

**Mr Han 991**

**Chapter 991: The Lineup for *The Performer***

“I think it’s not very possible.”

“Then who do you think C is?”

“Who is W, then? Wu Minzhong?”

“Scratching my head. Even though the pool of people isn’t really big, it seems even harder to guess who they are.”

The production team of *The Performer* naturally saw *Classic X Files*’ publicity too.

Ge Guangzhen frowned and asked, “Have you managed to find out? Exactly who are the mystery guests that *Classic X Files* invited?”

“No, I haven’t. They are exceptionally good at keeping it secret. Especially since now that it’s the Spring Festival holiday, a majority of the employees have gone back to their homes to celebrate the New Year, leaving behind only a few staff who stay in this city. However, they are all not staff members of *Classic X Files*. The people in their production team also never leaked any news to their colleagues in the station. Because of their publicity, their colleagues in the other departments were all pretty curious too and specifically went to ask them, but they just refused to say,” Assistant Director Wang said.

Long ago, before the Spring Festival and before *Classic X Files* started their publicity, Ge Guangzhen had noticed it.

Xing Ke Station and Dong Hua Station were long-time competitors. *The Performer* was created with the motive of defeating *Classic X Files*.

Be it Dong Hua Station or *Classic X Files*, Ge Guangzhen knew them both really well.

*Classic X Files* started publicity for their third episode two weeks before. That was enough for Ge Guangzhen to pay attention.

He believed that when *Classic X Files* said that their mystery guests in the third episodes were super heavyweights, it wasn’t an exaggeration or a publicity stunt.

For them to be able to start their publicity so early on, the guests must definitely be extremely surprising.

After all, *The Performer* was going to premiere on the fifth day of the Chinese New Year, and hence, *Classic X Files* wanted to battle with *The Performer* for the viewership ratings. This episode would be really important to them too.

“We’re going to premiere in two days, we really can’t let it go on like this. Let’s make some changes to the guests that are appearing on our first episode,” Assistant Director Wang said.

“We already have Wu Guan and Xu Jingfeng, and after much effort, we managed to convince Jiang Yuhan and Xu Fei,” Assistant Director Wang said.

Wu Guan and Xu Jingfeng were both currently really popular. It was hard to say how many people they could attract on the silver screen, but in the TV industry, their popularity would definitely be in the top ten.

Jiang Yuhan and Xu Fei were both the top in the B-list. They just needed another major television award to rise up to become an A-list actor. As for this year's Golden Phoenix Award, both of them were talented candidates for the spot of Best Female Actress.

"Our consulting judges include Best Actor winner Zhang Shuidong, Hu Jingwen who won Best Female Actress at both the Cannes and Venice Film Festivals, and the power couple Director Li Guangshu and his wife, producer Lu Jie," Assistant Director Wang said. "Classic X Files's guests for each episode aren't really considered super big-shot. There are not many from the original cast of the classic films and shows who are A-list and still active. Some of them have even disappeared from the entertainment industry. All that they rely on is sentiment and memory. Moreover, the two actors whom they have each episode are even less notable; most of them are struggling B-list or C-list actors. The only thing worth watching is the mystery guest in the final round."

After listening to Assistant Director Wang's analysis, Ge Guangzhen also felt that it was strange. Without a really strong guest list, and with the only part worth watching only at the final round, why was this show so popular?

Every round, they would indeed pull strings or spend a lot of money and effort to invite the mystery guest for the final round. Therefore, even if it was only a B-list actor, the guest that they invite would still be really impressive.

There were also some young actors who were the children of really popular stars. Their parents had a lot of connections, so they were also able to invite a really big big-shot.

However, The Performer wasn't bad at all.

### **Chapter 992: Your Opinion Is My Opinion**

Needless to say, every episode's competing guest was a popular idol, and even the four judge-consultants were very famous in the entertainment circle.

The main thing was that the four judge-consultants were always there in every episode. No matter what, the status of their celebrities was better than those of Classic X Files.

"Director Ge, do you want to consider switching out Ni Xue and Lu Qi? It's alright to move her to the second episode to air. Now we should hurry to bring all the big-shot celebrities to film an episode. And we can edit it into the first episode in time. Wu Guan and Xu Jingfeng, Jiang Yuhan and Xu Jingfeng, every one of them is a popular celebrity. Ni Xue and Lu Qi are not enough," Assistant Director Wang said.

Ge Guangzhen pressed the center of his brows in irritation. "Do you think I don't know? But our main sponsor right now is the Lu Corporation, and Lu Qiyuan said specifically that he wants Lu Qi to be in the first episode. Yet Lu Qi's acting skills are not enough, and her popularity is not enough. If we let other actors compete with her, she would definitely be suppressed. If Lu Qi gets too embarrassed, we won't be able to explain it to Lu Qiyuan."

