

Young Master Qin Keeps Coveting Me After I Beat Him Up

Chapter 26: Host, Can You Act Human For Once?

No one, absolutely no one would make her lose the chance to gain Merit Points!

“She has to apologize to me!” Jiang Xun insisted.

“Yuexi has already realized her mistake. Isn't it enough for her to admit it?” Nianzhen did not understand why Jiang Xun was so insistent on getting people to apologize to her.

1

Ever since Jiang Xun came back, in a short period of time, everyone at home, except for Chengye, had apologized to her.

2

“She wronged me, so doesn't she owe me an apology?” Jiang Xun urged impatiently. “Yuexi, hurry up. It's not like you haven't apologized to me before.”

Yuexi hid behind her father in an attempt to shield herself from Jiang Xun's gaze.

Jiang Xun clenched her fists so hard that her knuckles turned white. “I'll ask you again. Will you apologize?”

“I won't apologize. Hit me if you dare!” Yuexi didn't believe that Jiang Xun would dare hit her in front of Chengye.

However, as soon as she finished speaking, a loud slap suddenly rang out throughout the room, and she found her head turned to the side, a burning pain in her left cheek.

Yuexi was stunned and covered her cheek in disbelief.

Did...Did Jiang Xun hit her?

Chengye and Nianzhen were also stunned at this turn of events. In the silence, they heard an unusually arrogant voice say, “I've hit a lot of people, but this is the first time I've met someone who straight up asked me to hit them.”

2

Why would she bother holding herself back? Of course she would slap them first if given the chance!

1

“Yuexi!” Nianzhen screamed and hugged her daughter, crying to Chengye. “Chengye, we’ve never hurt Yuexi at all ever since she was young, but Jiang Xun hit her!!”

“How can you hit me!” Nianzhen said angrily. “I know you must hate me, but come at me, then! Why go after Yuexi?! She wholeheartedly treats you as her sister and wants to treat you well. It’s fine if you don’t miss her, but how can you hit her!”

“Jiang Xun, you’re too much!” Chengye raised his hand, about to hit Jiang Xun, but froze when she shot him a cold glare.

“You cheated on my mother when she was pregnant, then after she passed away, you openly married Ah Feng and gave her an illegitimate daughter. You sent me to the countryside for 11 years and let this illegitimate daughter take my rightful place. When I couldn’t even eat a full meal in the countryside, she was living a luxurious life here. When I was beaten up by Luo Zhongren’s family, Nianzhen said that you couldn’t even bear to touch Yuexi.”

“Yuexi is slandering me and ruining my reputation. And you’re going to hit me even though I haven’t gotten my apology?” she questioned with a cold gaze.

All of what she’d said was probably what the original Host had gone through. She’d been abused since young when she was sent to her uncle’s house, so her mind was a little twisted.

She had low self-esteem, was narrow-minded, and was very sensitive, so much so that even an offhand comment would be easily misinterpreted by her. That wasn’t even mentioning the fact that Nianzhen and Yuexi were deliberately scheming against her.

At this moment, Jiang Xun mentally asked the system, “Did Yuexi once bring the original owner to meet her friends?”

The system replied, “Yes.”

Jiang Xun could already guess what had probably happened even without the system explaining it to her. .

Yuexi’s friends were probably extremely critical of the original Host and looked down on her, so there was no way she would quietly take it. After she returned, she would still be slandered by Yuexi, and Chengye would blindly take Yuexi’s side and even hit the

original Host. Nianzhen would also add fuel to the fire, thus rendering the original Host completely helpless to the point where she could only cry and try to vent her anger.

She would then get more and more extreme after being provoked by the Jiang family's actions. The more Chengye loved Yuexi and ignored her, the more she would do something out of the ordinary to attract his attention.

If this continued, it would form a dead cycle. The original Host would definitely be at a disadvantage.

However, now that it was Jiang Xun's turn, Nianzhen and Yuexi's tricks were useless against her.

And Chengye couldn't hurt Jiang Xun's feelings.

