

Lady gu 821

Chapter 821: It's Better To Make Friends

"Other than the Lu family, we have many other companies we can work with. The others won't even hesitate to give us more benefits to get the opportunity to work with us. We can work with anyone, but I'm the only one who can work with the Lu family. You have to know that it was your Lu family who begged me to work with you!"

Gu Zheng's words caused the expressions of everyone in Lu Corporation to change. It was not easy for them to get this chance with Gu Corporation. This collaboration could bring huge benefits to Lu Corporation. If the collaboration was terminated because of a few words from Lu Xiang, then...

Everyone's unhappy gazes landed on Lu Xiang. She lowered her head with a livid expression, but she was unwilling to apologize. She did not want to apologize to Lu Qingyun's son!

Lu Qingyun was already dead. Why should she still live under Lu Qingyun's shadow and endure the torture of that b*tch's son?

Lu Xiang roared indignantly, "I'm your biological aunt. You're actually threatening me for a woman who doesn't know the rules?"

"It seems that you threatened me first." Gu Zheng's tone was filled with mockery. He had given Lu Xiang too much respect, which was why she had been arrogant for so many years. Now, she actually bullied Mrs. Gu!

Gu Zheng's expression darkened. He did not care about the expressions of the people from Lu Corporation at all. He directly held Qiao Xi's hand and said softly, "Let's go."

Qiao Xi nodded. The two of them were just about to turn around and leave when Lu Xiang finally couldn't help but roar, "Gu Zheng! The penalty for breach of contract isn't a small sum. If news of you breaking the contract for Qiao Xi gets out, what will others think of Qiao Xi? They'll say she's a femme fatale. At that time, the entire Gu Corporation will blame her!"

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. "Second Miss Lu, you think too much."

The sum Gu Corporation had to pay for this breach of contract was just a drop in the ocean for Gu Zheng. He would not take it from the company's accounts. Since it was his private matter, he would settle it in private. It would not affect others much. Who would stand up and criticize Mrs. Gu?

Seeing that Gu Zheng had made up his mind, the higher-ups of Lu Corporation finally let go of their dignity. They hurriedly ran in front of Gu Zheng and advised, "President Gu! Please think about it again. Even if you have money, you can't fool around like this!"

Gu Zheng stopped in his tracks and slowly turned around. His eyes were filled with coldness as he said in a sharp voice, "I can spend my own money however I want. You don't have to worry."

Everyone's expressions were extremely ugly. Before they could say anything, Gu Zheng sneered. "Everyone should know very well that after Lu Corporation and Gu Corporation cut off all ties, no one in Li City will work with Lu Corporation anymore."

“Is Lu Corporation worthy of fighting me?”

Everyone from the Lu family was livid. Lu Xiang bit her lip so hard that it almost tore.

“As for whether the higher-ups of Gu Corporation will criticize Mrs. Gu or not, you’re thinking too much. Without Lu Corporation, there are still other companies. With Mrs. Gu’s reputation, it’s not difficult for us to find a company to collaborate with. What do you think?”

As soon as he finished speaking, Old Master Lu widened his eyes. Previously, he was still calm because he thought that Gu Zheng would not easily terminate the collaboration. After all, Gu Corporation was not as experienced as Lu Corporation in terms of fashion design.

However, Qiao Xi was Gu Shan. With her in Gu Corporation, it was equivalent to accumulating huge connections for Gu Corporation. Many companies would swarm over to collaborate with Gu Corporation.

Lu Xiang forced herself to remain calm and gritted her teeth. “Gu Zheng, stop talking big. Can Qiao Xi alone pull in a collaboration? Get Qiao Xi to apologize to me immediately and I won’t bicker with you. Let’s forget about this matter!”

She thought that she had already made a concession and Gu Zheng was done causing trouble. He could not have too stiff a relationship with the Lu family. After all, they were all his elders.

Before Gu Zheng could say anything, Song Shijing snorted. “Impossible.”

“What else do you want?” Lu Xiang was furious.

The higher-ups of Lu Corporation also came forward to persuade Gu Zheng. “President Gu, Mrs. Gu, this is just a small matter. Why implicate the collaboration? It’s better to make friends than enemies. This will be beneficial to both of us.”

“Isn’t it too late to persuade us to reconcile?” Song Shiyu stood in front of everyone and sneered.

Gu Zheng did not like to bring bodyguards with him when he went out, so there were only four of them. At this moment, there were more than 50 people from the Lu family in the banquet hall. Even with such a huge difference in numbers, everyone was suppressed by Gu Zheng’s aura and could not say anything.

Chapter 822: Mrs. Gu’s Mouth Is Really Vicious

At this moment, the anger in Lu Xiang’s heart had already reached its peak. She suddenly raised her hand and smashed the wine glass. The dark red wine liquid poured all over the ground and was mixed with glass fragments, scaring everyone.

“Are you done?! Don’t go too far!”

Qiao Xi smiled lightly. “Second Miss Lu, aren’t you a socialite from Li City? Why aren’t you paying attention to your image and getting angry so easily?”

Song Shiyu quickly echoed, “Second Miss Lu, you were the one who looked for trouble first. Now, you’re saying that others have gone too far. Your Lu family is really good at distorting the truth!”

“Don’t use your status as an elder to threaten our president. In the past 20 years, have you ever cared about the president? Even though it’s been confirmed that the president is Miss Lu Qingyun’s child, you still insulted him. Since you’re unwilling to be the president’s elder, what right do you have to make him respect you?”

Song Shiyu’s words angered Lu Xiang so much that her eyes rolled back. Her body swayed as she shouted unwillingly, “Gu Zheng, we tried our best to facilitate this collaboration to get closer to you. No matter what, we’re family. Why do you have to make things so awkward?”