Ge Guangzhen sighed in irritation. "He's providing the money so he has the biggest authority. What can we do?"

Assistant Director Wang mocked, "He took out just a small amount of money yet he has so many requests. It's just 40 million yuan. Our production team had to request for more from the station, and only then was it enough. We still had to find more money to make up for it. This sort of main sponsor, it's embarrassing just hearing it."

"What other method is there? We can't not have a main sponsor, right?" Ge Guangzhen said helplessly. "It'll just depend on the viewership ratings of the first episode. If it becomes an explosively popular variety show, this season's cost of main sponsorship will increase. At that time, no one would care about the Lu Corporation at all!"

Even the cost of the main sponsorship depended on the price. It would need to be discussed.

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At night, Lu Man received Xia Qingwei's phone call.

"Mom," Lu Man called.

"Man Man, I... I have something to tell you." Xia Qingwei felt it was a bit tough to say. To actually have to tell it to her daughter, she was too embarrassed.

"Go on," Lu Man said with a smile.

She had asked Han Zhuoli in the daytime whether Wang Juhuai was reliable, and she now felt better.

But Xia Qingwei did not speak for a long time, and Lu Man could only say, "Mom, how did the car-hunting you went to with Mr. Wang today go?"

Xia Qingwei talked about it but skipped over the situation with Xia Qingyang and Lu Qi.

"I asked Zhuoli already, Mr. Wang is not bad," Lu Man said as she smiled. "How was it with him today?"

Xia Qingwei felt that Lu Man already made it so clear, so she could only directly say, "I... I want to try with him. Not marriage, I just want to try getting together with him to see how it goes."

She had already started the conversation off, and the words after seemed easier to say.

"After all, we have both not seen each other for many days." Over twenty years... it seemed like it was half a lifetime.

Lu Man naturally respected Xia Qingwei's opinion. "Mom, no matter what you decide, I will support you. I can tell that you really like Mr. Wang and that you care about him. Since it's like that, you need to keep a hold on him, don't leave any regrets. You don't need to care about my opinion, your opinion is my opinion."

Because of this, Lu Man returned home on the second day.

And in the end, she had just entered the door when she saw that Wang Juhuai was also there.

Lu Man looked at the time, and then looked at Wang Juhuai. It was only 9:30 in the morning right now.

“When did Mr. Wang come over?” Lu Man asked with a smile.

Wang Juhuai was scared that Lu Man would misunderstand that he had stayed overnight, and then explained, “I came around nine, I just entered the door slightly earlier than you did.”

Lu Man’s lips twitched. It was like he was coming here for work.

“We have a guest room in our home. It was originally prepared for Zhuoli, but he had never used it before. If Mr. Wang doesn’t mind it, when it’s inconvenient for you to leave, you can stay in the guest room,” Lu Man said, still smiling.

### **Chapter 993: Thinking Very Far Ahead**

Xia Qingwei hurried over from the living room and just happened to hear Lu Man saying that. She could not help but glare at Lu Man from behind Wang Juhuai.

This child!

How could there be someone who would try to matchmake their mother?

Xia Qingwei totally forgot it at that time, but she herself, who was Lu Man’s mother, had even automatically pushed Lu Man towards Han Zhuoli’s house.

Wang Juhuai was extremely surprised.

In the morning, when he came, he heard Xia Qingwei say that Lu Man was very supportive of them being together. Wang Juhuai was worrying in his heart that Lu Man was just pacifying Xia Qingwei.

He was worried that Lu Man would be a little unhappy in her heart, no matter what she’d said.

He did not think that on actually meeting them, Lu Man would directly say that.

Wang Juhuai was fully relieved only now. He’d been scared that Xia Qingwei would be troubled because of him and her daughter.

“Thank you,” Wang Juhuai said sincerely.

“You’re welcome,” Lu Man said as she smiled.

Xia Qingwei really could not help but go up and secretly pinch Lu Man.

Wang Juhuai saw every small action of Xia Qingwei’s.

This kind of personality was the same as when she was young; it had never changed.

Wang Juhuai was full of smiling intent as he said, “You don’t need to call me Mr. Wang. That’s like you’re treating me as too much of a stranger. Why don’t you follow what Zhuoli calls me?”

Lu Man said in her heart that Wang Juhuai really was not treating himself as an outsider, and so she smiled and called, “Uncle.”

Wang Juhuai happily nodded and was almost about to ask her if, in the future, she would mind calling him Dad.

