

Mr Han 2141

Chapter 2141: Lu Man: Lose? There's No Such Thing.

Eight Skin Entertainment started to name the people one by one.

Every name was followed with brackets, which enclosed a short description of the person.

Including some industry's heir.

Some corporation's CEO.

Some family's who-who-who.

They were all reputable and renowned people.

Some might not be that familiar at first sight, but their names were very well known.

Once the names were mentioned, everyone would recognize them immediately.

So it was them!

A short moment later, Eight Skin Entertainment uploaded the verification process video that he'd mentioned earlier.

It proved that this photo was indeed genuine.

"It's Eight Skin Entertainment again. Don't tell me Lu Man is doing PR for Shi Xiaoya."

"She probably is. Don't forget whose girlfriend Shi Xiaoya is."

"Oh right. Shi Xiaoya is dating Han Zhuoling. If Shi Xiaoya is in trouble, Lu Man will definitely help. With such a great PR master in the family, there's nothing for her to fear."

"My Man is just so impressive," Lu Man's fans praised.

"There's definitely someone trying to mess with Shi Xiaoya behind this matter."

"HAHAHAHAHA, no matter who's trying to mess with Shi Xiaoya, that person is definitely a dumbass. Because they don't know what kind of force they're dealing with!"

"That's right. If Lu Man could lose, she would not be called a master."

"Lu Man: Lose? There's no such thing."

Hence, Lu Man and Eight Skin Entertainment were not even afraid of being seen through by netizens.

After all, the whole Internet knew that Shi Xiaoya was Han Zhuoling's girlfriend.

Lu Man did not need to hide the fact that she was helping Shi Xiaoya.

The PR manager that Cen Mengqing hired also thought that Lu Man would help long ago.

Although this person was not as famous as Lu Man, he was not an average PR manager either, so he naturally would not have missed this point.

But he still accepted the job, mainly of course for the money.

But there was also another point. He also wanted to compete with Lu Man.

He had never competed against Lu Man before and had just been watching from the sidelines, relying on their professional skill to analyze the schemes and methods that Lu Man and her opponent used.

The cases that Lu Man did would even become the subject of their analysis during their meetings.

This person especially made each of his team members present their analysis during the meeting and then have a discussion about it together.

Everyone raised their own opinions about what they would do if it were them, and then compared it to Lu Man's methods to discuss the pros and cons, etc.

This person was not sure if Lu Man would make a move for Shi Xiaoya, but he wanted to give it a try.

Indeed, Lu Man made a move.

The other party was excited and immediately struck back, not daring to relax even a little.

He just did not expect that Lu Man would actually react so quickly.

The other party had just returned a move, and Lu Man immediately followed suit.

He thought that this was also one of the reasons why Lu Man could win against her opponents without giving them any chance to fight back every time.

Her reaction was way too fast, as if she had long expected what the other party would do next.

She was just waiting for the other part to do what she had predicted, then she would immediately strike back.

She would strike so fast to the point that the other party would be caught off guard by her and be dumbstruck.

The rhythm would be messed up, derailing the plans that had already been prepared for the follow-up, such that they would not be able to react in time.

Hence, with one wrong step, all other missteps would follow.

This person had previously analyzed it very well, but when he really faced off against Lu Man, he found that it was not that simple.

Being directly involved was a much more in-depth experience than watching from the sidelines.

"From the looks of it, Shi Xiaoya really graduated from Jixia Academy, and this shows that her family is really not ordinary."

"Those who can attend Jixia Academy can no longer be considered as simply wealthy. The middle-aged woman in that video, her family doesn't look like the kind who can attend Jixia Academy. This kind of person actually wanted to take Shi Xiaoya as his mistress?"

Chapter 2142: This Is My Biological Younger Sister

On their end, Lu Man asked, "Xiaoya, when you graduated back then on that day, you definitely took quite a few photos. Did you save them in your phone?"

"I have them on my cloud storage," Shi Xiaoya said.

She used her phone to log in to her cloud service account. In a folder named "Photos," she had meticulously grouped the photos into various categories.

One of the categories was named "Jixia Academy Graduation Photos." She had her graduation photos from primary school all the way until senior high in it.

She picked a few graduation photos from each level from primary school to senior high to download.

Lu Man then let Shi Xiaoya send those to Shi Nancang.

"You can make your stand now," Lu Man said with a smile. "With these graduation photos of Xiaoya, you can publicly announce that Xiaoya is from the Shi family. You can say whatever you want, however you want to say it. It's fine."

Shi Nancang immediately rolled up his sleeves as if he was readying to do something very important, then said, "Okay."

