

Lady gu 121

Chapter 121: Fight For Gu Zheng!

Qiao Xi changed her posture and sat on the sofa, then slowly picked up the teacup to take a sip. She did not take Qiao Rou's words to heart in the slightest.

Gu Moling frowned. Although he felt that Qiao Rou's words were a little wrong, Qiao Rou had always been gentle and kind in his heart. He thought that Qiao Rou said those words for the sake of this woman, but this woman clearly did not appreciate her gesture.

Qiao Rou took the risk of offending the head of the Gu family to remind this woman, but what about this woman? She was arrogant and did not put Qiao Rou in her eyes at all. This behavior made Gu Moling angry. He said coldly, "Who exactly are you? I'm the young master of the Gu family. Why haven't I seen you before? Let me remind you one last time. The head of the family hates it when others come uninvited, so you have to leave quickly. Otherwise, you have to bear the consequences!"

This time, Qiao Xi finally reacted. She supported her chin with one hand and her red lips parted slightly. "Bear the consequences? What consequences will there be?"

Her fair and tender fingers picked up a beautiful pastry on the coffee table, and her gaze carried a hint of seduction. As she ate the pastry, she looked at Gu Moling as if she was waiting for his answer.

Gu Moling was stunned by her sudden demeanor and forgot to answer for a moment. Qiao Rou stood at the side and grabbed her skirt tightly. Her Brother Moling was actually dazed by this woman. Damn it!

The tip of Qiao Xi's pink tongue licked away the trace of dessert on her finger. Her eyes curved lightly as clear laughter escaped her mouth. "Hmm? Gu Zheng, tell me what the consequences are for coming uninvited, will you?"

Gu Zheng's expression was calm. His simple black shirt made his eyebrows look even colder. Gu Moling and Qiao Rou both turned their heads. Qiao Rou's heart was beating like a drum. Was this the head of the Gu family? A trace of redness appeared on her cheeks. The head of the Gu family, who had such a shocking amount of wealth, actually had such good looks. He was indeed blessed by the heavens.

The head of the Gu family was too good-looking. He was more good-looking than all the men she had ever seen! In her eyes, Gu Moling's looks were considered top-notch, but she did not expect him to pale in comparison to Gu Zheng. She originally treated Gu Moling as a treasure, but she regretted it now. She felt that only a man like Gu Zheng was worthy of her. Only Gu Zheng was worthy of standing beside her.

However... Before laying her hands on Gu Zheng, she had to get rid of this irksome woman!

Although she did not know where this woman in sunglasses came from, it did not matter. No matter what her background was, she dared to speak to Gu Zheng in this manner and even dared to address him by his name. She would just have to wait for the call of death.

Thinking about this, she took a step forward and smiled gently at Gu Zheng. "Master, don't be angry. I wanted to remind this woman to leave the villa, but she didn't listen to my suggestion. Although she's a little rash and entered this villa without your permission, can we give her another chance? Don't throw her out..."

Gu Zheng stopped in his tracks when he saw Qiao Rou and raised his eyebrows.

Sensing his gaze, Qiao Rou lowered her head shyly. She sneaked a glance at his perfect side profile. "Master, I'm being troublesome. You've always hated women who take the initiative to look for you, but as a woman, I really can't bear to see her be treated rudely by the servants. So can I ask you to let her off this time?"

The living room was so quiet that one could hear a pin drop.

From the first time Qiao Rou opened her mouth, the butler had looked at her with a complicated gaze. Was this person's brain not working well? She was also from the Qiao family like Madam, but why was her IQ so different from her elder sister's?

Qiao Rou did not know that the butler was cursing her for being stupid in his heart. She thought that she was performing very well this time and was looking forward to Gu Zheng praising her. However, after waiting for a long time, no one said anything. She finally realized that something was wrong. Why was the master not getting this woman to scram? Could it be that her performance earlier was too beautiful and the master did not think it was good to be too rough with a woman? No way...

If that was the case, Qiao Rou would vomit out blood. She could not wait for Gu Zheng to quickly kick this woman out!

Qiao Rou tried to raise her head but did not expect to meet Gu Zheng's eyes. Her heart skipped a beat. Why were the master's eyes so cold and impatient as if he hated her very much? No, that was impossible. She was such a weak, generous, and beautiful woman. No man would hate her. What was wrong? Could it be that the master did not like her speaking on behalf of other women? However, only by doing this could she show her kindness.

Chapter 122: This Woman Is A Little Hypocritical

Before Qiao Rou could figure it out, Qiao Xi's fair fingers tapped on the coffee table. Her full lips were slightly parted, and her tone carried a trace of a complaint. "Is this the gentle and kind fiance you were talking about, Gu Moling? She doesn't seem like much. She's a little hypocritical..."

Qiao Rou was infuriated!

How could this woman say such things? What did she mean by 'doesn't seem like much'? What did she mean by 'a little hypocritical'? Who did she think she was?!

Gu Moling frowned and pulled Qiao Rou to his side. He reminded her, "Miss, Rou Rou is kind enough to help you. It's fine that you don't appreciate her help, but there's no need to step on her, right?"

Qiao Xi looked at him with a smile that was not a smile.

"You're lecturing my people in my territory, yet you claim to be helping me out of goodwill?" Gu Zheng sneered, his gaze cold and dangerous. "I didn't know that the two of you had the right to interfere in my matters? Gu Moling, have you forgotten about the Gu family's upbringing?"

Gu Moling shuddered and stammered as he explained, "I-I didn't do anything... Rou Rou, she... She just reminded this woman out of kindness. She knows that you don't like women, so she..."

