

Sweet Love 1601

Chapter 1601: Kneeling in the Rain (3)

The thought of his decades-long career going down sent him into despair.

Through his many phone calls, he realized that the connections he had accumulated over the years were useless now.

At times like this, one must carefully choose which side to stand, or else, they would surely be implicated.

Hence, no one was willing to help him, lest they get themselves into trouble.

After much consideration, he decided to pay the family a visit with his wife to apologize to them. By doing so, perhaps, he would assuage their anger!

It, therefore, led to this scene of Youyou emotionlessly standing at the door as he gazed at the couple's pleading faces.

"How pitiful," he coolly commented, apathy on his face.

The man was surprised to see his calm state.

Generally, kids of his age would be frightened into calling their parents out at such a sight.

The boy, however, only coolly stood there with his arms crossed.

Regrets filled Wang Guimiao to the brim as she awkwardly looked at the lad.

She found it baffling and strange!

She had known the boy since his nursery days, but she had only heard rumors of him having a mother and never a father!

According to the other parents, the child came from a single-parent household, and it might not even be the case!

As his mother remained unwed to date, no one could be sure of his parentage!

It was said that he was an illegitimate child; his mother had given birth to him at the tender age of eighteen. When this piece of info leaked out, many people, especially her, started despising and looking down on Yun Shishi.

Although a family without a man would indeed easily invite gossip, the single mother would suffer even more so from outsiders' malicious speculations and slanderous remarks!

Now, however, this boy's father somehow appeared out of thin air!

Not only was the man wealthy and of noble lineage, he was also a core figure in the Mu family!

Even up today, she found it simply unbelievable!

Alas, she could only blame it on her bad luck and herself for pushing the limits.

Stepping forward, her husband repeatedly pleaded. "Boy, will you please call your father out? I'd like to ask him for a favor!"

"What is it? Can't you say it to me?" calmly asked the kid.

The judge knew very well that the child was making things difficult for him, but despite his feelings of humiliation, he gritted his teeth and kneeled on the ground with a *plop!*

It was a chilly night and the ground was cold, but he fell to his knees barring any hesitation.

Not in the least surprised by his actions, Youyou gave the magistrate a meaningful look before he darkly chuckled. "Uncle, what are you doing this for?"

"I... I'm here to apologize to you and your father!"

As Lin Anguo spoke, he gave his wife a hard tug on her arm.

The suddenness of his action caught her off guard and sent her falling to her knees.

A sharp pain shot through her knees upon collision to the hard ground.

However, she could no longer care about anything else at this moment.

She was already disgraced, anyway, and nothing would bring back her lost face.

On the way here, her husband had told her about the gravity of their current situation. Worries seized her in spite of her poor grasp of it!

Chapter 1602: Kneeling in the Rain (4)

Her denial, however, soon gave way to a fearful understanding of the immensity upon catching sight of her husband's anxious face!

According to him, Mu Yazhe got hold of some evidence of his dirty deeds, which posed great threat to the Lins and Wangs should they not hurry and take actions to plea for mercy!

She had some knowledge of his misdeeds over the past few years and knew very well that, if the evidence landed in someone else's hands, their lives were as good as handed over to that person, too!

This was why she was past caring about her dignity now. Under her husband's watchful eyes, she began to kowtow to the boy desperately.

"Youyou, I was wrong! I was really in the wrong... I shouldn't have called you a little b*st*rd or insulted you and your mother based on those rumors... I truly know that I'm wrong now; will you please forgive me?"

She kowtowed even harder than before.

The collision of her forehead to the ground was real.

The tremendous force used resulted in her receiving a bloody scrape on her forehead. It was a deliberate act of hers, though—a show for him to see!

What was a mere scrape?!

A bloody scrape was nothing if this family could let them off!

The boy let out a lazy yawn. “Alright, alright! I got it; I’ll forgive you guys!”