Lu Man saw that their relationship was advancing well and did not want to disturb them.

“You just came, why are you going already?” Xia Qingwei asked.

“I just came to see how you are. Now that I’ve seen you, I feel more at ease. I’ll go back first,” Lu Man said with a smile.

At that moment, Qi Chengzhi called Wang Juhuai, saying that he’d sent people over to bring him around to look at houses and see which kind he liked.

After hanging up, Wang Juhuai told Xia Qingwei, “Let’s go and look at houses in the afternoon.”

Xia Qingwei: “...”

This person, calling her when he wanted to look at cars, and calling her when he wanted to look at houses!

“I can’t really tell. I lived in America, all my domestic helpers are staying there and are planning to find another job. But Butler Wei Zhong insisted on following me. If I buy a single-story house, I feel that it would not be very convenient. Although there are villas in the neighborhood, they’re not very near to yours, unlike the single-story house.”

Because of that, Xia Qingwei was pulled in the end by Wang Juhuai to look at houses.

Wang Juhuai’s meaning was very simple. Whether he liked it or not was not important; the most important thing was that Xia Qingwei liked it.

“You’re staying on your own. Even if there was a butler present, don’t you feel that it’s empty living in a big house?” Xia Qingwei asked when they were viewing houses.

Wang Juhuai thought about it and said, “It’s better to buy something slightly bigger, though it’s not only because of the fact that Wang Juhuai and the domestic help will be there. Furthermore, in the future, when Lu Man gives birth and brings her child back to the house, as soon as there is more people, it will be a bit crowded. It’s better for it to be slightly bigger. There will be more space for the children to run about.”

Xia Qingwei: “...”

They were not married, so why did the children Lu Man would give birth to need to go to his house?

Furthermore, he even used “children”?

He was thinking very far ahead.

Wang Juhuai was considering that anyway, in the future, he needed to make Xia Qingwei move over, and so, whether it was near or far from Xia Qingwei’s house was not something to be concerned about. Anyway, it was all in the same neighborhood. However far it was, it could not be that far.

And so, Wang Juhuai decided to choose a villa in the end.

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Quickly, it was the fifth day of the New Year.

At night, at 9:00, Dong Hua Station's *Classic X Files* and Xing Ke Station's *The Performer* were airing at the same time.

Wu Guan, Xu Jingfeng, Jiang Yuhan, and Xu Fei—the four of them attracted a lot of fans to watch the show.

And *Classic X Files* had its own loyal fans that it had accumulated over the last few years.

#### **Chapter 994: Contribute Some Viewership Ratings to Lu Man**

Following the broadcast of the shows, there were continuous comments from the netizens online.

"*The Performer* is not bad. I don't know if there are really internal decisions in the show, but I see that they are all doing their best to perform and are not purposely trying to lose."

"The judge-consultants don't participate in voting and only give some comments, and the audience present at the event location votes. It's quite transparent."

"My Wu Guan is so handsome!"

"Xu Jingfeng handsome!"

"Jingfeng actually acts very well. I want to see who dares to say he has no acting skills in the future."

"Jiang Yuhan and Xu Fei act very well. I did not think that their acting skills are so good."

"That way, no matter who wins, it's deserved, and whoever loses, it's a pity. There should not be some internal decisions present, right?"

"*Classic X Files* is still doing the same old thing, but Lu Man's variety show skills are very good. I'm laughing to death at her."

"Why didn't I find out before that Qiao Luna was so fake?"

"It's probably in comparison to Lu Man."

"Before this, when I watched *Classic X Files*, I felt that it was very peaceful. I did not think that this episode would have so much arguing points!"

"Hahahaha, it feels that Qiao Luna is too fake, trying to act great the whole way, while Lu Man doesn't even bother to acknowledge her."

Lu Man stopped looking at the comments of the netizens. As of now, it was hard to tell which one had more audience from the comments.

As Lu Man watched the television, she opened the official website of *Classic X Files*, waiting for the figure outlines to light up.

On this side, she was watching the show. Meanwhile, Xia Qingwei had also switched on the television at home.

Because of what Lu Man said, Wang Juhuai had even outrightly stayed at Xia Qingwei's house.

The two of them were clean, with nothing in between them, and Wang Juhuai was already very happy being able to stay at the guest room here.

And in the family house, Old Mrs. Han had switched on all the televisions in the rooms.

Even if no one was watching them, she had to contribute to Lu Man's viewership ratings.

Not just that, she had even called the other Old Madams in other houses, telling them to watch *Classic X Files* at home.

"What?"

"You want to watch a television drama?"

"When can't you watch television dramas?"

