

Mr Han 2331

Chapter 2331: Want to Act As If It Never Happened

Everyone was stunned.

Was it not?

It was mainly because the highest grade Howell would give in the past was an A, so everyone thought that the maximum was an A+.

So it wasn't?

"My full marks is an 'S,'" Howell said, "So, if you think getting an A is quite good, actually, there's still some gap."

Everybody: "..."

After the performance and feedback, the class ended just like that.

Howell laid out the content for the class performance next week and left.

But the others did not leave yet.

They wanted to see how Howard was going to wrap this up.

Howard even wanted to seize the chance to leave, as if the bet had never existed.

Anyway, from today until just before the competition, he could just avoid Lu Man on campus and not see her.

Howard wanted to seize the chance to leave amid the mess.

"Howard," Lu Man called.

Lu Man was not the only person there. She had her teammates too.

Guo Hai quickly pulled Tan Mingxiao and the other guys. There were five of them in total, blocking Howard completely.

Although the five of them were slightly shorter than Howard, there were many of them.

With five grown men blocking his way, it was quite tight, so Howard alone was not enough to get past them.

Howard lost once more to Lu Man. Even Leo and the others did not stand together with Howard.

They could not afford to embarrass themselves like this.

Losing once might be a matter of luck.

But he lost twice in a row. This clearly showed that it was a problem with his ability.

This also proved that Howard really could not compare to Lu Man.

They thought of how Howard had been so arrogant to Lu Man just now, even initiating such a bet, and they found it really ridiculous.

No wonder Lu Man looked as if she did not care about Howard at all. This was not Lu Man being arrogant. It's that their capabilities were really not on par.

Yet Howard had kept provoking her even though his capability was so weak. If this had happened to them, they would not be able to tolerate it either!

And since he'd agreed to that bet, he should be willing to admit defeat.

Anyway, he'd asked for it first. It was not Lu Man who suggested it.

He'd wanted to find trouble and even looked as if he was surely going to win, looking down on her all the while.

Now that he'd lost, he wanted to act as if it never happened?

Even Howard's classmates did not stand on his side now.

This included the people who'd scorned Han Leilei and the others at first.

They even stopped talking to Howard.

Even they felt embarrassed.

He'd initiated the challenge. If he had won, he would have added to their prestige.

That he lost was already very embarrassing, yet he still wanted to act as if it never happened and refused to honor the bet.

They really lost both face and reason at the same time.

Han Leilei was the first to react. She wanted to go and stop Howard.

Guo Hai was the one who held her back.

Who knew what Howard would do in a fit of anger due to humiliation.

"How can we let a girl like you do such a thing?" After saying that, Guo Hai brought the boys over to stop Howard.

Howard was enraged due to the humiliation. This bunch of people actually did not know when to stop!

Tan Mingxiao just said, "The bet between you and Lu Man isn't over yet. Now's not the right time for you to leave."

Howard clenched his teeth and said, "I'll find another time to settle it."

"No need." Lu Man walked over.

When Howard heard Lu Man say that, he even thought to himself, was Lu Man so easygoing that she didn't need him to go down on his knees to apologize?

Howard could not help but recall with mockery, didn't the Chinese people always talk about requiting evil with kindness?

To show that they were magnanimous and had a big heart.

If they won against you, they would forgive you magnanimously so they'd look as if they had a better moral character.

As he thought of that, he saw Lu Man come to a stop in front of him.

Chapter 2332: Don't Be a Hindrance

Guo Hai and the others were not as naive as Howard.

They did not think that Lu Man would display any magnanimity now.

After all, given Lu Man's track record, they had already heard way too much.

She had always been one to take revenge if she needed to. When had she ever been magnanimous?

But the people from Donghua Film Academy and Donghua Academy of Drama, who lived far away in Dong City, had only read about Lu Man's record through the Internet or the news, and they did not have such first-hand understanding of her.

Hence, only the students from Donghua Academy of Drama and Donghua Film Academy grumbled a little in their hearts, wondering if Lu Man planned to let Howard off now.

But they could understand it too. After all, they were on other people's territory, so it would not be good to be too arrogant.

If they let Howard off, they would have reduced the tensions between both sides, so it would not be as tense as it had been previously.

It's fine if they wanted to stop right now.

