

Chapter 191: The Trunk of Bliss (1)

The car finally arrived at Shi Yao's doorstep.

Just as Shi Yao was just about to say "Thank you" and "Goodbye", Lin Jiage suddenly spoke up, "I have some stuff in the car trunk. Take a look and see if you are interested in them."

This didn't seem to be the first time that he'd forcefully interrupted her...

Shi Yao silently swallowed back her words and replied with an "Orh" before getting off the car.

She headed to the back of the car and pressed the 'open' button. The lid slowly opened up, and a trunk filled with transparent pink bags came into sight. These transparent bags were tied with ribbons of all colors.

However, what caught Shi Yao's attention the most weren't the girlish bags or the ribbons but what was stored within them.

Passion fruits, loquats, watermelons, pineapples, pomegranates, and potato chips... These are all my favorites!

Wahhh, this is really a trunk filled with bliss... What should I do? I really want to become this trunk right now!

While Shi Yao was staring unblinkingly at the treasure trove she had found, Lin Jiage got off the car and walked over to her side. "How is it? Are you interested?"

"I am I am I am! This is simply too interes—" Without thinking deeply about it, Shi Yao answered Lin Jiage's question instantaneously. However, halfway through her sentence, she suddenly paused. While her eyes were still glued to the transparent bags, she asked Lin Jiage questioningly, "... Are these..."

She was about to ask him if these bags were for her.

But before she could finish her sentence, she suddenly remembered that Lin Jiage had only asked whether she was interested or not, rather than whether she liked them or not. Thus, the latter half of the sentence ended up jamming in her throat...

On the other hand, Lin Jiage thought that Shi Yao was asking where the food came from, so he was silent for a moment. Instead of telling her that he had the driver prepare these according to her taste, he casually replied, "Oh, these are some gifts that a girl gave me while confessing to me."

Shi Yao's eyes widened at his words.

Noticing her response, it suddenly dawned on Lin Jiage that he might've found the wrong excuse to explain the items.

While berating himself internally for his foolishness, he quickly thought of a script explaining that the girl had forced these items on him, and he had no intention of accepting them in the first place.

But just as those words were on the tip of his tongue, Shi Yao's face had already lit up, and she exclaimed in admiration, "Wah, your confession gift sure is wonderful! That girl is so thoughtful!"

"..." Lin Jiage ended up choking on the script he'd prepared.

In the end, her reaction wasn't because a girl had confessed to him; it was because of the food...

He had specially prepared these bags of food with his own money, but the compliments ended up going to a non-existent girl he had fabricated... Could this be considered as lifting a boulder to smash one's own feet?

Forget it. Since that girl was somebody I made up, I'll just treat it as though she was complimenting me then...

With this thought in mind, Lin Jiage said, "If you're interested, you can bring it all back with you."

Ah...

Even though Shi Yao craved deeply for them, she still shook her head after a second of internal struggling. She forcefully tore her gaze away from the trunk and said, "That's not good. These items were given to you by someone else, so how can I accept them?"

Lin Jiage replied calmly, "I only asked you because I know that you like to eat. If you really don't want them, I'll just throw them away in a garbage bin by the road."

Are you treating me like a waste disposal stop?

But then again, if all garbage were like that, I'd be willing to be a waste disposal stop for life!

Shi Yao didn't get mad at Lin Jiage's awful sounding words. She pondered for a moment and eventually decided that there was nothing wrong with becoming a waste disposal stop. She smiled at Lin Jiage and thanked him before taking the trunk of bliss back home.

Chapter 192: The Trunk of Bliss (2)

...

It was already one in the morning by the time Lin Jiage returned to the city.

Instead of heading back home, he went straight to school.

He parked his car in one of the parking lots at school, and as he made his way back to his dormitory room, he sent a message to the driver to have him pick up the car from the school tomorrow.

When Lin Jiage was just about to reach his dormitory room, he eventually caved in to the temptation. He took out his phone and sent a message to Shi Yao.

[I didn't want that confession present. That girl left it in front of me and then ran away.]

A moment later, Lin Jiage sent another message to Shi Yao. [I didn't get a clear look at the girl's face.]

After sending those two messages, Lin Jiage finally put his phone back into his pocket contentedly. He pushed open the door to the dormitory room, but a moment after walking in, he leaped in fright when Xia Shangzhou turned his face towards him.

Standing a distance away, Lin Jiage froze for two seconds before gesturing at Xia Shangzhou with his chin and asked, "What's wrong with your face?"

Xia Shangzhou tearfully raised his hand and touched the clear five-fingered imprint on his face before saying indignantly, "Your older sister did it."