Jiang Xun's gaze was cold, and her voice was even more frigid. "Ever since I came back, I have never complained or blamed anyone, but that doesn't mean I'll sit down and let you walk all over me!" she said through gritted teeth. "Yuexi deserves this slap, and I deserve an apology!"

Chengye looked at Jiang Xun's stubborn face, in a daze. Her face, especially her eyes, looked so much like his late wife.

1

It wasn't that he didn't love his late wife. It was just that he couldn't help it when his late wife was pregnant.

He also had his own needs that needed to be solved.

9

He thought that there wouldn't be any problems with a small family outside his home, but who would have thought that his late wife would find out about it in the middle of her pregnancy? She'd fallen ill and eventually passed away.

1

At that time, he'd promised Nianzhen that he would send Jiang Xun to the countryside.

One reason was because his business was not going well, and the fortune-teller he'd gone to had said that Jiang Xun's luck was not good. He'd been advised to send her away until she was 18 before bringing her back.

1

During this period, she could help him ward off the bad fortune of his business. .

At that time, his business was at a low point, and he was willing to use all the methods available to him, including sending Jiang Xun away.

Sure enough, not long after she left, his business processes became smooth again. And during those years, it became smoother and smoother, and his business grew bigger and bigger.

There was another reason for sending Jiang Xun away, however.

It was something only he knew.

Jiang Xun was far too similar to his deceased wife.

Every time he saw Jiang Xun, he would think of his deceased wife and think of how she died because of his betrayal. The guilt kept eating away at his heart.

1

And now, whenever Jiang Xun looked at him with eyes that were so similar to his deceased wife's, it was as if she was accusing him.

He was too ashamed to see Jiang Xun, and he didn't want to see her either. His conscience couldn't bear it.

If he sent Jiang Xun away, it would be better if he didn't see her at all. As long as she wasn't around, he would be able to put the past behind him, and no one would remind him of it again.

Chengye's hand slowly dropped weakly, and he staggered back half a step.

Nianzhen had never seen Chengye like this before.

She opened her mouth and said, "Chengye..."

Chengye was dejected for a few seconds. He sighed and said, "Yuexi, apologize to Jiang Xun."

Yuexi looked at Chengye in disbelief.

Did she hear him wrongly?!

"Dad?" Yuexi covered her face.

“You’re the one who made a mistake in this matter.” Chengye frowned. “Remember to never speak without any proof in the future.”

“Chengye!” Nianzhen hugged her daughter tightly. “Even if Yuexi is wrong, Jiang Xun can’t just hit someone out of nowhere!”

“Didn’t she ask me to hit her?” Jiang Xun looked at Nianzhen innocently. “She said something like, ‘Hit me if you dare!’ or something like that. I think my actions are quite justified.”

“Jiang Xun!” Nianzhen screamed.

Chapter 27: Saying Too Much Will Get Me Nothing

“Don’t talk so much!” Chengye said to Jiang Xun, his headache coming back in full blast.

Don’t you think it’s exciting enough?

“Yuexi, apologize!” At this point, Chengye was thoroughly sick of dealing with everyone. “It’s your fault. It’s just an apology. Is it that hard?”

Seeing Yuexi crying in shock, he said irritably, “Hurry up and apologize. If you don’t solve this matter today, you can all get out of this house!”

Jiang Xun didn’t care. After all, she’d only been back for a little more than a month, so she could leave as she wished. She wasn’t afraid at all.

“Including you,” Chengye said to Nianzhen.

Nianzhen’s face turned pale. She didn’t dare to offend him at this time.

Jiang Xun didn’t care, but Nianzhen and Yuexi were both used to a life of luxury. How could they leave the Jiang family?

And no matter what, they would never let Jiang Xun have what was supposed to be theirs!

Without Nianzhen needing to tell her what to do, Yuexi cried and shouted, “I’m sorry!”

After saying that, she covered her face and ran back to her bedroom.

[Merit Points + 1]

Jiang Xun said, "I didn't expect Yuexi to be so sincere."

