

## Mr Han 1531

### Chapter 1531: Isn't He Annoying?

The four of them shifted to a bigger table, and Lu Man learned from Shi Xiaoya that she wanted to eat the lobster too, but was afraid of the smell remaining on her hands. That might make Jiang Yuhan uncomfortable when Shi Xiaoya does her makeup for her.

With the addition of Shi Xiaoya and Guo Yujie, Lu Man added another two dishes.

Han Zhuoli seized the moment and quickly texted Han Zhuoling. "Big Brother, have you eaten?"

Han Zhuoling replied after a while. "Not yet, I still have some work left. I'll be leaving later."

Han Zhuoli: "Heh, guess who's eating with me and Man Man right now?"

Han Zhuoling: "..."

Han Zhuoli's sneaky habit struck again.

"We're eating with Shi Xiaoya, but it's only a coincidence." Han Zhuoli swiftly sent the message.

When Han Zhuoling saw it, he contemplated how to get the restaurant's address without getting teased by Han Zhuoli.

But Han Zhuoli sent their location first. "We're here. You better hurry if you want to come. We're leaving when we're done. Shi Xiaoya has work to do."

"..." Han Zhuoling deleted the words he had typed and sent another text. "I'm going over now."

Han Zhuoling looked at the work undone, then placed them into his bag after thinking about it, planning to work on them at home after the dinner party.

In the end, he received another message from Han Zhuoli. "Not working anymore?"

Han Zhuoling: "..."

*Isn't he annoying?*

Ever since he got a wife, Han Zhuoli became the picture of a fearless and smug man.

Too lazy to reply to him, Han Zhuoling exited the office.

Seriously...

*Is he shameless or what?!*

Xiao Zhang waited in the car and went to open the door for Han Zhuoling when he saw him coming out.

Han Zhuoling unexpectedly came out early this time.

Han Zhuoling sat at the back and saw a big bunch of roses at the shotgun seat.

Xiao Zhang explained with a smile, “Ms. Shi wasn’t in her office in the morning, and she probably would have no place to put the flowers if I gave them to her then. It’s perfect that Ms. Shi’s joining the gala tonight. I’ll be bringing them over to her now.”

How thoughtful of Xiao Zhang.

Because Han Zhuoling was going as well, he should seize the chance to let Han Zhuoling send Shi Xiaoya home. Wouldn’t it be convenient for Shi Xiaoya to take the flowers then?

Xiao Zhang mentally gave his intelligence a “like.”

Needless to say, Han Zhuoling was finally on the same wavelength as his wingman this time.

He thought that it’s okay if it wasn’t convenient for Shi Xiaoya to take the flowers. When he’s free later that night, he could do her a favor and send her home. Wouldn’t that be easier for Shi Xiaoya?

If it was someone else, he definitely wouldn’t send them home.

But he had angered Shi Xiaoya, and he had no idea if she had forgiven him yet.

Moreover, they were, at the very least, acquaintances, and they had a relatively close relationship in his eyes. He should just consider it as him helping Shi Xiaoya out!

“Later, stop at the entrance of the hotel. Don’t give the flowers yet. Wait until Shi Xiaoya has gone backstage,” Han Zhuoling said.

Otherwise, if Xiao Zhang were to give the flowers in front of Han Zhuoling, he...

\*cough\* He found the thought strangely embarrassing.

Han Zhuoling lowered his head with a strange expression, pretending to fiddle with his phone.

When in reality, no one was contacting him.

Han Zhuoling took out his laptop instead and continued working.

Xiao Zhang looked at Han Zhuoling’s reaction through the rearview mirror and felt a headache coming on.

Why was Boss so unenlightened?

He should seize the chance to take the flowers himself and deliver them to Shi Xiaoya personally. Shi Xiaoya would then not dare to explode in anger even if she was still furious with him.

### **Chapter 1532: Came for Nothing**

What’s more, if he did that, Shi Xiaoya would be the first person ever to receive flowers personally given by Han Zhuoling.

Since she was the first woman Han Zhuoling gave flowers to, having him send her home wouldn’t be that big of a deal.

Shi Xiaoya knew Han Zhuoling’s temperament for certain.

For him to personally send flowers was enough to show his sincerity.

Xiao Zhang thought that this was what anyone would do.

Who knew that after Han Zhuoling saw the flowers, he'd still want Xiao Zhang to deliver it?!

