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Exchange: The Screenplay About Life in China and the US

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EXCHANGE
A SCREENPLAY ABOUT BOTH LIVES IN THE US AND CHINA

By

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A capstone project submitted for
Graduation with University Honors

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University Honors
University of California, Riverside

APPROVED

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ABSTRACT

As an international student from China, I find that cultures in China and the US are very different. In particular, familial relationships and education make Chinese and Americans have different characteristics. Chinese families value respecting the elders the most, and they focus more on children's academic performance than interests in education. On the contrary, parents and children can get along like friends in the US families, and they also encourage children to have interests and community services. I will write a screenplay about two girls from China and the US who switch their bodies and get a chance to experience each other's lives. After they change back, they also learn how to deal with their own problems. The audience will see these different cultures, such as family relationships, boy and girlfriend relationships, life styles, food culture, and educational experiences, through the eyes of two girls. I want to make my story more real and interesting so that everyone can know what these two cultures are like exactly. Chinese and Americans are able to have a sympathetic chord about their lives, and get to know each other's different cultures. I will research ideas and experiences surrounding family and education from both perspectives, including interviewing friends and students from China and the US. My screenplay will allow the audience to step into both worlds and leave with a better understanding and appreciation of these diverse cultures, which will help to break down harmful stereotypes and foster open-mindedness and acceptance of others.

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Exchange

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FADE IN:

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

The AP Calculus class is in progress. The teacher is explaining a question by the whiteboard. TRASIA, 16, a white girl with blonde hair, is sleeping at her seat. After a while, the bell rings. Trasia suddenly wakes up.

THE TEACHER
Class is over. Dismissed.

The teacher puts down the marker and goes out first. The classroom becomes noisy and students are packing their stuff to leave.

CLASSMATE #1
(touches Trasia's shoulder)
Hey Trasia, such a nice nap huh?
See you tomorrow!

TRASIA
(in Chinese style)
Oh, em, bye-bye.

That classmate is confused.

CLASSMATE #1
What's wrong with your accent?

Trasia is also confused about what he said. She rubs her eyes and seems still sleepy.

TRASIA
...hmmm?

CLASSMATE #1
(shrugs his shoulder)
Anyways. I'm in a hurry. See ya.

The classmate leaves. Trasia becomes sober slowly.

TRASIA
Wait... what did he call me? Where
the hell am I??

She looks around and becomes more and more confused. The questions that the teacher wrote on the whiteboard and the posters on the sidewall are all in English. The teacher's bag is still on the podium. Everything seems normal but her face shows her panic.

She then puts down her head and sees her hands are put on nail polish. She checks her desk and finds the phone. The screen reflects her face and she turns on the camera. A girl with white skin and blonde hair appears in the screen. Trasia touches her own face slowly. The girl in the screen does the exactly same thing with her.

Trasia gets shocked and drops the phone.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
What's going on with my body???!!

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - MORNING

The alarm rings.

JIAYI, 16, a Chinese girl with black hair and the hair is tied up, stretches out her hand from the quilt to get the phone. The phone shows it's 6:30am.

JIAYI
(murmurs)
Who set my alarm so early...

She closes her eyes again. After a while, she suddenly opens her eyes widely and sits up. She takes the phone again and checks it carefully.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Who the hell's phone is this?!

Then she notices her hands.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Where's my nail polish?! I just applied yesterday!!

She looks down and finds that she is wearing pajamas she's never seen before. Looking around, she is in a bedroom that definitely doesn't belong to her. Then she notices the mirror on the desk beside her. She grabs the mirror and sees her face. It is a girl with yellow skin and black hair.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
(screams)
WHERE THE FUCK IS MY PRETTY BLONDE
HAIR!!!

TITLE CARD:

"Exchange"

ON-SCREEN: ONE DAY EARLIER

INT. PASADENA/TRASIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

TRASIA is doing her make-up in her bedroom. It is a tidy room which is obviously cleaned by someone carefully. Although the desk she is using now is also well packed.

She finally adjusts her hair to make a good looking shape and seems satisfied with how she looks right now. She looks up at the clock and finds it's already 8am.

TRASIA
Oh shit, I'm late!!

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The school bus beeps. MIKE, who is 6-years younger than Trasia, has already packed up his belongings and waits at the front door.

MIKE
(loudly)
Trasia, bus is here.

Trasia runs down the stairs and enters the kitchen. She takes a slice of bread in her mouth and touches her hair again.

TRASIA
(not clearly)
How's my hair? Still cool?

MIKE
(rolls his eyes)
Yea yea. Obviously.

Trasia gives Mike a satisfied look. They walk out of the door.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL LOCKER - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia arrives at the locker to take the things she needs for the first class. The locker is such a mess with lots of paper, books and binders in it. It takes her a while to find her History book, but when she tries hard to take it out, many other things falls on the floor, including a binder with photos spreading out. The photos are all about her with a boy who holds a soccer ball or with a girl who has shining earrings.

She squats down to put the photos back to the binder instantly. Then she slows down. It seems that these photos remind her of something.

Trasia's friend, CATHY, arrives at the locker too.

CATHY
Good morning Trasia!

Trasia gets scared a little bit. She closes the binder quickly and stands up.

TRASIA
Cathy! Hey, how you doing?

CATHY
Are you okay? What's that binder for?

Trasia puts the binder back into the locker quickly.

TRASIA
Nothing! I just dropped it.

CATHY
Alright. Anyways, do you know how to get the certification for the community services we did last weekend? I forgot to ask for the signature on that day.

TRASIA
What? I told you that you needed to ask for that signature ON THAT DAY for so many times! You still forgot? I don't think Mr. Huntington will sign for you now.

CATHY
Please, Trasia! I was too busy at that time. I know you have his numbers. Just help me ask him!

TRASIA
But that will bother him too much. He said he would only sign for the persons who were there on that certain day.

Cathy catches Trasia's arm and begs.

CATHY

Oh come on! You know I need community services to make my application for colleges look better. I don't want to waste this one!

TRASIA

Then you should remember to get that damn signature on time! Or I give you the numbers. You can go ask by yourself.

Trasia takes out her phone, but Cathy pushes it back to her and shakes her head.

CATHY

No no no! You're the president of Key Club and also the one who contacted with him. He may say yes if you talk to him.

Trasia becomes confused.

TRASIA

I don't understand. Sorry, Cathy, but I can't help you this time. I promise you we'll find another chance to get more chances.

Cathy seems disappointed but she says nothing. She lets Trasia's arm go.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Oh you know what? I just received an announcement that the school is going to sponsor the clubs! But they will only choose one from every similar clubs based on the evaluation about the quality of our events in the next month.

CATHY

Wait, one from every similar clubs, which means... we need to compete with Dorris and her Lock Club?

TRASIA

Exactly! Last time she took more people's participation from me, but this time, I'll let her know that my event and my club should be the best!

CATHY

Of course they are! You'll
definitely beat her and get the
sponsor!

Trasia is very satisfied to hear that. She continues picking
up her books on the floor.

Cathy turns to her locker and takes out her books and
binders.

DORRIS, 16, with good looking make up and fashionable
dressing, hits Trasia's shoulder and gives a snort while
walking pass them. On her arm, there is a handbag with a huge
Gucci logo. She stops at her locker and fixes her hair. With
this action, she shows her big and shining earrings.

Both of Trasia and Cathy see her but no one greets to her.
Trasia rolls her eyes. Cathy closes her locker and turns to
wait for Trasia. Then she notices Trasia's nails.

CATHY (CONT'D)

Hey, is that your new nail polish?
This color is great!

TRASIA

Right? I just bought it last week.
See? It can shine under the
sunlight.

Trasia shows her nails to Cathy while still squatting.

A pair of shoes with small heels steps into Trasia's sight.
A well cared hand covers Trasia's hands with Trasia's
notebook, which was on the floor before. Her good looking
nail designs are in front of Trasia's and Cathy's eyes.

DORRIS

(with an awkward tune)
Hey Trasia, don't forget your
notebook.

Trasia and Cathy finally decide to turn to Dorris. Cathy
looks upset about her interruption. Trasia takes the notebook
from Dorris.

TRASIA

(with a fake smile)
Oh thank you Dorris. Didn't notice
you were here before.

Dorris seems upset about Trasia's attitude. She raises her
head. Those earrings are shaking under her ears.

DORRIS

You're welcome Trasia. Oh and, if you need any help, just come to me. I'll save you from these cheap and ugly nail polish.

Trasia looks at Dorris up and down.

TRASIA

Wow you're so nice Dorris.

(beat)

But if you say those horrible nails you just showed me? Nahh, I think I'm good enough.

Dorris and Trasia stares at each other angrily eye to eye.

CATHY

Just ignore her, Trasia! Let's go.

But no one answers her. Cathy watches Trasia and Dorris staring at each other awkwardly.

DORRIS

Fine Trasia. It seems like you didn't change even a little after all that's happened, huh? Proud, arrogant, and will do anything to win!

TRASIA

I prefer to call that "confident". Besides, you were the one who broke the rules first. I just did the same thing and then I won.

DORRIS

(sneers)

HAH! You won, so what? He still broke up with you!

Trasia's face becomes white.

TRASIA

That doesn't mean anything. I still beat you.

DORRIS

You-

TRASIA

(interrupts)

And you also heard about the club sponsor, right?

(MORE)

TRASIA (CONT'D)
I can tell you that I will beat you
again to win the sponsor! You don't
need to think about that at all!

DORRIS
(sneers)
Oh you really think so? Let's wait
and see.

They stare at each other angrily again.

TRASIA & DORRIS (CONT'D)
(together)
Screw you.

They both show their middle fingers and turn around to leave.

Cathy looks at them back and forth. Then she suddenly
realizes Trasia is already gone.

CATHY
Trasia, wait!

She runs to follow Trasia.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia sits in her classroom and gets bored quickly. She
takes out her phone under the desk and clicks on Instagram,
typing in the chat box.

*NOTE: All of the following dialogue in italics will appear as
TEXT MESSAGES on screen in English.*

TRASIA
*Hey Jiayi! Have you seen the new
movie of "The Avengers"? Fuck
Marvel!*

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

JIAYI sits by the desk and is drawing on her sketchbook in
her bedroom. The desk is full of books, pens and paper. Only
a small part in front of her is empty for her to work. She
can hear some sound of television from the living room
outside.

The phone on the desk makes a sound and lights up. She reads
the message and types back.

JIAYI
*Yes I have. Give me back my Tony!
Fuck Marvel!!*

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
*Yiyi! What are you doing? Have you
finished your homework?*

JIAYI
I AM doing it!

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
*Then focus! Don't play with your
phone all the time!*

JIAYI
(rolls her eyes)
I know!

Jiayi sighs. She puts down the phone and continues drawing on the paper. It makes her look like she is writing homework from back. Jiayi waits for a second and then takes a look at the living room and sees her mom watching television. Then she takes the phone again and switches it to silence mode.

TRASIA
*That's right! They ruined my
motivation to continue my
stories...*

JIAYI
NOOO!!
(sends a "crying" emoji)
*You can't give up! I just stepped
out of my sorrow because of your
stories. Just check the comments!
So many people get comfort from
your fanfic.*

TRASIA
But I need comfort too...:(

Jiayi thinks with drawing circles on the paper without noticing. Then she thinks of something and turns some pages to a blank page.

JIAYI
*How about this: I can draw a fan-
art just for you! You can ask me to
draw whatever you want.*

TRASIA
*YEAAA!! I want to see all the
avengers alive after A4!*

JIAYI
ALL the avengers? Trasia, really?

TRASIA
You've promised me~;)

JIAYI
...Alright. Wait, did you plan that?

Trasia sends a "laughing" emoji. Jiayi replies by a "mood" emoji.

Mrs. Wang walks through the door.

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
Yiyi-I don't see you're writing.

Jiayi puts down her phone at once.

JIAYI
I'm done now!

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Sorry Trasia, I have to go sleep now. Talk to you later!

TRASIA
Sure. Goodnight.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Trasia and Cathy find an empty seat to sit down with their meals.

TRASIA
Thank god today is my favorite pasta! Totally saved my stomach. I didn't eat much for the breakfast.

CATHY
Busy with your makeup again?

TRASIA
That's how you can see such a perfect me! Just... I almost didn't make it during the third class.

CATHY
Haha. Remember to carry some cookies next time!

TRASIA
(makes a face)
Hope I can remember.

On the other side, a tall and strong boy, GAVIN (17), sees Trasia and Cathy after he finishes taking the food. He is exactly the boy who was on Trasia's photos. He hesitates for a while and then walks approach them.

GAVIN
Hi guys. Do you mind I sit here?

Two girls are silent for a second. Cathy looks at Trasia carefully to see her attitude. Trasia holds her fork tightly and eats faster.

TRASIA
No.

GAVIN
Thanks.

Gavin sits beside Trasia. There is an awkward silence among three people. Gavin starts to talk while he is rolling up his pasta.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
So, how you doing recently Trasia?

TRASIA
Good.

GAVIN
That's nice. Hmm, oh I heard you are the Key Club president this year right? How's that?

Trasia doesn't answer immediately. She chews the food in her mouth slowly. After she finally swallows it, she drinks the coke by her hand. Then she speaks.

TRASIA
Nothing special.
(beat)
Why do you care, then?

GAVIN
I just want to tell you that I joined Key Club this year. I can help you with your business!

Trasia now puts down her fork. Cathy takes a look at her.

TRASIA
(with a sneer)
Didn't you say that you were unable
to stand working with me? Now what?
Want to try again?

GAVIN
I've thought about that after we
broke up. That argument is
meaningless! We were both too
emotional at that time. But now I
calm down, so...

TRASIA
(coldly)
So what?

Gavin holds his fork tightly.

GAVIN
So... I still can't forget you,
Trasia.

Trasia stares at Gavin. Gavin swallows saliva. Cathy looks at
Trasia and Gavin back and forth nervously. Trasia smiles, but
that smile makes both of Cathy and Gavin get cold.

TRASIA
Oh really? You can't forget me?
(beat)
But it's too late now. We're done.

Trasia stands up with her empty plates.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Let's go Cathy.

GAVIN
Trasia-

Trasia doesn't stop. Cathy stands up and follows her at once.

Gavin sits on his seat and watches them walk away.

EXT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia and Cathy leave the cafeteria and sit on a bench in
the little garden. They are sharing a cup of fruit. Cathy
looks at Trasia so often that Trasia gets impatient.

TRASIA
Stop looking at me like that,
Cathy! Just talk!

CATHY
So... are you okay?

TRASIA
For what?

CATHY
(shrugs her shoulders)
You know, the person out there.

TRASIA
(sighs)
Cathy, I've said for so many times.
It's okay to mention his name or
talk about him in front of me cause
I've been through it!
(beat)
And I'm fine. Totally fine.

CATHY
Okay okay you've been through it.
(beat)
But-I don't mean anything-I think
Gavin is a good boy to stay with.

TRASIA
But he's the one who gave up this
relationship. He's the one who
broke up with me! Why should I
forgive him so easily?

It takes Cathy some time to understand what Trasia means.

CATHY
...Oh, right! You shouldn't forgive
him so easily!

TRASIA
(smiles)
He's now one of our club members
right? That's a great chance to see
if he really means what he said.

CATHY
Good idea! Then we also get more
power to win the evaluation!

Trasia gives Cathy a satisfied look.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

In the Key Club classroom, a "meeting" is being held by the
president Trasia.

TRASIA
Who are we!!

CLUBBERS
KEY CLUB!!

TRASIA
What do we do!!

CLUBBERS
SERVING PEOPLE!!

TRASIA
How are we doing!!

CLUBBERS
GREAT!!

TRASIA
Then--
(beat)
Who wants to earn more service
hours!!

CLUBBERS
MEEEEEE!!!

TRASIA
AIDS Walk! We're coming!!

CLUBBERS
YEAHHHHHH!!

All the clubbers get excited. Trasia waits until they calm down and gives them a sheet.

TRASIA
If you want to attend our new event, aka the Aids Walk, please write down your contact information on this sheet. The event will be held on Saturday in three weeks. Also write down either the volunteer or the participator you want to be. We'll separate into two groups this time. Remember to encourage your friends to join us! If we do well this time, the school will give extra money to us! More money means more fun activities!! Just keep in mind!

People start to fill in the sheet one by one with talking with each other excitedly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Secretary Cathy, count the number
of people who will attend after
collecting this sheet. Treasurer
Alice, how much funding do we have
left now?

ALICE, the treasurer of the Key Club, a girl with glasses,
gets scared when Trasia calls her name. She hesitates for a
second.

ALICE
Maybe... Around \$2000?

TRASIA
Maybe? Did you have our funding
records?

ALICE
I-I didn't do it recently. But the
money is safe and I can figure out
the records!

TRASIA
You better. Give me the completed
records tomorrow.

ALICE
WHAT?! I have a lot of work to do
tonight. I need more time!

TRASIA
But I need it as soon as possible
to make sure our funding is okay
for this event. Didn't you hear
what I said about the sponsor? It
exactly depends on how perfect this
event is this time. I don't want
any mistakes.
(beat)
Cathy, go help Alice tonight with
her funding records.

Cathy seems surprised when she raises her head from her
phone.