He saved all the photos that Shi Xiaoya sent to him.

When he saw his younger sister's school graduation photos from the past, he could not help but feel sentimental. "Aye, in the blink of an eye, Xiaoya is already grown up. Look at her when she was in primary school, she was just a tiny little thing. Even after she graduated from senior high, she still looks like a teenage girl."

As Shi Nancang said that, he even looked at Shi Xiaoya.

His expression was all depressed, seemingly saying, "How did this youthful younger sister of his get taken by Han Zhuoling just like that?"

Han Zhuoling: "..."

Shi Xiaoya: "..."

What kind of situation was this that her older brother still wanted to bring up his grudges against Han Zhuoling?

"Older Brother," Shi Xiaoya called in a reminder.

"Okay, okay, okay." Shi Nancang lowered his head and started typing.

After he was done, he then read and re-read it a couple of times.

He changed some words, and after making sure there was no problem, he then sent it out.

Lu Man and the others refreshed the page and saw Shi Nancang's new post.

"@Shi Xiaoya. This is my younger sister. Not my paternal cousin, not my maternal cousin, and definitely not my 'godsister' (because some dirty-minded people always like to think dirty). This is my biological

younger sister, my biological younger sister born from the same father and mother. She is the young lady whom our family has doted on since she was young. The one whom no one can bully.

“To put it bluntly, given our family’s wealth, would our dear little girl need to go and be someone else’s mistress, and even be ‘kept’ by someone else? Just based on those counterfeit goods from head to toe in the video, can those guys even afford it? And I also attached my younger sister’s graduation photos all the way from when she was young. They are all graduation photos from Jixia Academy. They’re definitely genuine. Those who spread the rumors, wait until you receive our family’s lawyer’s letter!”

The photos attached below were Shi Xiaoya’s graduation photos from primary school to senior high, totalling nine photos.

Shi Nancang was also an obsessive-compulsive one.

After Shi Nancang posted it, he went to ask his brothers for help to reshare the post to boost its popularity.

Shen Shi’an and the others were not ordinary people.

They had their own legions of fans who called them “older brother” and “hubby” all the time.

Those who went on the Internet often had some knowledge of and would know them.

Even if men did not really take note of them and did not know how they looked like, they still knew their names.

Shen Shi’an was the first to come out and reshare Shi Nancang’s post. “Haha, there are actually people who used this trick to smear Xiaoya. This is too ridiculous. As long as Xiaoya is willing, long lines of talented men would queue up for her to pick from. The slander in this video is way too fake.”

Zhong Litao: “Those who spread the rumors must be caught and cannot be let off the hook! We watched Xiaoya grow up since she was a kid. She’s just like a younger sister to us. We won’t let her get bullied like this.”

Chen Sibin: “All this time, Xiaoya has never purposely mentioned her family before, and that’s why Nancang never publicly announced it on his own either. Xiaoya keeps a low profile and never uses her family to go and bully other people, but this doesn’t mean that she’s an easy target to be bullied. This doesn’t mean that anyone can come and just bully her!”

Chapter 2143: This Is Very Telling

Dong Qingxing: “We all treat Xiaoya like our own younger sister. Bullying her is like bullying our younger sister. For anyone to say that she got kept by someone, it’s the most ridiculous joke I’ve ever heard in my life until now.”

Afterward, Lu Man then uploaded another video through Eight Skin Entertainment.

It was another video of that middle-aged woman who came to cause trouble for Shi Xiaoya.

But this video was clearly a little longer.

It was the complete video of the scene when the middle-aged woman came to cause trouble.

When she saw the angle from which the video was taken, Shi Xiaoya asked in surprise, “This is—”

“This was sent by Qin Zigou,” Lu Man replied. “On the way, Qin Zigou contacted me and said that he felt there was something amiss in this matter for this middle-aged woman to suddenly come out of the blue. So he asked his assistant to quietly record a video. It’s best if it did not need to be used, which would mean that there’s no trouble. But if something really happened, we could use this video.”

Part of the content in front was the same as that which was sent out by Cen Mengqing previously.

But as time passed, the video exceeded the one Cen Mengqing sent out.

In this video, Shi Xiaoya questioned that middle-aged woman. As well, the words that Qin Zigou had said were all recorded inside.

Everyone could see it clearly.

Including Shi Xiaoya being very logical and rational, pointing out the fake goods on that middle-aged woman one by one, as well as how her own residence was a gift from her family.

Shi Xiaoya’s tone was very calm. Her voice was not raised, nor did she sound anxious.

But that calm tone actually appeared especially domineering.

She just suppressed the earlier arrogance of that middle-aged woman right away.