Hearing this, the man’s face lit up. “Really?!”

Feeling beyond surprised, Wang Guimiao looked up with wide eyes as a smile appeared on her tears-soaked face. Her disheveled appearance, along with her messy hair, gave people a feeling of repulsiveness.

The boy refused to lay his eyes on her.

“Why should I be bothered by such uncultured people? You lot can just vanish from my sight now!”

“Then...”

The couple exchanged looks of surprise. They did not expect to be so easily forgiven!

This child is so easily fooled!

Just a bit of acting on our part, and the boy is moved.

Rubbing his hands in glee, he sniggered and hesitantly asked, “Then, the evidence of my dirty deeds...”

“What evidence?” The little lad cocked a brow, feeling baffled and curious.

“Well, your father... Can you plead for mercy on behalf of us and ask him to let us off this one time? Don’t... turn in the evidence to the disciplinary committee...”

He could not make head or tail of his words. “I don’t know what you’re talking about! It’s cold outside; I’m heading in!”

“Wait!”

Like a desperate person drowning in water, the man cried out, “Haven’t you forgiven me?”

“Yup, I did.”

“Then... can you please get your father to let me off?”

“That... may be impossible.”

“Ah?”

The boy’s lips arched into an evil smirk. “My daddy hates you a lot.”

Lin Anguo’s face stiffened at his words.

Same for his wife beside him; all the joy she had instantly turned into sorrow. The smile on her face froze, too, and desperation settled in her like crashing waves.

Youyou then slowly added, "I'm sorry, uncle, but no one can influence daddy's decision."

He then gave them a graceful smile and returned home.

With the slamming of the door, all their desperate pleas were completely cut off from his hearing.

There was a downpour later that night.

Not daring to leave, the persistent couple kneeled at the doorway for the entire night.

The boy did not pay any attention to them, and naturally, so did his father.

Chapter 1603: Baking a Birthday Cake for Mommy

When the boy woke up at the break of dawn the next day and drew the curtains, he saw that the two were still kneeling at the doorway. The woman was in such a groggy state she lay her head on her husband's shoulder, seemingly on the verge of collapsing.

Both subsequently fainted to the ground as a result of being drenched by the overnight rain.

Shortly after, an ambulance arrived and took them away.

Lu Jinyu worked fast. Once he was done gathering the evidence of Lin Anguo's dirty deeds, he submitted it to the disciplinary committee.

The documents were soon approved for investigation.

The latter was then taken away for investigation and subsequently got charged with corruption, bribery, misappropriation of public funds, shady dealings, and embezzlement. As the sum involved amounted to billions, there was quite an uproar regarding the case.

The Wangs were also implicated and lost their family fortune.

Of course, that came much later.

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It was Friday then. Youyou, who needed not attend school yet due to the incomplete admission procedures, got his trusty subordinate to drive him to the supermarket where he bought the baking ingredients he needed. He intended to bake a birthday cake for his mother later at home.

He baked a cake for her birthday last year, too.

Still a newbie at that time, the cake did not turn well.

Even so, his mother loved it.

He decided, for her birthday this time, that he would bake a super delicious cake and have it delivered to her at the filming set!

The moment the boy reached home, he headed right to the kitchen and committed himself into separating the egg whites from their yolks and then whipping them into fluffy foams with the help of an egg-beater...

He was very familiar with the baking procedures now.

Oftentimes, he would bake cupcakes to serve as snacks.

He created a heart-shaped cake with the help of a baking mold and, thereafter, put it in the oven to bake. The child then began thinking about the design of the cake.

After much deliberation, he resolved to make a family portrait on top of the cake.

Mu Yazhe heard the commotion in the kitchen when he returned home later that day. Creeping in, he found his youngest son earnestly at work with his head bowed. He was so focused that he did not detect his father closing in on him.

Cute figurines, which were half completed, stood on the fondant cake.

