

Schoolgirl 371

Chapter 371: Starting Winter Break With An Emergency Notice

Poor Ya Dang drove everyone home with a sulk.

On the way back, Yun Jian told Yun Yi, as honest as she could, regarding her identity as New Cruise's director, unreserved in details from the start to the end.

There was one thing she kept from him, however, that was the fund she started New Cruise with. She told Yun Yi that it came from the bank loan.

Yun Yi was not skeptical at all, fully believing his sister, and accepted her truth.

Everything seemed to have gone back to normal.

Yun Jian traveled back and forth among her school, the military training camp, Falcon Hall's headquarter, and her home, spending her days in easy pleasure.

At the same time, she was planning to return to Gu Sha Mercenaries' headquarters. She had thought about it for a long time but had not had the time to do it.

Her current plan was to wait until the final exam was over and find an excuse to visit Gu Sha's headquarters during the winter break.

Three weeks flew by swiftly and the final exam came as dated.

With the exam scheduled for two days, all the students were drained haggard by it. Yun Jian was the exception, looking good as usual.

"Whoa, Jian Jian, we're finally free! I'm vomiting blood soon facing two days' worth of papers! We have to sit through the principal's winter break speech later too. Just thinking about it gives me a headache but we're finally going on a break! Haha! Do you know how long I've been waiting for this day..." Chen Xinyi rattled on and on beside Yun Jian.

It had been a while since she heard the girl's complaints, so Yun Jian was enjoying it today.

Qing You was not here for the exam as she had gone back to her hometown recently. Her parents were still alive. Back when she was abducted to the organization, she was already ten years old, an age where she could remember things.

Qing You had not spent long in the organization when she was selected by Snake.Lizard to play with poison. With her talent and competence, she followed Yun Jian around after having accomplished her training.

Basically, Qing You did not go through the brutal elimination training of an assassin. In addition, her parents were around, so it was only a matter of course that she would go back for visits occasionally.

"Hey, hey, hey, Jian Jian, are you listening?" Chen Xinyi asked with a wave when she saw Yun Jian looking over to a side with a thoughtful look on her face.

“Yeah, I am.” With beaming eyes, Yun Jian replied to Chen Xinyi, thus prompting the latter to go into another chatter.

With the winter break approaching, the boarding students usually packed and went home after listening to the principal’s speech as they did not have to go to school after that.

As for their final exam result, Longmen Yi Junior High School’s custom was to mail the students’ result slips to their houses. This way, all the parents would receive their children’s academic report.

It was a brilliant idea. Students who did not fare as well in studies would work hard as they were afraid of their parents giving them a scolding after finding out about their results.

After packing her bag, Yun Jian met Qing Yirou when she left the classroom. The latter had taken half a day off. She was here to help Yun Jian pack her beddings and belongings home since her daughter was a boarding student.

As Qing Yirou put away the items, Yun Jian’s phone that had not made a sound for a long time had buzzed. She took a glance at Qin Yirou before walking out of the bedroom to read the text message.

It was an emergency notice that Ge Junjian had sent.

“All Special Forces are to gather at the military training camp before six this evening!”

Chapter 372: A Stolen Antique—The Mission

Ge Junjian did not usually text them.

Under such circumstances, it must be urgent for Ge Junjian to inform them of the news through text messages.

Dimming the screen of her phone, Yun Jian returned to the bedroom and saw Qin Yirou having already loaded everything on her bed to a woven bag. The latter was currently trudging out with some difficulty holding on to the bag.

“Mom, I’ll do it.” Yun Jian went over and took the woven case from Qin Yirou.

“I can manage, Xiao Jian...” Qin Yirou called out at her daughter’s action.

“It’s okay, I’ll do it,” Yun Jian told Qin Yirou with a grin and went ahead grabbing the bag with a single hand.

“I’ll carry your book bag then! Either that or you give me back the woven bag!” Qin Yirou went over to take the bag on Yun Jian’s shoulder, insisting to help her.

Her book bag was light, so Yun Jian let her. The woven bag she was holding, on the other hand, was heavy, even when it did not mean much to her.

Compared to the weight of the bags, Yun Jian was content that she now had mother’s love.