They'd pretend as if they were giving their school face.

If Han Leilei were to know of their thoughts, she would definitely say that they were just youngsters who were too innocent.

"There's no need to find another time." Indeed, Lu Man was then heard saying, "You can do it now."

Howard felt as if he had been struck by lightning, and he stood rooted to the ground.

The students from the two schools, Donghua Film Academy and Donghua Academy of Drama, were also stunned.

They did not expect to have thought wrongly.

Lu Man really did not intend to spare Howard.

Wu Zilin wanted to persuade Lu Man to not make their relations too tense.

Howard was one thing, but if they made his school lose face because of him, this would not be good.

He was just about to speak, but Guo Hai seemed to have understood his intentions and immediately stopped him.

Among the five boys, Tan Mingxiao was the tallest.

Just now, Tan Mingxiao had been the first to speak, so Guo Hai left it to him for the moment to take care of and watch the others.

He was afraid that at this juncture, someone would step up to mediate and act as if they valued harmony so much, but they would actually just be a hindrance to Lu Man, reducing her dominance.

Guo Hai did not think he was overthinking. After all, there had never been a shortage of such people.

They were one body, so they had to support Lu Man.

The moment someone voiced a different opinion, it would only make others see them as a joke.

Anyway, this victory had been won by Lu Man through her own efforts.

What she should do, what kind of decision she should make, Lu Man also had the final word over it.

Since the others did not help her, they shouldn't try telling her what to do.

Hence, the moment Wu Zilin had such a thought, Guo Hai suppressed it.

Guo Hai said in a low voice to Wu Zilin, "At such a moment, the most important thing is for us to be united. No matter what decision Lu Man makes, we must support her together, or else, other people will treat us like a joke."

Wu Zilin paused for a moment and said in a low voice, "I just think that we should value harmony above all rather than take things to the extreme and make the other party unable to save face, ruining our relations."

Sun Hezhou scoffed and said, "Aren't our relations already ruined? When they were mocking us, why didn't I see anyone stepping up to say they valued harmony? Why should you step up and tell Lu Man to value harmony above all else now that she has the upper hand? That was a win that Lu Man has earned using her own capabilities. Why should we dictate what Lu Man should do? No matter what is going to happen, the only person who has the right to make decisions is only Lu Man."

"That's right. The most important thing for us right now is to be united," Xu Chuansheng also said in a small voice. "Especially when it's in front of so many people. If we openly said something that disagreed with Lu Man, it might make Lu Man look bad. Shouldn't we help our own side first? Even if we can't help, we shouldn't be a hindrance to Lu Man."

"Yeah. Lu Man has earned such a huge credit to make us proud, and pride is so hard to come by. We don't have this capability ourselves. We can't possibly want to be a hindrance to Lu Man even when Lu Man has this capability, right?"

Chapter 2333: Knees Landed on the Floor!

"We do have to show them as well that we are not people to be easily bullied," Zhou Li chimed in.

Wu Zilin said in frustration, "Great. Every one of you is saying the same thing, and now I've become the bad guy who ruined our team's unity. Fine, I won't say it. I'm just thinking of our relations. Since you all think it's fine, why should I bother stepping up to say this?"

Wu Zilin looked really annoyed, but he did not say anything more.

Lu Man saw the rest of them chattering in hushed tones over there, but she could not hear clearly what exactly they were saying.

Lu Man only gave a cursory glance over there and retracted her gaze, saying to Howard, "Just do it right now. Since everyone is here, you can even let everyone be your witness. After today, we might not have eyewitnesses anymore, so nothing could be guaranteed. That won't do."

Lu Man was clearly saying that she wanted to prevent him from acting as if the bet had never happened.

"We agreed on it just now. Whoever loses will go down on their knees to apologize and slap him or herself twice." Lu Man did not intend to let Howard off at all. "My grade is A+ while you failed. Everyone is here now, so I think they can tell who lost and who won."

Howard clenched his teeth and gave a cursory glance across the surroundings.

The students he knew were all there, but not a single one stood out to speak up for him.

Even Leo, who was on great terms with him usually, was now standing behind the crowd, pretending as if he was invisible.

"Since you agreed to the bet, you must accept the loss." Lu Man sputtered out a laugh. "Don't tell me you're thinking of renegeing?"

