

## Chapter 221: Do You Know Me?

Apologize?

Zheng Xiaowen's eyes went wide as she stared at Xia Xibei in disbelief. Did she just demand an apology from her?!

Before Xia Xibei could even speak, Song Jiaren shot Zheng Xiaowen a glare.

"What now? You can't even complete such a simple request? If Beibei didn't give you a chance to fix your mistake, I would have... Haha!"

She brandished her fist in Zheng Xiaowen's direction as she spoke.

Zheng Xiaowen's breath caught in her throat and she trembled a little. She hadn't expected Song Jiaren to be this violent.

Zheng Xiaowen was a freshman at Qing Ye High School, so she was aware of Song Jiaren's reputation.

However, she hadn't witnessed Song Jiaren's violence before, as the two batches of students were separated at different locations. That was why she dared to use a ruse on her.

She never thought Song Jiaren would be exactly how the rumors had described her!

She was extremely violent!

She had a feeling that if she dared refuse to apologize, Song Jiaren really would beat her up!

If she did apologize, however, wouldn't it be like admitting that she had ill intentions all along?

How would Yu Ziqi regard her then?

She became hesitant at the thought of it, looking at Yu Ziqi to seek help once again.

“Whoof!”

With a wave of Xia Xibei's hand, Asura ran to Yu Ziqi and started barking.

Hearing his dog bark, Yu Ziqi's attention was immediately diverted.

“What's wrong?”

“It must be hungry,” Xia Xibei's expression remained unchanged.

“Hungry? How can that be?” Yu Ziqi asked in surprise. “It came out after it had its meal!”

“Whoof!” Asura barked again and stood upright, putting its front paw on the table and sticking out its tongue at the food.

“See, it’s hungry,” Xia Xibei shrugged.

“I see...” Yu Ziqi pitied his dog right away, saying, “Asura, you can’t eat this food! Let’s go back and get some dog food!”

Cats and dogs couldn’t simply eat the food outside, so Yu Ziqi dared not feed it that. If something went wrong with it, his mom would break his neck.

“Yea, it’s already late.” Xia Xibei looked at the time, and flashed a smile at Zheng Xiaowen, “Miss, it’s not early anymore.”

“Whoof!” Asura barked along, placing its paw on Yu Ziqi’s leg and giving him a shove.

Yu Ziqi’s heart reached out to the dog, “Xiaowen, it’s not something demanding that they requested. You...”

Zheng Xiaowen’s heart turned cold. Even Yu Ziqi had said that.

“I...”

“Could you hurry up!” Song Jiaren hastened her with impatience, “Is it so difficult to give a simple apology? Why don’t you think about it? If our business gets ruined because of you, can you afford to compensate us?!”

Her words were like a hard slap on Zheng Xiaowen’s face, quickly turning her eyes red.

“Whoof!” Asura trod around Yu Ziqi in circles, finally managing to capture his attention.

As for Song Jiaren and Xia Xibei, there was no way they would even pity her.

Upon seeing that, Zheng Xiaowen’s limbs went cold. Eventually, she opened her mouth with great reluctance.

“Sor-”

“Yo, what’s all this fuss going on here?”

Before Zheng Xiaowen could finish speaking, the door was pushed open and an elegant, middle-aged woman walked in.

The woman raised her brows in surprise at the scene in the room.

“Qi, are these your schoolmates?”

“Mom!”

“Whoof!”

Yu Ziqi and Asura got excited and shouted out in unison.

Upon seeing the woman, Zheng Xiaowen’s eyes shone and she stood up quickly, “Auntie Qinghui!”

Shi Qinghui was clearly taken aback upon seeing Zheng Xiaowen.

After thinking long and hard about it, she became a little awkward and asked, “Do you... Know me?”

Song Jiaren nearly spat out her food when she heard those words.

## **Chapter 222: Oh, It’s You**

Zheng Xiaowen’s face turned extremely red with awkwardness. She hadn’t thought that Shi Qinghui wouldn’t remember her.

“Mom, she’s Zheng Xiaowen, Uncle Zheng’s daughter,” Yu Ziqi explained.

“Oh! It’s you!” Shi Qinghui finally recalled.

Zheng Xiaowen’s parents used to run a good business, but had encountered some problems along the way, hitting rock bottom when Zheng Xiaowen was in about fourth or fifth grade. After that, they moved away from where they used to live.

“Aiya, we haven’t met in so many years. You’re getting prettier these days!” Shi Qinghui complimented her with a smile.

Zheng Xiaowen’s face flushed once again, but with shyness this time.

“How are your parents? Are they doing well?” Shi Qinghui asked. “By the way, how did you guys get together?”

“My parents are fine,” Zheng Xiaowen replied, expression rather stiff when her parents were mentioned. “I’m also studying at Qing Ye High School; I’m deskmates with Qi.”

“So you guys are deskmates!” Shi Qinghui said in surprise. “What a coincidence!”

She turned around to look at Yu Ziqi, rebuking him gently, “Why didn’t you tell me son?”

It had almost been a year, but Yu Ziqi had never brought up this matter to his family.

Yu Ziqi scratched the back of his head, muttering, "I forgot."

Shi Qinghui was left speechless. This child!

Shi Qinghui's gaze then fell upon Song Jiaren and Xia Xibei, "These two are...?"

"My good friends, Xia Xibei and Song Jiaren."

Yu Ziqi's introduction put a solemn expression on Shi Qinghui's face.

She knew that her son was rather simple-minded, which was so-called "slow-witted," so she was afraid that he might get swindled.

To her happiness, Yu Ziqi was fortunate enough to have made a number of reliable friends.

However, he usually didn't refer to people as his "good friends."

"Nice to see you, girls. I'm Qi's mother, but you may just call me Auntie Shi."

"Nice to meet you, Auntie Shi," Song Jiaren and Xia Xibei greeted unanimously.

Looking at the disparity in their looks, her gaze eventually fell upon the pretty Xia Xibei, the look in her eyes turned rather inexplicable. “Are you both Qi’s schoolmates?”

“No,” Xia Xibei shook her head, “We’re sophomores, and he’s a freshman.”

“How did you guys get to know each other, then?” Shi Qinghui was curious.

“Whoof!”

Asura showed up from the side.

“Aiya, Asura!” Shi Qinghui beamed brightly right away, “You came here too!”

When he saw how Shi Qinghui seemed happier upon seeing Asura than she had when seeing, Yu Ziqi’s lips twitched. His place in the family clearly couldn’t compare to that of Asura’s.

“Whoof! Whoof!” Asura wagged its tail at Shi Qinghui, then ran behind Xia Xibei and reached out a paw to give her a little push.

Propelled by its force, Xia Xibei stepped forward.



Asura got so exhilarated that it ran in circles around Xia Xibei, its tail almost touching the sky.

Shi Qinghui was surprised by how jubilant Asura was, “You guys...”

“Asura loves her a lot,” Yu Ziqi explained, sounding somewhat jealous. “It almost followed her home last time. We got to know each other because of Asura, then found out that we study at the same school.”

Shi Qinghui was stunned for a moment, a realization hitting her.

“So the person that you were video-calling was her?!”

When Shi Qinghui returned home previously, she happened to see Yu Ziqi and Asura video-calling someone on the phone.

Yu Ziqi had said that it was a girl that Asura liked, but she hadn’t really believed him. She had thought that it was Yu Ziqi’s crush.

Now, it seemed like the kid wasn’t lying after all. Asura was so much friendlier towards Xia Xibei, even more than to his owners!

All of a sudden, her expression became much more benevolent as she looked at Xia Xibei.

**Chapter 223: Confession without Duress**

As far as Shi Qinghui could see, animals had incredible intuition. Therefore, the people that they were fond of shouldn't be evildoers.

Besides, Xia Xibei gave her a good impression.

Her looks were outstanding, and her temperament was impressive, but most importantly, there was a touch of clarity in her eyes.

Shi Qinghui had been doing business for many years and had rubbed elbows with many people, so she had her own sense of judgment towards people.

She didn't think that everyone who got near her child had ill intentions towards him, like a lot of parents would.

Besides, the unpleasant truth was that Xia Xibei wouldn't ever like her silly son.

"Whoof!" Asura barked with excitement, the delight in its voice obvious.

"Come here, come on, let's sit down and talk!" Shi Qinghui pulled Xia Xibei towards the seats with an amiable smile.

Asura ran around them for a moment, then moved to Xia Xibei's side once again, ready to be patted and stroked.

Shi Qinghui's lips twitched when she saw how affectionate it was towards Xia Xibei.

Although she had just heard Yu Ziqi say that it loved being with Xia Xibei, it felt different when having experienced it for herself.

"Aiya, haven't you guys had your meal yet?"

Looking at the barely touched dishes on the table, Shi Qinghui asked, "How about I have them add a few more dishes?"