Lin Jiage replied with an "Oh" before heading into the room. "My sis is a violent person, but she would never hit you for no reason. You must have done something to deserve it."

"What do you mean by that?" Xia Shangzhou stood up indignantly as he began to explain everything that happened, using his hands and feet to play out the scene. "Before I knew what was going on, your older sister had already locked me in her bathroom! It was lucky that I had my phone with me, so I just played games for an hour and a half. When the door finally opened again, I thought that I'd finally be released. But who would've thought that your elder sister..."

At this point, Xia Shangzhou suddenly paused.

Lu Benlai, who was lying on the bed listening to the drama, stuck out his head and asked, "What happened with Boss's older sister? What happened? What happened?"

"Are you a recorder?" Xia Shangzhou retorted. Then, with quivering lips, he spoke up again, "... She was going in to take a bath, so she wasn't wearing any clothes. When she saw me, she immediately screamed 'lecher!' and 'peeping to!'. She didn't even give a chance to explain, she just grabbed me and beat me up, and then said that there's not a single decent man around Boss. After that, she simply threw me out of Boss's house!"

"HAHAHAHAHA!" Lu Benlai heartlessly burst into laughter before asking Xia Shangzhou. "... How's her figure?"

As soon as he said it, Lin Jiage directed a cold and threatening gaze towards Lu Benlai.

Lu Benlai immediately lay back down on his bed and said, "Ahem, it's been a long day, and I'm really exhausted. I'm going to sleep now. Goodnight!"

On the other hand, oblivious to the danger drifting in the air, Xia Shangzhou continued to speak, "I didn't see anything at all! I only saw white skin, and before I knew it, I was already knocked to the ground..."

Lin Jiage grabbed his towel and pajamas before heading to Xia Shangzhou's side to pat his shoulders, leaving behind these words before heading to the bathroom, "You're lucky that you didn't see anything. If you really did see something, you would've been knocked down again."

After bathing, Lin Jiage lay on his bed and read the message that Shi Yao sent in response: [That pretty miss sure knows how to choose her presents! I bet that she's a really likeable person!]

"..."

I only explained it to you to make sure that you wouldn't misunderstand, but you ended up praising that non-existent girl!

Not to mention, you even called her 'pretty miss'!

If I ever send Soft Bun another message, I'm going to chop off my hands!

But a second after raising that flag, Lin Jiage's phone lit up once more. It was another message from Shi Yao. [Right, did you get home safely?]

Without any hesitation, Lin Jiage replied: [I did.]

Chapter 193: The Face Slap Came So Quickly Just Like a Tornado (1)

Without any hesitation, Lin Jiage replied: [I did.]

After which, Lin Jiage paused for a moment before tapping on the phone once more: [I didn't go home. I went back to school.]

After replying back, Lin Jiage looked at his last two consecutive messages before glancing at his hands that were holding the phone.

It was just a second ago that he had made a furious vow, but a second after seeing her message, his body instantaneously moved to respond. Not to mention, it was two messages at that... The face slap came so quickly just like a tornado 1 ...

But then again, my hands moved on their own, not me. So, it doesn't matter...

Just as Lin Jiage was contemplating deeply over this important matter, Shi Yao's new message came in: [It's good to hear that you've returned to school safely.]

At the end of the message, she added a hearty laughter emoji.

Staring at that emoji, Lin Jiage couldn't help remembering her expression when she saw the trunk filled with all the food that she loved.

She's always that simple. As long as there's food that she loves, she becomes incredibly happy, like she's standing at the top of the world.

Even though he didn't know too many girls himself, that Big Philandering Radish 2, Liang Jiushi, did have many girlfriends. Just like Soft Bun, they were all considerably young. However, in the depths of their eyes, he could see many desires, be it the desire for money, desire for luxury, desire to climb up the social ladder...

Soft Bun was not an unintelligent person; he unexpectedly stumbled upon this fact during the conflict with Qin Yiran. If she really wanted those things, she could have probably obtained them very easily. However, she'd never attempted to act in that direction... In this world, how many people were able to live a life as simple and earnest as Soft Bun?

In that moment, a phrase flashed across Lin Jiage's mind— 'Knowing the world but remaining unworldly, that's the most beautiful form of maturity'.

He thought that this was probably Soft Bun's greatest charm. Countless others would live their entire lives and never comprehend this state of mind.

Due to his wandering mind, Lin Jiage didn't respond to Shi Yao's message.

However, Shi Yao sent him a new message instead. [If your back still hurts tomorrow, you'd better have it checked out at the hospital. It would be terrible if those injuries end up affecting you physically.]

