

## Lady gu 1021

### Chapter 1021: Unsurprisingly, She Lost The Selection

Yi Cang's eyes shifted, and his expression was slightly cold. No matter who the creator of this work was, it was now his. No one could snatch it from him!

Yi Cang pretended to be serious and asked, "Someone actually did such a thing under my watch. I absolutely won't allow this to happen. Tell me who that person is."

The calligraphy competition would go through the first round of auditions and 20 works would be selected. The chosen works would be commented on by the judges in public. The contestants who advanced had already been notified. The atmosphere among the students of Class 3 was gloomy.

The class monitor sighed. "Sigh! It's a pity that Teacher Xi Xi didn't get to advance!"

The subject representative frowned. "It's already very good that Teacher Xi Xi participated in it. She's the pride of Class 3!"

Qiao Xi didn't mind and replied casually, "There's nothing to pity. It was within my expectations that I didn't advance. My uncle said that my standard isn't good enough and that participating in the competition would embarrass him, so it's a good thing that I didn't advance. This way, my work won't be judged in front of everyone."

At this moment, she suddenly felt that it was good that she did not advance. Otherwise, her calligraphy work would not be presentable and she would be mocked.

The class monitor felt that it was slightly strange. In his heart, Qiao Xi was omnipotent. Since she knew how to paint, her calligraphy skills would definitely not be bad. How could she not have advanced?

Actually, they had never thought of getting a ranking. It was only because they were provoked by Class 1 that they persuaded Qiao Xi to participate in the competition. As for the outcome, it was no longer important.

"Teacher Xi Xi, you're so beautiful and outstanding. If you're actually good at calligraphy, what about the rest of us? It's good that you don't know calligraphy."

The students in the class were all comforting each other when a few students from Class 1 happened to pass by. When they heard their conversation, their faces were filled with mockery and disdain.

Then, the class monitor sighed helplessly. "Teacher Xi Xi, we have to go to the competition venue today to make up the numbers. The university leaders said that all the participants and class committees have to attend to witness who takes the first prize."

The subject representative complained, "We're very busy. How can we have time to play with them?! How annoying!"

Qiao Xi arranged a time with everyone before leaving the classroom. She found a corner and called her teacher.

After the call connected, she slowly said, "Teacher, I failed."

Liang Pingchuan, who was leisurely leaning against the rocking chair, suddenly sat up. He frowned, and his voice suddenly became serious. "What did you say?"

Qiao Xi replied calmly, "I didn't advance in the calligraphy competition. A total of 100 people participated, and 20 people advanced. It's indeed as you said. I failed."

Her voice was very calm without any disappointment because this outcome was expected. After all, she had only learned calligraphy for a few months and her standard was very average.

On the other end of the phone, Liang Pingchuan's voice carried a trace of coldness. "You actually failed to get your work selected?"

"Yes, what's wrong?" Qiao Xi noticed her teacher's strange behavior.

Liang Pingchuan suppressed the anger in his heart. He was afraid that Little Six would be wronged, so he decided to personally solve this matter. Hence, he asked calmly, "Little Six, who are the judges for the calligraphy competition?"

Qiao Xi said thoughtfully, "It's Mr. Yi Cang and Mr. Shang Jing."

Yi Cang?

Liang Pingchuan's expression was cold. After a moment of silence, he said softly, "Little Six, I still have something to do, so I won't talk to you anymore. If you have something urgent, call me again, but we'll meet soon."

Qiao Xi nodded and asked in confusion, "Teacher, you're coming to Li City University?"

"Yes, I have something to attend to. I'm going to your university now. Remember to treat me to a meal. I'll get going first. Let's talk later," Liang Pingchuan said.

After hanging up, Liang Pingchuan's expression suddenly turned sinister. The assistant beside him trembled in fear and could not help but take a few steps back.

"Let's go to Li City University!" Liang Pingchuan had a gentle appearance and looked like a gentle uncle, but when he was angry, it made one shudder. He sneered and said, "How dare he bully our Little Six? I'll make him regret it!"

Although he often said that Little Six's standard was not good, in reality, Little Six's standard was enough for her to be considered a calligraphy master. Back then, he said that Little Six was not talented not because she was truly not talented but because her talent in calligraphy was inferior to her talent in oil painting and design. That was why he did not let her learn calligraphy and let her devote herself to her hobbies.

Although he said that Little Six's standard was low, he knew very well that with Little Six's standard, she was completely capable of advancing. Now that she had failed to be selected, it meant that someone was secretly pulling the strings.

**Chapter 1022: The Consequences Of Cheating Are Serious**

The assistant sighed in his heart. Someone was actually so bold to bully Sixth Miss. Although the divine physician was not around, Mr. Liang was not someone to be trifled with. Knowing that Sixth Miss, whom he doted on the most, had been bullied, how could he sit still? He would definitely rush to the scene to seek justice!

Mr. Liang had always had a gentle temper. Even if someone provoked him, he would laugh it off. However, he had never been calm and collected about Sixth Miss' matters.

To be able to anger the gentle Mr. Liang, that person was definitely in trouble.

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At two in the afternoon, in Li City University's art hall.

All the participants and the class committees were seated. The judges also took their seats in turn. After the host went on stage and gave an opening speech, he introduced the judges and read out the names of the participants whose work was selected. Then, he handed the microphone to Shang Jing.

Qiao Xi sat below the stage and chatted softly with the students. In the slightly dark hall, she could not help but feel slightly sleepy. She leaned against the back of the chair and closed her eyes, preparing to rest for a moment.

At this moment, Shang Jing took the microphone. With a serious expression, he said coldly, "Before the selection begins, I have something to announce."

