

Mr Han 1361

Chapter 1361: For the Next Few Decades, You Have to Stay by My Side

He was afraid that Xia Qingwei would not say that she felt even a little bit uncomfortable because she did not want to trouble other people.

Xia Qingwei smiled and agreed. "I know. I promise you. This is a big thing. If I feel even a little bit uncomfortable, I will say it. Don't worry. I won't take myself and the baby lightly."

She held Wang Juhuai's hand, and since they were in front of Doctor Li, she lowered her voice and said, "I still want to be with you for the next few decades."

Wang Juhuai started laughing giddily when he heard that.

He looked even happier than he was when he learned that Xia Qingwei was pregnant.

"You said it!" Wang Juhuai held Xia Qingwei's hand especially tightly. "Then you must promise me, you must always stay by my side."

"Of course."

After they went out of the hospital, Wang Juhuai held Xia Qingwei's hand, refusing to let go.

Up until they were about to go into the car and the two of them had to go in from opposite sides of the door, when he had no choice but to let go of Xia Qingwei's hand temporarily.

When they got into the car, he held her hand again.

The driver was sitting in front while Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei were sitting at the back.

For some reason, Xia Qingwei felt that Wang Juhuai had been very anxious and was constantly uptight.

"Juhuai?" Xia Qingwei called, lightly squeezing his hand.

Even after a moment of waiting, Wang Juhuai still did not look at her.

Xia Qingwei called worriedly again, "Juhuai?"

After a moment, Wang Juhuai turned to look at her.

Xia Qingwei realized Wang Juhuai's eyes were a little red and his face was hardened with a serious look on his face.

Xia Qingwei got a shock and said, "Don't scare me, what's wrong?"

"Nothing." Wang Juhuai remembered that she was a pregnant lady now and did not want to scare her.

"I'm just... nervous." Wang Juhuai gulped and tightened his hold on Xia Qingwei's hand. "You promised me, you will definitely be fine and give birth to the child safely. You have to stay by my side for the rest of my life. You must stay by my side!"

He had already missed being with her for more than twenty years. Wang Juhuai did not dare to think about a time when he once again did not have her by his side, which would be different from the first twenty years.

Back then, although he lost her, he knew she was still around.

However, if something happened to her next time, he would have lost her forever.

Thinking of this was enough to make Wang Juhuai shudder and to send chills down his body.

If that was really the case, he probably would not continue living on his own.

“I promise you.” Xia Qingwei could tell that Wang Juhuai was really nervous.

She turned and faced Wang Juhuai, holding his shoulders with both hands as she said, “Juhuai, look at me.”

Wang Juhuai was like a child right now, especially obedient.

He would do whatever Xia Qingwei said.

“I promised you, I will always stay by your side. You can count on my word. I assure you right now!” Xia Qingwei said seriously. “You have to believe me, believe my determination and perseverance. Because I have you, have Man Man, and our child. I have so many people I care about. I won’t allow myself to leave you all. I am only just starting to have such a blissful life. I want to hold on tight to it.”

She took Wang Juhuai’s hand and put it over her chest as she said, “You can try and feel now, I am really very healthy. And we can come for a checkup every month, every fortnight, even, if you want. You will definitely find out that I am always very healthy.”

Xia Qingwei could not help but think whether it was the right choice for her to insist on giving Wang Juhuai a child.

This time around, Wang Juhuai did not look happy at all. On the contrary, he was just very worried and had completely lost his relaxed demeanor from before.

Chapter 1362: Treat It Seriously

“I want to give you a child so that you’ll have a complete family. It’s not to make you feel so terrible. If you really...” Xia Qingwei touched her abdomen. “If this gives you so much pressure and makes you so worried, then... then we can go and abort it.”

Wang Juhuai did not even think about it and said, “No! Don’t worry. I am very happy that you can give me a child. I really do like children. It’s just that compared to having a child, I care about you more.” Wang Juhuai hugged Xia Qingwei and said, “I’m sorry, I made you worry.”

He knew how much Xia Qingwei wanted a child with him.

However, she said such things because she was worried about him.

Who could know how terrible Xia Qingwei had felt in her heart when she said those words?

How could Wang Juhuai possibly let her feel so terrible because of him?

"I'm thinking too much because I care, that's why I worry so much about gains and losses." Wang Juhuai took a deep breath and said, "I am still happy. I am very happy that we can have a child of our own. I'm not conflicted anymore. From now on, what I must do is to take care of you and let you feel at ease and happy without any stress. I thought about things too pessimistically previously, which made you nervous as well."

