

## Chapter 161: They Protect the Country

Ye Jian had a clear, cold and deep voice. When she was describing the battle, the teachers and the students listened quietly and was brought into that brutal war.

“After the Vietnamese army lost their base in Laoshan, they tried to take back this stronghold, so they launched several counterattacks on April 28th, June 12th, and July 12th. The Battle of Songmaoling on July 12th was the largest division-level attack from the Vietnamese army, and was the most atrocious combat of the Battle of Laoshan.”

“All the soldiers of the two parties guarding the Nala base in Laoshan were dead. Later, several soldiers who went to check on the situation were killed by the Vietnamese army. When the sun came out, 45 soldiers of a platoon rushed to the battlefield and nearly every one of them was gone. Our infantries didn’t take back the base until they fired the bazookas together in the end.”

Hearing this, several students gasped in horror. They had never paid attention to this field! They always believed that wars didn’t exist in China during a peaceful time!

With a serious look on her face, Ye Jian tightened her mouth and glanced at the students who seemed bewildered. She continued and said, “But the war wasn’t over. Later, the Vietnamese army sent over 500 soldiers to attack our army. But our artillery division locked down the Vietnamese soldiers, who paid a steep price for their behaviors.”

This battle took place not long ago, but many students and adults did not know it.

As Ye Jian slowly depicted the battle, the students felt as if they were seeing the bullets fly past them and the young soldiers sacrificed on the battlefield. To protect their country, the soldiers faced their deaths unflinchingly. Even when they were fatally injured, they fought till the last minute of their lives.

When Ye Jian mentioned the broken limbs and scattered blood in the woods, grasses, and bushes, the students immersed themselves into the battlefield.

Someone was sobbing. It was Yang Ye who had burst into tears. She was crying for the soldiers who had sacrificed themselves bravely during that battle.

Tears also welled up in the eyes of Director Li and Mrs. Yu and the other two teachers. For a long while, no one spoke after Ye Jian finished narrating.

“It was so horrible. But why do we know so little about it?” asked a student in a deep and grieving tone.

The teachers should answer this question. Director Li gave a heavy sigh, saying, “We hope our next generation can stay away from wars and enjoy peace and happiness forever. Although you are away

from wars, you must learn about and understand them. As students, you should know that wars mean the loss of peace and happiness, and they mean danger, death, and brutality.”

Director Li shot Ye Jian another glance and became more impressed by the girl. Few students knew about the Battle of Laoshan. From Ye Jian’s account, Director Li believed that she had truly paid attention to it.

Sitting in a corner, Gao Yiyang lowered his head to conceal the complicated look in his eyes. It seems that Ye Jian was much more knowledgeable than the rest of the students.

In another room of the hotel, Red Scorpion sat by his bed with a gloomy face. He shot an extremely cold glance at the several boys. “I didn’t take you here so that you can discuss battlefield with the Chinese students. You must behave yourselves for the sake of your families and for my missions!”

“I don’t want to see another stupid thing. If you cross me, none of you will go back home.”

The three boys kept their heads low and their shoulders shivered. No one dared to look at Red Scorpion. It was evident that they were scared of him.

## **Chapter 162: Targets Appear**

There was no one who was not afraid of him. And the three boys feared that their teacher might end their lives at any minute.

Terrified, they kept their heads low, left the room quickly and entered another room across the corridor.

“No way! Their room is next to ours!” said Yang Ye uncomfortably as she saw three figures walk past her. “Dear, can we request to change to another room?”

There must be a mistake. The Vietnamese boys were only one wall away from them!

But Ye Jian didn’t feel surprised. Instead, she felt relieved because it was convenient for her.

It seemed that Xia Jinyuan had made a detailed arrangement for her. It must be very challenging to approach Red Scorpion, and that was the reason her room was so close to his.

Smiling calmly, she said, “Don’t mind them. If we don’t stay here, other students would have to. Dear, we should go back to our room to have some sleep. My suggestion is that you should put some ice on your eyes before going to bed, otherwise they will become puffed when you wake up.”

“Ah! Where is the ice? What should I do if I get ugly?!” yelled Yang Ye, who cried before. It was not until she calmed down that she became concerned about her appearance. Pretty and intelligent, Yang Ye had an oval face with curved and slim eyebrows. Although her facial features were not as delicate as those of Ye Jian, she was a beauty.