Is Soft Bun worrying about me?

A smile crept its way into Lin Jiage's eyes as he tapped on the phone to reply with an [Mm] . A moment later, he added: [Got it.]

Shi Yao: [Also, thank you for today.]

Shi Yao: [For many things. Thank you.]

Even without elaborating on these words, Lin Jiage understood what she meant.

Like the things he'd bought from W Mall, the bill at Taste of Home, the storm with Qin Yiran, and the trunk of food...

Lin Jiage felt a surge of warmth in his heart. Even his tapping movements on his phone became much gentler as well.

He replied: [It's nothing.]

He then added: [Goodnight.]

She quickly replied to him with a 'night' emoji. He didn't respond to that, and she didn't send him any more messages. He placed his phone down and closed his eyes. It didn't take long for him to drift off into dreamland. He dreamt of her, and in his dream, they were doing a certain indescribable activity. Then, when he finally woke up, he rushed off to the toilet...

...

After responding to Lin Jiage's message, Shi Yao couldn't hold back her exhaustion any longer and groggily fell to sleep.

Sometime later, she drifted into a dream.

The dream felt illusory yet real at the same time.

She dreamt of Lin Jiage. She dreamt of Qin Yiran. And more importantly, she dreamt of the trunk which she wanted to possess even in her dreams—one that was filled with all of the food that she loved.

Chapter 194: The Face Slap Came So Quickly Just Like a Tornado (2)

In her dream, she was blissfully gobbling down the food she loved. However, that utopia in her dream didn't last for too long. The world before her blurred, and she saw Qin Yiran viciously swinging a stick towards her and Lin Jiage. Lin Jiage was hugging her tightly in his arms, and despite the deafening cacophony around her, she could still clearly hear his words in her ears "Soft Bun, happy birthday. Happy birthday, Shi Yao." The world before her blurred once more, and suddenly, she found herself being pressed down on the bed, and Lin Jiage's face was just inches away from hers...

...

Sunday, the day that Shi Yao had to return to school. Of course, she also didn't forget to bring along the 'trash' she had collected as a waste disposal stop.

Because Lin Jiage had given her too much 'trash', Shi Yao couldn't lug them all by herself, so she made a distress call to Leng Nuan and the others just as she was approaching the school.

When Shi Yao finally arrived at the school, she got off the car and saw Leng Nuan, He Tiantian, and Jiang Yue.

After paying for the cab fare, she beckoned them over and said, "Help me take this tra—"

Before the word 'trash' could escape from her mouth, Shi Yao realized that she was all mixed up because of Lin Jiage, and she quickly changed her words, "—stuff up!"

Not too long after, the four ladies were lugging up bags of all kinds of items up to their dormitory room.

On the way, Shi Yao received quite a lot of complaints and criticisms.

Leng Nuan: "Yaoyao, have you gone mad? Are you moving an entire fruits store to school?"

He Tiantian: "Yaoyao, do you know that fruits are high in sugar, and eating too much of them will make you fat?"

Jiang Yue: "Yaoyao, are you planning to live off these fruits this week?"

Shi Yao: "It's not that. It's just trash that someone else threw away, so I took them in."

Jiang Yue: "What? Who is so extravagant that they'd treat this like trash?"

He Tiantian: "Give me that person's address, I'll visit him every day to collect his trash and open a fruits store and strike it rich..."

"..."

After arriving at the dormitory room, the group could finally place down the bags in their hands. Leng Nuan drank half a cup of water before cutting into He Tiantian and Jiang Yue's relentless jabs, "Alright alright, let's not talk about the fruits for now. Let's get to the main topic..."

"What main topic?" Shi Yao asked as she picked out the largest watermelon and carried it to the bathroom to wash it.

Under Leng Nuan's reminder, Jiang Yue immediately spoke up, "Oh yeah, Yaoyao, let me tell you something tragic. You were supposed to participate in the 100-meter sprint for the Sports Meet, but there's been some kind of mess up, and you ended up being signed up for the 10km marathon instead."

He Tiantian: "What do you mean by mess up? It's clearly Qin Yiran pulling some strings from the shadows! She's in the Student Union, and she's responsible for the Sports Meet. She took first place for the Women's 10km Marathon last year, so she intentionally signed up Yaoyao just to thrash her in that event! Then, she'd be able to stir up another storm in the school forums!"

Jiang Yue: "How can there be someone that despicable in this world? She just won't give up, huh? To switch a 100-meter sprint to a 10km marathon..."