Qiao Xi was angered to the point of laughing. Lu Xiang was too shameless!

Family? Were they worthy? They kept saying that they were family, but had they ever done anything that a family member should do? Back then, when Gu Zheng was abused by Huang Lilan, where was his so-called family? Now, they wanted to use Gu Zheng’s power to gain benefits. Well, they could forget about it!

Before Qiao Xi could speak, Gu Zheng suddenly chuckled. “Young Master Lu, could it be that you didn’t tell Second Miss Lu about my relationship with Liuli Corporation?”

Lu Xiang and Old Master Lu subconsciously looked at Lu Yan. Everyone present knew that Liuli Corporation was the top fashion brand in the world. Rumor had it that the founder was a reclusive family in C Nation. That person’s surname was also Lu.

In order to increase Lu Corporation’s reputation in the fashion industry, the Lu family had contacted Liuli Corporation no less than five times. They wanted to collaborate with them. Even if this collaboration did not earn them money, they were willing to do it. However, they were rejected each time.

Could it be that Liuli Corporation was related to Gu Zheng?

Lu Yan’s expression darkened. The silence seemed to have explained everything.

At this moment, Qiao Xi smiled meaningfully. “Ah Zheng, how could you ask Young Master Lu that? He definitely wouldn’t have told the Lu family. If everyone knows that you’re more outstanding than him in every aspect, how will he have the face to take over the company?”

“I forgot to tell everyone that I’m a designer from Liuli Corporation. Even if Young Master Lu is unwilling to have this information revealed, it’s the truth. No one can hide it!”

“Ah Zheng, you’d better not make things difficult for Young Master Lu. As a good-for-nothing, it’s already embarrassing enough for him. If you say it in public, it’ll be so embarrassing for him!”

Song Shiyu: “...” What a vicious mouth! Young Madam still had the cheek to say that she was weak?

Gu Zheng could not help but smile. His Mrs. Gu was so cute when she mocked others.

Lu Xiang’s face was filled with disbelief. “Qiao Xi! How could you be a designer of Liuli Corporation? Do you think I’m a three-year-old child?”

“Aunt!” Lu Yan immediately stopped her, then said helplessly, “Miss Qiao is indeed the chief designer of Liuli Corporation and has a lot of influence internationally.”

The moment that was said, Lu Xiang's face instantly turned pale.

Lu Yan hurriedly reminded her in a low voice, "Aunt, calm down. Don't forget why we invited them here today. Don't ruin this plan on an impulse."

Of course, Lu Xiang knew what to do, but she could not take this lying down. Qiao Xi was actually the chief designer of Liuli Corporation? The Lu family had kept begging for a collaboration with Liuli Corporation!

"Ah Zheng, let's go. The moment we entered, Second Miss Lu took us down a notch. She even asked me to write a sales plan and asked me to apologize to her. If we continue to stay here, I don't know what will happen. We might as well leave as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary trouble."

Qiao Xi's casual words angered Lu Xiang so much that her nails dug into her palms. Lu Yan hurriedly said, "Miss Qiao, wait."

Lu Xiang was extremely unwilling, but she still gritted her teeth and lowered her head. She said kindly, "Ah Zheng, I don't want to make things difficult for you. It was my fault just now. Please take a seat."

Her lowered eyes were filled with viciousness. She would definitely take revenge for the humiliation she was suffering at this moment. She wanted Qiao Xi and Gu Zheng to have a taste of humiliation in public!

Unexpectedly, Gu Zheng did not respond at all when he heard her words. He seemed to be dissatisfied with her 'apology'.

Chapter 823: Learned Something

The corners of Lu Xiang's mouth twitched slightly as her anger burned. She shouted, "Gu Zheng!"

"Second Miss Lu, you haven't apologized to Mrs. Gu yet."

Lu Xiang widened her eyes. "What do you mean?"

She had already lowered her head to express her goodwill to Gu Zheng, so what else did he want? Could it be that she really had to apologize to Qiao Xi in front of everyone? That would be too embarrassing!

"If you're unwilling, we won't force you. Xi Xi, let's go." As soon as Gu Zheng finished speaking, he was about to hold Qiao Xi's hand and leave.

When Old Master Lu heard this, he glared fiercely at Lu Xiang. Her entire body trembled. She could only grit her teeth and say unwillingly, "Qiao Xi, I'm really sorry. I said something wrong just now. Today is the Lu family's annual meeting. Let's quickly take a seat and not delay the rest of the process."

She suppressed her anger and felt depressed. Her eyes were filled with unwillingness.

At the side, Lu Yan looked at his assistant and asked in a low voice, "How is it?"

The assistant said, "Young Master, everything is ready. The presales of the new perfumes this time will definitely surpass Gu Corporation's."

Lu Yan took a deep breath, and the corners of his mouth curled up slightly. “Gu Corporation, which has won for five consecutive years, is finally going to lose!”

The farce ended with Lu Xiang apologizing. Qiao Xi did not say anything else and sat down with Gu Zheng. She leaned into Gu Zheng’s ear and said softly, “There’s still 20 minutes.”

20 minutes later, the presales channels for Gu Corporation and Lu Corporation would open at the same time. At this time, the price of the perfumes would be the lowest. Hence, most of the customers would opt for the presales. The winner would be decided in about an hour.

If the difference in presales was not big, there would be some suspense as to who would win. However, if the gap was big, the final outcome could be announced immediately.

Hence, an hour later, they would know who the winner was between Lu Yan and Gu Zheng.

The Lu family specially chose this time to hold the annual meeting. It was to wait for the presales channel to open and witness the final victory.