"I don't like women?" Gu Zheng chuckled. "No matter how much I don't like women, I can't possibly not like my wife, right? The woman you brought is someone who was invited here as a guest. She doesn't know anything but made the decision to kick my wife out. She's really impressive."

Gu Zheng's voice was cold as the words he said hit Gu Moling and Qiao Rou's hearts. "Butler, see the guests out."

Gu Moling and Qiao Rou were stunned.

What did he mean by wife? That woman was actually Gu Zheng's wife? Mrs. Gu?! How was that possible?!

He subconsciously wanted to deny it because he had not heard any news of Gu Zheng's marriage at all. However, reason made him shut his mouth. The position of the head of the Gu family was unparalleled. No one could tell him what he wanted to do, including his marriage.

A woman who could live in Longwan Residential and be acknowledged by Gu Zheng himself, even if she had not registered her marriage with Gu Zheng and had not received the acknowledgment of the other members of the Gu family, meant that her status was not something someone from the branch family like him could compare to.

Qiao Rou was not as calm as Gu Moling. Rather, she had long been spoiled and did not know her limits. She retorted with a pale face, "How is that possible? How can she be Mrs. Gu?!"

Qiao Xi raised her head to look at her. "Why not?"

"Of course..."

Qiao Rou was about to say that it was impossible for Gu Zheng to like a woman like her. If he had to like anyone, it would be someone like her. However, before she could say anything, Gu Moling grabbed her hand. He was so strong that it hurt Qiao Rou and made her shut up.

Qiao Xi clicked her tongue, propped up her chin with one hand, and said lazily, "Miss Qiao Rou, you're really interesting. Gu Zheng has already told you that I'm Mrs. Gu, yet you still said that it's impossible. I'm quite curious about your thoughts? As soon as you entered, you reminded me to leave as though you're the madam of the house... Are you coveting my position?"

Qiao Rou's entire body trembled as cold sweat ceaselessly slid down her forehead. Every word Qiao Xi said hit the nail on the head. It was as if this woman could read minds and had completely revealed the thoughts in her heart. This woman was too terrifying!

This kind of woman was not suitable for Gu Zheng. She was the only one worthy of standing beside him!

Gu Moling was afraid that Gu Zheng would get angry and did not dare to provoke this woman with an unknown identity. He hurriedly explained, "Mrs. Gu, don't be angry. Rou Rou did not mean that. She's very kind. She really wanted to help you and was afraid that you'd be punished by the head of the family."

"Wanted to help me?"

Qiao Xi giggled as if she had heard a joke. She wiped the tears of laughter from the corners of her eyes and raised her voice slightly. "It's your greatest honor that Gu Zheng invited all of you here. Do the two of you even remember that you're merely guests? And Miss Qiao Rou, the greed in your eyes has already exposed everything when you came in. You want to take over my position, right? You're really quite awesome."

Qiao Rou's expression kept changing. She did not expect this woman to be so observant, but was it wrong for her to want to get promoted? People always wanted to climb higher. So what if she wanted to kick Gu Moling away after seeing Gu Zheng? This was all human nature!

Since she was able to snatch Gu Moling from Qiao Xi, she would definitely be able to snatch Gu Zheng from this woman! Therefore, this woman should not be smug for too long!

Gu Zheng was annoyed by their chatter. He sat beside Qiao Xi and rested his arm on the back of the sofa behind her. In a possessive manner, he said, "Why are you wasting time talking to them? If you don't like them, get the butler to throw them out."

Chapter 123: Of Course, I'll Listen To Mrs. Gu

Gu Moling was instantly anxious when he heard that. He had not forgotten that before he came, his parents had told him not to provoke the head of the family. If he was really chased out at this moment, it would implicate his parents and the rest of the family would laugh at him. He could not accept this outcome. It was too embarrassing!

The culprit behind all this was Qiao Rou. If she had not spouted nonsense, she would not have offended Mrs. Gu!

At the thought of this, he suddenly turned around and berated, "Qiao Rou, quickly apologize to Mrs. Gu!"

Qiao Rou's face alternated between red and white. She bit her lower lip and was extremely unwilling. Why should she apologize to that woman?! However, she also knew that if she was really chased out by Gu Zheng, the consequences would be unimaginable.

If she was chased out of Longwan Residential by Gu Zheng... Brother Moling would definitely despise her. Even Gu Moling's mother would have reservations about her. If others heard the news, they would also laugh at her...

Qiao Rou comforted herself in her heart. It was okay. She would just submit this once. She would repay this humiliation sooner or later!

Her face was ashen as she gritted her teeth and said, "I'm sorry."

Qiao Xi did not react and continued eating the grapes on the plate.

At this moment, the butler walked forward. "Madam, don't blame Miss Qiao Rou. She was betrayed by her sister not long ago. I heard that her sister wanted to snatch her fiancé. Once bitten, twice shy. She was probably afraid when she saw your beautiful appearance, so she chased you away."

Qiao Xi blinked. Was the butler taking this opportunity to praise her beauty? Wow... The butler's move was brilliant!

Gu Zheng raised his head and glanced at the butler as if he did not know about this side of the butler...

The butler's expression did not change under their gazes. It could be said that he was very professional.

Qiao Xi tossed the grape skin in her hand and elegantly grabbed a piece of tissue to clean the grape juice on her fingertips. "So Miss Qiao Rou, you mean that your sister seduced your fiance?"

Qiao Rou looked at Gu Moling pitifully as tears flowed down her cheeks. "Yes, but these things are in the past now. I don't think my sister snatched my fiance on purpose. It's just that her living environment has made her greedy for money, so she did something wrong to try and seduce Brother Moling. She even became an old man's mistress..."