Not only were normal netizens watching this issue.

Many celebrities in the entertainment industry were also watching this issue.

After all, Shi Xiaoya was not just the top makeup artist Shi Xiaoya, she was also the Shi Xiaoya that was Han Zhuoling’s girlfriend.

There were many celebrities who attended the charity gala tonight, which just ended.

They sat in their cars, preparing to look at the beautiful, edited photos that their companies had sent them, and to see what the reactions of the netizens were.

Yet the moment they went online, they saw that their originally planned hot search goals had been completely sidelined.

It was originally a fight for glamor between them who’d attended the charity gala. They’d prepared to post notices about it to get on the hot search.

There were some people who had prepared for it for a long time and intended to use some schemes to win above others.

In the end, great, no one could dream of getting to the top tonight.

The hot search topics online had all been occupied by Shi Xiaoya’s issue.

The charity gala tonight was intended to increase some of their own exposure, but it did not succeed.

Even Yu Mingshu, who was considered one of the biggest shots tonight, was also buried under Shi Xiaoya’s hot search topics.

They were curious then about what had suddenly happened to Shi Xiaoya. How was she so capable to be able to hold on so tightly to the hot search rankings?

Everyone still remembered that, before the gala started, Xia Yixin went to find trouble with Shi Xiaoya.

They then wondered whether this was related to it.

When they read through the issue from start to end and then saw the video, they then realized what was going on.

They could not help but think to themselves, no wonder Shi Xiaoya could remain so calm and composed when she received so much attention and spotlight for being a couple with Han Zhuoling previously, as if she was used to grand occasions.

So she was indeed used to grand occasions.

The netizens also saw this new video that Lu Man had just sent out.

“So Shi Xiaoya and Cris are childhood friends. There have always been rumors online that Cris’s background isn’t ordinary, but exactly what it is, no one has been able to find out. But similarly, this is very telling. If it can’t even be found out, then his background must be really formidable to the point that it’s scary. For her to be able to be childhood friends with Cris, it’s already very telling.”

“To be able to see with one glance that that middle-aged woman was wearing fake goods from head to toe, her eyes must be really sharp. It’s obvious that she had been exposed to these things from a young age and is used to seeing them.”

Chapter 2144: Not Someone She Can Easily Offend

“This new video shows that towards the end, that middle-aged woman clearly got scared. This says everything. Shi Xiaoya was indeed wrongly accused.”

In these discussions, there were naturally real netizens, but similarly, there were many paid posters that Lu Man had hired to keep the momentum going.

To bring the momentum back to point out how Shi Xiaoya had been slandered.

“Do any of you remember? Previously, when Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling were not yet together, she’d posted a photo of a crayfish skewer. At that time, there were many people accusing Shi Xiaoya of stirring things up, yet Shi Nancang immediately posted a photo, which was also of a crayfish skewer. And there were also Shen Shi’an and the others, who also posted.”

“Right, right, right, I remember. At that time, I even felt, why was it so coincidental that everyone was eating that in the same night? There were also people who suspected that Shi Xiaoya was trying to ride on their popularity to boost her own. Yet now we know that Shi Nancang was totally protecting his younger sister in a domineering way.”

“This is too indulgent. I really want an older brother like Shi Nancang.”

“Shi Xiaoya’s life is way too blissful. She has a boyfriend like Han Zhuoling and an older brother like Shi Nancang.”

“At that time, Han Zhuoling also posted a photo of a crayfish skewer and even got shipped by Shi Xiaoya’s fans. Indeed, it’s the fans who have the keenest eyes. Those people from back then who scolded Shi Xiaoya for trying to latch on to him to boost her popularity, I wonder if their faces are hurting now?”

“HAHAHAHA, I just recalled it only when you guys brought it up. At that time, Han Zhuoling had already secretly pined for Shi Xiaoya. No wonder Han Zhuoling said that he’s liked Shi Xiaoya for a very long time already. What to do, this feels so romantic!”

“This is too indulgent!”

When the PR manager that Cen Mengqing hired read up to this point, his heart sank.

He immediately contacted Cen Mengqing and said, “Why didn’t you tell me Shi Xiaoya is actually from the Shi family?!”

Wasn’t she setting him up like this?

Shi Nancang had said he wanted to find out who the person spreading the rumors was. This person did not know if he was just saying harsh words.

But what if Shi Nancang was serious?

He might not get in trouble, but if the other party had set his heart on making things difficult for him, he would not be able to get away with it so easily.

He just wanted to earn some money and spar against Lu Man.

Who knew he’d get into so much trouble for nothing?

Cen Mengqing was also dumbstruck.

