

Mr Han 1191

Chapter 1200: Breathless from Anger

“Haha, the person above, I’d question whether you’re a paid poster if you really say so.”

And because of this, the netizens got into a row.

“My goodness! Who did I see?! D*mn... the secret guest is really awesome!”

“The person’s out already?”

“Some people are really funny. They’re yet to watch the episode and are already here criticizing everything. See? Their true colors are revealed.”

“He’s out! The figures in the show and the site’s main page have lit up!”

“Wang Juhuai! It’s Wang Juhuai!”

“Oh my goodness, it’s actually Wang Juhuai!”

“How did Lu Man do it?! I thought Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng were the limit, but she actually invited Wang Juhuai!”

“The production team said it’s his first-ever appearance on a variety show globally, and it’s really true.”

“Wang Juhuai actually performed live. No wonder the audience who went to watch the filming said it was totally worth it after they came back. And it really is! As if they were earning thousands by the minute.”

News of Wang Juhuai’s appearance on Classic X Files spread rapidly. Within a short minute, it became the top result for the most-searched item, and it was even followed by a “Hot” sign.

“Turns out Wang Juhuai is Lu Man’s stepfather!”

“Her background is really impressive.”

“I remember there was a news piece previously, saying Han Zhuoli’s wife is Wang Juhuai’s daughter. It isn’t Lu Man, is it?”

“Can’t be. I’ve checked. Below are Han Zhuoli’s wife’s wedding ring and Lu Man’s wedding ring.” A netizen posted two screenshots. “They’re obviously different, and didn’t the person who leaked the news apologize and the news deleted? Lu Man never said anything; probably unwilling to use this issue to promote herself.”

“Makes sense.”

“A rock and a hard place. If she clarified, people will say she’s trying to promote herself. If she didn’t, people would still think this way.”

Meanwhile, over at Xing Ke Station, Chief Hu could do nothing but stare at the plummeting live viewership data.

What a pity that they could not check the data for Classic X Files.

The most they could do was to watch their programs from their own station.

It's not for certain that these viewers had all changed channels to watch Classic X Files.

Right then, someone commented, "I thought Friday (with the Stars) was quite something to have been able to invite Zhang Bo, but after comparing him with Wang Juhuai, I'm sorry, those over at Friday (with the Stars) are just nobodies."

Someone even sneakily tagged Liang Chengbing. "Director Liang, how does it feel to get slapped in the face?"

Liang Chengbing saw but paid no heed to those people.

He kept his anger to himself. So what if it's Wang Juhuai?

Actual viewership ratings would only be known tomorrow!

Over at the hospital.

Lu Qiyuan was watching Classic X Files in his ward.

He knew Lu Man attended it, and for reasons unknown to him, he just felt like watching.

He had never treated Lu Man as his daughter properly, and ever since he had Lu Qi, Lu Man had fallen even further from his favor.

He had never even helped her once with her job.

Be it schooling, working, or entering the entertainment industry, he had never aided her despite having the ability to do so.

Now, he's sick and recuperating at the hospital.

Though he seemed to have recovered to his previous form, his body was actually severely weakened.

For some reason, Lu Man came to his mind during his weaker moments.

This was why he was watching Classic X Files.

Watching Lu Man's performance, he had to admit that Lu Man acted so much better than Lu Qi did.

However, when he saw Wang Juhuai coming on stage and then having a public display of affection with Xia Qingwei, Lu Qiyuan's face flushed red. He was so furious, he could not catch his breath.

1191: Master Wang Is Surprisingly So Cheeky

Liang Chengbing's previous posts had at most about a couple hundred or a thousand reposts.

Even though he was a renowned director, the number of fans he had couldn't compare to those of the currently-popular celebrities.

However, this post had garnered him hundreds of thousands of reposts.

After all, how could those people whom Lu Man had offended before let go of such a rare opportunity?

Zhang Lun appeared once again and reposted Liang Chengbing's post. "Previously, many people accused me of targeting Lu Man, but those people completely don't know how obnoxious Lu Man could be. She thinks everyone is beneath her, and she does not respect her seniors. Old Brother Liang is exactly right."

Qiao Luna: "I've never said much in the past, but I've met Lu Man during the Classic X Files shoot. She completely thinks she's above everyone else. Previously, there had only been a few people talking about it, but right now, there are more and more people saying so. It can't possibly be that it's only our fault, right?"

Therefore, quite a few netizens started getting affected by their words.

"I'm not a fan nor a hater of Lu Man, but objectively speaking, what Qiao Luna said has some logic to it. If only a few people said that Lu Man is bad, they could just be targeting her alone. However, if more and more people start speaking up about her flaws, then perhaps there really might be something problematic about her character."

"I'm also starting to believe what Qiao Luna said."

"Hehe, I've always been a hater of Lu Man and I've never stopped."

"All these people are clearly just adding fuel to the fire!" Xia Qingwei was livid.

Wang Juhuai urged her, "Don't get so worked up and hurt yourself."

