

Chapter 371: Crazy

Colonel Lin and the doctors looked at the bullets with the same expression. He recognized immediately that they were of the same make as the enemy's guns.

Right now, a nineteen-year old girl was standing confidently and asked him to bet his leg on her abilities.

"Alright! Losing my leg is the worst that could happen, what else do I have to lose?" Colonel Lin replied swiftly. He did not hesitate after seeing Jiang Yao's confidence.

"Please reconsider, Colonel Lin! This is not just about your leg; your life is at stake as well!" The head surgeon was frantically trying to persuade Colonel Lin to change his mind. To him, Jiang Yao was a maniac while Colonel Lin was a retard.

Seeing that Colonel Lin had agreed to her proposal, Jiang Yao ignored the doctors and what they had to say.

She walked out of the room and called out, "Weiqi, Xuyao, can you please help me escort the doctors and nurses out? I will be handling Colonel Lin's surgery!"

"Aye, coming right in!" Zhou Weiqi walked in and motioned for the occupants to leave. "Please."

"Crazy! Insane! You have all lost your minds!" The head surgeon left in anger.

The rest left immediately, not wanting to be escorted out by Zhou Weiqi himself.

"Jiang Yao, we will be waiting outside!" Zhou Weiqi was pleasantly surprised at the obedience of the surgery team, he smiled at Jiang Yao, trying to be a little cheeky.

"Thank you! Do not allow anyone in before I leave the room! Even if the sky comes crashing down, nobody can enter! I need an extremely quiet environment to focus on my operation." Jiang Yao quickly locked the door after Zhou Weiqi had left.

Returning to the operating table, Jiang Yao lifted the syringe, preparing to anaesthetize Colonel Lin.

"Jiang Yao, if anything happens to me, please take care of my wife and my kid..."

"Colonel Lin, this is not the time for your last wishes yet. I will not let you die." Jiang Yao smiled gently, her confidence burying her exhaustion. "Do you know how bad Xingzhi's injuries are? Everyone gave up on him, but not me. I kept him alive, and I will do the same for you, especially with such a minor injury you have here."

Colonel Lin, silenced by Jiang Yao's taunt, could not believe that the quiet and polite little girl was capable of such savagery.

Jiang Yao was not someone ordinary. His injury was horrendous and severe but it became a minor scratch when it came to Jiang Yao.

Without saying anything else, Jiang Yao injected the anaesthesia into Colonel Lin, and he slid into a slumber.

Chapter 372: Solution

Once the anaesthesia had achieved its intended effects, Jiang Yao sent Colonel Lin straight into the Medical System lab. Fortunately, the lab was able to expand and contract freely depending on the number of patients in it. Therefore, Colonel Lin and Lu Xingzhi were put in different labs.

While performing the surgery on Lu Xingzhi, Jiang Yao found out that the System Admin was able to function as a surgical assistant, other than wearing whimsical clothes to amuse its master.

“Master, the information was sent to you. You can start the operation once you have received it.” The System Admin gave up its struggles and promptly sent all information over. Jiang Yao was not allowed to access any of this information, but the System Admin managed to send it through a back channel.

It was intimidated at first by Jiang Yao’s suicidal thoughts but seeing her perform the surgery had the System Admin in awe.

She was calm and measured while executing the surgical procedures, even if it was on her husband.

Her breathing was paced, her hands were fast and accurate, and her motion was flawless. It seemed like she had practiced more than a thousand times.

The System Admin believed that the nineteen-year-old master had at least ten years of medical experience, to be able to execute her actions delicately and accurately.

For Jiang Yao, she used her hands to protect a life. The System Admin was pleased to be an assistant to such a wonderful master.

“The knee has to be rebuilt using artificial bones from the lab, other than that, the rest of the fractures can be treated using artificial rehabilitation membranes.” Going through the information, Jiang Yao formulated a plan of action.

The System Admin was proud. “Alright! I am getting everything that you will need now!”

Jiang Yao’s solution was the most effective and was able to minimize any collateral damage to the body. The only issue was the extreme complexity of the procedures involved.

“With the current technology, your equipment is not capable of detecting the artificial bones used. The artificial rehabilitation membranes can be absorbed by the human bones and are able to boost the recovery of the bone structure. Once the fractures are fully healed, the membranes will be completely absorbed, leaving no aftereffects. Looking at the patient’s clothing, I think he is a soldier. This will not interfere with his career at all.”