Wang Juhuai held Xia Qingwei's hand and said, "Anyway, you promised me that you will stay by my side. I believe you. I will also stay by your side."

Xia Qingwei smiled and nodded. "Good."

When both of them came home, the moment they stepped in, Lu Man rushed out immediately when she heard the sound of them coming in.

She was still wearing an apron and was in the midst of helping the cook to prepare lunch.

"Dad, Mom. How is it? What's the result?" Lu Man asked at the door.

Han Zhuoli followed behind Lu Man, and his hand naturally rested on her shoulder.

"Wait for me to go in and tell you. Don't worry, it's good news," Xia Qingwei said as she smiled.

Good news.

Lu Man turned and glanced at Han Zhuoli. She already had a guess in her mind.

Han Zhuoli's lips curved into a smile and he winked at her. It was obvious he was thinking of the same thing as her.

Xia Qingwei came in first and was about to take off her shoes when Wang Juhuai, who came in after, stopped her.

Wang Juhuai bent down and personally helped Xia Qingwei to take off her shoes. He did not even let her bend her back.

Xia Qingwei could not help but laugh. Wang Juhuai was being too exaggerated.

Seeing how careful Wang Juhuai was behaving, Lu Man was even more certain of her own guess.

Indeed, when Xia Qingwei changed into her slippers and came into the living room with Wang Juhuai, Wang Juhuai smiled and said, "Don't worry, it's because your mom is pregnant. From now on, we just have to take care of her and her baby."

Lu Man was surprised and elated. "Then I will have to take good care of Mom from now on."

"The doctor said he prepared a proposal, we just have to follow it. It describes all the things that she should eat, get nourishment in, how to rest and how to move about. After a month, when we go back for the prenatal checkup, we can adjust it again based on the latest situation," Wang Juhuai said.

"Then what about your job, Mom? Will you be too tired if you continue to go and teach the violin?" Lu Man asked.

“They have already signed up and paid their school fees. I can’t possibly not teach,” Xia Qingwei said. “It’s a good thing that I teach only one class a day. It will not be too much of a problem. Later into my pregnancy, when it is really not convenient, I can only put my lessons on hold for a while.”

Wang Juhuai said, “I won’t go to the studio anymore. I will work from home. If anything happens to your mom, she can just shout and be able to reach me on the first instance. This makes it convenient for me to take care of her at any time as well.”

“I’m just pregnant, you don’t need to treat it so seriously, okay?” Xia Qingwei could only say that in resignation.

Chapter 1363: Having Such a Young Uncle Is Quite a Disadvantage

“No, we must treat it with utmost seriousness,” Wang Juhuai said. “I will accompany you when you go to teach and stay by your side.”

Anyway, Wang Juhuai had decided that for the days that come after this, he would definitely not leave Xia Qingwei’s side.

“Yeah, Mom, don’t reject him. This can make us feel at ease as well,” Lu Man said. “I will come right over after class next time before going back home with Zhuoli at night.”

After she said that, she did not forget to ask Han Zhuoli, “May I?”

“Yes.” Han Zhuoli nodded.

Wang Juhuai seemed to have thought of something and started laughing.

Xia Qingwei poked him and said, “What are you laughing at on your own?”

“I’m thinking, it’s lucky that we had a child first. No matter how young our child is, it will still be older than Zhuoli and Man Man’s child. Or else, if Man Man had had a child first, having to call someone younger Uncle or Auntie will seem like a disadvantage somehow.”

Xia Qingwei thought about it and agreed. “Then it’s quite a disadvantage for Zhuoli to have such a young uncle too.”

Han Zhuoli: “...”

On that side, the cook was done preparing lunch and asked everyone to come and eat.

Wang Juhuai passed to the cook the information that Doctor Li had given him on what to eat.

He let her take note of what Xia Qingwei can eat and what she can eat more, as well as what foods she should avoid preparing for Xia Qingwei.

At around two o’clock in the afternoon, the people from the Han Family all came.

Even Han Dongping came, which made Lu Man quite surprised, but she could understand why.

It was because, with Wang Juhuai around, in Han Dongping’s eyes, this in-law was not worth nothing anymore.

Old Mrs. Han had sharp eyes. She was the first to notice something different about Xia Qingwei. “Why do I feel like you became a little different from when I met you previously? Did something good happen?”

