

Mr Han 1281

Chapter 1281: Confident

“Wait, let me send it to you,” Pan Xue said.

When she received the message from Pan Xue, Lu Man immediately opened it.

It was a video of Liang Chengbing accepting an interview.

In the video, the reporter asked very common questions regarding the film festival and the awards ceremony.

Such as: “Director Liang, are you confident about getting nominated for Best Director this time?”

“This is hard to say, but I am still very confident about my directing skills. After all, I have been a director for decades. If I can’t even shoot a proper film, aren’t I ruining my own reputation?” Liang Chengbing said confidently.

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“Does that mean you are very confident about getting nominated?” the reporter asked with a laugh.

Liang Chengbing was indeed confident, but he did not admit it. “It’s hard to say, hard to say. Hahahaha!”

However, all the netizens could tell what he meant.

“This Liang Chengbing is really too confident.”

“Seeing the participating films this time around, I think Liang Chengbing’s chances of getting nominated are quite big. After all, he is one of the more reputable directors around. No matter how good or bad his film is, they will still have to give him face.”

Afterward, the reporter asked, “From what I know, the film festival also set up a new award for the Best Newcomer. This is a chance for the newcomers, and the ones who are likely to have a chance include Lu Man, Qiao Luna, Ni Xue, Chang Yachen, Fu Kaiqi, and other actresses that have been very popular and performed outstandingly in recent years.”

Take Qiao Luna, for example. She had acted in television dramas all along. Her first time acting on a film was actually in Zhang Lun’s film.

Although the box office sales were not very desirable in the end, Qiao Luna’s performance in it was worthy of praise as well.

Although she had long been famous, she was still considered a newcomer on the silver screens and fulfilled the criteria to be nominated for the Best Newcomer Award.

This was even more so for Chang Yachen and Fu Kaiqi.

Both of them had loyal fan followings of both teenage girls and aunties alike.

Their acting skills were considered commendable among the newcomers. Although their popularity was considerable, they were still considered newcomers in the film industry.

Although they did not play the lead roles in their films, their performance in these films was also surprising.

Strictly speaking, the Best Newcomer Award set up by the Fei Yue International Film Festival this time was specially created for the newcomers in the film industry.

Even if it had already been many years since you had debuted and you had long established yourself in the film industry, if you had never acted in a film, you could still be considered a newcomer if you act in your first film now.

Lu Man was more special. She acted in two films consecutively the moment she made her debut.

By right, both films could not be considered in the newcomer award category.

However, she was a true blue newcomer, and these films were produced one after another.

After all, Lu Man's circumstances could be said to be unprecedented.

Ever since Lu Man debuted, the topics about her have never ended. News about her were all over the place. If Lu Man was not considered, it would seem improper.

Hence, after some discussion, the organizers still decided to add Lu Man into the newcomer category.

Since it was a newcomer award, the competition would not require actors to play a lead role. As long as they acted and displayed their acting skills, it would be good enough.

Of course, those who played small parts would not be considered.

Lu Man watched up until this point, and she could already guess what the reporter was about to ask next.

Indeed, the reporter asked, "Director Liang, in your opinion, who do you think will be the most likely person to get the Best Newcomer Award among these few newcomers who are the most popular currently?"

Liang Chengbing laughed and said, "These few people performed very well and are all likely to get it. But if I were to choose, I think Fu Kaiqi is not bad. Chang Yachen and Ni Xue stand a chance too. Qiao Luna may be an experienced actress, but this is her first time on the silver screen. The presentation style of a film is different from that of a television drama, so there will be different expectations towards the acting skills required as well."

Chapter 1282: Difficult

"Within a short two hours, one has to show many things in a coherent and complete form. It's not like a drama, where there are dozens of episodes to slowly build up and give the audience a detailed story.

"That is the decisive factor. A television drama can allow an actor to adjust and recalibrate his performance in the process, but a film is different. The actor has to be precise in every shot and has to display many emotions at the same time. Hence, this is similarly difficult for Qiao Luna to do."

The reporter sharply observed the problem in this. "Director Liang, you seemed to have left out Lu Man. Do you not think well of Lu Man?"

Liang Chengbing laughed somewhat haughtily. "I didn't leave her out, I just feel that her participation in this Best Newcomer Award selection is a little unsuitable."

"Why is it unsuitable?" the reporter asked curiously.

Liang Chengbing explained, "First, Lu Man may be a newcomer in the entertainment industry, but she has already acted in two films. The requirement of the film is that an actor that has acted in only one film can be considered a newcomer. I know, Lu Man's situation is a little different. However, rules are rules. Since you drew the line there, you must adhere to it. Setting a dead rule here makes many other things more convenient and easy to handle.