The boy was very focused on his work. His handsome yet tender side-profile seemed so gentle and mesmerizing under the warm orange light. From the side, one could see his long, dense lashes drooping slightly; his gentle gaze and his slightly slanted lips appeared to be smiling.

The man's gaze then turned to his hands.

It turned out that he was currently making a cartoon figurine of his mother.

The way the boy held the sugar figurine in his hands revealed his gentle and doting treatment toward her.

The cartoon figurines of himself and his older brother were already completed and placed on the cake.

Once he was done with Yun Shishi's figurine, he proceeded to work on his father's.

The man wondered how his figurine would look under the hands of this little guy.

His son first made a chubby-looking face and a round body. He then picked up a pen and started coating the sugar figurine with color.

As if it was a prank, he deliberately drew a fierce-looking face for his daddy.

Feeling indignant, the man frowningly questioned, "Why did you draw me so fierce-looking..."

"Wah!"

Startled by the voice coming from behind him, the lad's hand shook and ended up drawing a crooked line on the figurine's face.

The tiny figure's mouth became crooked as a result.

Mu Yazhe: "..."

Youyou: "..."

Chapter 1604: Visiting the Set in a High-profile Manner (1)

Staring at the figurine with a crooked lips in his hand, the boy turned and fumed in aggravation, "Daddy, why did you stand behind me without making a sound? Don't you know that it's frightening?!"

"I didn't do it on purpose. Who knew that you're such a coward?" The man felt wronged. "Look at your hand-baked birthday cake; those three figurines are so cute, but mine is ferocious-looking! I object to it!"

"Your objection is invalid!"

Lifting the figurine, the boy carefully examined and compared it to his father. He then expressed his view. "It looks very much like you."

1Mu Yazhe: "..."

"Well, that's how you usually look!" His gaze then fell on the figurine's crooked mouth and he chuckled. "Daddy, you're such a poor thing; your mouth is all crooked!"

"It's all your fault!" cried his father.

He retorted, "If not for you silently standing behind me, I wouldn't have gotten a shock and ended up making a mistake!"

The man chuckled. Giving his son a back hug, he rested his chin on the little lad's shoulder as he looked at his sugar-stained hands. "Are you giving this to your mother as a birthday gift?"

"Yes!"

The boy then placed his father's figurine on the cake and did a final touch-up. As he worked on the cake, he asked, "Does it look good?"

The man put on a solemn yet pensive face as he pondered on it for a bit before giving his evaluation. "It's passable."

"What do you mean by 'passable'?!" Youyou protested out of outrage. "I think I've done a fantastic job here!"

"Can these sugar figurines be eaten?"

"Aside from mommy's figurine and mine, you can eat any of those left!" he graciously offered.

His father knitted his brows and feigned dissatisfaction in a teasing tone. "Why can I only eat mine and your brother's but not yours and your mommy's?"

"He he! That's because mommy's figurine is the most adorable of all; no one else is allowed to eat it!"

Done with the last step, he looked at the finished product and reveled in his excellent craftsmanship.

"What a beautiful cake! Mommy will definitely like my homemade cake!"

With that, he pivoted on his feet and laced his arms around his father's shoulders. "Daddy, when are we visiting the movie set?!"

"We'll go after your brother is let out from school."

"Yippee!" He was overjoyed. "I can finally see my dearest mommy! I almost couldn't sleep last night from all my longing for her! She surely has forgotten that today is her birthday; I must give her a big birthday surprise!"

His father scratched his nose indulgently. "Alright!"

Little Yichen saw the exquisite-looking cake in the kitchen when he returned home from school.

He rushed over and stared at it for a long time. His saliva was about to drool at the sight!

He then turned and ran toward his brother, chirping happily like a little bird.

"Bro, did you bake this for mommy?"

"Yes, I did!"

The younger twin was feeling very proud of himself.

The greedy, older boy pestered thusly. "When are we going to the movie set?"