Everyone sensed that something was wrong with his tone and looked up.

Shang Jing's gaze swept across the crowd. When he saw Qiao Xi, he suddenly grunted coldly. "All of you are teachers and students of Li City University. You've received higher education. I thought that you wouldn't do anything that violated the rules of the competition, but I didn't expect that someone would actually cheat!"

The entire venue was in an uproar.

Would someone from Li City University cheat?

To everyone, this was just a university competition that wasn't important at all. It was just a formality. Why would they risk their reputation by cheating?

If that person was discovered, how could they still have the cheek to stay in the university?

The chancellor and university leaders were livid and frowned. Who was so muddle-headed to cheat on such an occasion? Wouldn't it be embarrassing for Li City University?

Li City University was considered a top university in the country. After graduation, the students would all have great prospects. Why would they ruin their future for a small university calligraphy competition?

Moreover, when Shang Jing said this in public, it was obvious that he had no intention of settling it in private, nor did he intend to save the university's dignity. The chancellor's expression darkened, but he

could not flare up in front of everyone. Instead, he stood up and said seriously, "If we really find out that someone cheated, the university will definitely not tolerate it. We'll punish that individual severely!"

When Shang Jing heard the chancellor say this, he nodded in satisfaction. The reputation of a hundred-year-old famous university could not be ruined just for a cheating teacher. Moreover, he could use this cheating incident to establish a fair image for himself in the public. At that time, more high-level competitions would invite him to be a judge.

As for the teacher who cheated, they deserved it. It was only right for them to be severely punished.

All the participants were dumbfounded and discussed. "Did someone cheat? It's just a competition. Why ruin your future?"

"That person still dared to cheat in Li City? The university rules clearly forbid this. The consequences of cheating are very serious!"

Lu Muxue sat below the stage. A student beside her asked softly, "Muxue, do you know who cheated?"

"I don't." Lu Muxue shook her head.

"How would Muxue know? She has been busy participating in the competition and doesn't have the time to pay attention to these things! However, the person who cheated must be lacking in skills. Otherwise, they wouldn't have cheated to advance in the competition. A contestant like Muxue who has been studying calligraphy for more than 10 years definitely wouldn't have cheated!"

Lu Muxue lowered her head and hid her excitement. She smiled and said, "I usually participate in national calligraphy competitions. This is my first time participating in a university competition. Actually, university competitions aren't that important. It's just a friendly competition. I really don't understand why this contestant cheated. Even if they really get first prize, it won't be a show of their true strength. Why deceive yourself?"

"I wonder who that person is. Will Mr. Shang say that person's name?! I'm really curious about who could do such a stupid thing!"

Qiao Xi opened her eyes slightly, and the sleepiness gradually dissipated. She had a bad feeling. She kept having the feeling that the person Shang Jing was talking about was her.

Because of Shang Jing's words, the competition instantly fell into a deadlock. The chancellor went on stage to salvage the situation. "Mr. Shang, we can put aside the matter of cheating for now. After all, the competition still has to continue. Why don't we..."

### **Chapter 1023: A Jealous Woman Is Terrifying**

Shang Jing raised his head arrogantly and interrupted the chancellor mercilessly. "Competitions have to be fair, and calligraphy is an elegant art. I absolutely won't allow anyone to cheat. If she had just cheated in a moment of carelessness, we could have settled it in private. However, she actually stole Mr. Yi Cang's work to participate in the competition. Mr. Yi Cang is sitting in the judge's seat. Now that such a thing has happened at Li City University, is this fair to Mr. Yi Cang?"

“If I hadn’t seen this work and told Mr. Yi in advance, that work would’ve really appeared on stage for selection. How much damage would this have done to Mr. Yi Cang?!”

The chancellor’s expression was ugly. He knew that this matter had a bad impact. That person actually dared to steal Mr. Yi’s work to participate in the competition. Even if Mr. Shang did not discover it, that person would be exposed during the selection stage. They were really stupid!

The chancellor looked helpless. Then, he said to Teacher Zhao, who was in charge of the competition, “Talk to Mr. Shang in private first and see what to do.”

Now that Shang Jing had publicly announced that someone had cheated, if he, the chancellor, ignored it, Li City University’s reputation would definitely be affected.

Teacher Zhao and Shang Jing went down the stage and chatted softly. From the beginning to the end, Shang Jing’s eyes were arrogant with a trace of anger. He said a name in disdain. Teacher Zhao’s expression instantly changed as he asked in surprise, “Mr. Shang, are you sure it’s her?”

“I know she’s a teacher at Li City University, but the university can’t protect her just because she’s a teacher. How can a teacher with such bad morals nurture good students? We might as well expel her as soon as possible!” Shang Jing said indignantly.

Seeing that Shang Jing was so angry, Teacher Zhao followed his words and said, “Since you’re so sure and Mr. Yi Cang is a witness, she must have cheated. Our university won’t tolerate having such a teacher around.”

Shang Jing nodded in satisfaction. “Then you’ll announce the results!”

Teacher Zhao was in a difficult position, but he still walked up to the stage and picked up the microphone to announce, “After my conversation with Mr. Shang, we’ve confirmed that Qiao Xi, the teacher of Class 3, cheated. She stole Mr. Yi Cang’s work to participate in the competition. We’ll revoke her qualifications to participate in the competition and punish her. She’ll be suspended and will be kept in the university for observation. She’ll be dealt with after the matter is over.”

As soon as he finished speaking, the entire venue fell silent.

Qiao Xi was considered a celebrity at Li City University, and everyone had heard of her.