1

"...Host, can you act like a human for once?"

2

Look at how you bullied her, the system thought. But of course, Yuexi had brought this upon herself.

"Are you satisfied now?" Chengye's guilt towards Jiang Xun only lasted for a few seconds before he quickly grew annoyed with her. "Stop your antics from now on!"

Jiang Xun shrugged nonchalantly in response and went upstairs to her bedroom with a heartless look on her face.

Chengye looked at Jiang Xun's heartless back with a complicated look on his face.

Just as she'd said, she had suffered a lot, yet she acted as if she didn't care about anything.

He didn't know whether it was because she was very strong, or whether she felt that talking about such things was of no use.

He let out a long breath, feeling conflicted.

Jiang Xun returned to the bedroom and heard the system ask her, "Host, I haven't heard you complain to Chengye ever since you came back. I thought you weren't going to say anything."

"Why wouldn't I say anything? It's just that if I say too much, it won't be worth anything." Jiang Xun took out her pajamas and changed into them. "After the Host returned in the original timeline, she probably seized the opportunity to tell Chengye about her suffering, right?"

The system replied, "Yes."

"Even if Chengye feels guilty, it's only for a short while." The more the original Host spoke, the more she wore away Chengye's patience until eventually, whatever sympathy he'd had for her disappeared. "Moreover, the Host kept reminding Chengye of his mistakes, which only made him more unwilling to face her," Jiang Xun said calmly. "So, when it comes to people like Chengye, you can't complain too much. You have to pay attention to their limits."

“Oh, right,” Jiang Xun said, having remembered something. “Since the Host is destined to die at the age of 20, why is she dying before the age of 18? Is it because of me?”

“No,” the system affirmed.

Jiang Xun heaved a sigh of relief. She did not want the original Host to die because of her.

The system continued, “Actually, I haven’t found an opportunity to explain it to you. Since you asked, I can explain it to you.”

Jiang Xun tilted her head curiously. “What is it?”

The system said, “Actually, the original Host is a parallel version of you.”

Jiang Xun froze at the words. “T-That came out of nowhere!”

The system could only stare at her. “...Anyway. Although living conditions in the Apocalypse aren’t good, the scientific knowledge that humans have in that timeline is much more than what we have now. You should know about the Multiverse.”

Jiang Xun nodded. “I knew about it, but it was just a theory. Due to the limited living conditions in the apocalypse, there weren’t many resources available for scientists to support this theory.”

“The multiverse does indeed exist,” the system confirmed. “You were living in the apocalypse, and the original Host was also living here at the same time. There is also the other original Host in yet another timeline, who lived according to the predetermined trajectory until she died at the age of 20.”

“However, there was an accident in this timeline, and the original Host died after being pushed down the stairs, which gave you an opportunity to cross over.”

The system said, “Actually, you are all the same person across all the different timelines. We arrange for people with great merit to cross between timelines, and we don’t randomly choose the Hosts, either. The requirements are very strict, with one of the criteria being: The Host must be the same person. Otherwise, why do you think that both the name and appearance of this Host would be exactly the same as yours?”

Jiang Xun nodded slowly, taking in all the information. “But, what if there’s someone who doesn’t fit the criteria and just happens to die?”

“There are many versions of you in the universe, and because of various reasons, all of you have different fates, just like how the original Host of this space-time died unexpectedly. As a result, the number of parallel timelines keeps increasing, and so do the versions of you. Out of so many of you, there’s always one that can be chosen. If

there really isn't one, we can seal your soul temporarily until a suitable individual appears."

"In other words, perhaps in another dimension, the original Host is still suffering from what was destined to happen?" Jiang Xun asked, to which the system made a sound of affirmation.

2

"It's entirely possible, so you don't have to feel guilty. You don't have to feel like you've stolen something."

"Understood."

In the meantime, Yuexi headed back to her bedroom, still crying from the events earlier.

She would never forget that Chengye, who had always believed in her and loved her, had actually taken Jiang Xun's side over her.