Howard did not speak a word. But his silence was akin to admission.

But Lu Man would not let him off just because of this. "Just now, you were the one who suggested this bet first. I didn't provoke you, you came to provoke me on your own. If I were the one who'd lost, right now, would you let me off and just let it be? You are quite self-righteous when it comes to bullying women, eh?"

Lu Man sputtered out a laugh. "Well, now you lost."

She raised her eyebrow and said, "Just kneel down."

Howard: "..."

He hesitated and glanced at the surroundings, but no one spoke up for him.

Professor Howell, who was the judge of the day, had already left.

At such a moment, just like Guo Hai and the others concerned, no student from the acting class would stand out to speak up for Howard at such a moment, because that would be even more embarrassing.

In the same vein, there was no one who persuaded Howard to honor his word and quickly kneel down. That was the same logic as Wu Zilin persuading Lu Man to let Howard off.

Everyone did not speak a word but did not leave either. They just crowded around to watch.

Anyway, there was no other class using this small theater room afterward, so it would be left empty.

But this to Howard was a form of silent pressure.

It forced Howard to a dead end, making him unable to escape at all.

And Lu Man, she did not have any intention of going easy on him at all.

Her expression was cold, and she was emotionless as she stood there waiting.

Everyone saw that Lu Man was clearly much shorter than Howard and clearly had to tilt her head up to look at him.

But she just made one feel that she was much taller than Howard.

Howard clenched his teeth hard, his eyes turning red from anger and hatred.

He finally bent his knees.

His knees even trembled a little.

Finally, his knees landed on the floor!

Even though they knew that Lu Man would not let him off easily and that Howard would not be able to avoid kneeling down, when they saw the moment that Howard knelt down, everyone still could not help but gasp.

Howard actually really knelt down!

Howard was so arrogant and obnoxious usually.

As his classmates, they felt it even more than Lu Man and the others.

Being made to kneel like this today would be enough to make Howard hate Lu Man to his guts.

“We said it before. The person who lost, on top of kneeling, also promised that they won’t be arrogant in front of the other party anymore,” Lu Man said. “You have to promise that you won’t ever behave arrogantly in front of me and my classmates next time.”

Chapter 2334: Become Holy and Forgiving

Howard’s face was beet red; even his lips were trembling.

“I lost. I... I admit defeat! I promise, next time, I won’t ever mock you... and your classmates!” Howard struggled to finish his sentence and clenched his teeth tightly.

“And?” Lu Man asked further.

“And?” Howard whipped his head up to look at her.

And what?

Didn’t Lu Man simply ask him not to behave arrogantly in front of her and her classmates?

He’d already promised just now.

What other demands did she have?

“Don’t tell me you forgot so quickly?” Lu Man raised an eyebrow and said, “You said before. Besides kneeling, you also have to slap yourself twice.

“These words were said by you while pointing at my face,” Lu Man said. “You’d pointed right at my nose and said it, that if I lost, I had to kneel down in front of you and slap myself twice. We agreed that the same applies to you.”

Not a single person stood out to speak up for Howard.

Because Lu Man had already made it very clear just now.

He, Howard, had pointed at someone’s nose and told her to kneel and slap herself. Why did he not think it was too humiliating for her then?

He’d thought from the start that he would surely win against Lu Man, so he’d kept forcing her, not giving the other party any face or room to renege.

Yet now that he lost, now that he was the one being embarrassed, he wanted other people to let him off?

When he thought he’d win, he’d forced the other party to agree and never intended to let her off.

Now that he’d lost, he was demanding that the other party let him off. What right did he have to demand that?

Even if they were classmates, they also felt that he was asking for far too much.

If it was like this, then was he the only one who could bully others?

Others could not bully him?

Did he think he was the Chosen One or what?

It was like what Lu Man had said earlier.

If the two of them were to swap positions now and it was Lu Man who had lost, would Howard let her off?

Given how arrogant and domineering Howard had been earlier, without a hint that he was going to spare her, they knew he would surely not have let Lu Man off.

So now, why should he demand that Lu Man let him off?

Actually, though the words that Lu Man had said previously seemed to have been intended for Howard to hear, in fact, she’d said them for the surrounding students’ benefit.

To let them see Howard’s attitude.