Compared to the duo, who were discussing the unimportant aspects, Leng Nuan got to the crux of the issue in an instant, "Yaoyao, I tried reasoning with the class leader, but he said that the list has already been fixed and can't be changed anymore. He said that if you really can't run, it's fine if you just show your face and walk it out too."

"I see..." Shi Yao replied. After that, she passed the watermelon slices over to her three roommates and said, "... Here, have some watermelon."

Jiang Yue looked at Shi Yao, whose mouth was already busy gobbling down a watermelon slice. She shot her a disdainful look and said, "Yaoyao, did you hear what we said?"

Chapter 195: The Father of Hybrid Rice (1)

It's not like I'm dumb, so why is Jiang Yue asking me this?

Shi Yao shot Jiang Yue a perplexed look as she nodded her head vehemently in response. After she finally swallowed the watermelon in her mouth, she replied, "I heard you," before proceeding to gobble down another slice of watermelon.

He Tiantian: "Then what's with that dull reaction? That's a 10km marathon, my dear lady, 10km! And not only that, it's Qin Yiran's specialty. You're going to get wrecked!"

"Orh. I'll give you a better reaction after she wrecks me then!" Shi Yao replied in between bites from one slice to another.

Jiang Yue raised her voice and exclaimed, "Shi! Glutton! Yao!"

"Calm down, calm down..." Clutching her plate of watermelons, Shi Yao cowered slightly away from the ferocious Jiang Yue before replying with a soft voice, "... Don't we still have a few days before the Sports Meet? We can talk about it later. Hurry up and eat the watermelon, it won't taste as good if you leave it out for too long..."

Perhaps she was angered by Shi Yao's disappointing response, Jiang Yue took a huge slice of watermelon and tore away a big chunk of it with her teeth.

He Tiantian helplessly shook her head as she picked up a slice of watermelon as well.

In comparison, Leng Nuan was the only one who remained considerably calm by the situation. She picked out a slice of watermelon that had the least seeds before nibbling on it slowly.

...

Eight at night, the bored Shi Yao popped up in the [Sexy and Frisky] WeChat group. Following which, the four members consisting of [Yao Loves Ice Cream], [111111], [Expert of the Monkeys], and [Juice] successfully formed a squad in the game and headed off to Miramar 1 to wreak bloodshed.

Other than Shi Yao, the other three seemed to be in really good form that day. Their squad managed to clinch a chicken dinner for every single round they played.

As the time ticked to nine-thirty, just as the squad finished another game and returned to the main menu, a notification popped up on the screen. It was a message sent by [111111]: [I have something to do later, so I can't play anymore.]

Upon seeing this message, Shi Yao also spoke up, "I have plans as well so I won't be playing anymore."

[Juice]: "Sis Yao, you're busy too?"

Hearing Juice's question, Shi Yao stopped short from putting another potato chip in her mouth and replied, "It's actually nothing much. It's just that I'm going on a date with my Adonis."

[Expert of the Monkeys]: "Adonis?"

[Expert of the Monkeys]: "Sis Yao, do you have a boyfriend?"

"No no, that's not it. My Adonis is actually my idol." Shi Yao swallowed the potato chips in her mouth and hurriedly explained. "He's doing a live stream later, so I'm going to go watch it."

[Expert of the Monkeys]: "Is that so?"

Shi Yao wasn't sure whether it was just her imagination, but she seemed to sense some relief in Expert's voice.

[Juice]: "Live stream? Which celebrity is doing a live stream tonight?"

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: "My idol isn't a celebrity, he's a professional gamer. He's the reason I started playing PUBG."

As if she were showing off a cherished treasure, there was inconceivable glee in her voice.

"You guys have definitely heard about my idol before. He's Legend, the leader of AE Team, the legendary figure who managed to win the championship for three straight years!

"Do you know how skilled my Adonis is? He's known as the Great Demon King, L God, Sniper God!

"In this world, other than Yuan Longping, he's the person I respect the most!"

As a qualified glutton, it was necessary for Shi Yao to pay respect to the 'Father of Hybrid Rice'!

Thinking this, Shi Yao was just about to continue praising her Adonis when a pleasant-sounding voice suddenly echoed from her earpiece, "Why do you like Legend?"

(n_n)

Chapter 196: The Father of Hybrid Rice (2)

“Why do you like Legend?”

Shi Yao was taken aback for a moment before realizing that the one who had spoken was neither Juice nor Expert but Mister Numbers.

Mister Numbers rarely spoke through this voice chat, so this was one of those rare occasions where Shi Yao could hear his voice. Just like the first time, she was mesmerized for a moment before she quickly came to her senses and replied, “I first noticed Legend because he was so different from the rest. Unlike other professional gamers, he never reveals his face during live broadcasts, he never attends commercial events, and he doesn’t actively interact with his fans...”