After speaking, Wang Juhuai moved his fingers and directly reposted Liang Chengbing's post. "I'll just put it out there first. No matter what show it is in the future, as long as Liang Chengbing is in it, I will never take part in it. I don't want to interact with a director who is rude, who looks down on others, who is arrogant, and who does not respect other people."

Wang Juhuai directly copied the words, then changed the name a little. He was intentionally mocking Liang Chengbing.

Wang Juhuai rarely posted anything on Weibo. He didn't even have that many mutual followers.

Even so, it still didn't stop him from having a large number of fans.

Ever since he returned to China, many netizens had especially felt that Wang Juhuai was returning into the embrace of his homeland, so they became even more passionate. His fan count just shot up quickly day by day.

Moreover, as he didn't post much, it probably became a case where things that are rare are more dear. As long as Wang Juhuai posted something, no matter what it was, his fans would swarm over to it and repost it crazily.

Those netizens who weren't following him would also want to join in on the crowd. They felt that if they reposted a musician's post, it would seem like their taste was even more high class.

Liang Chengbing completely couldn't compare with the number of reposts and comments Wang Juhuai's posts would get each time.

And this time, as soon as Wang Juhuai sent it, the netizens exploded.

“Master Wang is surprisingly so cheeky!”

“Hahahahahaha, that’s so bad! Master Wang is so bad!”

“Damn, everyone knows that Wang Juhuai had never taken part in any variety show. He said that just to mock Liang Chengbing.”

“How did Liang Chengbing offend Wang Juhuai? He’s so pitiful.”

“However, there probably isn’t any production team that could invite Wang Juhuai. Wang Juhuai said this purposely just to mock Liang Chengbing.”

“I think that he’s pretty cool.”

“Hahahaha, isn’t this a slap in the face to those people? Weren’t they saying how, if so many people were saying that Lu Man is bad, then she’s definitely no good? However, right now, Wang Juhuai stood up and mocked Liang Chengbing. He’s clearly supporting Lu Man!”

“Have you guys forgotten about that incident where Liang Chengbing got his production crew to seal off the road and blatantly disrupted the normal lives of the residents? It’s so ridiculous for those people to speak up for Liang Chengbing right now.”

Chapter 1192: He Must Have Heard Wrongly

“Now that the person above had reminded me, I seem to know why Liang Chengbing is targeting Lu Man so much.”

“I’ve figured out why too!”

“The person above, please enlighten us.”

“Back when Liang Chengbing was shooting *Sounds of Winter*, the production crew directly sealed off the road right in front of a small neighborhood and refused entry or exit to anyone. The residents definitely were against it, and so they exposed it all over Weibo. However, they didn’t have much impact, so Lu Man helped out and reposted it. This caused the impact to spread even further, and netizens started boycotting *Sounds of Winter*. Liang Chengbing could only cancel sealing off the road and head somewhere else to film. Probably because of this, he started bearing a grudge against Lu Man.”

“Then what Lu Man did wasn’t wrong. I can’t find what exactly she did wrong. She helped speak up for us and didn’t spare offending a director. Other people would never dare to do something like that, but Lu Man did it, and she had successfully helped us seek justice. So right now, it’s up to us to support Lu Man. I don’t care what other people think, but I’m supporting Lu Man no matter what.”

“Count me in!”

“I support Lu Man too!”

“I support her too. Purely because Lu Man dared to do what others don’t, I’m impressed by her!”

“Those people who keep yapping about how Lu Man is bad, why don’t you ask yourself if you’d dare to do what Lu Man has done? You guys don’t dare to offend anyone. You know only how to suck up to

those bigshot directors, yet right now, you still have the cheek to scold Lu Man? She was doing something good, but you guys can't stand that either?"

"Hehe, after realizing the truth, I see that those people's faces and mouths sure are rotten to the core."

"My Goddess of Fury Man is amazing! Don't fear, Lu Man, we'll always support you!"

"Even Wang Juhuai has stood up to support Lu Man. I wonder, would those people who love bootlicking and using flattery rather suck up to Liang Chengbing or to Wang Juhuai?"

Qiao Luna had never expected that Wang Juhuai would join in on the crowd too.

He was someone who had never interacted with anyone else in the domestic entertainment industry ever since coming back to China. Why did he suddenly join in?!

Did he know Lu Man?

Was that why he helped Lu Man and mocked Liang Chengbing?

What exactly was Wang Juhuai thinking? Was he crazy?!

However, no matter how angry Qiao Luna was, with just one post of Wang Juhuai, the tables had turned against her and she's now the person that the netizens were mocking.

Those people who had spoken badly about Lu Man just now instantly received a slap in the face.

Liang Chengbing had never expected that Wang Juhuai would join in on the crowd!

Oh, right, that incident did affect Wang Juhuai too.

However, he had always been so polite towards them. Could Wang Juhuai start bearing a grudge against him because of that?

At that moment, Jiang Yuhan called.

Liang Chengbing immediately picked up the phone and said, "Yuhan."

"Director Liang, the post you just posted..." Jiang Yuhan didn't know what to say either. It was honestly too frustrating.