At this point, she suddenly covered her mouth. After realizing that she had said something she should not have, she quickly added, "No, no, my sister didn't become a mistress."

She made it seem that she was just talking nonsense instead of deliberately exposing her sister's shortcomings.

Qiao Xi sighed and looked at Qiao Rou with great sympathy. "So that's how it is. You're really pitiful. Brother Gu Zheng, let's not bicker with her, alright?"

Gu Zheng raised his brows slightly as he picked up a grape and slowly peeled it before placing it by Qiao Xi's mouth. He said in a low voice, "Alright. Since Mrs. Gu has spoken, of course, I'll listen."

Qiao Xi: "..."

The grape was still in her mouth. She did not know whether to eat it or not. At an angle where no one could see, she glared fiercely at Gu Zheng. Then, after swallowing the grape, she pretended to be curious and looked at Qiao Rou. "Brother Gu Zheng, I remember you told me that Gu Moling's fiancée is called Qiao Xi. Did I remember wrongly? Or did that person change her name to Qiao Rou?"

Qiao Rou was shocked, and her face turned pale!

The living room instantly fell into a dead silence. No one said anything. Qiao Rou's body was trembling. The people who sympathized with her for getting her fiance snatched by her sister earlier were now looking at her with curious looks, wanting to know what was going on.

Qiao Xi looked around her in confusion. "What's wrong? Did I say something wrong? But I remember that this is what I heard before. At that time, I even said that the name Qiao Xi is very pleasant to the ears."

Gu Zheng: "... 'You shouldn't be flattering yourself like this.'

Despite his complaints, the couple still stood united against outsiders. Gu Zheng's eyes were indifferent. "You did remember it correctly. She's called Qiao Xi."

Qiao Rou subconsciously wanted to say something but she did not expect Qiao Xi to beat her to it. She adjusted her sunglasses and said, "Ah, so I didn't remember wrongly. Then did you change your name? Qiao Xi is such a nice name, so why did you change your name to Qiao Rou? The sound of it makes one uncomfortable."

Qiao Rou: "...” Her face was contorted, but she did not dare to say anything. She could only clench her fists.

Qiao Xi propped up her chin and sighed. “I remember seeing Qiao Xi from afar. I was shocked when I saw her, but why do you seem different to me? You’re not as good-looking as Qiao Xi whom I saw that day, and your temperament isn’t as good either... Could it be that you underwent plastic surgery? You had such a good-looking face, yet you underwent plastic surgery to look like this. You’re really wasting the heavens’ blessings.”

Chapter 124: Exposed In Public

Gu Zheng could not help but tilt his head. He wanted to witness this woman praising herself without batting an eyelid.

Qiao Rou’s expression was very awkward. She felt that everything Mrs. Gu said was like a knife stabbing into her! She took a step back sadly, and her thin body was shaking. “I-I’m not Qiao Xi... I’m Qiao Rou.”

How could she not be as pretty as that b*tch, Qiao Xi?! Was this Mrs. Gu blind? She actually praised Qiao Xi for being pretty!

The living room fell silent again.

Gu Moling had no choice but to step forward to save the situation. “Master, Madam, my fiance has always been Qiao Rou. I have nothing to do with Qiao Xi.”

“Huh?” Qiao Xi turned around to look at Gu Zheng with dissatisfaction, and her pink fist lightly smacked his body. “Look at you, you even got the name of someone else’s fiance wrong. You made me look so bad. You’re so annoying.”

Qiao Xi said corny words while cringing in her heart. She felt that she was really sacrificing too much to punish Qiao Rou!

Gu Zheng grabbed her hand and held it tightly. His low and pleasant voice was filled with absolute confidence. “The Gu family’s intelligence network has never been wrong. Gu Moling’s fiancée is indeed Qiao Xi, and Qiao Rou is Qiao Xi’s younger sister... As for what happened between them, I have no idea. After all, the Gu family’s intelligence network doesn’t investigate such trivial matters.”

Gu Zheng did not seem to have said anything, but he also seemed to have exposed everything.

“Huh?”

Qiao Xi pretended to be surprised and opened her mouth wide. “So Qiao Xi is Gu Moling’s fiancée? Then why did he get together with Qiao Rou in the end? Qiao Rou, you even said that your sister stole your man... But you’re clearly the one stealing your sister’s man, right?”

The younger sister of the fiancée got together with the sister’s fiance. It did not sound right no matter what.

Gu Moling clenched his fists and was in an awkward, helpless state. He did not know what to say to save his image in the eyes of the head of the family. “Master, I...”

“Actually, if she wants to snatch someone else’s fiance, so be it. I think this must be a problem with her character. Some people are just cheap and like to snatch someone else’s fiance. However, she did such a thing yet pushed the blame away from her. She said it was her sister who stole her fiance and is a shameless mistress. Isn’t this a little too much?”

Qiao Xi shook her head, feeling disappointed in Qiao Rou and Gu Moling. “What should I do? I feel a little sorry for Qiao Xi. After her younger sister stole her fiance, she’s now being framed for something she didn’t do. It’s already bad enough that she lost her fiance. Now, even her reputation has been ruined to such an extent. This young lady is really too pitiful.”

Gu Moling’s body stiffened. Was it sad? Did Qiao Xi feel sad when she lost him?

Qiao Rou almost fainted when she heard Qiao Xi’s words! She put in so much effort to scheme against Qiao Xi to get rid of her label as the third party but in less than an hour after coming to Longwan Residential, the label was returned to her!

She stole her sister’s fiance and shamelessly accused her sister of being a mistress... But she was not the third party! The person Brother Moling loved had always been her, while the person who was not loved was the mistress!