Everyone in Class 3 was full of disdain. Lu Muxue also revealed a sinister smile.

“So it’s her! None of the students from Class 3 signed up. They were afraid that it would be too embarrassing, so they let Qiao Xi participate. Perhaps Qiao Xi doesn’t know calligraphy at all and was afraid of losing face, so she cheated! Muxue, don’t you think they’re too laughable?!”

Lu Muxue smiled lightly. “I didn’t expect Teacher Qiao Xi to do such a thing. After all, she’s a teacher and should lead by example. A cheating incident like this really shouldn’t have happened.”

Everyone in Class 3 was dumbfounded. The class monitor asked in surprise, “Who did Teacher Zhao say cheated?”

“Teacher Xi Xi? How is that possible?”

“Didn’t Teacher say that her work was very bad and it was only right that she was rejected? Why did she steal Mr. Yi Cang’s work, then?”

Qiao Xi: “...” As expected, the person Shang Jing was talking about was her. From the moment he went on stage and said the first sentence, she had an inexplicable premonition. However, when Master Zhao announced it, Qiao Xi was still unable to understand.

It was fine if these people insisted on slandering her, but could they not find a reasonable excuse? Her calligraphy skills were only at the beginner level. Was it meaningful to malign her? Moreover, no matter how stupid she was, she could not steal Yi Cang’s work. Mr. Yi was a judge for this competition. Stealing his work was equivalent to provoking Yi Cang!

Everyone discussed in low voices. “Qiao Xi is a famous fashion designer. Why is she participating in the calligraphy competition?! Moreover, is there a need to cheat in a university competition?”

“It must be because she’s jealous! Ever since Lu Muxue transferred here, the design department has chosen her to be the new goddess. She has completely overshadowed Qiao Xi. That’s why she wanted to win this competition by hook or by crook!”

“There’s no need, right?! Qiao Xi is also very beautiful and talented. Moreover, she’s the daughter of a rich family. I heard that her husband is very powerful. Why should she be jealous of Lu Muxue?!”

“What do you know? Lu Muxue is the daughter of the Lu family! Qiao Xi may have come from a rich family too, but I heard that she was abandoned by her parents when she was young. She was originally in the limelight at the university, but now that Lu Muxue is here, she has taken over her limelight. Of course, she’s unhappy! A jealous woman can be very scary!”

#### **Chapter 1024: Support My Wife**

The class monitor heard the discussion around him and was so angry that his face turned red. Their teacher, Xi Xi, would not be jealous of Lu Muxue! She originally did not want to participate in this competition, but she braced herself to participate for the sake of Class 3’s honor.

The more he thought about it, the angrier he became. The class monitor suddenly stood up and retorted, “Teacher Zhao, I think this matter still needs to be investigated. Teacher Qiao didn’t want to participate in the competition from the start. She only agreed to participate because we persuaded her. She has no reason to cheat!”

Qiao Xi pulled his hand. “Stop talking.”

She did not panic at all and said calmly, “They won’t believe anything you say now. Only evidence can explain everything.”

If they thought that she had cheated, it would be useless no matter how they explained it. Everyone would just think that she was trying to cover up and they’d look down on her.

Qiao Xi did not know much about the calligraphy world, nor was she familiar with Yi Cang and Shang Jing. There was no reason for these two judges to target her, but Lu Muxue had come with ill intentions

from the beginning. It was very likely that she would attack her. Moreover, Lu Muxue had been learning calligraphy for more than 10 years. Perhaps she was very familiar with these two judges.

If she knew the two judges, it would explain why they announced the cheating incident in public. They wanted to blow the matter up and ruin her reputation.

Qiao Xi smiled indifferently and looked at Shang Jing.

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At Gu Corporation.

Gu Zheng stared fixedly at the computer screen. Li City University's official website was broadcasting the calligraphy competition. Almost every competition would be broadcasted live. This way, the entire university could see the situation through the video.

After all, Li City University's art hall could only accommodate more than a thousand people. Not all teachers and students could participate, so others who wanted to watch the competition could watch it live. At the same time, the website was not restricted. Others could also watch it on Li City University's official website.

Gu Zheng had already turned on the live broadcast. When he heard everyone accusing Qiao Xi of cheating, his expression suddenly darkened. Yi Cang had the cheek to say that his work was his?

"President, you might not know this, but Yi Cang is very famous. People in the industry call him Ghost Hand. His work has a variety of styles, so he's popular. However..." Song Shijing suddenly paused.

"However, the reason why his style changes so often is that many of his works weren't made by him but were bought by him at a high price from his apprentices or other experts. In short, in order to become famous, he'll do anything. He has long spent money to suppress the negative news. Few people know about this. Unexpectedly, he actually wants to snatch Young Madam's work now."

A trace of killing intent flashed past Gu Zheng's deep eyes.

Yi Cang relied on the fact that he was a master in the calligraphy world and always forcefully took someone else's work. After the matter was settled, he would give them a sum of money and let the matter rest. Most people would not pursue the matter. This time, he had taken a liking to Qiao Xi's work. In his opinion, the other party was just an amateur. He could just say that Qiao Xi had stolen his work. With his current status in the industry, everyone would believe him. Qiao Xi would not have the chance to make a comeback.

Song Shijing reminded him softly, "Also... I found out that Lu Yan's cousin, Lu Muxue, is also involved in this. She's the one who gave the painting to Yi Cang."

Gu Zheng understood. "Oh? It's the Lu family." The Lu family and Yi Cang had joined forces to bully his Xi!

"President, I've already sent someone to collect evidence of Yi Cang getting others to paint for him."