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Three minutes before the presales channel opened, a higher-up of Lu Corporation raised his glass. “Young Master Lu, you’ve worked hard for the release of the new perfumes this time. Since it’s the annual meeting today, I wish you victory!”

Qiao Xi muttered in a low voice, “Tsk! Why didn’t he just say that he wishes Lu Yan will surpass you? Can’t he be more direct?”

The corners of Gu Zheng’s mouth curled up slightly. He knew what everyone was thinking. Whether they were tactful or direct did not matter to him. He only cared about the outcome.

Lu Yan happily clinked glasses with the higher-up. Then, the two of them looked at each other. Everyone then looked at Gu Zheng. The person asked meaningfully, “Gu Corporation is also releasing a new perfume and invested a large sum of money into it. In the past, Gu Corporation was the top in presales and postsales. President Gu, are you confident in winning the championship this time?”

Qiao Xi grunted coldly.

Lu Xiang, who was at the side, mocked, “Ah Zheng, before your new perfume was developed, a few senior perfumers from Gu Corporation happened to jump ship to Lu Yan’s company. I heard that Gu Corporation had no choice but to use new perfumers. Could it be that your perfume this time...”

Gu Zheng’s expression was calm as if he did not hear her.

Lu Xiang pretended to be gentle. “Ah Zheng, don’t blame Lu Yan for this. After all, in the business world, strength is everything. Even if you’re brothers, you have to take it seriously. Those perfumers probably think that they have better prospects at Lu Corporation, so they jumped ship.”

Qiao Xi: “...” They would have better prospects at Lu Corporation? Lu Xiang’s ability to lie through her teeth was really unparalleled!

At this moment, the entire venue was silent. Everyone could hear the mockery in Lu Xiang's words. If it were anyone else, they would have left in anger long ago. However, Gu Zheng was not angry at all. He leisurely held his wine glass and said with a faint smile, "Second Miss Lu."

The man's voice was low as he said slowly, "Does having good prospects mean that there's more room for improvement? Of course, Gu Corporation can't compare to the Lu family. After all, Gu Corporation is already at the peak of C Nation, while the Lu family has already lost everything this year. There's indeed a lot of room for improvement. I've learned something from you, Second Miss Lu."

Everyone clicked their tongues in their hearts. Gu Zheng's mouth was even more vicious than Qiao Xi's!

Everyone knew that Lu Xiang had just said it casually and wanted to mock Gu Zheng. Unexpectedly, Gu Zheng mocked her instead and slapped Lu Xiang in the face. He also mocked the entire Lu family.

Chapter 824: The Lu Family Is Uneducated?

"That's right!" Qiao Xi said with a smile, "Second Miss Lu, you probably haven't read much and don't know what the future holds. Fortunately, Ah Zheng didn't grow up in the Lu family when he was young. Otherwise, he'd definitely be laughed at for being uneducated! I advise you to read more books and newspapers when you have nothing to do. Eat less snacks and sleep more as well. Otherwise, you won't be smart enough and will say things that don't make sense!"

Lu Xiang was so angry that her face was ferocious. These words were not only an insult to her but also to the entire Lu family. They said that the Lu family was uneducated? Was it fortunate that Gu Zheng did not grow up in the Lu family?

Was a little bastard like him worthy of growing up in the Lu family?

"Shut up!"

Old Master Lu slammed his walking cane on the floor, and his expression was extremely ugly. He glanced at Gu Zheng unhappily. "Lu Xiang just said something wrong in the spur of the moment, but she's right. Gu Corporation failed to keep their talents. This is also the truth. Ah Zheng, why are you so unforgiving over this small matter?"

"Old Master Lu, you're right. I didn't manage to retain the talents. It seems that the Lu family is confident that they'll win this perfume competition?" Gu Zheng raised an eyebrow.

Qiao Xi raised her eyes to look at the man. The more gentle and indifferent Gu Zheng was, the more shocking it was. The Lu family would probably lose completely this time and pay a painful price for their stupidity.

Lu Xiang finally found a chance to take revenge. How could she let it go so easily? Hence, she continued to say sarcastically, "There are a total of five perfumers under Lu Yan now. They've also received Han Ye's authorization to print Mr. Han Ye's work on the packaging of the perfumes. Everyone knows that Mr. Han Ye is the top figure in the oil painting world. There are many people who admire him. Even if it's just for Mr. Han Ye, many people will fight to buy the perfumes developed by Lu Corporation. Hence, Lu Corporation will definitely not lose this time."

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. "Second Miss Lu, your analysis makes sense."

Lu Xiang glanced at him in disdain. "Ah Zheng, do you know Han Ye? Have you seen his paintings? This is the first time Han Ye is using his works in the commercial market. Lu Corporation has already won half of the competition just through the packaging."

Gu Zheng slowly looked up and said casually, "How can I not understand what you understand? You don't have to repeat it over and over again. It'll make you look very stupid."

Qiao Xi: "... How vicious was this bastard?!"

Lu Xiang was so angry that her mouth was wide open. Her expression was extremely miserable.

Qiao Xi really did not understand. Lu Xiang clearly could not win against Gu Zheng, yet she still insisted on provoking him. Did the Lu family like the feeling of being slapped in the face?

"President Gu, you seem to be very confident!"

The higher-up of Lu Corporation from earlier snorted. "The presales are about to start. Let's see who the winner is. You two are both young masters of the Lu family. No matter who wins, it's a joyous occasion for the Lu family."

Qiao Xi sneered in her heart. Just listen to what he said. How could he have the cheek to say that?

At this moment, Lu Yan was probably already prepared to do his best to make the Lu family's presales volume higher than Gu Corporation's. Even if it was just a little higher, he could still raise his head in front of Gu Zheng.