CATHY
I also have work to do-

TRASIA
I know but it should be easy for
you two work together. It won't
take you too long.
(MORE)

TRASIA (CONT'D)
I have to contact other presidents
to make sure all the things go
correctly so far today, or I will
also help.

Cathy and Alice look at each other. Both of them sigh and start to figure out how to do the record.

When Trasia wants to have a seat behind the podium and waits for everyone to finish the sheet, she notices that Gavin, who she tries to ignore all the time but failed, stands up and walks out of the room. She gets confused and decides to follow him.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL LOCKER - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia hides behind the locker and sees Gavin walk into another empty classroom near the room that Key Club is in now. She frowns and thinks for a while before she decides to enter the room. She walks to the door and opens it.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trasia opens the door and walks into the room.

TRASIA
Gavin! What are you do-

She stops her sentences when she sees Gavin stands against the wall and faces to the podium. By the podium, a girl stands there: Dorris. Trasia can feel anger welling up inside her.

Gavin gets shocked when he sees Trasia enter the room.

GAVIN
Trasia?! Why are you here?

TRASIA
(with no emotions)
That's what I want to ask you.

GAVIN
We-I-I just want to ask Dorris something.

Dorris rolls her eyes.

TRASIA
Hah. Ask her something? What is that?

GAVIN
Just... something.

TRASIA
Actually, you don't need to tell
me. I already know.

Trasia goes back to calm. She raises her head and looks at
Gavin and Dorris coldly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Although you got a spy in my club,
Dorris, you still won't win.

Trasia shoots a glare to Gavin and steps out of the room.

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - EVENING

Trasia slams the door with a huge sound as she enters. She
walks so quickly that Mike, who is drawing his poster by the
table, just sees a shadow fly pass him.

MIKE
Welcome home?

Trasia doesn't answer or even stop. She goes directly to her
bedroom and slams the door again.

Mike seems very confused, but he just shrugs his shoulder and
sighs.

He continues drawing, but then suddenly realizes something.

MIKE (CONT'D)
(loudly to upstairs)
HEY! It's your turn to cook today!
You can't skip for so many times!

But the answer he gets is only silence and a closed door.

CUT TO:

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Jiayi enters her bedroom after cleaning up herself. She
checks her phone but surprisingly, she doesn't get any
messages today. She frowns a little bit but doesn't think too
much. She turns to open the wardrobe and try to find her
uniforms by throwing clothes out one by one. Her bed and the
chair near it become a mess quickly.

NOTE: All of the following dialogue in Shanghai will be said in Chinese with English subtitles.

JIAYI

Mom! Where's today's clothes?

MRS. WANG (O.S.)

Check your chair!

JIAYI

They're not here!

MRS. WANG (O.S.)

It should be there! Check again.

Jiayi turns her head to see the whole room. Clothes are everywhere and the chair her mom mentioned is already buried in the clothes mountain. She takes a deep breath and starts to dig out today's uniform.

After finishing dressing up, Jiayi takes her backpack out, leaving a more messy room behind.

INT. SHAHGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING

Jiayi walks into the classroom. The time is still early. There are only a few students in the classroom, and most of them are the boys who sit in the back of the room. Jiayi sits on her seat, which is in the front of the room, and starts to take out her homework books.

The boys in the back see her and three of them run to her seat. They call Jiayi's name like a trio.

BOY #1

Jiayi-

BOY #2

Jiayi--

BOY #3

Jiayi---

BOYS (TOGETHER)

Please----

Jiayi sighs and hands her homework to them.

JIAYI

Really guys? Still copying homework? Ms. Wu will be very upset.

The boys seem very happy to have Jiayi's book. They run back to their seats. Now there are more classmates are waiting there for the homework.

BOY #1

We're not copying, Jiayi. Just some questions we don't know how to do. We want some references.

JIAYI

(not so willing)

Fine but I'm not sure if I did it all correctly.

BOY #3

Oh JIAYI, take it easy. Who cares about the correct answers?

They are busy to write the answers while talking.

JIAYI

But...

BOY #2

Love you JIAYI. You're just like our father.

BOY #1

Or mother.

JIAYI

Shut up! Just... do your work fast!

The boys in the back thumb up to show they heard her and the other hands are still writing at the same time. Jiayi sighs again and turns her body to the front. A rice roll is put on her desk. WENJIE, Jiayi's best friend, takes a seat in front of her.

WENJIE

Here. Your breakfast.

JIAYI

Thank God! I'm starving.

WENJIE

You're welcome. Just one thing, Jiayi. Can I take a look at your homework?

JIAYI

You too?? Go ask them in the back.

WENJIE

They took it already? Shit I need
to come earlier in the future.

(to the back)

Hey you guys! Let me see it first!
I AM Jiayi's friend!

Wenjie runs to the back. Her big voice soon can be heard even from the stairs out of the classroom. In the back of the room, it is totally chaotic. But in the front, Jiayi still sits there eating her breakfast.

A good looking boy enters the classroom and sits down beside Jiayi. He is Jiayi's deskmate, XIAOYU.

XIAOYU

Hey Jiayi, did you do that last
question of the Math test paper
yesterday?

JIAYI

No, I tried but still can't figure
it out.

XIAOYU

Hah! I figured it out!

JIAYI

What?! Tell me how to do it!

XIAOYU

Before that, do you admit that I'm
better than you in Math now?

JIAYI

It's just a practice test! It
doesn't mean anything okay?

XIAOYU

Don't care! I won this time.

JIAYI

(sighs)

...Fine! Just teach me how to do
it!

Xiaoyu takes out his test paper and starts to explain for Jiayi. Jiayi listens carefully and also smiles secretly.

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - LATER

It is time for morning excercises. The whole class and the teacher are going to the playground.

The music of the morning exercise is played through the broadcasts in the entire campus.

Jiayi puts all the homework that is collected just now together. The homework books from the whole class are all there on the podium. She holds them together carefully and prepares to take all of them to the teachers' office.

WENJIE

Hey do you need help? They are too heavy for you.

JIAYI

No thanks, WENJIE. I'll be fine.

WENJIE

You sure?

JIAYI

Yea. You know this is my daily job. Just go do the exercise. It's not good for you to let the teacher find you're not in the line.

WENJIE

Alright. Be careful okay?

JIAYI

Okay, mom.

WENJIE

Oh that's my good girl.

They smile together. Wenjie then leaves and goes to the playground with the whole class.

Jiayi takes a deep breath and finds a best way to hold all of those homework books. She also leaves the classroom.

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL STAIRS - MOMENTS LATER

Jiayi carries the books and goes down the stairs carefully. The books are too high that she even cannot see the steps in front of her. Every time she takes her step, she needs to check the road from the side of the books. However, when she is in the middle of the stairs, the books still fall. They drop everywhere on the stairs.

JIAYI

Shit!

Jiayi squats down to pick them up and put them back in order. Then a boy appears from the upstairs and comes to help. JIAYI looks up and finds that is XIAOYU.

XIAOYU

Jiayi? You okay?

JIAYI

Why are you still here? You didn't go to the playground?

XIAOYU

I went to the restroom before and just missed the lines. How about you? What happened here?

JIAYI

Eh, you know, I need to put all of these on Ms. Wu's desk before the first class, so...

Xiaoyu looks around and becomes surprised.

XIAOYU

That's a lot! Why you didn't call someone to help?

JIAYI

Ehh... I can do it by myself. You know I do this everyday.

XIAOYU

But there're too many today. Here, let me help you.

JIAYI

But the teacher will find you skipped the exercise!

Xiaoyu is already collecting the books.

XIAOYU

Oh come on, give me a chance to escape from it. Just help me tell the teacher that I skipped the exercise for helping you okay? She'll believe you.

(beat)

Wait, that's what I'm exactly doing, so it's not a lie. She'll forgive me.

He stands there and makes a face. Jiayi suddenly feels nervous and her face turns red.

JIAYI

Alright. Thank you anyways.

She turns down her head and picks the rest of the books faster. She tries hard to not smile so obviously.

Xiaoyu waits for her to finish picking up. Jiayi takes the books more easily this time. She keeps up quickly and walks with XIAOYU side by side.

XIAOYU

So where's the teachers' office?

JIAYI

It's on the second floor. Wait, you've never been there?

XIAOYU

Ehh, no. This is the first time.

JIAYI

Really? How come?

XIAOYU

Just... wait, what do you mean by that? Ms. Wu never called me to her office and that means I'm a good student.

JIAYI

Oh I don't believe you. I know that Ms. Gao asks you to her office all the time.

XIAOYU

What do you mean by all the time? It should be sometimes. By the way, my Math IS better than yours.

JIAYI

Hah. Let's see after this coming monthly test.

They walk to the teachers' office.

INT. SHANGHAI/FAMILY MART - EVENING

Jiayi and Wenjie sit at the window in the Family Mart, a convenience store near their school. They share snacks and do the homework together. Jiayi tells Wenjie about what happened today with Xiaoyu.

WENJIE

Woooo! That's a big step, Jiayi! He helped you! I was so smart that I didn't go with you.

JIAYI

What are you talking about! It's just a coincidence.

WENJIE

A romantic coincidence. Oh my gosh just admit it! You like him!

JIAYI

No I don't! How does that conclusion come out by the way?

WENJIE

It's so obvious, Jiayi! I'm not stupid or blind. You even can't hide your smile when you see him.

JIAYI

(unbelievable)

NO! Seriously, Wenjie, do you need a pair of glasses? I know a great store for them.

Jiayi takes out a stick with two beat balls from the Oden cup and puts it in front of her eyes just like the glasses.

Wenjie grabs the stick from Jiayi.

WENJIE

We'll see. I know I'm right.

Wenjie bites the meat ball hard. The soup inside of the ball suddenly splashes on her homework on the table.

JIAYI

(laughs)

Hahaha. Even the meat ball doesn't agree with you.

WENJIE

Shit, Jiayi! Don't just look at me! Help my homework! I don't want to tell Ms. Gao what I ate today.

They take out the tissue and clean Wenjie's homework. There are still some stains on that test paper.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
(smells the test paper)
Oh no. I can still smell it.

Jiayi laughs out loud again.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
Stop laughing! It's not funny.

Jiayi takes a while to stop laughing. She takes some tissue to wipe away her tears.

JIAYI
Oh gosh it's so funny.

Wenjie waves her fist at her

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Okay okay. This topic ends. We better go back to our homework now. There's so much today.

WENJIE
Yea yea, mom.
(sighs)
It's still a year for the college entrance exam. Why is there so much homework already?

JIAYI
Just do it. The day is getting dark.

WENJIE
I know. Hey do you know how to do this question?

They start to discuss the math question and do their homework.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - EVENING

MRS. WANG, Jiayi's mom, is cleaning up Jiayi's bedroom. She puts all the clean clothes everywhere back into the wardrobe and picks out the dirty ones for the laundry. It takes her much time and energy to do it so she sighs hard.

When she begins to pack up the desk, she notices there is a sketchbook which is hidden under several exercises books. She opens it and sees there are many well done paintings inside. Some are just drafts with pencils, but more are completed paintings with colors. She frowns and takes this sketchbook out of the bedroom.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Mrs. Wang walks into the living room with the sketchbook in her hand. On the couch, MR. WANG, Jiayi's dad, is watching television.

Mrs. Wang hands the book to him.

MRS. WANG
Hey, you should take a look at
this.

Mr. Wang takes the book and sees the paintings.

MR. WANG
I think Yiyi said her homework was
a lot everyday. When did she do all
of these?

MRS. WANG
That's what I want to know as well.
She's lying about doing her
homework.

Mr. Wang doesn't answer. Mrs. Wang sits on another couch beside him.

MRS. WANG (CONT'D)
I know she's good at drawing all
the time and I'm actually proud of
it, but I'm not sure if she should
continue wasting so much time on
it. I mean, drawing doesn't help
anything with her entrance exam,
right?
(beat)
But I also feel bad to ask her give
up her hobby. She's been doing it
since she was a child! It should
mean something after she sticks to
this hobby for so many years.

MR. WANG
How are her grades recently?

MRS. WANG
Not good not bad. I believe she was
in the 15th in the class ranking
last time.

MR. WANG
The 15th? And she's already
satisfied with that?

Mrs. Wang shrugs her shoulder.

MR. WANG (CONT'D)

Does she really know the importance of the entrance exam? So many students study so hard for only one more point so that they can go to a better college! Her grades are not safe enough now!

MRS. WANG

Yea I agree. She still hasn't realized the entrance exam is almost here.

MR. WANG

It's not good. We need to talk with her.

He throws the sketchbook on the tea table and sighs. Mrs. Wang also seems worried.

Not long, they hear someone opens the door with the key.

JIAYI (O.S.)

Mom, Dad. I'm back.

She steps into the living room. It's very quiet inside. She sees her parents already sit on the couch with serious expressions.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

What happened?

Mr. Wang points at the sketchbook on the table.

Jiayi is a little confused at first, then she realizes what that is and becomes very upset.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

Mom! You touched my things again!

MRS. WANG

I just want to clean up your room for you. Go blame yourself. You're the one who makes the room a mess.

MR. WANG

Okay. We're not going to talk about this today.

(beat)

I think you said you had so much homework everyday. How can you have time to draw all of these, then?

Jiayi doesn't answer.

MR. WANG (CONT'D)

(sighs)

We know you like drawing very much, but it's still wrong about lying to us. Besides, it took you too much time and energy. You're in the 12th grade now, Yiyi. It's totally different from before. We can almost say that your future is just depending on this year! I think we and your teachers in the school must have talked about it many times. Do you exactly understand what all of us mean?

Jiayi keeps looking down at her fingers.

MRS. WANG

Your main task for now is study, Yiyi. After the entrance exam, you can just do whatever you want.

JIAYI

(whispers)

But that'll be too late for the art colleges.

MR. WANG

What did you say?

JIAYI

Nothing.

MRS. WANG

Just tell us what you're thinking about. Are we that kind of parents who never listen to our kids?

Jiayi swallows saliva. She holds her fingers tight. Her voice is trembling.

JIAYI

I... I want to go to an art college.

MRS. WANG & MR. WANG

WHAT?!

MR. WANG (CONT'D)

Are you serious? Art colleges? Do you know what art colleges are?

(MORE)

MR. WANG (CONT'D)

Do you know how to get into an art college? You think going to the art colleges will be easier than the normal ones? I can tell you that's not as easy as you imagined!

Jiayi's eyes become red. She wants to say something to refute her parents but the only thing she is able to do is frowning and keeping playing with her fingers. The more pain that she feels from the fingers, the more strength she uses.

MRS. WANG

Your dad is right, Yiyi. Art colleges are hard! You like drawing, and that's correct. But can you stand for drawing the same things that you don't like day after day all the time? Did you really get to know how these colleges are? Stop dreaming and focus on study! That's the only thing you need to think about in this period.

MR. WANG

Hobby is hobby. It's not a way to make a living. We are doing all of this for your good, Yiyi.

JIAYI

(whispers)

I don't see any good.

MR. WANG

You may be unable to understand now, Yiyi. But time will prove that we are correct. Now I'll take these sketches and all of your painting tools away. The monthly tests are coming right? You should take care of yourself more! Go do your homework now.

Jiayi runs to her bedroom with tears.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jiayi throws herself to the chair. She lies on the desk for a while and doesn't want to do anything, even though the homework is opened in front of her. She keeps turning the pen when she takes out her phone and sends messages to Trasia.

NOTE: All of the following dialogue in italics will appear as TEXT MESSAGES on screen in English.

JIAYI

Hi Trasia. You awake?

INT. PASADENA/TRASIA'S BEDROOM -EARLY MORNING

Trasia stays up all night upset. When she is rolling on the bed, her phone lights up. She takes the phone and reads Jiayi's message.

TRASIA

Yea.

INTERCUT - MESSAGE CONVERSATION

JIAYI

Wow you get up so early today!

TRASIA

I actually didn't fall asleep...

JIAYI

Hey what happened? You alright?

Trasia lies on the bed and stares at the ceiling.

TRASIA

*Just some fucking annoying things
and persons. Stop talking about me.
What's your message for?*

Jiayi stops turning the pen. She sees the drawing that she drew on the book page before. That small person seems like he is laughing at her.

JIAYI

*I just want to tell you that... I
may not be able to draw the picture
that I promised you before.*

TRASIA

That's so sad!! What happened?

JIAYI

*My parents don't allow me to spend
more time on drawing. They only
know study study study! Why can't I
go to an art college instead of a
normal one? Can't understand.*

Trasia sits up from the bed.

TRASIA

*Just tell them! It's your own
freedom to choose what kind of
college to go to.*

JIAYI

*I tried and they didn't listen. You
didn't see their faces when they
found my sketchbooks.*

Trasia sends a "hug" emoji.

Jiayi sighs and finally gets start on her homework. It is an English test paper. She looks at the messages she sent in English and then looks at the test paper. She feels more bored about the things she is learning about.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

*I envy you so much, Trasia. You can
do whatever you want and the
application for colleges there
don't just focus on grades. I mean,
exams are so useless!*

TRASIA

*Haha that's true. But I still think
you should follow your heart. Jesus
why let your parents take control
of your life? I even want to do it
for you.*

JIAYI

*Haha thanks for that but no way.
They're just so stubborn. You
wouldn't make it.*

Trasia gets up from the bed. She opens the wardrobe and starts to decide what clothes to wear.