"It's okay, you don't have to speak up." Liang Chengbing misunderstood Jiang Yuhan's intention. He thought that she was here to apologize and was afraid that he would blame her for not speaking up and supporting him. "I understand."

"No, Director Liang, you've misunderstood. I've just seen your post and Wang Juhuai's post," Jiang Yuhan quickly explained. "You still don't know, right? Wang Juhuai, he's... he's Lu Man's stepfather."

"What did you say?" Liang Chengbing dug at his ear. He felt that he must have heard wrongly.

It was a hallucination!

"You didn't hear me wrongly. Wang Juhuai is Lu Man's stepfather." Jiang Yuhan had signed a confidentiality agreement with the production team too, so she couldn't say that Wang Juhuai had gone

to the recording of *Classic X Files*. “I can’t tell you how I found out, but I guarantee that this piece of news is definitely reliable.”

Chapter 1193: Why Don’t We Try and Give Ourselves Another Child

Honestly, even without Jiang Yuhan showing any concrete evidence, Liang Chengbing already believed her.

After all, Wang Juhuai, who had all along been rather low-profile and never gotten involved in such matters, had chosen to take Lu Man’s side immediately and mocked him!

“I understand, thank you for telling me about this matter,” Liang Chengbing said solemnly.

“I originally intended to tell you about it, I’ve only just found out about it too. But I didn’t know that you—” She didn’t know that he would post that post first.

“Still, thank you,” Liang Chengbing said.

After hanging up the phone, Liang Chengbing still felt like he had overlooked something.

However, he just couldn’t figure out what it was that he had overlooked.

It was like there was something that flashed by quickly in his head, but he just couldn’t catch hold of it.

In the car, Wang Juhuai looked at Xia Qingwei with satisfaction. “Isn’t this alright now?”

Xia Qingwei held on tightly to Wang Juhuai’s elbow. She was so moved that she could barely speak.

In the past, when Lu Man was bullied, there was no one older who could be there to help stand up for her.

But it was different now. Wang Juhuai was here.

He really did everything that a good father should do. He protected Lu Man with all his heart and treated her like his own daughter.

Xia Qingwei considered for a while and said, “Juhuai, why don’t we try and give ourselves another child?”

Wang Juhuai refused. “It’s too risky for you to be pregnant at this age. Besides, your health had never been very good all along.”

“I’m becoming pretty well now. Aren’t there many 40-year-old women who get pregnant and have kids?” Xia Qingwei said softly. “We can head to the hospital and get a full-body checkup. If we’re okay, then let’s let nature run its course. After all, we’re both getting old, we can’t be sure if I can really get pregnant. So I just want to try, I don’t wish to force it like going to the hospital to get this treatment or that procedure just for the sake of a child. I’ll just let it happen naturally. If I really get pregnant, I’ll give birth to a child for you. Is that ok?”

However, Wang Juhuai just couldn’t stop worrying. Compared to having a child, Xia Qingwei’s health was clearly more important.

"I think that it's good enough to just have Lu Man. I'm content just having her call me Dad. Besides, she's so filial too," Wang Juhuai said.

Moreover, if the two of them really were to have another child, Wang Juhuai was rather afraid that Lu Man would be against it.

Xia Qingwei smiled lightly. "It's still too early to be talking about all this. Both of us are old. We really won't know if I can actually get pregnant. We would at least have to go to the hospital to get a checkup to make sure if we can both still make a child. As for Man Man, don't worry. I know your concern, but Man Man is not that kind of child.

"Did you know, before Man Man got married to Zhuoli, she told me before that if I ever meet someone whom I like and who also treats me well, she hoped that I wouldn't worry about what she would think. She doesn't want me to be alone. Similarly, after meeting you, it was she who encouraged me to accept you. She doesn't feel as if I had been stolen, she just wishes that I could be happy.

"Man Man, this child, as long as she treats you as her own and acknowledges you, she will use her whole heart to be good to you. No matter what you do, she wouldn't have any issues. As long as it's something good for you, she would definitely agree and even support it." Xia Qingwei smiled. She was very proud of Lu Man. "If you don't believe me, you can ask Man Man directly."

Wang Juhuai held Xia Qingwei's hand. "Everything is still too early. Just as you said, let's just go to the hospital and get the checkup first."

Meanwhile, Han Zhuoli and Lu Man had just arrived at Sheng Yue.

Along the way, Han Zhuoli was driving, so he naturally didn't have the time to see what had happened on Weibo.

Chapter 1194: Yan Zhiqing

Besides, Lu Man hadn't seen Han Zhuoli for two days. They just had an endless amount of things to talk about.

So there was even less time to care about what was going on online.

Therefore, both of them still hadn't found out about how Liang Chengbing tried to act cool and mighty but ended up getting slapped in the face by Wang Juhuai.

As they walked towards Sheng Yue, Lu Man received a call from Zheng Yuan.

"Lu Man, have you seen Weibo?" Zheng Yuan asked excitedly.

"Not yet, I haven't had the time to look," Lu Man replied.