Haha!

No wonder he couldn't get the woman!

Xiao Zhang sighed in his heart.

Han Zhuoling sat at the back with the laptop on his legs, but not a single word registered in his brain.

His mind was buzzing with thoughts of meeting Shi Xiaoya later.

What should he say when he saw her?

How should he apologize?

How should he pacify her?

For the first time in 33 years, the first Young Master Han was nervous.

His mind was troubled, and he was in no mood nor had any motivation to do any work.

This was extremely unusual for Han Zhuoling.

If Han Zhuoli caught wind of this, he would be cackling in glee.

Han Zhuoling rubbed his temples in frustration and put his laptop back into his bag.

Not long after, the car went onto a narrow road filled with students on either side of the curb.

Then the car stopped in front of a small eatery.

Xiao Zhang turned around. "We're here, Young Master Ling."

Han Zhuoling took a look and was slightly stunned.

Like Han Zhuoli, he had never eaten in such a small, common eatery before, and he was at a loss.

He nodded and told Xiao Zhang, "Drive the car to the school directly. No need to wait for me."

"Alright." Xiao Zhang drove off after Han Zhuoling alighted.

Han Zhuoling glanced at the exterior and straightened his back. Just as he was about to enter, he saw Shi Xiaoya and Guo Yujie coming out.

Both parties never expected to bump into the other here.

Shi Xiaoya never thought that she would meet Han Zhuoling, no matter where.

She had predicted that Han Zhuoling wouldn't attend tonight's event.

Alas, Han Zhuoling not only came, but he even arrived at this humble shop.

He looked very much out of place in his expensive suit worth thousands, standing in such a plebeian shop entrance.

It was as if there was an invisible barrier separating Han Zhuoling from this shop.

As for Han Zhuoling, though he knew Shi Xiaoya was here since he did come here for her...

He was not prepared to meet Shi Xiaoya in the hotel, much less bump into her much earlier here at this eatery.

Han Zhuoling froze, and Shi Xiaoya was reminded of the flowers she'd received daily when she saw him.

Though he sent someone else to deliver them and she had no idea how sincere he was...

The cards were written by him personally. Shi Xiaoya blushed thinking of this.

"Young Master Ling," Shi Xiaoya greeted uncomfortably.

With her lowered head, Han Zhuoling couldn't see her expression, nor could he gauge her attitude towards him.

"You're done eating?" Han Zhuoling frowned. He came for nothing, then?

She was exiting the shop, and it probably wasn't to welcome him.

Shi Xiaoya nodded lightly. "Yes. I have work to do so I have to leave early."

Han Zhuoling: "..."

Shi Xiaoya finally raised her head and peeked at him briefly, so swiftly that Han Zhuoling couldn't catch anything.

He then heard Shi Xiaoya say, "You're probably here for Young Master Han. I won't bother you, then. Do enter."

### **Chapter 1533: Would I Send Flowers to a Mere Acquaintance?**

Han Zhuoling's frown between his brows was deep enough to trap the flies inside the eatery.

Hearing Shi Xiaoya use "nin"[1] made him even more glum inside.

"Are we that distant?" Han Zhuoling asked in a low voice.

Shi Xiaoya paused and blinked, questioning silently, were they that close, then?

As if knowing what she was thinking, Han Zhuoling tightened his lips. "Would I send flowers to a mere acquaintance?"

He sounded like he was pouting.

The sentence made Shi Xiaoya speechless.

Guo Yujie retreated three steps, standing at an angle particularly suited for watching gossip unfold. Her eyes shone like a hunter, flicking between Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling.

When Xiao Zhang appeared like a tagalong to their office to send the daily flowers to Shi Xiaoya, she was already considering whether Han Zhuoling was harboring feelings for Shi Xiaoya and was wooing her.

Though both of them had fought and had a misunderstanding...

There were so many other ways to apologize. Why did Han Zhuoling choose the method used for courting girls?

No matter how Guo Yujie looked at it, Han Zhuoling was wooing Shi Xiaoya for sure.

Hearing Han Zhuoling's tone now, Guo Yujie understood everything in a flash.

She quickly ducked to a corner to conceal her laughter and focus on the scene unfolding before her.

She was severely tempted to drag out a table to eat and watch at the same time.