Ye Jian swiped the room key to open the door. Hands rested on Yang Ye’s shoulders, she shoved her into the room. “Get inside, pretty girl. I will ask the service staff to bring ice to you.”

Xia Jinyuan had promised to contact her when he arrived in Australia. But she had not heard from him yet. Was he here or not? If she went out to have a walk, perhaps this mysterious man would reach out to her.

When she was about to push the button of the elevator, it opened. Inside was a tall hotel server with a bright and clean dining cart. He nodded at Ye Jian and smiled. And then he pushed the dining cart and walked out of the elevator.

Ye Jian smiled at him and moved aside. She didn't push the button until the tall server had walked past her.

The server stood in front of the room, from which the three Vietnamese boys escaped terrifyingly before. He knocked and said, "Excuse me..."

The elevator door opened and Ye Jian went inside. As the door closed slowly, a sharp look appeared in her eyes. That was one of the foreign men whom she had seen in a picture! And he was standing in front of the room of Red Scorpion.

The targets had gathered!

Bale was still at the front desk. After Ye Jian stated her purpose, Bale said to her joyfully, "Okay, follow me." And then, he said to his colleagues, "I will be back in five minutes."

He saw Ye Jian use her fingers to give secret signals on the marble desk while she was speaking.

"You saw him? Oh, god! I need to contact my colleagues. Damn it! When did he get in?!" said Bale shockingly. He pulled out the intercom from his waist. "Why has he become the room service staff? Damn it!"

In the blink of an eye, Ye Jian reached out her hand to shut off the talk button. She spoke to Bale in English like a native speaker, "Bale, I advise you to see if the real waiter is all right because I didn't smell blood on that man."

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Ye Jian acted so swiftly that she shocked Bale. With a surprised look in his light gray eyes, he gazed at Ye Jian. Was she a Chinese student? But from her reaction speed, she didn't seem quite like a student.

### **Chapter 163: Underestimation is Unwise**

After the surprise, with a calm and stern look on his face, Bale said, "Yes, your advice is very good. I should find the real waiter. May God bless him to be safe and sound."

Ye Jian stopped grabbing the intercom. She looked at Bale grimly. "But you have to prepare for the worst. There are numerous ways to kill a person without making him bleed."

"Besides, you should figure out why the criminal suspect could enter the hotel and whether he has companions here. Bale, you are a policeman. I think you know what I mean."

“I don’t want you to put yourself in danger or alarm his partners, if any, in the hotel. After all, I just met him.”

For the brutal criminals, they would rather kill 100 innocent people than to jeopardize themselves.

If anyone of Bale’s colleagues was the criminals’ partner in the hotel, Ye Jian would become the next target to be got rid of.

In her past life, she had been attacked too many times. In this lifetime, she needed to be alert if anything went wrong.

Bale put away his intercom. His light gray eyes gazed at Ye Jian for a few seconds. And then he said, “Jian, you are indeed very special. Now I see why that young Major insists that you should be a student informant.”

She was incredibly calm. She was even calmer than Bale who had been a policeman for five years. She seemed like an experienced police officer rather than a student.

The soldiers sent by the Chinese army must be more impressive than this student then, right?

Some people made fun of the Chinese soldiers. They thought that the soldiers from a developing country were not even as good as the traffic policemen of their country. But Bale didn’t think this was the case.

“Please give me the ice. I need to bring it upstairs to my classmate,” said Ye Jian with composure. “And I need a communication device to contact you. If you have any, please give me one, thanks.”

Bale put the ice into a stainless steel glass right away. As he spoke again, he stopped adopting that casual tone like he was talking to a child.

Instead, he addressed Ye Jian in a correct and equal position. “Yes, we will equip you with a communication device and a localizer.”

When Ye Jian went back upstairs with the ice cubes, she carried two more items with her. One was the localizer, and the other was the communication device. As for Yang Ye, she had fallen asleep by leaning against the pillow.

Ye Jian used a towel to wrap the ice cubes, putting it gently onto Yang Ye’s eyes. Quietly, she lifted the couch and put it against the wall.

There was no wiretap in Red Scorpion’s room. He had such a powerful anti-reconnaissance capability that he could find the wiretap anywhere.

It was evident that Red Scorpion was a difficult person to deal with.