"It's ok, I can just tell you about it." Zheng Yuan got even more excited. "Classic X Files released the preview for the finale today."

Zheng Yuan then told Lu Man about the situation online.

“And guess what? Your dad, Wang Juhuai...” Zheng Yuan was still concerned that Lu Qiyuan would mistake “dad” for Lu Qiyuan. “...he directly claimed that if there is any future activity with Liang Chengbing in it, he definitely wouldn’t take part in it. He would definitely never appear on the same stage as Liang Chengbing! Hahahahaha! Everyone knows that your dad would never take part in these things, so when he said those words, wasn’t it just to purposely disgust Liang Chengbing? Liang Chengbing failed to act all cool and mighty. Right now, he’s getting laughed at as a joke by people.”

Lu Man finally realized that so much had happened while she was on the road.

After hanging up the phone, Lu Man told Han Zhuoli about this incident. “I really have to thank Dad when I get back.”

As she spoke, Lu Man broke into a smile. “I originally thought that he was just a cool musician. Who knew that he had this adorable child-like side to him?”

Han Zhuoli looked at Lu Man. There were so many people who were protecting her now. It was really good.

The general manager of Sheng Yue personally welcomed them.

“Young Master Han, Mrs. Han.” Han Zhuoli was Yan Beicheng’s good friend, and they often visited Sheng Yue. Naturally, the general manager knew about the relationship between Han Zhuoli and Lu Man.

“Young Master Yan had just arrived too.”

Han Zhuoli nodded. Then, along with Lu Man, he followed the general manager to the private room that was especially for Han Zhuoli.

At the door, the general manager knocked a couple of times. After that, it finally opened. “Young Master Yan, Young Master Han is here.”

As the general manager spoke, he stood aside, welcoming Han Zhuoli and Lu Man to enter.

Once Lu Man entered, she realized to her surprise that everyone was there.

Not only Yan Beicheng, his wife, and Yan Zhiqing, even Chu Zhaoyang and the others were all here.

“Hurry in and sit, you guys are the last ones,” Yan Beicheng said.

Lu Man saw that Yan Zhiqing and Lin Chu sat on both sides of Yan Beicheng.

Yan Beicheng smiled at Lu Man and said, “Out of so many of us, there’s only my sister left that you haven’t met yet.”

Yan Beicheng then said to Yan Beicheng, “Zhiqing, this is Zhuoli’s wife, Lu Man. She works in the same industry as you.”

Because of that accident years ago, Yan Zhiqing had already grown out of her pampered and stubborn personality.

Yan Zhiqing broke into a sweet smile and said politely, “I know about it. I recognized Lu Man the moment she stepped in.”

“Hello, I’ve watched both Greedy Wolf Operation and Red Tiger, which you’ve starred in previously.” Yan Zhiqing smiled and said, “You acted really well, not like a newbie at all. There is an organic simplicity to your acting. It is really natural, but you don’t seem stiff like a newbie usually would.”

“Thank you,” Lu Man said with a smile. “Even though we’re both the same age, you’re still my senior.”

“Hahahaha!” Yan Zhiqing chuckled unabashedly. “I know about that too. Back during the Chinese Arts Championships, my classmates contacted me too, but I was still filming in Egypt, so I really couldn’t come back. Back then, they couldn’t stop talking about you!”

“Could it be that they have nothing much good to say about me?” Lu Man asked as she smiled.

Chapter 1195: Cooperate

Yan Zhiqing laughed. “Indeed so.”

“How long will you be staying in China this time around? Do you still have any other work?” Han Zhuoli asked.

Yan Zhiqing was also an artiste managed by the Han Corporation. Precisely because of Han Zhuoli and Yan Beicheng’s relationship, Yan Zhiqing indeed had that convenience.

Even before graduating, she had already signed a contract with the Han Corporation and received its strong support.

Some words were indeed true. If not for Yan Zhiqing’s background, she wouldn’t have received such good treatment either.

Precisely because of how good a relationship the Han Family had with the Yan Family, the Han Corporation had placed a lot more resources on Yan Zhiqing without any hesitation, allowing her fame to start increasing in a short period of time.

If it were someone else, how could they possibly have received such good resources?

Of course, even with good resources, Yan Zhiqing’s acting skills had to be there too.

Thankfully, Yan Zhiqing’s acting skills were indeed pretty good. Moreover, her family background was solidly displayed there. She didn’t hide it, but neither did she flaunt it.

It was so strong that others didn’t even have the energy to be jealous.

“I intended to rest a bit this time, but I still accepted a job. It’s pretty simple, so I’ll just take it as a part-time job as I rest,” Yan Zhiqing said. “I’ve been invited to be one of the judges in the upcoming Fei Yue Film Festival. It still hasn’t been announced publicly, but the news will most likely be out by tomorrow.”

“I have to say, as Zhiqing’s boss, how could you not even know this?” Wei Zhiqian teased.

“The Han Corporation is Zhiqing’s main company, but there is a separate subsidiary created under the Han Corporation as a private artiste studio. The studio’s operations and plans are independent. The Han Corporation won’t micro-manage it or interfere with it, so I naturally wouldn’t care about all that,” Han Zhuoli explained.