“Of course, I only recognized him as a professional gamer back then. To be honest, I’m not even sure what kind of games he played back then!

“And I didn’t play games either, so I knew very little about them. So, I didn’t know how impressive he was. I only noticed him briefly before I lowered my head to eat my mala 1 soup...”

At this point, Shi Yao paused for a moment before she explained further, “... I was in high school back then, and I was at the mala store across from my school with some friends. The boss of the mala store was watching the competition.

“The second time I saw Legend’s name was just a coincidence. I was feeling bored on my way home, so I started browsing through Weibo 2 on my phone and saw that he was on the Top Search list. He’d just given an interview, and unlike other pro gamers, it wasn’t through a video but through a classic pen and paper interview.”

“That happened three years ago, but he said something in the interview that I still remember to this day.

“My Adonis said that he isn’t the strongest underdog or a rising star of the eSports industry but a person who simply loves gaming.

“He said that in the eSports circle, every single pro gamer is worthy of respect. That’s because they’ve abandoned more conventional paths in order to tread down the arduous path of eSports. A lot of people think that being a professional gamer is all about the stage, the limelight, the glory, the cheers, and the praise. But that’s not it. This circle is filled with tears and passion, dreams and sweat. Every single professional gamer gives their all in every battle they fight, but in the end, the bridge to the championship is only wide enough for a single person or team to pass. The eSports circle is all about the accomplishments. When you’re accomplished, everyone will respect and admire you. But when you don’t have anything under your name, no one will acknowledge your talent or hard work. People only remember the champion. No one pays attention to how the first runner-up walks off the stage.

“Adonis also said that he doesn’t expect everyone to acknowledge the eSports industry, but he just hopes that people won’t be prejudiced against it, because everyone in the circle is putting their youth at stake here.

“So, at the very end of the interview, Adonis said something else that really moved me...” Shi Yao paused for a moment before continuing, “... The youth have no regrets in eSports, march forward fearlessly and bring glory to your country!

“After that interview, I started keeping a lookout for my Adonis. I looked through all of his previous competitions, and how should I say this... I found that he has passion. He really did enter the eSports circle out of passion.

“Of course, that’s not to say that my Adonis is so noble that he’s completely uninterested in money. I don’t think that there’s anyone in this world who doesn’t love money. I love it a lot myself because I can only buy a lot of delicious food with money.

“But for my Adonis, I realized that it’s not because he wants fame or glory but because he’s sincerely passionate about games. I think it’s a truly rare trait in this world, so I simply began to idolize him.

[Author’s Note: “People only remember the champion. No one pays attention to how the first runner-up walks off the stage.”—This quote is from one of the professional gamers in China, Meng Lei. It hasn’t been long since I first began taking note of the eSports circle. It was in 2016, while I was writing *The Adonis Next Door*, that the thought of writing about eSports came to my mind. In that year, my friends and I traveled far to watch the KPL Autumn Competition, and once I got into it, everything just snowballed on.]

Chapter 197: A Cultured Glutton (1)

Shi Yao continued her monologue for a long time, and when she was finally done, she stuffed a potato chip into her mouth. While she was munching on it, she suddenly realized that she might have said too much.

Thus, she quickly swallowed the chip and spoke up in embarrassment, “Ah, sorry about that. I might have rambled on for too long.”

But after saying those words, Shi Yao still couldn’t help adding on, “But don’t you think that my Adonis is really charismatic?”

Shi Yao thought that it would be Juice or Expert who would respond to her first, but unexpectedly, [111111]’s voice sounded instead, “Just so-so.”

Then, [111111] left behind an “I’m going off now” before exiting the room.

What do you mean by just so-so? My Adonis is obviously very dashing, okay?

Shi Yao pouted as she furiously sent chip after chip into her mouth, thinking that her Adonis didn’t need any compliments from Mister Numbers!

[111111]’s words also broke the silence of the other two as well.

[Juice]: “Sis Yao, I couldn’t tell that you’re actually such a deep person!”

[Expert of the Monkeys]: “Yeah, Sis Yao! Do you know that you’ve become such a towering and big figure in my heart after those words?”

Towering would be enough, there’s no need to add ‘big’ to it. I don’t want to become a fatty...

Nevertheless, accustomed to Expert’s horrible usage of terms, Shi Yao chose to let this one go. Instead, she gleefully replied, “Of course! I’m a cultured glutton!”

[Juice]: “Ah... Sis Yao, are you sure that you’re praising yourself?”