The butler had a face full of disappointment. “So you’re the third party. To think that I actually sympathized with you when I heard what you said just now. Right, you said Qiao Xi came back from the countryside. If I remember correctly, Qiao Xi is the Qiao family’s legitimate eldest daughter, right? As for you... I remember you’re the illegitimate daughter from the time Qiao Xi’s father had an affair. How can an illegitimate daughter have the cheek to slander the Qiao family’s eldest daughter? How shameless.”

The servants around them also nodded. “That’s right, she’s too shameless.”

“She’s indeed the daughter of a mistress. She’s just like her mother who was a mistress. When she grows up, she’ll be a mistress too. She’ll interfere with other people’s relationships.”

Hearing their words, Qiao Rou was so angry that she almost fainted! She came to Longwan Residential to elevate her status, not to be mocked by these servants. What right did a bunch of low-class people who served others have to point fingers at her?! And this Mrs. Gu, she looked completely like a vixen. She probably earned Gu Zheng’s favor by selling herself. Gu Zheng would kick her out sooner or later!

No matter how hopping mad she was, Qiao Rou still maintained her innocent image and said softly, “Mrs. Gu, may I know how I’ve offended you? Why are you humiliating me like this...”

“Offend? You’ve never offended me.”

Qiao Xi shook her finger. “It’s just that I’m a very righteous person. I innately hate third parties and illegitimate children, yet you’re both of those things. Sigh, I think I might have been spoiled by Brother Gu Zheng. He usually likes it when I speak the truth. He thinks I’m so naive and cute... So you won’t take issue with me, right? I didn’t say those words on purpose to target you, okay?”

Chapter 125: Can’t Afford To Provoke

Qiao Rou was about to go crazy. How could this woman be so hypocritical?!

She even said that she was not deliberately targeting her. Which part of her speech just now was not sarcastically mocking her? Did she think that she could not tell?

Her expression was ferocious as she glared fiercely at Qiao Xi. "You...!"

"Qiao Rou!

Gu Moling suddenly raised his voice to cut off the words Qiao Rou was about to say. They had already left a bad impression on the head of the family and Mrs. Gu. If they continued to offend Mrs. Gu, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Thinking of this, he grabbed Qiao Rou's hand tightly. "Master, Madam, Rou Rou isn't able to think clearly today. She's not herself when she speaks. Please don't blame her. I'll bring her to see a doctor now. Master, I'll take my leave first."

As he spoke, he ignored Qiao Rou's struggles and dragged her out of the door.

Qiao Xi watched this scene with interest and clicked her tongue twice. "This Gu Moling is quite smart. He knew how to interrupt Qiao Rou. If he leaves now, even though he won't be able to give his family an explanation, it's still better than completely offending the two of us."

Gu Zheng sneered. "Smart? You call this smart?"

How was it smart for a blind man to treat Qiao Rou as a treasure and abandon Qiao Xi? However, he had to thank Gu Moling for his stupidity since it was because of him that he had the chance to marry Qiao Xi.

At the thought of this, he lowered his eyebrows. "Mrs. Gu, you performed very well today. You're finally acting like a madam."

Qiao Xi curled her finger. "Since that's the case, Brother Gu Zheng, do you want to give me a reward?"

For example, she wanted to kiss him and enjoy a delicious dinner. Of course, she was just thinking about it. This scumbag was not too willing to be touched by her. Unexpectedly, after she finished speaking, Gu Zheng actually nodded. "Okay."

Qiao Xi: "?"

Had the sun risen from the west?

...

On the other side, Qiao Rou was stuffed into the car by Gu Moling.

Qiao Rou wiped her tears pitifully. Gu Moling was annoyed but he had to comfort her. "Don't cry. That's Mrs. Gu. She's an existence we can't provoke."

His tone was a little harsh. Before entering the villa, he had clearly told Qiao Rou not to speak carelessly, but she did not take his words to heart at all. Not only did she take the initiative to speak, but she also offended Mrs. Gu. For the first time, Gu Moling felt that Qiao Rou's character was rather annoying.

Qiao Rou realized that Gu Moling's tone when he spoke to her was not quite right. She sniffled twice and quickly tried to salvage the situation. "Brother Moling, why does Mrs. Gu hate me so much? I spoke up for her own good in the beginning. Why did she treat me so..."

Gu Moling recounted what had happened today from beginning to end. Just as Qiao Rou had said, she did not do anything wrong. She was just too kind-hearted and wanted to remind the woman to leave as soon as possible. At that time, she did not know the woman's identity. Most importantly, they did not know about the head of the family's marriage.

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Thinking of it like this, Qiao Rou had not done anything wrong at all. If the matter had not happened to Qiao Rou, then he would have been the target instead. When he thought of how the head of the family and Mrs. Gu had mentioned his fiancée... Could it be because of Qiao Xi? Could it be that Mrs. Gu knew Qiao Xi and wanted to suppress Qiao Rou to help Qiao Xi vent her anger?

That shouldn't be the case. How could a vicious woman like Qiao Xi know Mrs. Gu? Moreover, he had never heard of Qiao Xi having any friends in Li City.

Qiao Rou carefully tugged at the corner of his shirt. "Brother Moling, do you think Mrs. Gu knows my sister? When she spoke, she kept talking about my sister and belittling me..." When this was mentioned, Qiao Rou felt angry, but she could not show it now. She could only suppress her anger and look at Gu Moling aggrievedly to get the man's sympathy.

Gu Moling thought for a moment and shook his head. "I don't think it's possible. Qiao Xi would have no chance of getting to know Mrs. Gu."

Qiao Rou also thought so. How could her good-for-nothing sister know a big shot like Mrs. Gu? They were not on the same level at all.