The father and sons decided the night before that they would visit the movie set today to give the woman in their family a big birthday surprise.

Out of their excitement and anticipation for her birthday today, the twins did not manage to get a good sleep last night.

The older brother's gift to his mother was also made by him personally. He dangled the gift in front of his twin in a mysterious manner.

Chapter 1605: Visiting the Set in a High-profile Manner (2)

Youyou snorted. "Mommy will surely prefer my cake!"

With drooped lashes, Little Yichen whimpered, "You're bullying me! Are you saying that my present is not nice-looking?"

"Well, I can't help that you're stupid, but then again, given your stupidity, you've made a lot of progress considering the end product."

He got all delighted. "Really? I think so, too. He he!"

He then pestered his father. "What have you prepared for mommy?"

Mu Yazhe put a slender finger against his lips, which had a deep smile, and merely kept mum, keeping his son in suspense.

His older son grunted, "Petty! Daddy is so petty!"

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As the younger boy predicted, Yun Shishi did forget that it was her birthday today and had no clue at all about the surprise awaiting her!

Since her arrival to the movie set early this morning, she had been busy changing into her costume, applying makeup, and participating in the filming.

There were a lot of outdoor scenes recently as the weather was clear these days. The thought of suspending from a harness later inevitably made her feel somewhat jittery since it would be her first time doing so.

At the set, while Director Gu and the martial-arts teacher were having a tense discussion about the impending wirework scene, the female artist changed into a pink, silk dress.

The upcoming scene would be where Hua Jin's character and hers, Yun Cheng and Qin Xueyao respectively, met for the first time at a birthday celebration in the Wang manor. According to the script, while the female character was climbing up a tree to retrieve a kite, she slipped and fell off; this was when the male lead would appear and rescue the damsel in distress.

It was also how the two met and how she fell in love with him.

She had two scenes that day; one with the idol and another with Lin Zhi.

Once she was done dressing, she familiarized herself with her positioning before the camera, which had to be done before filming as it was a very crucial step.

The upcoming wirework scene weighed heavily on her as well. She was very worried and stressed that her performance would be subpar.

Just then, there was a loud commotion on set.

She looked past her shoulder, only to see the flickering of countless flashlights.

It turned out that her co-actress had arrived on set in her outfit.

Many reporters were visiting the filming site that day. Their focus and limelight were naturally on the main leads of the movie.

The audience was highly anticipating how sparks would fly between the primetime king and queen of period dramas.

Hence, the senior actress's appearance on set sent the paparazzi into a frenzy as they aimed their cameras at her and madly snapped pictures.

The other actors and actresses present looked at her enviously.

"As expected of Lin Zhi! Being the female lead, she has so many celebrity reporters dropping by to see her; the limelight is all on her!" A female supporting character sighed in envy.

“Hmph! We don’t even know if those reporters were hired by her. Her exposure rate is so low these days that she can’t even compare to that highly popular newbie! I bet that they were paid to come!” another supporting character retorted snidely.

The actress’s arrival caused a sensation on set, which she enjoyed very much. She would even smile at the paparazzi from time to time.

It seemed that the actress came prepared. She had an exquisite makeup on and, under the flashing lights, posed, as well as acted, coquettishly.

All the reporters eagerly flocked to her and even occasionally handed her a microphone for an interview.

Her lips curled up when she noticed Yun Shishi looking at her. The smugness in her eyes appeared to reveal her silent ostentation.

The latter frowned.

This woman... really has nothing better to do.

Chapter 1606: A Harsh Censure

Did she not know that putting on such artificial airs only made her look like a jumping beam clown?

Yun Shishi faced away and brought back her attention to reading her script.

Gu Xiaoyang also heard something odd and looked over his shoulder; the moment he saw the media surrounding Lin Zhi, his brows furrowed.

His temper was truly strange.

He put much importance to the rules on set. During their taking, he was firmly against anyone dropping by for any reason, much less a bombastic appearance like the actress’.