She had been watching the developments online all along, wanting to see the process of Shi Xiaoya being put in a spot.

At first, when she saw Shi Xiaoya in trouble and getting attacked by so many netizens, she even felt really delighted.

She thought to herself that Shi Xiaoya simply did not know her place and really dared to offend anyone.

She just wanted Shi Xiaoya to see that she was just a minor makeup artist. Even with Han Zhuoling around, he would not be able to protect her!

There were some people whom she could not easily offend just like that.

There were some people whom she could not fight with just because she wanted to!

Compared to other families, their family might not be able to win.

But if it’s just to make fun of an insignificant Shi Xiaoya, she could still do it.

Who knew things would suddenly reverse course?

Shi Xiaoya, she was actually the younger child of the Shi family.

Of all people, that Shi family was even also their family's archenemy!

Oh, no.

To be more accurate, it was the Xia family's archenemy of the past.

The Shi family no longer saw the Xia family as a rival now.

The Xia family actually really could not do anything to Shi Xiaoya.

"I didn't know either that she's actually from the Shi family," Cen Mengqing said in a somber voice.

She was furious, to the point of being dumbfounded.

No good thing came out of the Shi family!

Even Shi Xiaoya played weak to trick others!

Previously, when Xia Yixin said things to demean her, Shi Xiaoya could actually hold back and not say anything.

If it were someone else, they would not have been able to tolerate it since long ago.

Chapter 2145: He Admitted Defeat, He Really Admitted Defeat Now

She would definitely spill out her backer all at once.

But Shi Xiaoya refused to say it and just waited for them to make an even bigger mistake.

How were there such evil people around!

"You didn't know? You—" The other party could not even finish speaking due to anger.

He was just a normal citizen who worked for other people.

As for all these great family matters, he did not know much about it.

But Cen Mengqing actually did not know either?

Did that make sense?

"I won't handle this case anymore. I give up. I don't want the money anymore either. I will return you the deposit you gave me in full. I'm sorry, the Shis and the Hans are two god-like households. I'm just an average commoner. I can't afford to offend them," the other party said.

"What do you mean?" This time, Cen Mengqing actually reacted very quickly. "Are you planning to betray me?"

Cen Mengqing said coldly, "Since you accepted my request, that makes me your customer. You can't betray me. If you betray me, you are the one breaking the contract!"

The other party thought, "I'm already returning the deposit to you. Even if I break the contract and have to pay you money, it's still much better than being targeted by both Han Zhuoling and Shi Nancang."

Not to mention Lu Man, who was eyeing the situation closely like a tiger waiting to strike at the side.

“Don’t worry, I still have my professionalism, I won’t betray you,” he said. “But given how smart Han Zhuoling and Shi Nancang are, not to mention how they have a Lu Man between them...”

Even without bringing Shi Nancang into it, Han Zhuoling and Lu Man were both god-like people.

To compete against them with brains?

He admitted defeat. He really admitted defeat now.

After this time, this person did not want to compete against Lu Man anymore.

Competing against Lu Man was simply a nightmare!

“Those three people, they could take a simple guess to know who did it,” the person said. “I don’t need to say anything. But don’t worry, I really won’t say anything. For this matter, if Shi Nancang and Han Zhuoling want to pursue the matter, I will go and apologize on my own. That’s all, I’ll hang up now. Just take it that this partnership of ours never existed.”

He ended the call, then went online again and saw that Han Zhuoling had also spoken up.

“When the incident in the video happened, I was also there. I made a police report that very day. That woman had already admitted that she was instructed by someone to slander Xiaoya. She is still in custody now. And the mastermind behind this has also been arrested today. The people who spread the rumors tonight, I won’t let a single one of you off.

“All along, Xiaoya has kept a very low profile, just focusing on doing her field of work, never using her background to create publicity for herself. If she had used this point to attract eyeballs long ago, she probably would have become an influencer long ago,” Han Zhuoling said. “But keeping a low profile to avoid trouble doesn’t mean that she can let anyone bully her.”

When the PR manager that Cen Mengqing hired saw Han Zhuoling’s post, he felt cold sweat breaking out.

This person did not dare to delay any further and asked someone to find out Lu Man’s number.

He roused someone from their sleep in the middle of the night, but he could not care less about that right now.

Keeping his life was the first priority.

On Lu Man’s end, she was preparing to execute the last step.

Han Zhuoling had already indirectly mentioned Xia Yixin.

He did not directly name her.

But the people who attended the charity gala tonight would surely know.

Those celebrities would not get themselves involved in this messy situation, but the people who attended the charity gala tonight were not only celebrities, there were even more staff members present.

