

Sweetheart 171

Chapter 171: Xing Chen, You Forced Me to Do This!

Wu Lingshan abused the fact that she was the daughter of a shareholder to shove aside the staff and came to Shao Mingyi's side.

"Young Master Shao, may I ask which designer invited you here? I'm very familiar with this place, so I can lead the way."

She put on a bright smile in an attempt to give an impression to Shao Mingyi.

Right before Shao Mingyi answered, he saw Luo Chenxi walking close and smiled.

"That's not necessary. The person I'm looking for has arrived."

Shao Mingyi squeezed out of the crowd and went to meet Luo Chenxi.

"Xing Chen, you're finally here. I was worried that I wouldn't be able to find you and was just about to ring you up! How are things? I'm not late, am I?"

Luo Chenxi smiled and shook her head. "Of course not, you are as punctual as it gets! There's still time before the show begins, why don't you find a place to sit for a while?"

"No, I think I'll come with you to try on the clothes."

Shao Mingyi greeted Fang Ziqian before the three of them walked toward Luo Chenxi's booth.

All the staff and participants were stunned.

"Am... am I dreaming? Young Master Shao was actually contracted by Xing Chen?"

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"Doesn't this mean that she threw in a huge sum for this? I heard that Shao Mingyi's contracting fee skyrocketed up to 10 million per performance after winning the first prize in the "Golden Singer" competition. Just how much would it possibly cost to hire him as a model?"

"Ahem, Xing Chen probably has a good background too, don't you think? Didn't her pursuer buy her a 70 million RMB diamond bracelet as a gift back then? So, it doesn't really... seem... strange that she contracted Young Master Shao... right?"

"I'm so envious of Xing Chen! My prince charming is actually being so nice to her, and they're even sitting together and chatting! I'm so envious!"

All the girls present were both envious and jealous of Luo Chenxi.

What was more, Shao Mingyi was a very easy going person

In contrast, Bai Xinxin, who came here earlier than him, requested SL Corporation to provide her with an exclusive lounge the moment she arrived. She had completely no intention of going through the ordeal of squeezing with everyone in the backstage.

Shao Mingyi, on the other hand, casually pulled a stool to him and sat on it in a corner without a hint of disdain to his surroundings.

Many staff members used various excuses and swarmed to Shao Mingyi for his autograph. Shao Mingyi patiently satisfied each and every one of their requests, so he instantly drew in a new cluster of fans.

“I’d still prefer Young Master Shao over Bai Xinxin after all. I remember getting scolded by Bai Xinxin’s manager when I tried asking for her autograph some time ago. Even for a supermodel, she’s way too arrogant!”

“Tsk, what does Bai Xinxin take herself for? Models are only famous in the fashion industry, unlike Young Master Shao, who is now the idol of the nation! His popularity is so many folds higher than hers!”

“Wu Lingshan really miscalculated this time. She spent so much effort to contract Bai Xinxin. Now that Young Master Shao is here, she’s going to be easily overshadowed!”

“Xing Chen surely has the first place in her grasp, there’s no doubt about it!”

Although the staff members lowered their voices, their discussion was still overheard by Wu Lingshan.

Her heart was in turmoil as her anxiety reached the extreme.

These people were absolutely right.

Bai Xinxin’s popularity could not possibly be compared to a celebrity like Shao Mingyi.

At most, Bai Xinxin could fetch Wu Lingshan a tiny bit more points from the judges familiar with the fashion industry.

However, professionals from within the industry would not only judge a designer by the model’s performance, they would also pay more attention to the clothing design itself. From the design standpoint alone, Wu Lingshan was no match for Luo Chenxi.

Wu Lingshan hid in a corner and paced around anxiously.

Suddenly, her footsteps stopped, and a cold glint flashed in her eyes.

“Very well, Xing Chen, you asked for it yourself! I’ve spent so much effort to get to where I am today, I will claim the champion’s title of the competition at all costs!”

...

At the same time, a Maybach pulled over.

Mu Yichen got out of the car and strode into the villa.

“Young Master, you’re back!” Butler Chen was surprised.

This was four days earlier than Young Master Mu’s expected date of return!

Mu Yichen did not answer the butler. Instead, he raised his head to look at the room upstairs and asked plainly, “Where’s the Young Madam?”

Chapter 172: Young Master, Please Don’t Misunderstand The Young Madam

“The Young Madam left early in the morning.”