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Lugging everything home, Yun Jian hastily told Qin Yirou that there was an emergency in the military before she headed out again.

Knowing that Yun Jian was a member of the Advanced Special Forces now, Qin Yirou made no opposition, as long as Yun Jian prioritized her safety. It was the least a mother could ask of her daughter.

“Xiao Jian, take this pancake along. You can have it on the way. It’s meal time now, you can’t skip dinner!” Qin Yirou hurried to Yun Jian when she saw her hastening away, pushing the pancake she had pan-fried earlier to her daughter.

“Thanks, mom.” Yun Jian stuck her tongue out in a cheeky smile.

“Silly girl, what are you thanking me for? We’re family!” Qin Yirou replied with a chuckle.

Yun Jian then left with a nod and a grin.

After she left home, she came to a parking lot around the headquarter of Falcon Hall. Her Ferrari sports car had been here all this while.

Hopping into the sports car, Yun Jian stepped on the accelerator and the car zoomed off, skidding into the roads and streets like a flash of lightning.

At the military training base, Chu Ning, Chu Xiangnan, and a few others were already in a line.

Yun Jian sped her way to the training camp and ran in, slotting herself into formation right in time. If one looked closer, there were pancake crumbs on the corners of Yun Jian’s lips.

Other than Yun Jian, Chu Ning, and the rest of their seven-member squad, there were several veterans of the Special Forces beside them. Some were even official Advanced Special Forces members.

Ge Junjian stood in front of everyone, looking back at them with a deep frown locked in place.

“Is everyone here? Headcount!” he hollered.

The group of militants did as told and with a confirmation of the number of members, Ge Junjian went into the topic.

“This mission is very urgent, thus requesting all of you here in the base,” Ge Junjian said seriously, with a frown still locked in place.

He continued. “An incredibly valuable piece of antique in Zhe Province’s museum was stolen this morning and the culprit’s internationally infamous thief who’s very skilled.”

“The antique is a national treasure of Country Z. Losing it isn’t just a loss of treasure, it’s a loss of Country Z’s pride!”

“All of you are summoned here today to pursue the antique!”

“Our current intel is limited. We only know that the thief’s headed for Country A. you’ll be heading to Country A for this mission and it’s absolute that you retrieve our nation’s antique!”

Chapter 373: The Monarch Squad. To Country A

Ge Junjian spoke with a masculine, principled and righteous tone that mirrored the staunch stance and pride of a militant. Even when he was well into his middle age now, it did not change the fact that he was the leader of the Advanced Special Forces.

His words felt heavy with a sense of oppression to everyone, except Yun Jian.

“Report! Is this mission executed immediately?” The leader of Yun Jian’s team, Liu Shiyun, asked.

Ge Junjian shifted his gaze to him and nodded. “Yes. I’ll deploy three squads to Country A. The antique must be reclaimed!”

Three squads were three teams of members. A team usually consisted of seven to eight people while Yun Jian’s team of seven was considered a squad too.

Deploying three squads to carry out the mission simultaneously was evident how much emphasis Ge Junjian had placed in this mission.

After his reply, Ge Junjian pointed to the members of the other two squads.

These two teams were Advanced Special Forces, veterans at that. Their abilities were frontal among the AFS as they were elites among them.

At the tip of Ge Junjian’s finger, it meant that these two squads were enlisted among the people he was sent to Country A for the mission.

Lastly, his hand stopped at Yun Jian and the team. He told the seven of them, “Get ready, you’re departing to Country A after thirty minutes. I’ll inform your families respectively.”

“Seven of you have only given yourselves nicknames previously. You’re to think of a name for your squad now. Let me know after half an hour. Gear up with your weapons now.”

This time, Ge Junjian had asked seven of them to put on the full gear. The mission at hand was far more challenging than the last one.

The reason Ge Junjian did not send all veterans for this was because the time Yun Jian’s teams had taken to complete their last mission was truly amazing. This should not have been a mission for newbies like them to take on, but he had sent them on it anyway. It was obvious how highly Ge Junjian regarded them.

Yun Jian and the team went into the armory.

They were not selecting only one weapon this time. They were wearing the full set of gears, the official Special Forces equipment.