Just as she was thinking this, she glanced inside the shop and saw Han Zhuoli grab Lu Man's hand. They then slowly shifted towards the entrance, found themselves a suitable position to watch—one where Han Zhuoling couldn't spot them—and sat.

While Lu Man was being pulled by Han Zhuoli, she grasped a bunch of seeds the lady boss had given for free.

The couple was now chewing on seeds while watching the drama unfold.[2]

Guo Yujie: "..."

The rich are smart. She had lost.

Shi Xiaoya's face was burning. She knew Han Zhuoling probably meant nothing with his words, but they sounded so ambiguous when spoken out loud, like there was something between them.

"..." But at least Shi Xiaoya knew that the flowers were ordered by Han Zhuoling himself, not something he mentioned in passing and decided on by his subordinates.

"I wanted to say, the flowers, you..." Shi Xiaoya began, and seeing Han Zhuoling frown, quickly changed her form of address, "you don't need to send them anymore. It's not a big deal anyway. It's the thought that counts. There's no need to waste your money anymore."

Han Zhuoling's brows were still drawn. "Then you forgive me?"

"Yes," Shi Xiaoya said detachedly. "It was just a misunderstanding. There's nothing to forgive. Sorry for troubling you."

Han Zhuoling: "..."

How was this forgiving him?

Such politeness.

When they were filming, she never spoke to him in such a polite and distant manner.

"You said you've forgiven me, yet you speak to me like this?" Han Zhuoling asked with a raised brow.

His presence was so dominating, Shi Xiaoya automatically shrunk.

Shi Xiaoya was beyond resigned. Speak to him how?

Wasn't she polite enough?

What else did he want?

"Then what attitude should I have?" Shi Xiaoya wanted to know desperately.

Han Zhuoling: "..."

The one she had when they were filming before—not being reserved and remote from him.

To smile at him, speak without holding back and joke with him.

Even hugging him in fright.

Hmm...

Han Zhuoling realized that he didn't mind Shi Xiaoya doing those.

Shi Xiaoya knew what he was implying, but seeing that Han Zhuoling remained silent, she continued to play the fool.

#### **Chapter 1534: Need to Be Consistent**

Shi Xiaoya checked her phone and said, "Sorry, Young Master Ling, but I really need to go or I'll be late."

With that, Shi Xiaoya stepped aside and brushed past Han Zhuoling.

After taking a few steps, she realized Guo Yujie wasn't following her.

Turning, she saw that Guo Yujie was still deeply immersed in the drama.

Shi Xiaoya sighed and coughed a few times loudly. Guo Yujie finally recovered, quickly saying to Han Zhuoling, "Then we'll be going, Young Master Ling."

Then she ran after Shi Xiaoya.

Han Zhuoling pursed his lips, standing rooted at the entrance as he watched the girls walk towards the school.

When the two of them had disappeared from his view, someone said behind him, "Stop looking, they're gone."

Han Zhuoling then turned around with a dark expression, grousing mentally about how long the two had been watching from the side.

He then saw a table full of peeled shells.

Haha!

Han Zhuoling huffed, "Where's your table?"

Lu Man knew Han Zhuoling well enough and considered him a paper tiger.

He was someone who was aloof on the surface but treated his family excellently and never got angry with them.

Even so, she still felt slightly nervous looking at his expression.

She swallowed and pointed silently towards the table tucked deep inside the shop.

When the couple had gone over, they didn't forget to tell the waiter that they were not done eating and he was not to clear the table.

Hence, the dishes were still displayed on the table.

Han Zhuoling glanced at the couple and led them back to the table.

Lu Man and Han Zhuoli followed him and sat.

Han Zhuoling sat directly facing them.

Lu Man waved the waiter over to collect Shi Xiaoya's and Guo Yujie's utensils and provide a new set.

Han Zhuoli then ordered a few more dishes according to Han Zhuoling's taste.

They weren't in a hurry since there was still plenty of time before the gala was to start.

If they went in early, they'd have to deal with others who wanted to socialize. They were in no mood to accommodate them.

So they chose to eat here leisurely.

Knowing that he had to drive home after the party, Han Zhuoli refused alcohol but asked if Han Zhuoling wanted some.

"I let Xiao Zhang off early, so I'm driving later. No alcohol for me," Han Zhuoling explained.

Hence, they asked for another bottle of fruit juice.

"Driving by yourself later... are you going to send Shi Xiaoya home too?" Han Zhuoli asked, laughing.