Hence, now that Lu Man was telling Howard to follow through with the bet, no one would say that she was pressuring him too much.

Because of Wu Zilin's attitude just now, Guo Hai became more wary and was focused on his reaction the whole time.

Indeed, Wu Zilin wanted to say something again.

Guo Hai just dragged Wu Zilin out of the small theater room.

He found it strange. Previously, when they were being bullied, Wu Zilin had had his fair share of suffering too.

Why then, when this moment was upon them, did he become such a holy and forgiving person?

The students from New York University did not say anything, and the other teammates on their side did not either.

Only he could not stand watching it. What a joke.

He and Zhou Li were both from Donghua Academy of Drama, but the other one did not even say anything.

Why did Donghua Academy of Drama send someone with such a low EQ?

Even Guo Hai felt a bit of a headache.

"What are you doing?!" Wu Zilin shrugged off Guo Hai's hand unhappily.

Guo Hai laughed in anger. "You're asking me what I'm doing? Were you going to plead for leniency again?"

"Lu Man is really being too much like this," Wu Zilin said.

"Then think about what Lu Man said just now. If she and Howard were to switch places, if the person who lost were Lu Man and if she were the one kneeling there now, do you think Howard would let Lu Man off?" Guo Hai asked him.

But Wu Zilin said all righteously, "Whether Howard lets her off or not, that's Howard's matter. That's because Howard is distasteful. But him being distasteful doesn't mean we can do this."

Chapter 2335: You're Not Prioritizing Harmony

"Don't forget, we came over to represent our schools. Our attitude also represents the school's attitude. We can't forge enmity between our schools just because of our own whims of the moment," Wu Zilin said righteously.

Guo Hai almost cursed when he heard that. "You can just represent yourself, you don't need to represent your school. You have no right to represent your school anyway. Plus, we are a team formed from all four schools, so even if you can represent your Donghua Academy of Drama, you can't represent the other three schools we come from.

"Previously, when we were being bullied, did this school ever worry that enmity would brew?" Guo Hai asked coldly. "If the other side cared about the friendship between the parties, then we would not have

been in such an awkward predicament right from the start. We won't have kept waiting for Lu Man to come so that our situation would change for the better.

"If we really asked for leniency now, no one would be grateful to us. They would only look down on us even more," Guo Hai said. "We already had bad blood from the start, so what's the use of pretending to be nice now? It won't achieve anything at all.

"Wu Zilin, you're not prioritizing harmony. You are just sugarcoating your own cowardice," Guo Hai said coldly.

Whether it was because of Guo Hai's attitude or because his true intentions had been ruthlessly exposed by him, Wu Zilin's expression turned pale.

"If there's anything you don't like, we can all get together and discuss it afterward. But right now, we are supposed to stand on the same side. The rest of us are not saying anything, so you can stop trying to make yourself stand out," Guo Hai said.

"What's the point of talking about it afterward!" Wu Zilin was infuriated.

Guo Hai saw that he actually felt that he was being reasonable, that he was doing it for their own good.

He thought that he had already convinced Wu Zilin the first time around.

He did not expect that Wu Zilin would actually be so insistent.

It seemed like he would not be able to convince Wu Zilin any time soon, so Guo Hai could not be bothered to talk to him.

"I still have to go back and watch Howard slap himself. I won't waste time with you here." Guo Hai turned and left.

After thinking of something, he stopped and said to him, "It's no use even if you disagree. I will still stop you and not let you speak. So, you can just let Howard successfully finish slapping himself twice."

He did not want to miss such an exciting scene, so after he said that, he quickly ran back in.

The moment he went in, he happened to see Howard raising his hand.

Guo Hai heaved a sigh of relief. "Luckily, I arrived in time."

And luckily, he had used Chinese to say it. Besides his teammates, the others did not understand what he said.

Howard was already on the brink of exploding from anger, after all. If he heard him say that just now, he would definitely have spat out blood.

Right on the heels of that, he saw Howard slap himself once with a "piak."

Before anyone could react, Howard quickly slapped himself a second time.

Anyway, he had already embarrassed himself, so he might as well finish it off quickly.

That was what Howard thought.

So, after he quickly slapped himself twice, Howard swiftly stood up, burrowed his head down, and ran off without a word.