Thinking about this, her eyes shifted. "Brother Ling, why do you think Mrs. Gu hates me so much? She also said that I'm an illegitimate daughter and that my mother is a mistress, but my mother and father are truly in love. How could she be a mistress? Boo-hoo... Is it wrong to love someone?"

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Gu Moling's eyes lit up. Normally, a woman who could catch the eye of the head of the family had to be from a noble family and was a proper eldest daughter. It was normal for the eldest daughter to look down on an illegitimate daughter. However, it was also as Qiao Rou had said. What was wrong with true love? Uncle Qiao and Aunt Xu were truly in love, so Aunt Xu should not be labeled as a mistress.. Qiao Rou should not be called an illegitimate daughter either.

Chapter 126: Invitation To The Competition

"How about this? In a few days, I'll talk to Uncle Qiao about his marriage with your mother and get them to quickly hold the wedding. This way, you'll be the true Qiao family's eldest daughter in the public's eyes."

Qiao Zhenguo had not mentioned his marriage with Xu Mei all these years because of Qiao Xi's mother's will. It stated that if Qiao Zhenguo got a new wife before Qiao Xi took over the company, he would lose his current position and all the shares he held in the company. Hence, Xu Mei had been by Qiao Zhenguo's side for the past few years without a proper title. Even Qiao Rou's identity was a gray area.

Although they had announced to the public that Qiao Rou was the Qiao family's eldest daughter before Qiao Xi returned, it was only nominal.

Gu Moling thought that his suggestion was very good. Qiao Xi was a piece of trash now. Qiao Corporation was also in Qiao Zhenguo's control, so it was time for him and Aunt Xu to hold a wedding.

Qiao Rou smiled and leaned weakly against Gu Moling's chest as she said gratefully, "Brother Ling, you're too good to me. I don't even know how to repay you."

Gu Moling stroked her head. "Silly, isn't it my duty to be good to you?"

Qiao Rou smiled shyly. When she lowered her head, a trace of light flashed past her eyes. There would be plenty of chances in the future to get Gu Zheng, but the chance to make her mother an official wife was rare. Her father would definitely listen to Gu Moling's suggestion. She would be able to take this opportunity to officially become the Qiao family's eldest daughter and take away the inheritance left behind by Qiao Xi's late mother. Just thinking about it made her feel carefree.

...

On the other side, Qiao Xi followed Gu Zheng upstairs. She was very curious about what gift Gu Zheng was talking about.

Gu Zheng was a little too much at times, but since he had called it a reward, it should not be too bad. His reward was definitely something that others could not even ask for and something that countless people would covet.

Hence, Qiao Xi was quite looking forward to it.

Gu Zheng withdrew a document from the table and casually handed it to Qiao Xi who was following behind him. "Take a look at this. It's your reward."

Qiao Xi excitedly opened the leather cover and took out the contents. After glancing at the document, she immediately choked. "Cough cough, are you joking?"

It was an invitation letter for an international real-time translation competition. This was an internal competition. All the participants were recommended by various big shots. The people recommended by the big shots represented the big shots' reputation to a certain extent.

In the eyes of others, Qiao Xi came from the countryside. She probably did not even know English, so how could she participate in a competition for real-time translation like this.

"You don't want to go?"

Qiao Xi's expression was extremely complicated. "I don't think this is a matter of whether I want to go or not."

Although she was not afraid of trouble, she hated trouble. Once the news that she was participating in the competition got out, she could imagine how the public would mock her. It would definitely be unprecedented.

Gu Zheng tilted his head to look at her and chuckled. "What's the problem, then? Strength? If even the champion of the previous competition is not qualified to participate, then there's no need to hold this competition anymore."

Qiao Xi's heart thumped. Damn, how did this scumbag know that she participated in the previous competition and even became the champion?!

Unfortunately, before she could ask, Gu Zheng's phone rang. He pulled open the balcony door of the study to take the call, leaving Qiao Xi alone in the study with a conflicted expression.

Even Third Brother and the rest did not know that she was the champion of the translation competition last year. How did Gu Zheng know? Last year, she participated in the real-time translation competition on a whim. She originally wanted to kill some time and just casually chose to participate. Unexpectedly, because she was too young, she was looked down upon by many people. They said that she was here to play and was not qualified to stand next to the other participants.

Qiao Xi's temper flared up. Since they said that she did not have the ability, she wanted to show them what true ability was! After that, she accidentally became the champion and was also the most powerful dark horse in history. Many people still remembered last year's real-time translation competition vividly.

Countless people used her attainment that time to motivate themselves. Even if they were looked down upon or mocked by countless people, true ability was everything! By relying on one's ability, one could make all the haters shut up!

Qiao Xi scratched her head. She wondered if she had misheard earlier. Perhaps Gu Zheng was not saying that she was the champion of last year's competition but brought it up to encourage her?

She thought that it had to be the case. After all, it was impossible for Gu Zheng to know that she had participated in the competition last year!

Chapter 127: Kowtow And Call Me 'Daddy'

On Monday, Qiao Xi went to class as usual. She did not expect to hear that Qiao Rou had applied for leave. Could it be because the impact from yesterday was too big?

Tsk tsk, this person's psychological endurance was too poor.

"Teacher, the English test is in the afternoon. Don't you want to say something to encourage us?" The class monitor of Class 3 looked at Qiao Xi with a helpless expression.

"Ah," Qiao Xi said. Only then did she remember that there was an English test this afternoon. The English test this time would test the students' level of translation on foreign literature. Normal universities would not have this test, but Li City University supported the students' comprehensive development and fought for international connections. Hence, there were quite a number of strange tests.