"No need for that, auntie," Xia Xibei shook her head. "These are enough, as we'll have to go home in a while."

Upon hearing Xia Xibei's reply, Shi Qinghui did not request any further, changing the subject instead.

"By the way, what were you guys talking about before I came in?"

It was just a random question, Shi Qinghui wasn't thinking much of it.

However, Xia Xibei smiled, replying, "We were talking about apologizing."

Upon hearing this, Zheng Xiaowen's face turned even more awful than it already was.

She had been saddened by how hospitable Shi Qinghui was towards Xia Xibei, but when she least expected it, the spotlight was focused back on her once again.

"Apologizing?" Shi Qinghui was surprised, "What happened?"

"It was no big deal, in fact," Xia Xibei smiled politely, "It was just that this girl went to our milk tea shop and said something that she shouldn't have."

Shi Qinghui scowled. She cast a look at Zheng Xiaowen, then looked at Xia Xibei again. "Oh? What was it that she shouldn't have said?"

"Auntie, let me tell you about it," Song Jiaren volunteered.

She clearly knew that Zheng Xiaowen had feelings for Yu Ziqi!

Song Jiaren had no feelings about their relationship, but now that Zheng Xiaowen had offended her, she wouldn't let go of it that easily!

"Alright, you tell me then." Shi Qinghui shot a glance at Zheng Xiaowen, whose face looked awful, and nodded to Song Jiaren.

"So this is how it went. The highlight of our shop is a milk tea that's great for weight-loss..."

With her eloquence, Song Jiaren managed to recount the story with great clarity in just a few sentences.

After listening to her recounting, Shi Qinghui looked towards Zheng Xiaowen, whose head was almost buried under the table, with a frown.

“Xiaowen, was that so?”

“I- I-” Zheng Xiaowen stuttered in the midst of her panic, “I didn’t mean it! I never thought it would turn out this way...”

“You didn’t mean it?” Song Jiaren snorted coldly, “Don’t you know how much trouble you could have brought to our shop with those words that you ‘didn’t mean’?”

“But you aren’t in any trouble!” Zheng Xiaowen blurted out.

The moment the words came out of her mouth, Zheng Xiaowen’s face turned deathly pale, nearly claspng her own mouth.

Shi Qinghui’s face turned overcast.

Zheng Xiaowen’s reply had shown the problem.

Although she knew that the words she had said would bring out unpleasant consequences, she had still said them anyway. This couldn't help but make people suspicious of her intentions.

In the midst of this stalemate, Xia Xibei's phone rang.

## **Chapter 224: Many Good Friends**

Xia Xibei smiled at them in apology, then answered the call.

"Tang Luo? I'm not in the store right now... Oh, I'm in the shop we were at last time. I'm with Yu Ziqi and the others... OK, come over then."

"It's Tang Luo?" Yu Ziqi asked, excited. "Is he coming here too?"

"Yes," Xia Xibei nodded. "He happened to be nearby."

"Who is Tang Luo?" Shi Qinghui asked. 'Another good friend?' she thought, raising her eyebrows. "How many good friends do you have?"

"A lot!" Yu Ziqi replied, seeming proud.

It seemed like she was just in time, as Shi Qinghui was also curious.

When did this kid make so many good friends?

After the interruption, Zheng Xiaowen was ignored by everyone once again.

She bit her lip, listening to their heated discussion while feeling complicated and sour. She didn't want to be ignored, but she was also afraid of returning to that awkward topic from earlier.

After a while, the door opened, and Tang Luo walked in.

Shi Qinghui couldn't help but raise her eyebrows when she saw Tang Luo.

What a handsome young man! The contrast was even more obvious when he stood next to her own chubby kid.

"Tang Luo!" Yu Ziqi exclaimed, happily walking up to him and bumping fists with Tang Luo. "Why are you here?"

"I was close by and I heard that Xibei's store was opening, so I came to have a look. Why are you here?" Tang Luo asked with a smile.

"We ran into each other and decided to get together here. By the way, this is my mom."

Tang Luo walked up to Shi Qinghui, smiling while saying hello, "Hello Auntie, I'm Tang Luo."

"Hello," Shi Qinghui replied, looking at this good-looking young man with satisfaction.

Gorgeous, young people were so pleasant to look out.

"This is..." Tang Luo's gaze moved to Zheng Xiaowen and stopped.

"Oh, this is Zheng Xiaowen. My desk-mate at school."

"Zheng Xiaowen, your... Desk-mate?" Tang Luo paused, then smiled. "Did you all make an appointment to meet up? Why didn't you tell me?"

"We didn't make an appointment."

Song Jiaren made no secret of her dislike for Zheng Xiaowen.

Such an attitude could easily leave the elders with a bad impression, but Song Jiaren didn't care. If others made her unhappy, why should she be generous toward them?

However, Shi Qinghui didn't have any complaints about Song Jiaren because of this incident. After all, she had her reasons.



Besides, Zheng Xiaowen did not have any good intentions. It was natural for Song Jiaren to be angry. If that had happened to her, she would be angry too.

“Oh? What happened?” Tang Luo inquired, looking curious.

Zheng Xiaowen’s face was pale, wanting to jump out and stop Song Jiaren.

She had never expected things to turn out this way! She regretted not apologizing and leaving earlier. At least she wouldn’t have been repeatedly humiliated!

But now she couldn’t even leave, only able to fidget and listen to their criticisms of her.

Jiaren Song didn’t care how embarrassed Zheng Xiaowen was, quickly repeating what she had just said. Finishing the tale, she asked, “So, what do you think? Should she apologize?”

“If this is the case, she should really apologize,” Tang Luo nodded seriously. “You were opening a new store. It would be terrible if it had been affected.”

“That’s right! It was lucky I reacted so quickly! Otherwise, she would have ruined our opening!”

Having said that, Song Jiaren couldn’t help but glare at Zheng Xiaowen once again.

By then, Zheng Xiaowen had started to cry.

“I’m sorry! I really didn’t mean it! I didn’t think that a simple question would cause so much trouble!”

## **Chapter 225: Get a Different Table**

Zheng Xiaowen cried pitifully, which should have easily aroused sympathy from others.

However, very few of the people present fell for this—except for the silly Yu Ziqi.

Before Yu Ziqi spoke, Tang Luo started talking.

“Since you know it’s wrong, don’t do it again in the future.”

Upon hearing this, Zheng Xiaowen’s eyes widened a little in surprise. Was he speaking up for her?!

But Tang Luo’s next words made her face turn pale.

“These words make it easy to doubt your IQ, and that’s not good.”

Song Jiaren was a bit angry at first. Tang Luo couldn’t be mesmerized by this pretentious girl, right?

But in the blink of an eye, Tang Luo's words almost made her spit.

Zheng Xiaowen's face was both red and white; she was so ashamed by Tang Luo's words, her whole body started to shake.

Tang Luo looked like a handsome guy, so why was he so vicious? She couldn't stay here any longer!

Hurriedly, she said, "I understand. I have to go now!"

Before they could even answer, she had already rushed out.

"Xiaowen!"

Yu Ziqi looked at her retreating figure in bewilderment. He shouted out in vain but couldn't get her to look back.

After Zheng Xiaowen left, the atmosphere in the room suddenly improved.

Shi Qinghui's expression was also a bit complicated.

She didn't know if it was simply an illusion, but she felt that Tang Luo's attitude toward Zheng Xiaowen was a bit strange.

Thinking about it, she quickly shook her head. This couldn't be real. Today was the first time they had met, so what issue could he have with her?

However, Tang Luo's next words confirmed her initial guess.

"Little Qi, I think you'd better switch to another table," Tang Luo suggested seriously.

"Why?" Yu Ziqi asked, puzzled.

"Just like Jijia said, if she could say such things, she is either stupid or bad. In my opinion, her character isn't that good."

Tang Luo's words were very straightforward, so straightforward that Yu Ziqi couldn't help but frown.

"Why are you so sure that her character isn't good? Maybe she is just stupid?"

When she heard these words, Xia Xibei's mouth unconsciously started twitching. If Zheng Xiaowen was still here, she would be crying to death by now, right?

Tang Luo was very serious, replying, "Because I have seen her before!"

“You’ve seen her?” Yu Ziqi was taken aback.

“Yes,” Tang Luo nodded, “I’ve seen her several times.”

Xia Xibei noticed that when Tang Luo said this, his fingers couldn’t help but move.

Was this... A sign of sheepishness?

“You’ve seen her a few times?”

Tang Luo nodded, “We probably live close to each other, which is why I have seen her on the street several times. Every time I saw her, there would be a different guy with her.”

“What...” Yu Ziqi was stunned.

“And she was very close to those guys.” Tang Luo’s expression showed some embarrassment at that moment. “I have seen some of their more... Intimate actions.”

Yu Ziqi gasped, “No way?!”

The sweet and innocent Zheng Xiaowen was this bold? How many guys was she seeing?