Jiang Yao did not talk. She checked the devices and equipment prepared by the System Admin and turned her full focus onto the surgery itself.

The things that the Medical System was able to provide were out of Jiang Yao’s imagination.

With today’s medical standards, a bone fracture was treated and stabilized with medical-grade titanium plates. Using this procedure, after the bones have healed, another operation had to be performed to remove the plates. Plus, there would be side effects at the site of injury.

Chapter 373: Please Don’t Blame Me

With today's medical advancements, it was impossible to heal and fix the fractured knee cap.

Colonel Lin's surgery was extremely complicated, even more so than Lu Xingzhi's surgery. For a long time, Jiang Yao lay exhausted on the floor after completing it.

"How long did the operation take?" After some rest, she managed to regain a tiny sliver of her energy and propped herself up. Her clothes were completely drenched with sweat, an evidence of the effort she put in.

"A little over six hours." The System Admin replied politely.

"That's almost a half-day!" Jiang Yao exhaled. "Send Colonel Lin out of the Medical System, I want to check how my husband is doing."

After checking on Lu Xingzhi and seeing that his breathing had normalized, Jiang Yao logged out of the Medical System.

Time passed excruciatingly slow for the people waiting outside the operating room. A six-hour wait was nothing but slow torment and unending suffering.

Many times, Miss Lin wanted to barge in and "save his brother" but was thwarted each time by Zhou Weiqi. In the end, Gu Haoyu had people escort the maniacal and annoying lady out of the hospital.

When Mrs. Lin woke up, she silently waited at the doors of the operating room. After knowing that the person operating on her husband was Jiang Yao, no more words escaped her mouth. She sat down staring at the doors in a daze.

Her expression was grim, but not the anger portrayed by people describing Jiang Yao's foolishness. She trusted her husband's decision, knowing he was the one that agreed to it.

For what seemed like an eternity later, the doors were pushed open. Jiang Yao was wearing a mask, concealing her emotions but her bloodshot eyes were for everyone to see.

Two operations back-to-back took her almost nine hours to complete. Not even the doctors in the hospital would be able to handle the exhaustion. Jiang Yao took it all in her stride, to the worries of Lu Xingzhi's buddies.

"Inform the hospital, have the nurse send Colonel Lin to a sterilized emergency care unit with 24-hour care. Make sure to not touch his left leg on his way to the ward." Jiang Yao's weak body trembled. She leaned on the door for support and took off her mask. Looking at Mrs. Lin, she said, "Mrs. Lin, your husband's leg has been saved, don't worry! Once he is completely healed, he can carry you on his back and climb the Great Wall with no problem!"

Tears streamed down Mrs. Lin's face. "Thank you so much, Jiang Yao."

"No problem at all, just please don't blame me on my rash and foolish actions." Jiang Yao smiled. She waved at Zhou Weiqi and urged, "Come and get me, I don't think I can stand any longer."

Heavily fatigued and sapped of all her energy, she just wanted to lie down, curl herself into a ball and sleep. Even then, for all her hardships endured, it was worth every one of them.

“Aye, coming right over!” Zhou Weiqi went over and steadied Jiang Yao. He asked, “Where is Brother Lu?”

Jiang Yao wanted to leave Lu Xingzhi in the Medical System a little while longer, but no explanation would suffice if the others were to find out.

“I’ll go in and have a look. Have people arrange a sterilized emergency care unit for your Brother Lu as well.”

Chapter 374: Miracle

Jiang Yao wanted to rest a little while longer, but she entered the room and had Lu Xingzhi sent out of the Medical System.

Under Liang Yuezhe’s prompting, the doctors and the nurses quickly arrived. They were shocked to see Lu Xingzhi, alive and in stable condition.

When they heard that Lu Xingzhi lived after Jiang Yao removed the bullets, they were very skeptical. They thought that she was delusional and had gone insane.

No one could believe that Lu Xingzhi was alive. The bullets were not only removed, but the rest of the wounds were dressed. Each detail was done accurately, showing dedicated professionalism by the surgeon.

At this moment, the lady that was once deemed insane was revered. She had created a miracle!

“Mrs. Lu, your husband is a miracle, and you are the other miracle!” Some of the doctors praised her. “You created a miracle in the medical world here!”