Translating foreign languages was not difficult. The difficult part was how to express the contents of the sentence clearly. With a large number of unfamiliar terms, this would also increase the difficulty of translation. Many of the words were in local dialects too. If one did not have a detailed understanding of foreign cultures, it would be difficult to translate.

Li City University probably only had the exam at this time because they wanted to elect a suitable student to participate in the upcoming International Real-time Translation Competition.

When she thought of the invitation, Qiao Xi's enthusiasm dissipated. She waved her hand lazily at the class monitor. "It's fine, just take the test."

The class monitor was even more speechless now. "Teacher, have you forgotten our bet with Wang Qing? Although we know that the possibility of winning is very low, we don't want to just give up straight away."

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows. "Who told you that the possibility of winning is very low?" Did they think that she, the champion of the previous competition, carried the title just for show? The homework she usually assigned to these students was all the basics to help them prepare for the competition. They looked simple but were actually useful. Would they need to be afraid once a solid foundation was set?

The class monitor did not know that Qiao Xi had already taught them the topics important for the competition. When he heard Qiao Xi's confident words, he wanted to say, 'Master, you think too highly of us.'

Just as he was about to analyze the strengths of their class for Qiao Xi, a strange voice suddenly came from the door. "I'll definitely get full marks in this test. Qiao Xi, just wait to lose. I can't wait to see you kneel and kowtow to me!"

Qiao Xi turned around to look at the person. "What if we get full marks? You should kneel down and kowtow to me twice while calling me 'Daddy'."

Wang Qing was silent for a while, then suddenly laughed out loud. "Full marks? Hahahaha, Qiao Xi, is there something wrong with your head? Do you know that I've always ranked first place in English in the cohort? What right do a piece of trash like you have to snatch first place from me?"

Qiao Xi smiled as she looked at her. "How would I know if I don't try?"

Wang Qing stopped laughing and observed Qiao Xi seriously. Seeing that Qiao Xi's expression was serious, she nodded and said, "Okay, but if you lose, you'll kneel down in front of the university gate on behalf of your students and admit that you're a piece of trash in front of everyone. You'll admit that you can't compare to Qiao Rou at all!"

The surrounding students could not stand it anymore. They knew Class 3's ability too well. They were always last place in every examination. How could they compare to Wang Qing, who was first in her cohort? Was Qiao Xi asking to be humiliated?

"Why don't we forget about it? It's just an exam. There's no need to make such a big deal out of it."

"Yeah, why should she kneel? Whoever loses has to buy something for the other party. Girls like makeup and bags, so just buy some luxury goods."

Wang Qing sneered. "Buy luxury goods? Have you forgotten how Qiao Xi gets her money? I don't want her to buy me things with that kind of dirty money. Just compete according to the terms we set. Qiao Xi, do you dare to take on the challenge? Tell me."

Qiao Xi nodded indifferently. "Of course. Didn't I say that if you lose, you'll kneel down and kowtow to me while calling me 'Daddy'? Let's make it clear in advance that we won't go back on our words. I'm different from all of you. I'll admit my loss, but all of you will keep playing tricks on me. If I lose, you'll want to go back on your word. You'll probably even make yourself appear pitiful and disgusting to get the ignorant audience to plead for you. Just thinking of that scene makes me feel annoyed."

They could make a bet, but they had to make things clear beforehand. They could not go back on their words!

Wang Qing was extremely confident in her own strength, so she agreed to Qiao Xi's request without the slightest hesitation.

The class monitor was dumbfounded when he saw the situation developing into this. Was their test also going to be a gamble on their teacher's dignity? Wasn't this too much pressure?

He was extremely anxious, but Qiao Xi, the person involved, was extremely relaxed. She even patted his shoulder and said to him, "It's okay, just take the test normally. Don't be nervous."

The class monitor: "..."

'It would be strange if I weren't nervous!'

Chapter 128: Sister Has Good English

Wang Qing only dared to say that she would take first place because Qiao Rou would not be participating in the English test this time.

In the past, Qiao Rou always came in first while Wang Qing came in second.

At the Academic Affairs Bureau, Qiao Rou was applying for leave with Xu Mei. The dean said with a smile, "It's alright if you don't take the test this one time. You've always been doing very well. It's just a pity that you won't be able to take it due to your health issues. The winner this time will be recommended for the International Real-time Translation Competition."

Qiao Rou's face froze for a moment, and she sighed. "I can't help it. It's my fault that my body is too weak." She only chose to take leave and not participate in the test because she heard that the winner this time would be selected to go for the competition. In the past, the English tests were always conducted by others, so she could maintain her rank of first place. However, due to the selection for the competition, the test this time would be very strict. She would not have a chance to cheat, so she gave up on the idea and pretended to be sick.

However...

She smiled lightly. "Even though I can't take the test, my sister should be able to. Do you remember Qiao Xi?"

The dean nodded. "Of course. She's Teacher Qiao from the fashion design department. I remember that she became a special teacher in the university at a young age. It's just that she appears and disappears unpredictably in the university and doesn't have much time to interact with others."

Qiao Rou said, "Yes, my sister's results are very good. Otherwise, she wouldn't have become a teacher in the university even though we're the same age. If there are no outstanding students from the test this time around, you can consider recommending my sister, Dean. She's so outstanding, so she'll definitely be able to bring back honor for the university during the international competition."

The dean's eyes lit up. That was right! He was worried about what to do since Qiao Rou was applying for leave and would not be going to the international competition. Qiao Xi and Qiao Rou were about the same age. If Qiao Xi could participate in the competition...

Seeing that the dean was interested, Qiao Rou added, "But we can't give her special treatment just because she's a teacher. Why don't we do this instead? You can have her take the test..."

