how lucky some people were. Look at Mu Chen, for example. All the good things in the world would easily fall into his lap. Even his wife, Song Ning, was lucky. She did not need to do anything, but her reputation was overwhelmingly good. As for his sister, she spent so much effort scheming but ended up benefiting another person. He shook his head thinking that life was really filled with ups and downs..

Chapter 175: Collision

Ye Cheng did not have to wait long before Ye Xin entered his study. Her fair face and eyes were already red and swollen. He sighed inwardly. His mother valued girls over boys; he had been asked to give in to his sister since he was young, and he had gotten used to it over time. Treating his sister well had also become a habit for him. When he was young, he had told himself over and over again that he loved his sister the most, therefore, he had to give in to her. Over time, it made him believe that he loved her the most. Habits were really scary things.

“Brother, quickly think of a way to deal with this for me!” Ye Xin said as tears flowed down her face again.

Ye Cheng took a cigarette out and lit it up. After taking a puff, he said, “It’s not that there’s no way to deal with this, but it depends on whether you’re willing to cooperate or not...”

Ye Xin’s eyes lit up. “What is it? Brother, tell me!”

Ye Cheng glanced at her. “First, you have to keep a low profile. Saying that, although the drama is getting negative reviews, it’s not all your fault. Hence, you have to clarify it on your social media account.”

“How? By emphasizing that it’s not my fault? Moreover, the company won’t allow it. I can’t even log into my account now; the company has changed the password. The account is now under the company’s control; they’re afraid I might speak up and make matters worse,” Ye Xin said in an aggrieved tone.

Ye Cheng sighed, thinking it really was not easy for his sister’s management company. “Go speak to the company and have them release a statement under your name. After that, do more charity work to divert the public’s attention...”

“C-charity work?” Ye Xin was clearly hesitant.

“You have to do it even if you’re tired. You need to change the public’s opinion. Didn’t they say you’re a wealthy young miss who can’t endure hardships? Prove them wrong. In any case, it’ll also divert their attention away from Yi Yao.”

Ye Xin bit her lips and lowered her head, deep in her thoughts. After a moment, she asked tentatively, “Is there a way to get rid of Song Ning?”

Ye Cheng glanced at her. “Mind your own business for now. We’re not in a rush. If anything happens to her now, you’ll definitely be the prime suspect. Do you understand?”

Ye Xin’s shoulders slumped after she heard Ye Cheng’s words. Then, she said, “I’m not willing to be her stepping stone...”

Ye Cheng sighed. “What can you do now? You’re at a disadvantage. Moreover, it’s not caused by Song Ning. At this time, the slightest mistakes on your side will be magnified by the netizens. Remember to keep a low profile; don’t let anyone seize the chance to further criticize you...”

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In the end, Ye Xin chose to go to a poverty-stricken area to volunteer as a teacher. She brought many supplies to be donated and a team to film her. When the time was ripe, she would post the videos on the Internet.

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Meanwhile, as the matter regarding Yi Yao continued to brew on the Internet, some extreme fans even camped outside of the hospital, urging Song Ning to return to the entertainment industry. Not only that, but these fans even brought banners asking for her return.

When Song Ning saw the banners, she felt rather helpless.

Strangely, the number of patients at the hospital had increased as well. Nevertheless, the number was not too huge where they would need Professor Li's help. Song Ning and the others were enough to handle the patients.

Later on, through Cheng Che and Jiahui, Song Ning finally discovered the reason behind the increase in patients. As it turned out, the fans had intentionally registered as patients in hopes that it would help Song Ning increase her income as quickly as possible so she could return to the entertainment industry. The fans resorted to this method since they remembered Song Ning's words and did not want to disrupt her work at the hospital.

When Song Ning found out about this, she hurriedly got in touch with the hospital's management department to find out the amount of money generated by the fans in the hospital.

Cheng Che, who was puzzled by Song Ning's actions, asked, "What are you planning to do after finding out the amount of money the fans had spent at the hospital?"

Song Ning replied without any hesitation, "I'll match the amount and donate it to those in need under the fans' names..."

Cheng Che gave Song Ning a thumbs-up and said, "Sister-in-law, you're really amazing!"