Jiang Yao smiled faintly and showed two thumbs-up, her face radiating confidence. “No, there are two.” The other one being Colonel Lin.

“Jiang Yao! I knew you were the best!” Zhou Weiqi was ecstatic. Even though he did not study medicine, he knew from seeing the instruments connected to Lu Xingzhi that he was well and alive.

Jiang Yao was drained. Looking at Lu Xingzhi on the bed though, she could not hide her smile. It came from her heart. Everything else was blurred, only Lu Xingzhi remained in her sight.

She followed the doctors and the nurses while Lu Xingzhi was sent to the emergency care ward. She personally checked all the equipment and instruments and created a prescription for the nurses.

“Weiqi, have people that you trust standby and watch over your Brother Lu and Colonel Lin. I think I need some rest.” Jiang Yao smiled. “I am sweaty and in no condition to stay here.”

“Alright, I will give you a ride back home.” Zhou Weiqi nodded, and continued, “I will be here tonight.”

He could not think of someone better to do the job other than himself.

“I need your help regarding the surgeries I did for Xingzhi and Colonel Lin, please do not let anyone else know. Make sure the people at the hospital keep quiet and do not spread the news. I don’t have a good explanation for all of these.” For the ones that knew, it was too difficult to explain, she would rather not.

Anyway, the people that trusted her would not ask too many questions. The others that did not believe in her would not listen to any of her reasons. The simplest and best way was to intimidate them into silence.

“Don’t worry, I will look to it myself,” Liang Yueze answered. His mind was full of questions, but seeing that Jiang Yao had no intentions of explaining, he decided not to ask. Speaking to Zhou Weiqi, he said, “Alright, let’s send Jiang Yao back first.”

Zhou Weiqi nodded.

Chapter 375: No Real Danger

Jiang Yao was in no condition to drive right now, so the car that she drove over was left at the hospital. Instead, Zhou Weiqi drove his new car and sent Jiang Yao back.

Completing high-complexity operations that took more than nine hours, Jiang Yao’s fatigue was genuine. If not for that, she would have stayed back with Lu Xingzhi.

Unfortunately, she was not in the best condition. For the sake of her wellbeing, she chose to go back and rest for the afternoon before returning to the hospital after dinner.

On their way home, Zhou Weiqi saw Jiang Yao slumped over in the passenger seat, sound asleep. When they arrived, he tried waking her up but to no avail. His heart ached looking at her frail state.

This was Jiang Yao. Facing an enormous adversity, she did not break down and cry. When everyone else gave up on his own Brother Lu, she did not and kept going on.

Already exhausted after the operation, she came out to hear Miss Lin’s horrible words. Her subsequent action stunned everyone, nobody else dared to utter a sound. Even after that, she still had to soldier on and complete Colonel Lin’s operation alone despite the doctors’ questioning and ridicule.

There were only a few women in the world whom Zhou Weiqi admired, one being his mother.

The other one was Jiang Yao. Right now, his admiration for her was not less than his admiration for his Brother Lu.

He lit a cigarette and started smoking. Seeing that the passenger was still sound asleep, he knew for sure that it would not be easy waking her up.

A brief thought later, he opened the door, stooped down, and picked her up. He carefully carried her up the stairs.

Carrying Jiang Yao, Zhou Weiqi could not believe how thin she was. It felt like he was carrying a child, lightweight and easy. He muttered to himself, when Brother Lu woke up, he needed to remind him to feed her more.

After making sure that Jiang Yao was settled down, Zhou Weiqi returned to the hospital. The Liang family, including Grandmother Liang, was already there.

She sat on a wheelchair pushed by Liang Yuekai. Old General Liang stood by her side, holding her hand. Everyone knew that they were best pals ever since they were young, and never quarreled even after so many years of marriage.

Old General Liang was dressed in a pair of white patient gown, evidence of his visit here for his check-up.

“Old General Liang, how are you feeling?” Zhou Weiqi walked toward him swiftly.

“I am doing extremely well for an old man! They were worried and insisted that I come here.” Old General Liang laughed. “You all must have been really worried this time.”

“Isn’t that right? Grandmother Liang was worried sick!” Zhou Weiqi nodded. “Anyway, thank goodness that everyone is now well and alive!”

Chapter 376: Brother Lu Cannot Know

“I’m doing just fine.” Old General Liang sighed. “Can’t say the same for Colonel Lin and Xingzhi, especially Colonel Lin.”