TRASIA

*Then just do it without convincing
them!*

JIAYI

I want to! But I can't.

Jiayi sends a "crying" meme.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

*So why do you stay up today?
Anything I can do for you?*

Trasia stares at this message for a while. She takes out several sweaters and leggings that totally not so fashionable as the clothes she usually wore.

TRASIA

I was being tricked by my ex-boyfriend and the person I hate the most! He just told me that he couldn't forget me and then I found out he was just a spy! How gross they are!

Jiayi sees the drawing on the test paper. The drawing is about a girl and a boy who are holding hands and smiling at each other.

JIAYI

Wow I'm... sorry for that, Trasia. I haven't got a relationship yet so I may not be able to give you any advise.

Trasia tries those clothes on, but none of them seems good.

TRASIA

It's okay. I just feel sick by them.

Trasia sends a "vomiting" meme.

JIAYI

C'mon Trasia! You can go through this! Read some fan fic for fun.

Jiayi sends a "hug" emoji. Then she notices that in the chat box of the Instagram, there is a new icon beside the emoji icon with two arrows pointing back and forth.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

Hey Trasia, did you notice the new icon beside the emoji one?

Trasia takes a look carefully. There is one icon that exactly the same with the one in Jiayi's chat box.

TRASIA

Yea. What's that for?

JIAYI

Don't know...

TRASIA

Let's just try it!

JIAYI
Wait! Don't do that-

Trasia clicks on that new icon.

In the chat box, there are some lines appear in both of their two screens. It looks like there is a robot talking with them.

THE ROBOT
*Welcome to use "EXCHANGE" function.
Would you like to exchange with
this friend? Reply "Yes" or "No".*

Both Trasia and Jiayi are confused.

JIAYI
What the hell is this?!

She is reminded of something and types quickly.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Trasia! Don't reply to it now!!

The message arrives at Trasia's phone in time to stop her from replying "Yes".

TRASIA
Why? It seems fun!

She finally gives up with the clothes she just took out and turns to look for the ones that she usually wears. Those fashionable ones.

JIAYI
*We don't know what's that for...
And even exchange what?*

Jiayi stands up and walks back and forth in her room.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Jiayi's parents outside hear Jiayi's steps and seems very confused about what she's doing inside. But they don't come to check about her.

BACK TO:

INTERCUT - MESSAGE CONVERSATION

TRASIA

Oh come on Jiayi! I don't want to think about that damn couple any more! Just try it for fun. What can it do to us by just a little icon?

Trasia changes her clothes and sits on her chair. She wipes away her tears and starts to make up, like always, but she tries hard to cover her dark circles this time.

JIAYI

Alright... I also want to forget about my parents now actually.

TRASIA

So let's do this!

Both girls stop what they are doing right now and type in the chat box.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Yes.

JIAYI

Yes.

THE ROBOT

Thank you for replying. Have fun!

They wait for a while to see what else will happen nervously, but nothing happened.

Jiayi suddenly relieves. She sits back to her chair and holds the pen again.

JIAYI

So... nothing there too?

Trasia almost throws her eyelashes away.

TRASIA

(shouts out)

FUCK! Damn App! It played us!

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Yea yea. Nothing here. It's just a trick. I will delete Instagram someday! I swear!

Jiayi laughs when she reads this message. She feels that her mood becomes better now.

JIAYI

*Alrighty. Don't forget to give me
your ID for another social media
before doing that. I really need to
go now. My homework is just like
mountains.*

Trasia puts lipstick on her mouth. She checks her make up again through the mirror and finally gets satisfied about how she looks right now. She even makes herself look much better than usual.

TRASIA

*Of course I'll do that. Talk to you
later, Jiayi. You can kill them
all!*

Trasia opens the door of her bedroom.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

And so do I.

ON-SCREEN: NOW

INT. SHANGHAI/PARENTS' BEDROOM - MORNING

Mr. and Mrs. Wang are awakened by the screaming from Jiayi's room. They jump off their bed and run out of their bedroom.

INT. SHANGHAI/HALLWAY IN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Mr. and Mrs. Wang run to Jiayi's bedroom. Mr. Wang tries to turn the doorknob but the door is locked from inside. Mrs. Wang keeps rapping on the door.

MRS. WANG

*Yiyi? Are you okay? What happened?
Open the door!*

MR. WANG

Wang Jiayi! Say something!

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Inside of Jiayi's bedroom, Trasia finally sees how she looks now from the mirror. She steps around for a sec and tries to understand what is going on. Then she hears the name that Jiayi's parents are calling.

TRASIA
Wang Jiayi? I'm JIAYI right now?

Mr. and Mrs. Wang keep asking her to let them in and sound more and more worried. She thinks for a sec and finally clears her throat slowly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
(tentatively)
Mom? Dad?

The calling and flapping stop. Mr. and Mrs. Wang look at each other and relax for a little bit.

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
Yiyi? What's that screaming for?
Are you okay?

TRASIA
Yea I'm totally fine! I just got a nightmare. It's okay now!

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
Really? Why did you lock the door?
Just let us in to help you!

TRASIA
(nervously)
NO NO NO!!! Don't come inside! I...

Trasia steps around again and scratches her head to think about how to stop the parents from coming in.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
I'm changing clothes so I'm naked right now!
(beat)
I'm totally okay now! Nothing special here and I'll come out soon so just... just hold there!

The parents seem not being convinced but they stop asking to be let in.

MRS. WANG
Alright. If you need help, just call us.
(beat)
The uniform is on your chair near the bed! Don't forget it again.

TRASIA
Got it! You guys can just go back to sleep now!

The parents hesitate for a while but finally leave the door.

Trasia lies on the door to hear if they walk away. When she cannot hear the steps anymore, she finally relaxes.

Then she sees the uniform that on the chair just like what Mrs. Wang said. She goes to pick it up and takes a look. The uniform is just a sports jacket with a pair of pants in the same color. She makes a face.

INT. SHANGHAI/HALLWAY IN APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia cracks open the door and peeks outside. She looks around and finds no one. Then she opens the door wide.

The uniform that she wears is still the one she found on the chair, but now it looks totally different. She doesn't wear the jacket and the hem of the shirt is tied so that she can show her beautiful waist.

She puts the jacket on her shoulder and walks out of the room with huge confidence, just like a model.

INT. SHANGHAI/DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trasia walks to the dining room. To her surprise, Mr. and Mrs. Wang are already there. Mr. Wang is reading newspaper. Mrs. Wang is putting the breakfast on the table.

Trasia freezes at once.

Mrs. Wang frowns when she sees Trasia. She walks to Trasia and unties the knot of the shirt. Her expression shows she is very upset about Trasia's appearance.

MRS. WANG

Look at you! What kind of clothes
are you wearing? You're still a
student! How can you let others see
your belly?

Mrs. Wang holds the jacket to let Trasia put it on. Trasia is shocked by her action so she just puts it on obediently. Then Mrs. Wang turns to the table.

MRS. WANG (CONT'D)

Come. Don't just stand there.
You'll be late.

Trasia goes and sits down. On the table, there is a cup of soy milk and a few steamed buns in a plate. She takes a bun and has a bite. There is some veggies inside.

When she is eating, Mrs. Wang walks to her back and starts to brush her hair. Trasia avoids her hands, but Mrs. Wang keeps staring at her. They look at each other for a while. At last, Trasia loses and turns to continue eating.

Mrs. Wang shrugs her shoulders after Trasia turns around and starts brushing. She ties Trasia's hair more and more tightly until Trasia feels her scalp is being pulled painfully. She even can't eat anymore.

TRASIA
Ouch! It's too tight!

MRS. WANG
It looks nicer when it's so tight.

Trasia seems that she can't understand.

TRASIA
But it hurts!!

MRS. WANG
(sighs)
Fine.

Then Trasia feels a little better.

At the same time when Mrs. Wang lets her hair go, Trasia stands up immediately. She takes the backpack and runs out of the house, just like she wants to escape from here.

TRASIA
(with no pause)
I have to go now bye!!

MRS. WANG
Your breakfast isn't finished!

TRASIA
I'm not hungry!!

She closes the door of the apartment.

Trasia's parents are confused about her action.

MRS. WANG
Is she really okay? She's so weird today.

MR. WANG
... I don't know.

MRS. WANG
Is she still mad at the
conversation we had yesterday?

Mr. Wang frowns and thinks for a while.

MR. WANG
She'll be fine.
(beat)
Can I have my breakfast now?

Mrs. Wang rolls her eyes.

MRS. WANG
Go get it yourself.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

Jiayi sits in her seat and starts to take out all the stuffs
in the bag that she finds beside her. On the cover of a
notebook, there is a name written "Trasia".

JIAYI
Trasia? Wait, *that* Trasia?

She looks around at where she is again.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
I'm in the US?
(beat)
No no no... It should be, I'm in
Trasia's body?
(beat)
What the fuck???? Movies come
true??

Then she realizes something and takes the phone again. She
uses her fingerprint to unlock the phone and clicks the
Instagram.

She finds the chat box with the name "JIAYI", but the
"Exchange" icon is nowhere. Only a new message left.

THE ROBOT
(in message)
Exchange confirmed.

Jiayi is shocked. She throws out the phone.

JIAYI
(cries)
What do you mean by "Exchange confirmed"?! Where's the damn icon!!

Jiayi takes some deep breathes to calm down. Then she suddenly reminds of something and goes to pick up the phone.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Wait, how about Trasia?

She starts to type in the chat box, but then delete all the words and goes back to the desktop. She clicks the icon of Facetime and makes a call to her own email address, which should be connecting to her own phone.

The call is sending successfully. Jiayi waits for the other side to pick up the call nervously.

After a few seconds, the call is picked up. Then Jiayi sees her own face appear in the screen.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
...Wow, it's so weird to see my own face like this.

TRASIA
(in the screen)
So you're...Jiayi?! Oh my gosh how is it possible??

EXT. SHANGHAI/STREET - DAY

Trasia is walking on the street when she picks up the Facetime call. She is shocked when she really sees her own face in the screen. She gets close to the screen to see the background that Jiayi is in.

TRASIA
Woo it's my classroom! I can recognize it!

INTERCUT - VISUAL CALL CONVERSATION

JIAYI
Yea I just woke up here. Wait, does that mean you woke up in my room?

TRASIA
Yes! No offense but Jiayi, your mom is so-

Trasia touches her hair and shows a scary face.

Jiayi understands immediately. She feels a little awkward and clears her throat.

JIAYI

I get it. Just... leave it if you don't mind.

TRASIA

But how's it possible? We switched our bodies, for real?

JIAYI

I think it's the icon in the Instagram! Remember? We clicked that "Exchange" icon together yesterday, but it's gone now! Did you check it on my phone?

TRASIA

Not yet... let me see now.

Trasia goes back to the desktop of the phone and clicks the Instagram. But after she waits for a while, the app still doesn't show its system.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Hey your Instagram doesn't work! I can't see anything! Is this also caused by that icon?

JIAYI

I don't think so... Your app here works normally.

(beat)

Oh, maybe you forgot VPN.

TRASIA

...oh, right.

She finds the icon of VPN and turns it on. When she goes back to Instagram, it starts to work. She finds the chatbox and sees the "Exchange confirmed" message as well, but there's no icon there.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

"Exchange confirmed"? So the icon didn't trick us? But where does it go now?

Jiayi seems very worried.

JIAYI

Does that mean we can't switch back
any more? What can we do now?

Trasia looks excited.

TRASIA

So magic really exists! It's okay,
Jiayi! I believe this will not last
for too long. We'll switch back
when we're able to, just like in
the movies.

JIAYI

But that's ridiculous! We're in the
reality!

But Trasia doesn't pay attention to what Jiayi said.

TRASIA

(excited)

Wait! So I know Chinese now? I
talked to your parents earlier!

She tries two tongue twisters in Chinese very quickly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh that's so cool!!!

JIAYI

Wait so I understand English too? I
don't need to memorize those
fucking words for the exams any
more?

TRASIA

Yea!!

JIAYI

That's perfect!!

Jiayi also gets excited, but after a while she realizes it's
not a good time for cheering at all.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

Slow down Trasia! I know nothing
here! We can't keep this switching.

TRASIA

We can chat through Instagram and
make phone calls like this!
Technology is strong enough now,
Jiayi, take it easy!

Jiayi scratches her hair and hesitates. Finally, she sighs.

JIAYI

Fine. Just don't let others,
especially my parents, know this.
They will send you to the hospital,
seriously.

TRASIA

Yea! Role playing! It'll be fun!!
Keep in touch, Jiayi! It's time for
me to take a look at your school!

(beat)

Oh, where is your school by the
way?

JIAYI

(sighs again)

Go straight and turn left. The
classroom is on the fourth floor,
407.

TRASIA

Great! If you need to go back to my
house, go take the school bus and
follow Cathy. She lives beside me.

(beat)

Oh I see your school! Talk to you
later, bye!

Before Jiayi can say anything more, Trasia just hangs up the
phone. Jiayi seems more and more worried.

JIAYI

What?? Where should I take the
school bus?? And who's Cathy?

CATHY (O.S.)

Hmm? You called me, Trasia?

Jiayi is shocked by Cathy's sound and almost drops the phone.

Cathy is standing by the door. She just arrives here and
hears the last sentence that Jiayi said.

CATHY (CONT'D)

What are you doing here? The bus
will depart in a few minutes!

Jiayi becomes nervous. She even starts sweating.

JIAYI
I... I'm waiting for you-
(tentatively)
-Cathy?

Cathy looks confused.

CATHY
Yes...? But I've waited for you at
the locker for so long! Didn't we
say to meet up there? Why are you
still in the classroom?

JIAYI
Oh, I-I forgot. Sorry.

CATHY
Alright. Just come quickly now, or
we'll have to walk home.

Jiayi nods and packs her stuff quickly. They leave the
classroom together.

INT. PASADENA/SCHOOL BUS - SUNSET

On the school bus, Jiayi and Cathy sit in the middle row.
Jiayi sits by the window so that she can see the outside.

On their way, each time when the bus stops, some students get
off the bus and go to their own houses. Jiayi looks at all of
the things on the road with huge curiosity. Then she sees
several squirrels eating pine cones by the road.

JIAYI
(softly)
Wow!

Cathy hears her voice. She also takes a look at outside.

CATHY
What are you looking at?

JIAYI
Oh nothing, just some squirrels
there. Look, they're so cute!!

Jiayi points to those squirrels for Cathy. Cathy looks in the
direction of the pointing.

CATHY
We can see them everyday, okay? Why
do you have so much interest?

Jiayi realizes she said something wrong.

JIAYI

Ehh, no, I'm just bored.

She turns her head and stops staring at those squirrels. Cathy is still confused but she says nothing.

Their talking attracts Dorris' attention, who is sitting across them. She takes a look at Jiayi and frowns.

Moments later, the bus stops again by another neighborhood. Cathy stands up and touches Jiayi's arm to remind her to get off.

Cathy walks toward the door first. Jiayi wants to go after her, but Dorris suddenly goes out before her and hits her arm rudely. Jiayi doesn't say anything but gets off the bus after Dorris.

EXT. PASADENA/NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS

Cathy gets off the bus first. She rolls her eyes when she sees Dorris is after her. But to her surprise, Dorris doesn't leave at once. She stands on the side and waits.

CATHY

Why are you still here?

DORRIS

None of your business.

When Jiayi gets off the bus, she sees Cathy stare at Dorris angrily. But she doesn't know who Dorris is, so she just walks to Cathy's side and never looks to Dorris.

JIAYI

Cathy? Let's go.

CATHY

But Dorris...?

Jiayi doesn't understand.

JIAYI

Oh it's okay. She was just in a hurry and bumped into me. It doesn't hurt.

Both Cathy and Dorris look weird when they hear what Jiayi said. Jiayi looks to them with confusion.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
What? Why are you looking at me
like this?

CATHY
You-

DORRIS
(interrupts)
Nothing. See you tomorrow, **Trasia**.

She emphasizes the name and then leaves.

Jiayi watches her walking away and frowns.

CATHY
Just ignore her, Trasia. She's
always been so annoying.

Jiayi nods. They walks in the neighborhood together. When
they arrives at a house with some animated rising ghosts in
the yard, Cathy stops. Jiayi stops immediately as well and
almost falls.

CATHY (CONT'D)
Bye Trasia, see you tomorrow.

JIAYI
See you.

She sees Cathy continue walking to the house beside this one
and realizes this house is hers. She then finds the key in
the bag and opens the door.

CUT TO:

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING

Trasia steps into the classroom that Jiayi told her and looks
around.

There are already several students in the classroom. All of
them wear the same uniform. A girl is writing today's class
schedule on the blackboard in the front of the room. There is
also a blackboard in the back, but it is drawn as a huge
poster with articles and pictures.

WENJIE, who sits in the first row, waves her hand to Trasia
when she sees her.

WENJIE
Hey Jiayi! You're finally here!
Save me from my English homework!

She takes out her homework and turns to the desk behind her to wait for Trasias sitting down.

Trasia realizes that should be Jiayi's seat and walks to sit down.

The boys in the back of the classroom also notice that Trasias is here. They also run to her.

BOY #1
(pitifully)
Jiayi you're so late today. Please let us take a look at your Math test paper real quick! We'll give back to you before Ms. Gao comes.