Mu Yichen subconsciously frowned.

She went out again?

Tang Tang’s words from a few days back flashed in his mind, his face instantly darkened a bit.

Could she be out there with that “very handsome uncle”? Was she going to return home at midnight again?

“Where did the Young Madam go? Did she go out to fool around instead of keeping Tang Tang company at home?”

Butler Chen hurriedly explained, “Young Master, please don’t get the wrong idea. The Little Miss has gone to kindergarten already. The Young Madam has been busy with a competition or something these few days, and it seems like today is the day of the finals. That’s why she has been busy till late night.”

“A competition?”

Mu Yichen was startled.

“Yes, Young Master, please don’t misunderstand the Young Madam. Young Madam doesn’t have time to pick up the Little Miss from school, that’s why the girl got jealous and said what she said. In fact, the Young Madam has been working really hard these days, and she always falls asleep on the couch.”

Butler Chen was afraid of the Young Master getting into another fight with the Young Madam, so he quickly said good things about her.

Mu Yichen gestured for the butler to leave, then he got upstairs alone and entered the study room.

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He pulled open the drawer and took out a gilded invitation letter.

This invitation letter was not directed at Mu Yichen, but at his mother, Tan Yueru.

Madam Tan was invited to be a judge for the Huafeng Competition by the SL Corporation.

Not only was Tan Yueru the Madam of the Mu Family, she was also a woman of fairly decent class and could be said to be one of the most prestigious ladies in T City.

She would always receive invitation letters from all kinds of major brands in the fashion industry when they hold fashion shows.

However, she almost never attended to these invitations, so her occasional appearance would mean the highest form of praise and honor for the designers of the respective brands.

Mu Yichen took the invitation letter with him and prepared to leave.

Suddenly, he stopped in his tracks.

He turned around and walked into the wardrobe room. His gaze fell on an exquisite and casual suit as he recalled the scene where the woman put these clothes on him.

And also... that Weibo post.

“How could they say that the person wearing this suit is Sheng Yu? What a bunch of blind folks!”

Mu Yichen snorted coldly and simply took off his clothes and changed into the casual suit. Then, he picked up his car keys and left the house.

...

At the backstage in SL Corporation, Shao Mingyi and Fang Ziqian had already changed into the clothes that were going to be presented on the runway.

Luo Chenxi carefully checked them and made sure that every inch of their clothes was in perfect condition before she finally felt relieved.

Then, she watched the two rehearsed one last time.

“That’s great! The two of you perform so well together! Today’s show will definitely be a success. Oh, right, Young Master Shao, even though you didn’t come for rehearsal yesterday, there’s no need for you to worry. Little Qianqian knows the sequence and the order of your appearance, so when the time comes, just be sure to follow behind her.”

Shao Mingyi nodded. “Understood. Miss Fang, I’ll be counting on you later.”

Fang Ziqian fell into a daze after hearing her prince charming’s words.

“Young Master Shao, please don’t say that. I’m really, really happy to be able to walk with you! With you here today, and with Little Xixi’s excellent design, we definitely stand a chance at winning the grand prize!”

Shao Mingyi stared at her with a smile. “You’ve performed well too, you’re the most outstanding model I’ve ever seen.”

“Oh, my prince charming, you are so good at sweet talking a girl.” Fang Ziqian blushed.

Luo Chenxi also laughed. “Young Master Shao is telling the truth! Little Qianqian, I’ve always known that your runway skills are the best, so show Bai Xinxin what you’ve got, and let her know how a true professional should look!”

Most models nowadays were influenced by the entertainment industry. Most of them only wanted to draw people in for popularity and scrape as much profit as they could. Only a few would share the same passion as Fang Ziqian and perfect the fundamentals like she did in the past.

Even Bai Xinxin fell far behind Fang Ziqian in terms of skills. Bai Xinxin had only managed to reach where she was today all thanks to the influence of her powerful family background.

Just then, Luo Chenxi heard the staff calling her name outside, so she turned around and headed back to her booth.

“Miss Xing Chen, are you guys ready? Your models’ appearance timing is minute 15, 20 seconds, while their positions should be fixed at minute 16. Be sure not to miss a single second of the timing, alright?” The staff reminded Luo Chenxi as he gave the instructions.

After confirming with the manager, Luo Chenxi returned to her booth.