Han Zhuoling was a picture of aloofness. "See how it goes first."

"Heh!" Han Zhuoli was sorely tempted to call Old Mrs. Han and Lin Liye right now and tell them what was happening.

Let them hear how Han Zhuoling was still in denial.

With Han Zhuoling's temper, it's best to let Old Mrs. Han whack him with the feather duster.

Just like Han Zhuoli before. He wasn't in a hurry at first.

But he got whacked so many times by Old Mrs. Han that he bucked up his pace.

"Say, you've sent so many days' worth of flowers, but what about today? Have you sent any?" Han Zhuoli questioned.

He had persisted for so long. Wasn't it a waste to stop just as he was about to succeed?

Especially during important times like today, he can't just drop the ball!

"..." Han Zhuoling drank a mouthful of the juice. "The flowers are with Xiao Zhang. He'll be sending them to Shi Xiaoya later."

Lu Man: "..."

"Big Brother, since you came, why didn't you bring the flowers?" he asked immediately.

Han Zhuoling: "..."

"It was always delivered by Xiao Zhang." Han Zhuoling cleared his throat uncomfortably. "One needs to be consistent."

Han Zhuoli: "..."

Lu Man: "..."

### **Chapter 1535: You're Hopeless**

What goddamn consistency.

It's not Xiao Zhang wooing the girl, for Pete's sake!

Han Zhuoli shook his head in exasperation, thinking that he must really tell Old Mrs. Han and Lin Liye later.

He couldn't help Han Zhuoling cover up anymore.

Otherwise, with him like this, he probably wouldn't even react in time by the time Shi Xiaoya sent him a wedding invitation.

Han Zhuoling had a suitable reason. "What's more, what if I missed her? Am I supposed to walk around with such a big bunch of flowers?"

Han Zhuoling slanted a look at Han Zhuoli indignantly. "I almost missed her just now."

Han Zhuoli smirked. "You said 'almost.' Didn't you bump into her still? You encountered her and didn't think to give her the flowers. Tsk, how's letting your subordinate deliver the flowers more sincere than giving them to her yourself?"

Han Zhuoling: "..."

When Han Zhuoling saw that even Lu Man was looking at him with a "you're hopeless" expression, Han Zhuoling suddenly felt he was in trouble.

When the three finished eating, they walked back to the school.

Two devilishly handsome and elegant men decked out in suits and leather shoes were especially eye-catching.



Though the two had shown their faces publicly before, seeing them through screens was different from seeing them in person.

Many thought they looked familiar but did not dare to confirm.

There were many photos of common folks looking like celebrities, so it was hard to be sure.

However, many secretly took out their phones to take photos of them.

Lu Man was holding hands with Han Zhuoli, and she immediately shook his hand when she noticed their actions.

Han Zhuoli lowered his head and looked at her questioningly. "What's is it?"

He looked so patient, his eyes all warm and gentle as if he wanted to fill them with Lu Man.

This made the many secret onlookers envious.

Especially the majority who were young ladies. Even if Han Zhuoli's gaze wasn't directed at them, their hearts were all fluttering, full of enviousness.

As if Han Zhuoli was looking at them.

How they wished Han Zhuoli was really looking at them like this instead!

Some were Lu Man's schoolmates, though in different grades and even different majors.

But Lu Man was truly influential in the school, so she's well-known.

Many had seen her before in school.

So they were able to recognize her.

"Isn't that Lu Man?" Someone gasped.

Since it's Lu Man, then the identity of the man beside her was clear.

It was certainly Han Zhuoli.

They thought that he looked familiar before, and some had even thought that he looked like the Han Zhuoli seen on TV, but they didn't dare confirm.

People do tend to look alike, and no one thought they could see this big boss in person.

But now that Lu Man was recognized, they knew the man was Han Zhuoli, without a doubt.

"Godd\*mn, CEO Han?" one of the students exclaimed softly.

"The way he looks at Lu Man, it's so full of doting!"

"Really... really too envious!"

"Oh, right, there's a welcome party being held in our school for the exchange students tonight. I heard that Han Zhuoli was coming, but I never thought he'd really attend."

"It's just for show. They're acting for the public. I don't believe it. Han Zhuoli can have anyone he wants, does he really like Lu Man that much? Who is Lu Man? Someone who doesn't have anything, whose successes were all because of Han Zhuoli. If it's just because she's pretty, then there are many others who are prettier. If it's because she's successful, then there are many others who are more accomplished. What method did she use to make Han Zhuoli like her?"