If the media was on set during filming, this could lead to a leak, which would be very detrimental to the suspenseful air they were building for the show’s release.

Not that dropping by was forbidden, but a shoot was a shoot, after all. No one should be bringing something unrelated to it on set!

“Where did these reporters come from?!” he asked, his brows drawn together tightly.

The log-keeper shook his head.

He yelled in outrage, “Haven’t I said countless times that the set should be sealed from the public during filming so that no reporters or fans could enter?!”

“Director, I’ve already deployed people to seal the set. This... I have no idea what’s going on!”

He threw the script to the ground and walked to the front of the actress. Flailing his hands, he said, "This is no time to be dropping by; all of you, get lost!"

The man was famous for his explosive temper. The media did not dare to offend him, so under his command, they scampered away from the site, leaving an awkward artist behind.

"Director, I—"

He did not wait for her explanation and began scolding her in his ire. "Shut up! Haven't I warned you before not to cause any commotion on set? Do you think you're in possession of superb acting skills just because you have the lead role in my show? Is it because you think that you are so talented, and that's why you believe that you can do anything you want and disregard everyone else here? How dare you let those paparazzi in and cause a mess during filming?! Don't you know how much I hate outsiders entering the set during a shoot?!"

He was not leaving her any face in front of the others.

Her face was flushed from humiliation. "Director... I think you're misunderstanding me! I have no idea how those reporters got in..."

"You have no idea?!" He scoffed at that. "Aren't you the one who knows best how they came in? Acting dumb right in front of me—did you think I am easily fooled?! Did you clinch the title of 'best actress'? Are you a top-tier celebrity? Why were those reporters afraid of you but no one else? Do you still need me to be blunter about this?! Just for some publicity, you completely disregarded the interests of the production team. Did you ever consider the feelings of others?! Did you consider mine?!"

In front of everyone, the man exposed her lie ruthlessly, leaving the actress completely shame-faced.

When the extra, who had guessed earlier that the actress had hired those media men to drop by, heard his words, she let out a laugh. "I told you so! He he!"

What else could the actress say to explain herself?

The director had no interest in listening to her excuses at all.

"Look at your face; what is up with your makeup? Didn't I ask the stylist to give you willow eyebrows and cherry lips?! Take a mirror and look at yourself!"

When she had those reporters drop by, she specifically requested the makeup artist to give her a Korean-style makeover so that she would look good on camera and the cover of the publication.

The man berated her harshly.

Lin Zhi was so ashamed that she could not show her face.

"Director..."

She looked at him with misty and miserable eyes as if on the verge of crying.

She purposely pretended to look pitiful to gain his understanding, but unfortunately for her, this producer was well-known for his apathy. He did not fall for her tricks one bit. "I'm giving you one last warning: Don't pull funny schemes again around here!"

Chapter 1607: First Time Acting Together

“I’m giving you one last warning: Don’t pull funny schemes again around here! If you anger me once more, I’ll cut you back into the role of a passer-by, regardless of whether you are the lead or not! Hah! I’m giving you a forewarning about this! We’ve just begun shooting. Even if I do kick you out of the production team, it won’t affect us much! By then, don’t blame me for being merciless!”

After all, the female lead role in his heart had never been her!

If this actress were to cause more trouble, he would not mind kicking her off the team and having Yun Shishi take the lead, which was exactly what he wanted.

The newbie was the ideal Qin Changle in his heart.

Not just her excellent looks, even her acting skills superseded Lin Zhi’s by a length.

Alas, the latter was a step ahead in snagging the role.

Gu Xiaoyang was still angry over this.

The sugar daddy backing the woman had invested tons of money into the show, so he had to hold in his anger.

“Get that makeup off right now and reapply it!” he spat, leaving thereafter.

Under the mocking and intrigued eyes of the crowd, she gritted her teeth awkwardly before stalking back to the dressing room sullenly to have her makeup redone.