WENJIE
Hey! I'm the first to ask for Jiayi's help! Get in the queue!

BOY #2
You want English and we want Math. It doesn't matter at all!

BOY #3
Yea, we just need that test paper! Jiayi is still yours!

Wenjie makes a face to them.

WENJIE
Who told you that I only need English?

BOY #2
Oh don't do that to us, Wenjie-

TRASIA
(interrupts)
Enough, guys!

Four pairs of eyes turns to stare at Trasias together.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
I haven't said whether to lend to you guys yet. Why do you just start arguing?

BOYS & WENJIE
...What?

TRASIA

Cheating is not good. If you guys have questions, you can just ask me! I will teach you until you know how to do it.

BOY #1

But that'll be too late. We have to turn in the homework before morning exercises!

TRASIA

(shrugs)

I will try my best to teach fast.

The boys and Wenjie look to each other confusedly. Other students in the classroom also hear their talking and becomes surprised as well.

Wenjie touches Trasia's forehead and then touches her own.

WENJIE

Jiayi? Are you okay today? Did you get a fever?

TRASIA

What? No!

WENJIE

But...

Wenjie looks very worried. She even doesn't know how to describe how she feels about Trasia.

Trasia suddenly realizes that she's doing things wrong. The students in front of her all look like they don't know "Jiayi" at all. Trasia takes a deep breath and starts to laugh.

TRASIA

Haha! It's just a joke! Surprise?

WENJIE

What?

TRASIA

I'm just joking with you guys. Why are you looking at me like that?

She takes out the books from the backpack and puts them on the desk.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Here! Just take the one you want!

The boys believe her and laugh as well.

BOY #3

It's not funny, Jiayi! You scared
all of us.

They find the test paper they want and go back to their
seats. Trasia turns to them.

TRASIA

Don't forget to give it back!

The boys thumb up in the back.

Trasia turns back. Wenjie is still looking at her worriedly.

WENJIE

You're sure you're okay?

TRASIA

Yes yes! Let's start our English
work. Time is running out.

WENJIE

Oh shit!

Wenjie finds the book on the desk and starts writing
immediately. Trasia is relieved.

INT. PASADENA/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jiayi opens the door and steps in. Mike is already in the
living room and playing the video game.

MIKE

Welcome home.

He takes a look at Jiayi and then goes back to the game
immediately.

Jiayi feels a little awkward. She waves her hand and wants to
greet back, but she sees Mike already turned back to the game
so she gives up. She looks around, and continues stepping
into the house carefully, just like she is visiting a
stranger's house.

Mike keeps playing his video game, and Jiayi keeps walking
around to take a look at all the rooms downstairs behind him
and makes noise when she drops or touches something. The
sound makes Mike annoyed and he loses the game. He turns to
Jiayi angrily.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Are you a thief, Trasias?

Jiayi stops at the door of the backyard. She just opens it and wants to go out. Her right leg is already out.

TRASIA
(thinks for a sec)
...No?

MIKE
Then why the hell are you walking around like that?? You're acting like this is your first time here.

Jiayi swallows her saliva and holds her breath.

Mike looks at her carefully. Then he sighs and drops his game pad. He stands up and walks pass Jiayi to go upstairs.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Fine, downstairs is yours now.

He walks into the third room on the right upstairs.

Jiayi watches until he closes the door and then relaxes. She turns and continues her action to go to the backyard. But the door upstairs is suddenly opened again. Mike comes out again. He stands by the stairs on the second floor to let himself see Jiayi downstairs.

Jiayi takes back her right leg immediately.

MIKE (CONT'D)
I can give the whole downstairs to you, but you must cook our dinner today! I've already done your turn yesterday! You can't skip it again!

JIAYI
What? Where's mom?

MIKE
(rolls his eyes)
Really? I'll thank God if she can come back before nine.

JIAYI
Then how about da-

She stops and Mike looks at her confusedly.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Em, nothing. I will do it.

MIKE
(nods)
Call me when you're done.

He shuts the door.

Jiayi's smile suddenly falls apart. She closes the door of the backyard and hurries to the kitchen.

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jiayi stares at the stove and the pots but doesn't know what to do. She takes out her phone and makes a visual call to Trasia.

JIAYI
Come on Trasia! How can I know what you guys eat everyday?

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

The class is having a self study. The teacher is sitting on the podium and students are doing their work. No one speaks. Trasia sits in her seat and is playing with her pen.

Suddenly, the phone in Trasia's backpack rings and makes her drop her pen.

THE TEACHER
Whose phone is that?

All the students starts to look around to find the phone. Jiayi's deskmate, XIAOYU, first looks to Trasia. Then all the other people, including the teacher, look to her as well.

Trasia finally realizes it's her phone. She takes it out and sees there is a call from JIAYI. She looks up and wants to say something. But she sees WENJIE, who sits in front of her, shake her head hard and slowly. The teacher is walking toward her.

THE TEACHER (CONT'D)
(frowns)
What's wrong?

JIAYI
...I-it's my alarm, ma'am. I forgot to turn it off.

She hangs up the phone secretly.

THE TEACHER
Turn off your phone. If I hear it
again, I will take it away.

JIAYI
Alright.

The teacher goes back to the podium.

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - EVENING

The call is hanged up by Trasia. Jiayi stares at the screen, which has already turned back to black. She sighs heavily at the end and puts her phone away. She checks the fridge and takes out some eggs.

JIAYI
(murmurs)
Credits to mom. I'm so lucky that
you forced me to learn that one
dish.

She closes the door of the fridge.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

1. Jiayi opens all the cupboards one by one to look for the tools she wants and leaves all of them open.
2. She finally finds a pan and a cutting board in the bottom cupboard. She is so excited that her head hits into a door of the cupboard above when she stands up. It makes a big sound.
3. In the bedroom upstairs, Mike, who is reading a novel on his bed, looks to the door confusedly when he hears the sound.
4. Jiayi cuts three tomatoes into slices on the cutting board and also makes the beaten egg liquid ready in a bowl.
5. She pours some oil and egg liquid into the pan on the stove. The smoke rises at once.
6. The smoke alarm on the wall near the stove flashes red twice.
7. Jiayi continues frying the tomatoes in the pan and then add the fried eggs. The rising smoke becomes more and more.
8. The dish looks nice with red tomato and yellow eggs. Jiayi is very proud to see the dish is almost done.

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

When Jiayi finds the salt and is going to put some into the dish in the pan, the smoke alarm suddenly starts beeping. It interrupts Jiayi's action and makes her drop the salt bottle.

JIAYI
(in Chinese)
Fuck!!

The salt is everywhere.

Jiayi jumps back to stay away from the stove. She is very scared when she looks around to find where the beeping is coming from.

INT. PASADENA/MIKE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mike is also shocked when the alarm starts beeping. He gets up from the bed quickly and runs out of the room.

MIKE
What happened?!

INT. PASADENA/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Mike runs to the kitchen and stops by the door.

Jiayi stands away from the stove with hands covering her ears. She looks to Mike so happily that it makes him think he is a hero. Beside her, a bottle of salt spreads everywhere on the floor. On the stove, the dish is still being cooked.

MIKE
Oh my goodness!

He runs to the stove without stepping on the salt and turns off the fire. Then he turns to Jiayi.

MIKE (CONT'D)
(loudly to cover the beep)
Why did the smoke alarm go off?
What did you do?

JIAYI
(also loudly)
I don't know!! It just started.
What can we do now?

Mike takes a deep breath. He goes to find a chair and puts it under the alarm.

Jiayi watches him stepping on the chair and trying to turn off the alarm.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

Is it okay? I... do we need to tell mom about this?

Mike rolls his eyes without answering.

Jiayi feels a little awkward. She looks down at the salt on the floor and then looks up to Mike again. She opens her mouth and wants to say something, but she doesn't dare to do so. The only thing she does is standing there and watching.

After a while, the beeping finally stops. Both Jiayi and Mike touch their ears because they feel very uncomfortable refer to the beeping. Mike turns his head and looks into Jiayi's eyes.

MIKE

Really? Just stand there? Clean it up!

JIAYI

Oh!

Jiayi runs out of the kitchen immediately.

Mike steps down from the chair. He puts it where it was at before. Then he stands straight and sees Jiayi still running all around the house from one room to another.

MIKE

The broom is in the bathroom!

Jiayi runs from left to right outside of the kitchen in front of Mike.

JIAYI

Got it! Thanks!

He sighs heavily.

Jiayi takes the broom back. They clean the floor together.

After the kitchen becomes tidy again, Jiayi lies on the chair to take a rest. Mike looks carefully at the dish that made by Jiayi.

MIKE

What's this? Where did you learn this?

Jiayi sits up at once.

JIAYI
(nervously)
Emm, I... I learned it from Jiayi.

MIKE
Jiayi? Oh, your friend online you
mentioned before?

Jiayi looks surprised.

JIAYI
Exactly! It's a classic dish in
China. She taught me online and
said it tastes good, so I just want
to give it a try.

MIKE
Hmmm.

Mike takes out a fork from the cupboard and tastes a slice of
egg. Jiayi watches him all the time and waits for the
feedback.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Not bad!

JIAYI
(proudly)
Right? It will taste much better if
I add some sugar.

Jiayi stands up and wants to get close to the stove. But Mike
stops her nervously.

MIKE
I-I don't think it's a good idea to
let you stay in the kitchen these
days. For the safety of both of us,
I can make the dinner for us until
you feel better. I know something
happened to you yesterday.

Jiayi doesn't answer because she doesn't really understand
what Mike is talking about.

MIKE (CONT'D)
But you can't let me do it forever!
Two weeks at most!

Jiayi nods. Mike turns to pour the dish into a plate from the
pan.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Just go set the table now. You'll
distract me.

JIAYI
Oh got it.

She leaves.

EXT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL GATE - AFTERNOON

School is over. The students walk out of the school gate.
Some are saying goodbye to their friends and some are talking
about finding a place to play mobile games.

INT. SHANGHAI/FAMILY MART - AFTERNOON

Trasia and Wenjie walk to the cashier with so many snacks
that they are nearly unable to carry. They put all the snacks
on the table to let the cashier scan the bar code.

TRASIA
Are you really sure you can eat up
all of these? It's not dinner time
yet!

WENJIE
I won't get through today's
homework if I don't have these
snacks! Remember? We have one test
paper for each subject and the
worst is-
(gasps)
We need to write a whole essay for
the Chinese one!

TRASIA
What?? Those are all for today's
assignments? Turn in tomorrow?

WENJIE
(nods)
Yea, you didn't hear what our
teachers said?

With a quick cut of several shots, we see Trasia playing with
her (actually Jiayi's) stuff and the books for different
subjects during every class for the day.

Trasia feels a little awkward.

TRASIA
Eh, yea, I forgot.

Wenjie shrugs her shoulder.

The cashier finishes scanning but she is still holding the scanner.

THE CASHIER
WeChat or Alipay?

TRASIA
...What?

Wenjie takes out her phone.

WENJIE
I can pay them first. Just send me
through Wechat later.

Wenjie presses on her phone quickly and then shows a QR code to the cashier. The cashier scans it and quickly gives back a receipt.

Trasia is amazed when she sees the QR code on Wenjie's screen. But when Wenjie turns her head to her, she changes her expression immediately and pretends she is very calm. Wenjie starts to take the things on the table. Trasia helps her carry some of them.

They go to the corner of the store and sit by the table there. Wenjie starts to eat her snacks. She takes out a packet with pictures about chilies on it.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
Spicy strips, always wake me up,
even better than coffee.

She has some in her mouth and hands it to Trasia.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
Here. Help yourself.

The smell is so strong that Trasia gets shocked.

TRASIA
Wow it smells so spicy! What's
this?!

WENJIE
It's spicy strips! Don't we eat all
the time?

The snacks in the packet are small strips with red spicy oil.

Trasia looks to Wenjie and hesitates to take it. But Wenjie looks confused. Trasia swallows saliva and takes one strip to eat. Then in the next second, she jumps up and grabs the milk tea on the table to drink.

TRASIA
It's so fucking spicy!

WENJIE
(laughs)
Spicy strips, how can it be not spicy? Is it too long since you ate it last time? I think you can eat spicy food even better than me!

TRASIA
Eh, maybe it's too long.

Trasia feels better after finishing half cup of milk tea. She takes a look at the snack in her hand and swallows saliva again.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
But it really tastes great.

WENJIE
Then eat more!

Wenjie pushes all the spicy strips to Trasia and starts to do her homework.

Trasia eats again. She gasps while eating strips and drinking milk tea at the same time but just can't stop.

At this time, the bell on the door rings and the door opens. Xiaoyu and some other boys walk in. Wenjie sees him first and touches Trasia by her elbow excitedly. Trasia doesn't understand what she means.

Then Xiaoyu sees Trasia and Wenjie as well. He says something to his friends and then walks to them.

XIAOYU
Hey you two are still here? Can I have some strips?

Trasia gives him the pocket. Xiaoyu takes one into his mouth.

XIAOYU (CONT'D)
Thanks.
(to Trasia)
By the way, are you okay today? You look different from usual.

Trasia is surprised for a sec.

TRASIA
Oh, em, I'm totally fine.
(beat)
I just slept late yesterday.

XIAOYU
Okay... Anyway, what are you doing
here? Doing homework?

WENJIE
Yea, Jiayi is helping me with my
Math test paper.

XIAOYU
(jokingly)
Math? She's not good at Math at
all!
(to Trasia)
Hey Jiayi, don't teach something
wrong to others.

Trasia narrows her eyes.

TRASIA
Wait, I remember my grade is better
than yours in the last Math test.

XIAOYU
That was just an accident! I will
definitely get a higher grade in
the next test!

WENJIE
(excitedly)
Wow, you two want a competition?

Trasia shrugs her shoulder and raises her head proudly.

TRASIA
Why not?

XIAOYU
Next Math test is in three weeks.
Let's see either of us can get
higher grades! How's that?

TRASIA
Sounds good.

Wenjie touches her sleeves. Trasia turns to her. Wenjie talks
to her beside her ear in a low voice.

WENJIE

You sure? You want to compete with
someone you like?

Trasia raises her eyebrows in surprise. But after a sec, she
just smiles.

TRASIA

(in a low voice to Wenjie)
It's totally fine.
(to Xiaoyu)
Then deal! Let's see what we will
get in three weeks.

XIAOYU

Okay. Don't regret!

Xiaoyu turns his head and sees his friends are going to
finish shopping.

XIAOYU (CONT'D)

I gotta go. Bye!

TRASIA & WENJIE

Bye.

Xiaoyu walks out of the store with his friends.

WENJIE (CONT'D)

Haha! It's so fun! I never expected
you would do that! But to be
honest, competition is a good way
to let him notice you.

Trasia continues eating her strips and nods proudly. Then she
suddenly remind of something.

TRASIA

Wait, competition, in three weeks?

A quick FLASHBACK of Trasia talking with Dorris about their
club evaluation at the locker.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

(cries)
Oh shit! I totally forgot!!!

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Trasia is sitting by the desk in Jiayi's bedroom. On the
desk, the books and test papers are put in order nicely. In
front of Trasia, the phone is being held up by a opened Math
book and other books behind.

On the screen, Jiayi looks nervous.

JIAYI
Are you sure? Xiaoyu really asked
if I was okay or not?

TRASIA
Technically he was asking about me,
but yes, he does.

Jiayi looks very happy to hear that.

JIAYI
Does that mean he cares about me
somehow?
(beat)
Wait no no no. He just asked if I
was okay, so that doesn't mean
anything.

Trasia narrows her eyes as if she hears some gossip news.

TRASIA
Woooo, but I kinda know what you
mean.

JIAYI
Ahhh, no! I said nothing! Just
forgot it!

Trasia gets close to the phone and looks serious.

TRASIA
Anyways, Jiayi. I need your help
now!

JIAYI
How?

TRASIA
My Key Club event in three weeks!!
I really need it to be done
perfectly so that I can beat Dorris
and her club in the evaluation!
That's my only chance to revenge on
Gavin and her! But now I'm here in
your body, so Jiayi, you're the
only one who can help me now!

INT. PASADENA/TRASIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

In Trasia's bedroom, Jiayi holds her phone by the desk. The
bedroom is already a mess.

On the screen, Trasia is looking to her seriously and waiting for her answer.

JIAYI

Wait wait wait. You said too fast.
So what exactly do I need to do for
you?

TRASIA

Oh actually it's easy! You just
need to help me lead the club
meeting, contact the activity
leader, organize the club members
and attract more people to
participate than Dorris's event!

Jiayi's expression becomes more and more nervous when Trasia is saying the duties one by one.

JIAYI

What?? No no no I never did all of
those before! I can't do that!

TRASIA

It's not so difficult! You can go
ask Cathy for help.

JIAYI

No, presentation will kill me!

TRASIA

(begs)

But that really means a lot to me!
I've told you about what those sons
of bitches have done to me, right?
I also want to revenge by myself if
possible, but right now only you
can help me do that! Just...
Please, Jiayi!

Jiayi looks flustered.

JIAYI

I...

TRASIA

How about this? You help me win the
evaluation. I help you get together
with your deskmate in return! I
know you like him, right?

Jiayi gets blushed at once.

JIAYI
What? No no no! That's too much!