"Since the organizers had already set such a rule, they should not violate it easily. How can they make it a special exception just for that one person? This is not good. Won't they have to break the rules time and again next time?" Liang Chengbing shook his head. "Hence, I won't comment on whether Lu Man acted well or not. I just feel that she is not suitable to participate in the selection for the Best Newcomer Award."

Han Leilei frowned. "When is this Liang Chengbing going to be done? He just keeps making things difficult for Lu Man."

"What does that mean?" Pan Xue was a straightforward person and did not understand the dirty trick Liang Chengbing was trying to pull with his words.

Zheng Yuan explained, "He said that the organizers of the film festival are making an exception for Lu Man. He claimed that Lu Man did not fulfill the criteria for Best Newcomer and it was the organizers who gave Lu Man the green light. This will surely make people think twice. Why did the organizers not make an exception for others but had to make an exception for Lu Man specifically?"

Zheng Yuan continued, "It will then make people think of how Lu Man's father is Wang Juhuai and make them feel that Lu Man got nominated because of Wang Juhuai. That's why the organizers decided to break the rules of the competition. In that case, should they still give Lu Man the Best Newcomer Award?"

"In my opinion, among the people nominated for the Best Newcomer Award, Lu Man has the highest chance. She's the newest actress among them, yet she has the most outstanding results. However, with Liang Chengbing's words, if the organizers gave the award to Lu Man, there will surely be people who'd think that this was because of Wang Juhuai and that they made an exception for Lu Man. This award will then lose its fairness in the eyes of the public. However, if they don't give it to Lu Man, this will be very unfair to Lu Man, because Lu Man really has the potential and skill to get the award."

Pan Xue finally got it. "He's too much."

"There's more," Zheng Yuan said. "Continue watching."

Lu Man continued playing the video and heard the reporter ask Liang Chengbing, "Then what are your thoughts on the Best Actor and Actress, as well as the Best Supporting Male and Female Lead awards?"

Liang Chengbing gave his thoughts on the Best Actor and Best Supporting Male Lead.

“What about the Best Actress and Best Supporting Female Lead? From what I know, Lu Man also got chosen. Do you think she will get nominated?” the reporter asked.

Chapter 1283: Target

“What’s wrong with this reporter? Why does he keep targeting Lu Man?” Han Leilei said with a frown.

“Lu Man is a hot topic right now, so this reporter wants to bait for attention too. Look at the number of views and shares this video got,” Zheng Yuan said.

“She won’t be able to get nominated,” Liang Chengbing said very confidently.

The reporter was clearly stunned for a moment and immediately laughed as he said, “Oh right, I almost forgot. You were one of the judges for the film festival previously. Does this mean you have information on the nomination for Best Actress and Best Supporting Female Lead when you were still a judge last time?”

“When they were selecting the nominees for the Best Actor and Best Actress, as well as Best Supporting Male and Female Lead awards, I was still one of the judges. I can’t say much since it won’t be good to leak information on the nomination rounds before the organizers have announced it. The suspense will be lost then,” Liang Chengbing said and laughed.

“I understand what you mean. Has Lu Man been regretfully disqualified?” The reporter had sharply picked up the hidden meaning in Liang Chengbing’s words.

“I cannot comment further on this.” Liang Chengbing seemingly hesitated before he said, “I can only say, at least for now, I think that Lu Man is not suitable to be nominated for Best Actress or Best Supporting Female Lead. For the Best Actress award, the film *Red Tiger* that she acted in emphasizes teamwork. Everyone is a lead character in the film. As the female lead, she actually does not stand out. Compared to the other female leads in other films, her presence in the film is lacking.

“As for the Best Supporting Female Lead, her performance in *Greedy Wolf Operation* was still very amateurish. She was still a newcomer with no acting experience back then. Compared to the other actresses who had worked hard for many years, she still lacks quite a bit. I feel that she is still young and still has many chances ahead for her. She has only just stepped into the entertainment industry and just started her acting career. It would be unfair to other, more experienced seniors if we’re to give her this nomination when she cannot even be considered a proper actress yet. There are too many senior actresses with outstanding acting skills in the entertainment industry who need this chance even more and are even more outstanding than she is. I hope the judges for the film festival will focus on acting skills alone rather than basing it off a certain actress’s popularity and influence.”

The reporter nodded and asked, “Speaking of your previous experience as a judge, it seems like Director Liang was a judge for only a day. Why didn’t you continue being a judge?”