So, Lu Man intended to use these “staff” to throw Xia Yixin’s name out.

She was still contacting people and had not finished discussing with them when she received a call.

The screen only displayed a string of numbers, not someone's name, so it was not someone she knew.

Thinking that it was one of those scam calls, Lu Man first answered it and said, "Hello."

Chapter 2146: Who's the One Who Hired You?

"Hello, is this Teacher Lu Man?" The other party was especially polite.

Lu Man felt a little surprised, and she also replied very politely, "You flatter me too much. And you are—?"

"I am Lu Chao. I'm partly in the same industry as you, I am also a PR manager." Lu Chao was the PR manager that Cen Mengqing had hired.

When he said he was partly in the same industry, it was because Lu Man's main career now was being an actress.

"Hello." Lu Man had roughly guessed by now what the other party was up to.

"It's like this. I'm not able to contact Miss Shi, so I can only look for you," Lu Chao said. "I want to personally apologize to Miss Shi."

Lu Man turned on the loudspeaker on her phone to let Shi Xiaoya and the others all hear.

"I don't really understand what you're saying. Why would you want to apologize for no reason?" Lu Man asked.

Lu Chao thought to himself, "You're so smart. Do you really not know?"

Wasn't she playing dumb with him?

But Lu Chao did not dare to really say that either.

He could only say in his most sincere tone, "I was the one who'd asked someone to upload the video that stirred a huge controversy online just now."

Before waiting for Lu Man to say anything, he hurriedly explained, "But please don't misunderstand. I just did it because it's my job. I accepted the job from someone, that's why I did it.

"And the video that I received was not the complete version to begin with. The complete version of the video that you asked someone to upload later on, I watched it. That's when I knew that I had also been deceived," Lu Chao said sincerely. "I am really very sorry that the video I spread around previously caused so much disturbance and harm to Miss Shi's reputation.

"So, I would like to personally apologize to Miss Shi and ask for her forgiveness," Lu Chao said.

Lu Man said very directly and honestly, "To be honest, you are just afraid that the Shis and the Hans would want to take revenge on you, right? The rumor already has more than 500 shares. If we really want to pursue the matter, you can be sentenced. The rumor you spread is nearly reaching six figures."

Lu Chao gritted his teeth and said, "I will personally apologize and say that I spread the fake news just to get views and attention to clear Miss Shi's name. Please, help me tell Mr. Han and Mr. Shi to let me off this time. I am just a minor character. I really can't afford to offend both of them. With this lesson, I will definitely not dare to do anything that's related to Miss Shi."

On this matter, Lu Man naturally could not decide for Han Zhuoling and Shi Nancang.

Anyway, the loudspeaker was on. They could all hear him.

Lu Man then turned to Han Zhuoling and Shi Nancang to see how they would decide.

Shi Nancang and Han Zhuoling turned to look at Shi Xiaoya at the same time, intending to respect her decision.

Shi Xiaoya nodded and agreed.

Whether this Lu Chao really knew that the video Cen Mengqing gave him was incomplete or not, he was just a middleman who did his job for money.

If he would admit his mistake and clear the air online, Shi Xiaoya did not really want to pursue the matter anymore.

The person she really wanted to pursue the matter with was the one who'd spent money to hire him to do this.

So, Lu Man said to Lu Chao, "Who's the one who hired you?"

Actually, they all knew.

But Lu Man wanted to seek confirmation from Lu Chao.

Lu Chao went silent for a while before he said, "That's my client. Although because of this, I already returned the deposit and stopped accepting this job, we still signed a contract. I need to keep this confidential for my client."

When he said this, Lu Man actually thought a little more highly of him.

"Then let's put it another way," Lu Man said. "Miss Xia had been taken to the police station tonight from a charity gala event. You were hired because of this incident, right?"

Chapter 2147: This Person, He Wrote It So Sincerely!

Lu Chao did not reply.

His silence meant agreement at this moment.

Lu Man understood and said, "I got it, thank you."

Lu Chao did not say anything, so Lu Man said, "Xiaoya has already agreed to the request you brought up just now. As long as you are sincere in admitting your mistake and let the netizens know your stand, Xiaoya can stop pursuing the matter with you."

Lu Chao instantly heaved a sigh of relief and felt that he'd had a close shave.

He immediately said to Lu Man, "I'll get to it immediately! Rest assured, this was my fault to begin with."

After ending the call, Lu Chao went to prepare writing the apology.

He checked through it thoroughly many times and edited a few parts.

Then, he called Lu Man and said, feeling quite embarrassed, "Really sorry, I forgot to ask for your email just now. Can you give me your email so I can send you the apology statement I have just typed for you to have a look? If you think it's okay, I will then send it out."