Fang Ziqian was darting back and forth anxiously like a headless fly.

Beside her, Shao Mingyi had a face as pale as a sheet. He was curled up on the chair as beads of cold sweat dripped down his forehead.

Luo Chenxi was shocked.

“You guys... What’s going on?”

Chapter 173: Who Cares About Prince Charming? My Best Friend Should Always Come First!

Fang Ziqian saw her and quickly walked over.

“Little Xixi, this is bad! I’m not sure why, but Young Master Shao suddenly had a terrible stomach ache. He can’t even stand properly now!”

“What? How did this happen?”

Luo Chenxi was stunned. She ran to Shao Mingyi’s side and squatted down as she looked at his pale face worriedly.

“Young Master Shao, how do you feel? Why do you suddenly have a stomach ache? Your face, it’s looking horrifyingly pale! Do you need to go to the hospital?”

Shao Mingyi bit his lip and shook his head. “No... I can’t do that. The show is about to begin, I can’t just walk away now.”

“But, judging by the state you’re in right now...” Luo Chenxi said hesitantly.

She valued this fashion show more than anyone else, so it was only natural that she hoped Shao Mingyi could stay.

If Shao Mingyi left, Luo Chenxi would be left without a male model and all that was left for her was to give up on the competition!

However, Shao Mingyi’s terrifyingly pale face just looked too scary, so she was more worried of something bad happening to him.

Shao Mingyi supported himself by holding onto the back of his chair and stood up shakily. “It’s just that... my stomach isn’t feeling well, I might have eaten something bad... Let me head to the bathroom, I’ll be back soon.”

“Alright...”

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Luo Chenxi’s face immediately darkened after Shao Mingyi left.

“Little Qianqian, did anything unusual happen just now?”

There was no way she would believe such a coincidence.

Shao Mingyi was perfectly fine before this, so how did he suddenly turn out like this just twenty minutes before the start of the competition?

Fang Ziqian was extremely vexed, "We've been careless! A staff member came to Young Master Shao to ask for an autograph and even gave him a bottle of water. Young Master Shao happened to be thirsty, so he immediately opened it and took a sip. Barely two minutes later, Young Master Shao suddenly felt an unbearable pain in his stomach."

Luo Chenxi immediately got the picture. "Wu Lingshan's probably up to something again! I can't believe she's actually willing to use any despicable method possible to win the first prize!

"What an absolutely disgusting person!"

Fang Ziqian looked at the clock on the wall and grew anxious. "Young Master Shao hasn't returned yet, the fashion show is about to start any minute. Is he really going to make it?"

Luo Chenxi sighed deeply. "If this really is a trick that Wu Lingshan pulled, Young Master Shao will most probably not make it back here."

As soon as she finished speaking, Shao Mingyi's manager walked toward them.

When he saw Luo Chenxi, his face filled with guilt. "Miss Xing Chen, I'm terribly sorry! Mingyi almost fainted from dehydration in the bathroom just now. I have to send him to the hospital immediately. He can no longer model for the show today. In turn, we will do our best to compensate for the loss we caused."

"How can this be? Is Young Master Shao really unable to endure even just a short while? He only needs to be on stage for two minutes."

Fang Ziqian could not bear to see her best friend's efforts over the past few months go to waste, so she tried her best to convince the manager.

On the contrary, Luo Chenxi, on the other hand, was much calmer.

She nodded at Shao Mingyi's manager. "Young Master Shao's health is still more important, please take him to the hospital as soon as possible."

The manager thanked Luo Chenxi profusely and left.

Fang Ziqian was so anxious that she stomped her feet. "Sigh, just why are you so easily convinced? You can only give up on the competition if there's no one to model for you! Even if Young Master Shao does compensate for your loss, how can he possibly compensate for the grand prize that you should've won?"

"Huh? Isn't Young Master Shao your prince charming? Why aren't you speaking up for him?" Luo Chenxi curled her lips.

Fang Ziqian retorted angrily, "Who cares about my prince charming? My bestie should always come first!"

“Then what do you think we should do? Even if we insist on having Young Master Shao to stay, how is he supposed to walk the runway in his state?”

At this moment, the staff made an announcement through the broadcasting speakers at the backstage. “Dear participants, you have ten more minutes until the show begins, please be ready!”

Suddenly, the backstage became even more chaotic.