Nianzhen took a bag of ice over and knocked on her door three times. Without waiting for Yuexi to speak, she opened the door and came in.

She closed the door and saw her beloved daughter sitting by the bed, covering her face and crying. She walked to Yuexi's side and said, "Yuexi, I'll remember everything that happened today. I won't forgive that little brat for doing this to you!"

Yuexi finally stopped crying and looked up at Nianzhen, her face shining with tears. The left side of her face was even more swollen than before. When has she ever been in such a sorry state?

Since she was young, she had always been pampered and spoiled. Not even her brother had ever been pampered so much.

Nianzhen's heart ached.

"Mom, can you really deal with Jiang Xun?" Yuexi cried. "We haven't won since she came back."

1

"..." Nianzhen paused for a moment and said through gritted teeth, "We still have a long way to go. The last few times we lost were only because we misjudged her character."

"She has been living at home for a long time. We can always figure out her character and then target her." Nianzhen wiped Yuexi's tears away and carefully avoided her

swollen left cheek. "I've been with your father for 19 years and have already figured out his personality. Does Jiang Xun think she can fight with me?"

"In the past, I snatched your father away from Jiang Xun's mother and even managed to replace her, so now I can definitely plot her death, too!" Nianzhen said fiercely.

1

Chapter 28: Having Been Pressed Against A Wall

Feng Nianzhen placed the bag of ice in Yuexi's hand and said, her heart aching, "Quick, apply this. It's already badly swollen."

1

For the next few days, Yuexi did not go out because her face was swollen.

Nianzhen told her to endure it for the time being and to not provoke Jiang Xun for now.

Therefore, the house was very quiet for a while, and Jiang Xun did not have any chance to squeeze Merit Points out of Nianzhen or Yuexi.

1

As for Jixuan, the only thing he dared to do was mock her. He repeatedly tested her on the edge of being beaten, but never had the guts to cross the line.

Therefore, Jiang Xun could only go outside and try to earn more Merit Points there. But for some reason, she found that it was getting harder and harder to find thieves and people with ill intent.

She wasn't aware that she was already quite well known within the circle of thieves.

1

A rumor spread amongst them, saying that there was a woman who was very good at fighting and was keeping law and order everywhere in the capital.

For now, the only thing they could do was lay low and hope that she would stop as soon as possible.

2

Didn't she have better things to do? She was patrolling outside every day!

They planned to wait and see what happened. Whenever Jiang Xun came out, they would not show their faces.

It was like their industry had suddenly been immersed in a cold winter.

At this moment, Jiang Xun was walking along a street when she heard a rough and hoarse threatening voice coming from a narrow alley next to her. When she peeked inside the alley, she found someone being cornered by two burly men.

"You brat, you've been ignoring us for the past two days, huh? I sent you a message, so why didn't you reply?" a man with a hoarse voice asked.

"You're really gutsy, ain't ya!" The other man's voice was exceptionally arrogant.

When he heard their words, Jixuan's eyes widened in anger. Heart filled with hatred, he decided right then and there that he would duke it out with them!

2

The other party saw his ruthless expression and spat, "Whaddya lookin' at me like that for? How dare you!"

The arrogant-sounding man swung his fist at Jixuan, but suddenly found himself unable to move his fist. No matter how hard he struggled, he simply couldn't pull free of whatever had blocked him.

2

His face turned red. As he was about to yell out, something suddenly kicked him behind his knees, causing his legs to give way beneath him. As he tried to take a knee, something kicked his shoulder. His body fell over onto the ground.

"Argh!" The rough-voiced man cursed and swung his fist.

However, he did not see Jiang Xun's face, only her silhouette.

Jiang Xun ducked out of the way of his fist and slammed her own fist into his stomach in retaliation. The man doubled over in response, and then Jiang Xun took the opportunity to hit his back with her elbow.

The man coughed heavily, now completely disarmed.

Jiang Xun raised her leg again and pressed her knee into his stomach, then kicked him to the ground.

At this moment, Jiang Xun looked at Jixuan.