"Very good." Gu Zheng nodded and said, "Let's go to Li City University!"

Song Shijing hurried out to prepare the car. Song Shiyu muttered softly, "Brother, didn't you say you wanted to tell me how to please the president and get him to give me a promotion and a raise?"

Song Shijing spread his hands. Wasn't it obvious enough? Collecting evidence that Yi Cang had gotten someone to paint for him to avenge Young Madam was the best way to please the president.

Originally, the president did not need to appear for such a small matter. He could handle it himself. However, the president cared about Young Madam and had to do everything himself. He had to personally support his wife.

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At the same time, in an old house on the outskirts of Li City, Xia Mengyan and Old Madam Xia were having afternoon tea on the sofa.

This place was more than 100 kilometers away from Li City. There were no shopping malls or entertainment facilities nearby. There were only some old houses and dusty construction sites.

Although this was an old house, there were still many rooms. A few servants surrounded the two of them to serve them. The two of them were still wearing comfortable clothes and eating well. Their lives were not much different from before, but their hearts were filled with resentment.

#### **Chapter 1025: Can't Bear It**

Old Madam Xia slammed the table. That little b\*tch Qiao Xi had sent them to this remote place with just a few words. No matter what, she was an elder. So what if she had made a mistake? As a junior, she should be tolerant and magnanimous.

At this moment, Xia Yunlou walked in. Xia Mengyan hurriedly stood up and said aggrievedly, "Aunt, you're here. I haven't been eating or sleeping well these past few days. When can I go back?!"

Xia Yunlou was even angrier. She actually let Qiao Xi run back to Longwan Residential. It would not be easy to catch her again. She was already furious, but she did not expect her father to chase her to the old house in the suburbs to let her calm down for a while.

She replied with a gloomy expression, "Mengyan, if you can't endure it, it'll ruin your grand plan. The humiliation before you is only temporary. Sooner or later, we'll make Qiao Xi regret everything she's done!"

Xia Mengyan nodded, her eyes filled with resentment.

Suddenly, Xia Yunlou's phone rang. When the call connected, a woman's voice came from the other end. "Yunlou, why haven't you come out to meet us recently?"

The woman who called was a noblewoman of high society. Xia Yunlou and she were just acquaintances. Occasionally, they would gather for afternoon tea. Actually, they only met for their own benefit. They had not seen each other for a long time. Now that this woman suddenly called, she must be up to no good.



Xia Yunlou frowned and said impatiently, "I've been very busy recently and don't have time."

"I heard that your biological daughter has been found. Her name is Qiao Xi, right? How's your relationship?"

When she heard the woman mention Qiao Xi, Xia Yunlou frowned. Before she could speak, the woman said sarcastically, "Your daughter is really famous now. She actually did such a thing. In my opinion, you should cut ties with her as soon as possible to avoid being implicated by her."

Although Xia Yunlou did not like Qiao Xi, she had to admit that Qiao Xi was her daughter. Moreover, for the sake of Xia Yunqiu's belongings and Gu Zheng's power, the Xia family would absolutely not cut ties with Qiao Xi.

Xia Yunlou revealed an unhappy expression. Was this woman crazy? She clearly knew that her relationship with Qiao Xi was not good, yet she still said sarcastic words.

"Li City University is holding a calligraphy competition today. Your daughter stole the work of the calligraphy master, Mr. Yi Cang, to participate in the competition and was discovered. Now, half of Li City knows that your daughter cheated. The Xia family has also lost their reputation. Xia Yunlou, how did you give birth to such an immoral daughter?"

Cheated?

Xia Yunlou widened her eyes. Qiao Xi actually cheated in Li City University's competition? Did she have no shame?

Hearing the woman's ridicule, Xia Yunlou looked annoyed and hung up unhappily. Then, she clicked on the live-stream of Li City University's official website. As soon as she joined the broadcast, she saw everyone discussing the scandal of Qiao Xi cheating.

Xia Yunlou's face alternated between red and white. It burned, but at the same time, a trace of excitement surged in her heart.

If Qiao Xi cheated, they could threaten her to let them go and get her to sign Xia Yunqiu's will. Wouldn't that be killing two birds with one stone?

After a moment of silence, Xia Yunlou hurriedly picked up her phone and called Xia Cheng.

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At Li City University's art hall.

Qiao Xi was leaning against the chair and resting with an indifferent expression. Shang Jing, who was on the stage, said indignantly, "Teacher Qiao Xi, what else do you have to say about the matter of you cheating?!"

Under the gazes of everyone, Qiao Xi slowly opened her eyes. Her icy-cold gaze landed on Shang Jing as she casually said, "Mr. Shang, are you sure I stole Mr. Yi's work?"

Shang Jing raised his head arrogantly. "Who else could it be?"

Qiao Xi slowly stood up and said word by word in front of everyone, "Everyone has witnessed Mr. Yi's ability. By saying that my work was stolen from Mr. Yi, isn't this equivalent to humiliating Mr. Yi?"

Yi Cang instantly choked, and he did not understand what Qiao Xi meant for a moment. Then, he heard Qiao Xi slowly say, "I really don't know much about calligraphy. It's just that no one from Class 3 was participating, so I signed up. It's just a formality, so the work I submitted is only at the beginner's level. I already despise it so much, yet you're saying that it's Mr. Yi's work?"

Shang Jing was instantly stunned as he looked at Qiao Xi in disbelief.

Qiao Xi shook her head helplessly. "I look down on this work, but Mr. Shang insists that this is Mr. Yi Cang's work. Aren't you afraid that he'll be angry if you humiliate him like this?"