“Moreover, the guys she was very close to seemed to be from pretty affluent backgrounds,” Tang Luo continued, his expression not changing.

“Change your table now!”

The more she listened to the conversation, the more uncomfortable Shi Qinghui became.

She could see that Zheng Xiaowen was interested in her stupid son.

It wouldn't have mattered under normal circumstances, as she understood the emotions of young guys and girls; as long as it did not lead to bad things, she would not stop it.

But now, armed with the knowledge of Zheng Xiaowen's bad character, how could she let Yu Ziqi continue to sit at the same table with her?

If this continued, her stupid son would be eaten alive!

“I'll call your teacher. You will switch to a different table on Monday!” Shi Qinghui declared, having made her decision.

**Chapter 226: Make Him Pick You Up**

Shi Qinghui finally understood Tang Luo's strange attitude toward Zheng Xiaowen; it was because he knew of Zheng Xiaowen's true character!

How could she not worry while a girl like this was near her son?!

She was ready to take action, immediately pulling out her phone to call Yu Ziqi's teacher.

"Mom, why are you so freaked out?" Yu Ziqi was speechless. "Even if she was two-timing guys, it doesn't matter to me! Why do I have to change seats?"

"If it has nothing to do with you, you have nothing to be worried about!" Shi Qinghui glared at him. "Don't tell me you still want to sit with her?"

"But..." Yu Ziqi sighed helplessly. "What do they have anything to do with each other?"

"Of course they do," Xia Xibei said. "Regardless of whether she did those things today intentionally, we are now enemies. If you kept sitting with her, well..."

Hearing her threat, Yu Ziqi became even more speechless. "Is there a need to be so dramatic? Why can't we be more generous?"

"Not being dramatic... I'm not a generous person!" Song Jiaren declared, backing up Xia Xibei. "Anyway, I don't like her! Fat or skinny—I wasn't eating her food! I don't want to see her when I look for you later! If that is the case, I might not be able to control my temper!"

As she spoke, she glared at him, the threat in her eyes extremely clear.

“Little Qi, we will not force you, but think about it. Can you continue to sit with her?” Tang Luo gently asked, his attitude firm. “After something like this happened, wouldn’t you feel awkward sitting together?”

Before Yu Ziqi could answer, he continued, “And what about her? If we go to find you and run into her, wouldn’t it be embarrassing?”

Yu Ziqi’s reply had been blocked, and he couldn’t help but frown in thought.

Exactly! Everyone would be embarrassed at that moment!

“Furthermore, it’s just a change of seating. It isn’t a big deal, is it?” Xia Xibei smiled. “Doesn’t your class change seats every month?”

“That’s right!” Song Jiaren added. “It’s just switching to a different desk; it’s not as serious as changing a girlfriend!”

“What are you talking about?” Yu Ziqi asked, panicking. “Changing girlfriends? Don’t talk like that!”

Song Jiaren rolled her eyes, “If that’s fine, then what’s the big deal?”

“Bark!” Asura also shouted.



“See, even Asura will despise you!” Song Jiaren immediately said.

Faced with everyone’s words and threats, Yu Ziqi started to relent.

“Then... I’ll switch desks.”

“Okay, so it’s decided!” Shi Qinghui nodded right away, calling the class teacher.

While Shi Qinghui was on the phone, Xia Xibei’s phone also rang.

“Xibei, can you get off of work?”

It was Liu Manhong.

“Yes, I’m done, I can get off of work.”

“Great! Yanjue is nearby, and he’s done with work too, so I will make him pick you up.”

“There’s no need to bother him. I can go back by myself.”

“It’s okay, it’s on the way anyway. This way, you don’t need to take a taxi and can save some money!” Liu Manhong insisted. “I will tell him to call you.”

Xia Xibei’s mouth twitched at the end of call. This was so fast!

Soon, Qiao Yanjue was calling her.

“Where are you? I’m picking you up.”

“You can come over. I’m at Yuhai Pavillion,” Xia Xibei said in resignation.

“I’ll be there in five minutes.”

## **Chapter 227: Peeling Shrimp for You**

Shi Qinghui went out in a hurry after hanging up the phone.

Xia Xibei whispered to Tang Luo, “You don’t like Zheng Xiaowen?”

Tang Luo smiled, “Don’t you feel the same way?”

Xia Xibei looked him up and down, showing a subtle smile.

At that moment, Qiao Yanjue had arrived just in time to see Xia Xibei and Tang Luo looking at each other with smiles.

Right away, he became expressionless.

“Brother Qiao.”

When Song Jiaren saw Qiao Yanjue, she stood up happily. “Are you here to pick up Beibei?”

Wow, a handsome man was so easy on the eyes!

“Yes,” Qiao Yanjue said with a small smile. “I happened to be nearby, so I’m picking her up along the way. Do you still have things to do?”

“We’re done,” Song Jiaren shook her head, “But we haven’t finished eating.”

Everyone had been busy dealing with Zheng Xiaowen earlier, and after she left, they had been busy making Yu Ziqi change his deskmate, and then Qiao Yanjue had come over as soon as the matter was resolved.

This all took a total of 20 minutes, which was not nearly enough time to finish a meal.

Seeing the untouched dishes on the table, Qiao Yanjue smiled, "I haven't eaten yet either."

"You haven't? Then join us," Song Jiaren said, very welcoming.

"Well..." He looked towards Xia Xibei for approval.

Xia Xibei pursed her mouth. It was just a meal. Why did he need to ask her for permission?

"Let's eat together," she had no choice but to say.

"Great."

Qiao Yanjue sat down beside Xia Xibei without apology.

Song Jiaren had sat on Xia Xibei's left, and as there was an empty space to her right, he sat down there.

After sitting down, he showed a cordial smile to Tang Luo, who was next to him.

"So Little Tang is here too."

Faced with his smiling face, Tang Luo could only feel a cold back, so he carefully moved a little to the side and squeezed out a smile, "Hello, Brother Qiao."

“Don’t be nervous.” Qiao Yanjue said with a smile, noting his nervous action. “I have a good relationship with Mo Bonan. You are his younger brother, and naturally my younger brother too.”

These words twisted the expressions on both Xia Xibei and Tang Luo’s faces, but especially that of Xia Xibei.

Her eyes widened and she looked at him in disbelief. Was he possessed by some spirit?!

Although Qiao Yanjue’s recent actions had completely changed her impression of Lord Jue, these were not the kind of words he would say!

Younger brother? What the...!

Tang Luo’s expression also stiffened. He didn’t know Qiao Yanjue very well, but that didn’t mean he didn’t understand anything.

Was it raining red in the sky?!

Qiao Yanjue didn’t seem to notice their shock. With a slight smile at the corner of his mouth, he stated, “Let’s eat. Everyone must be hungry already.”

When he spoke, people involuntarily picked up their chopsticks.

Before Xia Xibei had taken two bites, there was a peeled shrimp in her bowl.

She turned to meet Qiao Yanjue's gaze.

"Go ahead. You like shrimp."

Xia Xibei was stunned, asking, "How do you know I like to eat shrimp?"

"Didn't we have dinner together before? You ate almost a whole plate of shrimp," Qiao Yanjue replied, neatly peeling the shrimp.

Xia Xibei remembered that when they had moved in two days ago, they had a meal with Liu Manhong.

She really did like eating shrimp, but she hadn't expected Qiao Yanjue to remember what she liked to eat.

At this moment, her chest felt both full and sore, which was a bit odd.

Qiao Yanjue didn't think he had said anything strange, continuing to peel the shrimp.

After a while, there were a great deal of shrimp shells on his plate, and Xia Xibei's bowl held a small mountain of shrimp.

“Brother Qiao, you are too kind to Beibei!” Song Jiaren exclaimed enviously, “If I had a brother like you, I would smile in my dreams!”

## **Chapter 228: I’m Just Skinny, Not Weak**

“If my brother treats me as well as he treats you, I’ll even happily die!” Yu Ziqi chipped in, his eyes full of envy.

Qiao Yanjue stopped what he was doing, his expression slightly uneasy.

A moment later, he responded with a smile, “I’m her cousin now; I surely have to take care of her.”

All the people knew how they had become cousins, and they couldn’t help but sigh out of pity.

“Brother Qiao, you’re really kind!” Song Jiaren said in a serious manner, “Please keep taking care of Beibei!”

Xia Xibei had led a tough life for more than ten years; she deserved to finally be happy. As Xia Xibei’s good friend, Song Jiaren certainly hoped she could live a great life.

Qiao Yanjue nodded very calmly, “Don’t worry, I will.”

“Thank you!”

Xia Xibei’s lips twitched. Why did this conversation sound so bizarre?

“Alright, let’s eat, or else the food will become cold!” she hastily intervened.

“Yes, it’s kinda late now. We should go home after this,” Tang Luo added.