Song Ning said helplessly, "What else can I do? It doesn't feel right to have the fans spend money here when they're not sick. It's better to donate the money to those in need..."

Jiahui said, clearly filled with pride, "Our Song Ning is just like an angel that was sent to the mortal world to help people..."

Song Ning swatted Jiahui's arm playfully. "Stop with the flattery!"

Jiahui laughed before she said seriously, "The fans' donations aside, we should make personal donations as well. We should release a statement about what we intend to do with the fans' money, but there's no need to say anything about our personal donations. Perhaps, we can also use this chance to appeal to the fans to act rationally regarding Yi Yao..."

Cheng Che made an 'OK' sign and got to work immediately.

Alas, the timing of when Song Ning released her statement coincided with the release of the videos of Ye Xin doing charity work on the Internet. With that, another tragic collision between the duo occurred..

Chapter 176: Like a Trainwreck

Song Ning's statement reminded the members of Ning Xia's fan club to spend their money wisely and to focus on their studies, work, and lives.

Under Song Ning's name, the fan club donated money and supplies to various schools in poverty-stricken areas. They hoped the underprivileged children would be able to work hard to realize their dreams just like Yi Yao. Moreover, the fan club also promised to make the donation long-term. Any fans who were interested were encouraged to volunteer.

On the other hand, Cheng Che released a statement that all of Song Ning's academic awards would be donated, and she would work hard for them. Apart from that, Zhuang Ji would also provide financial assistance to the volunteer teams from the fan club so they could further the charity work.

This statement and the disclosure of plans of charity made many of Ning Xia's fans scream in delight.

Due to this matter, Song Ning gained many new fans as well. Moreover, they even received donations and requests from those who were not fans to join the volunteer teams.

The matter gained such huge momentum that Cheng Che even had to assign two assistants to help the official fan club with managing the charity work.

Jiahui was shocked by how much traction this matter gained.

On the other hand, Song Ning was calm. She reminded her fans to take the charity seriously; after all, doing charity was not child's play. In her opinion, there had to be clear guidelines to ensure there would not be mismanagement of the donations. Not only did she feel responsible for her fans, but she felt responsible for those who would be receiving the donations as well.

Once again, Cheng Che and Jiahui were filled with admiration for Song Ning. She was truly meticulous in all her actions.

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At the same time, all kinds of beautiful photos and videos of Ye Xin teaching children music in a mountain village appeared on the Internet.

Ye Xin was dressed plainly, and there was barely any makeup on her face. In the photos and videos, she looked happy as she interacted with the children.

Apart from that, it was also made known that she had donated many books, stationery, and other supplies to the children. She also promised to come back and teach the children whenever she had free time between filming.

Needless to say, Ye Xin's fan clubs praised her and cheered her on.

Alas, Ye Xin did not expect her carefully planned publicity would coincide with Song Ning's statements and deeds. Song Ning's actions made her pale in comparison.

Ye Xin was so enraged by the matter that she began to crazily break things again and hit the people around her. Some of the members of the staff were even injured by the things she smashed.

This time, even Ye Cheng felt helpless. Who knew there would be such a coincidence? Moreover, based on the timing and the pieces of news that were released, it was rather clear Song Ning's actions were not planned to block Ye Xin. It was just unfortunate that Song Ning's impromptu actions had completely overshadowed Ye Xin's meticulously planned actions.

It was not surprising that Ye Xin lost control of her emotions. After all, it seemed like the heavens really favored Song Ning. Otherwise, how could someone be so lucky?

In fact, Ye Xin's charity work was rather perfunctory. She and her team mostly put on an act just to get content for the filming. They had planned to release the materials slowly once they returned to the city.

However, the place Ye Xin and her team had chosen was located close to the place where Song Ning's fans were volunteering. In order to avoid misunderstanding, Song Ning's fans avoided the place where Ye Xin volunteered, causing some people in the place where Ye Xin volunteered to be unhappy.

During that time, the negative comments about Ye Xin's terrible acting had lessened as well. This was mostly because many people had just given up on watching the drama.

With that and the news of Ye Xin's charity work, her image slowly turned favorable again despite the coincidental timing with Song Ning's charity work.

Ye Xin's fans were also reinvigorated and began to promote her again.