She had a radiant glow and was exceptionally joyous.

When it came to pregnancy, Xia Qingwei was more traditional. According to the rules, it was not good to reveal one’s pregnancy during the first three months.

However, she did not hesitate that much when it came to the people she was close with.

The Han Family were her in-laws. It would not be very good if she hid it from them.

So Xia Qingwei smiled and said, “I went to have a checkup at the hospital this morning. I am pregnant, and it’s only the 40th day of my pregnancy.”

“My goodness! This is great!” Old Mrs. Han laughed. “I am really happy for both of you. I’ve always felt that Xiao Wang had been lonely without a wife and child by his side and thought it was such a pity until he got together with you and had you as well as Man Man. And now, you are expecting a child. This is really complete now.”

“It’s just that he’s really worried because I am of advanced maternal age and there will be risks involved,” Xia Qingwei said.

“That’s true, you should take careful note of that.” Old Mrs. Han remembered and said, “We have some hundred-year-old ginseng that we got from someone as a gift at home. It is something that is truly rare. I’ll ask someone to send it over when we go back.”

“This... It’s not to that extent, no. I wouldn’t need to use that in my circumstance,” Xia Qingwei said.

“That thing is really expensive. Even if it can be found in the markets, which it can’t, if someone really sells it, it might not be real. This is a thing that’s always been priceless and hard to buy. It’s such a rare thing, so all the more you have to keep it. This is something that can save a life in critical moments.”

The two elderly were old and surely needed it more than she did.

“It’s nothing. It will put my heart at ease if it’s with you. This ginseng was found by Zhaoyang back then and he sent it to us. There are more chances for us to get it in the future. Anyway, I’ll leave it with you just in case. After you give birth and there’s really nothing wrong, you can just return it to us. This is nothing.” Old Mrs. Han was afraid that Xia Qingwei would refuse, so she especially said that to relieve a bit of the pressure she felt.

Chapter 1364: You Are Our Eldest Daughter, After All

Xia Qingwei saw that Old Mrs. Han had already decided to send it over. She could only nod and agree to it for now.

However, this hundred-year-old ginseng was really too precious to her, so she had already decided to return it if she did not use it.

When Old Mrs. Han was done talking to Xia Qingwei, she suddenly hardened her face and called Wang Juhuai, “Xiao Wang!”

“Old Madam, please speak.” Wang Juhuai was especially respectful towards Old Mrs. Han.

He was a close childhood friend of Han Xijin when they were young, so he often went to play at the family home.

He’d known Old Mrs. Han since he was young. Of course, he also knew how strong and fearless Old Mrs. Han was back then.

“Although Qingwei is pregnant now and you’ll have your own child, let me tell you this. You cannot neglect Man Man because of this and treat her less well than before,” Old Mrs. Han said fiercely.

Lu Man smiled and said, “Grandma, I am already a grownup. How can I let Dad pamper me like a small child?”

Lu Man did not think so much. She just felt that even if Wang Juhuai really pampers his child more, it did not really matter.

After all, the child was so young, it was right for the child to be pampered more.

Even if she was the biological sibling, it was very normal to be more indulgent towards the younger sibling in the family.

She really would not feel uncomfortable just because the young child was more pampered and more cared for.

However, just when everyone was congratulating Xia Qingwei and Wang Juhuai and being happy for them, Old Mrs. Han was the only one who thought of her and worried that she would suffer. Lu Man was really touched by this.

She did not expect Old Mrs. Han to say, “That won’t do. You can’t think you don’t need to be cared for just because you’re all grown up. No matter how old the child is, in their parents’ eyes, they will always be a child. Although we can love you just as much, this is still different from the love of your parents. You need to have love from both sides.”

“Grandma...” Lu Man called her as she felt really touched. She could not help but stand up and walk over to hug Old Mrs. Han as she said, “You’re really nice.”

Actually, with Old Mrs. Han around, how would she suffer?

Old Mrs. Han would be the first to disagree.

Lu Man truly felt this because of what Old Mrs. Han had said.

Wang Juhuai said sternly, “Old Madam, you are insulting me now when you say this. Be it the child that Qingwei bears now or Man Man, they are both my children. They are both equal in my eyes. I am also not the kind who will pamper the younger one more or who thinks that the older child must give in to the younger child.