The presales channel was about to open. So many people were watching with excitement as they waited for the high and mighty Gu Zheng to lose. However, this would be the best blow to Lu Yan.

The Lu family wanted to prove that Lu Yan was more outstanding because Lu Yan was carefully nurtured by the elders of the Lu family. He represented the Lu family's reputation, while Gu Zheng started from scratch. If Lu Yan could not compare to Gu Zheng even though he had so many resources, wouldn't the Lu family lose their reputation?

Hence, the Lu family wanted to help Lu Yan and dig a hole for Gu Zheng. They wanted to let the entire Li City see who was more suitable to be the heir!

At this moment, Old Master Lu said sternly, "Then let's see who the final winner is. You're both my grandchildren. It's a good thing no matter who wins. Ah Zheng, what do you think?"

Gu Zheng took a sip of red wine, making his lips slightly red. "Alright."

Qiao Xi sat by his side and curled her lips into a sinister smile.

Next, the presales channel opened. The presales numbers of Gu Corporation and Lu Corporation appeared on the big screen of the hall at the same time. Almost instantly, the number of buyers exceeded 10,000.

There were not many people who had the ability to buy such luxurious perfumes. In just a minute, the number of people buying them exceeded 10,000. It was simply shocking.

As soon as the presales channel was opened, the number of customers would increase. However, the number of customers would decrease in half an hour. It was the same every year.

Chapter 825: Done Illegitimately

As expected, half an hour later, the number of people buying from Gu Corporation gradually decreased before it stabilized. This was the same as the previous years and also conformed to the presales trend. However, the number of people buying from Lu Corporation continued to increase.

Qiao Xi could tell at a glance that there was something wrong with the data. The Lu family must have hired hackers to secretly manipulate the data, but this person made the data so fake. She felt that it was a little deliberate.

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent as he continued to taste the red wine elegantly. "Looks like we have to thank the Dark Net siblings. Mu Ling even looked for trouble with you before. I didn't expect her to help us."

Only then did Qiao Xi realize that Mu Ling and Mu Ming were helping them from behind!

It seemed that Lu Yan was afraid that he would lose to Gu Zheng, so he hired a hacker to deal with the data in advance. However, in order to avoid anyone noticing, he had to fake it according to the presales trend. It was fine as long as he had more sales than Gu Zheng in the end. However, Mu Ming just had to let everyone see that something was wrong and use this method to tell everyone that Lu Corporation was faking it.

Lu Yan also sensed that something was wrong, but fortunately, the data gradually stabilized. He then heaved a sigh of relief.

Now, the screen clearly showed that Lu Corporation's presales volume was 100,000 bottles higher than Gu Corporation's. This was already a decisive victory.

Actually, the number of presales for Gu Corporation this year was already higher than before, but it was still 100,000 bottles less than Lu Corporation's. After all, this was a battle of high-end perfumes. The number of people who could buy high-end perfumes was limited. Now that the difference was so great, it was absolutely impossible to surpass it in the future.

Even with Gu Shan's reputation, Lu Corporation still won in the end.

Lu Xiang looked at the data on the big screen, and the depression in her heart instantly dissipated. She revealed a proud smile.

"Ah Yan won! Congratulations!"

An hour later, the presales channel was about to close. Lu Corporation's perfume won the championship with a lead of 100,000 bottles from Gu Corporation. This news instantly became a trending topic.

Everyone on Weibo was discussing: [Lu Corporation's perfumes used to be so ordinary, but they actually surpassed Gu Corporation's perfume this time? You have to know that Gu Corporation has been in first place for five years. Now, they're giving away the championship just like that?]

[Because Lu Corporation poached veteran perfumers from Gu Corporation and invited the perfumer, Sally, back from overseas. They also received Han Ye's authorization. They had to win!]

[Sally is nothing. The most important thing is Han Ye. Most people are probably after Mr. Han Ye.]

[But why did I hear that when others wanted to buy Han Ye's copyright previously, he refused them all. Why did he suddenly agree to Lu Corporation this time? Does he think Lu Corporation's perfumes are very good?]

[Although Gu Corporation has Gu Shan, her reputation is not as resounding as Han Ye's. Moreover, she's a fashion designer. She's still a little lacking in terms of packaging design. Gu Corporation did not lose in vain this time.]

Looking at the comments online, Qiao Xi only smiled. Everyone was buying Lu Corporation's perfume for Han Ye and not for the smell of the perfume itself.

Everyone was very curious why a genius painter who treated money as dirt would suddenly give his work to the Lu family. It was because of this genius that everyone's desire to buy Lu Corporation's perfumes was aroused.

Actually, everyone did not like Sally's perfume. The reason why the presales volume reached such a high figure was because of Han Ye's reputation and Mu Ming's tricks.

Just as the presales channel was about to close, Lu Xiang said proudly, "Ah Zheng, although you lost, you don't have to take it to heart. Who can occupy the first place for the rest of their life? Ah Yan was lucky to win this time. It might be you next time."

Gu Zheng raised an eyebrow and did not say anything. Lu Xiang did not expect Gu Zheng to be so calm. He was not anxious at all.

Lu Xiang was a little unconvinced and snorted. "Gu Zheng, you're pretending not to hear your elders talking to you! It looks like the high and mighty President Gu can't afford to lose!

"You, Gu Zheng, have never lost before because you never confronted Ah Yan before this. Now that he has already taken over Lu Corporation, the status of you two brothers will be on par in Li City in the future. If you lose, you lose. Why do you have to be so cold?"

As soon as he finished speaking, Lu Yan raised the wine glass in his hand and smiled at Gu Zheng.

He was showing off in front of Gu Zheng. He had won!