“You?” Jiang Xun was surprised. She hadn’t expected Jixuan of all people to be accosted for money in an alleyway.

Jixuan also hadn’t expected Jiang Xun to be the one who’d come to his rescue. He also didn’t think that she would be so terrifying in combat.

2

He himself had been unable to fight back against these people, but Jiang Xun had beat them up with the ease of tearing apart tissue paper!

Jixuan couldn’t help but think of the first night Jiang Xun returned to the Jiang family. He had been subdued by her and pressed against the wall of their villa.

All this time...Jiang Xun had gone easy on him.

Jixuan couldn’t help but tremble at the realization.

“You b*tch!” The arrogant man finally crawled onto his feet and became even angrier when he realized his assailant was actually a thin and small girl.

He was just caught off guard just now and was successfully ambushed by her!

If they were to fight seriously, how could such a thin and small girl be his opponent?

The arrogant man rushed over and swung his fist, but before his fist could reach Jiang, he was sent flying by Jiang Xun’s kick.

Jiang Xun picked up the coarse-sounding man and threw him at the arrogant man, sending his body colliding into the arrogant man.

The arrogant man let out a muffled cry of pain as he fell to the ground. The coarse-voiced man was laying on top of him.

As the two of them lay there, Jiang Xun walked up to them and planted her foot on the coarse-voiced man, eliciting a grunt of pain from him.

“Aren’t you usually arrogant?” she asked, turning to look at Jixuan. “Why are you getting bullied by them?”

Jixuan opened his mouth but didn't say anything. He lowered his head, feeling ashamed.

"Why are you lowering your head? I'm still asking you a question," Jiang Xun called.

Jixuan immediately raised his head and heard her ask, "They said that they took a video of you being beaten up?"

"Yes!" His eyes lit up. "They...They have been threatening me with the video, asking me to transfer money to them every day."

"Don't you usually have a chauffeur to pick you up? How did they find you?"

1

"I don't go home every day after school..." Having seen Jiang Xun's fighting strength, Jixuan answered all her questions honestly. "That time, I asked the chauffeur to come pick me up later so I could play around nearby. Who knew that I would be targeted by them?"

"It seems that you don't know how to keep a low profile." Jiang Xun looked at him meaningfully.

It was because he was too high profile that he was targeted to begin with.

Jixuan lowered his head obediently.

He was indeed quite well-known in school.

"Don't tell me that the whole school knows that you're a rich kid?" Jiang Xun asked with a look of disdain.

"...It's hard to hide my noble aura."

Jiang Xun smiled contemptuously.

Jixuan behaved himself and didn't respond to her taunts.

"Look for their cell phones," she suddenly said. "They tried to beat you up, so we can call the police on them. But in your case, stealing someone's cell phones is illegal, so don't even try."

To think that the police had given her a pennant earlier...

Jiang Xun looked down on him. "... You're so stupid. You deserve to be beaten up."

“...”

Why was she still scolding him when he was speaking so politely to her?

“They already have a video of you as blackmail, no? Don't tell me you still want to give them something to hold over you?” Jiang Xun said unhappily.

Chapter 29: Not In A Battle Of Brawn, Let Alone Wits

“Oh, right.” Jixuan had been in a state of shock ever since he saw Jiang Xun, so much so that he had forgotten about such an important matter.

As Jixuan searched for their phones, he thought gloomily that he was probably even more of a fool in her eyes.

He obediently handed the phones he found to Jiang Xun.

“...” Jiang Xun looked at Jixuan with a complicated expression and said, “Do you think their phones are unlocked with fingerprints or facial recognition? If it's unlocked with fingerprints, use their fingers to unlock it. If it's for facial recognition, put it in front of them so the phone can scan their faces.”

“... I know how to unlock them,” Jixuan said. Did Jiang Xun really think he was an idiot? She'd explained what to do as if he was a toddler!

Jiang Xun glanced at the phone that Jixuan had handed to her. “Hehe.”

When she compared him with the three former bullies in Wenping High School, she could definitely say that those three were much smarter than Jixuan was. They wouldn't have needed her to tell them what to do.