He could sense how Qiao Yanjue, who was sitting next to him, wasn’t very friendly towards him. There was a constant air of iciness around him, which was mentally tiring him out.

“Right! Remember, we gotta go help out at the shop tomorrow,” Song Jiaren nodded in agreement, eating her food very quickly.

“I could go and help out tomorrow too!” Yu Ziqi offered.

After what happened with Zheng Xiaowen, he knew that Jiabei Sweet’s milk tea was different from that of other shops.

He loved a milk tea that wouldn’t make people fat too!



“Just drink our milk tea, you don’t need to help.” Song Jiaren shot him a disdainful glance. “Don’t create trouble for us!”

“What do you mean by creating trouble? I’m great at helping people, okay!” Yu Ziqi couldn’t take it, starting to argue with her right away.

As she listened to them bicker, Xia Xibei couldn’t help but laugh and shake her head.

“Eat more.”

A piece of fish without bones was placed in her bowl.

She turned around to look, seeing Qiao Yanjue smiling at her.

“Don’t mind me, I’ll help myself,” Xia Xibei quickly refused, “It’s not like I’m a kid.”

“Don’t worry, I’m not really hungry,” Qiao Yanjue shook his head. “You should have more. You’re too skinny, and that’s not good for your health.”

As he spoke, he couldn’t help but recall the time when he carried Xia Xibei.

She was so weightless, almost like a feather. Worse still, she fainted often! She had to get more nutrients!

As the thought occurred to him, he decided to hire a cooking maid when he got home.

“I’m healthy!”

Xia Xibei couldn’t help but touch her arm. Although it was skinny, it wasn’t weak; it even contained muscles, all of which were full of strength!

Despite her skinny appearance, not many men could defeat her in terms of strength.

“If you are, why would you have fainted so many times?” Qiao Yanjue asked, looking at her reproachfully.

Xia Xibei instantly recalled the two times she had nearly passed out. Both of those times happened to be in Qiao Yanjue’s presence!

“I... Those were accidents!”

“It can only be called an accident if it happened once.” Qiao Yanjue did not believe her words, soon placing another piece of meat in her bowl. “Eat more.”

“Yes! Beibei, you should eat more!” Song Jiaren chipped in, “You really are too skinny!”

Xia Xibei's lips twitched, fighting the urge to smash her head with a rock right now, just so she could prove to them that she wasn't as weak as they thought!

Besides, she ate quite a lot! She just didn't get fat from all that food!

Before she could finish talking, Qiao Yanjue added, "Eat. The driver is waiting for us downstairs, so don't make him wait too long."

Speechless, Xia Xibei had no choice but to eat faster.

## **Chapter 229: Take Care of Your Health**

Then, Xia Xibei fully demonstrated her large appetite by finishing all of the food.

After eating, she patted her flat belly with satisfaction, a smug smile pasted on her face.

If she had eaten as much as she was able to, she would have scared them to death!

Unexpectedly, everyone looked worried.

"You must have been starving!"

She almost spat out blood!

Qiao Yanjue frowned, "It's okay. From now on, eat as much as you want!"

Yu Ziqi also looked at Xia Xibei with sympathy, reassuring her, "Whenever you want to eat, come here. I will treat you!"

"Bark!" Asura could treat her to meals too!

Seeing man and dog's similar expressions, Xia Xibei almost choked. What were they imagining?!

Tang Luo looked at Xia Xibei with a shocked expression. He hadn't realized that she could eat so much!

Only Jiaren Song had a calm face. She had eaten with Xia Xibei a few times before, so she was aware of Xia Xibei's appetite.

However, she was very curious. What happened to all the food Xia Xibei ate?

Moreover, she was very worried about Xia Xibei's health because of what Qiao Yanjue had just said. She had not seen Xia Xibei faint, but Qiao Yanjue wouldn't have lied.

Thinking of this, she spoke to Qiao Yanjue with a worried look on her face, "Brother Qiao, do you think you should take Beibei for a check-up?"

Xia Xibei stiffened, almost rendered speechless. "I'm fine!" she exclaimed.

There were reasons why she had fainted earlier. The first time was because of her period, which had begun unexpectedly, and the second time was because of extreme mental exhaustion.

Usually, she was strong enough to lift an ox! She cultivated every day, and she was taking care of her health, so there were no problems.

However, Qiao Yanjue seemed to think that what Song Jiaren was saying made sense.

"Yes, we should do that."

"Yes!" Song Jiaren nodded. "Our health is our most important asset! We shouldn't be careless with it!"

"Yes. If you don't pay attention to it when you're young, you'll suffer when you're older," Qiao Yanjue nodded in agreement.

Xia Xibei remained silent while they spoke.

Big brother, can you please stop saying things that don't match your role? These were words aunties liked to say!

Xia Xibei's perception was really shaken. She wanted to shake Qiao Yanjue so he would wake up and stop ruining his image!

"I'm very healthy!" She gritted her teeth and forced her lips into a grin. "Did you forget that I am also a doctor?!"

Song Jiaren and Qiao Yanjue had both seen her strength!

Both of them were startled with her words. It was true indeed!

"But doctors don't treat themselves!" Song Jiaren said seriously.

"That's for other people," Xia Xibei said very righteously, "I'm not the same as them."

Seeing that she was upset, Song Jiaren and Qiao Yanjue looked at each other, not continuing with the topic.

"Fine. If you don't feel well, remember to tell me," Qiao Yanjue said.

"I know that."

Although Xia Xibei was upset, she knew that they were simply looking out for her, so she could only endure their concern and nod along.

She could tolerate people who were really good to her, as long as they didn't go overboard with it.

Qiao Yanjue looked at the time, stating, "Okay, let's go back."

Then, he turned to Tang Luo, who was quietly sitting beside him, and asked, "Should I take you back? Or do you want to wait for Mo Bonan to pick you up?"

Tang Luo was taken aback for a moment, then quickly shook his head. "I can go back by myself!"

Qiao Yanjue took out his phone, looking innocent as he said, "But Mo Bonan is nearby; he'll be here soon."

### **Chapter 230: He's Already Here**

Mo Bonan was almost here?!

Tang Luo stiffened, his facial expression suddenly changing as he became a little pale.

"Brother Bonan is coming here?"

“Yes,” Qiao Yanjue nodded. “I just got a message from him, so I mentioned that you were here, and he said he’ll come pick you up.”

Tang Luo remembered that Qiao Yanjue had been playing with his phone just now, but how could he have known that Qiao Yanjue was messaging Mo Bonan?!

“I can go back by myself, there’s no need to bother Brother Bonan,” Tang Luo smiled stiffly. “How about this... Tell him that he can go back, and I will go back too.”

As he talked, Tang Luo stood up and started walking out.

“Well...” Qiao Yanjue raised his eyebrows, looked at the phone again, and said regretfully, “That might not work.”

Tang Luo was stunned for a moment, then stopped.

The very next second, the door opened once again.

His heart jumped and his face paled.

“Little Luo.”

Mo Bonan’s tall figure appeared in the doorframe, instantly bringing a suffocating pressure to Tang Luo.



“B- Brother Bonan...”

Tang Luo could feel his breaths becoming heavier.

“Where are you going?” Mo Bonan stood in front of Tang Luo, blocking his path.

“I- I was about to go back!” Tang Luo smiled dryly, trying to adjust his expression.

“Really? Then just wait a bit. We’ll go back together,” Mo Bonan suggested, looking him up and down before turning towards Qiao Yanjue.

“Lord Jue. Long time no see.”

“Young Master Mo.”

Qiao Yanjue also took a step forward.

The two men, both with the same tall physique and strong aura, met once again.

Song Jiaren blinked, feeling as if she had seen an electric light.

“Was Lord Jue treating everyone to dinner? Why didn’t you invite me?” Mo Bonan asked with a smile and a subtle gaze, looking at the people present.

“I didn’t treat everyone this time.”

This was Shi Qinghui’s shop. Even if she had left in a hurry, she wouldn’t have made Qiao Yanjue and the others pay.

Qiao Yanjue gave a polite smile.

“If I had the opportunity, I would certainly invite you to dinner. It’s just that you must be very busy with everything, so I don’t want to bother you.”

Mo Bonan’s smile was equally polite.

“Of course not. If Lord Jue invited me, I would attend no matter what.”

“Then I will have my secretary arrange the time. I can’t miss this opportunity!” Qiao Yanjue said with a smile.

“I will also ask my secretary to arrange it.”

The two of them laughed at each other without smiling, sparks flying everywhere.

“Bark!”

Asura’s bark interrupted the confrontation between the two of them.

Qiao Yanjue looked at Tang Luo, who had tried to become invisible, and smiled at Mo Bonan before saying, “We should leave. Tang Luo is also anxious to go home. Let’s say goodbye for now. If you hadn’t arrived, he may have already left.”

After being mentioned, Tang Luo trembled and pasted an expressionless look on his face, not daring to look at Mo Bonan.