Ye Jian wondered if she could hear anything by pressing her ear onto the wall.

After listening for a while, Ye Jian gave up. Just as she had expected, she heard nothing.

She leaned on the lounge chair to browse some exam papers about the Math Olympiad. And then, she fell asleep.

#### **Chapter 164: Shush and Be Quiet**

As Ye Jian woke up, she heard someone knocking the door. She opened the door and saw a good-looking boy with blond hair and blue eyes. Holding two glasses of iced cola, he said, "Hi, I am Auburn, nice to meet you."

It seemed that the boy was 178cm tall, which was an average height. His smile was as warm and sweet as a marshmallow. "We will throw a pool party tonight. Hope you and your friends can join us."

Ye Jian thought it would be very rude to turn down the invitation from such an angelically handsome boy!

As it turned out, none of the students could withstand the temptations of the party.

Jingling their crystal goblets which were filled with champagne, the boys and girls were talking merrily with one another by the colorful pool. Ye Jian didn't see any nervous expression on their faces. They felt relaxed as if they were having a vacation.

Standing in the dark, Ye Jian took a small sip of the champagne while looking out for Red Scorpion. When a familiar low-pitched voice came from her earpieces, she walked over to Wang Mo, telling him that she would go back to her room. With a calm look on her face, she left.

As she opened the door to her room, she smelled the light mint scent which she was familiar with.

Gently, Ye Jian closed and bolted the door. In the dim room, she saw someone sitting on the couch as if he were a predator lurking in the dark, waiting for its prey.

Ye Jian didn't turn on the lights. She sat down on another chair and asked, "That waiter is dead, right?"

Because she knew who the person in the room was, she brought up this topic directly.

"Yes, he was killed around 2:10 in the afternoon. His body is hidden in a utility room of the hotel," said Xia Jinyuan lightly. His tone sounded a bit sharp and ferocious. "Red Scorpion and his companions have begun to act. They will finish their first deal very soon."

"Since the Chinese target has not shown up, we will not take any action for the moment," said Xia Jinyuan. He shot Ye Jian a cold and stern glance. "The two foreign criminal suspects are the targets of the international police, which has nothing to do with us. Ye Jian, you know what I mean, don't you?"

The conversations between them were always encrypted. Even if some people tried very hard to decrypt their words, they might not understand what they said.

But the two of them could understand each other after having built a good rapport.

Ye Jian paused for a short while before she said calmly, "I see. We just need to do our job and not to interfere with the international police."

"Girl, just keep it to yourself," said Xia Jinyuan with a wry smile on his handsome face. It was hard for him to speak out this kind of thing honestly. "Some countries believe that our country is still a bit weak."

In 1995, China was developing vigorously in every field, including the national economy and military power.

Ye Jian had lived through this period of time once. She was aware of what her country would be like in the future. As for Xia Jinyuan, he was a military man who came from a powerful military family. Naturally, he had acquired much information.

According to some developed countries, the "weak" China should not be meddling too much in this operation.

In this regard, as always, China remained low key without saying too much.

### **Chapter 165: Inviolable Dignity**

If Ye Jian could understand why the international police didn't want the Chinese government to interfere with its arrangement, she had figured out the implication behind Xia Jinyuan's words as well.

It was not easy to be from a country that was deemed weak. But it was also a motivation! Fortunately, China had always been motivating itself to become a strong country.

The feigned seriousness in Xia Jinyuan's tone did not fool Ye Jian. She knew that, in a foreseeable future, the military power of China would intimidate the former great countries in the world.

Smiling slowly, she said, "I suppose you know much better than I do about the power of our country. If you have chosen to stay out of this operation, I should follow you because I am merely a student."

"Girl, we will take part in the operation, but not now..." said Xia Jinyuan calmly, raising his eyebrows. At this moment, the indifferent countenance on his face made him even more unpredictable.

After a pause, he continued. "We will not take actions until the international police ask for our help. Wait and see, girl. We will not allow them to underestimate us."

As a proud military man, he was also representing the dignity of the army of his country. If anyone looked down upon him, he would slap them in the face harshly!

"I very much look forward to that day," said Ye Jian, smiling. With a clear and resplendent look in her eyes, she gazed at the proud man in the dark. "I hope I can be a witness to that scenario, Captain Xia."