The man walked over to the newbie, who was reading the script seriously. Upon seeing how focused she was, the producer nodded approvingly before he headed off to discuss the wirework scene with the stunt director.

Mu Xi witnessed this just as she was delivering water to her artist. She delightedly rushed to her side and said in glee, “Shishi, the director was staring at you earlier!”

“What?”

“He was standing beside you and looking at you for a long time. I think he was impressed with your professionalism at work by going through the script. He had a gratified smile on his face when he left!”

The artist smiled back but said eventually, “I am just a little nervous; I heard that while I am being suspended mid-air by wire, there’s a possibility of me falling if my actions are a bit careless!”

“Oh, please! Did you think the setup for that scene is just props? Don’t worry; you’ll be extremely safe!” comforted the assistant.

Hua Jin rushed on set after his makeup was completed. The woman raised her head, only to see his appearance by coincidence. She was stunned.

Her first reaction was that the idol's 'primetime king' title was not an undeserved reputation!

He wore a creamy white shirt with elegance, his hair falling over his shoulder. With the cosmetics on his face, his beautiful and exquisite features were enhanced to a shocking degree!

His good looks eminently surpassed the female lead's alluring beauty.

Every frown and smile of his could capture any person's heart.

This was the first time she was acting together with him. Therefore, this was the first time she had seen him in his costume ever since she had entered the production team.

She had seen his bare face before. He had amazing skin and his features were three-dimensional. He had the looks and lovely characteristics that only beautiful men from ancient times would have. His almond-shaped eyes were filled with charm when he glanced back.

She went into an unconscious trance for a moment before turning to her assistant in shock. "Oh, my! Hua Jin's costume look honestly stunned me!"

At the side, the other woman had just come back to her senses as well. "Shishi, Shishi! Oh, my—the idol's costume look is so breathtaking! He could win many primetime rookie post-edited shots with just his real self! He's truly beautiful beyond horizons!"

She could not contain her volume, causing some people to look over at them after hearing the assistant's exclamation.

It seemed that the idol had heard her excited chatter as well, for he looked over in their direction with a meaningful gaze.

Yun Shishi felt embarrassed.

"Mu Xi, could your voice be any louder?!"

The assistant, who had just realized that she had gotten ahead of herself, stuck out her tongue in awkwardness.

Chapter 1608: The Closest Distance between a Man and a Woman

The man suddenly moved in the direction of Yun Shishi.

Slightly taken aback, she looked behind, thinking that he was approaching someone located at her back, only to discover that no one was there!

By the time she faced her front again, he was already standing right before her.

Though he was not as tall as Mu Yazhe, he was still lanky and domineering at 1.8 meters' height. The idol towered over her as he leaned forward, and she could see his flawless and delicate skin without trouble.

What was more amazing was his pair of penetrating orbs, which seemed to have a life of their own as they sought to bewitch whoever was looking at him.

When Mu Xi saw him approaching, she was too taken in to do anything.

As for the actress, she pursed her lips and took a step back involuntarily the moment she regained her composure.

As she retreated a step, the man took a step forward.

Knitting her brows in displeasure, she backed two more steps.

The man only smiled and took two steps forward. His strides were wider than hers; hence, his two steps were enough to bring him so close to her. His face was almost plastered to hers as a result.

She could even feel his warm breath panning her forehead.

Her heart thumped fast.

This guy...

What does he want exactly?

He was easing closer to her quietly, just like what he had done backstage during the press conference.

She could not figure out what he was thinking!

His perfect lips arched into a smile as he bowed his head and asked, "Are you feeling shy?"

A warm and pleasant vocal could be heard the moment he opened his mouth.

His voice had none of a man's roughness, nor was it deep and mellow like Mu Yazhe's; instead, it held a crisp magnetism of a clear spring.

She blurted out, "What do you want?"

"Yun Shishi."