Everyone knew very well that the presales channel would close soon. It was absolutely impossible for Gu Corporation to have another 100,000 orders at this last moment. If such a thing really happened, it would definitely have been done illegitimately.

Chapter 826: The Final Victor

Lu Xiang mocked, "Ah Zheng, why don't you learn from Ah Yan? You have to be humble and careful. Look at you, you can't take it after losing once. If news of this gets out, outsiders will look down on you."

Hearing her words, Gu Zheng was not angry at all. Instead, he revealed a meaningful smile.

His tone was indifferent, but it was so cold that it made one's hair stand on end. "The presales channel hasn't closed yet. It's still unknown who will win."

Instantly, the entire venue was silent. Everyone present was a higher-up of Lu Corporation. They all hoped that Lu Corporation could win this competition, but after Gu Zheng said these words, they suddenly lost their confidence. It was as if the championship belonged to Gu Zheng and no one could snatch it away.

Time flew. There were only 40 seconds left.

Lu Xiang snorted. "Gu Zheng, a loss is a loss. Why is it so hard for you to admit it?!"

Old Master Lu looked up at the data and saw that there were still no problems. He finally relaxed and said earnestly, "Ah Zheng, victory and defeat are common in war. It's not something embarrassing. You don't have to take it to heart.

"Now that Ah Yan has won, it proves that he's more suitable than you to be the heir of the Lu and Gu families."

Hearing Old Master Lu's praise, Lu Yan smiled proudly.

Then, Old Master Lu said again, "Ah Zheng, I have to admit that you've been managing Gu Corporation very well. It's indeed very surprising to me, but Ah Yan is a child I raised, after all. I know very well whether he's capable or not.

"Look at you now. You've only lost once, yet you're silent and ignoring your elders. You have to learn from Ah Yan in this matter. You can't turn against him after losing once."

Lu Xiang finally vented her anger and smiled at Lu Yan. Gu Zheng, who had never lost before and who made the entire business world revere him, had completely lost.

Moreover, he had lost to Lu Yan. If news of this got out, where would Gu Zheng's reputation go?

Qiao Xi looked at the countdown on the screen and smiled indifferently. "Chairman Lu, it's not time yet. How can you be sure that Ah Zheng has lost?"

Lu Xiang was about to retort when Old Master Lu spoke first, "There are only a few seconds left. Could it be that Ah Zheng can still turn the tables?"

A few seconds passed in the blink of an eye. Everyone stared at the screen and quietly waited for the final outcome.

Everyone from the Lu family was smug. Their smiles were about to reach their ears, but at the last moment...

The smiles on everyone's faces froze. The data of Lu Corporation disappeared from the screen as if the hundreds of thousands of orders never existed.

After Lu Corporation's data disappeared, Gu Corporation, which was originally in second place, was pushed to first place and became the champion according to the presales figure.

But what was going on?

Lu Yan's face was livid as he looked fiercely at his assistant. "What's going on?"

Cold sweat broke out on Lu Xiang's forehead as her body went limp. She almost fell. "Impossible! How could such high numbers disappear instantly? There must be something wrong behind the scenes!"

As soon as she finished speaking, the final winner appeared on the screen. It was Gu Corporation.

The entire venue was silent. After a long silence, Gu Zheng slowly said, "I won."

Silence.

There was dead silence.

In the spacious hall, dozens of people were standing there, but it was so quiet that one could hear a pin drop. Even the sound of breathing had disappeared.

At this moment, the second and third-ranked companies appeared on the screen one after another. Lu Corporation's name did not appear until after they showed the sixth ranking company.

Lu Corporation was clearly ranked first just now, but now, they weren't even in the top six. How was this possible?

At this moment, the netizens also started leaving comments: [I've already paid the deposit. Why are you suddenly refunding me?]

[What the hell is Lu Corporation doing?! They're not selling perfumes after causing such a commotion? Are they playing with us?]

[I've been waiting in front of the computer to snatch the perfumes! In the end, they suddenly refunded me. They're really too lousy. I won't buy Lu Corporation's products again!]

At this moment, the smiles on the faces of the Lu family had all vanished, replaced by disbelief.

Old Master Lu subconsciously looked at Lu Yan. His face was pale as he shouted angrily, "What exactly is going on? Why did you refund the deposits?"

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No one knew what was going on. The entire venue was silent. Everyone was alarmed, and their breathing almost stopped. Only Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi were sitting on the sofa, leisurely tasting red wine and eating the exquisite cakes.

Chapter 827: Perfume

Qiao Xi seemed to not notice everyone's gloomy expressions and even praised with a smile, "The desserts in this hotel are not bad. Bring me here for the cakes in the future, alright?"

Gu Zheng smiled and nodded. The couple were sweet and did not care about the Lu family's feelings at all.

Old Master Lu's expression was terrifyingly gloomy as he roared, "Gu Zheng!"

“Chairman Lu, why are you angry at Gu Zheng? If you have the time, why don’t you quickly investigate why the data suddenly disappeared?”

Old Master Lu’s expression was gloomy, and his voice was cold. “I’m talking to Gu Zheng. What does it have to do with you? The disappearance of the data must be because someone—”

“Chairman Lu, a loss is a loss. Why are you still such a sore loser?”

Qiao Xi blinked and sighed helplessly. “Victory and defeat are common in war. The business world is constantly changing. It’s hard to say who’ll win or lose. Although Lu Yan lost this time, it’s still possible for him to win the next time if he works harder. He can’t be angry after losing once, right?”

She imitated Old Master Lu’s tone and returned his words to the Lu family.

Old Master Lu was so angry that he felt dizzy. His face was ferocious and vicious as he panted heavily. After a long time, he roared, “Shut up! Today’s matter has nothing to do with you. Otherwise, I—”

“Chairman! We found out what happened!”