"Contribute some viewership ratings to Lu Man before you talk about it!"

Eventually, the last advertisement from *Classic X Files* was over and the last event started.

Even Lu Man's heart began to speed up.

Qiao Luna went on stage, and Li Youjun and Shen Xijun also went on stage.

The figure outlines on *Classic X Files*'s official websites for Li Youjun and Shen Xijun lighted up at the same time, showing the pictures of the two of them.

"It's actually Li Youjun!"

"And Shen Xijun! Oh my gosh, I need to tell my dad and my mom. They both especially love watching Teacher Shen Xijun's shows. She has not appeared for a few years already. My dad and my mom were talking about her just a few days ago."

Because of Shen Xijun, those middle-aged and older people who did not watch variety shows naturally switched on their television to watch.

But there were not a lot of people changing stations.

Li Youjun's fan club was still not enough. There were still a lot of people who had yet to watch his currently explosively popular drama, and they still did not know him.

However, regarding Qiao Luna's performance, the netizens had things to say.

"My gosh, if it wasn't for Teacher Shen Xijun, I really could not have finished watching this performance. Why are Qiao Luna's acting skills not even up to Li Youjun's level?"

"She is totally being suppressed by Shen Xijun!"

“The reason she’s not up to Li Youjun’s level is that Li Youjun does not have a lot of parts. To make herself outstanding, Qiao Luna had added a lot of parts for herself, but without Li Youjun’s help, when she acted beside Shen Xijun alone, the difference was obvious and she was totally suppressed by Shen Xijun’s acting skills and stage presence.”

### **Chapter 995: The Most Awkward Performance in History**

“That’s why, when you seek out a mystery guest, you need to first look at your own standard. Otherwise, if you lose out totally compared to the guest, you become a joke instead.”

“Ah, Qiao Luna is finally done acting. It really was a torture.”

“This is Classic X Files’s most awkward performance in history. There is no other competition.”

“It’s time for Lu Man to come on. I wonder who Lu Man invited.”

“Everyone thinks Guest D is Du Lin, and Du Lin and Lu Man indeed have some relations. Now the most mysterious ones are Guest W and Guest C. Until now, there have been no accurate guesses. Everyone has their own guess, and there is no one most netizens agree on.”

Very quickly, in the show, Lu Man got on stage, and not long after, Du Lin also came on stage.

Du Lin came on and had yet to even open his mouth to speak.

But when the audience saw his face, they all started to laugh.

Even the audience in front of the television could not help but laugh.

“Hahahaha, even though I already guessed it would be Du Lin, when I saw him, I still really want to laugh!”

At the same time that Du Lin went on stage, the cutout of his figure lit up, and Du Lin’s picture was revealed.

After that, Guest C’s figure also lit up.

It was Ji Cheng’s picture.

“Ji Cheng! It’s Ji Cheng! It’s actually Ji Cheng! Lu Man managed to invite Ji Cheng! Impressive!”

When the netizens posted on Weibo, they even posted the picture of Ji Cheng’s figure.

“What? It’s actually Ji Cheng!” At that moment, the netizens who were not watching the television hurriedly went to switch it on.

“Mom, Dad! Quickly change the station, change it to Dong Hua Station! Classic X Files invited Ji Cheng, and they are performing now!”

Right after that, Guest W’s figure was also lighted up.

“F\*ck! Who the h\*ck did I just see?!”

“Sun Yiwu!”



“He’s a director, and he came to act? Awesome!”

“No matter how he acts, I want to see it! However bad he acts, I still want to see it!”

The netizens sent out Sun Yiwu’s photo.

The audience who was originally watching The Performer while they were on Weibo saw that and went f\*ck, Sun Yiwu!

They instantly changed station. There was nothing more to say!

“I just changed to Dong Hua Station. Sun Yiwu just got on stage. Thankfully, I’m on time.”

“Ah, I did not see the front part. After 12, I shall go on the website to watch the online broadcast.”

“I did not think that Lu Man could invite Sun Yiwu over!”

“Production team, you are a big trick! What W, what C, it’s not a WC! Which one has something to do with Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng?”

They did not think that the person in charge of Classic X Files’s official Weibo was online. That person replied to this netizen, “Isn’t Sun Yiwu’s ‘Wu’ W? Ji Cheng’s ‘Cheng’ is also C.”

The audience fainted. Wasn’t it supposed to be the first letter of the surname?

The mystery guests had been announced, and The Performer lost a lot of audiences.

But as to how many they lost, it was not possible to calculate. They had to wait for tomorrow to check the results.

There were also the netizens who did not watch The Performer originally and were also not watching Classic X Files. When they saw Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng’s photo, they could not help but go and switch on the television to watch it out of curiosity.