The dean hesitated for a moment. "I have to discuss this with Teacher Qiao Xi and see if she's willing." Teachers were different from students. If Qiao Xi did not agree, he could not force her to agree.

After saying that, he thought of something else. "However, I just heard that Qiao Xi's students want to compete with Wang Qing on the English test. The stakes are quite high. Something about kneeling, kowtowing, and calling out 'Daddy'. Sigh, this is why the university doesn't want to hire teachers who are too young. They're rash and don't consider the consequences when they do things."

"What?!"

Xu Mei widened her eyes in shock. "You're saying that b*tch Qiao Xi wants to compete with Wang Qing in English?!"

The dean had a good impression of Xu Mei and thought that she was an elegant noblewoman. However, her yell surprised him. He looked at Xu Mei in a daze, not knowing how to react. Was... she really a noblewoman? How was she noble? She was simply like a tigress who wanted to eat someone.

He was stunned by Xu Mei's sudden change. He stammered, "Y-Yes, I think it's true that they're competing on the English test."

"That piece of trash! It's fine that she wants to compete with others, but the penalty if she loses is that she'll have to kowtow. If that happens, won't it be embarrassing for our Qiao family? The Qiao family has already been implicated by her. This b*tch!" Xu Mei gnashed her teeth in anger. "If I had known she was so troublesome, I would've married her off long ago. Things wouldn't have turned out this way!"

The dean: "..."

What was going on? Didn't Qiao Rou just say that Teacher Qiao Xi's results were good? Why was Madam Xu talking about Qiao Xi like she was a good-for-nothing? Who was right here?

The dean opened his mouth and was about to say something to ease the atmosphere when he heard Xu Mei say sinisterly, "Why isn't this b*tch dead yet? Why is she always getting in the way? Doesn't she feel guilty that the Qiao family has been implicated by her? She even has the cheek to swagger to university. If I were her, I would've killed myself to apologize!"

Xu Mei was extremely irritable today. When she thought about how Qiao Rou's visit to Longwan Residential was ruined by Qiao Xi, she wished for nothing more than to skin Qiao Xi alive. If it were not for Qiao Xi, Qiao Rou would be the Qiao family's true eldest daughter. She would not be called an illegitimate daughter by others, much less offend Mrs. Gu!

She pushed all the blame to Qiao Xi.

Qiao Rou knew that her mother was angry, but she did not expect her to suddenly flare up. Seeing that the dean's expression was not good, she quickly pulled Xu Mei's arm. "Mom, I know you're worried about my sister."

Chapter 129: Do You Want To Take The Test Too?

She raised her voice slightly. "However, there are many things about Sister that we don't know. Just like how we thought that she would lead a miserable life after leaving the Qiao family and would quickly be unable to take it anymore and come back to look for us. Not only did Sister not come back in the end but she even found a very rich man..."

After she finished speaking, she realized that this did not seem to be appropriate to talk about, so she quickly continued, "So don't be so strict with Sister. Sister has been hiding her talents well and will definitely achieve good results in this examination. Give her a chance and let her compete with Qing Qing, alright?"

Xu Mei instantly calmed down. She knew that she had lost her composure just now. What she said did not match Qiao Rou's words. Fortunately, Rou Rou was smart and quick-witted. She was able to salvage the situation instantly.

"That's right. I was so worried about Qiao Xi losing the competition that I forgot it's impossible for her to lose with her strength." Xu Mei looked at the dean with an embarrassed expression. "Dean, you can understand, right? As parents, we always think of worst-case scenarios. We're afraid that our child will be hurt in the slightest. I only spoke nonsense because I was too worried about Qiao Xi. I hope you don't mind."

Although the dean found it strange, he also knew that rich people had a lot of messy situations to deal with. He did not want to get involved, so he nodded perfunctorily. "Yes, yes, yes, I understand."

Qiao Rou shifted her eyes and said to Xu Mei in a low voice, "Mom, don't worry about my sister. I'm good friends with Wang Qing. If my sister really loses the bet, I'll tell Wang Qing to let the matter go. So don't worry, my sister won't really kneel down and apologize. Of course, I'm talking about the possibility of her losing. If my sister really loses the bet, that's a good thing too. My sister is too arrogant. It'll be good for her to lose the bet and learn a lesson. That way, she'll know that there's always someone better than her."

Xu Mei patted Qiao Rou's hand. "Rou Rou, you're so thoughtful."

Of course, even though she agreed, she still felt that Qiao Xi was an idiot looking for trouble. She was really a good-for-nothing who could only bring shame to the Qiao family!

The dean sent the two of them away with a complicated expression. Before he left, he could even hear Xu Mei say to Qiao Rou, "After this matter is over, have Qiao Xi leave Li City University. Is someone like

her worthy of teaching at Li City University? Don't lead her astray! That useless piece of trash will only bring shame to the Qiao family."

The dean was speechless. For the first time, he wondered if there was something wrong with the mother and daughter's brains. Qiao Xi was a teacher specially recruited by their university. She obviously had the ability, so how could she not be qualified to teach at Li City University? Moreover, Class 3, which was the class she taught, had been very obedient recently. Many teachers gave him feedback, saying that the students in Class 3 were a lot more responsive now. They listened well in class and even took the initiative to ask them questions.

This obviously showed that Qiao Xi was absolutely skilled in teaching students.

...

When Qiao Xi heard from the dean, she was quite surprised. She had always been carefree in the university, and the dean had always turned a blind eye to her. She did not know why he called her over this time.

After hearing the dean's question, Qiao Xi touched her chin. "So, it was my younger sister who told you that my English results are very good and suggested that I take the test as well?"