However, it sure was a coincidence. Who could have guessed that while Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng had nominated Lu Man, Yan Zhiqing would turn out to be a judge?

Lu Man and Han Zhuoli didn't tell anyone about the fact that Lu Man had been nominated by Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng as Best Supporting Female Lead and Best Female Lead.

Han Zhuoli knew very well that Lu Man's foundation still wasn't solid enough right now, so it was better if she maintained a low profile.

As for Lu Man, she felt that since the results weren't out yet, it wasn't good to go about telling everyone about it either.

Therefore, even Chu Zhaoyang and the others didn't know about it.

Han Zhuoli also didn't plan to mention or raise it up to Yan Zhiqing beforehand.

He believed in Lu Man's ability. He did not want to use connections or underhanded methods to insult her.

Moreover, Lu Man definitely did not want to exercise any special advantage on something like this and pull some tricks behind the scenes.

All along, she had looked down on underhanded dealings behind the scenes.

Besides, she also didn't want Yan Zhiqing to be put in a spot.

It was a form of recognition for Yan Zhiqing to be given the opportunity to be a judge.

Yan Zhiqing would also definitely be a fair judge. If Yan Zhiqing were to help Lu Man pull strings, that wouldn't be fair for Yan Zhiqing either.

Lu Man naturally wouldn't raise it up on her own. She and Han Zhuoli had never discussed this before.

However, both of their thoughts were the same even without them discussing it.

Lu Man realized that Han Zhuoli didn't say anything at all. Hence, she realized that his thoughts were the same as hers. Uncontrollably, she smiled exceptionally warmly and sweetly.

Qi Chengzhi asked Yan Zhiqing, "You're probably the youngest among the judges, right? Could you possibly be the youngest judge ever in the history of Fei Yue Film Festival?"

Yan Zhiqing hummed in thought for a while. "Looks like I really am."

Han Zhuoli sipped some of his tea. "If there's any chance to, I hope you could film a show with Lu Man."

Even if this big boss didn't personally say it out loud, purely from their relationship alone, Yan Zhiqing also wouldn't have refused it. "Sure, I'll be waiting. When the time comes, please make the necessary arrangements, I'll definitely push aside all other work and film with Lu Man first."

Han Zhuoli smiled. "Just these words from you is enough. I'll definitely let both of you become female leads and wouldn't let you lose out. I'll personally work on this matter."

Yan Zhiqing smiled and said, "I know that everyone says that it's only because of my strong family background and of my close relations with the Han Family that I can achieve the success I have today. It's such a pity, they don't know that the truly amazing one isn't me."

Chapter 1196: You Really Like to Just Happily Watch as the Matter Blow up More, Don't You

Lu Man was Han Zhuoli's own wife. It was a matter of fact that her resources would be even better than hers. Yan Zhiqing wasn't jealous at all.

Han Zhuoli would definitely pump all the resources on Lu Man and support her wholeheartedly.

"When that time comes, let those people take a look and see what it truly means by having a 'strong backing.'" Yan Zhiqing imagined how the scenario would be like and started chuckling to herself.

Qi Chenglin smiled. "Sigh, you. You really like to just happily watch as the matter blow up more, don't you?"

"So what?" Yan Zhiqing couldn't be bothered with all of that.

Ever since her debut, there had been a never-ending stream of insults and nasty words thrown at her. Stuff like how her success was completely because of her family and all sorts of negative comments. Even until now, there was a still a group of people who looked down on her.

But had she ever cared?

Not at all.

Therefore, she wasn't afraid of it blowing up at all.

She was exceptionally excited to see the look on the faces of those people once they found out how strong Lu Man's backing was. It would be so exciting.

The main purpose of today was to introduce Lu Man and Yan Zhiqing to each other.

Both of them exchanged all sorts of contact methods, such as phone numbers, Weibo accounts, etc.

On Thursday, Xing Ke Station also released the publicity for *Friday (with the Stars)*.

As expected, Liang Chengbing was the center of attention this time and was the focus of the publicity.

Perhaps Xing Ke Station also wanted to follow the same style as *Classic X Files*. Other than Liang Chengbing, there was still Lu Hancheng, the male lead of *Sounds of Winter*.

In China, Lu Hancheng had a large following of fans. He was extremely popular.

There was also a locally-renowned pianist. He had even done a world tour and had a decent amount of fame on the international stage.

Park Sungjae, the male lead of a popular Korean drama that was highly popular in China right now and who had garnered a large number of female fans, was here too.

Despite the gradually fading popularity of Korean dramas these last two years, there were still some handsome Korean oppas who managed to garner a large number of Chinese fans because of their looks, and they even had a large number of crazy fans.

Among these four guests, Lu Hancheng even had less fans than Park Sungjae did.

Many fans of Park Sungjae were so crazy that they would actually tightly follow his schedule and follow him around the world.

Naturally, they had already known since long ago through the Park Sungjae China Fan Club that he was going to take part in *Friday (with the Stars)*. Hence, they were eagerly anticipating it.