He also did not care if there were other demands anymore. Howard's mind was whirring loudly right now. He had no ability to think at all, much less think about what he had said himself previously and whether there were other demands.

He just thought that, whether there were other demands or not, he would not care. He definitely had to leave.

This time, Lu Man indeed did not stop him.

Because there were no other demands, so she naturally let Howard leave.

Chapter 2336: Misunderstanding

When Wu Zilin came in, Howard had already finished slapping himself and was about to rush out.

As Howard passed by him, Wu Zilin's mouth twitched, but he eventually said, "Sorry. Lu Man was too overbearing."

His voice wasn't loud, and as he was at the entrance and there wasn't anyone there, no one else except Howard had heard him.

Wu Zilin thought that he meant well, but Howard obviously was not appreciative.

When Howard turned around to look at Wu Zilin, the latter was really frightened by his look.

He saw that Howard's eyes were bloodshot, and that look of viciousness on his face looked like he wanted to eat him up.

He simply did not appreciate Wu Zilin's "good intentions."

"Don't act like you didn't receive any benefits!" Howard furiously and softly said as he stared at Wu Zilin with bloodshot eyes. Without turning his head, he ran out.

Although no one had heard what Wu Zilin told Howard, seeing that Howard had left so furiously, they thought that Wu Zilin did not say anything good to him.

If someone could roughly guess what Wu Zilin had really said, it would have to be Guo Hai.

From Wu Zilin's attitude just now, he could guess that he had definitely gone to apologize to him.

He was really foolish to be acting like a good person at this time!

Just when Guo Hai had this thought, he heard someone say, "You guys are not being gracious. Howard already lost. Why do you still want to ridicule him?"

When Howard was leaving, no one had spoken to him.

Only Wu Zilin had talked to him.

Hence, the opposite party was definitely referring to Wu Zilin.

Wu Zilin felt confused for a moment and felt that he was being wronged. "I didn't..."

"Howard made the mistake first. He was too arrogant and had made things difficult for Lu Man. And even though he had lost, he still didn't want to be accountable for it. Hence, none of us had helped to speak up for him. But he had already completed the bet yet you still wanted to ridicule him? That's not being gracious."

"I didn't!" Wu Zilin said.

When Guo Hai saw the situation, he hurriedly said, "It's our teammate who has lacked consideration. Sorry."

As Guo Hai spoke, he hurriedly threw a glance at Lu Man.

Although Lu Man was talking to Howard just now, she had also noticed Guo Hai and Wu Zilin going out.

Hence, she knew that Wu Zilin might have met with some issues.

Lu Man also said, "Sorry. This wasn't our original intention. I apologize on behalf of my teammate's recklessness."

The crowd also indeed saw that no one else had moved when Howard left. Only that Wu Zilin had had contact with Howard.

Hence, they really couldn't blame Lu Man and the others.

There were naturally all kinds of people.

Didn't Howard from their side also make them feel so ashamed?

Hence, they did not say anything further.

Actually, this was also because they admired Lu Man's capabilities. They saw her as someone from the same class.

In addition, when Lu Man was performing just now, she could put aside her personal grievances and act with Scarlett.

Her professional attitude had also earned the respect of the crowd.

A powerhouse could always earn respect anywhere.

Hence, this matter, which would have triggered a conflict if it were in the past, silently subsided.

"Let's go first," Lu Man said.

To avoid Wu Zilin saying something again.

"Alright." Tan Mingxiao nodded.

He vigilantly went to stand together with Guo Hai as he planned to respond to Wu Zilin any time.

At this moment, he also saw Wu Zilin as a hindrance to their team.

He really had to keep an eye on him at all times.

Otherwise, he wouldn't know when he would do something ridiculous again.

Chapter 2337: Still Felt That This Was a Little Too Much

Indeed, as Guo Hai and Tan Mingxiao walked beside Wu Zilin, he said, "I didn't say anything like that just now. On what basis are you all wronging me!"

Guo Hai and Tan Mingxiao exchanged glances and hurriedly held on to Wu Zilin. Then, they pulled him outside.

"What are you all doing? On what basis are you all not allowing me to talk?" Wu Zilin was infuriated as he was being pulled towards the corridor. "It's fine that they misunderstood me, but must you all do as they do and slander me?"