The teenagers were not unfamiliar with the process. After the completion of their last mission, Ge Junjian had upped the level of difficulty in their training and followed the routine of the Advanced Special Forces!

It was both an honor and torture to them.

Other than Yun Jian, the rest of the team were completely spent during this period of time.

Nonetheless, it was now time to put their practice into action.

“Hey, let’s discuss quickly. What are we calling our team? Heh, what about we follow my pseudonym and go with the Thor Team?” Chu Xiangnan asked with a laugh as he put on his equipment.

“Ew, yuck! No way!” Chu Ning snapped back at him.

“Let our leader name the team,” Fang Xiaoran spoke up.

“Me? I can’t. Yun Jian, why don’t you suggest something?” Liu Shiyun waved his hands in dismissal and kicked the ball of the task to Yun Jian.

“Monarch,” Yun Jian said with crescent eyes.

“What?” The rest were surprised.

“Team Monarch, the jewel in the crown,” Yun Jian answered with a flip of hair that was covering her brow.

“That’s a great name!” Chu Ning was the first to respond, clapping her hands with a beam.

“Mm, we’ll go with this name then.” Leader Liu Shiyun nodded.

Since their team leader had spoken, the rest of the team had no comments.

Team Monarch, the jewel in the crown—they were overseeing the world like a king, standing at the peak; no one was to walk over them as they would be executed without mercy!

Yun Jian pressed her lips together.

After they reported their team name to Ge Junjian and the latter cautioned them, cars took all three squads to Country A.

Chapter 374: A Dispute In The Double-Decker Bus

Translator: EndlessFantasy Translation **Editor:** EndlessFantasy Translation

Country A was Country Z’s neighboring nation, sharing a border, but it took the Advanced Special Forces some time as they were traveling on land.

This mission was highly risky. Ge Junjian had mentioned it before they were deployed. However dangerous it was, no one opted out of it.

War-stricken, Country A was in no place comparable to Country Z in terms of economic prosperity. In addition, the country had terrible law and order, bloodshed and murder on the streets a common sight.

Considering the fact that three squads amounted to over twenty members, Ge Junjian sent a bus to take them to the destination. It was a double-decker bus with seats in both levels.

Chu Ning and her peers were intrigued by the novelty and kept roaming both levels in the double-decker bus.

“This bus is so cool! It has two floors! Like a house, it’s a moving house!” Chu Ning skipped her way up and down the vehicle, sometimes plopping herself down beside Yun Jian.

Yun Jian, on the other hand, sat down quietly at a window seat on the upper level of the big bus. Her lips were pressed together as she gazed outside the window, her thoughts a mystery.

Since it was a double-decker bus, there were a lot of seats. With a total of a little over twenty people, all of them sat scattered. Basically, one could sit anywhere that was unoccupied.

All seven members of Team Monarch that Yun Jian was in sat separately on both floors too.

As Chu Ning went back and forth between the top and bottom level, she was currently away from Yun Jian as she ran for the seat in the lower level.

Yun Jian merely smiled at that, thinking to herself what an active child the girl was.

The journey was a long one. Country A was near Country Z, but it was a foreign country outside of the border after all. They had to cover some distance traveling through various provinces from Zhe Province.

Many among the militants had begun to take their rest and sleep when they could.

Arriving in Country A would mean another life and death challenge. Each mission had its risk, after all.

Yun Jian shut her eyes as well for some rest.

Not even fifteen minutes into her nap, violent noises came from the bottom level of the double-decker bus.

With a frown, Yun Jian opened her eyes. It was the same time she heard a bellow from below her, “F*ck! What are you so proud of? You guys are just newbies—how capable are you!”

Yun Jian then heard hasty footsteps from the staircase that connected the upper level of the bus. It was Chu Ning who rushed up toward her, speaking anxiously, “Yun Jian’er, go have a look. Chu Xiangnan got into an argument with someone from the other team!”

Someone from the other team logically meant the other two teams aside from Team Monarch.

Yun Jian could not pretend like nothing happened when she was informed now. Standing up, she followed Chu Ning down the bus to the lower level. It was already exploding in dispute.