“From the day Man Man called me Dad, I’ve already told myself that I will never disappoint her and will definitely be a good father.” Wang Juhuai pursed his lips before he said, “As for Man Man, my love for

her won't change with the coming of this child. The only thing that will have changed is that Man Man will have one more family member."

"Dad." Lu Man hugged Old Mrs. Han by the neck as she turned and called Wang Juhuai.

She did not need to say anything. Wang Juhuai could understand Lu Man's intentions just from her reaction now.

He smiled gently at Lu Man and said, "Silly child, you are the eldest daughter in our family, after all."

Lu Man could not help but look at this huge family of hers and feel exceptionally grateful.

This was really nice. Even if she had a younger brother or sister, she would also not be ostracized because of that.

On Lu Man's end, the whole family was warm and harmonious.

Xia Qingwei was pregnant, making Wang Juhuai's life more and more complete.

However, for Lin Jinshu, life was dark and gloomy.

After being splashed with red paint, Lin Jinshu just stayed at home all day and did not dare to go out.

For any matters concerning work, she would let people come to her house for a meeting to discuss and make decisions.

She did not dare go out herself. If she went out, she would be hounded and pounded by people everywhere.

Chapter 1365: Badly Criticized

It was as if everyone recognized her. It was too much.

Even Wang Qianyun was dragged into this.

Previously, when she did not expect things to become so serious, Wang Qianyun had even accompanied her on the streets.

In the end, even Wang Qianyun was pointed at and chided by other people.

She even had rotten vegetables thrown all over her body.

She also did not know who had been so evil as to buy a bottle of WANGZHIHE[1] of stinky tofu paste and dump all its contents, including the sauce inside, onto their bodies.

The person said that they were both stinkier than this stinky tofu paste.

After all, everyone knew of Wang Qianyun as well.

Previously, Wang Qianyun had looked down on films produced in the country so much and spoke notoriously of them quite a few times, which people still remembered.

There were some netizens who found out somehow that Wang Qianyun came back to find a job in the country and directly exposed this on the Internet.

“Wang Qianyun looked down on domestic films and still wants to come back and find a job. Since you look down on the film industry here so much, don’t come and join in, lest it taints your prestigious and elegant reputation of being a Hollywood producer.”

“I also know one thing. Wang Qianyun seemed to have returned with Lin Jinshu. They seem to be very close.”

“Lin Jinshu is Wang Juhuai’s ex-wife. She surely knows Wang Juhuai, since she is her previous Aunt. I just didn’t expect them to be on good terms still.”

“Could they be on bad terms? They are both women who desperately want to be third parties. They’re so disgusting, that’s why the two are together.”

“Why do you say so?”

“You guys already know about Lin Jinshu, so I won’t say much on that. As for Wang Qianyun, you guys probably don’t know, right? She’s always liked Han Zhuoli. When Han Zhuoli was single back then, he already didn’t like her. Afterward, when he got to know Lu Man, all the more she would not catch his eye. However, she could not take it lying down and kept wanting to separate Han Zhuoli and Lu Man so that she can replace her. However, Han Zhuoli and Lu Man have a really good relationship, so neither of them bothered with her. After that, Han Zhuoli and Lu Man got married, yet she still would not give up, so she dragged Lin Jinshu along with her and came back.”

“Lin Jinshu successfully separated Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei back then, so she has her ways. Wang Qianyun probably wants Lin Jinshu to help her. That’s really shameless, don’t you all think?”

“What the? That is too shameless! When he was not married, you already wanted to be the third party. Although she was not a nice person, at least she was not devoid of morals. Now that they are married, you still want to go and break them up. This is what you call a slut!”

“Wang Qianyun is really interesting. She still mixes around with her uncle’s ex-wife and even intends to support Lin Jinshu to continue setting up Wang Juhuai? Or else, under normal circumstances, Wang Juhuai would not get back together with Lin Jinshu at all. Wang Qianyun even wants to get involved in her uncle’s private life. She is really something.”

“Speaking of it, Wang Juhuai treated her quite well. Look at when Wang Qianyun came back to the country and said all those obnoxious things. It shows that this person’s EQ and capabilities are limited. However, she could still work as a producer at Maxus Company. It was obvious that she relied on Wang Juhuai’s fame. Now that Wang Juhuai had decided not to bother with her, she is nothing. Haha, she clearly relies on Wang Juhuai for everything, yet she still wants to have a hand in meddling with other people’s private affairs. It is obvious that her IQ is lacking as well.”