Jixuan remained silent.

His performance just now was indeed like that of a fool.

He lowered his head and unlocked the gangsters' phones, all the while inwardly cursing himself. He had to perform well from now on and change Jiang Xun's impression of him.

After unlocking the phones, Jixuan deleted the videos they had of him without Jiang Xun's prompting.

“Take a look at their chat records with you, especially the parts that threatened you and the money records. Take a screenshot and send it to your phone. This is all evidence,” Jiang Xun said. “This also goes for the chat records on your end. Keep them.”

Jixuan quickly nodded. “I will.”

He quickly took a screenshot of these chat records and saved them.

“Alright, call the police,” Jiang Xun said. “This is extortion. According to criminal law, if the amount of extortion is large or there are multiple instances of extortion, they will be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not more than three years and a fine. If the amount extorted is large or if there are other serious circumstances, they will be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not less than three years, but not more than 10 years and a fine.”

“They’ve been blackmailing you for a while, and not only that, you’re Jiang Chengye’s only son, so they must have been able to extort a lot from you,” Jiang Xun said. “They won’t be getting off with a light sentence.”

The two people who were trampled under Jiang Xun’s feet were already trembling with fear when they heard her words.

“Don’t...Don’t call the police...” the man with the rough voice begged for mercy. He had no choice; he couldn’t beat her in a battle of fists, let alone wits. “We’ll return all the money to him. Don’t call the police.”

The man with the arrogant voice completely dropped his act as he cried and begged for mercy. “Please don’t call the police. We don’t want to go to jail. We’ll return all the money to him. We’ll find a way to return what we’ve spent to him.”

“Yes, yes!” The man with a rough voice cried even as Jiang Xun continued to step on him. He said with difficulty, “We won’t dare to blackmail Jixuan anymore. We know we’re in the wrong.”

“Hurry up and call the police. What are you waiting for?” Jiang Xun said with a dark face, “Even if you don’t blackmail Jixuan here, you’ll still blackmail others. And how else are you going to get back the money you’ve already spent? Wouldn’t it be from even more extortion?!!”

The two of them cried. How did Jiang Xun know so much?

“We’ll work, we’ll earn money, and we won’t extort others,” said the man with a rough voice. “It’s just that...It’s just that the speed of repayment might be slower...”

Jixuan listened to them silently.

It turned out that when they said that they were going to pay him back, they were really planning to extort others.

“We’re in the wrong! Please don’t call the police,” cried the man with a rough voice.

[Merit Points + 4]

1

Jiang Xun let out a low hum and said to the system, “They didn’t apologize to me, so why did they give me Merit Points?”

The system explained, “They did apologize to you because you were the one who insisted on calling the police. They could also see that Jixuan would listen to you. If you said that you wouldn’t call the police, Jixuan wouldn’t call the police. Therefore, the person they wanted to apologize to was you.”

“I see.”

She recalled that the two of them had indeed apologized four times.

But was she someone who wouldn’t call the police just because they apologized?

Of course not!

Seeing that Jixuan was actually in a daze, Jiang Xun urged, “What are you still standing there for? Call the police!”

“Oh, okay.” Jixuan had thought that she would let them off because they’d apologized so sincerely. But now, he didn’t ask any more questions and simply did as Jiang Xun bade.

When the two gangsters saw that there was no salvaging their situation, they immediately felt like they were drowning in despair.

Regret. Utter regret.

Why did they blackmail Jixuan?

“Why didn’t you just call the police for such a thing?” Jiang Xun said to Jixuan in disgust. “The chat record on your phone is evidence. The video of them blackmailing you will be investigated and deleted by the police when they arrive. How would they have the chance to spread it in your school?”

Jixuan usually acted like he was smart, but in the end, he was really only smart on a surface level.

Jixuan suddenly froze at her words.

...When she said it like that, it was such a simple matter.

He had been caught off guard by the blackmailing at that time, and had been so arrogant that he didn't even think of such a simple method.