[Expert of the Monkeys]: “Of course it’s praise! Being able to eat is a blessing in itself, and Sis Yao is the best glutton. She’s the most ravenous glutton in this world!”

Shi Yao’s lips curled into a smile as she nodded in agreement to Expert’s words, “Brother Expert sure knows how to speak.”

[Juice]: “I feel so blessed. I never thought that I’d live long enough to see my grandson being complimented by someone else!”

[Expert of the Monkeys]: “Grandson, why do you keep forgetting the seniority? I’m your grandfather!”

[Juice]: “What? Who did you say you are to me?”

[Expert of the Monkeys]: “Grandfather.”

[Juice]: “Good grandson. Come, call me again...”

“...”

Hearing the two of them make jabs at one another, Shi Yao went 囧 for a while before finally speaking up, “Have fun arguing with each other, I’ll be looking for my Adonis now.”

...

Due to being slightly delayed by Juice and Expert, it was already five minutes into the game by the time Shi Yao entered Legend’s live stream, and countless passing messages had bombarded the screen 1 .

Quite a few people were furiously sending in gifts.

As she admired their extravagance, Shi Yao didn’t forget to top up 100 yuan 2 onto the live stream platform. She only had 300 yuan of her monthly allowance left, and there was still a week before she could claim the one for next month. Thus, she could only give her Adonis this much.

In order to dominate the screen as well, Shi Yao donated her money 1 yuan at a time.

After she was done, she continued watching the live stream through her phone screen. Her ‘date’ with her Adonis lasted for about a half an hour before it came to an end.

Backing out of the live stream platform, Shi Yao noted that there were some notifications from the [Sexy and Frisky] WeChat group, so she tapped in. In there, she found that Juice and Expert had already moved their ‘grandfather and grandson’ argument from the game over into the group.

Shi Yao was speechless for a moment before she sent over a message: [Just a moment ago, I extravagantly gave financial support to my Adonis.]

[Juice]: How extravagant were you?

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: I incomparably donated a generous 100 yuan to my Adonis!

Chapter 198: A Cultured Glutton (2)

[Expert of the Monkeys]: Wow, you really were extravagant. That's 100 yuan! Sis Yao, you can really change your name to Tycoon Yao now!

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: Sorry, but the recipient has unhesitatingly rejected your nickname and returned to you a polite smile.

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: But now that I think about it, I really was being extravagant! That's 100 yuan! 100 yuan, you know! I can buy a hundred packets of spicy gluten, two hundred lollipops, twenty bottles of drinks, fifteen big chicken wings, and five meals of mala soup...

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: Y'know, this is just proof of my true love for my Adonis...

As soon as Shi Yao sent those messages, the rarely appearing [111111] surprisingly popped up in the group and sent a red packet 1 .

[Juice] grabbed the red packet and sent a 'kneeling down to cry "Daddy!"' emoji.

[Expert of the Monkeys] grabbed the red packet and sent a 'kneeling down to cry "Daddy!"' emoji.

Even the chat lurker, [Tide], also took the red packet and sent a 'thank you, Boss' emoji.

Seeing that everyone had taken the red packet, Shi Yao proceeded to claim one as well.

A huge sum of 200 RMB 2 immediately entered her WeChat wallet.

Alarmed and agitated, Shi Yao hurriedly sent a 'Boss!!!' emoji.

[111111]'s red packet was intended for four recipients. After seeing that it had been fully collected, he sent another red packet, and the sum was still at the peak amount, 200 RMB.

Everyone continued collecting the red packet while excitedly sending over 'kneeling down to cry "Daddy!", 'thank you, Boss', and 'Boss!' emojis.

[111111] sent a total of five red packets before he finally stopped.

[Juice]: Boss, did your account get hacked?

[Expert of the Monkeys]: Yeah, why would Boss suddenly send us red packets, and so many of them too?

Just as Shi Yao was about to chirp in as well, [111111]'s reply came in: [It's nothing much. I just wanted you all to see what true extravagance is.]

Ah... So, Mister Numbers popped up just to smack my face?

That guy is just too much!

But again, there's nothing wrong with what Mister Numbers said. He's indeed very rich... Five 800 RMB red packets, so that would make a grand total of 4,000 RMB 3 . He actually squandered away 4,000 RMB in less than a minute...

Out of sheer curiosity, Shi Yao started typing.

[Yao Loves Ice Cream]: Mr. True Extravagance, are you actually a second generation tycoon 4 ?

[Expert of the Monkeys]: Our boss is a second generation tycoon, but you can also say that he's a first generation tycoon too.