Alas, just a few days after Ye Xin's reputation began to turn favorable, negative comments began to appear. There were people who exposed her charity work as fake.

Ye Xin's fans were furious and accused Song Ning's fans of slandering Ye Xin.

Naturally, Song Ning's fans were no pushover. They were angered by the baseless accusations. They had been busy with charity work; where would they find time to slander Ye Xin? Therefore, they immediately retaliated against Ye Xin's fans.

It had to be said that Song Ning's fans' counterattack was very powerful, rendering Ye Xin's fans powerless.

Due to the proximity between the locations where Song Ning's fans and Ye Xin volunteered, Song Ning's fans easily obtained evidence that Ye Xin was just putting on a show. There were all kinds of evidence that showed Ye Xin and her team's disdain toward the locals, the village's condition, and there was even evidence of Ye Xin and her team's rudeness toward the village's people.

With this, Ye Xin's reputation that had barely recovered collapsed again.

Despite their anger and sorrow, there was nothing Ye Xin's fans could do.

Ye Xin once again appeared on the hot search, overshadowing news of Song Ning's fans' charity work.

Needless to say, this was not the way Ye Xin had imagined she would overshadow Song Ning..

Chapter 177: Free Treatment

Once again the Internet was filled with comments demanding Ye Xin to leave the entertainment industry; the matter snowballed so quickly and unexpectedly.

Meanwhile, the production team for the drama version of Yi sighed in relief. Due to all the negativity surrounding Ye Xin, they had been forgotten.

Even Ye Cheng did not expect things to escalate to this extent. He thought it was best to send Ye Xin abroad to avoid all the attention. In regard to her acting career, it was highly unlikely that she would be able to turn it around. Some things were just fated. Ye Xin was unlucky to have met Song Ning. It was as though the duo was nemesis, born to be at odds with each other; only one or the other could be happy.

In fact, even on the Internet, there were astrological experts who gave their two cents, analyzing the two women's fates. Some said that Ye Xin thrived using Ning Xia's name and that she deserved her downfall for failing to respect her seniors and taking everything she had for granted. After all, Ye Xin had clearly disregarded Song Ning when Song Ning returned to the public eye. It was seen as Ye Xin being arrogant and showing her temperament as a wealthy young miss, unwilling to lower her head to build a good relationship with Song Ning whom she perceived as outdated.

In regard to Song Ning, the astrological experts said that Song Ning was born with good luck. Therefore, as soon as she appeared, Ye Xin began to decline.

Perhaps, if Ye Xin debuted without the title of Little Ning Xia, she would not have been so negatively impacted by Song Ning's return. Moreover, the duo bore quite a resemblance to each other so it was unavoidable for people to compare them.

Many people also pointed fingers at Ye Xin's management company, saying they were arrogant due to Ye Xin's background. They were also criticized for trying to ride on the coattails of Ning Xia's success by promoting Ye Xin as Little Ning Xia. Following the backlash, the company wanted to build a good relationship with Song Ning, but Mu Chen protected Song Ning so well that the company did not even have a chance to contact Song Ning. All they had in their hands now was Ye Xin, the Young Miss from the Ye family. Due to her background, even if her acting career was ruined, she could continue to live comfortably. However, the same could not be said for the company.

...

Cheng Che and Mu Chen did not expect such an outcome as well; everything was truly a coincidence.

Cheng Che sighed and asked, "Brother, do you believe in fate?"

Mu Chen remained silent.

Cheng Che continued to say, "Apart from fate, it's really hard to explain this 'coincidence'."

After closing the file in his hand, Mu Chen calmly said, "Pay attention to the situation. They can do whatever they want as long as they don't harm us. Song Ning's mother was very passionate about charity when she was alive. The volunteer groups from Song Ning's fan club are doing quite well so make sure to monitor the finances properly. If there are any problems, you can use my personal account to help out..."

“Alright!” Cheng Che readily agreed.

...

Song Ning did not pay attention to this matter at all. Since she was not particularly knowledgeable in this regard, she left the management of the charity to the professionals, Cheng Che and Mu Chen.

Instead, she decided to do what she could. There were many people who were sick in the poverty-stricken area so she proposed to the university and the hospital to form a volunteer group to head to the village to treat locals.