In front of Chu Xiangnan, a man in his twenties or thirties was held back by his teammates as he lashed out at the younger man, “You guys are just newbies in the forces! Do you really think you’re so great? You just completed one mission!”

The man’s tone was unforgiving. He looked as bearish as his brusque comments. Yun Jian had noticed right away that this man slating Chu Xiangnan was a member of the other team, Shao Weiming.

Chapter 375: There Are Always People Better Than You

Shao Weiming was a member of the other team named Champ Squad. He was already twenty-nine, nearing thirty years old.

He was not exactly old but it had been years since he joined the Special Forces. He had gone on a number of big missions but he had never been promoted.

Shao Weiming and Chu Xiangnan were positively in an argument, but the former was visibly more emotional than the latter. If Shao Weiming’s teammates did not hold him back, he would probably already be fighting Chu Xiangnan.

“Did you just call us green? What right do you have to call us that!” Chu Xiangnan’s tone was fervent as well. Unlike his usual jokester front, he was now retaliating fearlessly against Shao Weiming like he was defending his right.

“Are newbies now as arrogant as you guys from Team Monarch? Do you really think you’re better than us veterans just after accomplishing one mission brilliantly? Brat, let me remind you. You guys were still suckling from your mothers when we were already reporting for duties!”

Shao Weiming growled back at Chu Xiangnan fiercely as well.

“What’s going on here!”

Before Yun Jian said a word when she came down and saw Chu Xiangnan and Shao Weiming biting each other’s head off, a powerful voice came from her back.

A middle-aged man who was near forty years old spoke up sternly as he came down after Yun Jian. This strict looking man was the leader of Champ Squad, Yu Fengcheng.

Yu Fengcheng stepped out with an authoritative air. Once he spoke, Shao Weiming who was in his team quieted down.

“Cap, this bunch of newbies are really something! They just kept boasting about themselves. I just made some comments cause I couldn’t take it and he came roaring at me!” Shao Weiming tattled to Yu Fengcheng at once.

Coming to his forties, Yu Fengcheng assumed that he was sufficiently experienced. Scanning the area, he carried with him a superior and patronizing air.

He did not look at Shao Weiming but at Chu Xiangnan, raising his voice in asking, “Where’s the leader of your team? I want him to speak to me.”

Yun Jian was standing beside Yu Fengcheng. Glancing at him out of the corner of her eyes, there was a gleam in the girl’s gaze but she did not say anything.

“I’m the leader.” Liu Shiyun pushed through the crowd and walked over.

“I don’t care what your team thinks but we’re out here for a mission. Teamwork is the priority! You guys are new. As veterans, we’ll tolerate you a little in some aspects. After all, you’re all young and full of vigor,” Yu Fengcheng spoke without mincing his words.

There was a pause before he continued talking to Liu Shiyun—although, he was directing his words to all of Team Monarch, “Young people like you shouldn’t gloat when you amount to little achievement. There’ll always be taller mountains, just like there are always people better than you!”

What he meant was clear.

It was apparent that Yu Fengcheng had heard of the mission Yun Jian and team had gone on previously. It had been a difficult one, but they had completed it in less than half a day. This was no longer new in the Special Forces.

What Yu Fengcheng said was targeting the teenagers, telling them explicitly, “You guys may be quite skilled but don’t regard yourselves too highly!”

Liu Shiyun was also a team leader but he was only a little over twenty years old. Faced with the experienced Yu Fengcheng, he somehow lacked a little staunchness. Therefore, he made a sincere hum.

“Alright, that’s all. Dismiss yourselves! Don’t cause a scene for something so petty next time!” Yu Fengcheng said with a wave of a hand.

With that, everyone who was gathered around went off.

“Just you wait!” Shao Weiming spat at Chu Xiangnan before turning away.

This time, Yun Jian did not manage to contribute a word.

Chapter 376: She Can Speak Country A’s Language

Usually when an argument broke out between team members, their respective leaders would step out to mediate the situation. This time was no exception.

That was why Yun Jian had only watched from the side without chipping in.

After Yu Fengcheng spoke to Liu Shiyun, leader of Team Monarch, on behalf of Champ Squad, it signaled the end of the quarrel.