### **Chapter 1536: Did He Not Have Human Rights Anymore?**

"They're just putting on a show for others to see so they could gain popularity. A big boss of the entertainment industry and an actress, they're plenty familiar with how the show business works. Such publicity is essential for them," someone stated as if she saw through everything.

"Tsk!" Another said in disagreement, "What are you salty about? You're being a sour grape and all. Just because someone else is happy you think they're faking it. People like you better not have anything good. Han Zhuoli needs to publicize himself? He is popularity itself. Does he need to fake romance to gain attention? Pfft. What a joke."

"Ignore her, she's just jealous. Han Zhuoli and Lu Man had kept their marriage a secret for so long. If they wanted to show off, they'd have done so earlier. No need to wait until now."

"Ha, didn't they go public with their relationship in the end? And they chose to do it during the live-stream of the film festival, at the most followed event. And you guys still believe them? How naive." The first woman sneered, acting like she knew best.

"It's okay if you don't believe it. We believe them anyways, and we are willing to accept their reasons for revealing their marriage and for keeping it a secret before. At least the reasons look sincere to me, and are understandable. Why didn't they choose to disclose it earlier? Isn't it because there are people like you out there who think that all of Lu Man's achievements were due to Han Zhuoli?"

That person sneered, "You're a woman, yet you're unable to wish another woman well. Ridiculous. If you're in Lu Man's shoes, could you be like her? Don't say that Lu Man only depended on Han Zhuoli. It's you who want to depend on men to succeed, and that's why you have these thoughts and think other women are like you. Did you see with your own eyes how they live or what? To think that you know everything."

"Then did you see them with your own eyes or what?" the other party argued back.

"That's right, neither you nor I have seen anything, so we don't know how they really are. Thus, we should stop with our opinionated assumptions. They have their lives, what has it go to do with you?"

Lu Man and Han Zhuoli had no idea a small argument was breaking out beside them due to them.

Right now, Han Zhuoli was smiling at Lu Man, and Lu Man whispered, "Everyone's staring at you and Big Brother!"

All were looking, be it men or women.

Lu Man smallmindedly took out a pair of shades from her bag.

The shades were Han Zhuoli's. He drove over, and when night fell, he took them off and deposited them in her bag.

Meanwhile, she took out the sunglasses and crooked her finger at Han Zhuoli. "Lower your head."

Han Zhuoli had already done it before she even asked.

Lu Man placed the shades on him. "Cover your face. Don't let others see it."

"The sky's dark now. It's strange to wear sunglasses." Han Zhuoli laughed.

"Can you see?" Lu Man waved in front of his face.

Han Zhuoli laughed as he went to hold her hand. "Yes."

"Then it's fine." Lu Man blinked at Han Zhuoli. "Let them look at Brother if they wish, since he doesn't have a girlfriend managing him."

Han Zhuoli scratched her nose. Who'd have guessed she was also waiting for Han Zhuoling.

Lu Man had clearly learned all of Lin Liye's tricks.

Han Zhuoling: "..."

Did he not have human rights anymore?

Finally slighting Han Zhuoling for once, Lu Man didn't really intend for Han Zhuoli to wear the shades and garner more attention.

It's already night and he's wearing shades. Didn't that make him appear crazy?

### **Chapter 1537: Could We Make It On Time?**

So she took off the shades and put it back in her bag.

Han Zhuoling: "..."

*Sister-in-law, your goal is so obvious.*

Lu Man didn't fear Han Zhuoling now that she was leaning against Han Zhuoli.

During their meal, she kept hearing Han Zhuoli tease Han Zhuoling about Shi Xiaoya.

Han Zhuoling's face had been impassive, but he didn't refute anything.

But if she scrutinized closely, he seemed a bit guilty underneath his remote facade, so he became less scary.

After knowing Han Zhuoling better, Lu Man didn't bother toning down her cheekiness and joined Han Zhuoli in teasing Han Zhuoling without hesitation.

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As for Shi Xiaoya, after she had reached the designated makeup room in the school, Jiang Yuhan had yet to arrive.

Jiang Yuhan had requested for an individual dressing room, but the school wasn't able to satisfy her demands, though they did provide her with a shared dressing room with two others who were on a similar level as her. At least this wouldn't be a slight against Jiang Yuhan.