Everyone darted all over the place to make the final preparations for the show.

“Great, ten more minutes. Tell me, where do we get ourselves a male model for the show?” Fang Ziqian said with a disappointed look.

Luo Chenxi raised her hand and patted on Fang Ziqian’s shoulder.

“There, there. Don’t be nervous, I have an idea.”

“What idea?” Fang Ziqian had a face full of disbelief.

Luo Chenxi grabbed her wrist.

Then, She whispered into Fang Ziqian’s ear as she lightly chuckled, “Little Qianqian, do you still remember... the drama—Romeo and Juliet, that we played together back at high school?”

Luo Chenxi’s originally sweet voice suddenly became deeper.

A voice of a youthful man reached Fang Ziqian’s ears, causing her heart to skip a beat.

Chapter 174: Young Master Mu’s Arrival

Cars were coming and going at the entrance of the show. It was very lively.

It felt like a completely different world from the busy and chaotic backstage.

Countless media reporters had been squatting at the entrance since early in the morning, waiting to film the celebrities who were making an appearance at the fashion show.

“Wow, it’s Song Sixin, the chief editor of the TREND magazine! Feng Yanni, the young miss of TY Media. Ji Yaton, the celebrity who became popular this year, and that person... Isn’t that Lu Jiachun, the one who won the Golden Qilin’s Best Actress Award? I can’t believe so many famous female celebrities came here for the fashion show!”

A young reporter’s face was full of excitement as she repeatedly tapped the shutter button on her camera.

In contrast, her senior who came with her was much calmer. “What’s there to be surprised about? When has there ever been a time where SL Corporation’s fashion show didn’t attract the media and the crowd?”

“God knows how many female celebrities tried their best to get themselves an invitation letter to the show but failed. The ones that were invited had already been spreading the news to promote the event a few days before the show.”

The young reporter asked in puzzlement, "But... isn't this just a competition for rookies? This can't really be compared to the branded fashion shows held annually by the SL Corporation, right? Why is everyone so crazy about getting an invitation to this show?"

"This is where you're mistaken. It's precisely because this is the Huafeng Competition that only celebrities and daughters of wealthy families of 'this' caliber are here. Look around, are there even any daughters of true noble background in T City present here?"

The young reporter suddenly came to a realization. "I see. I heard that SL Corporation sends invitation letters to the madams of the Mu Family and Bo Family every year. However, I've never seen any of them attending the events before..."

At this moment, a silver Cadillac slowly drove over the entrance.

"Quick, another one has arrived!"

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"An arrival right at the last minute before the show starts? Who could this arrogant big shot be?"

The reporters made their guesses as they raised their cameras.

The car door opened.

A long and strong hand held firmly onto the door frame. Soon after, a tall figure appeared before the crowd. The lightly colored fabric and soft-looking texture diluted the man's usual cold, prideful aura, allowing a noticeable glint of gentleness to shroud his perfectly handsome face.

With the appearance of the man, the originally noisy entrance instantly fell silent for a couple of seconds.

Then, an uproar instantly erupted.

"It's Mu Yichen! It's actually Young Master Mu! The great ideal husband of the nation!"

"Oh my god, why is he here? Did he come here for the show?"

"To be able to take pictures of Young Master Mu, we've really come to the right place at the right time! This has been totally worth the trip! It's been so long since Young Master Mu was last seen in events like these!"

"He's truly a handsome man with not the least bit of imperfection from every angle! Ah, I can't take it anymore!"

Mu Yichen's arrival made everyone extremely excited. Many female reporters even covered their hearts with their hands, looking as if they were about to faint.

"I can't believe it's Young Master Mu! Senior, didn't you just mention that there's no way any of the top wealthy families of T City would attend the show?" As excited as she was, she was also puzzled.

Her senior too, had a puzzled face. "Maybe... Perhaps he's just trying to give face to Chief Sheng. Whatever, take those pictures, quick! This is none other than the famous Young Master Mu!"

Sheng Yu caught wind of Mu Yichen's arrival and came out to personally greet the man.

Although he did personally send an invitation to Madam Tan, he did not expect her to be present at all.

It turned out that Tan Yueru indeed did not come to the show. Instead, Mu Yichen had turned up!

"Young Master Mu, what a surprise for you to be here for the show. We are truly honored at your presence, welcome."

Sheng Yu stretched out his right hand to Mu Yichen for a handshake.