Even when Yu Fengcheng was unhappy with Team Monarch like Shao Weiming was, he would only criticize them indirectly. He was not going to tear down Chu Xiangnan with an explosive temper like Shao Weiming did.

In addition to Yu Fengcheng’s tone, the situation was dissolved.

When Shao Weiming sat back down in his seat with a huff, Chu Ning ran over to grab Chu Xiangnan who was still fuming to head for the upper level of the double-decker bus, possibly separating him from Shao Weiming who was on the base level.

While she walked toward the upper deck, Chu Ning called out for Yun Jian. “Yun Jian’er, come on too!”

“Mm.” Yun Jian nodded and trailed after them.

As Yun Jian was heading up, she could hear Shao Weiming’s taunt. “Hah, look at how scrawny Team Monarch is. I’m not trying to put them down but they must’ve lucked out in the last mission to finish it so smoothly. Tsk, these newbies, they’re horrible...”

His voice faded out as Yun Jian was already back on the upper deck of the bus.

“I’m about to explode!” Chu Xiangnan said before he even sat down.

“What happened? I was enjoying the scenery outside and you guys got into a dispute!” Chu Ning asked him with a frown.

Yun Jian sat down on a vacant seat, just behind Chu Xiangnan and Chu Ning.

“I was blowing horns with Hong Nerd about how marvelous we Team Monarch are just now. I’m boasting about ourselves, it’s not like I was in anyone’s way!”

“Then that dude got offended. It’s fine that he scolded me. He called Team Monarch green! Said we completed our mission back then due to sheer luck! Isn’t it infuriating!”

Chu Xiangnan rambled. He was feeling complicated. It was visible from his expression that he was really furious.

“Okay, okay. Calm down. We’ll find that antique before them when we arrive in Country A. We’ll clap back at them with our capabilities!” Chu Ning placated Chu Xiangnan instead of bickering with him. Both of them seemed like they were nemeses when they were together, poking fun and jabbing each other usually, but they sided with each other when they actually encountered a real challenge.

Resting her head leisurely against her arms that were propped behind herself, Yun Jian smiled looking at the pair in front of her. There was nothing that concerned her now, so she closed her eyes again for a nap.

The double-decker bus drove from Country Z to Country A without stopping. The scenery outside of the windows changed constantly while Yun Jian took a long break in the vehicle.

When night came, the bus stopped. It was not safe to drive at night and the driver needed rest too.

By the time the troops arrived in Country A, it was already six to seven the next evening.

All of them slept in their bus seats at night, resulting in subpar sleep quality. When they arrived in Country A, they were quick to look for a hotel.

Since Country A spoke neither Mandarin nor English, using their national language, it struck all three squads as they entered the hotel that there would be a language barrier.

For the sake of trying, Yu Fengcheng scanned the members like he was the leader of all and asked, “Who among you know how to speak Country A’s language?”

When his gaze swept across them, he did not spare Yun Jian and team a glance. To his recognition, newbies like Team Monarch did not even have any achievements to start with—how could they know a foreign language?

Just as he was about to give up, a light melodious voice of a girl rang. “I know how to.”

Chapter 377: The First Slap. Nuisance

Yu Fengcheng had raised his question after raking his eyes over his own Champ Squad and scoping the other team, Flying Dragons.

He did not even regard Team Monarch, his eyes not once landing on them when he asked the question.

Consequently, Yun Jian’s melodic voice actually came from behind him.

Yu Fengcheng was startled before he turned around and stared at Yun Jian, like everyone from Champ Squad and Flying Dragons did, asking skeptically, “You do? You sure?”

His tone was unbelieving. If it were someone else, Yu Fengcheng and others might just believe so, but Yun Jian was the youngest out of all of them.

Would she really learnt Country A's language at her young age?

Country A was not even speaking English!

Uncaring for the disbelieving gazes thrown her way, Yun Jian went to the front desk of the hotel and knocked at the counter with the pad of her fingers. Meeting eyes with the lady who was working there, she spoke to her in Country A's language that sounded exactly like a local, "Hello, beautiful lady, we have a total of twenty-one people. Please give us seven rooms."