He was not lying when he said that he was doing fine. The hijackers had no intention of hurting the hostages. After the hijack, the hostages were treated well, with good food and comfortable quarters. Only when the battle started did the quality of the food given drop. However, they were never tortured.

Things were not the same for Colonel Lin though. Captured by the enemy, Old General Liang saw how the hijackers broke Colonel Lin’s leg by hitting it with a steel baton repeatedly.

Too many lives were lost in the rescue mission.

Colonel Lin was captured by the enemy exactly because he acted as a bait and distracted the enemy, creating an opportunity for Lu Xingzhi to rescue the hostages under cover. He was shot once when covering the last hostage’s escape and received another bullet to his chest when he went back to get Colonel Lin. Even with his injuries, he managed to carry Colonel Lin out.

The hostages were rescued, but it could not be considered a victory. Too many young soldiers’ lives were sacrificed to achieve the goal of the rescue mission.

Old General Liang was extremely furious after he was rescued. He would not have attended the conference if he knew the research results were obtained in such a way.

“By the way, how is Jiang Yao doing?” Old General Liang suddenly switched the topic of the conversation to Jiang Yao.

He had only seen pictures of her, taken during her time in high school. Demurred and prim, she looked extremely likable.

Listening to what Liang Yueze had to say, however, shocked him to the core.

Even Mr. Liang was surprised, having met, and interacted with Jiang Yao. He had no reason to believe otherwise, as he trusted that the kids would not have lied.

Zhou Weiqi was unsurprised that Old General Liang asked about Jiang Yao. Lu Xingzhi and Colonel Lin went together to rescue Old General Liang, who knew exactly how badly they were injured.

Plus, Zhou Weiqi had no reason to believe that the Liang family would spread the news around, especially after Jiang Yao had specifically requested it.

“Don’t worry, she is just tired. She fell asleep on the way home and since I could not wake her up, I had to carry her up the stairs.” Zhou Weiqi continued, “The thing is, I think she is too light, I don’t think she weighs more than a dog does!”

Chen Xuyao was amazed at the absent-mindedness of Zhou Weiqi, he rubbed his eyebrows, and reminded him, “Don’t talk about these in front of Brother Lu, if he hears it, he would skin you alive.”

Chapter 377: His Possessiveness

“What’s wrong with me? Is it because I compared Jiang Yao to a dog?” Zhou Weiqi was oblivious and looked at Chen Xuyao blank-faced. “She really is light! If you do not believe me, you should carry her and see for yourself!”

“I am not suicidal, why would I want to do that?” Chen Xuyao rolled his eyes at the bloke standing in front of him.

It was then Zhou Weiqi realized the full implication of what he had done and said. He turned pale and stood silent for a moment before asking weakly, “Brother Lu is not that petty, is he? I have no other intentions for Jiang Yao and treat her with the utmost respect. She is younger than me, I treat her just like a sister!”

“Hehe...” Chen Xuyao half-smiled. “Are you not familiar with how possessive Brother Lu can be? He can be very twisted.”

“I am done for!” Zhou Weiqi scratched his ears. “You have to keep this secret, do not let Brother Lu know that I carried Jiang Yao when he was not yet awake! He would actually skin me alive if he finds out!”

Old General Liang, Grandmother Liang and the rest laughed hearing his pleas. “For sure, his jealousy is enough to kill even if you have zero intentions for Jiang Yao!”

“Maybe Xingzhi has not had the chance to carry Jiang Yao yet!” Luo Ruoran joined in on the fun and gave Zhou Weiqi another blow.

When Jiang Yao woke up, the sky was pitch-black. On her way home during the day, she fell asleep and felt so much better after the nap.

Fortunately, the only side-effect of doing an operation above her credentials was exhaustion. This was easily remedied with a deep sleep.

She looked at the time and called Zhou Weiqi.

“How is everything at the hospital?” She was the most concerned about Lu Xingzhi. Even though she knew that nothing could have happened, she still wanted to know what was up. After hearing Zhou Weiqi briefly describing Lu Xingzhi’s condition, she was finally satisfied.

“Jiang Yao, you are exhausted after today’s ordeal. Do not come over tonight, Brother Lu will be fine with me here. What do you feel like eating? I can have the restaurant deliver it over.”