Liang Chengbing did not seem to reveal a hint of awkwardness on his face as he smiled and said, “It’s because this clashes with my upcoming schedule. This was something I did not expect myself. I took on the role of a judge because I had no other plans at the moment. However, changes happened faster than my plans could catch up with, so I could only choose between the two. After some consideration, I

decided that it would not be too suitable for me to continue being a judge since my works are considered in the awards for the film festival. It's better to avoid misunderstandings, so I decided to give up my position as a judge in the film festival."

After watching the interview, Lu Man laughed dryly.

"If he really felt that it was unsuitable, he should not have agreed from the start. Were his works not already participating in the film festival when he accepted the invitation to be a judge?" Lu Man said coldly. "He is clearly targeting and making digs at Director Sun and Director Ji."

Both of their works were participating in the film festival, but they similarly took on the role of a judge.

What Liang Chengbing had said made it seem as if the two people did not know how to avoid misunderstandings.

Zheng Yuan and the girls had not reacted to this initially and even felt that Liang Chengbing's words made some sense.

They even thought it was strange. Since when was Liang Chengbing so righteous?

Chapter 1284: Weren't You Very Good at Talking Just Now? Continue Talking

After Lu Man said that, the three of them finally reacted.

"He's way too shameless!" Zheng Yuan said as she spat angrily. "He's in a bad state himself so he doesn't want others to do well."

At that moment, Zhuang Tingting said, "Didn't Lu Man snub *The Performer* for having insider tricks? But doesn't she rely on Wang Juhuai herself? When it comes to herself, she turns it into something different."

Zhuang Tingting's voice was loud enough for everyone in the classroom to hear.

Lu Man would not indulge in that bad habit of hers, so she walked straight towards her.

This cheap habit of Zhuang Tingting would show itself to try and establish a sense of presence even when Lu Man did not bother her.

Now that Lu Man had walked over directly, Zhuang Tingting started to feel weak.

Zhuang Tingting stared at Lu Man anxiously and said, "What... What do you want?"

"Weren't you very good at talking just now? Continue talking," Lu Man said as she raised her eyebrow.

Zhuang Tingting retreated a little before she gulped and said with a thick skin, "Fine, I'll say it! You relied on your relationship with Wang Juhuai to get the award. This is also considered taking the backdoor route. It's not a fair competition. Why are you still pretending?!"

Lu Man coldly said, "The nomination name lists for all the award categories in the film festival have yet to be published, much less the ultimate winners of the awards. Aside from the judges and the organizers, no one else knows. You are really something, huh? You actually knew the results beforehand?"

"I..." Zhuang Tingting immediately clutched her neck and said, "Don't spout rubbish, I don't know anything."

"You don't know, and you dare to say that I got the award on behalf of the film festival organizers?" Lu Man laughed dryly. "You are really something. Forget about how the nomination rounds are not confirmed, but even if I really got through to the nomination rounds and won the award, you're saying that I relied on my connections? Where is your evidence? Just because Wang Juhuai is my father, all my achievements must be attributed to him? I give you full marks for such a logic! My previous achievements were all attained because of my own effort. At that time, Wang Juhuai was not my father yet. I dare to say this because I have the capability!"

"If you have evidence of me taking the back door route and getting the award through unfair means, show it and publish it as you please. If you don't have it, shut up and stop spouting rubbish!" Lu Man glared at her icily and said, "Do you have it, the evidence?"

Zhuang Tingting bit her lips tightly.

Of course she did not have the evidence. She just wanted to tarnish Lu Man's name.

Anyway, it was so obvious that she had such a prominent backer like Wang Juhuai. Only a fool would not use him!

Was Lu Man a fool?

Of course not.

Zhuang Tingting was just judging others based on her own standards. She felt that if she had such a huge backer, she would feel as if she was about to fly up to the sky. This had to be the same for Lu Man.

"You don't, so shut up," Lu Man said coldly. "You are the one trying so hard to cozy up to someone powerful. Don't judge others based on your own standards."

When Lu Man finished talking, she went back to her seat and did not bother about Zhuang Tingting anymore.

Zhuang Tingting could not take it lying down and said in a small voice, "You don't even let me say it, you clearly have a guilty conscience."

Zhang Xiaoying glared sideways at Zhuang Tingting.

If she was so capable, she should say it loudly instead of muttering there by herself.

The news online was all about how Liang Chengbing did not think well of Lu Man.

Even for the Best Newcomer Award, the support was the strongest for Fu Kaiqi. With Liang Chengbing's interview, Lu Man had been kicked out of the picture.