The police arrived very quickly. One of them knew Jiang Xun.

When he saw that it was Jiang Xun, he immediately smiled. "Recently, the security in the capital has been better than before. Even thieves and perverts don't dare to come out. I didn't expect you to catch someone who was actively breaking the law."

What kind of physique did Jiang Xun have to take down people as burly as these men?

Because of Jiang Xun, they didn't have to rush out as much recently.

The police took a statement from Jiang Xun and Jixuan as usual. Jixuan submitted all the evidence to the police.

"We will check if they have any other backup videos and wipe them out. Don't worry," the police assured him.

Jixuan heaved a sigh of relief and nodded. He felt a sense of security that he had never felt before.

The policethen left with the two gangsters.

"Let's go," Jiang Xun said nonchalantly and walked out of the alley by herself.

"Jiang Xun!" He called out to her.

Jiang Xun turned around and saw a complicated expression on his face. "Thank you."

She waved her hand nonchalantly and left, leaving him behind.

She still had to continue collecting Merit Points—no, to uphold justice.

1

Jixuan kept looking at Jiang Xun's back.

He had been blackmailed by those two thugs and did not dare to tell anyone, including Feng Nianzhen and Yuexi.

This matter had been weighing down on his heart all this time until he felt as if he would go mad, and today, he'd been driven into a corner by those two hooligans.

He never expected that just when he was in despair, Jiang Xun would appear and save him.

Chapter 30: If She Knew, She'd Probably Die Of Anger

After that, Jiang Xun left without saying anything else, as if she did not care if he returned the favor or not. It was as if she did not care about this matter at all.

Jixuan had clearly had a bad attitude toward Jiang Xun before and even tried to hit her, even though he couldn't do such a thing in the end, and yet she was still willing to help him out.

He stared at Jiang Xun's retreating back for a long time until she faded from view.

In the meantime, Feng Nianzhen was at home thinking about Yuexi's birthday, planning how she should celebrate it.

She wanted to let the outside world know that even if Jiang Xun, the eldest daughter of the Jiang family, had come back, she would still not be able to shake Yuexi's status as the most valued daughter of the Jiang family.

Jiang Xun was nothing compared to her.

Nianzhen gave the matter a lot of thought.

When Jiang Chengye came back from work and went to the bedroom to change his clothes, he suddenly brought up something that she hadn't expected. "It has been a while since Jiang Xun came back. No matter what, people should know about her. Look for an opportunity to introduce her publicly."

She did not expect Chengye to want to make Jiang Xun's presence known to the public.

She'd thought that Jiang Xun would just come back and exist in their house. There was no need to make her presence public, was there?

Nianzhen's heart sank at the thought, but she suddenly thought of a plan and said with a smile, "I've been thinking about this matter recently."

“Actually, the best time to make this public would be to hold a birthday party for Jiang Xun on her birthday,” Nianzhen said regretfully. “But since she came back on her birthday itself, we didn’t have time to celebrate. It would be a little awkward if we were to hold a banquet to introduce her as the eldest daughter of the Jiang family. How can we explain to the public that she’s just come back after 11 years?”

“No matter how we explain it, I’m afraid it will cause a lot of speculation. Many people will even think of our family in a negative way.” Nianzhen knew that the one thing Chengye feared the most was losing face.

If she said that, Chengye would definitely reconsider holding a banquet for Jiang Xun alone.

“What you said makes sense,” Chengye agreed as expected. “Moreover, she just came back, and her manners are still reminiscent of one who grew up in the countryside. People will laugh at her if they see it.”

Nianzhen quickly nodded. “Yes, yes. As her stepmother, I’m afraid of being misunderstood, so it’s hard for me to bring it up with her. But since you also have the same idea, I’ll talk about mine.”

“It’s nothing. As long as what you say is the truth, at least with me, there’s no need to worry about any misunderstanding,” Chengye said faintly. “So, if you have any thoughts, just say it.”