### **Chapter 1026: This Is Just The Beginning**

Everyone was dumbfounded. After reacting for a while, they finally understood what Qiao Xi meant. Her work was too lousy and not worthy of Mr. Yi Cang's reputation.

"Since Qiao Xi said so, could it be that Mr. Shang made a mistake? Mr. Yi Cang is a master in the calligraphy world, so his works are naturally very perfect. Even Qiao Xi thinks that the work she submitted is very poor, so how could she have stolen Mr. Yi Cang's work?"

As soon as that person finished speaking, everyone could not help but look at Yi Cang.

Shang Jing's expression changed as he berated loudly, "Qiao Xi, now that the matter has been exposed, you're still stubborn and actually mocked Mr. Yi's work for being very bad! In that case, I'll show that work to everyone!"

"You're just an amateur. How could you have written such a perfect calligraphy work? You're clearly quibbling and wanting to use this opportunity to escape punishment!"

Then, Shang Jing instructed the head of the painting and calligraphy department, "Take out that work!"

Qiao Xi hoped that he would bring her work up and let everyone see how lousy it was. If the work of a calligraphy master was just at the beginner level, how could Yi Cang have the cheek to be a judge?

After a while, the head brought Qiao Xi's work back. He glanced at Qiao Xi meaningfully. Now that the evidence was in front of her, why wasn't she still admitting her mistake? Would she only be satisfied after Mr. Yi Cang presented his work and reprimanded her in front of everyone? However, her reputation would be even worse if this happened. The university wouldn't be able to protect her anymore.

Shang Jing took the work and bent down to ask gently, "Mr. Yi, do you mind if I show this work to everyone?"

Yi Cang nodded arrogantly in agreement.

Shang Jing stood up and said with a mocking expression, "Qiao Xi, open your eyes wide and take a look!"

Qiao Xi had an indifferent expression. She knew very well what her standard was. Saying that she stole Yi Cang's work was too far-fetched.

When the work slowly unfolded, everyone could not help but gasp.

This calligraphy work could be said to be perfect. Although the style was a little carefree, it could not hide the meaning of this work. It seemed that this work was just a casual work of the calligrapher. They did not care too much about the details, but it was also because of this that it gave off a simple and unrestrained feeling.

Everyone stared at the work in front of them and thought for a long time. They all thought that this was not something that an amateur could write.

One of the students stood up and said, "I've been studying calligraphy for nine years. Not to mention me, even if my master were here, he wouldn't be able to produce such an artistic work! Qiao Xi actually said that this is only the standard of someone who has just learned the art?"

"Is there something wrong with her eyes? This work is clearly very good, but she said it's very bad!"

"I guess she was afraid that others would expose her for cheating, so she deliberately said that to make everyone think that she didn't steal Mr. Yi Cang's work. She probably didn't expect Mr. Yi Cang to show his work to everyone."

"If I hadn't seen this work with my own eyes, I would've been deceived by Qiao Xi. This person is really too scheming!"

Hearing everyone's accusations, Shang Jing's disdainful gaze landed on Qiao Xi. "Teacher Qiao, what else do you have to say? Do you still think that this is only the standard of someone who has just entered?"

At this moment, many people had already gone forward to ask Yi Cang if he had any intention of selling this work. In everyone's opinion, there was no doubt that this work could only be completed by a master like Yi Cang.

Yi Cang's face was filled with pride, but his eyes seemed to glance at Qiao Xi.

After a long silence, Qiao Xi slowly raised her eyes and blinked with her large, watery eyes. She smiled and said, "That's right! This calligraphy piece is only at a beginner's level. I've only learned it for a few months."

Shang Jing was instantly speechless. For a moment, he did not know how to retort. How could there be such a shameless person? She had clearly made a mistake, but she did not regret it at all.

The students below the stage discussed softly. "Why do I feel that Qiao Xi's face is filled with sincerity? She doesn't seem to be lying. Perhaps that's what she thinks!"

"I think she looks sincere too. If it's not because there's something wrong with her eyes, then it's because her acting is too good. She actually thinks that such a perfect piece is just at the beginner's level! How strange!"

Lu Muxue also had a shocked expression. It was not a good thing for Qiao Xi to continue pretending like this. She had offended two artists, Shang Jing and Yi Cang, at the same time and even embarrassed the people who wanted to buy this work.

Now that things had come to this, she wanted to see how Qiao Xi would escape.

### **Chapter 1027: Fiery Qiao Xi**

Shang Jing's face was livid. He suppressed the urge to curse and said hatefully, "You keep saying that this piece is bad, then what exactly is a good piece?"

"Qiao Xi, now that the matter has been exposed, I advise you to admit to your mistake as soon as possible and beg Mr. Yi for forgiveness. There's still room for negotiation. If you continue to quibble, you'll regret it when the matter blows up!"

Everyone was mocking Qiao Xi for being stupid. With so many calligraphers and artists present, she was only digging her own grave by doing this. She would ruin her reputation in the end.

However, under the reprimand of everyone, Qiao Xi's expression was indifferent. She did not panic in the slightest as she quietly listened to Shang Jing's words.

Shang Jing was so angry that he was panting. He said in a mocking tone, "Teacher Qiao, since you think this piece is bad, show us a better piece so that we can broaden our horizons."

From the beginning until the end, Yi Cang had been sitting on his seat with an indifferent attitude as he quietly watched the chaos at the scene. At this moment, he was already sure that Qiao Xi had found someone to paint this piece. How could a 20-year-old girl produce such good calligraphy work?

Perhaps in the current situation, she could not admit that she had found someone to write for her. Hence, she could only grit her teeth and endure it.