Mo Bonan smiled, “Right, it’s time to go home.”

“Yes,” Qiao Yanjue nodded and motioned to Xia Xibei. “Let’s go home.”

Mo Bonan raised his eyebrows, commenting, “I remember that you guys didn’t live close to each other.”

It sounded as if a lot of things had happened...

Qiao Yanjue smiled with some reservation, “Oh, she has moved. We happen to live together. Ah, no, we live on the same floor. She lives next door to me.”

“Oh,” Mo Bonan sneered, finally understanding why Qiao Yanjue told him to be here.

“Brother Qiao, can you take us back too?”

At last, Yu Ziqi found the opportunity to speak.

### **Chapter 231: He’s Too Skinny**

Yu Ziqi lived in the same area as Xia Xibei and the others now, residing in the neighboring block.

Shi Qinghui had excused herself because something had come up, so he had to go home on his own.

Now that Qiao Yanjue was going to take Xia Xibei back home, it shouldn’t be too much of a problem to take him along with them.

Qiao Yanjue gave the plump, silly-looking boy a glance, left with no choice but to nod, “Sure, you can come with us.”

“Thank you, brother Qiao!”

“Whoof!” Asura barked along, wagging its tail politely.

Qiao Yanjue had a headache just from looking at the human-dog pair.

“Then I’ll go back to the shop and meet my mom,” Song Jiaren said.

“Alright then, let’s go,” Mo Bonan nodded, gesturing to Tang Luo. “We should go back too.”

Tang Luo nodded and followed Mo Bonan on his way out, a placid look on his face.

When they entered the elevator, out of nowhere, Qiao Yanjue remarked, “Isn’t Tang too skinny?”

Having been mentioned out of the blue, Tang Luo raised his head abruptly and stared at him in shock and bafflement.

Qiao Yanjue looked towards Mo Bonan with a smile, “He’s eighteen already, isn’t he? But don’t you think he’s way too skinny?”

The disparity seemed even more obvious when he walked beside Mo Bonan.

Mo Bonan was about Qiao Yanjue’s height, which was around 1.85 meters or so. He wasn’t robust, but he had the sturdy build of a mature man.

Tang Luo, on the other hand, was an eighteen-year-old young man and about Xia Xibei's height, almost as skinny as her too.

From the back, their waists looked equally slim.

Xia Xibei was a girl, so her being skinny was alright. But didn't Tang Luo look a bit flimsy for his age? Did the Mo family not feed him enough?

Upon being reminded of this by Qiao Yanjue, Mo Bonan turned around to look at the tense Tang Luo, realizing that he really was very skinny.

"Don't you usually eat?"

He seldom ate with Tang Luo in the past, so he had no idea what his appetite was like.

After today, it seemed like this brat really didn't know how to take care of himself.

"Of course I eat!" Tang Luo immediately replied, "But like Xibei, I don't get fat from eating."

Song Jiaren and Yu Ziqi, who got fat even without eating, exclaimed, "Ouch, that hurts!"

"Then it's either you don't eat enough, or you don't exercise enough," Qiao Yanjue continued. "Mr. Mo, it seems like you have to take better care of your little brother."

Mo Bonan shot a glance at Qiao Yanjue, forcing an ambiguous smile on his face as he replied, "Thank you for caring, Master Jue."

"No problem," Qiao Yanjue nodded with a smile.

To the side, Tang Luo couldn't help but clench his fists, fighting back the urge to punch Qiao Yanjue in the face.

Why did he care if he was fat or skinny?!

They got into the car, arriving at Mo's house in silence.

Tang Luo had originally thought that the matter was over and done with. However, he heard a knock on his door right after he finished showering.

He was caught unaware, hastily putting on his clothes. After making sure that everything was fine, he opened the door.

Mo Bonan was standing there, and as he looked at Tang Luo, who was still damp from the shower, making his face look delicate, his brows furrowed into a deep frown.

"Brother Bonan, what's wrong?" Tang Luo asked gingerly, his heart skipping a beat.

"I asked just now, you don't eat much."

Mo Bonan's words baffled Tang Luo.

"Huh?"

"Boys can't be this skinny." With Tang Luo's bewildered, nervous gaze pinned on him, Mo Bonan started ordering him, "Tomorrow morning at 6, running or swimming, you choose."

Tang Luo finally understood what he meant, inhaling a sharp breath as he protested, "I don't want to!"

Mo Bonan frowned and looked at him with displeasure.

"They told me you were too weak, and that you became sick just a few months ago. You can't keep living this way; you have to start training!"

### **Chapter 232: Physical Training**

Right after they got home, Mo Bonan questioned their housekeeper.

He was informed, "About two to three months ago, not long after the lunar new year, which was the day after Tang Luo's eighteenth birthday, he fell sick. He caught a cold and had a high fever, which was pretty serious."



After his sickness, Tang Luo became even skinnier.

Theoretically, since he was 18, Tang Luo should be in his senior year. However, his results weren't good when he first came to the Mo family as a teenager, so he had to repeat the year.

His studies took off after that and Mo Bonan heard that he ranked at the top of his batch now.

Mo Bonon hadn't really cared about Tang Luo in the past, as they weren't biological brothers.

Besides, Tang Luo wouldn't usually get near Mo Bonan due to his cold, aloof character. The two never shoved each other's oars. At most, they would greet each other when they happened to meet.

Some time ago, however, his parents had traveled abroad, and they made him take care of Tang Luo.

Only then did Mo Bonan realize that the little brat who had been living with his family for a few years now had grown up.

However, despite his age, Tang Luo still looked way too feeble.

Just like Qiao Yanjue had said, being an eighteen-year-old guy, he didn't even look as fit as the girls, so how dare he get involved in a love affair at such an early age?

Furthermore, he would be in his senior year next semester. If he didn't take care of his health and got stressed, wouldn't he fall sick even more easily than before?

"I'll exercise on my own." Tang Luo freaked out when he saw how serious Mo Bonan was. "Also, I'm much healthier than before. I'll be fine!"

However, Mo Bonan remained determined.

"I was careless before and neglected you. But since my parents made me take care of you, I have to take things seriously." He made the decision right away, "Tomorrow morning at 6, remember to meet me downstairs."

Mo Bonan was a very disciplined man. No matter how busy he was at the company, nothing would stop him from waking up early every single day for a workout.

Tang Luo's face turned as bitter as a gourd upon receiving Mo Bonan's order.

He really wasn't lying. He usually exercised because he knew health was the greatest capital of all. He really wasn't as flimsy as he appeared to be!

Most importantly, he didn't want to exercise with Mo Bonan!

"But I don't have any sports attire!" Tang Luo simply made up an excuse on the spot.

Mo Bonan wasn't bothered, reassuring him, "No worries, I'll have someone send some over right away. Do you want a swimming suit or sports attire?"

Tang Luo wanted to cry but couldn't find any tears. He knew there was no way he could make Mo Bonan change his mind.

"I like running. I'll have the sports attire."

Eventually, Tang Luo had no option but to make a choice through gritted teeth.

In the meantime, he had beaten Qiao Yanjue over and over again in his heart.

Qiao Yanjue was the one who had gotten him into this trouble!

On the other side of the town, Qiao Yanjue felt his nose itch and he sneezed.

"Brother Qiao, are you alright?" Yu Ziqi, who was sitting in the back, asked with care.

"I'm fine, it's just that my nose is itching." Qiao Yanjue, who was seated in the passenger seat, shook his head.

"Whoof!" This should be none of Asura's business, right?

The car quickly brought them back to the area where they lived.

Yu Ziqi opened the door and got out of the car right after it stopped, but Xia Xibei remained unmoving.

Asura stuck out a paw and gently shook Xia Xibei's arm, asking her to come with them.

Xia Xibei's smile seemed a little stiff as she stroked Asura's head, "You guys should go first. I'll leave in a moment."

"Whoof!" Come together.

Xia Xibei shook her head, "I'll wait for a while."

She told Yu Ziqi, "You should take Asura and go first."

Despite his bafflement, Yu Ziqi nodded, "Alright then, we'll go back first."

When Yu Ziqi finally left with Asura, turning around a few times to look at her, Xia Xibei's smile finally crumbled.

"What's wrong?" Qiao Yanjue opened the door on her side, stooping low to look at her.

## Chapter 233: So Embarrassing

Xia Xibei looked a bit embarrassed because she had suddenly gotten her period!

Ever since last time, when she had fainted because of her period, she started to consciously take care of her health.

By now, she was doing much better; even if she had her period, it didn't hurt as much as it did last time.

However, this was only the second month since her rebirth, and she had not paid attention to this monthly occurrence at all!

When she was in her lifetime on the fantasy continent, because of the special environment, there was aura everywhere and many women cultivated a stronger power.

However, these things affected their cultivation.

If they didn't want to have a period every month, they could take medicine and limit it to once every six months, or even annually.