The university and hospital supported her idea, and it did not take long before the upper management of the university and hospital convened and selected a group of students and medical personnel to volunteer at the village regularly.

This was a first in M City so it gained a lot of attention immediately.

The media were in a frenzy.

Song Ning, who only had one work in her entire career and had retired from the entertainment industry, received unprecedented attention and respect from many people. Although she had left the entertainment industry, her fans continued to increase.

The majority of her fans were middle-aged people and young adults. Most of them were highly educated, mature, rational, and had stable incomes. They were unlike the young fans who were usually chaotic and would cause a commotion at the slightest thing.

Due to the charity work that attracted many people’s attention, the name ‘Ning Xia’ once again began to shine brightly.

...

Amid all the commotion, Song Ning only focused on her work and studies. She still wore her white coat and mask, working diligently at the hospital and concentrating on her studies.

Although she was the one who started the charity, she did not think she deserved the credit. She stayed silent and focused on her life instead. This attitude made even more people admire and respect her.

...

When Jiang Jin found out about this, she sighed emotionally. “Song Ning is a child blessed by the heavens. No matter where she goes or what she does, she always helps those around her.”

Sister Yu smiled as she replied, “That’s right. Our Young Madam is just like an angel.. Despite her quiet personality, she’s like a ball of flames that brings warmth to everyone around her...”

Chapter 178: Car Accident

At this moment, Song Ning was busy with her research and her thesis in the office. Mu Chen had called her earlier to inform her that he had to fly out of M City for a meeting, hence, he would be picking her up a little later than usual.

Song Ning was still quietly working when Ning Chun suddenly barged into her like a gust of wind. He said anxiously, "Young Miss, thank the heavens you're here!"

Song Ning was so engrossed in writing her thesis that it seemed like she did not register Ning Chun's identity as she instinctively asked, "What happened?"

"M-master... Master met with a car accident a-and he needs a blood transfusion..." Ning Chun stuttered due to being too anxious.

Song Ning instinctively rose to her feet. "Where's he? Bring me to him."

Ning Chun was briefly stunned by Song Ning's reaction before he hastily said, "C-come with me. He's in the operating theatre now..."

All of a sudden, Song Ning came to a halt. She looked at Ning Chun and asked, "Tell me, who met with an accident?"

Ning Chun gulped. As it turned out the Eldest Young Miss was acting on instincts and did not fully register his words. He said sincerely, "Eldest Young Miss, it's Master. They need to perform surgery now, and he needs a blood transfusion. Due to the rarity of his blood type, I came to ask you for help..."

Although Song Ning was still making her way to the emergency operating theatre, her speed had slowed down. She asked casually, "What about his family members? Isn't there anyone who can donate blood to him?"

Ning Chun shook her head. "Young Master's blood type is different from Master's. He must have inherited his mother's blood type."

Song Ning stopped talking and quickened her pace.

Ning Chun could not help but feel happy.

It was not that Song Ning did not feel conflicted, but it was impossible for her not to help when it was within her capabilities to do so. She would have done the same for a stranger.

When they arrived outside of the operating theatre, the head nurse was surprised to see Song Ning.

Song Ning said, "My blood type is AB negative. The hospital has my records."

The head nurse sighed. "Didn't you just donate blood at the beginning of the month? It's too soon for you to be donating blood again..."

Song Ning smiled. "Well, if you don't need my blood, I'll go back. I still need to write my thesis..."

With this, the head nurse grabbed Song Ning's hand. "Although it's slightly too soon, saving a life is important. Song Ning, you've always been helping people, you'll definitely be blessed by the heavens. I've already contacted the others. They're all on the way here. The patient is in critical condition. Sorry to trouble you for this..."

Song Ning only smiled and made her way to the special area for her blood to be drawn. On the way there, she ran into Su Tong and Ning Dong who had just rushed over. She did not even glance at them and only walked past them.

Ning Dong was about to call out 'sister' when she had already left.

Su Tong asked Ning Chun, "She... What's the Eldest Young Miss doing here?" Her tone was clearly filled with displeasure, and her gaze was quite hostile.