Previously, when Wang Qianyun accompanied the production crew of *Attack Force* to promote in the country, she had already been badly criticized once by netizens when she made those retarded statements that garnered public furor.

This time, she was criticized even more.

All these, of course, was not lacking in control on Lu Man's end.

Or else, the criticisms would only be targeted at Lin Jinshu, as it was at first. Why would it suddenly be blasted towards Wang Qianyun?

Chapter 1366: Go Back

Lu Man felt that Lin Jinshu had been roasted enough with criticisms. Since there was time, she decided to pull Wang Qianyun along.

In the future, she wanted to put in more energy on Xia Qingwei's pregnancy, so she would not have so much time to waste on Wang Qianyun.

Hence, now, not only did Lin Jinshu not dare to go out, Wang Qianyun did not dare to either.

She could not even go out to attend an interview. She was totally living off of Lin Jinshu now.

Lin Jinshu was also not someone who would feed a person for nothing if there were no advantages to be gained from it.

Seeing that up until now, Wang Qianyun had not brought her any advantages, Lin Jinshu naturally would not offer to bear Wang Qianyun's living expenses.

Wang Qianyun felt embarrassed to ask for it as well.

Furthermore, Lin Jinshu's situation was not any better.

Her business kept failing to start. Looking at it now, it seemed like all the money she had invested in it had all gone to waste.

If she wanted to start all over again, she would have to invest a huge sum of money all over again.

Lin Jinshu could not manage it either.

Seeing the criticisms of her on the Internet, Lin Jinshu suddenly put down her phone and went back to her room.

Not long after, Wang Qianyun heard the sounds of packing coming from Lin Jinshu's room.

Wang Qianyun immediately rushed over and saw Lin Jinshu packing her luggage.

"Auntie? What are you doing right now?" Wang Qianyun asked in confusion as she stood by the door.

"What am I doing? Going back to America, of course." Lin Jinshu stuffed her things into her luggage in anger. "If I continue staying here, I will have to suffer huge losses, aside from being criticized and attacked by people."

Wang Qianyun immediately took brisk steps towards her and asked, "Don't tell me you're going to give up just like that? You're just going to let Uncle and Xia Qingwei be together?"

"Who said so?" Lin Jinshu seemed to have calmed down a little and slowed down in her packing, becoming more meticulous.

Lin Jinshu stood up, panting a little.

When she evened out her breathing, the corners of her lips suddenly curved up into a smirk. "I am only going back temporarily to hone and strengthen myself for the big push. If I continue persevering in the face of such a strong force, that will just be stupid. I will go back first. But do they think I will admit defeat just like that? That's impossible! I persevered for ten years after my divorce, I won't admit defeat so easily. I will go back to America and make them think that I've admitted defeat so they will let their guard down, and that's when I will make my comeback."

Wang Qianyun rolled her eyes as if she was struggling with something.

Lin Jinshu laughed sarcastically. "I advise you to leave with me. There's no use even if you stay here now. You will just be like me, not daring to step out of the house and not being able to find a job. At least in the short term, no company in the country will hire you, be it because of your recent dark history of being the subject of public fury or because of Han Zhuoli. As long as you want to work in the domestic entertainment industry, you will never escape Han Zhuoli's rule. In the country, and in the entertainment industry, Han Zhuoli's word is the law. If he wants you out of the industry, you won't be able to survive in it. It's like your situation now. What's the point of your insisting to stay in the country?"

"Why don't you go back first just like me and prepare well before coming back again?" Lin Jinshu said, "We did not prepare well enough this time around and underestimated Xia Qingwei and Lu Man. This time, when we go back, we should devise our plan properly."

Wang Qianyun was very reluctant to leave just like that. She did not achieve any of the goals she set out to achieve when she came back this time around.

However, it was just like what Lin Jinshu said. If she did not leave now, there was no point in her staying at all.

Wang Qianyun still decided to leave with Lin Jinshu in the end.

Both of them left very quietly and in a low-profile manner. Afraid that they would be blocked off by some extreme citizens, they specifically bought the flights in the wee hours of the morning.

Chapter 1367: Results Will Be Terrible

There were very few people during that time, so it was alright for the two of them.

When Han Zhuoli told Lu Man and Wang Juhuai that Lin Jinshu and Wang Qianyun had already left, both women were already on the plane.

Lu Man heaved a sigh of relief. She finally did not need to worry about Lin Jinshu doing anything during Xia Qingwei's pregnancy.