Of course, doing so affected one's fertility to a certain extent.

However, given the strength of their bodies, if they wanted to have a child at any time, there was always a solution.

Xia Xibei had also used this medicine to alter her period to arrive once a year.

Therefore, in the first month after being reborn, she was caught by surprise by her monthly period.

After that, because so many things were happening, she had forgotten that she was no longer on the fantasy continent, and the frequency of her period would change as a result.

Due to her previous recuperation, her health has improved a lot; even if her period came, there was not too much different sensation and pain.

This was why she hadn't anticipated this!

Now she was simply embarrassed!

If she stood up, the dampness on the back of her clothing would be visible!

Although she was not wearing white pants today, it was still super embarrassing!

Fortunately, Yu Ziqi didn't ask anything, leaving with Asura. Otherwise, she would have been mortified to have all those on-lookers, even if she had thick skin!

"What's wrong?"

Qiao Yanjue became even more worried when he saw that Xia Xibei hadn't moved.

"Um... I..."

Xia Xibei's face was red, hesitating for a long time.

Seeing a rare sheepish look on her face, Qiao Yanjue suddenly had a realization.

"Old Chen, go buy me a bottle of water."

Old Chen, the driver, was startled.

"There's water in the car."

"I don't want to drink that. Go to the convenience store and get me a bottle."

Despite his confusion, Old Chen got out of the car and walked towards the convenience store.

As he walked, he wondered, 'Doesn't Boss drink only one brand of bottled water? Well, I have to do whatever the boss wants.'

After the driver left, Qiao Yanjue quickly walked to the back of the car, opened the trunk, and removed a jacket from a box.

He took the jacket back to Xia Xibei and held it towards her, "Come on out."

Xia Xibei's heart shook. She looked up at him, beginning to speak, "You..."

"I think it's around this time."

These words made Xia Xibei's cheeks flash red. What the...? How did he remember this better than she did?!

"Hurry up. Old Chen will be back soon."

Qiao Yanjue shook the jacket.

Xia Xibei shivered and quickly got out of the car, letting Qiao Yanjue put the jacket on her.



The jacket was very long, reaching the top of her thighs and covering everything.

However, looking back at the seat, Xia Xibei's face turned redder. Although the seats were black, one could see that they were damp.

"Let me."

Qiao Yanjue took out a few pieces of paper and wiped off the stain.

Seeing Qiao Yanjue's actions, Xia Xibei's face couldn't stop heating up.

This was such an embarrassing situation!

Qiao Yanjue's movements were very neat, wiping the seats clean with water.

By the time he tossed the used paper into the trash can, Old Chen was back with the water.

### **Chapter 234: Brown Sugar Ginger Tea**

"You may take the car back," Qiao Yanjue told Old Chen as he casually took over the bottle from his hand.

Old Chen nodded, "Alright."

Upon turning around, he saw that Xia Xibei was wrapped in a coat and couldn't help but be surprised, asking, "Do you feel cold, Ms. Xia?"

It was nearing summer and Town G had turned quite warm, so why would she still need to wear a coat?

"I'm feeling fine," Xia Xibei forced out a smile for him.

"Alright, you should go."

With a wave of his hand, Qiao Yanjue sent the driver away.

As he saw Xia Xibei's uncomfortable posture, with the way she was tugging at the coat while being cautious not to soil it, which stopped her from striding forward, Qiao Yanjue couldn't help but laugh softly.

He stepped forward and put his hand on her shoulder.

"Let's go."

Xia Xibei was stunned for a second, meeting Qiao Yanjue's profound eyes.

Qiao Yanjue put more pressure on her shoulder and led her forward.

With his reassuring force leading her, her steps couldn't help but quicken.

Before she could come to her senses, they had arrived at her house.

"I- I'll go change my clothes first!" Xia Xibei blurted out, her face flush as she hurried into her room.

When she emerged in a set of new clothes, Qiao Yanjue placed a cup of brownish-red liquid in front of her.

Upon smelling the familiar scent, Xia Xibei was surprised.

"This is..."

"Brown sugar ginger tea," Qiao Yanjue replied. "I found the ingredients in your kitchen."

Xia Xibei's eyes went wide as she stared at him in disbelief, "You..."

"I asked Old Huo before. He said you can drink this," Qiao Yanjue said as casually as always. "You were checked by him before, weren't you? Brown sugar ginger tea is suitable for your condition."

Xia Xibei blushed again. Although Huo Zijun did witness her predicament the last time, this time was different!

Having noticed her awkwardness, Qiao Yanjue explained, "Rest assured, he told me this when I asked him last time. I didn't call him today."

"Why would you ask him these questions?"

Xia Xibei's expression had turned stiff. Who the heck would want to discuss such things with a man?!

"You almost passed out from the pain the last time, didn't you? So I took the trouble to ask him about it, and it happened to come handy today," Qiao Yanjue replied with his hands spread out, looking innocent. "If you feel offended, I apologize."

Xia Xibei's lips twitched and she took a few deep breaths, trying to suppress the awkwardness she felt inside.

She wasn't a real teenager, so these things should be totally normal for her, and she shouldn't be so bothered by them.

Besides, Qiao Yanjue had been of so much help to her. How could she bring herself to make him apologize?

“It’s alright. I should be thanking you instead,” she said, adjusting her expression.

“If I don’t take good care of you, Sister Hong’s gonna beat me to death!” Qiao Yanjue chuckled, his stunning face looking lively and youthful, showing no hints of the slyness and ferocity of the Master Jue he would become in a few years.

Xia Xibei’s lips moved, wanting to say something, but he cut her off, “Alright, it’s late now. You should rest well after finishing the ginger tea.”

Standing up, he added, “By the way, you don’t need to go to the company tomorrow. Just rest at home.”

“It doesn’t matter,” Xia Xibei shook her head, “I can keep practicing.”

Qiao Yanjue, however, was resolute.

“Your condition requires good rest, and you should avoid intense physical activities.”

“There are other lessons apart from dancing.”

Although Xia Xibei had acquired a wide variety of skills by now, she still felt the need to keep up with her proactive attitude. Furthermore, there were Bai Meixue and Xia Qinghan to deal with.

“It’s just one day. It won’t make a difference,” Qiao Yanjue said. “I don’t think your company isn’t that unreasonable.”

## Chapter 235: Breakfast Together

Although Qiao Yanjue had put it that way, Xia Xibei was even more determined than him.

“No need for that, I’m fine. I know my body best, so you don’t have to worry about it. If I feel unwell at any point, I’ll take a break.”

After she finished speaking, she stood up before Qiao Yanjue could say a word and sent him out of the room.

“Thanks for your help today, you should rest early too. Good night!”

As he looked at the closing door, Qiao Yanjue’s face turned dark.

This little girl was even more stubborn than he was!

However, he couldn’t force her either.

As he thought of that, Qiao Yanjue returned to his own home. He fumbled to get his phone out and started making calls.

The next day, Xia Xibei heard a knock on the door right after she finished her spiritual training.

“Time for breakfast.”

Qiao Yanjue was clad in casual clothing, looking as handsome as ever. Despite the big lunchbox in his hand, his elegance wasn't affected in any way.

Bewildered, Xia Xibei made way for him to enter.

Qiao Yanjue headed straight for the dining table and placed the lunchbox down, taking out the food bit by bit.

Xia Xibei came over, stunned to see the food on the table.

The lunchbox was a big one, with numerous things packed in it.

Porridge, vermicelli, noodles, paus, dumplings, dough sticks, bread, milk... The dishes that people in Town G usually had for breakfast were gathered all in one place.

The amount of food that he had bought could feed at least four or five people.

“What...”

“Eat.”

Qiao Yanjue handed her a pair of chopsticks and a spoon, gently pushing her into a chair.

“You brought too much!” Xia Xibei exclaimed.

“I’ll eat with you,” Qiao Yanjue smiled. He pulled out a chair and seated himself.

“These shrimp dumplings taste really good,” Qiao Yanjue said, putting a dumpling in her bowl. “Give it a try.”

Still in a daze, Xia Xibei stuffed the food into her mouth.

The scrumptious taste of the shrimp dumpling made her finally come to her senses, demanding, “Why did you wake up so early?”

“Was it early?” Qiao Yanjue raised his brows, “You woke earlier than me, didn’t you?”

Xia Xibei was dressed in sports attire, her cheeks rosy from exercise.

“Just eat. You’re going to the company in a while, aren’t you?” Qiao Yanjue asked with a smile. “I’ll send you there after breakfast.”



“You’ll send me?” Xia Xibei nearly spat out the food in her mouth. “We’re not going in the same direction, are we?!”

Qiao Yanjue’s smile was unfaltering as he gave her another shrimp dumpling, explaining, “I’m going there to find some people.”

The realization hit Xia Xibei, but she frowned right after. “At such an early hour? Today’s a Sunday, isn’t it?”