TRASIA
Oh c'mon! Just believe me! I got experience. I promise it'll be all set up after we switch back. At that time, the only thing you need to do is dating with him happily.

Jiayi covers her face shyly.

JIAYI
Oh my god, that's...

TRASIA
So deal?

JIAYI
I-I'll try my best...

TRASIA
Cool!! You're so nice, Jiayi!

Someone knocks the door from Trasia's side.

MRS. WANG (O.S.)
Jiayi, why do you lock the door again? How's your homework going?

Jiayi gets shocked and keeps her voice down at once.

JIAYI
(softly)
Oh shit, it's my mom!

TRASIA
(to the door)
I'm doing well! Almost done.

Trasia turns back to the screen and rolls her eyes.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Your mom is nice, Jiayi. But no offense, sometimes she is a little annoying.

JIAYI
Can't say you're wrong.

Both of them can hear Mrs. Wang is still knocking to let Trasia open the door.

TRASIA

Fine, I have to go and save your
door from your mom. Good luck,
Jiayi. You can definitely do it!

Jiayi swallows saliva and nods.

Trasia hangs up the call.

Trasia sighs heavily and hears Mike calling.

MIKE (O.S.)

Trasia! School bus!

JIAYI

Coming!

She takes a deep breath and leaves the room with her bag.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL LOCKER - LATER

Jiayi follows Cathy to the locker. It's almost time for
class. There are many students in the hallway and taking
their things to their classrooms.

While walking, Jiayi keeps touching her leggings and
sometimes even lifts them up when she thinks no one is
watching her. Her action causes Cathy's confusion.

CATHY

Is there anything wrong with your
leggings?

Jiayi stops pulling her leggings immediately and that makes a
sound like "Bounce!".

JIAYI

No, I'm fine! It just makes me
uncomfortable.

CATHY

Oh, so this is your new leggings
you want to show me?

JIAYI

...what??

They stop at Cathy's locker.

Cathy looks at her white sweater and black leggings up and
down carefully.

CATHY

But I didn't see how different they are... And you didn't put on makeup today, did you? Is this your new fashion style?

Jiayi looks down to her clothes.

JIAYI

Em... Maybe?

Cathy narrows her eyes. Jiayi is more nervous. Then Cathy laughs out suddenly.

CATHY

Haha, I got it. You got up late again right? You look like you just woke up 5 minutes before bus arrived.

JIAYI

Y-yea! You're right. I didn't hear my alarm at all!

Cathy uses her key to open the lock on the locker and takes a pack of Oreos for Jiayi.

CATHY

Here. Luckily I got your breakfast today.

JIAYI

Wow! Thank you!

She takes the Oreos. Cathy gets her stuff and closes her locker.

CATHY

It's okay. Anyways, see you at noon.

Jiayi stops opening the pack of Oreos.

JIAYI

Wait, we aren't in the same class?

Cathy looks to Jiayi with confusion.

CATHY

No? Are you really awake now?

JIAYI

Oh yea. I'm being stupid.

Cathy shrugs her shoulders and leaves.

Jiayi takes out her keys and finds one with a number card which is labeled 075. She comes to the locker which is with the same number and uses the key to open it. The locker opens. She takes a look at the books inside and finds a schedule of classes. That relieves her a little bit. Based on the schedule, Jiayi takes her History book and leaves.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jiayi starts to find her History classroom. She holds the schedule tightly and keeps looking for the numbers on the doors.

At the same time, more students are walking around in the hallway to find their classrooms. Every time a student walks past her, Jiayi feels that he or she is watching her and talking about her with others. She tries to make herself look normal, but she keeps sweating and the paper of the schedule in her hand is already crumpled.

Finally, she stops at the door with a number 214. She looks at the number on the door and the one on the schedule for many times to make sure this is exactly the room she is looking for. She takes a deep breath and steps into the room.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jiayi steps into the classroom.

The teacher is already sitting at the podium. The students in the room are playing or talking in groups. No one really notices she is here. She walks to the seat in the corner and sits down quickly to avoid anyone noticing her. Then she opens her book and lets it stand up to hide behind it.

After a while, Dorris walks in the room like she is a model. Her jewelry is shining under the light. She throws her handbag to the desk beside Jiayi and makes a big sound. Jiayi gets shocked by that and finds that everyone turns to the corner that Dorris and her are in now in horror.

The classmates greet to Dorris and also see Jiayi.

CLASSMATE #1

Hey Trasia! When did you come? I
even didn't see you enter the room.

Jiayi doesn't know what to say so she just keeps smiling and waves her hand to greet back.

That classmate feels a little odd but he just shrugs and says nothing. He turns back and continues talking with students around him.

Dorris watches Jiayi looking back to the book and frowns. She clears her throat.

DORRIS
Oh Trasia! Didn't notice you're
here as well. And you look-

She pauses and looks carefully at Jiayi's face that without any makeup. She makes an expression of disgust.

DORRIS (CONT'D)
You look so different today huh?

Jiayi turns to Dorris and realizes that she is the one who bumped into her arms yesterday.

JIAYI
Dorris?

Dorris raises her chin proudly. Her earrings are shaking with her action.

DORRIS
Yes?

JIAYI
Emm, nothing.

Dorris rolls her eyes.

The bell rings. The teacher stands up.

THE TEACHER
So I'm gonna talk about our next
assignment first. It's a group
project. Everyone needs to find a
partner to make a poster based on
the periods in history that we have
learned these days...

Jiayi looks up immediately with horror. She looks around the whole classroom. Everyone looks calm but her.

THE TEACHER (CONT'D)
Okay. Now you can go find your
partners and talk about the topics.

The teacher sits back to the seat behind the podium. The class starts to be noisy. All the students find someone to talk with.

Since Jiayi is in the corner, no one turns to her and ask for being partners. She sees that the classmate in front of her is still alone, so she stretches out her hand to call her. But before touching that girl's shoulder, another girl beside starts to talk with her first. Jiayi takes back her hand immediately as if she gets burned.

Jiayi keeps looking around but doesn't know who else she can talk to. Now it seems that everyone in the class has already found a partner. She is so anxious that her face becomes red.

Then she notices that Dorris is still doing her work alone. She keeps watching for a while and makes sure that she doesn't have a partner as well. Jiayi takes a deep breath and finally decides to start the conversation.

JIAYI
Emm, hi Dorris?

Dorris takes a look at her and goes back to her work quickly.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
(softly)
W-would you mind being my partner
for this project...?

The noise in the class covers most of her voice. Dorris looks to her with frowning.

DORRIS
What did you say?

Jiayi's face becomes much redder.

JIAYI
(louder)
I said... Can we be partners?

Dorris is surprised. She stares at Jiayi for a sec.

DORRIS
Hah, did I hear it right? You,
Trasia, is asking me to be your
partner?

Jiayi looks at her nervously.

JIAYI
What do you mean?

Dorris folds her arms and sneers.

DORRIS
Haven't you always been so popular
that you will never ask me to be
your partner? Now what? Finally
abandoned by your followers?

Jiayi starts to sweat. She doesn't know what to say but just avoids Dorris' sight. There is an awkward silence between them.

Dorris raises her eyebrows. She thinks for a while.

DORRIS (CONT'D)
Bronze Age.

Jiayi looks to her surprisingly.

JIAYI
What?

Dorris frowns and becomes impatient.

DORRIS
I said our topic is Bronze Age! And
you need to do the drawing part.

Jiayi becomes happy when hearing this.

JIAYI
No problem! Drawing is exactly my
thing.

Dorris is a little surprised when seeing Jiayi's reaction, but she just makes a whispering sound and continues showing her expression of disgust.

DORRIS
That's good.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

In the classroom for Key Club, Jiayi and Cathy are sitting by the podium and waiting for more students to arrive.

Jiayi covers her face regretfully.

CATHY
What?! You teamed up with Dorris?

JIAYI
I know I did wrong... But she's my
only choice.

CATHY
But you said you would never
forgive her!

Jiayi frowns and becomes a little confused.

JIAYI
I-I know, but-

Cathy stares at Jiayi with suspicion.

CATHY
Did she say anything weird to you?
Is that why you teamed up with her?

Jiayi puts down her hands and looks at Cathy confusedly.

JIAYI
Ehh, no? Wh-

CATHY
(interrupts)
Don't listen to her! She cheated on
you when you two promised to have a
fair competition to win Gavin. I
saw it! And they tricked you again
few days ago. How can you believe
what she said so easily?

Jiayi is surprised about what she just heard.

JIAYI
Oh, I... sorry.

CATHY
Say sorry to yourself! Just go
choose another partner!

JIAYI
I-I don't think I can do that
now... The teacher doesn't allow us
to change partners.

Cathy sighs heavily.

CATHY
You are being so stupid, Trasia!
Just... be careful when working
with her.

JIAYI
Alright...

Cathy looks very disappointed. She turns to her phone.

Jiayi looks worried about what she did today. She looks down to her hands embarrassingly.

The treasure of Key Club, Alice, arrives at the classroom. She walks to Jiayi and Cathy with a piece of paper.

ALICE
Hey Trasia, I've got our completed
funding records!

She hands over the paper to JIAYI.

Jiayi takes the paper. She takes a look at Cathy and finds that she is still on her phone. She can only clear her throat and try to make herself look more like a president.

JIAYI
G-good. Thank you for your work.

Alice looks to her a few more times with a little surprise.

ALICE
It's okay.

She goes back to her seat and sits down.

Jiayi now finds that the whole classroom is full with students. They are all doing their stuff and waiting for the meeting. Jiayi swallows saliva.

JIAYI
Emm, Cathy?

CATHY
What?

JIAYI
What are we going to talk about for
the meeting?

Cathy puts down her phone and sighs again.

CATHY
Okay. I'm starting to get used to
your weird behaviors today. We need
to explain to them what we are
going to do for the Aids Walk and
encourage them to donate.

JIAYI
Alright...

Cathy takes a look at the time on her phone.

CATHY
Oh, it's almost time. You can just
start.

Jiayi's breath becomes rapid. She looks around at the all the
students in front of her.

JIAYI
Q-quiet...

The noise in the classroom covers her voice. She turns to
Cathy again. Cathy raises her eyebrows but says nothing.
Jiayi finally takes a deep breath.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
(loudly)
Quiet!

Jiayi gets shocked by her own voice.

The classroom becomes silent slowly. All the students turn to
look at Jiayi and that shocks her. Jiayi fists tightly but
her body is still trembling.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
(softer and softer)
T-today we are going to talk about
what we will do for the Aids Walk.
We will attend this event as
volunteers so we may need to arrive
at the place very early on that
day-

STUDENT #1
How early is that?

Jiayi becomes nervous.

JIAYI
Ehh, w-we may need to be there at 5
o'clock in the morning... I'm not
very sure yet.

CLUBBERS
(yell)
Nooo!! That's too early!

The classroom becomes a mess again. Students start to
complain about the time.

JIAYI
G-guys....

Jiayi tries to control the crowd but no one listen to her. She looks at the students but doesn't know what to do.

Cathy looks to her and frowns. She folds her arms. After a while, Jiayi still does nothing, so Cathy just steps forward and pulls Jiayi to the back.

CATHY

Guys, if you still want service hours to graduate, just keep quiet and listen!

The class is still complaining but becomes much more quiet. Cathy clears her throat and continues.

CATHY (CONT'D)

We know this event is a tough one, but it's meaningful. The Aids Walk is a famous event so if we can attend it, our service records will have more good contents. It worth us to get up early for just one day!

The class is under control now. Some students is still sighing but they don't say anything more.

Cathy is satisfied to see this happens.

CATHY (CONT'D)

Okay, now let's continue talking about what exactly we are going to do on that day....

Jiayi stands behind Cathy and sees how she talks confidently. Gradually, she becomes unable to hear what Cathy is talking about. The only thing she can see is Cathy's back with full of confidence. She looks down feeling inferior.

CUT TO:

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Trasia is on Facetime with Jiayi as usual. She is eating a bowl of sweet rice dumplings.

TRASIA

Your mom is so good at cooking, Jiayi. This tastes so good! What is it called?

INT. PASADENA/TRASIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

On the other side, Jiayi is sitting by the desk and trying to do makeup for herself. Her left hand is pulling her eyelid and her right hand is trying to put on the eyeliner with difficulty. She looks up to the mirror so that she is able to see how her actions clearly, but from the mirror, the angle makes her face very ugly.

When she hears Trasia, she takes a look at the screen then back to the mirror quickly.

JIAYI

It's rice dumplings. Shit, I want to eat too. I really don't want to eat salad anymore.

INTERCUT - FACETIME CONVERSATION

TRASIA

Let Mike to make something else for you! Seriously, he's so good at making hamburgers.

Jiayi is a little disappointed.

JIAYI

Thanks but I really can't get used to these. I just missed Chinese food so much! Like spicy boiled fish, hot pot, Mapo tofu...

Trasia finishes her desert with enjoyment. She takes some tissue to clean her mouth.

TRASIA

Yea yea. I know you're showing off, but I don't care. Guess what? Now I'm the one who can eat all of these at any time! Haha!

JIAYI

Oh shut up Trasia.

Jiayi tries hard to draw her eyeliners but her shaking hand just let the eyeliner pen poke into her eye.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

OUCH!! I hate makeup! Why can't we switch back now??

Trasia looks to the screen and then laughs out.

TRASIA

Hahaha God! You remind me of how I started makeup several years ago. Go clean your face. Let's start over. I'll teach you this time.

Jiayi cleans up her eyeliners and starts to reapply the eyeliner as Trasia showed. This time Jiayi does much better. She takes a big breath and then takes the eyelash curler.

JIAYI

Alright. I have never hated myself for being a girl like I do now.

TRASIA

Haha! But these can help you build your confidence and make you look like you won't lose to Dorris.

Jiayi puts down the eyelash curler and sees a few eyelashes on it. She sighs and takes a mascara.

JIAYI

Hope you're right, but I really don't know how to lead a whole club. As long as I stand on the podium, I just felt stomach ache.

TRASIA

Don't be a sheep all the time! After you take that first step, everything will be easy. See how Cathy did that? Just learn from her and show them the real Trasia!

Jiayi sighs heavily and stops brushing her eyelashes. She wants to say something, but after a while, she just closes her mouth.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

Hmm? You said anything?

JIAYI

Emm, never mind.

TRASIA

Alright. Now you should hold your eyelids to apply the mascara. Look at me, like this...

They continues applying the makeup. After some time, Jiayi finishes her makeup. She looks through the mirror and feels a little surprised.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Aha! That should be how **I** exactly
look.

JIAYI
It's pretty but... Is this too
strong? Will they think I'm weird?

TRASIA
Who will think you're weird,
weirdo? Don't think too much! Now
go! Beat Dorris and Key Club
meeting!

JIAYI
(sighs)
Fine. I'll keep trying.

Trasia thumbs up on the screen. Jiayi shakes her hand to say
goodbye to her, then she hangs up the call.

MONTAGE - DAYS PASSING

1. A quick cut of Trasia sitting on the same seat in the
classroom and writing on her work everyday with getting more
and more bored. She can only see Ms. Gao, Ms. Wu and Mr.
Zhang teaching Chinese, Math and English everyday (The Big
Three).

2. Wenjie is asking Trasia some English grammar questions in
the Family Mart.

WENJIE
Why should I put "the" here but not
there? What's different?

TRASIA
Ughh, I just feel like that?

WENJIE
...What???

3. Jiayi starts to work with Dorris for their group project
carefully. Dorris' attitude is still not so good, but
everytime Jiayi asks if she can add something to the poster,
she just nods. That makes Jiayi relax a little bit to get
along with her.

4. Trasia starts to bring Wenjie and Xiaoyu different
breakfast or snacks everyday. During break time, she also
talks with Xiaoyu like they are much closer.

5. Jiayi did a lot of homework on Key Club meeting, including searching for information, making notes and practicing in front of the mirror. But during meetings, Cathy just takes her place to lead the presentation. Jiayi frowns but also relieves.

6. Trasias gets along with Mr. And Mrs. Wang carefully. Everytime when she is with them, she feels uncomfortable and not relaxed. Mrs. Wang always asks her about her school life in details like "what did you do today?", "what did you eat for lunch?", "what homework do you have?" and so on.

7. Jiayi starts to learn how to cook and clean up the house with Mike. Mike teaches her how to make hamburger and they also try to make Mapo Tofu with the cookbook. Jiayi's room is not so messy like before.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. SHANGHAI/PLAYGROUND - AFTERNOON

In the playground, Trasias and the classmates are having PE classes. There are also some students from other classes in the playground. The PE teacher stands beside the playground track with a stopwatch in his hand and a whistle in his mouth. He blows the whistle to let the students start the race one group by another.

Trasias is in the same group with Wenjie. After they finish their running, Wenjie just sits down on the ground with rapid breathing. Trasias also holds her knees to clam the breath.

WENJIE

I just said why the Big Three are
so good today to allow us to have
the PE class. 800 meters running! I
should've known!

TRASIAS

(breathes hard)
It-it should be okay for me to run
800 meters before-...

Wenjie turns her head and takes a look at Trasias.

WENJIE

Calm your breath first, darling.
You're no better than me.

Trasias rolls her eyes but can't say anything.

After a while, the teacher blows his whistle to let them queue up at the starting point of the track. Trasia and Wenjie also go back to the queue.