The National Film Academy was Jiang Yuhan's alma mater, and Jiang Yuhan wanted to maintain her good image, so she didn't insist on being too demanding. Pretending to be easygoing, she had agreed to it.

But she was still disgruntled, feeling as if the National Film Academy didn't hold her in regard. Hence, she purposely came late.

Guo Yujie eyed the time, saying, "Why isn't Jiang Yuhan here yet? Can we make it on time?"

"Let's take out the things we'll be using first. When she comes, we'll start immediately," Shi Xiaoya said.

So she set about spreading out the makeup brushes and beauty blenders, as well as all sorts of foundations and makeup with Guo Yujie.

She opened up all the eye-shadow palettes, blushes, highlights, and contours for easier viewing, such that she could decide on which colors to use quickly when she's doing makeup for Jiang Yuhan.

Both of them waited some more, yet even after the other two artistes had arrived, Jiang Yuhan still hadn't come.

"Oh, it's Xiaoya." Xu Fei walked in with her assistant. "Who invited you? No wonder when I contacted Ms. Guo, she said your schedule's full and couldn't accept my offer."

Shi Xiaoya replied courteously, "It's Teacher Jiang Yuhan."

She had no idea when it became common practice.

Calling everyone a "teacher" whether one was qualified enough, be it an experienced actor with spectacular acting skills or just some wannabe with mediocre acting skills.

To be precise, Jiang Yuhan's acting was really average; she was even beaten by Lu Man in *Classic X Files* previously.

Moreover, she's a B-lister and not yet an A-lister. She might be popular, but she was unqualified in terms of experience or acting chops.

However, she liked hearing others calling her a "teacher."

Many others were like this too. It was not just Jiang Yuhan who insisted on calling themselves "teachers."

Shi Xiaoya looked down on this practice. She thought that it's best if one was really qualified. If one had both experience and ability, as well as a good reputation and morals, people would call one a teacher willingly from the bottom of their hearts.

When everything about a person left something to be desired and yet they insist upon others to call them "teacher," then they're just insulting the term.

But in this industry, she couldn't offend others simply because of this.

When it was time to use the word, she would.

When she heard that Jiang Yuhan got ahead of her, Xu Fei's smile began to look slightly more forced.

Not because of Shi Xiaoya, but because she wasn't all too friendly with Jiang Yuhan.

Both of them were the top B-listers who might make it to the A-list at any time.

They were popular and capable enough, and all they lacked was an opportunity.

### **Chapter 1538: Difficult to Please**

For example, a major blockbuster that had deep meanings, a chance to show off their acting skills, or being an ambassador for a major brand, etc.

As long as they had one of those, they could make a breakthrough to the A-list.

So the two of them were in the middle of an intense competition, both determined to be the first and afraid of being surpassed by the other.

As long as the status quo was changed and they belonged to different levels, the distance between them could only increase.

It would be weird if they were friends with such a competitive relationship.

Huang Yilun arrived not long after Xu Fei sat down for her makeup.

The makeup artists for Xu Fei and Huang Yilun were two of the male makeup artists who participated in *Survivor* with Shi Xiaoya:

Shi Feng and Ling Xiaoen.

Both came, respectively, with Xu Fei and Huang Yilun.

The two guys were delighted to see Shi Xiaoya.

"Never thought you'd come too, Xiaoya," Shi Feng commented with a smile as he opened his cosmetic bag.

"What a coincidence, I thought I could only see you during next week's filming," Ling Xiaoen said in a similar vein.

"It's really unexpected." Shi Xiaoya smiled.

"Oh? Who are you doing makeup for? Has the person not arrived yet?" Shi Feng noticed the empty chair in front of Shi Xiaoya.

Before Shi Xiaoya could answer, Jiang Yuhan entered.

"Sorry for the tardiness, there's a jam on the way," Jiang Yuhan explained, though her tone wasn't exactly sincere.

Xu Fei arrived the earliest so her make up was already half done.

As a guy, Huang Yilun didn't need that much makeup, so he was done as well even though he arrived only slightly before Jiang Yuhan did. He stayed in the room to chat.

Having done makeup for so many female artistes, Shi Xiaoya knew very well what the female stars were thinking.

She did accept some jobs from male artistes, and doing makeup for them was still fine. The competition between the male artistes wasn't as devious and calculating as the female stars', but there were the occasional men who were shameless enough, and their schemes were something that superseded even the female artistes'.