Wu Zilin furiously said to Guo Hai, "You even said that I was timid and afraid of trouble previously! Simply ridiculous!"

"Ha! I think that you guys are the ones who are timid and afraid of trouble! At the critical moment, when I was being questioned, you all actually didn't have the courage to help your teammate clarify at all!" Wu Zilin furiously said.

Guo Hai was so angry that he laughed. "You're really saying that? Let's go back to the dormitory and slowly talk about it. We don't have to embarrass ourselves in front of people walking past the corridor and let them laugh at us!"

Wu Zilin alone of course could not go against Guo Hai and Tan Mingxiao.

The others were also doubtful of Wu Zilin. Hence, they did not stop them.

They also knew that if they stopped them at this moment, it would delay the speed of their return.

But it was not nice for Wu Zilin to be seen creating trouble in the corridor.

Even if Wu Zilin was really wronged, they could solve it once they went back.

Hence, even Zhou Li, who was Wu Zilin's classmate, did not make a sound.

However, Zhou Li not making a sound did not mean that Wu Zilin would not look for her. "Zhou Li, aren't you talking? Are you letting the people from the National Drama Academy bully those of us from Donghua Academy of Drama?"

Zhou Li frowned and said, "Wu Zilin, let's not make any distinction among us right now. When a team is formed, it is a group. How good each school is will depend on the strength of their performances.

"It's also not appropriate to create a din here. If there's anything you're unhappy with, or if there are any misunderstandings or conflicts between us, let's go back and slowly solve them. If they have bullied you, I'll definitely stand on your side." Zhou Li's words were very impartial.

The others also persuaded him one after another.

Wu Zilin alone also couldn't outspoke so many people. He felt especially wronged and unhappy in his heart. He felt that everyone was going against him now.

He did not talk on the way back and could only follow everyone to the dormitory.

Lu Man looked at Wu Zilin and asked Guo Hai, "What exactly happened?"

Guo Hai glanced at Wu Zilin and coldly smiled.

He was embarrassed to say it.

Even he himself felt ridiculous.

"They had wronged me just now. Instead of helping to speak up for me, you all helped them to wrong me. You guys are really good teammates," Wu Zilin furiously said. "Guo Hai, you acted so nastily and even had the cheek to criticize me for being timid just now? I think that you guys are the actual timid ones! You yourselves are timid, but you criticized me first. It seems like you want to hide your inadequacies by doing this!"

"If it weren't like what we had said earlier, then what did you say to Howard?" Lu Man calmly asked.

On this topic, Wu Zilin was very confident. "Howard made a bet with you. He was indeed wrong for being rude previously. But after you had won, you were also domineering and unwilling to forgive him. It was a little too much. I know that you were very angry, but I still think that it's a little too much for you to be like that.

"Anyone can make mistakes, so forgive them when possible. If you are too forceful and ruin the friendship between the schools, it'll be difficult to manage. Hence, I feel that you should have let Howard off. That both of you should have shaken hands and made peace."

Chapter 2338: Only I Have Become a Bad Person

Wu Zilin said, "Unexpectedly, Guo Hai kept stopping me and wouldn't allow me to talk. Otherwise, I would have definitely spoken up and stopped you.

"This was originally a good opportunity for both parties to patch up." Wu Zilin felt that what he said was very reasonable. "But Guo Hai repeatedly stopped me, and in the end, Howard was forced by you to slap himself twice."

Lu Man also did not comment on his thoughts. Instead, she pursed her lips in ridicule. "And? Did you go and apologize to Howard just now?"

Wu Zilin's expression looked somewhat unnatural, and he said, "There has to be a sensible person among us. Hence, I apologized to him on your behalf."

Lu Man finally chuckled. "Who do you think you are? You actually think that you're qualified to apologize on my behalf?"

"There has to be someone sensible here! In the whole team, although they did not dare to comment about you, it did not mean that they agreed with your way of doing things. We are here to learn, not worsen the relationship between both parties!"

Tan Mingxiao raised his hand and said, "Please don't say this. I totally agree with what Lu Man had done. What you said about not agreeing but not daring to speak up, that doesn't apply to me."

Guo Hai also said, "Me neither. No need to misrepresent me."

Sun Hezhou said, "I think that there's nothing wrong with what Lu Man had done. If we were really to be afraid of the slightest thing such that we'd pretend to be magnanimous despite winning, everyone might not appreciate it."