THE PE TEACHER

Today's simulation test is all done. The results are not so good. Remember, guys, PE test will be counted in your college entrance exam as well. Don't let PE tests pull down your total scores!

Students all look to other places without energy.

THE PE TEACHER (CONT'D)

Remember to have exercises. Now dismissed.

All the students look up with full of energy immediately and run away to different places. The teacher sighs.

EXT. SHANGHAI/GARDEN IN HIGH SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Trasia follows Wenjie and a group of girls to a corner beside the playground. It looks like a small garden with some seats. The girls sit down and start to chat about TV shows, makeups or something else. Some just take out their phones.

Trasia looks around and becomes confused. Wenjie takes out a pack of green beans and shows it in front of Trasia's eyes.

WENJIE

Look! I got this!

TRASIA

(surprisedly)

You carried it all the time when you were running?! How did you do that? Wasn't it uncomfortable?

Wenjie looks proud. She pats on her uniform pockets.

WENJIE

I got skills. Here.

She shares the snack with Trasia and other girls.

Trasia looks around to the girls.

TRASIA

So you intend to stay here for rest of the class?

(MORE)

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Let's all go play something! How
about dodge ball? That's my
favorite sports game.

WENJIE
What's that?

Trasia wants to explain the game, but Wenjie just continues
her words with throwing several beans into her mouth.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
Anyways, but you still got strength
to play that? I'm too tired to do
anything right now.

TRASIA
But... this can't be called PE.

WENJIE
Oh it's okay. The teacher won't
come. If he really comes, we can
just go and walk for two laps.

TRASIA
Hmm.

Trasia than turns to other girls around her. She stands up
and tries to organize the activity.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
How about you guys? Let's go play
dodge ball! I bet you'll all love
it after you have a try.

The girls seems like they never expect Trasia will ask them.
They just shake their heads and hands to refuse her
awkwardly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Oh come on guys! Don't be so
boring-

Wenjie pulls her sleeve to stop her. Trasia bows to hear what
she wants to say.

WENJIE
Just forget it, Jiayi. We finally
got some time to do nothing but
rest. Just enjoy it.

TRASIA
(reluctantly)
Fine.

Trasia looks to the playground. Some students there are just walking like Wenjie said. Some are doing some sports that don't require too much strength.

She continues looking around and sees a group of boys playing basketball. Xiaoyu is with them. Trasia looks like she gets an idea.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Hey Wenjie, I want to take a look around. You come?

WENJIE
(without energy)
Nope, 800 meters really killed me.

TRASIA
Alright. I'll be back soon.

Wenjie just waves her hand and continues eating beans.

Trasia approaches the basketball hoop that Xiaoyu and other boys are playing around. She stands beside the hoop and watches them play.

Xiaoyu is holding the ball. He pats the ball outside of the three-point line. There is a boy standing in front of him to stop him. The teammates are standing under the hoop and want Xiaoyu to pass the ball. But each of them also gets a person that tries to block them.

Xiaoyu looks around to his teammates. Suddenly he moves. He makes a fake action to get rid of the person in front of him and also avoids the blocking from other opponents. He jumps up and throws the ball into the hoop.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Nice ball!

Xiaoyu and the boys are all shocked by Trasia's voice. When Xiaoyu sees Trasia, his face just becomes red.

The boys look between Trasia and Xiaoyu, and then smile like they know something.

BOY #1
Wow bro, there's a girl coming to see you! Your girlfriend?

BOY #2
How can you never tell us about this! You suck, man!

XIAOYU
Oh c'mon, I have no girlfriend! She
is not my girlfriend.

BOY #2
Really?

Xiaoyu nods.

BOY #2 (CONT'D)
I don't believe you.

Xiaoyu rolls his eyes. They continue playing. Trasia also
continues watching.

After some time, the bell rings. Students in the playground
go back to their classrooms. The boys stop playing and go to
the ground under the hoop to take their stuff.

Xiaoyu finds his jacket but is still looking for something. A
bottle of water enters his sight. Xiaoyu looks up: Trasia is
standing there with the water.

TRASIA
Is this what you're looking for?

The boys beside turn their head to Xiaoyu and Trasia.

BOYS
Woooo!

XIAOYU
Shush!!

He turns back to Trasia and takes the water. He feels a
little shy.

XIAOYU (CONT'D)
Yea, thanks! But...You've stayed
here for all the time? Is there
someone you're looking for?

TRASIA
(smiles)
Yea, I come for you.

BOYS
Ohhhhhh!

Xiaoyu's face turns red. He scratches his head.

Trasia goes one step closer to Xiaoyu.

TRASIA
So... I got feelings for you. How
about you, Xiaoyu?

Xiaoyu is shocked. The boys around also opens their mouth
widely. They are able to react after a sec.

BOYS
(excitedly)
OHHHHHHHHHHH!!!

BOY #1
What did I hear? Did you hear that?
Did she really say it?

BOY #2
We made a deal, Xiaoyu! We should
get girlfriends at the same time!
How dare you get one first!!

Other boys around him covers his mouth at once to stop him.

BOY #3
Answer her, Xiaoyu! Just answer
her!

The noise attract more and more students in the playground.

STUDENT #1
What's up? Why so noisy over there?

STUDENT #2
Don't know... Let's go take a look!

STUDENT #3
The girl just confessed her
feelings to that boy!

STUDENT #2
Really? In the playground? Which
class is she in?

STUDENT #3
Don't know! But who cares?

STUDENT #4
This is definitely the most
interested thing that I've met
recently!

Trasia and Xiaoyu get surrounded by more and more students.
Almost all of the students take out their phones to shoot
them.

Trasia sees Wenjie also comes. Wenjie looks so surprised when she sees it's Trasia standing in the crowd. She uses her mouth and gestures to ask her "what the hell??" Trasia just smiles and shakes her head to let her take easy.

Xiaoyu feels a little uncomfortable with so many people around, but he can't help himself from smiling.

STUDENT #4 (CONT'D)
Get together!!

STUDENT #5
Yea, just get together!

STUDENTS
Together! Together! Together!....

The noise gets louder and louder. The boys near Xiaoyu push him to urge him. Xiaoyu finally clears his throat.

XIAOYU
Jiayi-
(beat)
I got the same feelings with you.

He takes out his hand. Trasia gives him her hand without hesitation.

STUDENTS
OHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!

TEACHER (O.S.)
Hey! What's the noise for? Didn't
you guys hear the class bell?

A teacher walks toward the crowd. All the students shut their mouth and hide their phones immediately. They split and make a path to let the teacher go into the crowd.

The teacher stares at Trasia and Xiaoyu. He points to their holding hands.

TEACHER (CONT'D)
What are you two doing?! Let them
go!

Xiaoyu releases his hand immediately. Trasia looks to him surprisedly.

TEACHER (CONT'D)
(to the crowd)
Why are you still here? Class has
already started!

He looks around. The students run away at once.

Wenjie waves her hand to Trasia in the crowd secretly to let her go with her. Trasia takes a look at Xiaoyu and finds that he is also looking at her. They both want to leave with the crowd.

TEACHER (CONT'D)
(points to Trasia and
Xiaoyu)
You two. Come with me.

The teacher then turns around and walks away.

They stop at where they are. Wenjie looks to Trasia. Trasia shakes her hand to let her go first. Wenjie leaves worriedly.

The teacher turns his head and sees they aren't following.

TEACHER (CONT'D)
Didn't you two hear me? Come with
me! Get fast!

Trasia and Xiaoyu look at each other again. They leave with the teacher.

INT. SHANGHAI/TEACHERS' OFFICE - LATER

Jiayi's class teacher, MS. GAO, throws her phone on the desk angrily. Ms. Gao is a middle-aged woman who looks very serious. On the screen of her phone, it shows that a lot of students post the photos of Trasia and Xiaoyu to the campus forum.

Trasia and Xiaoyu stands in front of her.

MS. GAO
Look at the huge impact you two
have just brought to the entire
campus! What's wrong with you, huh?
What's wrong? Both of you are the
good students in the class. I never
thought that you two would do such
things! Now you are not only
disresponsible for yourselves, but
also distracting other students
from studying!

TRASIA
But I don't think that would be a
problem-

Ms. Gao flaps on her desk angrily to interrupt her.

MS. GAO

Dare you say that! I made you be deskmates because I want you to study and help each other so that both of you can have better grades in the college entrance exams, not for you to get dating! You two even made this thing so big! What do you want to do huh? To let the entire campus know that you're getting together?

Ms. Gao is so angry that she can't breath smoothly. She closes her eyes and stops talking for taking a rest.

TRASIA

I-

Xiaoyu holds Trasia's arm to stop her before she says anything else. Trasia looks to him with frowning, but Xiaoyu shakes his head.

MS. GAO

Especially for you, Jiayi. I'm so disappointed in you. You're a good student. You're supposed to go to those good universities. How can you think about romance at this particular time? It's the same for you, Xiaoyu. I have great expectations for you two, but this time, you really make me down.

Xiaoyu heads down and says nothing.

Trasia also says nothing, but her expression shows that she is very upset.

Ms. Gao sighs heavily. She picks up her phone and stops staring at them.

MS. GAO (CONT'D)

I'll tell your parents about this. You two also need to think about this. Tomorrow I'll rearrange your seats. Now go.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia and Xiaoyu walks out of the teacher's office. Xiaoyu closes the door behind Trasia. School is already over. There are no one in the hallway except them.

TRASIA

So what now? We can't even get a relationship in high school? How can that be called "high school"?

Xiaoyu doesn't answer her. He keeps walking.

TRASIA (CONT'D)

I can't believe she really said that. Why must our relationship distract us and how can it distract others? But then again, what does our relationship have to do with her?

XIAOYU

(interrupts)
Jiayi.

Xiaoyu stops walking.

Trasia turns to see him.

TRASIA

What?

XIAOYU

I-I'm very happy that you confessed your feelings to me. I never expected that before. But... maybe it's really not the time for us to get together.

TRASIA

What?! That's ridiculous!

XIAOYU

After this, our parents and Ms. Gao will definitely keep an eye on us. I don't want either of us to get in trouble again.

(beat)

And... you really made this too big.

Trasia stares at Xiaoyu.

TRASIA
You think so too? But did you see
how excited that everyone was at
that time? That's what teenagers
should be!

Xiaoyu looks away.

XIAOYU
I'm sorry, Jiayi. See you tomorrow.

He leaves quickly.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Trasia slams the door as she enters. Mr. and Mrs. Wang are
already sitting on the sofa and waiting for her. But she just
goes toward her bedroom and never stops.

Mr. and Mrs. Wang didn't expect Trasia would just ignore
them. They take a look to each other and then stand up.

MR. WANG
Wang Jiayi! Stop!

Trasia continues walking for several steps but she stops at
last with rolling her eyes.

MRS. WANG
Come here, Yiyi. We need to talk.

Trasia turns around to them.

TRASIA
I don't think we have anything to
talk about. I still have homework
to do.

MR. WANG
(gets upset)
What's your attitude? Come here,
now!

Mrs. Wang pulls her husband's arm to let him watch his
temper.

MRS. WANG
(softly to Mr. Wang)
Didn't we say that we should talk
with her calmly?
(to Trasia)
Yiyi, just come. Let's sit down and
have a talk.

Mr. Wang is still upset but he just sits down with Mrs. Wang without a word. They look at Trasia and wait for her.

Trasia frowns impatiently. She finally turns and sits on the single sofa beside the long sofa that Mr. and Mrs. Wang are in.

Trasia keeps her eyes on the phone. Mr. Wang holds his arms with frowning. Mrs. Wang decides to start the conversation.

MRS. WANG (CONT'D)
So when did it start?

TRASIA
What started?

MRS. WANG
(frowns)
You know what I'm talking about. Is that why you locked the door of your room these days?

TRASIA
No. I just want my own space.

MRS. WANG
I know you must be upset after our last conversation about drawing, but that can't be the reason of what you did today. Do you really know that there's only one year left before the entrance exam?

TRASIA
(sneers)
How could I not know? Everyone is talking about it.

MRS. WANG
Then what? Did you know the importance of it? That relates to your future! Do you really know what you're doing right now!

Trasia flaps on the armrest of the sofa and stands up.

TRASIA
My future is not consisted of grades, grades and only grades! And I exactly know what I'm doing right now!

MR. WANG

So drawing and dating? You want to
make a live on them?

Trasia gets caught off guard for a sec.

TRASIA

Y-yea, I can decide what I'm going
to do for living by myself! My life
has nothing to do with you, so
don't worry about me all the time!

Mr. Wang also stands up angrily.

MR. WANG

We are your parents! We feed you,
we sent you to school, and we even
care about your study more than
yourself! Now you tell us that we
have nothing to do with your life?
You even can't tell what is really
good for you!

Mrs. Wang stands up nervously. She holds her husband's arm.

MRS. WANG

Don't be so mad! We're talking, not
arguing!

(turns to Trasia)

Same to you, Yiyi. Watch your
attitude. Just listen to your dad.
I know we give you too much
pressure these days but without
enough caring. But the entrance
exam is the most important now.
From now on, we will study together
with you if that will make you feel
better.

Trasia sneers again.

TRASIA

Do you really understand what I'm
talking about? Why must I listen to
yours? Why must I be the one who is
wrong? Actually, I think you're
totally wrong! The way you used to
educate Jia-...educate me is
totally wrong! I don't want to be a
study robot!

Jiayi's parents are shocked by what Trasia just said. Mr.
Wang breaths heavily.

MR. WANG
Say it again.

Trasia and Mrs. Wang turns to look at him.

MR. WANG (CONT'D)
Say it again!

Trasia takes a deep breath.

TRASIA
You! Are! Wrong!

THWACK!

Mr. Wang slaps on Trasia's face.

Both Trasia and Mrs. Wang are shocked by this slap. They stare at Mr. Wang incredibly.

Mr. Wang is still breathing heavily. He looks away and points to the front door of the apartment.

MR. WANG
Get out.

MRS. WANG
Wait-

MR. WANG
I said get out!

Trasia touches her cheek which turns red. She takes a glare angrily at Mr. Wang. Then she takes her bag and runs out of the apartment. The door is slammed with a huge sound behind her.

EXT. SHANGHAI/NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

Trasia walks in the neighborhood aimlessly. She makes a call to Jiayi.

JIAYI
(on screen)
What?! You confessed **my** feelings in front of so many people?!

TRASIA
Technically they just came around by themselves. I didn't mean to do that.

JIAYI

And they even posted our photos on the website? So everyone knows about this now?!

TRASIA

I'm not sure but yea, your teacher mentioned the website stuff.

Jiayi gasps in horror.

JIAYI

Oh! My! God! What did you do!!

TRASIA

I just wanted to help you! That's the most effective way to get you two together.

JIAYI

(interrupts)

That's not helping!! I don't want others to talk about me everyday like I'm a monkey in the zoo! What should I do if we switch back?

Jiayi covers her face.

JIAYI (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh I can't imagine what that will look like.

Trasia is surprised about Jiayi's reaction.

TRASIA

It'll be okay! Just do what you want and let them go!

JIAYI

(explodes)

You just RUINED my life! How can you say that so easily? Yes, you just did what you wanted to do, but have you ever thought about me? You are NOT helping at all!!

Trasia is shocked by what Jiayi just said. But then she also becomes upset.

TRASIA

Fine. I'm not helping, but at least I did something for our deal! How about you? Have you ever done anything for the Key Club events?

(MORE)

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Cathy did all the things for you!
But I should be the president and I
should be the one who organizes the
event and beats Dorris!

Jiayi feels embarrassed.

JIAYI
That's not the same thing! I-I've
tried! I just can't-

TRASIA
Then what qualifications do you
have to say about me? You also
ruined my life! I lost my chance to
revenge!

Jiayi's face gets blushed. She wants to refute Trasia but
only thing she can do is biting her lower lip tightly.

Trasia also stops. She breaths heavily because of her anger.
They stare at each other through the screen and no one talks
for a while.

Jiayi first moves her sight.

JIAYI
I gotta go.

Trasia doesn't answer. She just watches the screen turns back
to black and then throws the phone into her pocket.

EXT. SHANGHAI/OPEN AREA IN NEIGHBORHOOD - MOMENTS LATER

Trasia kicks the small stone on the road angrily when she
hears the music. She follows the music and finds an open
area.

There is a speaker playing music in the front of the area.
Some old people are queuing up and dancing with the music.

TRASIA
Wow.

There are some benches by the side of the area with many bags
or pockets on them. Trasia goes there and finds a place to
sit down. She starts to watch people dance.

Suddenly, a middle-aged woman in the crowd turns her head and
sees Trasia. She points to Trasia angrily.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN
Hey! Those are our bags! What are
you doing there!

Trasia gets shocked and sees the crowd stop dancing. They all
look to her unkindly.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN (CONT'D)
I've been seeing someone walking
around all the time. She must be
trying to steal our things!

Trasia stands up at once.

TRASIA
What the hell?? I'm just sitting
here and doing nothing!

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN
Guys, let's catch the thief!

The woman raises her arm and calls everyone to run to Trasia.

TRASIA
Wait wait! I can explain!

But no one listen to her and they can almost touch her
clothes.

CROWD
Catch the thief!

TRASIA
Shit!

Trasia runs away.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

The crowd chases Trasia for a while in the neighborhood with
the speaker is still playing music.