Hearing Shang Jing's words, Yi Cang finally said, "Shang Jing is right. Teacher Qiao, you said that this work isn't good, so show us something better!"

Yi Cang looked at her disdainfully. "If you can't take it out, then not only will it be determined that you've cheated but you'll also insult the calligraphers present. Do you still have the cheek to continue staying at the university?"

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows. "You want me to write a calligraphy piece in public?"

Yi Cang nodded with disdain.

Qiao Xi smiled. "Alright."

Everyone was instantly interested when they heard this. This was the first time they saw someone who cheated not being convinced and wanting to prove their innocence in public. However, they did not believe that Qiao Xi could write something better than this. After all, Yi Cang's standard was already at the top.

The chancellor had a difficult expression. Others might not know Qiao Xi's background, but he was very clear in his heart. Was there a need for Gu Zheng's wife to cheat? Moreover, Qiao Xi was multi-talented and did not lack calligraphy skills. Why should she ruin her reputation for a small competition?

Gu Zheng would definitely be angry if he wronged Mrs. Gu. It might implicate the university. The chancellor sighed helplessly.

At this moment, someone from Class 1 asked, "Muxue, do you think Qiao Xi will be able to produce a good piece of work?"

Lu Muxue hid the disdain in her eyes and smiled. "Teacher Qiao is a little conceited. She might know calligraphy, but she definitely can't surpass Mr. Yi. Moreover, it's really inappropriate for her to mock Mr. Yi in public. Since she's a teacher at the university, she has to set an example. If a teacher cheats, how can they manage the students?"

Her words were sufficient to prove that Qiao Xi was deceiving herself!

Not long after, the head of the painting and calligraphy department prepared a pen and paper for calligraphy. Shang Jing personally helped Qiao Xi lay out the rice paper and curled the corners of his mouth in disdain. "Teacher Qiao, please!"

Qiao Xi went on stage under the burning gazes of everyone. She lowered her head to look at the rice paper and ink. Shang Jing was quite an upright person. The rice paper and ink he prepared for her were both of good quality. Perhaps he was afraid that she would use the paper and ink as an excuse for her inability to write well.

She chose a random pen and dipped it in ink before writing on the paper.

Shang Jing did not even bother to look at her. Instead, he turned around and mocked, "Chancellor Chen, how can your university have such a shameless teacher? I hope you can fire her immediately!"

The chancellor had a serious expression. "Whether the university fires her or not is our internal matter. If she really cheated, we'll definitely punish her."

"If?" Shang Jing snorted. "She clearly cheated and even stole Mr. Yi Cang's work. She clearly knows that Mr. Yi Cang is a judge, yet she's still so bold!"

The chancellor frowned and looked a little embarrassed. The leaders of the university were also unhappy. Firing a teacher was not a small matter. This was the university's internal decision. How could outsiders have the right to speak?

Moreover, Shang Jing knew that someone had cheated, but he did not discuss it with the university immediately and announced it in public. He was clearly embarrassing Li City University!

The chancellor said in a low voice, "It's too early to make a conclusion. We have to wait for Teacher Qiao to finish writing. Whether she cheated or not isn't decided by you, Mr. Shang."

"You want to wait for her to finish writing? I want to see what she can write, ha..."

**Chapter 1028: She Doesn't Have To Cheat**

At this moment, Shang Jing's voice stopped abruptly as he widened his eyes. He only felt his ears buzz, and his mind went blank as he stared fixedly at Qiao Xi's work.

How... How was that possible?

This was actually Qiao Xi's work?

Qiao Xi quickly finished writing, and her tone was still casual. "Mr. Shang."

Hearing Qiao Xi's voice, Shang Jing gradually came back to his senses. His eyes were still filled with surprise, and his body trembled. He was unable to say a word.

Qiao Xi glanced indifferently at him, then put down the brush. Her expression was calm as she said indifferently, "I'm done. Please take a look, Mr. Shang."

Shang Jing widened his eyes, and his heart skipped a beat. His eyes were filled with shock and fear.

He was very clearly aware in his heart that this calligraphy piece was very perfect. If everyone saw this piece of work, then the rumors from before would collapse on their own. Qiao Xi had the ability to write perfect calligraphy works, so why would she take the risk to cheat? If everyone knew this, he would be mocked, and his reputation would be completely ruined.

Shang Jing lowered his head, not daring to look at the calligraphy piece because he was still unwilling to accept reality.

The people below the stage were anxious from waiting. They all wanted to go on stage and look at the piece. They wanted to see what Qiao Xi had produced. When they slowly approached and saw the calligraphy piece from afar, the entire venue suddenly fell silent.

Chancellor Chen walked to Qiao Xi's side and said gently, "Teacher Qiao, can I show this calligraphy piece to everyone?"

"Of course," Qiao Xi said.

The chancellor glared at Shang Jing, who was still in shock. Then, he instructed Teacher Zhao, "Turn on the projector and let everyone take a good look at Teacher Qiao's work."

Teacher Zhao hurriedly went to arrange it. After a while, a calligraphy piece appeared on the screen. Everyone stood up and looked at the scene in shock.

Those who knew calligraphy could all see the level of skill in Qiao Xi's calligraphy piece. Moreover, the style was exactly the same as the previous piece. Even outsiders could tell that this calligraphy piece was perfect and even better than Mr. Yi Cang's work over the years.

Lu Muxue's gloating expression instantly stiffened. She stared fixedly at the big screen. These were actually Qiao Xi's words?

The art hall was silent. Everyone looked at the calligraphy piece on the screen in a daze. After a long time, someone slowly said, "This calligraphy piece seems to be more perfect than the previous one!"