At this moment, Lu Yan’s assistant rushed in and interrupted Old Master Lu. He announced loudly, “The reason for the disappearance of the data has been found. Actually...”

Lu Yan’s heart trembled. The assistant looked at him meaningfully, then lowered his head and said word by word, “The oil painter, Mr. Han Ye, is suing us for using his paintings for the packaging of perfumes without permission. The court has already accepted this case and contacted the sales channel. After the platform confirmed the authenticity of the case, they removed the new perfumes and want us to compensate five million yuan for the breach of contract.

“Moreover, all the bottles with Mr. Han Ye’s paintings must be destroyed. Otherwise, Mr. Han Ye will continue to appeal. At that time, not only will the Lu family have to compensate with a large sum of money, but their reputation will also be damaged.”

As soon as the assistant finished speaking, everyone from the Lu family turned pale as cold sweat broke out on their foreheads.

Old Master Lu’s body swayed as he fell onto the chair. His old eyes were filled with despair. “Lu Yan, didn’t you say that you already obtained Han Ye’s authorization?”

Lu Corporation’s perfumes were packaged with Han Ye’s paintings. It was also because of this gimmick that Lu Corporation’s perfumes attracted so much attention. Otherwise, they would never have been able to win against Gu Zheng.

Now that Han Ye was suing Lu Corporation, it naturally spread online. Everyone also knew the reason behind this. At that time, Lu Corporation’s reputation would plummet.

Old Master Lu still had a trace of hope. “Ah Yan?”

At this moment, Lu Yan’s mind was blank. He did not know what was wrong. He had clearly gone to the art exhibition and found a hacker. All the clues could confirm that Han Ye had already passed away. Moreover, Han Ye did not have any relatives, so he could use the copyright as he pleased.

In order to ensure that nothing went wrong, he even found two top hackers from Dark Net. They also came to the conclusion that Han Ye had passed away, but why did Han Ye suddenly appear and sue Lu Corporation?

Moreover, he sued Lu Corporation on the day of the presales. He took down all the perfumes in the last few seconds and deliberately blew things up. The only person who could do all this was probably—

Lu Yan abruptly raised his eyes to look at Gu Zheng, only to see that his expression was indifferent as if this matter had nothing to do with him at all. He was still putting food into Qiao Xi's bowl with a doting expression. The two of them were showing off their love as if no one was around.

As Lu Yan's gaze was too sharp, everyone could not help but look at Gu Zheng.

Old Master Lu's gaze was sharp. Lu Xiang's face was filled with anger as she screamed, "Gu Zheng, it must be you!"

Even though Qiao Xi had lowered her eyes, she was able to notice the burning and angry gazes around her. Under the doubts of everyone, Gu Zheng still wiped her mouth intimately, then said indifferently, "Second Miss Lu, you can't spout nonsense. What evidence do you have to prove that I did it?"

Lu Xiang was furious and shouted, "What evidence do I need? It's clearly you. Announcement of the new perfumes was made a month ago. Why didn't Han Ye sue us then? He just had to wait until the day the presales channel opened to do so. He even refunded the deposits in the last few seconds. Do you dare say that you didn't do it?"

Chapter 828: No Brothers In Business

Gu Zheng smiled meaningfully. "Young Master Lu didn't receive the authorization, so Han Ye can sue you at any time. You can only blame Young Master Lu for being too careless and not understanding the situation. What does it have to do with me?"

Qiao Xi: "... " This matter indeed had nothing to do with Gu Zheng, but it was related to Han Ye!

Lu Xiang was so angry that she could not say anything. She could not flare up in front of everyone and could only take deep breaths to relieve her emotions. However, her face was terrifyingly vicious.

The most important thing now was not to question Gu Zheng but to salvage the Lu family's image. Han Ye had already successfully sued them, and the perfume bottles had to be destroyed. However, even if they destroyed the bottles and changed the packaging, everyone would know that they were the original perfumes. They would still feel conflicted about purchasing them.

However, if they really destroyed all the finished perfumes and developed new perfumes, Lu Corporation would suffer a huge loss. Hence, their only way was to immediately look for Han Ye. No matter what, they had to make Han Ye forgive them and prove that all of this was a misunderstanding.

Lu Yan gritted his teeth and said, "I only confirmed the results after asking around. How could Mr. Han Ye sue us? Someone must be deliberately harming Lu Corporation's interests.

“Everyone, I’ll give you a satisfactory answer for today’s matter and do my best to salvage Lu Corporation’s image and losses.”

After Lu Yan finished speaking, he looked fiercely at Gu Zheng. Gu Zheng raised his glass indifferently and smiled.

Not long after, the news of Lu Corporation being sued by Han Ye was suppressed. The platform explained to the public that the packaging of Lu Corporation’s perfumes needed to be changed. They did not say that the packaging was infringing on rights.

However, this could only temporarily suppress the news. Before long, it would still be exposed.

On the other hand, Lu Yan was still anxiously investigating, but the result was that Han Ye was no longer alive. Then, he found an important piece of information. The person who was suing had the surname Gu. Even though the information was hidden very well, he still found some clues.

The person’s surname was Gu?

Lu Yan flew into a rage. The person suing was surnamed Gu? How could this have nothing to do with Gu Zheng? Even if it was not him, he must have instructed someone else to do it.

He glanced at the banquet hall and walked toward Gu Zheng. Everyone’s gaze followed his footsteps to Gu Zheng.

Lu Yan could not suppress the anger in his heart. His gentle mask had already cracked as he questioned, “Gu Zheng, did you sue Lu Corporation?”

Boom!!!

A thunderclap exploded in everyone’s hearts, and they were dumbfounded.

Qiao Xi sat lazily on the sofa and looked at Lu Yan with a smile.