Ning Chun hurriedly replied, "The Eldest Young Miss came to donate blood to Master. Master's blood type is rare, after all. We have other donors coming, but Master's surgery can't be delayed any longer. Fortunately, Eldest Young Miss is in the hospital today..."

Su Tong could not help but curse inwardly when she heard these words. Why did her son not inherit his father's blood type? As such, this good opportunity was given to the wretched girl. With similar blood type, it only hammered home the fact that the wretched girl was the Eldest Young Miss of the Ning family.

On the other hand, Ning Dong calmly asked, "Uncle Chun, are father's injuries serious? What did the doctor say?"

Ning Chun was slightly impressed by Ning Dong's reaction. After all, his first reaction was to ask about his father's wellbeing and not about his sister or her intentions. He replied respectfully, "Master is seriously injured. I'm not sure if he has internal injuries or if he injured his head..."

"So serious?" Su Tong's eyes widened.

Ning Dong heaved a sigh of relief inwardly. Naturally, it escaped Ning Chun's notice.

"How did the accident happen? How could the driver be so careless?" Su Tong's anger surged. She did not know if her anger was due to Song Ning or Ning Zhe's accident.

Ning Chun lowered his head as he replied, "Master's car was rear-ended by a truck on the highway. Our driver and the truck driver died on the spot. Master is blessed..."

Su Tong felt as though her heart was going to jump out of her chest. "How could something like this happen? What about you? How are you fine?"

Ning Chun was rendered speechless by Su Tong's line of questioning. When he regained his senses, he replied dutifully, "I was in another car at that time. Since our car is fine, we sent Master to the hospital immediately. We couldn't wait for the ambulance..."

Su Tong gritted her teeth. "Investigate that truck driver for me! Even if he dies, I'll dig up his family's ancestral grave. How can we let him off even if he has died?"

Ning Chun looked up, slightly startled by Su Tong's vicious words.

Ning Dong tried to stop Su Tong from speaking a few times, but his attempts were futile. His mother continued on her tirade. It was clear to everyone that he was discomfited by his mother's words.

As soon as Song Ning walked out, she witnessed this scene.

Ning Chun rushed up to her and asked, "Eldest Young Miss, are you alright?"

Song Ning pressed the cotton ball against her arms and shook her head gently. "I'm fine. Go and treat the wound on your body. The surgery won't be over any time soon.."

Chapter 179: Returning the Blood

Ning Chun's face was bruised, and his hands were covered in cuts. At this time, the blood had already dried up. He clenched his fists instinctively. Although the injuries were not serious, they were not without pain. Nevertheless, he smiled and said, "I'm fine, I'm fine. They're just superficial wounds..."

Song Ning asked, "You weren't riding in the same car?"

Ning Chun nodded. A hint of frustration could be seen on his face as he said in a low voice, "That's right. Master wanted me to deal with other matters so I left just a little later. In fact, I witnessed the accident..."

"It's an accident; there's no need for you to blame yourself. Find a nurse and get yourself treated. I'm going back to the office," Song Ning said before she calmly walked toward the elevator.

"Ning Xia," Su Tong called out softly at this moment.

Song Ning stopped for a brief moment but did not turn back.

"Thank you," Su Tong said in a trembling voice.

"I'm a doctor. It's my duty to save lives and help the injured. It's not a big deal to donate blood," Song Ning calmly replied.

Ning Dong walked two steps forward and said sincerely, "Sister, thank you for saving father."

Song Ning still did not turn around. Her voice was slightly frosty as she said, "He's your father, not mine." Following that, she continued walking.

When the elevator doors opened, a tall figure suddenly rushed out. He hugged Song Ning and said indignantly, "You donated blood without my knowledge again!" Despite the indignance in his tone, his affection and care were obvious.

When Mu Chen looked up, he was briefly stunned when he saw Su Tong, Ning Dong, and Ning Chun. He lowered his head and saw Song Ning's pale face.

Song Ning said softly, "I'm hungry and tired..."

"Alright, alright. Let's eat. I'll carry you, okay?" Mu Chen said tenderly as he bent down to carry Song Ning.

Song Ning hurriedly swatted his arm and said, "What are you doing? We're at the hospital. I'm fine."

After Mu Chen straightened his back, he solemnly said, "Look at your face. It's almost as white as a piece of paper. Can you walk? Why don't you let me carry you?"