EXT. SHANGHAI/STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The crowd finally gives up catching "the thief". Trasia stops
at the street outside of the neighborhood and tries to calm
her breathe down. People walking by look at her strangely.

After she can breath smoothly, she stands straight and sees
where she is.

TRASIA
Where am I?!

She looks around and doesn't know what to do. The phone in her pocket suddenly rings. Trasia takes a look. There is a message from Wenjie.

WENJIE
(in message)
*Hey Jiayi! Did you do today's Math
homework? Help!!!!*

CUT TO:

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Jiayi walks on the way to the Key Club classroom with a notebook in her hand. In the book, she writes down all the bullet points that she plans to talk about during today's meeting in details, such as greeting, intro, information and ending words.

She looks around and makes sure that no one else is in the hallway. Then she takes a deep breath and turns to the wall.

JIAYI
(moving hands dramatically)
Hi everyone! Welcome to the Key
Club meeting for this week! Today I
want to talk about some background
information about our next event,
Aids Walk!

Jiayi freezes with the last pose she made for a few seconds and then becomes discouraged. She puts her head against the wall beside her.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Ughhhh, that's so weird!

She lies on the wall and stares at the notebook.

FLASHBACK - Jiayi sits on the bed with the phone in the dark. Trasia is in the screen: "Have you ever done anything for the Key Club events?...You also ruined my life!"

Jiayi sighs heavily.

She arrives at the door of the classroom for the club meeting. Before opening the door, she makes a deep breath.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jiayi stands at the door and sees the meeting is already started by Cathy. The students are listening carefully to Cathy, who is standing on the podium.

Cathy shoots a glare to Jiayi, but she doesn't say anything and just continues what she is talking to the students.

CATHY

...So my point is, if we can do both volunteers and participants, we can help you get double service hours. It'll be a little tired, but for someone who are still worried about service hours, it's a really great chance-

Jiayi is surprised when hearing this.

JIAYI

(murmurs)

Wait, what?

CATHY

-You can take your time to think about it. If you want to do both, let me know as soon as possible.

The students start to talk with each other.

Jiayi walks to Cathy quickly.

JIAYI

What's that, Cathy? I never heard of it from you before!

CATHY

(shrugs)

Yea, cause I just got this idea few days ago. Look, I still have things to tell them. If you want to talk with me, can you wait until I finish the meeting?

JIAYI

But-

Cathy sighs impatiently.

CATHY

(interrupts)

Fine. Let's go talk outside.

She first goes to the hallway outside of the room. Jiayi follows her quickly.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

After Jiayi goes out, Cathy closes the door of the classroom. The noise in the room is much softer.

JIAYI

Are you sure we can do that, Cathy?
Double service hours? Have you told
Mr. Robinson about this?

CATHY

He let us to take care of the club.
I don't think we have to tell him
everything we're going to do.

Jiayi frowns.

JIAYI

(hesitantly)

I don't think this idea makes
sense...

CATHY

But I really need more service
hours! You know it! Not only me,
see how excited they are?

Cathy points to door. They can still hear students talking excitedly inside.

Jiayi scratches her head. She doesn't know how to deal with this situation.

JIAYI

...At least you should tell me
about this before tell them, so we
can determine if it can work or not
together.

Cathy raises her eyebrows and holds her arms.

CATHY

(coldly)

Oh, should I? I don't think it's
necessary. You can't even lead a
meeting in these days! I don't know
what's going on with you, but all I
know is you lost all of your
abilities to help the club, or help
me!

Jiayi gets scared of Cathy's attitude.

CATHY (CONT'D)

Now I'm doing the job of the president, so I should be the president instead of you! I should have the power to make decisions without your agreement.

JIAYI

B-but we should at least talk about this before you did so... It's too sudden!

Cathy rolls her eyes and becomes impatient.

CATHY

I think you should be smarter than this, Trasia. If you weren't able to provide the things I want, who would be your friend for so long? Now I'm able to do whatever I want by myself. You really don't have to be here anymore. Now you understand?

Jiayi is froze. She looks very flustered and loses her words.

JIAYI

I... I'm sorry...

Cathy nearly laughs out.

CATHY

Really? That's the only thing what you want to say?

Jiayi looks down. She holds her notebook so tight that the paper is getting more and more wrinkled.

JIAYI

I'm sorry, Cathy. I'm just...

Cathy loses all her patience.

CATHY

Then we're done.

She turns around and enters the classroom. The door closes in front of Jiayi, who is still standing there and staring at her notebook.

The hand-writing in the notebook becomes blurred. Two drops of tear suddenly falls on them.

INT. SHANGHAI/WENJIE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Wenjie and Trasia enters Wenjie's apartment. Wenjie takes out a new pair of slippers for Trasia.

WENJIE
Mom, we're back.

WENJIE'S MOM, MRS. LI, comes to them from inside. Her voice is very sweet, like a teenage girl.

MRS. LI
(kindly)
Hi, you're Jiayi, right? You're much cuter than I thought. Just come in. It's a little messy inside. Please don't mind.

TRASIA
It's fine. Thank you.

Mrs. Li nods with smile. She turns to Wenjie.

MRS. LI
(to Wenjie)
Next time if you want to take your friends home, tell me earlier. At least I need time to do a clean up.

WENJIE
Okay okay. Now you can go back to your television.

Wenjie pushes her mom to the direction of parents' bedroom softly.

MRS. LI
Alright alright. I'll leave you alone.
(to Trasia)
Just help yourself like you're in your own home! Call us if you need anything.

WENJIE
I'll take care of her. Good night.

Wenjie pushes Mrs. Li into the bedroom and closes the door for her. She then turns to Trasia, who still stands at the door of the apartment.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
Let's go to my bedroom.

INT. SHANGHAI/WENJIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trasia and Wenjie goes into the room. Wenjie points to the bed to let Trasia sit.

TRASIA
Your mom is so cute! I like her voice.

WENJIE
Oh you think like that only because you haven't seen she get mad. Her voice just becomes horrible at that time.

Wenjie takes out some chocolate from the drawer and sits beside Trasia.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
It's good to have some sweet things when feeling bad. Here.

Trasia takes the chocolate and takes a large bite heavily. She lies down on the bed.

TRASIA
(sighs)
This whole day is so messed up.

Wenjie can't help but laugh out. Trasia shoots her an upset glare. Wenjie stops laughing and also lies down with her.

WENJIE
Oh sorry but It's so funny that they treated you as a thief.

TRASIA
They even didn't let me explain! That's so fucking annoying.

WENJIE
They were just too angry. Sometimes we really need to talk to let us understand each other.

(beat)
Actually, do you think you are kind of similar to those women?

TRASIA
(surprisingly)
What?!

WENJIE

Don't be so mad. I'm just saying. I mean, do you understand why Xiaoyu and your parents argued with you?

TRASIA

Of course not!

WENJIE

Then did you give them a chance to explain themselves and help you understand what they were thinking about?

TRASIA

I-

Wenjie puts a small bar of chocolate in Trasia's mouth to stop her.

WENJIE

Shush! Just think about it.

Trasia takes a dissatisfied look at her but finally says nothing. The room gets back to silence. She holds the chocolate in her mouth and stares at the ceiling.

FLASHBACK - SHANGHAI/NEIGHBORHOOD - HOURS AGO

Trasia took phone call with Jiayi through Facetime. They argued.

TRASIA

It'll be okay! Just do what you want and let them go!

JIAYI

(explodes)

You just RUINED my life! How can you say that so easily? Yes, you just did what you wanted to do, but have you ever thought about me? You are NOT helping at all!!

FLASHBACK - PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL - SEVERAL MONTHS AGO

The camera followed Trasia to walk into an empty room. She threw her bag on the desk angrily.

TRASIA

Did you see that bitch's face? She just won a small Kahoot game! Is it necessary to be so happy like this?

???

Calm down, Trasia. It's also not necessary to be so mad at losing such a Kahoot game.

Trasia pointed to the camera angrily.

TRASIA

How dare you say that! I called you to help me beat Dorris, but did you do anything? NO! Nothing at all! Are you really my boyfriend?

Gavin stood in front of Trasia. He also got upset.

GAVIN

Did you really mean that? I wanted to help! But guess who just believed in herself and never listened to me! Now see? You lost!

TRASIA

I never listened to you? That's because your answer couldn't convince me! Why should I believe in you?

GAVIN

I just came to help cause you said you couldn't find another partner to attend the game. Now you just blame that I made you lose?

(shakes his head
unbelievably)

It's so hard to work with you, Trasia. I don't think we can continue this relationship if you keep like that.

Trasia clenched her fists. Her voice was shaking but she tried to calm down.

TRASIA

If you say so, why are you still here?

Gavin looked to her surprisingly.

GAVIN
You really mean that?

TRASIA
Leave me alone!

Gavin left the room.

FLASHBACK - PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL - ONE YEAR AGO

Trasia finds Dorris in an empty hallway. She walks to her quickly.

DORRIS
Trasia? What's wr-

THWACK!

Trasia slaps on Dorris. Dorris is so surprised that she can only stares at Trasia with nothing to say.

TRASIA
We had a deal, Dorris! Before Gavin choose either of us to be his girlfirend, neither of us should talk to him or do anything unfair! How dare you cheat on me!

DORRIS
What are you talking about? I did nothing!

TRASIA
Don't lie to me, you traitor! Cathy told me everything! She saw you talking with Gavin yesterday for a long time.

DORRIS
What? That was just a coincident! She misunderstood!

TRASIA
(coldly)
Oh so you admitted you've met him.

Dorris still tried to say something for herself but failed. She held her head and seemed like she got a headache.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Then we have nothing to say. We're not friends anymore.

Trasia turns around and leaves.

BACK TO:

INT. SHANGHAI/WENJIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Trasia and Wenjie lie on the bed. They have already finished the chocolate. Trasia turns to Wenjie.

TRASIA
Actually, you're right.
(beat)
I never give a chance to let me and
others understand each other. I
even never finished listening their
words.

Wenjie seems like she is awakened by her suddenly.

WENJIE
...Emm? ...Oh, You figured out?
That's great!

Trasia's sight makes Wenjie feel a little embarrassed. She gets up from the bed quickly and opens her drawer again.

WENJIE (CONT'D)
That's awesome! So we need
celebration! Take these!

She throws two packets of spicy strips to Trasia.

TRASIA
This is what you called
celebration?

Wenjie speaks while opening the window of the room.

WENJIE
Haha, it's too late to buy other
snacks. Okay, now we won't have to
smell this even when we're gonna
sleep.

They laughs to each other.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL RESTROOM - AFTERNOON

The school is already over. There's no one in the restroom, but we can hear crying from inside.

Dorris walks into the restroom and gets scared by the crying. She looks around and walks to the compartments one by one carefully to hear where the sound comes from. Then she stops at the one by the window. The crying is clear and loud.

Dorris tries to push the door of the compartment. It just opens. She sees Jiayi sit on the toilet and crying.

They both gets shocked by each other.

DORRIS
Oh shit! You just scared me!

Jiayi tries to stop crying and wipe away her tears, but she just makes her face more horrible with makeup all messed up.

Dorris makes a face and gives some paper towel to her.

JIAYI
Thanks.

Jiayi takes the paper towel and tries to collect herself up.

Dorris folds her arms and watches her.

DORRIS
It's so weird to see *Trasia* cry
like this.
(beat)
You're not the real *Trasia*, are
you?

Jiayi looks up to her immediately. She is so surprised that she hiccups with a weird sound.

JIAYI
How did you-what are you talking
about?!

Dorris rolls her eyes.

DORRIS
C'mon, I've been her friend since
we were in the kindergarten! How
can I not know you are not her?

Jiayi already forgot to cry.

JIAYI
I... thought you two were not
friends...

DORRIS
(shrugs)
We aren't since last year.

Dorris takes Jiayi out of the compartment friendly and lets her clean up herself by the washbasin.

Jiayi relaxes slowly and goes out from the compartment with her. She gets scared by her face when seeing the mirror.

DORRIS (CONT'D)
I don't know who you really are but
I guess you're also Trasia's
friend? So what happened on earth?
And where's the real Trasia now?

Jiayi turns on the tap and uses the paper towel to remove the makeup.

JIAYI
We switched our bodies but don't
know how. We just had an argument
and Cathy also got mad at me.

DORRIS
(sneers)
Oh, she finally showed who she is
now?

JIAYI
You mean Cathy? Why's that?

DORRIS
She just made me feel
uncomfortable. After I was no
longer Trasia's friend, I finally
knew what kind of person she was.
(beat)
Only Trasia doesn't realize how she
really is all the time.

FLASHBACK - PASADENA/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - YEARS AGO

Trasia and Dorris met Cathy in their elementary school. They played with each other and became friends.

Trasia and Dorris debated about something. Cathy was beside. She wanted to join the debate as well, but other two girls just paid too much attention on each other so no one answered her. Cathy was upset about this.

DORRIS (O.S.)

We met Cathy when we were in elementary school. At first, everything seemed great. We went to school and played together. Actually Trasia and I liked to compete with each other from that time already, but that never hurt our friendship.

Three good friends said goodbye to each other after school. Trasia and Dorris went to the same direction but only Cathy went to another way. Trasia and Dorris kept talking with each other. Cathy watched them talk and go away with a jealous look. Dorris noticed that and got confused.

DORRIS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

But since I lived in the same neighborhood with Trasia so we stayed together for a longer time than Cathy. Sometimes I just saw her look at us with a horrible sight. But at that time, I didn't pay much attention on it.

FLASHBACK - PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL - ONE YEAR AGO

Then they went to the high school they are in now. Three girls still stayed together all the time.

One day they met a good-looking boy: Gavin. Trasia and Dorris looked to each other and knew what each other was thinking about. They went to find Gavin together and made a deal.

DORRIS (O.S.)

After we went to high school, we met Gavin. This part you should have already heard from them. Trasia and I got the same feelings with Gavin, so we decided to let Gavin choose by himself. We both agreed to not talk with or even meet Gavin before he made his decision.

BACK TO:

EXT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN - EVENING

Jiayi and Dorris sit on the bench in the garden. Jiayi's eyes are still a little red but she is totally relaxed now.

JIAYI

Oh I know that part! They both told me that you cheated on Trasias.

(beat)

I guess that's not real?

DORRIS

(sighs)

That's the most important part I'm going to tell you.

FLASHBACK - PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL - ONE YEAR AGO

Dorris arrived at the locker and wanted to put her books into her locker. Gavin walked out from the classroom beside Dorris' locker. They saw each other and got froze for a sec. They nodded to each other as greeting. Gavin also went to his locker.

DORRIS (O.S.)

They told you that I broke the rules and talked to Gavin right? But actually we just met each other coincidentally. We even didn't greet to each other! I can tell you that I really felt awkward at that time and I can promise you that I never cheated when competing with Trasias!

At the corner of the hallway that locker was at, Cathy was going to turn to the locker, but she stopped her step when she saw Dorris and Gavin. She hid behind the corner and thought for a while. Then she looked like she got an idea and ran away.

Trasias slapped on Dorris. Dorris seemed very surprised.

DORRIS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I thought she must saw us at the locker but she might misunderstood us. So after the argument with Trasias, I went to ask Cathy about it.

Dorris went to find Cathy angrily. Cathy stared at her coldly. She folded her arms and looked very proud.

CATHY

You're right. I meant to let Trasias broke up with you. I've thought about doing this for a long time.

DORRIS
(surprisingly)
What? I thought we're friends!

CATHY
(explodes)
You really think so? Every time you
appeared in front of us, Trasia
just talked to you and always
ignored me! You called this as
friends?
(beat)
Now I am Trasia's only friend. She
won't ignore me anymore. That's so
great, isn't it?

Dorris was so surprised that she took a few steps back and
pointed to Cathy.

DORRIS
So you are the traitor in three of
us! I'll go tell Trasia the truth!

CATHY
(smiles confidently)
Oh you really think she would
listen to you and believe in you?
Stop kidding! You know what kind of
person she is.

Dorris calmed down slowly. She put down her hand.

DORRIS
She'll know some day. We'll see.

She went away.

BACK TO:

EXT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN - EVENING

Jiayi and Dorris are still sitting on the bench. Jiayi is
shocked by what she just heard.

JIAYI
What the hell? That's too dramatic!
(beat)
Oh ugh, I mean, that's totally
different from what I heard before
all the time!

Dorris takes a deep breathe and stretches her body to relax.

DORRIS

You're right. It is so dramatic.
And Cathy was right. Trasia never
listened to me with patience and
always thought I was coming to
provoke her. So I even formed a
similar club with her Key Club and
named it as Lock Club. She thought
I wanted to provoke her? Then I
would tell her what called a
"provocation".

Jiayi gets froze for a sec.

JIAYI

...wow, you are that childish?

Dorris spreads both her hands and shrugs.

DORRIS

Anyways, I almost thought I would
never get a chance to say it out.
It feels good to see "Trasia"
listen to me so quietly.

JIAYI

Hey!

DORRIS

Haha! I'm just kidding!
(beat)
Now let's figure out how to stop
Cathy from her crazy plan and make
Trasia back to her president place.

Jiayi holds her head painfully.

JIAYI

Ahh my headache!

Dorris pats on her shoulder to comfort her.

DORRIS

Take it easy. I will help you solve
this.