Gu Zheng’s expression was indifferent. “Do you have evidence?”

Lu Yan snorted and slammed his phone on the table. “I’ve already found out that the person suing us is surnamed Gu. Moreover, Lu Corporation’s perfumes were taken off the shelves. The person who would benefit from this is you, Gu Zheng. Other than the Gu family, there are no other families in Li City with the surname Gu. Who else could it be but you?”

Old Master Lu had already thought that Gu Zheng was behind this. Now that Lu Yan had also produced strong evidence, he could determine that this grandson of his was indeed an ingrate. He actually dared to sue the Lu family.

Did he know how much impact this would have on the Lu family? The loss of perfumes was only a part of it. The most important thing was their reputation. Many people would not buy Lu Corporation’s products anymore because of this.

When Lu Xiang heard this, she instantly roared, “Gu Zheng!”

Gu Zheng slowly looked up and said casually, “Young Master Lu, is that all?”

Lu Yan gasped and gritted his teeth. "Gu Zheng, can you guarantee that this has nothing to do with you? Can you explain why the person suing us has the surname Gu?"

Everyone looked at Gu Zheng in unison. Everyone knew very well that even if Gu Zheng did not personally sue them, it would still have something to do with him.

There were no brothers in the business world. It was not strange for Gu Zheng to set up Lu Corporation for Gu Corporation, but such methods were really despicable, so everyone thought that Gu Zheng would not admit it no matter what.

Unexpectedly, Gu Zheng nodded and smiled indifferently. "It's indeed not a coincidence. I didn't expect Young Master Lu to be so smart."

The moment that was said, the entire venue exploded. Only then did everyone realize that... Gu Zheng had admitted it?

Lu Yan's expression instantly turned ferocious. "Gu Zheng! Didn't you say that this has nothing to do with you? Are you lying to me?"

"Young Master Lu, you've misunderstood. What I meant was that you were the one who rashly sold the perfumes, causing Lu Corporation to be sued. This has nothing to do with me. I just did what I should have done."

Chapter 829: Far Away

Old Master Lu stood up angrily and rushed in front of Gu Zheng with a gloomy expression. "Ah Zheng, although you and Ah Yan are competitors, you're also brothers. How could you use such despicable methods behind our backs?! Do you know how much loss you've caused the Lu family?"

"I know you hate the Lu family, but we want to make it up to you. However, look at what you've done!"

Old Master Lu sighed and ordered, "Immediately withdraw the lawsuit so that our new perfumes can be released on time. If you do that, I won't pursue the matter of Lu Corporation's losses."

In everyone's opinion, Old Master Lu was already showing Gu Zheng a lot of respect. As long as Gu Zheng was willing to withdraw the lawsuit, the Lu family could pretend that nothing had happened. If it were an outsider, the Lu family would not let them off so easily.

Even if the perfumes were resold, it would still cause a huge loss to Lu Corporation. Old Master Lu was already being very tolerant by doing this.

However, Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. Qiao Xi, who was at the side, said in confusion, "Why should we withdraw the lawsuit? The Lu family violated the law, so why shouldn't we let others protect their rights? Now that the lawsuit has been successfully filed, it means that the Lu family has indeed violated the law. What reason do you have to ask us to withdraw the lawsuit?"

Old Master Lu instantly choked. Lu Xiang was so angry that her face turned livid.

Qiao Xi deliberately asked in a weak and innocent voice, making the Lu family feel even more embarrassed. Could it be that she wanted them to say it from their own mouths? Because Gu Zheng was half a member of the Lu family, this matter should be over.

“Why aren’t Chairman Lu and Second Miss Lu saying anything?”

“Since you all know it in your hearts, why do you still want Ah Zheng to withdraw the lawsuit? You’re bullying our Ah Zheng for having a good temper!”

Lu Xiang was so angry that she almost vomited blood!

Who had a good temper?

They were bullying Gu Zheng? Who was bullying who?

Why was Qiao Xi lying through her teeth? Who in Li City and even the entire C Nation would dare to bully Gu Zheng?

Old Master Lu suppressed his anger and ordered unhappily, “Ah Zheng, if you’re dissatisfied, we can talk in private, but you have to withdraw the lawsuit immediately. After all, none of us has seen Han Ye before. Maybe you found someone to fool us.”

Qiao Xi sneered. Who said they had never seen Han Ye before? He was right in front of them!

Old Master Lu’s gaze was cold, and his tone was serious. “How could Lu Yan do anything illegal? He had long done a detailed investigation before putting the perfumes into production! Ah Zheng, you’re slandering us! You can’t harm your brother behind our backs for your own benefits!”

Gu Zheng’s tone was indifferent. “The lawsuit was successful. Doesn’t this explain everything?”

Lu Xiang immediately retorted, “You’re rich and powerful. You must be behind this! We’ve never even seen Han Ye, so why should we believe you?”

“Why should you believe me?”

Gu Zheng chuckled. “Then I’ll prove it to you.”

...

At this moment, outside the banquet hall.

Gu Yao got out of the car with a middle-aged woman who was dressed exquisitely. “Madam Carter, we’re here.”

The people at the door looked disdainful. “Oh! So it’s Second Young Master Gu! You’ve already been chased out of the Gu family, yet you still have the cheek to attend Lu Corporation’s annual meeting? The audacity!”

Madam Carter’s face darkened.

Gu Yao was not angry. He widened his eyes and said, “Well, even you have the cheek to stand here. Why can’t I be here? It’s your Lu family’s honor that I’m here!”

The person instantly choked. Before he could retort, Gu Yao snorted. "No matter how shameless I am, I'm still better than your Lu family. Your Lu family is so shameless!"