In the blink of an eye, Xia Qingwei was already into her third month of pregnancy, so there was no need to hide it from outsiders.

However, Wang Juhuai did not deliberately talk about it either. It would not be too late to announce it when the child was born and Xia Qingwei was safe and sound as well.

He knew very well that all kinds of people exist on the Internet. There were people who were just evil-hearted and had a dirty mouth, and who just could not stand others doing well.

Anyway, as long as they did not have to be responsible for things, they could just tap on their keyboards whenever their lips twitched and they could easily mock someone else.

There would definitely be a fair share of jealous and nasty comments, even evil comments.

Xia Qingwei was pregnant; it was a very important time. Wang Juhuai would definitely not allow such things to happen and let Xia Qingwei be affected by those people's comments.

At this moment, Lu Man was already having her summer break.

She would come and accompany Xia Qingwei in the morning and go back home with Han Zhuoli at night.

The materials to prepare for going to New York University as an exchange student had been with her all along, yet she did not fill it in.

After the finals period, the results would be released only when the school reopens.

This time, many people put in a lot of effort to prepare, unlike before when they just idled and got by.

Those who were interested in being selected to go to New York were all very hardworking.

There were even some who were working so hard with the intention of surpassing Lu Man's results.

After all, Lu Man had too many things going on for her this year. She attended shows, got into a conflict with Dong Hua Station, and even got married.

She had been so busy and surely did not have much time to prepare for the exams.

Furthermore, Lu Man already had a direct spot for going to New York, so she would not take the exam results and rankings so seriously.

They were banking on this to surpass Lu Man.

Lu Man's classmates still did not know that Lu Man was not intending to go to New York.

Lu Man had told only Zheng Yuan and the girls.

As she was not intending to go, there would surely be one more spot available, so she wanted the three of them to give it a try and fight for it.

Pan Xue had already given up first. She felt that her results would probably not be able to make it.

Since it was impossible no matter how hard she worked, she would not go and fight for it. She would just live through her university days in a carefree manner.

Zheng Yuan and Han Leilei both wanted to give it a shot.

There were some netizens online who actually had not forgotten about Lu Man's final exams.

"Aiya, why is no one focusing on Lu Man's final exam results this year? Did Lu Man not make a bet with her classmates?"

“Look at what you’re saying, as if Lu Man is addicted to betting and would go around betting with people for fun.”

“Lu Man probably doesn’t have time to focus on her exam results this year. She’s had quite a few issues this year, and even got married. She also has a spot as an exchange student to New Year already, so she won’t need to fight for this bit of results. I think Lu Man’s results this year will be terrible.”

“Are Lu Man’s classmates around? How did she do for her exams this time around?”

Some netizens tagged a few people, including Zhang Xiaoying and Zhuang Tingting.

It was because these people were more active online usually and were already known to be classmates with Lu Man.

Netizens would know that it was because Zhuang Tingting and those people mocked Lu Man during the final exams previously that made netizens remember their names.

In contrast, Zheng Yuan and the girls who were really on good terms with Lu Man had been very low profile.

It was because Lu Man rarely posted things on Weibo, so they never interacted with each other on Weibo before.

Chapter 1368: Coming on Exchange to the Country

When Lu Man had been attacked online, Zheng Yuan and the girls had also been stopped by Lu Man when they wanted to speak up for her.

Hence, up until now, netizens were not familiar with Zheng Yuan and the girls.

As for Zhuang Tingting and her friends, they naturally did not have a good impression of them.

They just treated them as people who wanted to ride on Lu Man’s fame.

Zhuang Tingting was tagged again, so she said in a rude manner, “How would I know how Lu Man did? You guys can just go and ask her, right? I may be Lu Man’s classmate, but stop asking me about Lu Man’s stuff all the time! I am me, Lu Man is Lu Man. It’s your own issue if you like Lu Man, don’t come and harass me.”

Netizens were dumbstruck by Zhuang Tingting’s words.

“What’s wrong with this person?”

“Does she think we never tagged Lu Man before? It’s because Lu Man never responded to the tags. Aside from big matters, she basically does not come out to speak. What choice do we have?”

“Some people think so highly of themselves! It’s just asking about exams, right?! This is also considered harassment. I won’t dare, I won’t dare.”

“Haha, now she’s saying she has nothing to do with Lu Man. She had such a good time throwing hate on Lu Man back then. She even rode on Lu Man’s popularity just to be known. If not for Lu Man, who would know about you?”