Of course, there were some reporters who might have had the intention of stirring drama and wanted to come and interview Lu Man. However, Lu Man asked Hu Zhonghui to help turn them down.

When it was Saturday, Han Zhuoli went with Lu Man to buy a gown.

"I will be attending the film festival as well to represent the Han Corporation. Big Brother will be going too," Han Zhuoli said.

Chapter 1285: Han Zhuoling Was Seen Standing at the Door with a Glum Look on His Face

He was trying on suits to wear to the film festival.

"Do you have to walk with the production crew twice?" Han Zhuoli asked.

Lu Man was helping him to neaten his appearance and nodded. "Yeah, I will walk once with *Greedy Wolf Operation* and then again with *Red Tiger*."

Han Zhuoli stood still and let Lu Man tidy his look. "Doesn't that mean I won't be able to walk the red carpet with you?"

"If both of us walk the red carpet together, won't we scare people to death?" Right after Lu Man said that, the shop assistant came over with the gown that Lu Man had picked.

It was an exquisite and intricately-made gown. It could only be worn with the help of the shop assistant.

Lu Man did not have a sponsor yet, so she could only rent or buy her own gown.

Han Zhuoli would definitely not let her rent the gown and directly bought it.

"I have already asked Shi Xiaoya and Cris to make time. They will be in charge of your styling," Han Zhuoli said.

Lu Man naturally would not stand on formalities with Han Zhuoli.

It was really impressive that Shi Xiaoya could become one of the top makeup artists in the industry.

Without Lu Man needing to say anything, Shi Xiaoya could come up with the best makeup look for Lu Man based on Lu Man's aura.

The makeup that was done by her before fully fitted Lu Man's desired look.

Hence, Lu Man was most willing that Han Zhuoli arranged Shi Xiaoya for her.

In the blink of an eye, they reached the day of the film festival's awards ceremony.

Han Zhuoli drove Lu Man to Yi Garden first to meet Xia Qingwei and Wang Juhuai before heading to the hotel near the venue for the film festival.

Shi Xiaoya and Cris were waiting for them there.

Lu Man and Xia Qingwei put on their makeup and changed into their gowns.

When they were about to leave, Han Zhuoli received a call from Han Zhuoling. "Big Brother."

To whatever Han Zhuoling said, Han Zhuoli's reply was, "We haven't left."

Han Zhuoli told him the room number of the hotel room and said, "You can just come over."

After he ended the call, Lu Man asked, "What is it?"

"He didn't say clearly on the phone, but it sounded like his face was hurt a little. He asked me if the makeup artists are still here and if they are, he wants to come and have them conceal his wound," Han Zhuoli briefly explained. "We can ask him more when he comes."

Cris was already free, so Shi Xiaoya said, "You can go to the venue and prepare first. I will go over and find you later."

Shi Xiaoya and Cris were a team, and both of them came from huge families. However, they did not follow the paths that their families had set for them and, instead, set up a work studio together under the Han Corporation to pursue their interests.

Cris was in charge of styling while Shi Xiaoya was in charge of makeup.

Cris was also invited this time because there was a Best Original Styling Award in the film festival.

Cris designed the outfits and style for a particular movie, so he was nominated as well.

Cris then brought his assistant and left first. After he left, the room became half empty, so it immediately felt more spacious.

Not long after, the doorbell rang.

Shi Xiaoya went to open the door and saw Han Zhuoling standing at the door with a glum look on his face.

His glum expression scared Shi Xiaoya until she almost stopped breathing.

"Mr... Mr. Han?" Shi Xiaoya addressed him weakly. She had never seen such a scary face before.

Han Zhuoling nodded at her slightly. He wanted to come in, but the entrance was blocked by Shi Xiaoya.

Han Zhuoling's gaze fell silently on Shi Xiaoya's shoulder.

Shi Xiaoya's neck suddenly turned cold and got goosebumps all over. The moment she met Han Zhuoling's stern and aloof gaze, she subconsciously took two steps back.

Han Zhuoling seized the chance to walk in.

Shi Xiaoya then realized that she had been blocking the door and preventing him from coming in.

Chapter 1286: To Leave or Not?

Shi Xiaoya threw her head up in awkwardness.

Although her family background was not comparable to the status of the Han Family, she also had some remarkable seniors and brothers in her family. Yet, she had never seen anyone with an aura as scary as Han Zhuoling's.

The moment his gaze landed briefly on her, she got so nervous that she did not even dare to breathe loudly.

How embarrassing!

“Big Brother, what happened to your face?” Han Zhuoli pointed to his own cheek, at the same position where Han Zhuoling’s wound was.