However, Mu Yichen had no intention of returning the handshake at all. Instead, he stared at Sheng Yu with a cold expression.

With Sheng Yu's hand hanging mid-air, the surroundings turned extremely awkward for a brief moment.

Fortunately for Sheng Yu, he had very high EQ.

After a brief moment of trance, he turned to face in another direction as his arm swept across the air. This series of movements turned into a gesture of a person leading the way for a guest. "Young Master Mu, this way, please!"

Mu Yichen pursed his lips, then snorted coldly and followed him.

The two of them walked toward the runway in a single profile.

Meanwhile, at their sides, dazzling camera lights flashed repeatedly that one could barely keep his eyes open.

The arrival of the son of the top noble family in T City was supposed to be a good thing for the event.

However, Sheng Yu could not help but break out a cold sweat.

For some reason, he felt an indescribable strangeness in Mu Yichen's gaze trained at his back.

It was as if they had a grudge between them.

However, he and Mu Yichen did not actually know each other...

Chapter 175: Yichen... He's Here for Me Today

As soon as they entered the seating area, everyone's gaze instantly fell on Mu Yichen.

This was especially the female celebrities who came to the show. They all became extremely excited at his appearance.

They gradually stood back up from their designated seats in an attempt to show their face to Young Master Mu.

The winner of the Golden Qilin Best Actress Award, Lu Jiachun was the first to walk toward the man because she was seated in the front row.

"Young Master Mu, I'm Lu Jiachun. You were the one who handed me the award at the Golden Qilin Award, do you still remember me?"

She had a look of anticipation on her face. Unfortunately, Mu Yichen completely ignored her.

Young Master Mu walked straight to the judicial panel seat and sat down.

Lu Jiachun retreated back in defeat.

Seeing this, the rest of the female celebrities all gave up on trying to greet the man.

News of Young Master Mu's arrival soon spread to every nook and cranny of SL Corporation.

Wu Lingshan also became excited when the news reached her ears.

"I've never seen Young Master Mu with my own eyes! If it weren't for the show starting soon that I can't leave, I really want to get out there and see for myself!"

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Bai Xinxin glanced at her disdainfully and revealed an arrogant smile. "Just follow me if you want to see Young Master Mu. Yichen... is here for me today!"

"Huh? What? Miss Bai, do you know Young Master Mu personally?" Wu Lingshan asked in shock.

Bai Xinxin glanced in Mu Yichen's direction and blushed shyly.

"Of course. My brother and Yichen are close friends. I've been dating Yichen for a while now. We just haven't disclosed our relationship for the sake of my career. You have to keep it a secret for me, understand?"

Although Bai Xinxin said to keep it a secret, in truth, she really wanted the entire world to know about it.

Yichen actually came to watch her walk the runway!

After all, this was only a competition meant for rookie designers, so it was completely impossible for a member of a noble family to show up, let alone someone from the Mu Family.

With this fact out of the way, was there even a need to guess the real reason he was here? Who else was he doing this for?

Thinking of this, Bai Xinxin felt a sweetness in her heart.

"Consider yourself lucky. With Yichen as the judge, he will definitely give you a handsome score for the sake of our relationship." Bai Xinxin said.

Wu Lingshan was still in shock after receiving the massive chunk of juicy gossip. The moment Bai Xinxin finished, she instantly snapped back to her senses and became excited.

She quickly thanked Bai Xinxin, "Miss Bai, thank you so much! You're definitely a big help to me if I managed to win the first prize today! As expected of the number one supermodel, a woman who's beautiful on the outside and from within, Young Master Mu truly has good tastes!"

Bai Xinxin was delighted by this flattery. She waved her hand and said, "Alright, just sit back and relax as you watch the grand prize fall into your hands. You will surely make the headlines!"

Wu Lingshan was extremely excited, but at the same time, she felt a little frustrated.

If she had known that Young Master Mu would come, she would not have to risk drugging Shao Mingyi.

There was no way Shao Mingyi's popularity could compare to that of the great ideal husband of the nation, Young Master Mu.

However, what was done was done. There was no luxury for her to regret her actions.

Thinking of this, Wu Lingshan took out her cell phone and made a post on Weibo.

@Wu Lingshan, #Huafeng Competition#Who would've thought that I would meet my prince charming, Young Master Shao! Judging by his get-up, it looks like he'll be modelling today. I wonder who's the amazing one who contracted him, I'm so envious.