When the official publicity was out, all the fans went crazy.

“I must support Hubby Sungjae! I must watch *Friday (with the Stars)*!”

“I’ve watched the live recording of *Friday (with the Stars)*, it was very good! Sungjae is so handsome!”

“I support my Hancheng, my Hancheng is so handsome too!”

“Looks like *Classic X Files* is going head-on against *Friday (with the Stars)*. I don’t care, I have to support *Friday (with the Stars)*. Who even are those people that *Classic X Files* had invited? I’m completely not interested.”

“Right, right, right. *Classic X Files*’s lineup seems so boring. Let’s watch *Friday (with the Stars)* instead!”

Some of *Classic X Files*’s fans were unhappy. “I have nothing against you supporting *Friday (with the Stars)* because you like your own idols, but can you not trash other shows? You can happily like whoever you want to, but what’s up with trashing other people? This isn’t you liking your idols, this is you attracting hate for your idols!”

At Xing Ke Station, in Chief Hu’s office.

Chief Hu had personally taken part in the filming of this episode of *Friday (with the Stars)*.

Since he found out that *Classic X Files* had hired Lu Man, Chief Hu had given harsh orders to *Friday (with the Stars)*. He definitely wanted to make the finale of *Classic X Files* have terrible ratings.

Chapter 1197: A Slap in the Face

Since the incident involving *The Performer*, Chief Hu had learned not to force down *Classic X Files* or anything, or even to fight for ratings with it and plan to push their ratings low.

Regarding this point, Chief Hu still had some rationality left in him.

However, he didn’t want the other party’s ratings to look too great either.

At least, he wanted it to be on par with *Friday (with the Stars)*.

After all, *Friday (with the Stars)* had been on the air all this time while it would be the grand finale of *Classic X Files*. Typically, their ratings should be sky-high, but if their ratings were forced down to be average, not standing out at all, then Chief Hu would have achieved his goal.

His main aim was to make Lu Man look bad.

Especially during the time when Lu Man was on stage. If he could snatch the audiences over to *Friday (with the Stars)* during that time, then it would be such a big fat slap on the face.

Moreover, this time, Chief Hu had learned greatly from his previous mistakes. He ordered that none of the staff in the station were to leak it out.

Even though he felt that *Friday (with the Stars)* wouldn't lose, he wanted to be safe rather than sorry. He didn't want to be embarrassed when the time came either.

This time, to fight against the finale of *Classic X Files*, Chief Hu specially channeled more funds to *Friday (with the Stars)* to get them to invite more heavyweight guests.

They managed to invite those really big heavyweights, but they would definitely ensure that there would be many fans.

Those fans would be willing to watch their show for the sake of their idols.

As for the four guests that they had invited, Chief Hu was rather pleased.

"The show will air tomorrow, how are the preparations coming?" Chief Hu confirmed with them again.

The executive director of *Friday (with the Stars)*, Kuang Guanghui, said, "Everything has all been edited. I've watched the final cut too. It's not bad. The content is rich, and there are many funny scenes. There will also be a large number of fans from Lu Hancheng and Park Sungjae. Even if they don't usually watch our show, they would watch it for them."

"Lu Man had already invited Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng before. She definitely wouldn't pull the same trick twice. As long as Sun Yiwu or Ji Cheng isn't there, no matter who she finds, we'll not be afraid," Kuang Guanghui said. "However, even if Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng were to be there, we won't be afraid either. The guest lineup for our upcoming episode is honestly way too good. We didn't have to do much publicity yet the netizens are already blowing up. All of them are saying that they will watch it."

Chief Hu nodded in satisfaction. "Alright, I'll leave the rest to you. Nothing can ever go wrong."

"Yes," Kuang Guanghui guaranteed.

In the blink of an eye, it was Friday night.

This was Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei's first time on television. Therefore, Han Zhuoli and Lu Man were both gathered at Yi Garden to watch it all together.

Lu Man wasn't concerned about her own performance. Hence, before Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei appeared, Lu Man was scrolling through Weibo as she watched.

"Lin Yantao is not bad, but Jiang Yuhan is a bit boring. Lu Man's performance was very steady."

"There's nothing interesting at the start. I don't want to watch it anymore. *Friday (with the Stars)* seems more interesting, I'll go watch that instead."

"I've started watching *Friday (with the Stars)* first too. Only Lin Yantao and Lu Man were interesting. Zheng Yikun was too over-the-top. I'll just watch it tomorrow on the Internet, I could just skip past the parts that I don't like."

From the netizens' comments, it seemed that quite some people had switched over to watch *Friday (with the Stars)*.

Xia Qingwei saw it too and felt a little worried. "If that's the case, won't the ratings of the show be very low? It's obvious that Xing Ke Station is going against you. What if they blame it all on you when the ratings are low?"

Chapter 1198: Grand Finale

"Don't be worried, Dad hasn't gone up yet." Lu Man was calm and steady, not a bit anxious. "We'll see when the 'secret guest' segment starts. The previous segments featured only us, and that indeed didn't make quite an appeal. But I'm sure Director Lu has his plans to put the main attraction as the last segment."