“There’s no definite time for making money.”

These words shocked Xia Xibei even more.

The Qiao family could be considered the wealthy among the wealthy. Even though Qiao Yanjue was yet to become the master of the Qiao family, there was no need for him to grind so hard, was there?

With the Qiao family’s assets, he could live an extravagant life even without having to work.

As she thought of that, Xia Xibei couldn’t help but wonder just what kind of business deal would make him meet up with people early on a Sunday morning!

It was true that the life pursuits of the wealthy were different from commoners like her.

“Just eat.” Qiao Yanjue kept adding more and more food into her bowl. “Eat more. You really are too skinny.”

Xia Xibei remained silent.

She wished she could tell him that despite being skinny, she had all that a girl should have. Her body was a shape that many girls would be envious of!

However, the food was delicious indeed. After the spiritual training, her appetite had improved greatly.

The food that could feed so many people was eventually cleared away by the two of them.

After breakfast, Qiao Yanjue dropped Xia Xibei off at the entrance of SY Entertainment. The car took a turn and reached the other entrance of the building.

“Uncle?!”

## **Chapter 236: Little Uncle**

When Xia Qinghan came in from another door, she saw a figure that shocked her.

“Little Uncle?!”

She looked at the tall, elegant man in disbelief, wondering if she was seeing things.

However, the man turned around, confirming that it was really Qiao Yanjue!

Qiao Yanjue stopped, frowning in confusion. There was a cold aura around him as he asked her, “You are...?”

Xia Qinghan’s footsteps came to a halt, a little embarrassed. “I- I am Xia Qinghan, Haoming’s fiancée.”

Qiao Yanjue nodded in understanding, “Oh, it’s you.”

Qiao Yanjue was the son of Mr. Qiao’s second wife. Born to an elderly father, he was young but had a high seniority in the family.

Mr. Qiao’s first wife gave birth to two sons and a daughter, all of whom were married and now had children. Among them, the oldest grandchild was Qiao Haoming, who was 20 years old and only a few years younger than Qiao Yanjue.

Mr. Qiao had a very close relationship with the Xia family, agreeing to a marriage contract between Xia Qinghan and Qiao Haoming.

Therefore, although their age difference was very small, Xia Qinghan was considered a generation younger than Qiao Yanjue and was forced to call him uncle.

Qiao Yanjue had met Xia Qinghan several times before, but he hadn't paid much attention to her then. After all, he had a bad relationship with his brothers.

They were all competitors for the Qiao family industry.

Among the many people in the Qiao family, Qiao Yanjue was the strongest, followed by Qiao Haoming.

Qiao Yanjue was also Mr. Qiao's favorite. After all, Yanjue was his son and had strength.

As Qiao Haoming's fiancée, Xia Qinghan knew about this competition between them.

Although they appeared to be a close-knit family to outsiders, the internal situation was intense.

Additionally, Qiao Yanjue was cold and abrupt, turning grim if he had a disagreement with anyone. Therefore, Xia Qinghan didn't dare approach him.

Even though she was Qiao Haoming's fiancée, she had no say in front of him.

But unexpectedly, Qiao Yanjue had appeared here today, making her very curious.

"Little Uncle, are you here today for...?" she asked carefully, for fear of annoying Qiao Yanjue.

Qiao Yanjue turned cold upon hearing her question, replying, "I came here to discuss something."

Seeing his indifference, Xia Qinghan didn't dare to ask any more questions. She smiled, "Oh, you must be busy. I won't take up more of your time."

"Why are you here?" Qiao Yanjue asked suddenly.

"Oh. I am a trainee at SY Entertainment."

"SY Entertainment?" Qiao Yanjue's expression changed slightly.

"Yes. Is there a problem?" Xia Qinghan was a little nervous.

"No," Qiao Yanjue shook his head, "Way to go."

Xia Qinghan was immediately flattered, exclaiming, "Okay, I will!"

The elevator arrived at that moment, so Qiao Yanjue and the others entered. Seeing that Xia Qinghan was still standing outside, he said, "Come in."

Xia Qinghan shrank her neck and quickly nodded, "Okay!"

After entering, Xia Qinghan carefully sood to the side and held her breath, not daring to get too close to Qiao Yanjue.

She carefully glanced at Qiao Yanjue, whose aura was so powerful that her own space seemed to shrink. She marveled to herself.

She had to admit that Qiao Yanjue was really exceptional. Young, handsome, strong, and affluent. He could be the dream lover for thousands of girls! It was just that his personality was so cold and hard, and he didn't bother to charm girls, so very few people dared to even approach him.

However, after some comparison, Xia Qinghan still felt that her own Haoming was the best!

The ride to SY Entertainment's floor was quiet.

When the elevator door finally opened, Xia Qinghan hurried out.

But unexpectedly, after she left the elevator, Qiao Yanjue and his group followed her out.

At that point, she became very confused. What was he doing?! SY was the only company on this floor!

## **Chapter 237: Snack Time**

Xia Qinghan was extremely curious, but she didn't dare question Qiao Yanjue.

She could only keep walking forward, but after just two steps, she heard the elevator doors open once again.

"Mr. Qiao! You came so early!"

Her heart jumped, and when she looked back, the president of SY Entertainment was coming closer with several people.

What was this?

She felt more curious than ever but didn't dare to get closer.

Behind her, the company president took Qiao Yanjue and his party to his office.

Xia Qinghan wasn't sure what happened after that, but the incident stayed on her mind, causing her to be absent-minded in class.

"Xia Qinghan!" Laosha shouted at her with a frown, "What are you doing?! Can't you concentrate?!"

Xia Qinghan was startled, but immediately recovered. "I'm sorry!"

“Learn from Xia Xibei! She’s already so good, but she’s still practicing!” Laosha instructed.

These words turned Xia Qinghan’s face grim.

Learn from Xia Xibei?

She turned her head and happened to meet Xia Xibei’s indifferent eyes, which ignited the anger within her.

She took a few deep breaths, suppressing her rage and telling herself that there was no need to compete with Xia Xibei.

However, she didn’t dare to become distracted again, or she’d be lectured.

Laosha did not have a good temper. He was the kind of person who was arrogant because of his talent, not caring if Xia Qinghan had a powerful background.

Therefore, Bai Meixue had reminded Xia Qinghan to make sure to concentrate in his class.

The most important thing was that she didn’t want Laosha to continue using Xia Xibei as an example.



After an hour and a half, the class ended, and Xia Xibei let out a sigh of relief.

Although her stomach didn't hurt and she hadn't moved too much, she always felt uncomfortable when both her qi and blood were deficient.

While everyone else was resting, the door opened.

"What is it?" Laosha asked with a frown.

Several workers came in, each carrying a box.

"Snack time," one person said as the people took out the items.

Everyone became bewildered upon seeing all these exquisite cakes and milk tea.

Xia Xibei was also stunned, seeing "Jiabei Sweet" clearly printed on the cups.

This was their store's milk tea?

Laosha was also surprised, wondering, "Did the company get rich?"

Their company could be said to be very stingy. Even if they made a lot of money, they only provided large quantities of mediocre-tasting food every day.

However, many artists had to watch their figures, so even if the company provided good food, they wouldn't dare to try it.

"The calories in these cakes are very high. If you are afraid of getting fat, eat less of those. But these milk teas won't make you gain weight, so you can relax while drinking them," a staff member explained.

"Non-fattening milk tea?"

"Is this a joke? Milk tea that's not fattening?"

Here, everyone's goal was to debut. They all wanted to be thinner, so no one dared to touch these high-calorie foods.

"Don't worry, these milk teas really won't make you fat," the staffer reassured them, "The company wouldn't lie to you."

Everyone finally believed it.

Someone picked-up a cup of milk tea, surprised when they saw the label and the price.

"What kind of milk tea costs 20 yuan?!"

The most expensive milk tea out there was still only 10 yuan, so why was this milk tea so expensive?

“If you drink it and don’t get fat, the price is pretty reasonable. Of course, it all depends on the taste.”

“Delicious!”

While everyone was talking, Laosha had already picked up a cup of milk tea and tried it, praising it very loudly.

### **Chapter 238: Eat and Not Gain Weight**

Laosha didn’t know many fancy words, so he just said what he felt—it was delicious!

“It’s really delicious! Try it, I wouldn’t lie to you!”

He was different from others. After all, he didn’t need to debut or have such strict body management.

The crucial point was that he exercised a great deal every day. Even if he drank two cups of high-sugar milk tea daily, he would not have to worry about getting fat.

However, this milk tea was delicious beyond his imagination.

The cup was beautiful, and the color of the milk tea was also gorgeous, which whetted people's appetite.

However, all of this was secondary. The key was its taste.

"This is the best milk tea I have ever had!" he exclaimed again and again.

Hearing his words, the others couldn't help but pick up a cup of milk tea.

After taking a sip, everyone's expressions suddenly changed.