Xu Chuansheng nodded. "Yes. By the looks of it, even if we were so kind-hearted as to let Howard off, he also might not have appreciated it. If we want to reconcile, we'll also have to see whether the opposite party is appreciative. If the opposite party is not appreciative and we let him off on our side, he may feel that we are weak instead, that we dare not do anything to him. Hence, Lu Man did not do anything wrong. I support her."

"Howard is that kind of person," Zhou Li also said. "Believe it or not, even if Lu Man had let him off today, he would still have felt that she had humiliated him and that she did not dare to provoke him because she was afraid of him. He wouldn't think that Lu Man was being magnanimous. Instead, he'd think it was because she wanted to please him that she did not let him fulfill the bet."

"If that had happened, Lu Man and our whole team would have become a joke," Sun Mengying said. "You think that you'd be showing magnanimity? You won't. You'd actually be pleasing the other party. But the more you're like this, the more the opposite party will look down on you."

Wu Zilin's face turned pale. It might have been because Sun Mengying was right about what was in his mind. He was speechless for a moment.

"Hence, all of us agree with what Lu Man had done except you. There's no such thing as us not daring to speak up," Zhang Xiaoying coldly said.

"So to say, in the end, only I have become the bad person." Wu Zilin was so furious that he laughed.

Feeling tensed up, Han Leilei took a deep breath. "Wu Zilin, have you forgotten about how we were being scorned and looked down on by others before Lu Man came? At that time, all of us, including you, did not have the ability to shut those people up.

"You said that you wanted to consider the friendship between both parties. Well then, before Lu Man came, wasn't the school aware of the attitudes that those students had towards us? But they did not care. Why would they care about us, or even our school?" Han Leilei said.

"However, we didn't have the capabilities. Hence, we did not get the respect that we deserved," Han Leilei said. "Lu Man just arrived today, but in one lesson, she'd used her capability to earn respect and recognition from the professor and from the other students. Besides Howard, the others were very polite to Lu Man. Also, no one felt that Lu Man had done anything wrong by letting Howard fulfill his bet."

Chapter 2339: Why Do You Have to Think of Me as Being So Utilitarian

"Even Professor Howell did not care. So why do you care about other people's matters?" Han Leilei did not mention that Wu Zilin was only looking for trouble and that he was being a busybody.

"When you apologized to Howard on my 'behalf' just now..." With a voice that was filled with sarcasm, Lu Man emphasized the word "behalf." "Howard obviously did not appreciate it."

Although they could not hear what Howard had said, they also knew from his expression that it was not anything good.

That was not the look of someone being appreciative.

Wu Zilin said, "Wasn't it because you had offended him too much?!"

"I offended him. Does it concern you? Does it have a connection to your personal gains? Why are you so unwilling to let him feel embarrassed?" Lu Man asked, raising her eyebrows.

"I've already said—"

"I know what you've already said. It's to maintain good relations between both parties," Lu Man said. "But you have also heard what everyone said just now. Even if I'd shown magnanimity, Howard would not have appreciated it, and the school would not have cared. In the end, that kind of magnanimity would have been useless. It would even have made others think that it was such a joke.

"Howard's classmates did not plead for him, so why are you worried? Why don't you think about the reason behind his classmates not pleading for him? Could it be that they didn't think that Howard had embarrassed the school?" Lu Man asked. "That's because they saw it as a personal issue between me and Howard. It would be a foolish action to raise it to the school.

"As long as you look at it as a personal issue, it will not involve the school. And those so-called worries will not exist," Lu Man said. "Besides, it's also because they knew that once someone spoke, they would be the ones feeling ashamed. It was similar to why Guo Hai stopped you from talking. But it looks like you still don't understand. Guo Hai had spoken to you, everyone had also spoken to you just now. I've repeated myself to you again. Perhaps you really don't understand, or you're just unwilling to understand.

"And your behavior would eventually result in us being mocked. Is this what you want?" Lu Man counter-asked.

"Firstly, you're not qualified to do anything on my behalf and criticize the things that I do. I have won against Howard using my own abilities and not with anyone's help. It is my right to do whatever I want. You didn't win the competition. Hence, you're not qualified to say anything." Lu Man sneered without any restraint. "Don't pretend to be terrific in front of me. If you're really capable, talk using your own capabilities.