[Juice]: Yeah, our boss's saving account has already reached eight digits. He'll probably hit nine digits before the end of the year.

Shi Yao had to count with her fingers for a while before she could fully grasp the significance behind eight digits and nine digits. Shi Yao went 囧 for a moment before she replied: [(OoO)... Do those eight figures and nine figures include decimal points too?]

[Tide]: It doesn't, it's ten million and a hundred million. That's just how rich our boss is!

It doesn't, it's ten million and a hundred million... Ten million and a hundred million...

So, while playing games, not only was she teamed with the gods amongst gods, one of them even happened to be a tycoon amongst tycoons...

Shi Yao was flabbergasted for a long while before she managed to find her words once more: [What should I do? When I look at your boss now, I feel like I'm looking at a mountain filled with the freshest seafood, top-notch delicacies, sumptuous tidbits, and juicy fruits!]

[Tide]: 6666 5

[Juice]: 66666

[Expert of the Monkeys]: 666666

A minute later, [111111] popped up: [Heh~]

Chapter 199: Poison The Emperor to Become the Reigning Empress (1)

Heh~

What does that mean? Is he mocking me, or is he mocking those three?

Shi Yao pondered for a moment, but no answer came to her. Instead, another thought popped up in her mind: Is having that much money so big of a deal that you have to be so arrogant about it?

But barely thirty seconds after that thought crossed her mind, Shi Yao ended up slapping herself in the face: Fine, I concede that. Having money is indeed a big deal, especially since you can use that money to buy a mountain of the freshest seafood, top-notch delicacies, sumptuous tidbits, and juicy fruits...

...

In the days to come, Shi Yao's life basically revolved around three activities—eating, going for lessons, and playing games.

These leisurely days passed swiftly, and in the blink of an eye, the school's Spring Sports Meet was already around the corner.

In the morning of the first day of the Sports Meet, the university students donned the uniforms that they had decided on as a class to attend the opening ceremony. The Women's Relay would be held after that, and then there would be a break until the afternoon.

In the afternoon, there would be the Men's Long Jump, Men's Relay, Women's 100-meter Sprint, and last but not least... the Women's 10km Marathon.

The first three events had nothing to do with Shi Yao and her roommates, but the last one, the Women's 10km Marathon, was the event which Shi Yao had to participate in.

While Shi Yao and her roommates were heading to the canteen together, Leng Nuan, He Tiantian, and Leng Nuan had already begun worrying about the events later in the afternoon.

He Tiantian: "That's 10km! Even if Yaoyao doesn't die by the end of it, she'll still be crippled!"

Jiang Yue: "Neither death nor being crippled are acceptable options. That's why I've been saying this whole time, we should just get Yaoyao to sit out of the event."

He Tiantian: "But how can Yaoyao do that? We need to find a water-tight excuse so that other people won't find out that she's backing out at the last minute because of fear."

Jiang Yue: "Why don't we say that Yaoyao just got her period?"

"That's not going to work. Yaoyao already used that excuse during the P.E. lesson two weeks ago."

At this, He Tiantian suddenly turned to Shi Yao and asked, "Yaoyao, have you thought about what to do yet?"

At Shi Yao's prolonged silence, Jiang Yue tugged her arms and asked, "Yaoyao? What are you zoning out for?"

Shi Yao shook her head calmly and replied, "I'm not zoning out. I just think that instead of worrying about these things, there's more meaning in deciding whether I should eat mala stir-fry 1 pot or sweet and sour pork later at the canteen..."

He Tiantian: "Why does it seem like we eunuchs are even more worried than the emperor herself?"

Jiang Yue: "That's right! Do you know that this eunuch here is about to die from anxiety already?"

Leng Nuan, who had stayed quiet the entire time, spoke up with a gentle tone, "Alright, you two should really calm down first. I already came up with a plan. Later, during the marathon, Yaoyao should crash into Qin Yiran on purpose, then fall to the ground and pretended you a sprained your foot. That way, it won't be embarrassing for Yaoyao, and Qin Yiran won't be able to work her fingers on the school forum either. At the same time, we can also get back at Qin Yiran for sneakily changing Yaoyao's event!"

He Tiantian's eyes immediately lit up in excitement: "Wahhh, Nuan. You really are my goddess! That's a really good move!"

Jiang Yue: "If Nuan lived in ancient times, she'd be the consort in the Forbidden Palace who kills off all the other concubines and rises to the position of the queen!"

Leng Nuan: "Wrong. I'd be the one who poisons the emperor to become the reigning empress!"

He Tiantian and Jiang Yue directed a thumbs up of admiration toward Leng Nuan.