Hence, Lu Man sent her email to him.

After ending the call, Lu Man laughed and said, "I can tell that he's really scared now. He's even so cooperative with the apology statement."

Situations like these when the person who posted apologized after sending out the news that harmed the other party's reputation were quite common.

Whether it was really slander or not, it was a fight between the two parties.

The party that lost would always sound a little unwilling in the apology statement that was sent out.

As if they were forced to do it by someone.

It felt like she had just ended a call, but within less than a minute, Lu Chao had already sent over the apology statement that he had just edited again.

He sent it in an attachment.

The email even wrote, "Lu Man, please see if there's any part that's not suitably written. If there's a part that needs editing, please mark it out and I will edit it immediately. It would be best if you can let Young Master Ling and Young Master Cang take a look as well, to see if they are satisfied with it."

Lu Man shook her head and laughed as she stared at the email and said, "Lu Chao sent an apology statement over. He's basically saying that if we are not happy, he will write whatever we want him to write."

Even Han Zhuoling smiled.

Lu Man then let everyone take a look at that apology statement.

This was really the most sincere statement that Lu Man had ever seen.

"How is it?" Lu Man asked them.

Even Shi Nancang felt that there was no issue with it and could not help but exclaim, "This person, he really wrote it very sincerely!"

Han Zhuoling thought it was okay too, so Lu Man replied to Lu Chao as such.

Lu Chao immediately replied to her, "Then I will post this online immediately."

Within a few minutes, she received a call from Lu Chao. "I have already posted it."

Lu Man laughed.

Lu Chao was really scared now.

“Young Master Ling and Young Master Cang really won’t pursue the matter with me, right?” Lu Chao was still a bit worried and wanted to confirm it with her again.

“Why don’t I ask them to personally promise it to you?” Lu Man asked.

Although they said they would not pursue the matter with him, he still slandered Shi Xiaoya, after all.

Lu Man was not going to be so nice to him.

“No need, no need,” Lu Chao quickly said.

After ending the call, Lu Man told everyone and they all went online to take a look.

Indeed, Lu Chao personally posted an apology statement.

“Regarding the video tonight that had accused Miss Shi Xiaoya of ruining someone else’s family, I was the one who’d sent it out. I didn’t see the complete version of the video before, and I simply relied on and trusted this edited version that had been given to me by someone else, thereafter uploading and spreading it online. This caused immense harm to Miss Shi Xiaoya’s reputation. I sincerely and solemnly apologize to Miss Shi Xiaoya here.”

“For this matter, I have indeed been hired by someone else to do this. Someone wants to slander Miss Shi Xiaoya. And I, unknowingly, became an accomplice in this matter. But being an unknowing party is not an excuse I can make for myself. I don’t know what words I can use to fully express my guilt and apology.”

Chapter 2148: A Match

“Before this matter, I did not know Miss Shi Xiaoya personally and had never heard of any negative news about her. It’s because of my job as a PR manager that someone looked for me this time, hoping that I could execute this. But I have my limits too. I won’t do something that will harm others. Yet because of this edited video that had been twisted out of context, and because of my blind belief in it, I’d rashly accepted the job.

“Naturally, I have my own selfish interests at heart. I wanted to earn money. At the same time, I also wanted to compete with Lu Man. Because I knew that since this matter involved Shi Xiaoya, Lu Man would not stay out of it. Therefore, ultimately, I still harmed Miss Shi Xiaoya because of my own selfish interests. I am really, very sorry.

“Just now, after I watched the complete version of the video and learned that I’d been deceived, I contacted Miss Shi Xiaoya at the first instant and received her forgiveness. I am very grateful to Miss Shi Xiaoya for her graciousness and her magnanimity. Also, I learned this lesson by heart and will never do such a thing again next time.

“I caused so much trouble for Miss Shi Xiaoya this time, and the impact is especially big. I know that even though I apologized, she will still be misunderstood by many netizens. The damage is persistent and will not be eradicated so easily. From today on, I will do my very best to support Miss Shi Xiaoya and

will do all that I can to make up for my mistake this time around, as well as for the harm I have caused her.

“Everyone, please don’t go and make things difficult for or harm a girl. Please help me to ease my guilt a little better.”

After everyone saw that, they felt that it was not bad.

After all, there were not many other things he could write in an apology statement.

The netizens’ reactions were substantial as well.

“One had already admitted defeat. Indeed, he is no match for Lu Man.”

“This apology statement seems quite sincere.”