“It is fine, I will just eat out.” Jiang Yao continued after a brief thought, “Brother Lu will be staying in the hospital for quite some time. I am going back to the platoon to get some of his personal belongings and other necessities. I can drive over to the platoon myself. Once I am done, I will return as soon as possible and take your shift.”

“Can you help me ask if Mrs. Lin wants to go back to the platoon with me? I think her kid is still over there.”

Mrs. Lin must have left in a hurry without bringing anything. Since Jindo City was not too far from Jin City, it was manageable driving between the two cities.

After getting Mrs. Lin’s reply, Zhou Weiqi had Jiang Yao had some dinner before getting the car from the hospital and picking up Mrs. Lin as well.

Jiang Yao cleaned herself up before hailing a ride to the hospital. Arriving at the hospital, she went to Lu Xingzhi’s ward first and checked on his vitals. She then went to Colonel Lin’s ward and did the same thing. When she exited his ward, she saw Miss Lin together with an elderly couple.

Chapter 378: Courageous

Seeing Jiang Yao, Miss Lin was petrified and immediately hid herself behind the elderly couple, like a mouse who had just seen a cat. Her body trembled and she peeked at Jiang Yao, evidently intimidated by the three slaps she received in the morning.

“Jiang Yao, they are my parents-in-law.” Mrs. Lin introduced them coldly.

Jiang Yao nodded at the elderly couple, after seeing Mrs. Lin’s cold attitude, and said, “Colonel Lin is in a pretty good condition.”

Mrs. Lin smiled when her husband was mentioned, “He woke up this afternoon and after hearing that his leg is alright, smiled like a child.”

Colonel Lin’s injuries were much lighter than Lu Xingzhi’s, he would wake up once the anaesthesia had lost its effect. For Lu Xingzhi however, his more severe injuries meant that nobody knew when he would wake up. However, Jiang Yao was not in a rush as this meant that his body was slowly healing and recuperating. It was better for him to sleep after the surgery.

Jiang Yao bade Zhou Weiqi goodbye before leaving the hospital with Mrs. Lin.

It was not till the car approached the hospital exit did Jiang Yao suddenly realize that she did not have a driver’s license!

She sent Zhou Weiqi a text message, and continued her journey to Jin City, while hoping that she was fortunate enough to not get stopped by any traffic police on her way.

Zhou Weiqi almost fainted reading Jiang Yao’s message.

Jiang Yao wanted his help in getting a driver’s license!

She did not have a driver's license!

How would she know how to drive if she did not have one?!

Even though she did not have a driver's license, Jiang Yao was confident in her driving ability. She smiled trying to imagine the reaction of Zhou Weiqi after seeing her text message.

"Jiang Yao." Mrs. Lin looked at Jiang Yao, surprised at how she could still be in such a good mood.

"Are you worried about Colonel Lin? Do not worry, it will only take two months for him to heal quickly, or three months if it is a little slower. Once he has been discharged, his career would not be affected, and his leg will function as new." Jiang Yao thought that Mrs. Lin was worried about Colonel Lin so she consoled her.

"Thank goodness for you." Mrs. Lin smiled. "Did you know? When I knew he was heavily injured, I only wished for him to live. I never thought about the condition of his leg, as long as he is alive, the family will be here too, and all will be well."

Not waiting for Jiang Yao, Mrs. Lin continued, "Miss Lin is not his actual sister, she came in when his stepmother married into the family. The Lin family is relying on my husband for their future. When she knew that he would have to be amputated, she did not want to sign the surgical consent form because she was afraid of him becoming a burden instead after the amputation, not being able to provide for her and her guy. All she cares about is her own interests, his life has never been her concern."

Chapter 379: Every Family Has Its Own Woes

Mrs. Lin laughed ironically and said, "That is why I stayed at home in Jin City even after I married Colonel Lin. He was willing to stay with me in Jin City whenever he has a break or a holiday."

Colonel Lin was wary about his stepmother and the daughter she brought over. His father was oftentimes unreasonable in his demands and they did not share a good relationship. Every month though, Colonel Lin would send his parents some money.

Even though Jin City was close to Jindo City, he would not go back home at all. Even if he did, he would not stay the night there.

Colonel Lin felt like he was a guest in the family. Instead, his father, his stepmother and his stepsister felt more like an actual family together.

Every family had its own woes. Jiang Yao did not experience it personally so she could not understand the feeling of being in a family just like that. Although, she sympathized with Colonel Lin for having people like that as his family.