The moment he mentioned that, Han Zhuoling’s face turned even darker.

He briefly glanced at Shi Xiaoya. Shi Xiaoya immediately said, “I’ll go out first, you can call me back once you all are done talking.”

Right after she said that and took a step out, Han Zhuoling said, “Xia Yixin scratched me.”

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

Couldn’t he wait for her to leave before saying that?!

If he did not mind her listening, what did he give her that look for?

It made her feel so awkward now. Was she supposed to leave or not?

“Xia Yixin went to find you?” Han Zhuoli frowned.

“She blocked me at the company’s entrance.” Han Zhuoling pursed his lips before saying, “I pressured the Xia Family too tightly. At first, Xia Zhancheng still agreed to support Xia Yixin, but he seemed to have completely changed his mind now. The Xia Family is having a tough time now, so Xia Yixin came to beg me, but to no avail. Then she resorted to scratching me.”

“No one stopped her? What are they all doing?!” Han Zhuoli said unhappily.

“No one expected it.” Han Zhuoling covered the small fingernail scratch on his cheek. “I can’t possibly attend the film festival with a wound.”

This was the first important public event that Han Zhuoling would be attending after he came back.

They also intended to use this chance to announce that Han Zhuoling had returned and would officially be in charge of the Han Corporation’s overseas expansion and development.

Given how long Han Zhuoling had been in Europe, the people in the country might have forgotten who he was already, so doing this was a must.

“Where’s the makeup artist?” Han Zhuoling asked.

“...” Han Zhuoli turned to look at Shi Xiaoya and said, “It’s her, Shi Xiaoya.”

Han Zhuoling turned and saw Shi Xiaoya, who was still facing the door, and thought to himself that he would have fired such a dumb employee if she worked under him.

“Where should I sit?” Han Zhuoling asked.

Shi Xiaoya took a while before she realized the question was directed at her. She immediately pointed to where Lu Man had just sat and said, “You can just sit here, or you can sit wherever you like. It’s fine.”

Han Zhuoling pursed his lips before sitting down. “Just conceal this part, don’t touch the rest.”

Han Zhuoling still felt that a man of his age putting on foundation and drawing his eyebrows was a little too much.

Shi Xiaoya observed for a moment before she said, "It's better to slightly touch up the surrounding areas or else there would be two different shades."

Han Zhuoling said resignedly, "Then you can do as you deem fit."

Luckily, that scratch made by Xia Yixin was not deep. If it was, Shi Xiaoya would not dare to use foundation to cover Han Zhuoling's face.

Xia Yixin's scratch mark was a little red with a hint of blood on it.

Shi Xiaoya lowered her head, and her face inevitably came close to Han Zhuoling's face.

On closer look, his stern features made one even more nervous.

Green dots from his stubble could be faintly seen. As for the other areas, his skin was especially smooth.

There was also a hint of aftershave scent around his lips.

Shi Xiaoya's ears felt a little hot. She composed herself and focused on concealing Han Zhuoling's wound. Her fingertips would occasionally touch his face to blend the makeup.

Han Zhuoling's face did not move. He only glanced at Shi Xiaoya with his peripheral vision.

As they were close to each other, he found that the scent on her body smelled exceptionally fresh.

And her breathing, which lightly caressed his face...

Chapter 1287: Why Is She Such a Klutz?

It's a little ticklish.

Han Zhuoling frowned slightly. Shi Xiaoya could not help but look at his expression.

It was probably because she was too nervous, and probably because Han Zhuoling's expression had been very stern all along, his gaze almost like daggers.

Shi Xiaoya was very afraid that she would do something wrong and anger this big CEO.

That was why she could not help but glance over nervously to watch his reaction.

When she saw that Han Zhuoling had frowned, Shi Xiaoya immediately held her breath nervously.

"Mr. Han, is there anything that's inappropriate?" Shi Xiaoya asked nervously.

She stared squarely at Han Zhuoling's face with her big eyes.

Anything inappropriate?

This was too inappropriate.

He did not know what was inappropriate, yet he felt that everything was inappropriate.

At first, she only breathed on his face. Now that she'd talked, her breath bounced back and forth on his face, making not just his face but even his earlobes feel ticklish.

The wound that still stung with a little bit of pain disappeared. Instead, it felt a little ticklish.

This ticklish feeling seemed to seep into his blood through his wound and went right into his heart, making his heart feel ticklish too.

Han Zhuoling suddenly turned to look at Shi Xiaoya.

Shi Xiaoya totally did not expect Han Zhuoling to suddenly turn and became dumbstruck.