"Moreover, look at the ruckus on the Net. In reality, *Classic X Files* does have its own loyal fanbase. *Friday (with the Stars)* happens every week, but after this season finale of *Classic X Files*, fans will have to wait another year for a new season, so they'll not want to miss this episode for sure. We can't tell how many are Xing Ke Station's hired paid posters among those making noise," Lu Man explained.

"And you've seen the filming. Zheng Yikun performed really well, nothing like what the netizens said. Of course, that's excluding personal likes and dislikes. At the very least, he's not as bad as it was said. So it's really hard to gauge how many of the commenters were actual viewers and how many were paid posters."

Xia Qingwei trusted Lu Man's judgment.

Finally, it was time for the mystery guest segment. The main page of Dong Hua Station's *Classic X Files* followed the same method it did when the third episode aired.

Every time a secret guest appeared, the guest's figure would be lit up.

There was nothing much when Jiang Yuhan and Shen Cang appeared.

Some netizens commented that "it was obvious they came to publicize *Sounds of Winter*."

Zheng Yikun and his secret guest acted in a skit together.

Punchlines were delivered one after another.

"Zheng Yikun's skit is so funny! Never thought that Zheng Yikun would invite his teacher. This skit is far better than the Spring Festival Gala's!"

"Not bad. No wonder it's *Classic X Files*'s key segment."

"Who's the next one? Lu Man hasn't appeared yet. She isn't left for the grand finale again, is she?"

“Don’t scare me. Apart from Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng, who else could she invite? Who else can compare with Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng? It’s not like she’d invite them again.”

“Even if Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng are willing, there’s nothing new to anticipate anymore. We’ve already seen them before, so seeing them again would be lame and unsurprising. How then could that be considered ‘secret guest?’”

“No idea who Lu Man has invited this time. Even if she was the third guest to appear and not the last, it’s more than enough to highlight how ‘big’ her secret guest is already.”

“It’s not bad appearing as the third guest. Even Jiang Yuhan and Zheng Yikun, who’ve both been working in the entertainment industry for so many years, made the first two appearances as guests. At least it’s implied that Lu Man’s secret guest is more powerful than them both.”

“How are y’all so sure Lu Man would appear as the third person? Who knows, she might even be the final act.”

“It’s already surprising for her to appear as the third guest. It’s too far-fetched for her to appear for the grand finale. Who could she have invited for the final act?”

“Have y’all forgotten the advertising posters that said guest ‘W’? It must obviously be someone super famous and important for the production team to have placed such emphasis!”

“And the person wouldn’t have been invited by Lu Man. Set your head straight.”

“The third guest is coming out, answers will be revealed soon. Stop arguing!”

Soon, Lin Yantao went on stage.

“My goodness! Lin Yantao’s actually the third! Lu Man’s actually the d*mn grand finale! So the really famous and heavyweight guest was really invited by Lu Man?”

“It has to be, the heavyweight is confirmed to be the last act.”

“My goodness! Lu Man’s unbelievable! Now I’m really curious who she actually invited.”

“Seriously, no matter whether it’s based on experience or influence, I thought that Lin Yantao’s invited guest was the most impressive.”

Chapter 1199: Lu Man, Lu Man. Why Is It Always Lu Man?!

“Hahahaha, my Lu Man is obviously unpredictable. Every time you think that she’ll fail, she’ll use her actions to prove you wrong! So many people have underestimated her before. Let me tell y’all, better not make some early conclusions next time there’s anything about Lu Man or you’ll be proved wrong again.”

“Actually, sometimes, Lu Man’s not out to prove people wrong on purpose. Sometimes, it’s because the netizens make wild guesses and the guesses were so far off the mark, so they inadvertently got proven wrong by Lu Man. Sometimes, it’s because the netizens don’t believe her and get proven wrong, right in their faces.”

“That’s right. Just like previously, Liang Chengbing’s Weibo post is such a good example. Many chose to believe Liang Chengbing’s words, and it turned out they were the idiots.”

“Lin Yantao’s over already. Lu Man’s appearing soon!”

“Already waiting for it!”

“Just came from *Friday (with the Stars)*. I’m curious who Lu Man invited as well.”

Hence, many audiences watching *Friday (with the Stars)* switched over to watch *Classic X Files*.

The broadcasting stations were able to view real-time data about audience viewership ratings.

At first, *Classic X Files* performed slightly worse than *Friday (with the Stars)*.

All of a sudden, the viewership ratings for *Friday (with the Stars)* plummeted.

“What’s happening?!” Chief Hu never left and was also working overtime in the broadcasting station.

“No idea. We’re losing audience fast!”

“I know,” someone said. “Look at Weibo. Many of them went to watch *Classic X Files*.”

“What’s so good about that show? Not like they invited really impressive guests,” Chief Hu scoffed.

“Seems that Lu Man was scheduled to appear as the grand finale, so the viewers are really curious who she invited this time around.”