In the end, when they saw the conclusion, the netizens were shocked.

“The h\*ck, 500-0. What sort of thing was that!”

“I’m totally amused by Lu Man, still asking the audience if there were any internal schemes, asking those who voted for her to raise their hand. Lu Man, why are you so straightforward? If there were really some internal schemes and there were audience members who did not vote for you, wouldn’t it be very awkward?”

Lu Man did not know whether to laugh or cry as she watched the television. She did not think that the production team would also keep that part in.

She had thought that the production team would delete it.

### **Chapter 996: This Is Forcing *The Performer* to Die**

It just so happened that at this moment, Lu Man’s phone rang.

She took it out to take a look. It was actually Lu Dongliu’s phone call.

“Director Lu,” Lu Man said after she picked it up.

“Haha, Lu Man, did you finish watching the show?” Lu Dongliu said as he smiled.

“I just finished watching it. Why did you keep the part where I asked the audience if there were internal decisions and had them raise their hands in the show?” Lu Man asked, not knowing whether to laugh or to cry.

“Hahaha, that is one of the parts I’m the most satisfied with; it has too much of a good effect,” Lu Dongliu said. “I guessed that you would ask me that.”

Lu Man: “...”

“Being able to contribute some viewership ratings, I’m already very happy.” Lu Man kept her smile, but her heart was a mess.

“It’s really all thanks to you this time!” Lu Dongliu said, smiling. “The numbers now show that ever since Ji Cheng appeared, there was suddenly a big number of audience members who changed channels to watch us, and when it got to Sun Yiwu’s appearance, Xing Ke Station lost a lot of viewers. Until now, the final viewership ratings have yet to come out, and we can only know the specifics tomorrow.”

“Then may I trouble you to send me a copy tomorrow?” Lu Man said.

“No problem. Even if you didn’t ask me for one, I’ll also want to send you one,” Lu Dongliu said.

“However, it’s still the holidays now. Did you return to the television station?” Lu Dongliu was not someone from Dong Hua. His old family home was somewhere else, but because he was always working at Dong Hua, he stayed in Dong Hua. The husband and wife were both staying in Dong Hua and would return to their hometown only during the New Year.

“Hai, this is an important moment, right? That’s why I came home earlier. Anyway I just came back two days earlier,” Lu Dongliu said.

It was not easy to separate oneself from your work. Lu Dongliu was a head director, and he could not even properly enjoy a holiday.

After hanging up, Lu Man entered Weibo to see that a lot of people were calling out to her.

“Lu Man, you are too bad. This is forcing The Performer to die ahahaha!”

“Who would have thought that Lu Man would ask Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng to come? And adding on Du Lin, the guests for The Performer this episode were not good enough at all.”

“Right, who’s the one who appeared for The Performer’s third round? I switched channels halfway to watch Classic X Files. I did not watch The Performer.”

It was not only this netizen, but a lot of people also did not go and see it. They were all attracted away by Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng.

“Wait until the whole video is out online to take a look.”

Lu Dongliu was still working overtime in the television station, and it was not until the show was done broadcasting that Lu Dongliu returned home.

At that moment, he had just reached home and was concerned with only lowering his head to look at the comments online. Seeing that most netizens seemed to have changed stations in the middle, Lu Dongliu was happy, and he finally let out a breath of relief.

At least they did not lose to The Performer's first broadcast.

Lu Dongliu's wife saw how he looked and was both angry and amused. "You should at least change your shoes and your clothes and comfortably watch the results!"

Lu Dongliu did not watch anymore upon hearing that. Changing his shoes, he said, "Did you watch the episode tonight? How was it?"

"It was good," Mrs. Lu said. "Although Qiao Luna's performance was not great, the negative topic could help increase the popularity of the show. Actually, I quite wanted to watch how the first episode of The Performer was, but I didn't want to increase the viewership ratings for them, and so I held myself back and did not watch it. I'm waiting for websites to come up with the full video and watch it. Anyway, with how it looks like now, I feel that this time around, Classic X Files will exceed the previous times and would even evoke the feelings that the first season did."

"That's good. Although Classic X Files has maintained good viewership ratings, the truth is that the viewership ratings are dropping with each season. It's hard to reach the peak of the first season. If it continues like that, I don't know how many more episodes this season can continue on for."

### **Chapter 997: Let's See Who Laughs at the End**

"Variety shows are all like that. It's not that the show is not good, it's that the audience gets tired of admiring it. It had a different kind of image today. Even if Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng were not in it, the viewership ratings would still have been higher than normal," Lu Dongliu's wife said, comforting him.