There were twenty-one of them Special Forces, so seven rooms were just nice for three in a room. The girls Yun Jian, Chu Ning and Jiang Weiwei could all fit in one room as well.

"Sure, miss." The staff gave Yun Jian a pretty smile and attended to her request.

While they conversed, Yu Fengcheng and others were dumbfounded. Even when they did not know Country A's language, they could hear that the accent Yun Jian had when speaking it was the same as this local receptionist. Moreover, the lady had replied to her, evidently having understood Yun Jian.

Yun Jian really knew how to speak their language!

Yu Fengcheng and the others were baffled, especially the former. Watching Yun Jian walk back with the receipt and recalling how he had underestimated her earlier, he glowered like he fell into a pit of dung.

"Ready for check-in," said Yun Jian with a shake of the receipt and room keys in her hand.

Checking-in for hotels in Country A did not require complex procedures. In addition, Country A itself was not the most secure in terms of safety. Yun Jian easily obtained the receipt and room keys after paying.

The keys were the usual hotel card keys but since the country was underdeveloped, entry to the room was not by swiping the card.

As Yun Jian was there, everyone was able to move into their rooms swiftly.

Entering the hotel room, Chu Ning flopped down on the bed and chuckled looking at Yun Jian. "Heh, Yun Jian'er, you're amazing! Did you see how irked that leader from Champ Squad looked? Hah, that's for underestimating us!"

Chu Ning and Chu Xiangnan were frank with what they felt, more often than not expressing their feelings directly.

Yun Jian merely smiled at that.

Dum, dum, dum...

Someone knocked on their door then.

"I'll get it!" Chu Ning sprang up from the bed and ran to get the door barefoot just as Jiang Weiwei put down her luggage.

The door opened to reveal their leader, Liu Shiyun.

“Get yourselves ready and gather at the lobby later. All three squads will discuss the plan together.” Liu Shiyun was here to inform them.

“Okay, understood!” Chu Ning even gestured at the young man.

Yun Jian went around the room without taking her shoes off. As she heard what Liu Shiyun said, she followed him out straight away.

The lobby was a place the relatively deluxe hotel provided for guests to chat and relax. When Yun Jian, Chu Ning, and Jiang Weiwei came down, Yu Fengcheng and everyone else was already standing there.

“Tsk, women are just a nuisance!” As if seeking trouble, Shao Weiming raised his voice in commenting.

Other than Team Monarch, Champ Squad and Flying Dragons consisted of all men, so Shao Weiming’s words were directed at the former.

Chapter 378: Work Together Or—I Can’t Accept It

Shao Weiming’s specific jab reviled no reaction from Yun Jian while Chu Xiangnan, Chu Ning, and others tuned him out automatically as they turned a blind eye when it came to him.

Being ignored, Shao Weiming huffed and kept quiet in the end.

“Alright, quiet down!” Yu Fengcheng acted like he was the leader of all three squads again, calling out with a tap on the coffee table in front of him.

With that, everyone settled down.

“All three squads are here for the same mission, so we need to work together! Besides, the target of our mission is a globally infamous thief!” Yu Fengcheng expressed his thoughts.

“So you mean we should team up and work together?” someone asked.

Yu Fengcheng continued to express his view like he was making the most sense. “Yes, all three teams of us will work together to catch the thief and retrieve the item! During this time, I hope that we can unite to accomplish the task together without any more fights!”

This was Yu Fengcheng’s individual view. He made it sound so plausible and righteous that even he was impressed with himself.

Liu Shiyun kept quiet with a frown.

“I don’t agree.” While they were almost done with the discussion, a crisp female voice rang again to cut them off.

Yu Fengcheng felt a violent twitch on the corner of his eye. Turning around to seek the source of the voice, he found Yun Jian standing at her spot with a press of lips as she watched everyone’s attention shift to her gradually.

After a few seconds of silence, she reiterated, “I don’t agree. We have three squads now, twenty-one of us. Don’t you think it’s crying for attention if all three teams of us move together? This is like telling the thief who stole the antique that we’re coming to get you. I can’t accept it!”

“We’re promoting unity and teamwork and here you are trying to fly solo!” Someone from the Champ Squad shouted at Yun Jian indignantly.