Her words made Xia Jinyuan smile merrily. He stood up from the lounge chair. His slender figure was as sharp and fierce as a sword. "Rest assured, girl. You will grow as time goes by and as you go through more and more trials."

He looked forward to her growth. And in this process, he would try his best to lay the most solid foundation for her.

The party downstairs didn't end until ten in the evening. The students would probably continue partying if the teachers had not told them to stop.

Ye Jian didn't return to the party. Using studying the exam paper as an excuse, she stayed in her room alone to contemplate Xia Jinyuan's words, which were very inspiring for her. "Decent people should act wisely and prove themselves through their strengths," said Xia Jinyuan.

"The contest is comprised of three sessions: a team competition, a theory test, and a vying test. Each session lasts five hours from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, so the contest will be held in three days in total."

The next morning, before a large number of students could sober up from the party last night, they had begun to prepare for the competition tomorrow.

Director Li didn't waste time lecturing them. Since the students had played and slept yesterday, none of them should have an easy day today.

As she waved her hands intimidatingly, the students realized that it was impossible for them to relax in the afternoon.

Time flew as all the students were devoted to studying.

"Go to bed at nine tonight. Hand in one of your room keys. We will go to your rooms to see if you have gone to bed by then!" When they went downstairs to have dinner at 5:30, Director Li adopted another strategy. By confiscating the room keys of the students, the teachers could check on them at night.

In China, it was normal for teachers to check on students in their dormitories!

However, when the Chinese students told this issue to the students of other countries last night, they were unbelievably shocked.

What they couldn't accept was that the teachers disregarded the privacy of their students. Without knocking the doors or the permission of the students, the teachers entered their rooms.

The Chinese students handed in their room keys obediently. Led by the four teachers, they went to have dinner in the cafeteria.

### **Chapter 166: Facing Danger Fearlessly**

As the 12 Chinese students walked out from the room, they saw the Vietnamese students walking out from theirs as well. It seems that they were also heading to the cafeteria for dinner.

The Vietnamese students were ahead of the Chinese students. When the Vietnamese entered the elevator, the Chinese students were standing in front of it.

The students of the two countries glared at one another. Although they could not argue using their mouths, they could shoot hostile glances at each other!

Too bad the confrontation didn't last very long. Ye Jian looked at the face of Red Scorpion before the elevator door closed slowly a few seconds later.

The look in Red Scorpion's eyes was as ferocious as the fang of a viper. As he glanced at the Chinese students from the inside of the elevator, the students standing in the front couldn't help but blink in fear.

"Ye Jian, Yang Ye, you are going to switch room with Mrs. Yu and I tonight," said Director Li when the elevator door was closed. "Let's do that after dinner."

The extremely violent look in the Vietnamese teacher's eyes made Director Li tremble. He seemed like a murderer rather than a teacher.

As an experienced teacher and a dean of studies in school, Director Li had piercing eyes which could see through a person.

Ye Jian didn't answer right away. Since the room was specially arranged for her, she should not switch to another room, but Yang Ye should.

Ye Jian was alone in her room at night. She was used to her bed in this room and sleeping on her own. She could not switch to another room because she didn't want such a change to affect the contest tomorrow.

Director Li had to grant the request of Ye Jian, who was the principal candidate in the contest.

It wasn't difficult for Ye Jian to go to bed at nine. However, every time she closed her eyes, she would think about Red Scorpion and the ferocious look in his eyes.

Ye Jian had the feeling that something might happen tonight. And then she fell asleep without thinking anything.

Around one o'clock in the early morning, Ye Jian woke up suddenly. She opened her eyes. In the darkness, a cold ray flashed across her eyes. Softly, she closed her eyes again.

The door of her room was opened quietly. The lights of the corridor reflected into the room but then vanished as the door closed. Someone had tiptoed into her room.

The person did not go to her bedside. Instead, he gently pushed open the door to the bathroom and stayed inside for about two minutes. Later, he closed the door and exited. Everything happened so fast that it merely seemed like a nightmare.

Ye Jian did not get up right away. Bravely, she kept lying in her bed. She didn't reach out to turn on the lamp by her bed until at least one hour later.



Everything seemed normal in the bathroom. Ye Jian closed the toilet lid, placed a towel on it, and stood atop of it.

Carefully, she removed one after another grid of the suspended ceiling... Hands rested on the crossbeam, she leaped up gently. The strength in her arms was enough to bolster up her whole body.