However, it ultimately wasn't as blatantly obvious as the women's attacks.

Coincidentally, putting Xu Fei and Jiang Yuhan, who were competitors, together was sure to start a fire.

"Teacher Jiang," Shi Xiaoya greeted politely.

Hearing herself called "teacher" made Jiang Yuhan happy. Handing her bag to her assistant, she sat. "Waited long?"

"It's my habit to arrive earlier than my clients." Shi Xiaoya gave a small smile.

Jiang Yuhan gave a stiff smile and sat.

Just as Shi Xiaoya was about to start, Jiang Yuhan asked her assistant, "Where's my phone? Give it here."

The assistant hurriedly handed the phone over.

Jiang Yuhan took it and opened an app with a beautifying camera and took a selfie, also capturing Shi Xiaoya's hands, which were about to apply makeup.

Then she posted it online with the caption, "Back in my alma mater for a dinner party. About to do my makeup. Scaring you guys with my au naturel face first."

Unsurprisingly, fans began praising her in the comment section.

"Yuhan's pretty even without makeup."

"So pretty, she's really a natural beauty."

Shi Xiaoya was snarky in her mind. She thought that with that beautifying camera, she'd become a natural beauty even if her bare face was yellow with black spots and full of large pores. Who's she pretending for?

Frankly, Jiang Yuhan's bare face was not really nice.

Probably because as an artiste, she had to apply makeup daily, even thick ones, and had to stay up late without removing the cosmetics.

Her skin condition wasn't good. It was extremely dull, dark, and yellowish.

**Chapter 1539: Sharp-tongued Shi Xiaoya**

Big closed acne grew on her forehead and chin.

Shi Xiaoya wanted to cover up the blemishes under Jiang Yuhuan's eyes, but Jiang Yuhuan was focused on her phone with her head lowered. No matter how talented Shi Xiaoya was, she also couldn't draw on makeup when Jiang Yuhuan refused to lift her face up.

Resigned, she said, "Teacher Jiang, could I trouble you to lift your face? I'll be drawing below your eyes."

"Can't you see I'm chatting with others? How am I supposed to type with my head up?" Jiang Yuhuan said, displeased. "You're a well-known makeup artist but you can't even do this?"

Shi Xiaoya's expression remained neutral. She was willing to accommodate Jiang Yuhuan and be polite because of her professionalism, and because she didn't want to create trouble.

But with Jiang Yuhuan's attitude and doubt of her skills, Shi Xiaoya didn't want to hold back anymore.

When there were big events usually, only the award-winning actors and actresses could book her.

Because there were no international film festivals occurring now, there were no actors around Gao Zishan's level to work for, one who didn't attend small-scale events like product promotion.

Hence, Shi Xiaoya was free around these times and would accept clients like Jiang Yuhuan.

Just because she took on the job didn't mean she would take insults lying down.

Hence, Shi Xiaoya countered directly, "Sorry, I don't have the skill to do makeup over closed eyes. I can't see your eyes, so I can't draw."

Jiang Yuhuan choked, then lifted her head reluctantly.

Before she could say anything, Xu Fei opened her mouth at the side. "Don't make things difficult for others, Yuhuan. Xiaoya is the top makeup artist around. You haven't seen how heavy your eyebags and dark circles are, as if you've aged another 10 years. If you don't lift your head, how is she going to cover those up for you?"

Xu Fei was almost done with her makeup and she was glowing.

Being told that she looked a decade older than her true age was one of the most unbearable insults for women.

Feeling that she was mocked by Xu Fei because of Shi Xiaoya, Jiang Yuhuan instantly directed her temper at the latter. "And you dare claim to be a makeup artist for award-winning actors when you have only such limited skills? I've worked with other makeup artists and I always did what I wanted. They never demanded me to lift up my head or anything and they still managed to do my makeup splendidly. Why can't you do it? I say you're worse than the average makeup artist, with such inadequate skills. Best that you stop saying you're the appointed makeup artist for award-winning actors."

Shi Xiaoya didn't look infuriated in the least and gave a smile. "I didn't call myself that. It's a name given by others. If I really thought that I'm the appointed makeup artist for award-winning actors, I wouldn't have accepted your offer, would I?"

Everybody: "..."

Shi Xiaoya was really sharp-tongued.