"Secondly, if you want to make use of this opportunity to pave the road for your own development, let me tell you, Howard isn't a good choice. Not to mention how he looks down on you and simply wouldn't help you, even he himself has to go around to find shows to act in now. Can he help you? If you're counting on the others from this school to notice you, it can't be done by dragging us down. It still boils down to those words. Firstly, you have to be capable."

Wu Zilin said, "Lu Man, why do you have to think of me as being so mercenary? Even if you have encountered many matters like that, not everyone you meet is that way."

Lu Man did not care about what he had said at all and treated it as though she did not hear him. She continued to say, "The gap between our capabilities and those of the opposite party is already very big.

The most important thing is to be united and be cooperative with one another. In this way, we can have some hope of winning.

“In contrast, if someone is disloyal, has an active mind with his own thoughts, and fails to cooperate on the whole, we’ll have no hope of winning at all.”

Chapter 2340: Is the School Run by Your Family

“Wu Zilin, if you can give up those thoughts, focus on the team, cooperate with everyone, and stay united with us until the competition ends, then I’ll let today’s matter pass,” Lu Man said.

Even if they were to be fully united, they might not necessarily win the competition. What more if Wu Zilin was here creating trouble?

“You think that we’re against you, that we are wrong and you’re the only one who’s right. You feel misunderstood and can’t identify with the team. If you can’t be of one mind with us, then we don’t mind swapping you with another person,” Lu Man said.

Upon hearing this, Wu Zilin exploded. “Swap with another person? Is the school run by your family? Do your words count?”

Everyone was also shocked. However, they were just shocked and did not have any negative thoughts.

It was very easy for the people from the National Film Academy to accept it.

This was because Han Leilei and Lu Man were good friends. As she was close with Lu Man, she understood her style of handling matters as well as personal relationships. Hence, she felt that Lu Man’s way of doing things was normal.

Not only would she not object or be shocked, but she would even stand on Lu Man’s side and tell her she was awesome.

Furthermore, though people from the National Drama Academy rarely had contact with the National Film Academy in terms of private or official communication, there’s the fact that Lu Man had nearly gone to the National Drama Academy at the very beginning.

Hence, they were very familiar with Lu Man’s way of doing things.

After feeling shocked, they very quickly calmed down.

As Donghua Academy of Drama and Donghua Film Academy were far away, the only contact the schools had with her previously was during the “Chinese Arts Championships.”

But these representatives did not take part in the “Chinese Arts Championships.” Hence, they did not have any contact with Lu Man before this.

Their understanding of some matters about Lu Man was limited to what the media reported.

Hence, right now, they were very shocked by Lu Man’s way of doing things.

Either they felt that Lu Man was being overbearing, thinking she could just get rid of a person like this, or they felt that Lu Man was being overly dominant!

Being overbearing and being dominant were different.

Lu Man was too decisive.

The time taken for them to come back and for her standoff with Wu Zilin only took around ten minutes.

And Lu Man had directly thought of this step.

They wondered when she had made this decision.

This decision was easy to think of but was difficult to say and do.

Guo Hai and the others had also thought of this. If Wu Zilin continued to be like this, it would be good without him.

But if they didn't want him, who else could they have?

Who could fill his position at this time?

The fact that Wu Zilin could take part already showed that he was at the top two from the Donghua Academy of Drama.

Besides, this was not a time when they could just exchange another person if they wanted to.

But Lu Man could say it.

Furthermore, Lu Man had never failed to honor her words.

No need to talk about what happened a long time ago, what happened just now regarding the bet between Lu Man and Howard was enough.

She had such a well-thought-out strategy, intending to make Howard lose.

In the end, Howard really lost.

Hence, what Lu Man had said now was not just a verbal threat.

It was this that made them shocked.

But despite being shocked, no one said anything.

They wanted to win the competition. Furthermore, due to the previous encounter, they were really unprecedentedly united now.

This was something that had never happened before with the previous batches of exchange students.

Although the previous batches of exchange students lacked capabilities, they did not have any conflicts with the students here.

The other party went overboard this year because they had lost to the team from the National Film Academy that was led by Lu Man.

This had intensified their conflicts.