She forgot to react and simply stared at his face like that, with only an inch of space between the two of them.

She even seemed to feel his breath lightly on her face.

Shi Xiaoya did not know how red her face was now.

Han Zhuoling's stern gaze flickered slightly before he frowned and turned back. "Continue."

Shi Xiaoya was still dumbstruck. A long while after Han Zhuoling said that, she still did not react.

Han Zhuoling turned and turned to look at her. "Are you done?"

Shi Xiaoya finally reacted. However, the moment she did, she was scared again by Han Zhuoling's stern expression and asked, "Mr. Han, is there any problem?"

"I'm asking you, are you done?" Han Zhuoling asked while holding back his temper.

He heard that Shi Xiaoya was the top makeup artist in the industry. Even Gao Zishan and the likes had to make a reservation with her beforehand to engage her service.

How could she be such a klutz in real life?

She could actually survive in the entertainment industry with this kind of personality?

"Not yet!" Shi Xiaoya said. She took two breaths, put on her professional attitude, and said, "There's still a little bit left."

Shi Xiaoya took the beauty blender and blended out the edges of the foundation around the red mark to create a natural look before using her fingers to tap lightly.

Han Zhuoling only felt her soft fingertips landing gently on his face, leaving a soft and ticklish feeling.

Han Zhuoling clenched his teeth and waited for Shi Xiaoya to finish applying the loose powder to set his makeup.

"It's done," Shi Xiaoya said.

If it were someone else, she would definitely touch up the eyebrows and eyes a little to enhance their appearance in front of the cameras while looking like they had no makeup on.

However, who knew how Han Zhuoling got his features? They were just so perfect.

He had thick eyebrows and a sharp gaze that did not need any touching up. Even the HD cameras would not find any fault in him.

Han Zhuoling looked into the mirror and realized that it was really not bad. It was impossible to tell that there was a wound on his face at all, nor was it obvious that he had concealed the wound.

“Mr. Han, the wound on your face has been temporarily concealed. However, concealing it with foundation will make it hard for your skin to breathe, so it’s still better to remove the makeup as soon as possible and disinfect the wound,” Shi Xiaoya said.

Han Zhuoling nodded. “Got it. Thanks a lot.”

Shi Xiaoya smiled and finally exhaled.

She then turned to Lu Man and said, “Is there anything that needs to be touched up for the makeup?”

“Nope, it’s very good,” Lu Man said with a smile. “Thank you for the trouble this time.”

Chapter 1288: Han Zhuoling Seems a Little Cute

“It’s nothing much. I will go to the venue in a while and help you touch up your makeup halfway through. However, there are usually no problems. The products I used on you this time all have strong lasting power, so they can stand the test of time,” Shi Xiaoya explained. Seeing that she was not needed anymore here, she left.

After Shi Xiaoya left, Lu Man pulled Han Zhuoli to one side and said in a hushed voice, “Xiaoya was really scared quite badly. I have never seen her like this before.”

It was totally different from Han Zhuoling’s impression of Shi Xiaoya.

Han Zhuoling felt that Shi Xiaoya was very klutzy.

However, the Shi Xiaoya that Lu Man knew was a very confident person who was very tactful in the way she handled things.

Her skills aside, which could make artistes rush to her like ducks or make most people not dare to throw a temper at her...

No matter how difficult the client was, Shi Xiaoya would always manage to deal with the person smoothly. There was no one who was not pleased with her.

Yet she crumbled in Han Zhuoling’s hands today.

However, Lu Man could kind of understand why.

Not just outsiders, even she herself could be considered family with Han Zhuoling, but she would not dare to talk to Han Zhuoling either.

Although she knew that Han Zhuoling was someone who was cold on the outside but warm on the inside—although he appeared very stern and unfriendly—he was actually someone who was very thoughtful towards his family.

However, he was always so stern. Every time Lu Man saw him, she could not help but feel nervous.

Even she was like this, what more Shi Xiaoya?

Shi Xiaoya brought her assistant and entered the hotel lift. She then thought of how Han Zhuoling had already divorced Xia Yixin.

She had heard some news that the Hans were dealing with the Xias.

Judging from what Han Zhuoling said, it sounded like Xia Yixin could not take it lying down and went to plead with Han Zhuoling but failed, so she just lunged at him.

Although Han Zhuoling looked stern, he did not look like someone who would hit a woman, or else he would not have let Xia Yixin scratch his face.

Shi Xiaoya suddenly felt like laughing.

He was clearly such a stern person who made people fearful of offending him, yet he got scratched on the face by a woman so easily.