“But I feel that for him to be willing to come out and apologize, the main reason comes from the pressure from the Han and the Shi families. Shi Nancang and Han Zhuoling had already let the word out. Anyone who is human would be scared. If they were someone else, he might not have come out to apologize.”

“Even so, whether it’s because of the complete version of the video or because of Shi Xiaoya’s family background, it already shows that the matter this time was simply a rumor. There’s really nothing much to smear about Shi Xiaoya to begin with. The focus of this matter now is no longer about Shi Xiaoya, but rather, who was the person who asked Lu Chao to slander Shi Xiaoya?”

This momentum was brought about by the people Lu Man hired.

If they did not quickly bring back the focus to it, there would surely still be people who would make use of this matter, saying that Lu Chao had been forced by Han Zhuoling and Shi Nancang to apologize, that Shi Xiaoya might not necessarily have been innocent.

“Didn’t you guys notice an important point in Lu Chao’s apology statement? He said that he had been hired by someone else and took the person’s money to spread this issue. He said he had not known whether the video was complete or incomplete. Besides, whether he knew about that or not, even if he knew and deliberately used it to slander Shi Xiaoya, now that Shi Xiaoya has already mediated for him, there’s not much for us bystanders to comment on. But there’s still an important point in this. Lu Chao said that he had been hired by someone else and that he did this because he took the person’s money. Then who had he been hired by?”

“I also noticed this point. This mastermind must have some bad blood with Shi Xiaoya, so the person purposely hired Lu Chao to slander Shi Xiaoya.”

“Did you guys forget what Han Zhuoling said just now? The middle-aged woman in the video had already been caught. The mastermind who told that middle-aged woman what to do had just been caught tonight. This shows that, actually, Han Zhuoling and the others already knew who did it. Lu Chao also knew, but because of his professional principles, he could not reveal it. In this sense, the words that Han Zhuoling said previously matches with what Lu Chao said.”

Chapter 2149: The Mastermind

“Who exactly is that mastermind? I’m so curious.”

“The people who have bad blood with Shi Xiaoya are either her rivals at work or her love rivals. But based on my analysis, her rivals at work might find some use in slandering her personal life, but it will not achieve the best results. It will be something that achieves little but needs extra effort to do. If it was a rival at work, then it’s better if they just slander her professional work. Slandering her personal life isn’t very useful. So I think it must be the love rival type. Or at least, someone who can’t stand seeing her being with Han Zhuoling and being so happy with him.”

“I also think it’s a love rival. This possibility is highly likely, but then, the scope of the possibility is also too broad. Han Zhuoling himself is surely liked by many people. This mastermind will not be easy to find.”

Just as everyone was making their own guesses, one netizen’s words attracted the attention of many.

“I think I know who Han Zhuoling is talking about. Tonight, there was a charity gala event that celebrities from both the entertainment industry and the fashion industry all attended. There were also many debutantes and business leaders present. If Shi Xiaoya’s matter hadn’t blown up, those people would have been the ones trending on the hot search topics. The charity gala event tonight was held at our convention center.

“It just happened that I was on the shift tonight, so I was responsible for the service at the charity gala event.” This netizen then said, “Shi Xiaoya also came tonight, not as a guest, but as supermodel Yu Mingshu’s makeup artist. She followed her until right before the gala officially started.”

“But alas, one really cannot avoid one’s foes. Xia Yixin and her mother also attended tonight. When Xia Yixin saw Shi Xiaoya, she stopped her. I don’t know what she said, I was very far away and couldn’t hear clearly. Afterward, Xia Yixin’s mother Cen Mengqing also went over, and the mother and daughter pair both blocked Shi Xiaoya’s way.”

“Then after that, I suddenly heard Xia Yixin loudly screaming that Shi Xiaoya was a mistress. I don’t quite remember her original words, but she was probably saying that Shi Xiaoya was shameless for being a mistress. Xia Yixin was screaming very loudly then, everyone heard it. But because not all the guests who were attending the gala event had entered the venue, there were probably only about half of the celebrities who were present. Anyway, these people all heard it.

“But before Xia Yixin could say anything else, the police came and just took Xia Yixin away. Cen Mengqing even wanted to stop them, but how could she have? The police said at the time that if Cen Mengqing wanted to stop them, they would arrest her as well for obstructing police investigations.

“Anyway, during the scene at that time, I thought that at first Shi Xiaoya would be scolded to death by Xia Yixin. Xia Yixin and her mother both ganged up on Shi Xiaoya, looking really aggressive. And they even called her a mistress. At that time, many people were guessing, could it be that Shi Xiaoya came in between Han Zhuoling and Xia Yixin’s marriage, that’s why Han Zhuoling divorced Xia Yixin?”