He called out her name and smiled alluringly at her as he tilted his head sideways.

"This is the first time we're sharing a scene together."

"Eh."

"So..." He prolonged intonation as he blinked at her. "Don't you think we should cultivate our sense of familiarity with each other?"

Her assistant's eyes gave a sharp twitch upon hearing that.

Is Hua Jin trying to seduce Shishi?!

Is he... interested in her?!

However, she was too deeply entrapped in his spell to think deeply about it.

She laughed dryly. “Cultivate familiarity? I don’t know what you are talking about, but... can you stand back a little?”

“Stand back?”

That did not seem to put him off. “Am I standing close to you?”

“A man and woman should keep a respectable distance... It’s best that we keep a space between us.”

He found her reply amusing. “We aren’t standing close, though!”

The idol leaned over slightly, pasted his mouth next to her ear, and panted, “Little fool, only negative distance¹ between a man and a woman is considered close!”

Negative distance...

She looked lost and did not conjure any negative thoughts at what he had just said.

Now, the man found her response totally refreshing!

How can this industry still have such a simple woman?!

Silly and adorable.

Watching his teasing smile, she finally caught on to his joke. Pushing him away abruptly, she told him off. “Scoundrel! Do you find it amusing to make fun of me this way?”

With that, she glared at him and walked away.

He covered his grinning lips like a lazy kitten who had just gotten a fresh, tasty bite of a morsel.

Undeterred, he chased after her. A bunch of hair dropped next to his ear, highlighting his fair, porcelain skin.

“Little fool, how old are you?”

Chapter 1609: The Idol’s Pestering

His voice was crisp and clear like running water from a spring, full of youthful magnetism. He refused to let her go and would stick close to her side regardless of how much she tried to shake him off.

Her assistant was shaken back to reality and quickly walked up to them.

There were many supporting characters, extras, present on set.

Many of whom were his fans.

When ‘Lethal Beauty’ advertised for extras, many applied on his account, even to the extent of doing it for free. They wanted to catch a glimpse of him in his costume.

Hence, when the actress appeared with him, many threw looks of curiosity in their direction.

Being a sensitive person by nature, she became even more irritated with him as dozens of eyes focused on them conspicuously.

She admired him in his costume at first.

From afar, he was elegant and otherworldly, but in truth, he was such a despicable man beneath all that dress.

He seems to enjoy ambiguity?

Furrowing her brows, she hastened her steps to return to her seat. As she sat down, the man pulled a stool over and sat right across from her.

“How old are you?”

She flipped open the script and ignored him.

Her indifference did not deter him. On the contrary, he was more intrigued with her.

“Shishi, talk to me!”

She looked up and threw him a glare. Distancing her gaze from him, she retorted, “You are in no position to address me by my first name. I request that you stay away from me.”

His eyes lit up when he heard that. Smiling, he replied, “You’re finally talking to me! Still, why did you ask me to stay away from you?”

He propped his chin lazily in his palms, looking alluringly at her. “I’m not gonna do that, especially to the person I like!”

“We haven’t started our shoot yet.” She tried her best to control her temper, flip aside, and ignore him. “Go away and don’t bother me.”

“You are so cold to me!” He leaned forward slightly. “Looking at your child-like demeanor, I guess you haven’t hit twenty yet?”

Her assistant passed her a throw from one side and smilingly chipped in. “My artist is already twenty-four!”

Aghast, she looked up abruptly and glared at her helper for betraying her. “Mu Xi, you...”

The other realized her mistake and bit her lower lip in remorse.

The man only stared in wide-eyed disbelief.

“Twenty-four... You’re older than I am by a year, then. Can I address you as ‘older sister’?”

Before she could refuse, he called out sweetly, “Sis!”

This man!

Taking a deep breath, she was about to explode in anger.