“I was thinking that if you were to hold a banquet for Jiang Xun alone, things will turn out as you’ve said,” she began. “Her manners are still a little rough, unlike our daughter, who has been taught etiquette lessons since she was young. No matter what her personality is, at least in terms of etiquette and manners, no one can find fault with her. If we hold a banquet for Jiang Xun, we must invite people from different families to attend. At that time, as the eldest daughter of our Jiang family and the main star of the banquet, Jiang Xun’s every move will be scrutinized.”

“Won’t her boorish behavior be magnified and become even more obvious? If there are other young masters to compare with, I’m afraid it will be even more embarrassing,” Nianzhen said in a low voice.

“You’re right.” Chengye nodded in agreement and looked at Nianzhen, encouraging her to continue.

Nianzhen nodded. “It just so happens that Yuexi is going to celebrate her 18th birthday, which is a special day. “Why don’t we hold a big birthday party for Yuexi and let Jiang Xun show her face at this birthday party?”

“Yuexi will be the star this time, so everyone’s eyes won’t be too focused on Jiang Xun. Even if Jiang Xun has some inappropriate behavior, she won’t be too conspicuous.

“Besides, we can help cover it up.” Nianzhen observed Chengye’s reactions, ready to adjust her story accordingly.

Fortunately, Chengye seemed to agree thus far.

1

“If we do it this way, Jiang Xun will not expose too many flaws, and we can also reveal her as the Jiang family’s eldest daughter simultaneously. The guests will be there, mostly to celebrate Yuexi’s 18th birthday, so they’ll have no time to investigate why Jiang Xun disappeared so suddenly.”

“We’ll only need to casually bring up Jiang Xun in conversation. There’s no need to say too much. After all, if Jiang Xun isn’t the main character, the guests won’t have the chance to ask too many questions.”

Chengye nodded in agreement after hearing Nianzhen’s explanation. “You’re right. Let’s do it.”

He didn’t tell Jiang Xun about this matter, but Nianzhen secretly told Yuexi.

“In short, I won’t let Jiang Xun steal your limelight,” she said. “The public only needs to know that the Jiang family dotes on you alone. So what if Jiang Xun has returned? She’s also 18, but our family didn’t even celebrate her 18th birthday.”

Jiang Xun had been brought back on her 18th birthday, and as soon as she entered the house, she quarreled with Chengye.

After that, who would possibly be thinking of celebrating her birthday?

Nianzhen would not bother reminding Chengye of it, either.

When she heard her mother’s plans, a malicious smile crossed Yuexi’s face. “If Jiang Xun knew about this, she would probably die of anger.”

1

Nianzhen sneered. “If something like this makes her feel uncomfortable, then she will suffer a lot in the future. There will only be more and more things that make her uncomfortable.”

“So, you don’t have to confront her head on,” Nianzhen said to Yuexi, “I have many ways to make her not feel at ease, but I can’t say anything about them.”

In the following days, Nianzhen busied herself with making and sending out invitations for Yuexi’s birthday party.

Jiang Xun and Yuexi's university admission letters were also sent to their house.

After the guests received their invitations and confirmed that they could come, they sent notice to Nianzhen. receiving the invitations and confirming that the guests would come, they all replied to Nianzhen.

Jiang Xun did not mind that even after knowing about this. The thought of obtaining any kinship and affection from Chengye in this family had never crossed her mind. As a result, in her eyes, nothing Nianzhen or Yuexi did or said to her could provoke her.

On the contrary, Jixuan often looked at Jiang Xun, wanting to say something, but hesitating. Ever since Jiang Xun had saved him, he could no longer ignore her like before or even mock her.

He wanted to tell Jiang Xun not to take it to heart, but could not say it out loud.

For one, how should he even say it? Besides, it wasn't like a few words from him would be able to make her not care about the situation.

Although he looked at Jiang Xun like he really did not care, he simply couldn't tell whether she was pretending to be strong or not.

As a result, Jixuan spent all the time worrying about this issue while Jiang Xun, who was the one being bullied, couldn't care less about it.

Time passed, and before anyone knew it, the day of Yuexi's birthday party had arrived.