She could not help but think of the scene where Han Zhuoling struggled to escape from Xia Yixin's claws and wondered if his perfect suit had any creases from that.

To her, thinking about that made Han Zhuoling seem a little cute.

The next time she saw him, she probably would not be that scared of him anymore.

Shi Xiaoya also could not grasp what was wrong with Xia Yixin's mind. She let go of a good man like Han Zhuoling and had to have an affair and even disgrace to such an extent.

Han Zhuoling may seem very stern and scary, but... but he was still a good man.

At least in her family, there was no one who did not sing praises of Han Zhuoling.

Except for the fact that he had a stern demeanor, his looks were pretty good.

She was really dumb for ditching Han Zhuoling for someone else.

"Xiaoya." When Shi Xiaoya walked out of the lift, she was still immersed in her own thoughts and only snapped back to reality when she heard her name.

When she turned around, she saw Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng walk over.

"Director Sun, Director Ji." Shi Xiaoya immediately walked out of the lift and greeted the two of them. "Are you both here to see Lu Man?"

"Yes. She will walk the red carpet two times with each of us, so we came to fetch her," Sun Yiwu said.

"Lu Man is all ready," Shi Xiaoya said as she smiled.

"Alright, then, we will go out first. You can go ahead," Sun Yiwu replied with an answering smile.

Shi Xiaoya bade the two goodbye and went to find Cris.

Han Zhuoli walked over with Lu Man and Han Zhuoling, as well as with Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng.

They only parted when they walked out of the hotel entrance to board their respective cars.

The red carpet had its own sequence as well. Lu Man had to be with the production crew and could not go together with Han Zhuoli.

Chapter 1289: Qin Gouzi

Shi Xiaoya did not walk the red carpet. She immediately went to the venue and found Cris. "Qin Gouzi!"

Shi Xiaoya called out as she walked over.

Cris flared up immediately and wanted to cover Shi Xiaoya's mouth.

Shi Xiaoya immediately avoided him and shielded her face. "I already put on makeup, don't mess it up!"

"Then why did you call my nickname?!" Cris clenched his teeth in anger. "We already agreed on it. When we are outside, you're not allowed to call me by my nickname."

"Isn't there no one here?" Shi Xiaoya said. "Alright, alright. I won't call you that anymore."

Cris was an English name he gave himself. He felt that he should be a little more fashionable as a designer, just like how hairstylists call themselves "Tony."

More importantly, his Chinese name that was given by his parents was seriously too ridiculous. His name was Qin Zigou.

His actual name was Qin Zigou and his nickname was Qin Gouzi.

Cris really wanted to snort at his parents.

Cris' background was not simple either. He came from the Qin Family, which was one of the eight great families. To make it sound even more impressive, he was the descendant of that first Emperor.

Cris' generation had to take the character "Zi" in their names.

When he was born, before his real name had been fixed, his parents first thought of his nickname.

According to his father, they had a husky at home. That husky was the father of the small husky they had now.

Of course, that one had already died from old age.

However, when he was born, that old husky was still around.

Cris' mother, Madam Qin, would carry the old husky around and call him "dear dog"¹. For example, she would say, "You are really my dear dog!"

Not long after Cris was born, Madam Qin was still in her confinement period.

The old husky came to keep her company and seemed as if he was looking after the baby, carefully sniffing the newborn Cris, afraid that he would hurt the baby and appearing really protective of him.

Madam Qin was extremely touched by this and stroked the old husky's head as she said sentimentally, "You're really my dear dog."

Yet when she said that, Madam Qin suddenly had an idea. "Dear dog, Qin Gouzi, this sounds pretty good!"

Mr. Qin: "..."

"The old husky is getting old. He will surely pass away soon. Why don't we name our son Qin Gouzi? We can still leave a memory of the old husky then."

Mr. Qin: "..."

"Our son will blame you for this," Mr. Qin said.

"It's no big deal. It's just a nickname, it won't get out. It's just our family who will call him that. Anyway, Gouzi, Gouzi, sounds so nice. A cheap name has an easy life and won't meet with sickness or disaster," Madam Qin said.

Mr. Qin wanted to say that this child was born to the Qin Family, so even if there was any illness or disaster, he would not need to worry about it.

However, Mr. Qin, who loved his wife as much as his life, named his son Qin Gouzi.

Before his son turned one week old, they needed to confirm his real name.

Old Master Qin thought long and hard, but he could not come up with a suitable name.

Madam Qin suddenly had an idea and said, "Why don't we name him Qin Zigou?"

The Old Master Qin heard it and said, "Not bad, not bad. Gou1 has 'grass' and 'sincerity.' Let's name him Qin Zigou, then."