Then, Jiang Yue turned to Shi Yao and said, "Yaoyao, did you remember Leng Nuan's idea? Let's do it later in the afternoon and bring down that Qin Yiran!"

"Mm mm mm..." Shi Yao nodded to express that she heard what they said, then pushed her three teammates forward to queue up at one of the stores.

...

After lunch, they returned to their dormitory room, and Shi Yao began changing into her sportswear and sports shoes.

In view that Shi Yao would be going up against Qin Yiran later in the afternoon, Jiang Yue and He Tiantian had crowded over to help Shi Yao pick her clothes, just to make sure that she wouldn't lose in the battle of aesthetics at the very least.

Chapter 200: Poison The Emperor to Become the Reigning Empress (2)

Jiang Yue chose a pair of sports shoes that Lin Jiayi had given to Shi Yao during her birthday. She said, "This is a good pair of shoes. There are a lot of celebrities wearing them at the moment, and you can't even begin to imagine how they are popular right now! There's a severe shortage in supply in our country, so it's highly difficult to get your hands on a pair even if you the money to buy them. Wear this and blind Qin Yiran with your extravagance!"

He Tiantian chose a set of sportswear that Grandpa Lin bought for her during the Spring Festival. "This one is perfect. It's got a youthful red color, which complements well with Yaoyao's fair skin. If we comb a bun hairstyle on top of that, it'll give off a vibrant and lively image. There's no way Qin Yiran can match Yaoyao with that!"

Jiang Yue nodded in agreement, "Right, right! Yaoyao, this is the first time you'll be standing next to Qin Yiran after what happened in the school forums. You can't lose to her! I'll help you do your makeup after this."

“Yeesh, there’s really no need for that...” Shi Yao was bewildered by how much Jiang Yue and He Tiantian were fussing over this. “... For the sports shoes and sportswear, it’s a given that I’ll wear my older ones. I already broke in the older ones so they’ll be more comfortable, and those new shoes might end up chafing my feet instead...”

At this point, Shi Yao paused for a second. But after seeing that He Tiantian and Jiang Yue were already preparing their words, she quickly beat them to it and continued, “... I can’t wear makeup either. It’s such a hot day, so I’m definitely going to sweat after running a few laps. Won’t it look uglier if my makeup melts off in the middle of the marathon? Besides, we’re heading to a Sports Meet, not a beauty pageant.”

He Tiantian and Jiang Yue were still reluctant to give up, but at this point, Leng Nuan suddenly chimed in, “You two shouldn’t waste your time on this anymore. What Yaoyao says makes sense, y’know.”

While Jiang Yue was a little regretful that she couldn’t get Shi Yao to dress up beautifully, she still chose to respect the latter’s decision. Nevertheless, she still pointed out something strange in Shi Yao’s words, “Alright, as long as Yaoyao is fine with it. Our Yaoyao is beautiful enough to outshine Qin Yiran without any makeup on anyway, so I’ll just think of it as sparing Qin Yiran her final smidge of pride. But, there’s still one thing that I want to point out. Yaoyao, you just said that you’ll definitely sweat after running a few laps. Are you sure you can run the marathon? If you really do finish the whole thing, I’ll pay for all your milk tea this month!”

He Tiantian: “Agreed. Yaoyao, you don’t even have to get number one. As long as you can walk your way out of it, I’ll pay for all your yogurt this month!”

Leng Nuan: “+1. Potato chips, this month.”

Milk tea, yogurt, and potato chips...

Without any hesitation, Shi Yao immediately took the challenge, “Deal!”

...

Two-thirty in the afternoon, all of the students had punctually assembled at the field.

Shi Yao’s 10km marathon was at five.

Since they still had two and a half hours, Shi Yao quietly sat in her spot, watching the competition while munching on some tidbits.

When it was finally four-thirty, Qin Yiran, under the accompaniment of another two girls, walked past Shi Yao’s class to head for the running track. Following which, she began to do her warm-ups.

It was just as Jiang Yue and He Tiantian had said, even though Qin Yiran’s appearance looked clean, there were still signs that she had done her makeup. Even her clothes were tight-fitting to accentuate her big bosom and slim thighs. There was even a slight inch of whiteness peeking out at her waist.

The two girls that had accompanied Qin Yiran were exceptionally caring of her—one was massaging her limbs while the other passed her a bottle of water to drink.

Upon seeing this sight, Jiang Yue couldn't help but mutter indignantly, "I told you she'd dress up for the Sports Meet!"

He Tiantian: "I've never met anyone as delicate as her. She even has to bring two friends along to act like her nannies!"