No wonder Mrs. Lin behaved coldly in front of her parents-in-law. Colonel Lin had already given up on his family.

For the rest of the journey, Jiang Yao did not once ask Mrs. Lin about matters of the Lin family. She was not a curious person to begin with, and only listened when talked to.

Arriving at the platoon, Jiang Yao was, unsurprisingly, stopped. Not everyone knew her as she had just arrived a few days ago. Luckily, the soldiers on duty recognized Mrs. Lin and let them through.

At home, Jiang Yao went into the bedroom and started packing some clothes for Lu Xingzhi. She then cleaned the house and went into the study, wanting to bring some books over for him. Knowing him and his impatient personality, it was highly probable that he would insist on getting discharged from the hospital after a few days of doing nothing.

There were plenty of books in his study. Jiang Yao took five to six books on military subjects and picked two books that she was interested in. While putting them into the bag, she saw the drawer and remembered what Lu Xingzhi told her when he left for the rescue mission.

She clearly remembered that Lu Xingzhi wanted her to burn the contents of the drawer if he could not make it back alive.

Now, Jiang Yao was extremely curious and wanted to see what the forbidden contents were.

Tugging on the drawer and realizing it was locked, she complained out loud.

“What on earth is in this drawer? In the entire room, only this is locked!” Jiang Yao started searching for the key on the desk.

Logically speaking, the key should be kept somewhere close for convenience.

After searching for a little while, she found the key in a pencil holder. She smiled victoriously and swiftly unlocked the drawer, pulling it out and putting it on the desk.

Chapter 380: The Locked Drawer

The most surprising thing was finding the bottle of handmade plastic stars from her house in the drawer!

How did Lu Xingzhi bring it here without her knowing was a mystery for another day.

Underneath the bottle was a few photographs. They were laid face down, so Jiang Yao could not see what they were. However, from the looks of it, they were recently developed, not longer than a couple of years.

Jiang Yao toyed around with the bottle filled with plastic stars and tried to imagine Lu Xingzhi’s reasoning for bringing something boring like this from her schooling days over to the platoon before checking out the photographs.

It was a thick stack of photographs. The main character was a girl, her life recorded in these photographs.

Jiang Yao lightly caressed the photographs with her fingers. She looked at the familiar face staring back at her and suddenly felt teary-eyed, the girl was her.

Starting from the first picture when she was five years old until the picture she took for remembrance during her high-school graduation ceremony, sometimes it was her alone, some other times it was with her parents, her two brothers and her friends. The only constant was her; she was in each one of the photographs.

These were not the old pictures found in the Jiang family. Lu Xingzhi must have obtained the negatives from the Jiang family and developed them again.

Growing up, the Jiang family was not financially sound, but Mr. and Mrs. Jiang were famous in the village for spoiling their child.

At that time, plenty of children did not have enough to eat, only the Jiang family would bring their children on a vacation to the city every year and take pictures.

Her first picture taken was when she was five years old. The girl in the photograph had two braids on her head, clipped on with a now-obsolete purple-red flower hair pin. She looked a little uncertain, maybe it was her first photograph, and stood still without any pose. Even then, she looked adorable.

There was a handwritten note behind the photograph, obviously written by Lu Xingzhi.

Darling's first photograph, five years old, after taking this photograph she hugged Mother-in-Law and cried, she was then coaxed with a packet of candies.

Jiang Yao remembered this incident, but not from her own memories, instead it was told by her family and she was relentlessly teased by her brothers because of the story behind the photograph.

After that was a picture of her at six years old, seven years old, eight years old, and all the way till nine years old, there was another handwritten note behind the photograph.

Her first performance on stage, vain since young, her lipstick was the reddest among all, Mother-in-Law said that she wanted her teacher to put on prettier make up for her.

In the photograph, a little girl with a pink princess dress was wearing a pair of white shoes embroidered with a flower pattern. She curtsied and smiled charmingly.

She remembered this vividly.

She also remembered her different little white shoes. Back then, the teacher asked everyone to only wear white canvas shoes on stage. Everyone in class bought the same type, except for Jiang Yao. She had her eyes set on a pair of embroidered shoes when her mother brought her out shopping.

In hindsight, her fashion sense back then was to be desired, but fortunately she was prettier than the rest of the girls in her class. Even with the over-the-top make-up, she still thought that she was the prettiest girl in her class.