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Lu Qi happily watched the episode, very satisfied with her performance. She felt that the netizens would finally see her acting skills now and that she would finally be able to enter the audience's vision again.

She opened Weibo full of anticipation, wanting to see the praise the audience had for her.

Yet who'd have thought that after searching around, she would not find any news concerning her?

It was like she did not appear in *The Performer* tonight at all.

Lu Qi was unable to accept this sort of result, but after searching here and there, it was really like no one had seen her performance.

Her performance was cut and placed in the third round, yet when she looked, it just so happened that when she was performing, *Classic X Files* was also going through their last round of performances and the audience was all attracted away by Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng.

There was no one who cared about *The Performer's* third round of performances!

Lu Qi was so angry that her hands were trembling.

How could they do that?!

This was outrightly stealing audiences!

They even specially waited until the show was broadcasting to reveal the mystery guests one by one.

This sort of way of stealing the audiences was really like how food shops pulled customers.

This was not according to the normal method!

She had found this opportunity with much difficulty, and it was ruined by Lu Man again!

If it were not for the fact that Lu Man went to ask Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng to come, how could they have attracted so many audiences?!

Lu Man just could not stand Lu Qi living well, could she?!

Lu Qi did not even wonder, how did Lu Man know that the production group had edited her performance to the third round?

Lu Man was only attacking the production group, and she was not even being considered.

Lu Qi was so angry that her eyes turned red and she could not sleep.

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On the second day, Ge Guangzhen went to the television station early in the morning.

Assistant Director Wang and Team Leader Wu saw Ge Guangzhen's bloodshot eyes and were all shocked.

"Director Ge, you did not rest well yesterday?" Assistant Director Wang asked.

"*Classic X Files* was being discussed so much by the netizens yesterday. How could I have slept peacefully?" Ge Guangzhen said, his eyes red.

He had not thought that Lu Man could invite Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng!

If he'd known that, no matter what, he would have had Lu Man stay in *The Performer*.

Sun Yiwu!

Ji Cheng!

Before this, Sun Yiwu was still *The Performer's* judge-consultant!

In the end, he just quit his job as a consultant and turned around to join *Classic X Files* with Lu Man. It was too much!

As he watched more and more people talking about *Classic X Files*, he also saw that there were not many things mentioned about *The Performer*.

"Are the viewership ratings out yet?" Ge Guangzhen asked anxiously.

"Not yet. I've already had someone go and try to hurry them. As soon as it comes out, it'll be sent to us," Assistant Director Wang said.

Online, the netizens were also watching out for the viewership ratings.

"When will the viewership ratings be out? I keep refreshing the Pineapple Television website," a netizen said. "I'm curious about who won between *Classic X Files* and *The Performer*."

"These two shows are too crazy. Insisting on broadcasting together, it is obvious that they are saying if there's you, there won't be me. They're just seeing who will have the last laugh."

"I feel that it will be *Classic X Files*. The episode yesterday was too impressive. If we're talking about the negative talking points, Qiao Luna had managed to give a lot. If we're talking about popularity, it was all dealt with by Lu Man and the guests she invited. How could *The Performer* even compete?"

### **Chapter 998: The Performer's Viewership Ratings**

"*The Performer* is too dumb, insisting on having the same broadcast time as *Classic X Files*. Wasn't that an attempt at riling them up? You already tried to provoke them all the way to their doorstep, but how could *Classic X Files* let you do that? They directly sought out Lu Man to go up against them. If you want me to comment, this is all caused by *The Performer* themselves. They could have avoided Friday and randomly chose Saturday or Sunday, what's wrong with that?"

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In Ge Guangzhen's office, the assistant hurriedly sent over *The Performer's* viewership ratings from yesterday.

The viewership ratings that the television station compiled themselves only had the order of the viewership ratings in the television station.

The netizens were waiting for the viewership ratings of all the variety shows. That was slower in coming than the compilation for the television station itself.

The Pineapple Television Website's viewership ratings were more accurate, so, normally, they would directly wait for the viewership ratings from the Pineapple Television Website.

"Quickly hand it over!" Ge Guangzhen snatched the viewership ratings' list from the assistant's hands.

The viewership ratings in the television station itself had not just variety shows but also all the television station's internally broadcast shows. It contained a summary of all ratings of satellite TV stations and sub-stations.

*The Performer* was aired on Xing Ke Station, and Xing Ke Station also had news channels, science teaching channels, anime channels, channels with everything, etc.

Even though he could look from the top-down, Ge Guangzhen still took a deep breath and started looking from the bottom up.

If he started to read from the top, every position he missed meant that *The Performer* had dropped one in rank.