“To be honest, I think Qiao Xi is stronger than Master Yi Cang! Moreover, she only used 10 minutes to complete her work. Although I can tell that her basic skills aren’t very good, that can’t hide her smooth strokes and artistic conception.”

“She’s already so strong, so there’s no need for her to steal Yi Cang’s work! If she wanted to participate, she would have written a perfect calligraphy piece anytime and anywhere. So why did Shang Jing insist that Qiao Xi cheated?”

The moment that was said, everyone could not help but look at Shang Jing, their eyes filled with doubt as they sized him up.

“If Shang Jing knew that Qiao Xi was so capable, he wouldn’t have accused her of cheating in public. Perhaps he made a mistake. Fortunately, the misunderstanding has been resolved. I didn’t expect our university to have such a powerful calligraphy master. Qiao Xi has really brought glory to Li City University!”

“Actually, I think Shang Jing is just bullying others. He just thought that Teacher Qiao didn’t have that standard, so he said that Qiao Xi cheated. Doesn’t he know that there’s always someone better? There are many people in this world who are better than him. Don’t look down on others just because you’ve made a name for yourself!”

The students all opened their mouths to criticize. They were defending Qiao Xi and speaking up for themselves. People shouldn’t think that just because they were students that they didn’t have the ability. It was because of some people’s prejudices that many people’s talents were buried. Moreover, Qiao Xi was a teacher at Li City University. Her actions represented Li City University’s image. If she cheated, then the entire Li City University would be affected.

The chancellor finally vented his anger and turned to look at Shang Jing. He said in an unfriendly tone, “Mr. Shang, Teacher Qiao has already proven her innocence. She clearly has the ability to produce better works, so are you going to take responsibility for your rash actions now? You’ve damaged Teacher Qiao’s reputation, so you should apologize to her!”

Qiao Xi must feel aggrieved to have been wrongly accused of cheating. The teachers and students of Li City University were also indignant. If news of this had gotten out, Qiao Xi would not be the only one who would lose her reputation. Hence, the chancellor would naturally not let Shang Jing off easily and must seek justice.

### **Chapter 1029: It’s All A Misunderstanding**

Shang Jing stood on the spot, his body swaying. He was very regretful. He did not expect to get retaliated like this.

He had been learning calligraphy for decades. He became a master when he was young, and after he became an adult, he became a little famous. He gradually became more and more famous in the calligraphy world. No matter where he went, everyone was very respectful to him. Moreover, he did not have any negative news. He was even famous in the calligraphy world for being fair and responsible.

Now, because he had accused a teacher of cheating, the good reputation that he had painstakingly built for so many years was ruined. He was unwilling!

At this moment, Shang Jing had his head lowered, and his face was ashen. A trace of viciousness flashed past his eyes, but he still did not say anything. He just could not understand how an amateur could have such superb strength. Moreover, he was able to discern that Qiao Xi had only casually written it, and he could also tell that her strokes were very casual and lazy. Even so, the work she wrote was still very perfect. One could imagine how stunning the words she wrote would be if she was serious.

Shang Jing's heart felt like it was stuffed with an enormous rock. He had always thought that he was very talented. Now that he had seen Qiao Xi, he finally understood what it meant to be a true genius. Her talent was innate. She was only 20 years old, yet she could do things that others could not do in their lives.

Anger filled his heart, and jealousy blinded him.

Why should he apologize? He was a master in the calligraphy world. Why should he apologize to a 20-year-old girl?

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Shang Jing glanced at Yi Cang, whose expression was also very ugly. He braced himself and said, "Chancellor Chen, Teacher Qiao is indeed very capable, but her work is clearly Mr. Yi's. How do you explain this? I only came out to testify for justice. If she hadn't taken Mr. Yi's work to participate in the competition, such a misunderstanding wouldn't have happened."

Chancellor Chen's expression darkened. He was still saying that Qiao Xi cheated. It meant that he did not want to apologize.

Yi Cang's eyes wandered between Qiao Xi and the work on the screen. After a moment of silence, he said arrogantly, "I have to say that Teacher Qiao is very talented. She must have copied my work before, so our styles are very similar."

Everyone instantly came to a sudden understanding. It turned out that Qiao Xi's style was similar to Yi Cang's because she had copied Yi Cang's work previously. There was nothing strange about that.

Yi Cang narrowed his eyes. "The work that Teacher Qiao submitted is of the style I usually practice. I don't know where you got this calligraphy piece from. Perhaps you think our styles are very similar, so it won't be a problem even if you take my work to participate in the competition. In any case, you can still prove your innocence with your ability. Is that right?"

As soon as he finished speaking, Yi Cang shot Shang Jing a look. Shang Jing immediately reacted and said righteously, "I admit that Teacher Qiao is very talented, but you can't take Mr. Yi's work for yourself just because you're talented."

"Previously, when I found out that you cheated, I was indeed a little agitated and said some insulting words. However, having the ability doesn't mean that you can refuse to accept the punishment for cheating. Chancellor Chen, are you going to protect Teacher Qiao?"

The entire venue was silent. Everyone could not help but be puzzled.



If this calligraphy piece was written by Yi Cang, why was it in Qiao Xi's hands? She clearly had the ability, so why would she participate in the competition with Yi Cang's work?

Yi Cang's eyes were filled with disdain. It was her honor that he had taken a liking to Qiao Xi's work, yet she actually dared to resist.

At this moment, the person in charge, Teacher Zhao, hurriedly walked to Yi Cang's side and said in a low voice, "Mr. Yi, as you can see, Teacher Qiao is really talented. She has no reason to cheat. There must be a misunderstanding."