Perhaps it was because of her young age, she was unable to earn her credibility even when she had spoken fluently in Country A’s language earlier.

“Exactly! Young girl, you aren’t experienced at all, you’ve been through too little. We’ve at least completed over a hundred missions. All of them we’ve accomplished through teamwork. We’re on a mission now! It’s not the time for you to do things at your whim!” Yu Fengcheng who embarrassed himself just now felt like blunting Yun Jian’s fiery spirit, thus retorting her in a condescending tone.

Yun Jian merely let out a chuckle. She nearly scoffed when Yu Fengcheng said that he had gone on more than a hundred missions but she held herself back ultimately, choosing to turn to Liu Shiyun and others. “What about you guys? Are you working together with them or with me?”

Yun Jian did not respond to Yu Fengcheng but her words spoke enough. She was asking her team if they were completing the mission with her or following Yu Fengcheng’s arrangement to carry out the mission with the rest of the men.

“Tsk, young girl, even a fool will know how to choose! Either you go your own way or you go with us!” The person from Champ Squad who spoke up just now made another jab at Yun Jian.

Yu Fengcheng lifted his chin up high as well. To him, Liu Shiyun and his members were certainly going along with him. After all, Yun Jian was just a teenager. How far could she go even when she was good?

As for Yu Fengcheng and the team he led, it was different. He had completed countless missions leading his men! It was impossible that Liu Shiyun would take his Team Monarch and go with a child like Yun Jian.

Then, the young man’s determined voice sounded. Liu Shiyun spoke decisively, “I’ll go with Yun Jian!”

Chapter 379: A Step Ahead. The Tiandi Canyon

“What?”

Yu Fengcheng cried, thinking that as the leader of Team Monarch, Liu Shiyun would opt to go with him. It came as a surprise that the latter chose to go with Yun Jian.

“I’ll go with Yun Jian’er too!” Chu Ning chorused without hesitation after Liu Shiyun.

“Me too!”

“Same...”

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After Liu Shiyun, the other five spoke up continuously, their choices all the same. Even Jiang Weiwei who was at loggerheads with Yun Jian in the beginning was voicing out resolutely to stand with Yun Jian.

“You—you guys?” Yu Fengcheng’s hands shook.

He then swallowed looking at Yun Jian and team before spitting, "Good job, all of you! I was inviting you to work with us sincerely since you guys are all new! Since you don't appreciate it, forget it!"

"Young people, you're all too arrogant with your youth! Humph, you better look out for yourselves!" Yu Fengcheng made his last comment before flinging his hands and left huffing.

He was still single-minded, believing that he was right.

At the same time, he wanted to see for himself how Yun Jian and the team would fail for not choosing to work together with him!

Yun Jian did not expect her team members to believe her without a doubt. She wore a small smile looking at them, not saying anything. In spite of it, some things were already spoken with actions.

With Yu Fengcheng leaving, both the teams that were working together left. It was certain that Yu Fengcheng had later persuaded Flying Dragons and both the squads, Champ Squad and Flying Dragons were initiating a collaboration.

Rejecting Yu Fengcheng's invitation, Yun Jian, Chu Ning, and Jiang Weiwei went to Liu Shiyun's room at night as all seven of them gathered to discuss their plan.

Coincidentally, Yun Jian received Ge Junjian's text message during their discussion. The message was simple but it was informative as there was a clue for them, "The last appearance of the thief who's stolen the antique is the Tiandi Canyon at Country A's F City."

The Tiandi Canyon was a famous scenic destination in Country A. Gazing ahead into the dozens of kilometers in the canyon, there were no other life forms except for extensive stretches of rocks. The canyon was steep and winding with uneven planes.

"Holy sh*t, why's the thief going there after stealing the antique?" Chu Xiangnan could not help cursing after reading the text.

"Too free I guess, haha!" Chu Ning laughed.

"We need two hours to go to Tiandi Canyon in F City from here. We'll depart first thing in the morning tomorrow. Let's rest up for today. Sleep now, we'll wake up at four tomorrow morning," Yun Jian announced looking at the team as she stood up.

"4 am, oh my goodness!" Chu Xiangnan whined.

"Okay, we'll follow what Yun Jian says!" Liu Shiyun stood up and declared.