The dean nodded. Of course, after the incident with Qiao Rou and Xu Mei, he did not believe what the two of them said anymore.

"Teacher Qiao, don't be too nervous. It's okay if you don't agree. I'm just casually asking."

"It's fine. It's just a test anyway. Maybe if they know that I'm taking the test, the students in my class can relax. Otherwise, they'll all have tense expressions as though the sky is collapsing."

The dean did not expect Qiao Xi to really agree. He confirmed in disbelief, asking, "Teacher Qiao, have you thought it through? You really want to take the test?" He was just short of telling Qiao Xi that her younger sister and stepmother wanted to dig a hole for her. He wanted to warn her not to fall for their tricks.

Qiao Xi thought it was funny and laughed out loud. "Yes, I've thought it through. Dean, you can go ahead and make the arrangements. I'll be taking the test this afternoon."

Qiao Rou had taken the initiative to make a move on her. There was no reason why she should not play along.

...

The test began at two in the afternoon and ended at four.

Qiao Xi glanced at the paper and finished it as soon as possible. She glanced at the time and noticed that there was still over an hour left. She did not want to continue wasting time here, so she handed in the paper in advance.

The students in the same venue as her instantly broke into an uproar.

Chapter 130: She Doesn't Dare To Come, Does She?

As a teacher, it was already shocking enough for Qiao Xi to take the test with the students, yet she even handed in her paper so soon after the test began? Could it be that she was here to put on a show?

When some of them heard about the bet between Qiao Xi and Wang Qing, they all felt that Qiao Xi was under too much pressure and was mentally unstable. Qiao Xi did not know what the students in the hall were talking about behind her back. After she left the hall, she went straight to the materials room of Li City University. Previously, Gu Zheng had agreed to let her read the materials, but she never had the time. Now that she was finally free, she would go there.

She mainly wanted to look up information from 20 years ago, but she did not expect there to be zero information from 20 years...

How strange. Were that person and organization so mysterious? They could even erase such confidential information? Qiao Xi looked at the empty file box and pondered for a moment before turning to leave.

The news that she had gone to the materials room was immediately relayed to Gu Zheng. He looked at the news on his phone and his handsome face darkened slightly. Why was Qiao Xi looking up information from 20 years ago?

...

The next morning, Qiao Xi walked into the classroom while holding the breakfast the chef had handed her before he left.

Before she stepped into the classroom, she heard Wang Qing's arrogant laughter. "Hahaha, where's Qiao Xi? Why isn't she here yet? She's too embarrassed to come, right?"

After the test yesterday, she found out that Qiao Xi had taken the test as well and even handed in her paper before time was up. This was truly too delightful. Even though it would feel good to win a bet with Qiao Xi's students, how could it be as satisfying as stepping on Qiao Xi's toes?

"Qing Qing, don't be like this. My sister must be quite sad now. Let's leave first, okay?" This voice belonged to Qiao Rou, that two-faced b*tch.

"Yeah, she really should be sad. She must have had a hard time pretending, right? I don't know who gave her the confidence to dare take the test. Could it be that she didn't know the university had adjusted the difficulty of the test for the sake of the international competition this time? A piece of trash like Qiao Xi probably can't even understand the questions, right?"

Qiao Rou sighed and looked troubled. "Qing Qing, I know that my sister is bound to lose this time, but can you not have her kneel down to you on my account? She's my sister, after all..."

Wang Qing was just about to ask why, but before she could say anything, she saw Qiao Xi lazily leaning against the door and occasionally taking a bite of the sandwich in her hand. Her posture was very leisurely. She did not look nervous at all.

Wang Qing felt that something was wrong, but when she thought about it carefully, Qiao Xi was probably forcing herself. She wanted to save her dignity. The test this time was very difficult, and there

were some things that even she did not know. After the test ended, she even felt that there was not enough time.

Qiao Xi must have failed to finish the paper before handing it in. She probably gave up after glancing at it. When Wang Qing thought about it, she laughed mockingly. "Oh, you still dare to come? I thought you ran away."

Qiao Xi did not even look at her as she tossed the sandwich bag into the trash can. She clapped her hands and walked into the classroom. A clever student stood up to give up her seat.

Qiao Rou walked over with a gentle smile. "Sister, I took leave yesterday and didn't come to university. I missed the test and didn't stop you from competing with Qing Qing in time. The results are out now... It's okay, it doesn't matter whether you win or lose. I'll always support you."

The students watching all thought that Qiao Rou was the best sister in the world.

Qiao Xi smiled meaningfully. "Didn't you know about the competition? Wasn't it all thanks to you that I was able to take the test?"

Qiao Rou's expression froze. How did Qiao Xi know... Could it be that the dean had let it slip? However, it did not matter. She just had to deny it. After all, her classmates would believe her.

Thinking about this, Qiao Rou's expression returned to normal. She bit her lip and felt a little aggrieved. "Sister, how can you say that? How would I have pushed you into a fire pit? I admit that I did tell the dean that you're the same age as me and can try to take the test, but it was just a recommendation. If you hadn't overestimated yourself and agreed, my recommendation would have been useless.

"I know that you didn't do well in the test this time and you're upset, but you can't vent your anger out on me. I've always supported your decision. And because Qing Qing and I are good friends, I told her that she shouldn't ask you to kneel and apologize even if you lost..."

Wang Qing quickly said, "Wait, I didn't agree to that."

After she finished speaking, she turned to look at Qiao Xi. "You were the one who said that we have to admit our loss. You can't go back on your word because of Qiao Rou. Let me tell you, if you lose, you have to kneel and apologize. Do you hear me?!"