Then, Teacher Zhao turned to look at Qiao Xi. "Teacher Qiao, are you sure this is the piece you submitted at the beginning?"

Hearing Teacher Zhao's words, the students also reacted and stood up to explain, "I understand! The work Qiao Xi submitted for the competition wasn't this at all. She must have made a mistake by accident. Or someone framed Qiao Xi and replaced her work with Mr. Yi Cang's. That's how all this happened!"

"Everyone can tell that Qiao Xi didn't have to cheat. She must have been wronged!"

Shang Jing thought about it. This was the best explanation. His and Mr. Yi Cang's reputation would not be affected, and Qiao Xi would also be able to clear her name. As for how she got it wrong or who framed Qiao Xi, that was unknown. As time passed, no one would pay attention to it anymore.

### **Chapter 1030: I'm Telling The Truth**

Yi Cang also thought about it in his heart and felt that this explanation was feasible. It would not be a loss to anyone if he pushed the blame away. Moreover, he was already being kind by being willing to give Qiao Xi a way out. Presumably, Qiao Xi would not refuse.

If the matter really blew up, it would not be beneficial to her. Instead, she would be implicated.

Yi Cang nodded. "Teacher Zhao, you have a point. With Teacher Qiao's strength, there's no need for her to cheat at all. Looks like this is just a misunderstanding."

Shang Jing quickly echoed, "I see. I misunderstood you, Teacher Qiao."

Qiao Xi was about to laugh from anger when she saw the two of them echoing each other. They really dared to think of forcing her to swallow her anger after snatching her work?

She, Qiao Xi, was not a pushover!

Just when everyone thought that the cheating incident would end here, Qiao Xi suddenly knocked on the table. A clear and cold voice sounded through the microphone, "My work for the competition is this one on stage!"

Boom!!!

The entire venue was in an uproar.

Yi Cang stood up abruptly. The person in charge, Teacher Zhao, was shocked. He wanted to go forward and persuade him, but he was stopped by Chancellor Chen.

The teachers and students of Li City University were all dumbfounded. "Qiao Xi... What exactly are you talking about?"

"Qiao Xi! You said that you submitted Yi Cang's work, but that means you admit that you cheated!"

"I fainted just now. What exactly is going on?!"

A trace of viciousness flashed past Yi Cang's eyes. Was Qiao Xi going to fight him to the end?

He said angrily, "Teacher Qiao, are you saying that the work you submitted is my calligraphy piece? Think carefully before you speak. Cheating is not a small matter."

Shang Jing did not expect Qiao Xi to be so ungrateful. He had clearly given her a way out, but she still refused to let the matter go.

Hearing the discussions around him, Chancellor Chen still chose to believe in Qiao Xi. He did not know if Qiao Xi was capable or not, but he just felt that with her character and identity, she would not cheat.

Everyone stared at Qiao Xi and waited for her to explain, but she was still certain. "That's right, I submitted this work."

She pointed at the piece and smiled. "I'm really curious too. How did my work become Mr. Yi Cang's? Mr. Yi Cang, please give me a reasonable explanation."

As soon as these words were spoken, the entire venue fell silent as if a thunderclap had heavily struck everyone's hearts. They were surprised by Qiao Xi's confidence. Could it be that Mr. Yi Cang had snatched her work?

Lu Muxue was stunned for a moment before she sneered. Qiao Xi was really stubborn. So what if this calligraphy piece was hers? With Yi Cang's current status, it belonged to whoever he said it belonged to. Qiao Xi could not retort, and the outcome of doing so was that she would have to bear the reputation of cheating.

In everyone's opinion, Yi Cang was a senior in the calligraphy world. It was impossible for him to take the work of another as his.

Lu Muxue smiled proudly. Qiao Xi was really stupid and rash. However, this was good as well. It would be easier for the Lu family to use Qiao Xi to control Gu Zheng.

If Qiao Xi was always so stupid, she was willing to build a good relationship with Qiao Xi so that it would be easier to use this idiot.

Before Yi Cang could speak, the artists and apprentices beside him could not sit still anymore. They berated loudly, "Qiao Xi, what do you mean? Are you saying that our master took your work?"

"You're slandering him! You actually dare to insult a senior in the calligraphy world. You're really shameless!"

“As a junior, you should give your seniors the respect they deserve. How dare you spout nonsense in public? So what if you’re capable? It’s useless if your character is bad!”

The teachers and students of Li City University were also puzzled. “With Yi Cang’s current status, why does he have to steal Qiao Xi’s work? The misunderstanding has clearly been resolved just now and it was a happy ending too. However, Qiao Xi insisted on blowing things up. I really don’t know what she’s thinking?”

“Qiao Xi probably hates Mr. Yi and Mr. Shang for maligning her. She feels wronged, so she deliberately said that to vent her anger. However, not only will her actions not affect Mr. Yi in any way, but it’ll also make everyone think that she’s being unreasonable. Why do that?!”

Shang Jing looked at Qiao Xi’s confident expression and instantly laughed out loud. “Teacher Qiao, don’t tell me you want to say that Mr. Yi took your work for himself?”

Mr. Yi Cang was the top figure in the calligraphy world. He was famous, so it did not matter even if he did not produce any more works in his life. There was no need for him to risk his reputation being ruined by snatching Qiao Xi’s work.

Qiao Xi nodded. “Yes.”

The look of ridicule on Shang Jing’s face grew stronger. He was just about to speak when he heard Qiao Xi’s cold voice. “I’m telling the truth.”