In the dim light, Ye Jian saw a black suitcase lying very close to her.

After staring at it for a while, Ye Jian subtly curled her lips. The opportunity to attract Red Scorpion's attention and to make him move about under her eyes was already in front of her.

"Captain Xia, do you believe me if I say someone entered my room and left a black bag in my bathroom just now?"

### **Chapter 167: Two Persons Making A Bet**

Smiling, Ye Jian placed the bag on her bed and contacted Xia Jinyuan. As she unzipped the bag, one after another packet of white crystal appeared in front of her. "About 40 kilograms. If I am correct, these are heroin."

Xia Jinyuan jumped up from his bed with a cold look in his deep and black eyes. "Wait for me. I will be there in a minute!"

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Without giving Ye Jian any chance to refuse him, he cut off the communication signal and rushed downstairs.

And he didn't knock on the front door of Ye Jian's room. When Ye Jian heard the knocking sound from the outside of her window, she froze for half a second.

She dashed toward the window, pulling up the curtain. The dangerous man, who said he was coming to her room one minute ago, was standing on the windowsill which was only covered by a few plants.

Ye Jian's mouth slightly trembled. She opened the window quickly. "Why not the front door but..." said she, but she didn't finish the rest of her sentence.

If he didn't enter from the front door, it meant that he must avoid being seen. Was he suggesting that the criminal suspects had partners inside the hotel?

As he came inside, with a cold and stern look on her face, Ye Jian automatically reached out her slender arm to place around Xia Jinyuan's shoulders. "Be careful, we are on the eighth floor. If you fall, you may cripple or kill yourself."

The slender arm of the girl made Xia Jinyuan feel very safe. Although he didn't need her protection, he felt very warm the moment she placed her arm around his shoulders.

He was right about the little fox. As a student, she had possessed the awareness to protect her comrades at any time.

Instead of turning down her protection, Xia Jinyuan placed his arm around her thin but resilient shoulders, jumping down from the balcony.

In the dim lights, they seemed like two compatible comrades who had known each other for years.

“The heroin weighs 42 kilograms, which equals to innumerable wealth in the Vietnamese currency,” said Ye Jian, placing the black bag on the coffee table. “One hour and five minutes ago, Red Scorpion entered my room and put it here.”

Frowning, Xia Jinyuan shot Ye Jian a chilling glance as if he was about to murder someone. “You found it an hour and five minutes ago, but you didn’t tell me until now?!” It sounded like the Major was a bit angry.

What if anything happened to his little fox? How should he explain to the two seniors who were waiting for her in her hometown?!

“Don’t get mad,” said Ye Jian, whose heart palpitated in fear due to his intimidating glance. Nevertheless, she regained her composure and explained to him clearly. “He is too clever to get rid of me before the deal is closed. The competition begins tomorrow! If anything happens to me, the competition will be canceled! He won’t get anything if it is canceled, right?”

Hence, she was not afraid!

Xia Jinyuan wasn’t sure how he should feel about it. Sometimes the intelligent little fox made him worry.

Just as she said, Red Scorpion could not kill her because he had hidden his drugs in her room, which had also confirmed that the most dangerous place was unexpectedly the safest place as well.

But the girl was too audacious!

With a cold look on his handsome face, Xia Jinyuan exhaled lightly. As he spoke again, he had that kind of serious facial expression like he was addressing to his soldiers. “Listen, Ye Jian! In a group operation, every soldier should update his detailed whereabouts and findings to his comrades, whenever he has the chance to contact them.”

### **Chapter 168: Standing Together Through Storm and Stress**

Xia Jinyuan was disciplining Ye Jian as if she was one of his soldiers. He was telling Ye Jian how a qualified soldier should cooperate with the team on a battlefield.

Major Xia was aware that his sharp tongue was very likely to cause Ye Jian’s aversion. But he must discipline her in this regard!

“Whenever you lose contact with the rest of the team, you must leave behind marks to let your comrades know! You should not act alone or make decisions on your own.”

Hearing this, Ye Jian stopped smiling. She was ready to accept criticism and education.

She assumed what she did was correct, but she had no idea that her action would make others worry for her.

The guilty look on the girl's face made her seem like a small bunny, which made Xia Jinyuan feel a bit of a headache. Sometimes, it was challenging for him to be tough with the girl.

