

BOOT CAMP 2011

Chapter 2011: Don't Be Sad

Commander Liu and Commissar Yan arrived on time at seven p.m. They ordered a pot of Biluochun instead of alcohol and chatted happily while eating the specialty spicy dishes in the old restaurant.

Ye Jian, who was originally in a good mood, was a little down now. Commander Liu had already chosen to change his job. After he finished handing over all his work, he would be taking off his military uniform and retiring from the military.

Commissar Yan's transfer order had been issued before the new year. After the 15th day of the first lunar month, he would head to Linchuan Military District to take up a post.

This meal was actually a farewell meal. Ye Jian didn't know how she should enjoy this meal.

"The three of us have known each other for ten years. When I first transferred to Fujun Town, the person who received me was not the previous regimental commander but Old Chen. At that time, Old Chen had only been in Fujun Town for two years." Commander Liu took a sip of the fragrant hot tea. His resolute face was filled with deep memories of the past.

He sighed and said, "Time really flies. In the blink of an eye, ten years have passed. It's too fast, too fast. Now that I think about it, it just seems like it happened yesterday. Old Chen, you were wearing a new Chinese-style suit and carrying two textbooks in your hands. Your hair was even covered in dust. You rushed in front of me and apologized as soon as you came over, saying that you had lost track of time in class."

"At that time, I was extremely puzzled. I thought that the army would send a soldier to fetch me. Who knew that a teacher would come?"

Fujun Town Middle School was an oil tank transfer station for the logistics of the north and south. Its importance was self-evident.

As the caretaker of the oil warehouse, Principal Chen naturally had to meet the new regimental commander immediately. At that time, a teacher had asked for leave at the last minute, so he took over the lesson. When he arrived, Regimental Commander Liu had already arrived.

There were endless things to say as they recalled the past. Principal Chen sighed and said, "Yes, Old Yan arrived not long after I picked you up. I still remember that the two of you were always at odds with each other when it came to military management. As a teacher, I had to run into the mountains every few days to adjust. After half a year, the two of you finally stopped bickering so much.

As for Grandpa Gen, he often tried to provoke them.

That time, he was teaching the new recruits how to adjust their guns. When he heard that they were fighting again, Uncle Gen rushed in with an 81 bar and placed the gun on the table. He said angrily, "Do

you two have to fight until one of you is killed? Fine, I'll fulfill your wish. Rock, scissors, paper. One round to decide the winner!"

The past was still vivid in their minds, but Grandpa Gen, who had taught them a lesson, had already passed away.

Commander Liu, who came from the Yellow Earth Plateau, wiped the tears from the corners of his eyes. He sighed heavily, and there was a strong sense of melancholy. He forced a smile and took over the conversation from Principal Chen's earlier words. "I later told Old Yan that the power of a Class A Master Sergeant was indeed different from ordinary people. He even asked us to play a game of rock, scissors, and paper. He treated us like three-year-olds.

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"Old Yan had said coldly that we were, in fact, three-year-old kids in his eyes. When I heard that, I was amused. After that, I didn't fight with Old Yan anymore. Even if there was a debate, I would settle it silently.

"I'm from the north. I'm rough and straightforward. Old Yan is from the south. He's meticulous and hates beating about the bush. Hahaha, I hated him back then. I wished I could go to the military area and have a fight with him. I wanted to transfer him away so that he wouldn't be in my way."

Commissar Yan's eyes were a little wet. He lowered his head to drink his tea and secretly raised his hand to wipe the corners of his eyes. Then, he looked at Commander Liu with a look of disdain. "Same to you. At that time, I swore that I would make you, a boorish person, step down, or my surname wouldn't be Yan."

Chapter 2012: A Bright Future Ahead

"In the end, Grandpa Gen threw the gun in front of me. Ha, I was scared. I immediately apologized to him and promised that I wouldn't make a fuss anymore. I was still young and energetic then."

Suddenly, the topic changed to Ye Jian. "Back then, if we were half as mature as Ye Jian is now, we wouldn't have troubled Grandpa Gen and Old Chen so much. They wouldn't have to be so worried about us."

Ye Jian, who had been quietly watching them reminisce about the past, sniffed lightly and said softly with some sadness, "I'm more mature because of your education. Without your teachings, I wouldn't be the girl I am today."

"Ah, your nose is blocked. Are you crying?" Commissar Yan hurriedly picked up a piece of duck and placed it in Ye Jian's bowl. He smiled gently. "You didn't rely on others. You relied on yourself.

"Only by relying on yourself can you stand up. If you rely on others, it'll be like a mirage that'll be destroyed in the blink of an eye. Girl, it's great that you're like this now. In the future, you'll be like this too. The military is your best home."

The army couldn't bear to let go of such a good talent, especially a comprehensive talent like Ye. They could keep her for life.

Commander Liu also said, "Old Yan speaks well. His words are beautiful and pleasant to listen to. I'm straightforward when I speak. Girl, since you've taken this path, you must be ruthless when you need to.

"There's no reason for a soldier to be soft. You're wearing a military uniform and should bear the responsibility. You have to be ruthless when it comes to military matters. There's no need to be long-winded. If anyone dares to question you, fine. But they need to name their right to do so.

"If that person has good things to say, then alright. If not, then don't bother with that person. If one doesn't have the ability, one should just step aside. Hence, if needed, you can just send the person away. Don't let them lord over you."

Ye Jian listened carefully and memorized everything.

Commissar Yan was soft-hearted, while Commander Liu was strict. One was righteous, while the other was gentle. They could make the soldiers obey them and admire them from the bottom of their hearts.

Commander Liu had gone from the deputy regiment to the main regiment. What he said was his true experience. This would be very helpful for Ye Jian when she went to the field to train.

Principal Chen knew that Ye Jian wasn't feeling too good, but he didn't say anything. It was normal for soldiers to come and go. She needed to get used to it.

They had known each other for ten years, and now, they were going their separate ways. This meal was destined to be somewhat sad.

Ye Jian continued to drink the hot tea silently. She poured hot tea for the three veterans who had given their best years to the military unit. Then, she sat down quietly and listened to their past.

Perhaps their open-mindedness had infected her. The sadness of parting gradually faded away, and there was a faint smile on her lips.

Although they were parting ways, they were still good friends and close friends. One day, they would meet again.

"Tomorrow night, I need to accompany the leaders who came here today to inspect the automobile soldiers' training base. We'll leave tonight." When it was nine o'clock, Commissar Yan saw that it was getting late. He picked up the cup of hot tea that Ye Jian had just filled up and stood up. He said to Principal Chen, "Old Chen, I won't be seeing you on the day I leave. This cup of tea is to thank you for your ten years of support."

"Old Chen, I respect you too. I respect you for not being scared away by my bad temper." Commander Liu laughed heartily as he lifted his teacup and stood up. Then, he said to Ye Jian, "Ye Jian, I respect you too. I respect your bright future!"