Zhuang Tingting was furious and just got into a quarrel with netizens.

Since when did she ride on Lu Man’s popularity?!

She did not give a damn about Lu Man!

In the end, those netizens said, “But it’s precisely because of Lu Man that we know you.”

Zhuang Tingting was only one person and there were so many netizens. How could she win against so many of them?

She quickly lost and even got herself into quite a fit of rage.

Pan Xue talked about this matter gloatingly in the chat and even tagged Lu Man, Zheng Yuan, and Han Leilei.

The four of them had created a small group chat and would talk to each other when they were bored, so they would not mix with the people in the class chat.

Lu Man and the girls quickly went online to take a look. They were having a good time watching the ruckus when Lu Man received a call from Principal Liu.

“Principal Liu?” Lu Man was shocked. It was rare that he would look for her even during the school break.

“Lu Man, do you have time now? Are you free to come to the school and to my office to talk about the exchange issue? I have a suggestion on my end. You won’t need to go to New York,” Principal Liu said.

Hearing that, Lu Man definitely would not disagree. “Okay, I’ll come over right now.”

It just so happened that Wang Juhuai was at home, so Lu Man let Xiao Guo drive and fetch her to school.

Summer in B City was exceptionally hot.

The aircon was on in the car so it was quite comfortable. However, the moment they got off the car, the heat waves immediately assaulted them. She felt as if her whole body was being baked in an oven.

Lu Man quickly took big steps to walk into the classroom block. The moment she was greeted by the cooling breeze from the aircon in the classroom block, she immediately relaxed.

When she reached the principal’s office, Principal Liu was making tea. When he saw Lu Man, he immediately greeted her and asked her to come in.

“I asked you to come because I have a piece of good news for you. My apologies for calling you over on such a hot day. I thought it would be better if we talked about it in person,” Principal Liu said, smiling.

“You’re too polite.” Lu Man smiled and sat opposite Principal Liu.

Principal Liu poured tea for Lu Man and said, "Although it's a hot day, drinking some hot tea would actually make you feel less hot."

Lu Man thought that since there was aircon in the office, she would not feel hot anyway.

After sipping on her tea, she heard Principal Liu say, "I wanted to try and convince you at first to participate in the exchange program with New York University, but I just received a notice today. It's from New York University. This time, they also want to send 10 students over to our country for the exchange.

"We are sending a total of 10 students from a few schools over to go to New York University only to learn. However, they are sending 10 people from the same school to come to our side to visit and learn from the various reputable performing arts school here."

Chapter 1369: Something Wrong with Their Brain

Principal Liu shook his head and laughed. "On the surface, they call it an exchange and a tour to make it sound nicer. In reality, they are here to challenge us. If they come here on exchange, don't they still have to compete with our students? After they win, they will move on to the next school.

"Haha." Principal Liu scoffed. "The higher-ups have already given orders for every school to have a friendly match with them. Their original words were that the schools would send a total of 10 students over to New York University, but many more students will lose the chance to improve themselves.

"Since the performing arts students from New York University are coming over here on exchange, we can let every school send out 10 students as well to interact and have a friendly match with them and have a sense of the gap between them. Every school will send out 10 students, so the number of places available will be way more than the initial method of choosing a total of 10 students from the various schools.

"Perhaps the higher-ups had good intentions at first. The students chosen from each school would already be students from top schools that were not chosen previously, so there would only be a slight difference in their capabilities. It will be good for these students to use this chance during their exchange to learn well from them and improve themselves. Usually, students would compete with other students within the country, so their world view will inevitably be a little more limited.

"Let them use this chance to broaden their world view," Principal Liu said. "It's supposed to be a very good thing, but who knew someone would suggest that the loser of the friendly match would have to display the school flag of the winning school in the display corridor?"

"Schools like ours all have a history. We specifically set aside a corridor to hang the pictures of the various principals that have been in the school. Graduates with outstanding contributions to the school will also have their pictures put up there. How can we put up another school's flag on display so casually?" Principal Liu said angrily. "The person who suggested this must have something wrong with his brain!"

Principal Liu could only say such words without holding back because he was talking to Lu Man.

Although she understood what Principal Liu meant, it was still a bit too blunt of Principal Liu to have such disdain for the students on their side.