But he had to be tough! The leniency of today would jeopardize her in the future!

When he finished his scolding, Ye Jian said obediently, "It won't happen again. I didn't contact you until one hour later because I feared that Red Scorpion might still be lurking outside or reenter my room."

Anyway, she was clever enough to admit her mistake immediately!

'Hey! A smart move!' thought Xia Jinyuan.

The stern look on his face was replaced with a smile. "Good for you that you can admit your mistake. Your judgment was quite normal, but if you could contact your comrades, you must do so right away, which would also be protecting yourself."

"I see! It won't happen again!" Ye Jian also smiled. Undeniably, it was a pleasure to work with someone like Xia Jinyuan. After he addressed the serious topic in an intimidating tone, he would display his sense of humor properly, making his coworkers realize what he did was for their own good.

He was a man with a kind heart. No matter how dangerous he was, people would be willing to approach him.

When the black bag was placed back to its original place, the goods inside it were not the same.

It was Ye Jian who had switched the goods and placed the bag to its original place. Now that the goods, which many people from different countries were chasing after, were in the hands of the Chinese government, some people would have to ask for the help of China.

The students woke up at six the next morning. The breakfast lasted one hour. Later, one after another bus parked outside the hotel, picking up the contestants from 24 countries.

The Australian TV reporters arrived very early to cover the course of the contestants entering the University of Sydney.

The hotel was a ten-minute drive from the University of Sydney. Led by the police vehicles in the front and guarded by the police vehicles in the back, 24 buses drove slowly into this prestigious university.

Gazing outside through the window on the bus, Yang Ye used her right hand to grab Ye Jian's left hand excitedly. "You know what? This is my dream school! And it does not let me down! It is gorgeous!"

She tilted her head to ask Ye Jian, "What about you? What's your dream school?"

Sitting in the row before them, Gao Yiyang happened to hear their conversation. With an indifferent look on his face, he opened his eyes. He tilted his head to look at the campus of this renowned university. It was his plan to study abroad. Did Ye Jian have such a plan?

“I have my dream school, but it is definitely not a foreign one,” answered Ye Jian, smiling. She had a resilient countenance, which her peers didn’t have. “I am working hard, and I hope my dream can come true four years later.”

## **Chapter 169: The Science Olympiad**

Yang Ye tilted her head. After contemplating for a while, she said, “Your scores are very good. If you don’t want to study abroad, you may enter one of the top universities in China. I’m different. My family wants me to study either in the United States or Australia.”

“Wherever we are in the future, let’s work hard together,” said Ye Jian. She had no intention of discussing which university she would be going to. Pointing outside and smiling, she said, “That is so beautiful. What is that place?”

Now that the topic was back to the University of Sydney which Yang Ye followed with interest, she stopped asking Ye Jian questions. Her eyes brightened up as she looked at the direction which Ye Jian was pointing at. “It is the Central Tower, the landmark building of the University of Sydney.”

Built in 1850, the University of Sydney was deemed as one of the most beautiful universities. It was essential to the politics and economy of Australia, and it had cultivated a myriad of politicians and millionaires.

The buses parked beneath the Central Tower, the most iconic architecture of the school. The tower was exquisite and majestic like a royal palace in Europe, and the gorgeous sculptures on the top of the tower were the embodiment of the long history of this renowned school.

The contest lasted from eight in the morning to one in the afternoon. Afterward, the students could tour around the campus freely. Right now, few students were lingering on the views. As soon as they got off the buses, they headed to the main teaching building.

In the main teaching building, there was a large hall which could host hundreds of people. Inside the hall, there were 288 desks. Each desk was 90 centimeters long and was far away from each other. Students must sit in the middle of their desks, which was a convenient way to prevent cheating and facilitate surveillance.

As everyone sat down, Ye Jian sensed that numerous people in all directions were monitoring all the students.

A famous politician who graduated from the University of Sydney and participated in the Science Olympiad twice, gave a brief speech to encourage the students. As the bell of the bell tower began to toll, the theory test started.

The hall was in complete silence after the exam papers had been handed out. Every student was immersed in the complicated puzzles of the Math Olympiad.

The test was comprised of five sessions in total, including algebra, geometry and math theory. Each session contained smaller parts. The more puzzles the students solved, the more challenging it would be in the following questions, and the more time it would take them to finish the questions.