If he started from the bottom, every position he missed would mean that *The Performer* had increased in rank once.

This sort of feeling was different.

Searching from the top, every time he did not see *The Performer's* name, he would be disappointed once.

But searching from the bottom, he would actually become happier and happier when he did not see it.

Ge Guangzhen searched upwards one by one. When he saw that he had already reached the top ten, his frown relaxed a bit.

Reaching the top ten in the station, that meant that their results were not bad.

Xing Ke Station was a famous big station in the country, and the internal competition was even greater than the competition with other stations.

As long as you could stabilize yourself in the station itself, there was not much problem already.

Ge Guangzhen's goal was obviously number one, but when he reached number eight, he already saw *The Performer's* name.

His frown, which had just relaxed, came back again, and Ge Guangzhen took a look. The viewership rating was 1.0562%.

"What happened?!" Ge Guangzhen said angrily and hurriedly looked upwards.

Even some television dramas had higher viewership ratings than they did.

It must be pointed out that the fact that a television drama's viewership ratings had exceeded 1% was already a good thing. That was considered a high viewership rating. But now, *The Performer* had just exceeded 1%, and other television dramas all had 1.1 or 1.2% results.

Even though there was the scandal about the results for *The Performer* before this and it was affected a bit, when they were predicting the viewership ratings, it was definitely not that low!

"That's not normal!" Ge Guangzhen said.

He suddenly remembered, the Xing Ke Station channels showed dramas at the same timing. He went to find *Oh! Lady!*, which was a popular show from their station. This was a popular Korean drama, and in Korea, its viewership ratings was at number one. So their station had it air at the same time as Korea.

The female fans of the Korean drama were very strong. Both the male lead and the second male lead in the show were handsome, and the female lead was pretty. Her makeup was nice, and her clothes were also nice. The drama itself was also extremely sweet, making people feel happy when watching it.

Normally, it was stable at around 1.8 to 1.9% viewership ratings, but what about yesterday night?

The first episode that aired at 8:00 had a viewership rating of 1.8563%, but when it reached the second episode at 9:00, it only just reached 0.9967%.

### **Chapter 999: Total Win**

That was almost half its normal viewership ratings!

Ge Guangzhen took a close look again. The viewership ratings were so low, it would have been pitiful for most of the shows, and these were all the shows that were airing at 9:00.

What else did he not understand?

It was probably affected by *Classic X Files*.

It was over...

Their show was about to become a joke!

It was only the first episode, and it flopped.

Assistant Director Wang saw how Ge Guangzhen looked like the sky was about to fall and hurriedly took the viewership ratings' table to take a look at it.

"This..." This was also too low, right?!

Assistant Director Wang did not have as much pressure as Ge Guangzhen, and so he remembered now, the whole web's viewership ratings were about to come out already.

He hurried online to see.

As expected, after everyone had been waiting anxiously, The Pineapple Television Website finally uploaded the viewership ratings of the variety shows of each of the major stations yesterday.

Tenth place, *Listen To My Story*, Xi Nan Television Station, 0.232%.

Ninth place, *Matchmaking Congregation*, Jiang Nan Art Station, 0.2423%.

...

Second place, *The Performer*, Xing Ke Station, 1.0562%.

First place, *Classic X Files*, Dong Hua Station, 2.1305%.

"The f\*ck, *Classic X Files* managed to pass two! I remember their viewership ratings for the first season was the best, but at its highest, it could only get close to second, and after the second season, the viewership ratings started to fall. Although it's still a famous variety show, it is no longer as great and surprising for the audience as its first season. When it reached the fourth season, its viewership ratings were basically between 1.5 to 1.7. And now, during the third episode, it has revived!"

"My heart aches for *The Performer*. Although it is second, the difference with number one is too big."

"Total win, this is a total win against *The Performer*!"

“To *The Performer*’s production team, what should I say about you guys? If you hadn’t done those sorts of schemes, Lu Man could have entered your production team and the first episode yesterday would have had Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and Du Lin. You were wrong from the start! One wrong step, and then all your steps went wrong as well!”

“I wonder if the production team for *The Performer* is crying. If they weren’t so bad and hadn’t done those sorts of schemes before this, Lu Man would not have quit. Once Lu Man had quit, you should have just let her quietly quit, yet you insisted on pulling her out to slander her. Is Lu Man so easy to provoke? If you had not slandered Lu Man at that time, the fact that your show has such internal schemes won’t have been exposed. If you hadn’t provoked Lu Man and if Lu Man had still been in your production group, *Classic X Files* won’t have asked Lu Man to participate. If it wasn’t for the fact that you had decided to air on Friday night to compete with *Classic X Files*, *Classic X Files* won’t have had Lu Man help them do public relations and publicity. If *Classic X Files* hadn’t sought out Lu Man, they would not have been able to invite Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng and *The Performer* won’t have been a flop.”