“Who’d have guessed that the police would then come to arrest Xia Yixin, saying that someone was suing her for slander. Many people did not even have time to start suspecting Shi Xiaoya when they saw such a huge turn of events. And judging from what they said, it seemed as if Xia Yixin slandered Shi

Xiaoya. Anyway, Xia Yixin had been taken away afterward. After that, Shi Xiaoya carried on with her work, all the way until the gala was about to start and she left.

“Right at that moment, Han Zhuoling came to fetch her. Seems like the two’s relationship is really good. When Shi Xiaoya came to work, Han Zhuoling even especially came to fetch her.

“I still didn’t know what exactly was going on with Xia Yixin. What slander? It made no sense,” this netizen said. “But after this scandal broke out tonight, coupled with Han Zhuoling and Lu Chao’s statements, I was thinking, could this mastermind be Xia Yixin? Or else, why would she be taken away on charges of slander?”

Chapter 2150: Feeling Bad for Han Zhuoling

“And previously, when Xia Yixin called Shi Xiaoya a mistress at the gala, it seemed like we misunderstood. Xia Yixin was not saying that Shi Xiaoya got between her and Han Zhuoling’s marriage but was referring to this video. But this video had only just been posted online tonight. It was way later than when Xia Yixin came to find trouble with Shi Xiaoya. How could Xia Yixin have known about this beforehand?

“There’s only one possibility, then. That Xia Yixin is the mastermind. Xia Yixin sent this middle-aged woman to go slander Shi Xiaoya, then let someone secretly record a video, wanting to ruin Shi Xiaoya’s reputation. The middle-aged woman had been arrested, so she ratted her out. The police then naturally came to arrest her. Then the person who’d instructed Lu Chao to spread the rumor is very likely to be Cen Mengqing. To save her daughter, Cen Mengqing pulled such a dirty trick. But clearly, she will be doing herself in now. The Han and the Shi families are not pushovers.

“But I’m guessing, Cen Mengqing and Xia Yixin probably didn’t know previously too that Shi Xiaoya is actually the Shi family’s daughter. Or else they wouldn’t have dared to do such a thing. Shi Xiaoya is too low-key, she never bragged about this. Now, because of this rumor, Shi Xiaoya’s elder brother came out to speak up for his younger sister, and that’s how her identity got exposed. The two of them are probably regretting it in their guts now. After all, even without Han Zhuoling, Shi Xiaoya is still not someone they can step on just because they wanted to.

“They thought at first that Shi Xiaoya was easy to bully. It actually backfired on them.”

This netizen said a lot, but this was all explosive information!

So the netizens who had been following this matter all patiently read through the whole post.

“This netizen’s analysis makes a lot of sense!”

“I just find it strange. Xia Yixin had already been divorced from Han Zhuoling for so long. Why does she still want to make things difficult for Shi Xiaoya? Is she not going to allow her ex-husband to fall in love?”

“The Xias had already been crippled by the Han Family. Xia Yixin’s days are no longer good. She naturally thought of her ex-husband’s good side again and probably regretted it.”

“Han Zhuoling and Xia Yixin had mostly lived overseas before. It’s impossible for Shi Xiaoya to have gotten in between them. Afterward, when Han Zhuoling and Xia Yixin divorced, we didn’t see Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling having any connections. The two of them only got to know each other after Han

Zhuoling's divorce. Can he not find someone else after his divorce? Does having a divorce mean he has no rights for himself? That Miss Xia probably has a screw loose."

"I feel bad for Han Zhuoling. He actually has such a trashy ex-wife."

"Previously, the Han Family kept mum about the reason behind Han Zhuoling's divorce, but I heard people vaguely revealing that the party that's in the wrong is definitely Xia Yixin. And it's the kind of mistake that cannot be forgiven. There are only a few unforgivable mistakes that can lead to a divorce, so it's very easy to guess."

The moment this netizen said this, it instantly stirred a lot of guesses from people.

Indeed, the reasons warranting a divorce without any room for negotiation were very few.

And cheating is the most probable likelihood that everyone can think of.

Han Zhuoli scrolled through a few discussion threads and felt that the netizens were really too impressive. Their guesses were actually quite accurate.

He turned to ask Lu Man, "This netizen who exposed that Xia Yixin had been arrested, was it arranged by you?"

If not, why would it be so coincidental that it just so happened that there was this "informed person" who described what happened tonight in so much detail?

Lu Man nodded and admitted, "Yeah, I arranged it."

Lu Man explained, "I arranged how the masterminds, Xia Yixin and Cen Mengqing, must be mentioned in advance to catch them off guard and make them too busy fending for themselves."