

Trapped In Paradise

Volume 2 Chapter 170 / Chapter 451: Group Dinner

After experiencing two university classes, Xi Xi felt like her horizons had truly been broadened.

It wasn't that the college material was especially profound, rather, it was the noisy classroom discipline and the teachers' rigid, textbook-reading teaching style that made it hard for her to imagine this being a real university learning environment.

Isn't this supposed to be at least a second-tier private university?

And yet, Sister Lily remained completely unfazed by the chaos. Throughout the entire class, she spoke fewer than five sentences and still managed to stay fully focused on her studies.

As expected of Sister Lily~

"I'm sooo hungry~"

Yan Xinya, who was unusually low-energy today, lay limply across her desk. Even her usually perked-up big ears had lost their spirit, drooping listlessly against her hair.

She rubbed her protesting stomach and looked up at everyone.

"Wanna go to the cafeteria together? Let's count it as welcoming the new classmate?"

"Sure."

“Let’s pass.”

Ning Chu shot Zhang Shaoqing a glare. “Xinya didn’t even ask you, what does this have to do with you? You’re just an eyesore.”

“Heh! Then I’m *definitely* going! I love wandering around right in front of you—just to annoy you!”

Thick-skinned as ever, Zhang Shaoqing immediately got fired up, rolling up his sleeves and standing up.

“Let’s go! Second floor of the cafeteria, stir-fry! My treat!”

Now *that* sounded right~

Seeing her provocation work, Ning Chu smugly lifted her chin.

“Let’s go, let’s go! Don’t be polite with Shaoqing, he’s got money to burn! Everyone eat more!”

“You think everyone’s as shameless as you?”

After waiting for the classroom entrance to thin out, the group finally stood up and headed toward the cafeteria in a lively procession.

Still not very familiar with everyone, Xi Xi blended into the crowd and subconsciously looked toward the person she knew best—Ning Chu.

Only to see Ning Chu and Wen Yang walking at the very back, arms linked. One was tilting her head up on her tiptoes, the other bending down slightly, the two whispering intimately to each other.

Not wanting to be a third wheel, Xi Xi lowered her head awkwardly and quietly edged closer to Lily instead.

Just as she was about to greet her, her sharp ears caught a soft exchange between Lily and Yan Xinya.

“Lily~ I’m going crazy~ It’s so uncomfortable... when will this finally end~”

“Do you need it?”

“No! Why are you carrying that thing with you?!”

“In case you needed it urgently.”

Xi Xi’s mind never even drifted in a *lewd* direction, so she didn’t really understand what they were talking about. Curious, she leaned in a little—

But Yan Xinya suddenly turned around, alert like a police dog.

Xi Xi jumped in fright, instantly feeling guilty for no reason.

“Um... what were you guys talking about?”

“Nothing.”

Yan Xinya looked even more guilty as she stuffed the small vibrator Lily handed her deep into her pocket, terrified of being misunderstood by a new classmate on day one.

Once it was safely hidden, the wolf girl immediately switched back to her usual cheerful enthusiasm, looping an arm around Xi Xi’s.

“Is your red hair natural?! Or dyed? It’s so pretty!”

“It’s natural...”

“Where’s the cat that’s always with you? I didn’t see it today. That cat is sooo cute~”

Even though she’d already seen it during class, Xi Xi still felt especially awkward dealing with Yan Xinya’s overly familiar, energetic personality.

She actually wanted to chat more with Lily—maybe exchange some experiences about being a magical girl—but Lily always kept a stiff expression, keeping everyone at arm’s length.

After hesitating for a moment, she finally gathered her courage and took a few small steps toward Lily.

“Sister Lily... could we add each other as friends?”

“...Mm.”

Lily replied coolly, but beneath her coat, her hands clenched tightly around her pocket.

Faced with someone she wasn’t familiar with, her social anxiety flared up. Her face was even more rigid than usual, completely expressionless—while inside, she was panicking like crazy.

She was still weighing what she should say next when Xi Xi had already pulled out her phone and moved closer to her.

“I’ll scan yours!”

“...Okay.”

After they added each other as friends, Lily finally let out a quiet sigh of relief.

If they could communicate online, things would be much easier for her. She'd just need to remember that Xi Xi wasn't a succubus—she had to restrain herself a bit when chatting.

Once they arrived on the second floor of the cafeteria, Zhang Shaoqing proactively began hosting all the girls.

“Sit, sit! What do you want to eat? Want drinks too?”

Like most guys, he suddenly became extra eager to show off in front of girls, attentive to the point of enthusiasm.

Ning Chu immediately raised her head.

“Coke!”

“Then go buy it yourself. I wasn't talking to you.”

She shot Zhang Shaoqing an annoyed look. Too lazy to keep arguing with this thick-skinned jerk, she leaned over toward Xi Xi instead.

“Why are you suddenly playing with your phone?”

“I'm chatting with Sister Lily.”

Xi Xi and Lily were less than half a meter apart, but Lily's social anxiety still made her much more comfortable talking online.

“Oh... yeah, she's got a bit of social anxiety. When you first meet her, it's easier to chat online, otherwise she can barely squeeze out two words.”

The only thing Ning Chu was worried about was whether Lily might suddenly send Xi Xi a few toy links or a tentacle monster hentai, trying to drag her into the pit.

She craned her neck to peek at Xi Xi's phone screen.

"She didn't say anything weird to you, right?"

"Weird? No." Xi Xi looked at her in confusion. "Sister Lily is really nice, she just really likes using stickers."

"...Is that so?"

"Yeah! She said if I don't understand anything in class, I can ask her!"

Then why was it that not long after she and Lily met, Lily had straight-up sent *her* toy links?

After thinking for a moment, Ning Chu remembered—it was because she had been the one to approach Lily back then, asking how to deal with sudden heat cycles. That succubus might be wild online, but she wasn't shameless in front of everyone.

Otherwise, the class group chat would've been flooded with toy links and hentai doujins by now.

"Food's here! Food's here!"

Zhang Shaoqing trotted over enthusiastically with two plates of stir-fry, then ran another trip with Wen Yang and Wang Jie. Seven people had ordered six dishes, and he even went downstairs to the mini-mart to buy a whole bag of drinks.

He didn't forget Ning Chu's Coke either—but still tossed it to her with a sour expression.

“Tsundere~”

“My treat, don't hold back. If it's not enough, order more.”

Watching the unusually generous man, Xi Xi leaned over curiously.

“Is he really rich? He's so generous~”

“Yeah. A filthy rich dog.”

“He's tall, handsome, *and* rich~”

“...???”

Ning Chu stared at Xi Xi in disbelief.

“Is something wrong with your sense of aesthetics?”

Where is he tall and handsome? He's annoying and shameless, if anything.

He's only generous when treating people to meals, normally, he won't even order takeout unless it hits the discount threshold, and he'll haggle over a single yuan.

She added, “He's a cat girl fetishist and already has a girlfriend. It's our English teacher, Qian Qian.”

“Is a teacher–student relationship really okay?”

“That's why Qian Qian's planning to resign~ She's probably already handling the paperwork. She could run off at any time.”

Ning Chu sighed gloomily.

Once Qian Qian leaves, there'll be no one left to save her English final.

And if she ends up with a super strict teacher... then she's completely doomed.

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Link for character illustration:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IxOucqi87ss3bmqfO9zl2gYiM1Gy8Hz2>