Since she set foot into the production set, she had kept her agent's words in mind to stay away from this guy, but for reasons unknown, he liked staring at her penetratingly as if under a spell. At this point, he had taken his senseless teasing a step further.

The man refused to leave her alone no matter how hard she tried to shoo him away!

Doesn't he know how to read people's body language?

Can't he see how much I detest him?

The rest of the supporting cast swarmed around them upon seeing him.

They were moved by his good looks, and many wanted to find a chance to talk to him. Alas, he was aloof and disinterested, giving them no opportunities at all.

Now, however, they saw him taking the initiative with Yun Shishi, only to see her ignoring him.

Strangely, he was not offended at all.

Chapter 1610: Can I call you sis?

Therefore, they mustered up their courage and surrounded the two in hopes of being part of their seeming 'clique'.

"Hua Jin, you look so beautiful in your costume!"

"That's right! By the way, I-I'm... a fan of yours, and I've been watching you ever since you debuted..."

"..."

A few supporting artists balled up their hands into fists with flushed faces. They were clearly very nervous.

Just as they waited expectantly for his response, the man only paid attention to Yun Shishi as he gazed at her with a smile. It was as if he had not heard them trying to strike up a conversation with him. He continued asking the woman persistently, "Sis, sis... Why are you ignoring me?"

The artist could take it no longer. "Hey! Who are you calling your sister?!"

"You!"

"You are my sister, sis," said the idol with shimmering eyes.

"Stop messing around, alright?" She looked at him bitterly as if she were on the verge of collapsing. "I'm very busy here. I ought to memorize my lines."

"We're shooting the scenes today; we can run lines with each other."

"No!" She rejected him with coldly furrowed brows.

"Why not?"

The artist was ready to explode. Lifting her eyes, she spoke in a harsh tone, “Hey, you’re bothering me! I’m busy memorizing my lines here; can you stop pestering me?”

The man was stumped. Hurt was evident on his face as he looked at her pitifully with his reddened peach-blossom eyes.

The extras were originally brimming with awkwardness from being ignored by him, but when they saw how he was being wronged and how innocent and lost he looked, their hearts brimmed with tender affection for him. Thus, they accused the artist with righteous indignation. “Hey! Yun Shishi, don’t go overboard! Why are you bullying Hua Jin?!”

“Yeah! Brother Hua wanted to practice lines with you out of the goodness of his heart. It’s fine that you don’t wanna reciprocate his goodwill, but why must you bully him with your harsh words?!”

“Hmph! You guys didn’t know, but even though she’s a newcomer, her background is way better than any of us. That’s why she’s acting like a bigshot now! He he! Our idol wanted to practice lines with her, yet she’s pretending to be all cold and aloof, making him look bad in front of everyone here. That’s just too much!”

...

The ridicule around them began to rise and fall in succession.

Mu Xi could not bear hearing them go on any longer. She placed a hand on her waist and defended her artist. “Hey! What’re you all doing?! What does this matter have to do with you guys? How my charge is like has nothing to do with you all! Have you all memorized your lines—your positions? If you’re so free, let’s see if you can do your scenes in one take later on without any retakes!”

Yun Shishi held the back of her assistant’s hand. “That’s enough!”

She paused for a moment before turning to look at the chilly faces around her and sneering. “My background doesn’t concern any of you. If you have the time, be more concerned with yourselves, alright?”

The crowd was stunned. They ground their teeth, ready to bicker with her when she asked, “Can you not block my way?”

“You—”

“Hey.” Hua Jin spoke out of nowhere.

When one of the female extras heard him speak, she did not wait for him to continue before excitedly saying, “Don’t go down her level! She thinks she’s a big celebrity now. She isn’t regarding you with any importance at all—”

He interrupted her impatiently. “What does this have to do with you?”

Female extra: “...”

His face darkened. “I like her personality. This is none of your business. Get lost, all of you!”

Hearing this, the crowd was heartbroken. Being fans of him, they were hurt by how coldly he was treating them.