“So, the reason at the end was still Lu Man!”

“*The Performer* flopped so much. Are the guests participating in the show still fine? Are the advertisers still fine? Is the main sponsor still fine?”

“The main sponsor is the Lu Corporation. Why does this company’s name sound so familiar?”

“Of course it sounds familiar. It’s run by Lu Man’s bad biological father who’d worse than a step-dad.”

“The f\*ck, is he dumb? Does he not have a brain? Even if he doesn’t get along with Lu Man, Lu Man had refused to participate in *The Performer*. As her father, shouldn’t he not have sponsored *The Performer*? Even if it were not from that angle, just in terms of business, it was a show that Lu Man did not look well upon, yet he still ran to be their main sponsor. Does his brain have a problem?”

“So now that *The Performer* has flopped, the Lu Corporation has also flopped.”

“If he didn’t have something wrong with his brain, how could he not want a daughter as smart as Lu Man?”

### **Chapter 1000: Lu Man Making a Move**

“Haha, you all don’t know, right? The Lu Corporation became the main sponsor for *The Performer* and had another condition. That was, to make sure that they enter his daughter Lu Qi into the show, that she appears in the first episode, and that she must definitely win. Yesterday, everyone turned to Dong Hua Station midway and did not see the third round. Lu Qi appeared in the third round, with Ni Xue, and the result was as expected. Lu Qi won.”

“It can’t be, right? I went to search just now. Lu Qi was indeed in the third round, but she won because of the internal agreements?”

“It’s definitely true. I heard my friend say so. My friend is working for *The Performer*, but as to who it is, I can’t say. I don’t want to harm him.”

In front of the computer, Lu Man slowly typed out that paragraph and posted it.

That was right. The person exposing this internal agreement was Lu Man’s other account.



She did not forget; she had accepted Classic X Files's public relations fee.

Classic X Files had good viewership ratings yesterday, and that was because of Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and Du Lin. Although she had invited the three of them, that was her job as a celebrity, and she had finished it.

As to her promise to the production group to do public relations, she had not done that to her satisfaction yet.

So she woke up early today and started to do her work.

"Understood, understood."

After that, Lu Man used WeChat to contact Eight Skin Entertainment, her old working partners.

Eight Skin Entertainment instantly replied. His first sentence was, "Congratulations, congratulations. The episode of Classic X Files that you participated in had explosive viewership ratings. I also watched it last night, your performance was brilliant. Whether it was for the variety show side or the acting skills, they were both especially great."

"Thank you." Lu Man chatted with him, then went to the main topic.

Eight Skin Entertainment saw that he had work to do and was also happy. "No problem."

The two of them did calculations, and Eight Skin Entertainment had always given her the lowest possible price.

Lu Man happily transferred the money to him.

Not long after, on Weibo, Eight Skin Entertainment posted, "#The Performer Flops# #Lu Qi Ni Xue Have No One Watching Them# from a certain netizen. Originally, The Performer's production team did not invite Lu Qi, and Lu Qi could not reach the finals of the Chinese Arts Championships. But because the Lu Corporation became The Performer's main sponsor, Lu Qi could enter The Performer and even appeared in the first episode. At this time, my heart aches a bit for Ni Xue. She had entered the top five of the Chinese Arts Championships with much difficulty and entered The Performer with her own hard work, and yet she can't compete with someone who entered the show with investments."

"She had managed to appear in the first episode with much difficulty, and in the end, she was arranged to be in the third round, and all the audience went to watch Classic X Files. No one was watching Ni Xue and Lu Qi's performances. Ni Xue knew that there were internal decisions but still wanted to participate in The Performer, allowing her reputation to be ruined as long as she could increase her exposure. In the end... what exposure? A lot of netizens did not even know that she was there in the episode yesterday night."

"That's one thing, yet she even lost to Lu Qi. The second placer in the Chinese Arts Championships finals lost to the Lu Qi who did not even enter the finals. Whether there were any internal decisions or not, I really don't dare to say because I'm scared that someone will sue me for creating rumors. Could everyone make their own decisions based on the situation?"

Lu Man had considered everything to prevent the netizens from contributing to The Performer's online viewership and see Lu Qi and Ni Xue. She especially made a clip with the performance of the two in that episode and directly had Eight Skin Entertainment post it on Weibo.

So, Eight Skin Entertainment's fans didn't even need to find it online and could directly watch it on his Weibo.