"It's delicious!"

"The sweetness is just right! It's not too rich!"

"Yum!"

"The 20 yuan price tag is not too much now!"

It's not that they couldn't afford the 20 yuan, but when the other milk teas were only about 10 yuan, its higher price made everyone wonder if it was worth it.

However, after tasting it, everyone understood that it was worth the money!

Some people nearly had tears in their eyes. For the sake of weight-control, they had not had milk tea in so long!

This milk tea was so delicious, but the most important thing was that this milk tea did not make one fat!

That was the claim, but no one dared to believe it.

The company would not cheat them, but what if the store had fraudulent marketing? If they were being scammed, it would be so upsetting!

They didn't want to spend more time exercising.

Therefore, many people only drank half a cup at most, while Xia Xibei bravely drank one cup of milk tea and ate two slices of cake, causing everyone to look at her.

"Xibei, if you eat this much, aren't you afraid of getting fat?" someone asked her.

"It's okay, I can't get fat," Xia Xibei explained with a smile.

“You can’t get fat?” The others were surprised, then exclaimed in envy, “Wow!”

Looking at Xia Xibei, one could faintly see her trim waistline and her voluptuous chest, causing the eyes of the other girls to turn red with jealousy.

This kind of figure really made people envious!

“I really want to eat without getting fat!” one girl whispered. “I haven’t had a satisfying meal in such a long time.”

Others nodded along, “Yes, every day I just eat salads. I feel like I am going to turn green!”

Everyone complained, voicing their frustrations.

They were almost drooling as they smelt the sweetness of the cake, but they didn’t dare touch the food.

Just one taste would take so much time to burn off!

As she listened to everyone’s complaints, Xia Xibei had an idea.

On the other side, Xia Qinghan looked at Xia Xibei, who was surrounded by everyone, with uncontrollable indifference and disgust in her eyes.

She didn't know what tricks Xia Xibei had pulled to make them like her so much! This kind of star power belonged to her!

Now, because of Xia Xibei's meddling, many people stayed away from Xia Qinghan, not even daring to approach her.

Only Xiaoshi and Nini were relatively close to Xia Qinghan now; the others were merely cool towards her.

Xia Qinghan bit the straw bitterly, her expression a bit hideous.

While everyone was still drinking milk tea, the door opened and a manager from the company came in.

"I have some good news," he announced with a happy expression, clapping his hands to gain their attention. "The company's upper management has decided that starting from today, no classes will be held on Sunday afternoon. Everyone gets half a day off!"

The words startled everyone at first but cheering soon erupted from all across the room.

## **Chapter 239: A New Boss**

In fact, SY Entertainment did not restrict people from taking time off, especially trainees; it was alright if they didn't come to class.

However, very few people actually took time off.

Everyone was working towards their industry debut. If they didn't work hard and asked for leave often, they would be committing career suicide.

Moreover, if you asked for leave while everyone else was hard at work, who knew how many courses would have to be made up upon your return? What if other people learned something you didn't learn during your time away?

Even if everyone knew that one or two days off was not so critical, there was still a sense of urgency from being left behind.

Some diligent trainees had never asked for leave once since they had started. Except for a few days during the Lunar New Year, they practiced hard at all times in order to try and debut early.

If people who were more talented were working hard, who dared to be so lazy?

But this time, the situation is different. The company had made a uniform decision!

When the company was on holiday, the teachers wouldn't be in class, so they didn't have to worry about being left behind!



After this announcement, the manager continued with a smile, “Moreover, we found that some people would try to work when they were not feeling well. This is not good! Your health is your wealth; if your health suffers, it is not worth it!”

Looking at everyone, he spoke, “In the future, if anyone doesn’t feel well, they can ask for leave from the company. Our company is very human! As for missing training, don’t worry. We will arrange for teachers to make up the lessons with you.”

These words made everyone’s faces change.

Was the company management on drugs? Why were they being so empathetic?

Everyone trembled a little, wondering what the company was thinking?

After the manager finished talking, he left with a smile, not minding anyone’s reaction.

Everyone started clamoring as soon as he left.

“What the...? Is the company crazy?”

“Did I hear him right?”

“Is today April Fools?”

“Is the company joking?”

There were a lot of comments, but the main consensus was that the company was going crazy.

“I don’t think the company is crazy. Maybe there’s a new boss!” someone suddenly said.

However, this statement did not get anyone’s approval.

A change in boss? There hadn’t been any rumors before, so how could it happen so suddenly?

It took a long time for a company to prepare for a change in boss.

Besides, the company was developing well. Why would there be a sudden change in boss?

Only Xia Qinghan had a different expression on her face.

A new boss?

Thinking about the scene she saw that morning and the changes taking place today, she thought that it was really possible!

There must be a reason for a company's sudden change in style.

Thinking about this, she couldn't resist it anymore, quickly walking out.

Xia Xibei looked at her leaving in a hurry, maintaining her expression. Even if the company did change its boss, it had no effect on her life.

Xia Qinghan hurried over to Bai Meixue's office.

As soon as she entered, she asked anxiously, "Auntie Xue, has the company changed its boss?"

"How did you know?" Bai Meixue asked in surprise, "Who leaked the news?"

Although the new boss was young, he had a different, powerful aura.

He had asked everyone not to talk about the news, and to keep the status quo so no one would dare to mess around.

"The boss really changed?!" Xia Qinghan was shocked. "Is the new boss' last name Qiao?"

"How did you know?" Bai Meixue was even more surprised by now.

Xia Qinghan was overjoyed upon receiving confirmation that her guess was correct.

## **Chapter 240: From the Same Family**

“You know our new boss?”

Seeing Xia Qinghan’s excitement, an idea flashed through Bai Meixue’s mind. “Oh yes! The new boss’s last name is Qiao, the same as your fiancé...”

Bai Meixue gasped while thinking of this, startled by the possibility.

“Exactly!” Xia Qinghan smiled brightly, filled with happiness. “He is the third son of the Qiao family. I have to call him Little Uncle.”

“It is him!” Bai Meixue covered her mouth, not letting herself scream. “Why would he suddenly want to buy our company?”

Although some procedures were not completed yet, the boss of the company was definitely changing.

However, why had Qiao Yanjue acquired their company? The focus of the Qiao family was clearly not the entertainment industry!

“I don’t know either,” Xia Qinghan shook her head, “But no matter what, this is a good thing for us!”

Bai Meixue’s eyes lit up. “Yes! That is a good thing!”

No matter the reason, SY Entertainment was now the property of the Qiao family.

Xia Qinghan was going to be the future daughter-in-law of the Qiao family, and as they belonged to the same family, Qiao Yanjue would surely look out for her.

Thinking of this, the two looked at each other, full of joy.

Xia Qinghan was so happy that she almost spun in a circle, exclaiming, “Just now, they even brought us milk tea and cakes!”

Bai Meixue froze for a moment. Was this something the company would do?

“Maybe the company did it because they knew about your relationship with the Qiao family?” she suggested.

There was a big smile on Xia Qinghan’s face as she nodded, “This is definitely possible. When I got here this morning, I happened to run into my uncle.”

Bai Meixue exclaimed again, "That must be it! Boss Qiao must know you are here, so he told the company to take care of you!"

As for sharing the food with everyone, they clearly couldn't be obvious about their intentions.

If food was only given to Xia Qinghan, wouldn't it be apparent that she had a powerful supporter?

Of course, everyone knew that Xia Qinghan knew Bai Meixue, but if she had a relationship with the boss, that was entirely different!

The two looked at each other and smiled, their smugness about to overflow.

As she smiled, Xia Qinghan suddenly sneered, "I think Xia Xibei's days are numbered!"

Previously, with only Bai Meixue helping her, it was not easy to deal with Xia Xibei. After all, although Bai Meixue was a shareholder of the company, she did not own many shares and had very little right to speak up.

But now, Qiao Yanjue was the boss of the company!

Even if the relationship between Qiao Yanjue and the rest of the Qiao family was not very good, Qiao Yanjue would definitely support her when facing outsiders!

Thinking of the wonderful future ahead of her, and the bleakness Xia Xibei would soon face, Xia Qinghan couldn't help but laugh at the sky.

"You can relax, right?" Bai Meixue asked with elation. "You and she will never be in the same world!"

After that, she could boldly plan for Xia Qinghan, making her famous as soon as possible.

Xia Qinghan laughed for a long time before stopping, feeling proud.

"Yes, she and I will never belong to the same world!"

When Xia Qinghan returned to the dance studio and saw Xia Xibei, she flashed her a smug, condescending smile.

Xia Xibei frowned slightly. Xia Qinghan had been gone for a while. Why had her whole demeanor suddenly changed?

However, she didn't worry too much about the change in Xia Qinghan. She simply packed up her things and went downstairs.

As she was about to get a taxi, a car stopped in front of her.

"Get in the car."