JIAYI

How?

Dorris raises her head and points to herself confidently. Her
big earrings shine brightly.

DORRIS

Believe me. I've been through that
as well, because of Trasia.

MONTAGE -

1. Trasia stays in Wenjie's home until early morning. She goes back to the neighborhood that Jiayi's apartment is in. To her surprise, she sees a police car. Then she meets the middle-aged woman, who treated her as a thief. She wants to run away but the woman shakes her head to show she won't catch her anymore.

The woman takes her to the building that Jiayi's apartment is in. Mr and Mrs. Wang are waiting there and looks like they stayed up for the whole night. The parents see Trasia comes back and runs to her excitedly. Mrs. Wang holds her in the arms tightly and even starts to cry. Mr. Wang stands beside and also pats on her shoulder. Trasia hesitates for a sec and then also holds back.

2. Jiayi and Dorris go back to Trasia's house and start to practice how to build Jiayi's confidence. Dorris teaches her how to prepare the meeting, how to let herself relax before standing on the podium and how to deal with different situations calmly during the meeting.

Then they just lie on the bed and chat with each other. They laugh and talk. Finally they fall asleep.

3. Trasia goes to the school and walks quickly to the classroom. Xiaoyu has changed another seat which is separated two columns. And her new desk mate is a girl.

Trasia throws a paper note to Xiaoyu and asks him to meet with her after school. They sit by the table in the Family Mart and Wenjie waits at another table. They talk and smile to each other at the end.

4. Jiayi goes to the Key Club classroom with Dorris. She still seems nervous. Dorris pats on her back to encourage her. Jiayi takes a deep breathe and walks into the classroom.

On the podium, Cathy is holding the meeting. She is surprised when she sees Dorris is coming with Jiayi. Dorris waits at the door and Jiayi goes on the podium by herself. Jiayi starts to talk about her plan when Cathy is still confused about the relationship between Jiayi and Dorris. At first, she still shows her nervousness, but after a while, she found that the students under the podium never react to her mistakes or other things. She relaxes and finally takes control the meeting completely. Cathy is upset about this, but she can't do anything to stop Jiayi.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

The club meeting is over. Students go out of the classroom and prepare to go back home. Jiayi meets Dorris at the door outside of the classroom.

JIAYI
(shyly)
Hey, how did I do?

DORRIS
(smiles)
That's perfect! I almost thought
the real one just came back.

Jiayi suddenly stands straight and raises her head proudly.

JIAYI
What are you talking about?
(beat)
I AM Trasia.

Dorris gets froze for a sec.

DORRIS
What? How? When?

Jiayi takes a look at Dorris' expression. Then she can't help but laugh.

JIAYI
Hahaha, I'm just kidding!

Dorris rolls her eyes.

DORRIS
Gosh you really scared me!

They laugh together.

Suddenly Cathy goes out of the classroom and bumps into Jiayi when passes through her. She doesn't stop but walks away fast.

Jiayi and Dorris watches her turn into the corner.

DORRIS (CONT'D)
So what are you going to do with
her?

JIAYI
Hmmm, I think it should be left to
Trasia herself.

She takes out her phone and clicks on the Instagram icon. She starts the chat with the friend who is under the name "Jiayi".

JIAYI (CONT'D)
(in message)
Hey.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Trasia and Mr and Mrs. Wang finish their dinner. Trasia helps Mrs. Wang to put the dirty dishes in the kitchen. Mrs. Wang is very happy to see Trasia help her. She turns on the tap and starts to wash the dishes.

MRS. WANG
You can leave them. I can do the rest here. Much homework today?

Trasia puts the rest of the pizza that they made for dinner in the fridge.

TRASIA
I finishes half of them in school but-
(shrugs)
Yea, still much.

MRS. WANG
Anything new in the school?

Trasia stands by Mrs. Wang's side and watches her wash the dishes.

TRASIA
Nope, but I've actually talked with Xiaoyu. We both agreed to wait until graduate from high school. It's true that we still need to work hard by now.

MRS. WANG
(smiles)
Good for you two.
(beat)
Now go do your own stuff. Want some apples later?

TRASIA
Sure!

We hear Mr. Wang says from the living room.

MR. WANG (O.S.)
Honey, I want some too!

MRS. WANG
(to the living room)
Get them by yourself! And for us by
the way.

MR. WANG (O.S.)
Oh-you said you were gonna do it.

MRS. WANG
Nope. I'm just gonna ask you to do
it.

MR. WANG (O.S.)
(sighs)
Fine.

Mr. Wang walks into the kitchen sadly.

Trasia laughs and goes out of the kitchen.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Trasia closes the door and sits on the chair with the phone
in her hand. She sees the message that sent by Jiayi. She
smiles and changes to Facetime directly to make a call.

The call is answered almost immediately.

JIAYI
(on screen, a little
nervous)
Hey... I just wanted to make the
call to you.

TRASIA
Haha, it should be my turn to call
you.

They look at each other through the phone and feel a little
awkward.

JIAYI & TRASIA (CONT'D)
(together)
So...

They stop together and laugh.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Okay, you can go first.

INT. PASADENA/TRASIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Jiayi sits by the desk. The cosmetics are put in order by her hands. The makeup she just made is much better than before.

Jiayi touches her nose and shows a little shyness.

JIAYI

Oh, emm, I just want to say sorry,
you know, for everything I said
before.

INTERCUT - FACETIME CONVERSATION

Trasia also gets nervous.

TRASIA

That's the same thing I want to say
actually. I shouldn't do all of
those without your permission and
believe that I'm correct all the
time. It's your body and it's your
life. And I'm sorry about the
website photos... I didn't know
that would hurt you so much.

JIAYI

I-I just don't want to let others
notice about me, so I can avoid to
do anything wrong and make others
hate me. I thought that would
protect myself, but that just gave
me a reason to escape from the
problems. So maybe I need to thank
you for pushing me to do that
president job. You're right that I
shouldn't pay too much attention on
others. Actually, I just found that
no one would listen to you so
carefully during the presentation.

Trasia laughs out.

TRASIA

That's right! I mean, will you care
about what others say for their
presentations so much? No! And it's
the same vise versa.

Jiayi smiles with blushed.

JIAYI
So I guess the website photos
shouldn't be a big deal if I can
think like that.

Trasia also smiles.

TRASIA
So we are good now?

JIAYI
Of course!

They both relax and laugh.

JIAYI (CONT'D)
Oh actually I need to tell you
something.

TRASIA
Hmm?

After a while.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
WHAT??!! Cathy did all of those
things? I really thought she was my
best friend!

JIAYI
I'm sorry but that's the truth.

TRASIA
So I've misunderstood Dorris for so
long?

Trasia becomes frozen.

Suddenly, a new message appears on both of their screens.

JIAYI
Wait, did you see that message?

They open the Instagram and see a new message in their chat
box. The "Exchange" icon is back as well.

THE ROBOT
(in message)
*Hope you enjoy the journey. See you
next time!*

Trasia gets shocked when she sees that message.

JIAYI

The message and the icon! Does that mean we're able to switch back now?? "See you next time?" Go to hell! I don't want to see it any more.

Jiayi moves her finger to the icon and wants to click it.

TRASIA

Wait wait wait!

Jiayi stops when Trasia calls her.

JIAYI

Hmm?

TRASIA

I'm not ready to meet Dorris and Cathy! That's too sudden! What should I do with them after I switch back?? I was totally wrong before!!

JIAYI

Oh I had the same reaction when I heard this. Believe me, Dorris is easy to get along with. I think you can go and talk to her directly. She won't mind the past.

Trasia sighs and lies on the desk.

TRASIA

It's not so easy... Just five minutes ago, I was still mad at her. I just can't change it so fast! And Cathy. Cathy is my friend! I can't believe she did all of those to me.

JIAYI

Hey! Where does your confidence go! You three are friends, right? Just follow your heart. You'll figure out after you really meet them.

Trasia looks up and starts laughing.

TRASIA

Wait, have we changed our roles? I think I was the one who always pushed you to do something before.

Jiayi also laughs.

JIAYI
Thanks to you! I guess the life to
act like you really made me learn
something.

TRASIA
Yea, me too. I'll miss the life in
China.

Jiayi takes a deep breathe.

JIAYI
Ready to go back?

TRASIA
Come on! Let's do it!

Trasia and Jiayi click on the "Exchange" icon together. The
phones turns to white. Then the light comes out from the
phone and starts to cover their body.

Trasia looks at the light around her body surprisingly.

TRASIA (CONT'D)
Whoa!!!

Jiayi's sound comes from the phone.

JIAYI (O.S.)
See you, Trasia!

TRASIA
Oh, see y-

The light covers the whole room.

CUT TO WHITE.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING

The History class is in progress. The teacher is talking
about his PowerPoint on the podium.

In the back of the classroom, Dorris sits beside Trasia, who
is taking a nap.

Suddenly Trasia gets awake and sits up.

TRASIA
(shouts out)
-you!

Everyone in the classroom turns to look at her. The teacher stops his presentation.

THE TEACHER
Trasia, what's wrong?

Trasia looks around and finds that she is in her high school classroom. She realizes that she comes back to her own body.

TRASIA
Nothing. I'm sorry, Mr. Bates.

The teacher stares at her from top of his glasses.

THE TEACHER
Next time try to control yourself
from sleep talk.

The whole class laughs.

THE TEACHER (CONT'D)
Now go back to our class....

Trasia relieves. Dorris looks to her confusedly.

DORRIS
(keeps voice down)
Hey, you okay?

TRASIA
Hmmm?

Trasia also turns her head. When they see each other's eyes, they both get froze.

DORRIS
...Trasia? I mean, the real one?

TRASIA
(nods)
Yea.

DORRIS
Oh, that's good.

They both feel awkward and turn their heads to look at their books.

After a while, the PowerPoint is at the last page.

THE TEACHER
Okay, the class is done but we
still got a few minutes. You can do
your posters with your partners.

The class starts to be noisy.

Dorris comes back from the locker with the poster. She puts it on Trasia's desk.

DORRIS

Here.

Trasia takes a look at the poster. It's almost done already. There are only few boxes to fill in with the information.

TRASIA

(frowns)

Bronze Age? Who picked this topic?

Dorris shoots her a glare.

DORRIS

I did. Any problems?

Trasia shakes her head.

TRASIA

Nope. Just too boring.

Dorris folds her arms.

DORRIS

Oh, is it? Then you can do a brand new one all by yourself. Friendly reminder: due date is tomorrow.

Trasia turns to look at Dorris with raising her head.

TRASIA

You think I'm unable to finish a new one by tomorrow?

They stare at each other for some time. Then they suddenly laugh out together.

Dorris gives Trasia a hug.

DORRIS

Welcome back, Trasia.

TRASIA

Thanks, Dorris.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jiayi wakes up from the desk. The books are open on the desk. She looks around and finds that she is in her own bedroom.

JIAYI

I'm back?

Someone knocks the door from outside.

MRS. WANG (O.S.)

Yiyi, can I come in?

Jiayi gets scared. She sits up at once and takes the pen in her hand to pretend she is writing her homework.

JIAYI

Y-yea, just come in.

Mrs. Wang walks in the room. She puts a plate of apple slices in an empty place on the desk.

MRS. WANG

I put the apples here. Remember to eat.

JIAYI

(nods)

Okay. Thanks, mom.

MRS. WANG

Don't stay up too late.

JIAYI

I know.

Mrs. Wang pats on her shoulder and leaves. Jiayi watches her walking out of the room and close the door for her. She thinks for a while.

INT. SHANGHAI/JIAYI'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jiayi walks to the living room with her notebook. In her notebook, she writes many bullet points about applying for the art colleges and the majors in these colleges.

In the living room, Mr and Mrs. Wang are sitting on the sofa and watching television. They are surprised to see Jiayi come out.

MRS. WANG

Yiyi? What's wrong?

Jiayi makes a deep breathe.

JIAYI

Mom, Dad. I want to talk about something with you.

MR. WANG
Talk about what?

JIAYI
I still want to apply for the art colleges.

The parents look at each other for a sec.

MR. WANG
You've already made your decision?

Jiayi nods and walks to sit on the single sofa.

JIAYI
Yea. And I've done some research as well. I think I can take these challenges and make a living for future.

Mr. Wang sits straight and gets closer to Jiayi to listen carefully.

MR. WANG
Then talks to us.

Jiayi is happy to see her parents are willing to listen to her.

JIAYI
Sure! So for application, I need to take the Art exams of different colleges. The exams are basically about our art skills and also some paper tests.....

Three of them have a serious discussion for a whole night.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL GATE - MORNING

Jiayi walks to the school. She looks around. The school still looks the same as usual. Several students with red ribbons stand by the gate and greet to the people who walk into the school quickly. Students on the way to their classroom are talking about their homework and tests. No one pay much attention on her.

Jiayi relaxes and also steps into the school with the crowd.

INT. SHANGHAI/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jiayi goes to her seat. She greets to Wenjie and turns her head to find Xiaoyu. Xiaoyu sits on his new seat. They smile to each other.

Wenjie turns to Jiayi and asks for some questions. Jiayi answers her patiently.

Some boys from the back come to Jiayi's seat.

BOY #1

Hey, Jiayi, same as usual, please!

Jiayi shakes her head.

JIAYI

No, but I can tell you how to do the questions you don't know.

BOY #2

What?! No!! We just need the answers!

The boys cries and puts their hands together to beg Jiayi.

WENJIE

Quiet you guys! If you don't want to listen, just leave. Don't bother us.

BOY #2

No no no we need the answers. How to do question 4 of English test paper? I'm almost going crazy.

JIAYI

I think the answer should be A...

The study group attracts other classmates in the room. They also come to discuss about the questions. Some even write on the blackboard to explain the progress.

INT. SHANGHAI/BACK DOOR OF CLASSROOM - SAME TIME

Outside of the back door of the classroom, Ms. Gao is watching into the classroom through the window on the door. She sees the study group and smiles.

INT. PASADENA/HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - MORNING

The cafeteria is full of people. Trasia and Dorris are eating their lunch on a table for four. Trasia notices that Cathy has walked around for the empty seats with her food for a while, but she still can't find one to sit. Dorris turns her head and also sees Cathy. She doesn't say anything but waits for Trasia's reaction.

Trasia waves her hand to Cathy.

TRASIA
Cathy! Come here.

Cathy turns to Trasia and sees the empty seats. But she hesitates.

Trasia continues waving her hand to let her come.

Cathy finally walks to them.

The silence keeps for a while. Three of them only eat their food without talking.

CATHY
I-

TRASIA
(interrupts)
After the Aids Walk in this weekend, I found some nice events to earn service hours.

CATHY
What?

TRASIA
I did a small survey yesterday and it showed that many members in our club are worrying about their service hours too, so I decide to find more events to help all of us, including you, earn more points. How do you think, Secretary Cathy?

Cathy looks to her surprisedly.

CATHY
Th-that's great! I mean, the members will be very happy to hear that.

TRASIA
Cool!

Trasia takes out her hand and waits for a high five. Cathy suddenly relieves and takes out her hand to clap on Trasia's hand.

DORRIS

Hey I'm still here! Remember we're still competing for the sponsor?

TRASIA

Haha, it's okay, cause I'm pretty sure my Key Club will win the sponsor.

DORRIS

Oh you think so? I won't let you win.

TRASIA

Well, you'll lose. Right, Cathy?

CATHY

Exactly!

They all laugh.

FADE TO BLACK.

ON-SCREEN: ONE YEAR LATER

EXT. LAX AIRPORT - AFTERNOON

It's already July and the weather is pretty hot. There are a lot of vehicles driving outside the airport to pick up people.

INT. RED CAR - AFTERNOON

In the traffic jam, Trasia is driving a red car with Dorris sitting beside.

Trasia checks on her sunglasses through the rearview mirror.

TRASIA

Shit, I took the wrong glasses. It just made my whole makeup look weird.

Dorris rolls her eyes.

DORRIS

That doesn't matter, okay? You spent too much time in makeup. Now see? We're late and stuck in road.

TRASIA

I want to give Jiayi and Wenjie a perfect first impression!

DORRIS

You two have even switched your bodies!

TRASIA

That's different!

DORRIS

So what happened to that magic icon now? Can you two switch again?

Trasia shrugs disappointedly.

TRASIA

No. It just disappeared after we switched back. Sometimes I really want to switch again for the spicy strips. So sad.

DORRIS

Yea yea. You've mentioned that for so many times. You will have them when we go travel to China with them after.

TRASIA

NICE!!

Trasia drives the car with the traffic flows.

When they arrive at the international terminal gate, they see Jiayi and Wenjie stand by the road with their luggages.

DORRIS

Oh I see them!

Dorris points to them. Trasia lets the car stop in front of the girls.

EXT. INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL - CONTINUOUS

Dorris opens the door and gets off the car. She hugs with two Chinese girls and helps them put the luggages on the car.

TRASIA
Jiayi! Finally we can see each
other like this!

JIAYI
Haha right! We finally meet each
other!

They do a high five. All of them get on the car.

INT. RED CAR - CONTINUOUS

Trasia starts the car.

TRASIA
Well, let's start our travel! For
our graduation!

GIRLS
For our graduation!!

They cheers in the car.

The red car is driving towards the freeway.

FADE TO BLACK.