Song Ning avoided his hands, afraid he would do something embarrassing. Then, she hastily said, "I'm fine. I can walk; there's no need for you to carry me."

When the elevator doors opened again, Song Ning hurriedly pulled Mu Chen into the elevator.

At this moment, Mu Chen only had Song Ning in his eyes. His care and worries were all written on his face. He looked at her as though she was as fragile as porcelain.

...

At night.

Song Ning lay in Mu Chen's arms. She felt exhausted. In fact, she had never felt so exhausted before.

She was used to donating blood; it was a common thing for her. Even if she donated blood twice a month, it was not a problem for her. In her opinion, she was young so she would recover quickly as long as she took care of herself. However, she had no idea why she was so tired this time.

Mu Chen hugged her and stroked her slender back, seemingly lost in his thoughts. After a moment, as though he could no longer endure it, he suddenly sat up and looked at Song Ning solemnly. "Song Ning, you have to promise me something!"

Song Ning looked at him in confusion.

He continued to say, "You can't donate blood so frequently in the future. I know you want to save people's lives, but you have to consider your health as well, right? I'll ask Cheng Che to look for blood donors tomorrow. I arrange special transportations for the donors to take them to the hospital if there's a need for it. I guarantee it'll be more efficient than you having to personally donate your blood, okay?"

Song Ning smiled. She reached out and touched Mu Chen's hair as she said, "You're overreacting again. Why do you always use money to solve everything? The blood donors have registered in the hospital. If there's a need, the hospital will contact them. They'd be brought to the hospital immediately. Everyone has a common understanding; we're all humans and we have to help each other. In any case, today's situation was a little special. Since the blood needed is rare and time is of the essence, they looked for me first since I was in the hospital..."

Mu Chen said stubbornly like a child, "I don't want to listen to your explanation. I can't just watch you risk your health as you save others. My heart aches!"

Song Ning remained quiet. She knew words were useless at this time. She leaned forward and gently kissed Mu Chen's lips.

Mu Chen felt even more distressed when he felt Song Ning's lips were slightly cold. He pulled away from the kiss and continued to hug her and pat her back.

Song Ning found a comfortable spot and nestled in his arms as she asked in a soft voice, "Mu Chen, have you heard of the story about Nezha returning his blood, flesh, and bones to his parents in repayment for the debt of his birth?"

Mu Chen's hand that was patting her back stilled briefly.

Song Ning continued to speak in a soft voice. It was as though she was talking to herself. "I know you think I risked my health today. However, I can't help thinking that since he gave me life, I'll return the favor by returning his blood to him. In fact, I feel rather happy that I was given this chance. Mu Chen, I don't want to owe him anything at all. Although I can refuse his assets and everything else, there's no doubt that I owe him my life. What I donated today is nothing compared to the fact that he gave me life. However, it's still a way for me to repay him for giving me life... I think it's worth it..."

Mu Chen felt even more distressed upon hearing these words. On top of having donated blood twice in a month, he could tell her mood was not very good today because of the knot in her heart..

Chapter 180: Coincidence

Ning Zhe's surgery went smoothly, and he was transferred to the ICU.

Song Ning did not enquire about his condition even though she wanted to know how he was doing. She used the excuse of wanting to see Ning Zhe in the ICU due to the similarities of a case she was studying. Although she knew he was no longer in any immediate danger, she still felt relieved when he regained consciousness.

When she left, she ran into Ning Chun at the entrance of the ICU.

"Eldest Young Miss," Ning Chun greeted Song Ning.

Song Ning nodded indifferently in response and did not stay.

Ning Chun sighed inwardly as he looked at Song Ning's retreating back. He thought that she was such a good child and that it was a shame that things had escalated to this point. He really was not certain Ning Zhe would be able to make up with Song Ning in this lifetime. Perhaps, Ning Zhe would have had a chance if Zhuang Yi was still alive. Alas, Zhuang Yi was gone, and her death further drove a wedge between the father and daughter.

At this moment, Su Tong who had just arrived saw Song Ning's retreating back at the end of the corridor as well. She asked, "Did the Eldest Young Miss come to visit Master?"