Chief Hu fumed, “Lu Man, Lu Man. Why is it always Lu Man?! Who could she have invited? I don’t believe she can invite anyone remotely impressive! It’s just some tricks that *Classic X Files* is using! They purposely made Lu Man the last act so that people will mistakenly believe she’s really marvelous and switch over to watch. This is definitely Lu Man’s idea. Isn’t this her specialty?!”

Meanwhile, Lu Man had already gone on stage in the show.

“Where’s the secret guest? How come there’s only Lu Man by herself?”

“It’s already been 10 minutes, and not even a hint of the secret guest. Did Lu Man invite no one?”

“Then who’s the Guest W that the production team publicized? They’ve never appeared before.”

“F*ck! Cheated by the production team and Lu Man! Liars!”

“What’s so fun about playing with our feelings? What a total waste of time, not gonna watch anymore!”

“Me too. Disgusting!”

“Wait. The secret guest’s figure at the official webpage has not lit up either. What’s the matter?”

“Give up, man, this isn’t even live-streamed. It’s pre-recorded, what can happen?”

Finally, a netizen who had been to the filming at the event location spoke up. “Can you people be more patient? It’s only been 10 minutes and y’all are raging about them lying just because you have no patience? I’d been to the filming, and let me tell you guys, you’re in for a treat after this performance.

The production team didn't lie, and Lu Man didn't lie. The secret guest is really a heavyweight and is gonna appear soon."

Another audience who went to the filming also wrote, "That's right. Furthermore, can't we just watch Lu Man's performance calmly? Even if there was no secret guest, isn't Lu Man's performance good too? I don't think it's worse than the original!"

"You all claim to have watched the filming. Who knows if it's true?"

Chapter 1200: Breathless from Anger

"Haha, the person above, I'd question whether you're a paid poster if you really say so."

And because of this, the netizens got into a row.

"My goodness! Who did I see?! D*mn... the secret guest is really awesome!"

"The person's out already?"

"Some people are really funny. They're yet to watch the episode and are already here criticizing everything. See? Their true colors are revealed."

"He's out! The figures in the show and the site's main page have lit up!"

"Wang Juhuai! It's Wang Juhuai!"

"Oh my goodness, it's actually Wang Juhuai!"

"How did Lu Man do it?! I thought Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng were the limit, but she actually invited Wang Juhuai!"

"The production team said it's his first-ever appearance on a variety show globally, and it's really true."

"Wang Juhuai actually performed live. No wonder the audience who went to watch the filming said it was totally worth it after they came back. And it really is! As if they were earning thousands by the minute."

News of Wang Juhuai's appearance on Classic X Files spread rapidly. Within a short minute, it became the top result for the most-searched item, and it was even followed by a "Hot" sign.

"Turns out Wang Juhuai is Lu Man's stepfather!"

"Her background is really impressive."

"I remember there was a news piece previously, saying Han Zhuoli's wife is Wang Juhuai's daughter. It isn't Lu Man, is it?"

"Can't be. I've checked. Below are Han Zhuoli's wife's wedding ring and Lu Man's wedding ring." A netizen posted two screenshots. "They're obviously different, and didn't the person who leaked the news apologize and the news deleted? Lu Man never said anything; probably unwilling to use this issue to promote herself."

"Makes sense."

“A rock and a hard place. If she clarified, people will say she’s trying to promote herself. If she didn’t, people would still think this way.”

Meanwhile, over at Xing Ke Station, Chief Hu could do nothing but stare at the plummeting live viewership data.

What a pity that they could not check the data for Classic X Files.

The most they could do was to watch their programs from their own station.

It’s not for certain that these viewers had all changed channels to watch Classic X Files.

Right then, someone commented, “I thought Friday (with the Stars) was quite something to have been able to invite Zhang Bo, but after comparing him with Wang Juhuai, I’m sorry, those over at Friday (with the Stars) are just nobodies.”

Someone even sneakily tagged Liang Chengbing. “Director Liang, how does it feel to get slapped in the face?”

Liang Chengbing saw but paid no heed to those people.

He kept his anger to himself. So what if it’s Wang Juhuai?

Actual viewership ratings would only be known tomorrow!

Over at the hospital.

Lu Qiyuan was watching Classic X Files in his ward.

He knew Lu Man attended it, and for reasons unknown to him, he just felt like watching.

He had never treated Lu Man as his daughter properly, and ever since he had Lu Qi, Lu Man had fallen even further from his favor.

He had never even helped her once with her job.

Be it schooling, working, or entering the entertainment industry, he had never aided her despite having the ability to do so.

Now, he’s sick and recuperating at the hospital.

Though he seemed to have recovered to his previous form, his body was actually severely weakened.

For some reason, Lu Man came to his mind during his weaker moments.

This was why he was watching Classic X Files.

Watching Lu Man’s performance, he had to admit that Lu Man acted so much better than Lu Qi did.

However, when he saw Wang Juhuai coming on stage and then having a public display of affection with Xia Qingwei, Lu Qiyuan’s face flushed red. He was so furious, he could not catch his breath.