"Alright, okay. We'll sleep!" Chu Xiangnan shrugged and threw himself on the bed.

Yun Jian and the girls returned to their room as well.

Yun Jian could sleep anytime while Jiang Weiwei was able to adjust her sleeping time as well. It was Chu Ning who tossed and turned for some time before finally falling asleep. Early the next morning before there was even a sliver of sunlight, Chu Ning was yanked up from bed by Yun Jian in the darkness.

Other than Yun Jian, everyone else was still drowsy. In spite of it, they were quick to move to a nearby bus station and took the earliest bus to F City with Yun Jian leading them.

By the time Yu Fengcheng and others had woken up, it was already six in the morning. The man gave it a thought and went to look for Yun Jian. It was because she was the only one among them who knew how to speak the local language. Yet, when they managed to get the door to her room open, they were greeted with an empty room.

Yu Fengcheng was taken aback but they knew that Yun Jian and the team must have departed to F City a step ahead of them.

The older men had received the text last night as well, so they made their way to catch a bus to rush to F City's Tiandi Canyon as quick as they could.

Chapter 380: South Of The Map, The Only Route

When Yu Fengcheng and the other men were catching the bus to F City's Tiandi Canyon, Yun Jian and her team were already alighting the bus.

F City's Tiandi Canyon was a scenic tourist spot in Country A. There was no greenery along the dozens of kilometers in the perimeter of the canyon; even when there was a sprout or weed, they were scarce and far apart.

Basically, there was no forest available in the Tiandi Canyon.

While it was a scenic area, there were not many tourists around. There was no entry ticket needed too, so anyone could go in and out of the place freely.

Since the Tiandi Canyon was such a vast area, one would spend days there on foot. Yun Jian and the team were swift to decide on renting a jeep.

It was not expensive to rent a vehicle. Ge Junjian had given them plenty of Country A's currency before they departed and Yun Jian knew how to speak the local language. It took them no time in securing a rented car.

The jeep was not too small, fitting seven of them with a slight squeeze.

Fang Xiaoran was the one who drove. His driving skill was not the worst. Moreover, there was no need to drive fast when they were driving without a destination in the expansive canyon.

"Yun Jian, what are we doing next? Even when the thief is in here, this is such a big place. It's like finding a needle in a hay stack to search for him without any destination in mind," Liu Shiyun turned to ask Yun Jian out of habit.

He was Team Monarch's leader but somehow, he was used to treating Yun Jian as the true leader, always asking for her opinion when situations arose. The other members were the same, seeing Yun Jian as their center unconsciously, that the positions of leader and assistant leader of Liu Shiyun and Hong Fan were nothing more than titles.

"We go south," Yun Jian said with a press of lips, turning to look outside the window as she was seated by it.

Fang Xiaoran who was driving swiveled the steering wheel instantly at her words, driving them toward the south.

“Yun Jian’er, why south?” Liu Shiyun was going to speak but Chu Ning who had been idle the whole way voiced out everyone’s doubt in advance.

The Tiandi Canyon could go anywhere with the endless rocky mountains. The jeep ride was bumpy as well as they drove, sometimes going between two mountains.

It was fortunate that they brought along a compass and could identify the general direction. In spite of it, all of them shared the same confusion. Why south? Even Ge Junjian and his men could not pinpoint where the thief was in the Tiandi Canyon, the only information they had was that this was his last known location.

How was Yun Jian so sure that the thief had gone south?

The team was doubtful but even if they were on the wrong path, they were set on following through to the end with Yun Jian.

Snaking her hand into the pocket of her new purchase of a long down jacket, Yun Jian retrieved a map that was marked with a detailed introduction.

She passed it to Chu Ning who was sitting beside her and told the rest of the team, “I got this from the car rental, the full map of Tiandi Canyon. We’re going south because the water source is there. There are surely people living there where the water is. If we go along other directions, forget water, we’ll be entering deserts. No matter how much the thief wants to avoid us, he can’t possibly avoid water. Can he not eat? So his only route is the south!”

As Yun Jian spoke, she pointed at the south of the map, smiling as the pad of her finger rubbed against the southern region of it.