Shi Xiaoya was extremely clear. *If I only did makeup for award-winning actresses, you'd never have had the chance to be done up by me at all.*

*Since you're still some small-time B-lister.*

Though it wasn't said explicitly, everyone could read between the lines. The message was loud and clear.

What she said was true. Jiang Yuhan wasn't comparable to award-winning actresses...

But while the truth was the truth, for it to be said out loud in front of everyone else was still extremely embarrassing!

Jiang Yuhan grew red in anger.

Alas, Shi Xiaoya wasn't finished yet and she continued, "What's more, since you feel that you've worked well with your previous makeup artists, then you should have kept them on. Why did you approach me?"

As far as Shi Xiaoya was concerned, the makeup artist Jiang Yuhan had previously wasn't that good.

#### **Chapter 1540: Lucky**

The media and the artistes' own studios would release pictures during the stars' events or those taken during various award ceremonies.

But Shi Xiaoya preferred looking at photos released by the media.

Because the photos released by the artistes' own studios were usually edited so severely that their makeup couldn't be seen clearly.

But the media wouldn't edit. They'd just publish whatever they had captured.

Through these, Shi Xiaoya could observe how the other stars did their makeup, what their good and bad points were, and how the makeup differed.

And if she were the one who did it, how she would draw.

Because she worked with award-winning actresses frequently, she knew their bone structures well, as well as their good and bad areas.

As for the other celebrities who were strangers to her, Shi Xiaoya would seize the chance to study them.

Thus, Shi Xiaoya knew about Jiang Yuhan's previous styles.

They were really mediocre, and many were even part of the "offended makeup artist" series.

Of course, this was only a label and not really because she really affronted them.

But judging by Jiang Yuhan's temper today, Shi Xiaoya wasn't so sure anymore.

What if Jiang Yuhan really upset them?

Shi Xiaoya waved off this ridiculous notion. It's probably because the stylist themselves weren't good.



To do Jiang Yuhan's makeup such that she looked like a children-eating witch.

As she looked at those failed styles Jiang Yuhan previously donned, it was obvious why Jiang Yuhan approached her.

It was Jiang Yuhan's luck that she was free.

She wouldn't even accept Jiang Yuhan's offer otherwise.

In the end, Jiang Yuhan didn't even know this and even questioned her abilities.

Obviously, Shi Xiaoya couldn't say that the makeup artist Jiang Yuhan employed previously was lousy since they were in the same profession.

If word got out, others would criticize her as being arrogant.

Guilty over what Shi Xiaoya said, Jiang Yuhan stubbornly retorted, "Ha, it's because my regular makeup artist wasn't free. Otherwise, why would I have given you a chance?"

Jiang Yuhan used Shi Xiaoya's words back on her.

Shi Feng and Ling Xiaoen were looking on, astounded.

Honestly, many makeup artists talked behind the artistes' backs, since many stars were unfriendly and troublesome.

But the only one so far they'd seen to rebuke someone directly to their face was Shi Xiaoya.

But when they thought about it, she was qualified to do so.

Rumor had it that Shi Xiaoya came from a prominent family, though no one knew for sure.

Putting aside her family background, Shi Xiaoya was the best in her profession and needn't be scared of offending Jiang Yuhan.

A typical makeup artist wouldn't dare offend celebrities with connections like Jiang Yuhan, fearing that any future job opportunities would be missed.

The celebrities would just tell their friends and acquaintances to not hire them in the future.

And one needed to be recommended by the stars if one wanted to be a makeup artist in a production team.

If the stars recommended others and not them, it's another significant loss of income.

When these losses snowballed, it would be time to leave the industry.

But Shi Xiaoya wasn't afraid, because her reputation was already out there.

She needn't depend on others to recommend her jobs; the offers came to her automatically. She still had to check her schedule, and if it was packed, she could only choose among the offers.

Hence, Shi Xiaoya wasn't at all intimidated by offending unreasonable people with bad tempers, like Jiang Yuhan.

Putting aside Jiang Yuhan not wanting Shi Xiaoya anymore, it wasn't even certain if she could book Shi Xiaoya in the future.

As Shi Xiaoya said, Jiang Yuhan was lucky to snag her this time.

Because there weren't any big events today and Shi Xiaoya was free.

If this were a real red carpet event, Jiang Yuhan could never hope to reach Shi Xiaoya.