Ning Chun shook his head. "No, she's just passing by. She didn't ask about Master's condition at all."

Su Tong nodded. "She must still care about her father. Otherwise, she wouldn't have donated her blood to him. Her blood is so precious after all..."

Ning Chun remained silent.

Su Tong felt incredibly uncomfortable when she thought about Song Ning donating blood to Ning Zhe. After a moment, she looked at the time and said in a slightly cold tone, "It isn't visiting hours yet. I'll return to the ward and wait. I'll come back when it's time..."

Ning Chun nodded. A private ward had already been prepared for Ning Zhe for when his condition was stable enough to be transferred out of the ICU.

Meanwhile, Su Tong was lost in her thoughts as she walked. Due to being distracted, she bumped into someone. She looked up indignantly and saw a beautiful middle-aged woman.

Before Su Tong could speak, the other person hurriedly apologized, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry..."

Su Tong's anger was assuaged by the person's timely apology so she nodded and apologized perfunctorily as well. She felt the woman in front of her look rather familiar.

The woman said with a smile, "I'm truly sorry. I was so engrossed in looking at my phone that I didn't even watch where I was going..."

Su Tong smiled. "It's okay. I was distracted as well..."

The woman asked, "Do you know how to get to the Neurology Department's ward?"

Su Tong smiled and said, "I'm on my way to the ward as well. You can come with me; the Neurology Department's ward is on the way..."

The woman said, delighted, "Thank you so much. I just returned from abroad so I'm still not very familiar with my way around..."

Su Tong's impression of the woman grew more favorable. "It's not surprising. This is the biggest hospital in M City. Moreover, the number of patients who come in daily is high as well..."

The woman nodded and listened in a modest manner which made Su Tong happy.

After a while, Su Tong said, "Look at me, I haven't asked for your name yet..."

The woman readily replied, "My name is Liang Zhou."

"I'm Su Tong," Su Tong said.

The two women exchanged a smile.

Liang Zhou asked, "Is your family member or friend hospitalized here?"

Su Tong sighed. "My husband was involved in a car accident. He's still in the ICU. We just booked a private ward here. It's not easy to book a private ward here!"

"Oh, is your husband okay?" Liang Zhou asked with a concerned expression.

"He should be fine." Su Tong sighed. Then, she asked, "What about you?"

"Oh, my husband has had a problem with headaches since he was young. Recently, the headaches have grown more frequent so we decided to get it checked out. At his age, health is the most important thing," Liang Zhou replied.

The two women chatted happily as they walked to the ward. Coincidentally, they discovered that the two wards were adjacent to each other; this made them even happier. The two women had gotten along swimmingly. They stood outside the wards and continued chatting for a while before they finally separated.

When Liang Zhou entered the ward, Mu Qing was leaning against the headboard and reading a book. He looked up and asked, "How come it took you so long to return?"

Liang Zhou asked, "Guess who I met?"

Mu Qing raised an eyebrow as he looked at her. "You even met an acquaintance in the hospital?"

Liang Zhou picked up an apple and skillfully peeled it as she said, "It's not an acquaintance; I just met her. She's Ning Zhe's wife. Her name is Su Tong."

"Ning Zhe? What does he have to do with anything?" Mu Qing frowned and thought for a moment.

"Your daughter-in-law's father," Liang Zhou said as she continued to peel the apple.

Mu Qing was taken aback. "What happened to him?"

"I heard he was involved in a car accident and that he's lucky to be alive. He's in the ICU now," Liang Zhou replied.

Mu Qing's eyes flashed with a hint of excitement as he wondered out loud, "I wonder if Mu Chen will come to visit?"

Liang Zhou shook her head. "I don't think so. I heard Song Ning had severed her ties with the Ning family and doesn't acknowledge her father..."

Mu Qing was furious upon hearing these words. "That wretched girl. She doesn't even acknowledge her father? Moreover, does she even care about Mu Chen? If the Mu family and the Ning family cooperate, the profit would be great. To think Mu Chen is so foolish..." After a moment, he said, "You have to build a good relationship with Madam Ning..."

Liang Zhou rolled her eyes and said, "Do I need you to remind me? We're just a step away from being best friends..."

Mu Qing nodded.. "I believe in your ability..."