All the teachers were outside the exam room. Through the massive display screen, they could see how their students were faring. The international police focused the camera lens one after another on the students, trying to find out which of them had been controlled by the international drug cartel.

In the office, Xia Jinyuan fixated his eyes on the three Vietnamese boys, whom Ye Jian had told him about. Three hours after the exam began, a Vietnamese boy stood up, placing his exam paper into a file pocket. With his head low, he walked past the other students.

“Here, zoom in.” Xia Jinyuan pointed at the screen as the Vietnamese boy walked past one desk. His hand moved subtly, which was hard to notice.

He took several screenshots and zoomed in for multiple times. A black and small ball of paper slipped from the boy’s hand. As he switched to the next picture, he saw the ball of paper on a student’s desk and the student covered it with a piece of scrap paper.

At the sight of this, two international police officers gave Xia Jinyuan a meaningful look. They took out their intercom to inform their colleagues, who were disguised as the school guards, to pay attention to the whereabouts of the Vietnamese student.

Outside the hall, Red Scorpion looked at his student who was walking towards him. Vigilantly, he looked around. “Done?” he asked the student in their native language. Even if someone could understand their language, they would assume that he was asking whether the student had turned in the exam paper.

### **Chapter 170: Important Clues**

The boy seemed a bit pale. Nodding, he said timidly, “Done. Teacher, you don’t need me to do anything else, do you? I... I have not finished my exam.”

“The exam? Do you want to continue taking the exam? Child, your sister is in their hands, your father is in prison, and your mother is waiting for you to go home. Are you sure you are still thinking about the exam?” Red Scorpion sneered, raising his hands to pat on his student’s shoulders. “A clever child knows how to choose. Go on, visit this university.”

The detecting head of the wiretap focused on the teacher and the student in the corner. As Xia Jinyuan heard the intermittent and subtle voices, he wrote down “kidnapped sister, imprisoned father, and mother is waiting for her son” on a piece of paper.

He picked up the paper and read it for a while. And then, he translated it into English before handing it to the international police. “Important clues,” he said.

“Okay,” said a European police officer. He took over the paper, waved it and glanced at it with a haughty look on his face. He gave a scornful laugh. “I don’t think we need these so-called important clues. All right, dude, you can go aside to rest, we will take care of things here from now on.”

His laughter was so sarcastic as if he was holding the scribbling of a child rather than clues.

“Okay, and I hope everything goes well with your work,” said Xia Jinyuan with confidence and composure. As he turned around, he said to another comrade in casual clothes, “Now that they are monitoring the targets, we can go back to rest for a while.”

They should definitely get some sleep to conserve their strength.

The European police officers continued mocking them. “God, I have never seen such useless military men like them. They behave like kids. What a headache.”

“All right, dude. For god’s sake, shut your mouth. They are very unfortunate already; no need to frustrate them,” said another tall and strong man with brown eyes. He glanced at the two soldiers as they walked away. ‘God, they were so slim!’ he thought.

Xia Jinyuan had walked to the door. As he opened the door, he turned around to look at the man. The bloodthirsty and ferocious look in his eyes made the man palpitate in fear.

However, when the man looked at Xia Jinyuan again, all he saw was a gentle and refreshing smile on his handsome face.

The man wondered if what he had seen was just an illusion.

Ten minutes after the Vietnamese student left, another student also left the exam room.

The Chinese students were still immersed in the exam. Sometimes, they frowned; and when they solved a problem, they would give a confident smile.

In every Science Olympiad, the students from China always ranked at the top places. Just like the former Chinese students, the students of this year were also detail-oriented with impressive logical thinking.

When being interviewed by the Australian TV stations, Director Li answered with a calm smile, “I have faith in every one of our students. They are enthusiastic about math and they see every exam as an exploration. So, their scores don’t matter anymore.”

“What matters is that they love math. If they take the exam just for fame, they cannot find the true meaning of the math exploration.”

Friendship came before the competition. What a nice spirit!

But the Chinese students were sparing no efforts in this competition. Because no one wanted to end up in the last place!

Undeniably, they were indeed enthusiastic about math.

The moment when they finally solved a difficult puzzle after longtime contemplation, they would understand the euphoria of Pythagoras as he exclaimed: "All things are numbers!"