At that time, Old Master Qin still did not know that Madam Qin simply flipped the sequence of Qin Gouzi around to make it Qin Zigou.

When the Old Master finally learned the truth, the name Qin Zigou had already been listed on their genealogy records, so they could not change it even if they wanted to.

Ever since then, the Old Master did not dare to leave the power of naming children to Cris' parents.

His mother was unreliable in coming up with names, yet his father had to indulge his mother and acted as if whatever she said was right.

Cris was unfortunately implicated in this. The rest of his siblings all had their names given by the Old Master, and it all sounded pretty nice.

This was also the reason why Cris insisted on using this name when he came to make it out on his own. He seriously did not want anyone to know of his real name and nickname.

Chapter 1290: Sucking Up

Cris and Shi Xiaoya chatted for a while before people started streaming in after walking the red carpet.

Lu Man came in a little later than both Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei.

Han Zhuoli and Han Zhuoling were the last to walk in.

Usually, those whose status was higher were placed at the last.

When Lu Man was walking on the red carpet, she even saw Qiao Luna and Jiang Yuhan pitting themselves against each other.

Neither of them wanted to walk the red carpet before the other did. Both of their cars stopped outside the red carpet and both refused to get off first, making the organizers extremely anxious.

In the end, no matter how one talked about it, both of them could be considered to have walked the red carpet together.

However, even when they were walking, both of them were still competing with each other.

Neither of them wanted to walk off first and just kept standing on the red carpet and posing for photos with the reporters and waving to their fans.

Both of them had really stayed on for too long to the point that the reporters had had enough of taking photos of them.

In the end, the security had to escort them off the red carpet.

Tang Zi also brought people over. After he was done taking photos, he entered the venue.

Before the awards ceremony started, everyone gathered together to chat and Tang Zi hurriedly came over to find Lu Man.

“Man Man.” Tang Zi walked over and said, “Let me tell you, Jiang Yuhan and Qiao Luna were being such a joke just now.”

Tang Zi told Lu Man all about how Jiang Yuhan and Qiao Luna were fighting over the red carpet.

“Then why are you still chatting with me? Quick, go and publish an article on this!” Lu Man ushered him as she laughed.

“Ah?” Tang Zi had not reacted to what she just said.

“What’s the point of just taking photos of them on the red carpet?” Lu Man explained, “There have always been all kinds of eye-catching fights on the red carpet. These two finally came about, you should quickly write an article about them fighting over the red carpet. If not, do you want other people to do it before you do?”

Tang Zi finally reacted and quickly said, “Oh my. I better go and do it now. Bye.”

After saying that, Tang Zi hurried off.

Lu Man saw Shi Xiaoya and Cris and was about to go and chat with them when she saw Liang Chengbing walk over.

Liang Chengbing sat one row in front of Lu Man. When he saw that Lu Man was here as well, he coldly averted his gaze.

He acted as if he had not seen her and turned to start small talk with other people.

“Director Liang, you must have been nominated for quite a few awards, right?” Zhang Lun’s disciple, Wang Shuyi, had walked over and praised Liang Chengbing, saying, “Best Director, Best Film, Best Actor and Best Actress, Best Supporting Male and Female Leads. I feel like you have nominations in all of them! This will break the record for the number of nominations! This is considered six nominations, right?”

Liang Chengbing purposely threw a look at Lu Man and Lu Man raised her eyebrow.

He was still thinking about her on this.

Liang Chengbing purposely pretended to be humble and waved him off. He laughed and said, “It’s hard to say, hard to say. They didn’t publish the nominee list, so everything is not confirmed. Anyway, there are so many outstanding films this time. Like your teacher, Director Zhang, his films can very possibly snag many of the big awards!”

Who could say whether Liang Chengbing saw Zhang Lun walking over first? His words came right on time to suck up to Zhang Lun.

Zhang Lun was very flattered and said, “Aye, you know how terrible this film of mine is. Don’t say it out loud and make a joke of me to others.”

Zhang Lun also saw Lu Man who was sitting a row behind Liang Chengbing and coldly glanced over her.

Was she not the mastermind responsible for his film becoming a huge flop?

Liang Chengbing smiled faintly. “The judgment for the awards for this film festival is not based on box office sales alone. It is based on the quality of the film itself. Or else, wouldn’t those smaller-scale films be unable to see the day at all?”

“Anyway, in my opinion, Director Zhang, your film is especially good. The meaning behind it runs deep, and the depth of the film is not something that the average person can understand,” Liang Chengbing said.