

Chapter 86: Frame-up (3)

Jin Yazhen came.

“I have something to ask you,” Liu Zhijing said as she pulled Jin Yazhen close, “I heard that you are good friends with Xia Xibei. Is that true?”

Although she had rehearsed it all beforehand, Jin Yazhen still got a little nervous. “We- We used to be good friends, but we are not... Not anymore...”

As she thought of being isolated by her classmates, Jin Yazhen felt sadness welling up inside of her. “I never thought she could be so vicious!”

“Vicious?” All of them were puzzled. “What did she do?”

Tears trickled out of Jin Yazhen’s eyes as she began sobbing uncontrollably. “I have no idea how she got her hands on some photos, but she’s using them to spread slander about me, claiming I’m having affairs with other guys, and now... Everyone’s avoiding me!”

Her words sparked anger in the other girls.

“My goodness! How did that happen?! How could she do that! That’s totally wicked!”

Liu Zhijing seemed especially exasperated. “That’s going too far! How could she treat you like that?! People like her have no conscience at all!”

Jin Yazhen wiped her tears and smiled bitterly as she explained, "I didn't see it coming. I was good to her, I helped her hide everything, and that's how she treated me! No one believes me now..."

As she spoke, she started weeping again.

"I heard that you treated her really well too!" Tao Yueying joined in.

"I shared everything with her, I even helped her conceal the fact that she stole... But who knew..."

"She stole something? What did she steal?" Some of the attentive ones caught that word, their eyes growing very wide. "She stole things?"

"No- Nothing!" Jin Yazhen put on an apprehensive look, as if she had spilled a secret that she shouldn't have, hastily clasping her mouth. "I-I didn't say that!"

"Stop covering up for her!" Liu Zhijing put on a righteous front. "Why are you still being so good to her when she treated you like that! She's not worth it!"

Jin Yazhen hung her head low, looking like a damsel in distress.

A while later, she spoke in a very soft voice, "She has stolen some chains at a jewelry store before..."

"Chains?!" Tao Yueying exclaimed in shock, "She likes chains?"

“Yes,” Jin Yazhen nodded. “She loves jewelry, but she can’t afford it. I’ve given her a few necklaces and bracelets before, but I never thought that she would actually steal the things that she likes...”

Tao Yueying gasped sharply, then proclaimed confidently, “Then she was definitely the one who stole my bracelet!”

The looks on all of their faces changed upon hearing her claim.

If it was true, then a girl like Xia Xibei was just downright obnoxious, wasn’t she?

“We can’t just sit here anymore. Let’s go look for her and find out the truth!”

With a wave of her hand, Liu Zhijing strode forward.

The rest of them exchanged glances, getting the feeling that the current situation was somewhat bizarre.

However, if even Jin Yazhen said that Xia Xibei had stolen things before, then it shouldn’t be wrong.

Moreover, Tao Yueying’s bracelet cost ten thousand yuan!

He Xuanyu was one of the most popular young celebrities at the moment, and the products he endorsed were all expensive. However, whenever a new endorsement was made public, fans from all over the country would break their necks trying to get it.

You wouldn't get it if you weren't fast enough, even if you had the money!

So the bracelet wasn't just a matter of money, it was a pretty meaningful object!

If the bracelet was theirs, they would panic terribly too!

As this thought occurred to them, they quickly followed Liu Zhijing as she marched off.

This group of people stomped all the way to the classroom of Third Form.

There weren't many people in the classroom, all of whom couldn't help but be shocked when they saw the group of fuming girls that had just appeared.

"Xia Xibei!" Tao Yueying dashed toward Xia Xibei, growling furiously with a straight face, "Did you take my bracelet?!"

A commotion broke out among the crowd when her words sounded out like a bolt of thunder.

All eyes were pinned on them now.

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Xia Xibei stood up from her seat immediately. Despite the cool and composed look on her face, she gave off an aura that was much stronger than Tao Yueying's.

"What did you say? Come again?"

Her aura was so powerful that Tao Yueying couldn't help but take a couple of steps back.

As she realized how cowardly she was behaving, her cheeks flushed red and she pulled herself together immediately.

"My bracelet went missing after you bumped into me just now. Did you take it?" She questioned with righteous indignation.

Looking at the group of girls and Xia Qinghan, who was hiding at the back and enjoying the drama, Xia Xibei couldn't help but sneer, "What does your missing bracelet have to do with me? Besides, if you're searching for any lost items, you should ask the teachers or the police. Why did you look for me instead?"

"Xia Xibei, hand over the bracelet and we can pretend as if it never happened. If we report the matter to the teachers for real, you'll be done for."

Liu Zhijing and Tao Yueying echoed each other in perfect harmony.

“Haha,” Xia Xibei chuckled. Then her face fell the next second, bellowing, “Get lost!”

The shout made the group of people before her jump in fright.

“You- You- What are you yelling at us for?! How dare you deny stealing the bracelet!”

The other girls were also enraged by Xia Xibei’s reaction.

“Who told you that I stole anything? Do you have proof?” Xia Xibei shot them an icy-cold glance.
“Without any proof, are you here to scam me or force me to confess to a crime that I didn’t commit?”

Tao Yueying grinded her teeth. “Hmph! You’re a repeat offender, what more proof do you need?!”

“A repeat offender?” Xia Xibei’s face sank. “What did I do? Did I steal the vegetables or rice at your house?”

She caught a glimpse of Jin Yazhen standing at the back and couldn’t help but laugh, “Looks like you came prepared today!”

Jin Yazhen couldn’t help but shiver a bit, shrinking behind someone.

The rest of them were infuriated right away.

“Don’t threaten anybody! You’d better hand over the bracelet obediently! Otherwise, we’re gonna call the cops!”

“Right, if the police are alerted, this matter will no longer be easy to deal with!” others added in unison.

“Enough, don’t get all worked up,” Xia Qinghan finally spoke, offering advice with a gentle look on her face. “We’re all schoolmates, so don’t end the matter in such a nasty way.”

“Qinghan!” Liu Zhijing cast her a disapproving look. “Some people can’t be dealt with in a normal way! You’re being so nice to her, but she won’t even appreciate it!”

The disdain in Xia Xibei’s eyes intensified as she watched the two of them sing the same tune.

“Xia Xibei, we have no intention of taking such radical measures. It’s just that the bracelet really means a lot to Yueying!” Xia Qinghan looked at her with sincerity. “Could you please return it to her?”

Xia Xibei snorted at Xia Qinghan’s admonishing words. “You guys are hilarious. You ran to me and claimed that I stole her bracelet. Are y’all brainless or something?”

“It was you who stole my bracelet!” Tao Yueying argued furiously. “My bracelet went missing right after you bumped into me!”

Xia Xibei sized up Tao Yueying with a measuring glance. “You really have no brains, do you? It was you who bumped into me just now! I haven’t even settled it with you, and now you’re accusing me instead?”

Tao Yueying replied boldly and righteously, “It was you who bumped into me! People like you...”

“What’s the matter with people like me?” Xia Xibei looked at her nonchalantly. “You’re trying to say that poor people like me would want to take possession of the things I like, aren’t you?”

Tao Yueying got tongue-tied all of a sudden, at a loss for words.

Although that was what she was thinking, it felt somewhat wrong when Xia Xibei said it out loud.

Liu Zhijing stood up, declaring, “Cut the nonsense! Hand over the bracelet, or we’re going to search for it!”