Principal Liu smiled awkwardly. "I'm not trying to boost other people's morale while undermining our own. It's really because of the reality of our past results. We gathered the best students from four universities, yet we couldn't win even once. Even Gao Zishan and Dong Qinrong, who both went to New York University as exchange students, had never won before.

"Hence, I feel that this time, it would be enough if we can gain some experience and broaden our insights. I really am not pinning my hopes on winning. That's why I was so angry. They clearly knew that we would lose. I wonder who actually suggested this. This is clearly to let those people from New York University hang their school's flags on our wall of honor. If this person is not stu—" Principal Liu did not finish saying the word and immediately stopped himself. "It's not nice to scold people, it's not nice to scold people.

"Anyway, this time, it's great that you are not going to New York. When the other team comes, you have to be the team leader on our side, and you will be our ace," Principal Liu said. "Lu Man, you can't reject it again this time."

"Don't worry. I will definitely try my best," Lu Man said with a smile.

Since she was staying here, there was no reason for her to reject it.

"Apart from that, I also had a meeting to discuss with the principals of the other three schools. We will reserve your spot as an exchange student for now. Firstly, this spot belongs to you anyway, we cannot take it. Secondly, we also want to see the results of the competition this time. When the team from New York University comes over, you should also compete with them and see how the end result will be like."

Chapter 1370: Retaining Her Spot

"If the result is not bad, the school can apply for leave on your behalf while you retain your spot. When it is time for the competition, you can go over then," Principal Liu said.

Lu Man was stunned for a moment. She did not expect such a move to be possible.

After all, the spots were divided among four different schools. Principal Liu did not have the final say in this.

Lu Man did not expect the principals from the other three schools to agree.

So Lu Man asked about it.

"Of course they agreed. They know about your capabilities too. This is undeniable. Since there is a chance of winning, we shouldn't stop it from happening. Although we are constantly competing among ourselves, at critical moments, we still have to consider the big picture." Principal Liu looked at Lu Man and said, "Lu Man, you have to agree with me on this. You won't have to spend the whole year in New York. You'll just need to go when it's time for the competition. It won't exceed a week. Is this okay?"

Principal Liu really tried his best.

Lu Man would not agree to go to New York no matter what. Principal Liu could only try his best by having her retain her spot. He could be said to be especially sincere.

Although Principal Liu did not say it, Lu Man also knew that it had not been easy for him to convince the other three principals.

He'd have had to convince Principal Zhang from the National Drama Academy, which was already very hard to do.

Aside from the fact that the National Film Academy and the National Drama Academy had been competitors with each other all this while, Lu Man had even had a conflict with the National Drama Academy before.

The more honor she had achieved for the National Film Academy, the worse it had hit the reputation of the National Drama Academy.

Principal Zhang might be very unwilling to let Lu Man hold on to this spot and still not go to New York.

Without Lu Man, both the National Drama Academy and the National Film Academy could send out another student of their choice.

Furthermore, even if she went, they might not necessarily win against the opposing team.

If it was not a sure win, Principal Zhang was unlikely to be convinced.

She wondered how Principal Liu had managed to convince him.

However, since Principal Liu had already done his part up until this point, it would not be good for Lu Man to reject it.

A week was not a long time, so she nodded. "Since you already said so, I will definitely have to agree."

"Good!" Principal Liu patted his thigh happily. "I was really afraid you wouldn't even want to go for a week. It's fine if you can go. You don't have to win for sure, but you definitely cannot lose too badly. That would be enough."

"You have the materials with you. You should just prepare them all and hand them in to Teacher Liang," Principal Liu said.

Lu Man agreed.

When she was about to leave, Principal Liu laughed. "I saw that the netizens online are all concerned about your final exam results, eh?"

Lu Man laughed. "I didn't expect everyone to remember."

As for the final exams' results this time, Lu Man was pretty confident as well.

She did not put aside her studies just because she went on a show and got married.

She simply had a serious personality. As long as she was doing it, she would do it well and would not give up halfway.

She also did not become lazy about maintaining her results or think that they were not important anymore after she got a spot to go to New York.

It was because she had decided not to go to New York very early on that these things were not important to her.

Lu Man knew very well how her results would directly reflect the amount of effort she had put in.

“Haha, the results have also been out in school. We’re only waiting for you guys to come back before we release the results. I have a copy of it here as well.” Principal Liu stood up and went to open his drawer by the study table and took out a case file from within.

He opened the case file and took out a stack of result reports from it. The first one was Lu Man’s.