"Gu Yao! Don't go too far!"

Gu Yao could not be bothered with this small fry. "Madam Carter, let's go in."

The usher still wanted to stop them, but Gu Yao pointed at the invitation in his hand. "Open your eyes wide and see clearly. We have an invitation. What right do you have to stop us from entering? Doesn't the Lu family care about their reputation the most? If news of this gets out, will Lu Yan let you off?"

With that said, the two people instantly lost their arrogance. When they looked up, Gu Yao had already brought Madam Carter in.

In the banquet hall, the air seemed to have frozen. The atmosphere was extremely cold.

At this moment, Lu Xiang could not care less about her image anymore. She said with bloodshot eyes, "Alright! I want to see how you're going to prove it. Unless you invite Mr. Han Ye over, how are you going to prove that the Lu family violated the law? You, Gu Zheng, are rich and powerful. You have the ability to forge evidence. Even if the lawsuit succeeds, it doesn't mean anything. Moreover, even if Ah Yan really violated the law, the person who wants to sue is Han Ye. What right do you have to sue on behalf of him?"

Chapter 830: Revenge On The Lu Family

In everyone's opinion, Gu Zheng was suing Lu Corporation for copyright infringement and even removed Lu Corporation's perfumes at the critical moment when the presales channel was opened. He was clearly provoking the Lu family.

Although this former illegitimate child had already recovered his identity, the Lu family did not acknowledge him. Hence, he had to use this method to take revenge on the Lu family.

Ignoring the fact that his behavior was shameless, what right did he have to sue the Lu family? If he wanted to sue, Han Ye should have been the one to do it! Gu Zheng had no right!

Gu Zheng swirled the wine in his glass gently, his eyes were deep. They were filled with mockery and disdain.

Lu Xiang was instantly infuriated. "Gu Zheng, did you hear me?! I told you to withdraw the lawsuit immediately! Ah Yan wouldn't have infringed the rights. Since he could put the products into production without worry, he must be confident. Even if there's a possibility of infringement, it should be Mr. Han Ye suing the Lu family. What right do you have?!"

"Chairman!"

At this moment, the chairman's secretary rushed in while panting. "Gu Yao is here!"

Old Master Lu had never liked Gu Yao. He was just a stupid hedonistic son. Huang Lilan only raised him to pave the way for Lu Yan. Although they had sent Gu Yao an invitation out of respect, they could not be bothered to interact with someone like Gu Yao. They did not expect Gu Yao to come.

However... what was he doing here?

Old Master Lu's face was gloomy. He was about to send Gu Yao away when he heard his secretary say while trembling, "Y-Young Master Gu Yao said that he brought someone with him today. He's also here to attend Lu Corporation's annual meeting, but that person doesn't have an invitation. If I'm not wrong, that person is Madam Carter, a famous figure in the oil painting world."

Everyone present had heard of the name Carter. It could be said that this name resounded throughout the entire oil painting world. Everyone knew her.

Lu Yan suddenly recalled that Carter seemed to be very familiar with Qiao Xi. Moreover, Qiao Xi had the identity of Han Yin. Perhaps Carter was here to help Gu Zheng.

At this moment, the secretary said again, "Chairman, Madam Carter said that she came here because she heard that Lu Corporation and Han Ye were working together, so she came to congratulate you."

Carter was here to congratulate Lu Corporation?

Lu Corporation and Carter had nothing to do with each other. Of course, she was not here because of Lu Corporation. She probably admired Han Ye and specially came to show her face.

Lu Yan subconsciously looked at Gu Zheng. Since Carter already made her way over to congratulate him, what reason did Gu Zheng have to sue the Lu family?

He heard that Carter and Han Ye had known each other for many years. She definitely knew about Han Ye. If Han Ye really passed away and Gu Zheng still wanted to sue the Lu family, then Gu Zheng would just be looking for trouble. At that time, Madam Carter would expose Gu Zheng and he would completely lose his reputation.

Lu Yan looked up at Old Master Lu. The two of them understood each other's thoughts.

Lu Xiang could not suppress the excitement in her heart and hurriedly said, "Hurry up and invite Madam Carter in!"

Carter quickly entered the banquet hall and saw Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi not far away. She was about to greet them when Old Master Lu warmly came to welcome them. She could not refuse and could only nod politely.

"Madam Carter, it's an honor for you to attend Lu Corporation's annual meeting."

Carter smiled indifferently. "I'm really sorry to have come so suddenly. I just heard that Lu Corporation and Han Ye are collaborating to release new perfumes. I happened to meet Mr. Gu Yao, so I congratulated him as well.

"Han Ye's oil paintings are considered treasures in the world. I admire his talent very much. To be able to use his oil paintings as packaging for perfumes, Lu Corporation's perfumes will definitely sell well."

Old Master Lu and Lu Yan nodded, then revealed regretful expressions.

Carter sensed that something was wrong and asked in confusion, "Is there something wrong with what I said?"

Lu Yan replied respectfully, "No, it's just a pity that the perfumes can't be released for the time being."

Carter continued to ask, "Why? Are the results of the presales not good? Young Master Lu, don't be sad. There are many people who like Han Ye. When the perfumes are officially released, there'll definitely be many people fighting to buy them."

With that, Carter could not help but look at Gu Zheng. In the past, Han Ye never had any business cooperation. Now that he had suddenly agreed to collaborate with Lu Corporation, it meant that he had a deep relationship with Lu Corporation.

However, when she entered the banquet hall and saw Han Ye and Han Yin, she felt that something was wrong. The couple's eyes were filled with ridicule.

She could not help but wonder if she had come to the wrong place. Why did she feel that Han Ye's relationship with Lu Corporation was not good? Then why did he authorize the Lu family to use his works?