She also attached a few photos of Shao Mingyi that she had secretly taken backstage.

Barely a minute after the post was sent, hundreds of replies appeared underneath.

Wu Lingshan put away her cell phone without even a glance at the screen.

The corners of her mouth curled into a cold smile.

If Shao Mingyi's fans knew that he would be modelling, they would definitely fight their way out to watch the live broadcast of the Huafeng Competition.

Then, when they finally realized that their prince charming did not appear after a long while and found out that he had ended up in the hospital instead, Xing Chen would surely become the target of the netizen's criticism!

Thus, Xing Chen's voting count would definitely hit rock bottom in the audience voting segment.

What was more, Young Master Mu was also going to be one of the judges...

The grand prize was already in the bag!

Chapter 176: She Forgot That She Was on Stage!

The lights in the main hall dimmed, and the audience's chatter stopped.

Sheng Yu went on stage and gave a brief opening speech.

The fashion show had finally begun.

SL Corporation spent a huge amount of effort to make special lighting effects for this fashion show.

As a series of blue lighting lit up, the entire main hall instantly turned to look like a dreamy, underwater world.

The audience present could not help but exclaim in admiration.

In the competition, the order of appearance of the models was determined by the ranking of their respective designers in the semi finals.

The higher the ranking, the later the appearance.

Thus, Luo Chenxi's models were assigned to appear last as she ranked first in the semi finals, this also meant that they were intended as the showstopper.

Such an arrangement was considered to be a designer and models' honor. For Mu Yichen, however, this was considered bad news.

Mu Yichen sat with the judicial panel with a handsome but plain face. His thin lips slightly pursed and he emitted an obvious hint of impatience.

He had come all the way here to see that woman perform, not to watch these random strangers walking back and forth.

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The staff became terrified as they looked at his ice-cold side profile.

Could it be that the designers and models in the competition this time performed too poorly that this picky young master could not bear to watch the show?

On the other hand, Wu Lingshan thought that she completely understood the inside story, so she secretly grinned. "Young Master Mu is waiting for Miss Bai's appearance! Of course he's not interested in these small fries. Just wait, you'll find out soon enough about the person he came for!"

Each designer was limited to two to three minutes of presentation time.

Soon, it was Bai Xinxin's turn to appear.

As the background music changed, Bai Xinxin walked onto the T stage while wearing a golden gown designed by Wu Lingshan.

The luxurious golden gown wrapped around her curvaceous body.

Gold was one of the most difficult colors to master and control in a design. If the color of the design did not match the wearer, its final appearance would turn out extremely old-fashioned.

However, Bai Xinxin's fair skin and elegant temperament managed to suppress and blend in with the overwhelmingly radiant, luxurious gown.

She walked along the stage and immediately attracted everyone's gaze.

The media reporters who got bored and sleepy instantly perked up in excitement. They immediately picked up their cameras and tapped furiously on the shutter button.

"As expected of the number one supermodel! Bai Xinxin's appearance has radiated a completely different aura that affected the entire hall's atmosphere! The rest of the models completely lagged behind her!"

"Not only is she beautiful, but the gown she is wearing is also amazing! The material, the embroidery... they must be considered high-end craftsmanship, aren't they? The designer must've really invested a generous sum of money into this!"

“This is amazing. The gap between these two sets and the previous works are way too wide! It seems like Bai Xinxin is the only one who’s capable of bringing out such an excellent effect!”

Bai Xinxin held her chin high and walked confidently on the runway.

She had long been accustomed to the admiring gazes of the crowd, so she paid no heed to them.

After all, the only person she was trying to attract was none other than Mu Yichen!

From the moment she went on stage, Bai Xinxin’s vision immediately locked onto the judicial panel as she threw flirtatious gazes in Mu Yichen’s direction.

However, even after her eyes almost felt like cramping from several attempts at doing so, it was as if Mu Yichen did not notice her at all. Instead, he kept looking in the direction of the backstage as if lost in thought.

Bai Xinxin was so anxious that she almost jumped.

What was going on?

Did Young Master Mu not sleep well last night?

She was right here on the runway!

Why did he keep staring at the backstage?

Hurry up and look over here!

Bai Xinxin could probably not hold back from yelling at the man if not for the fact that she was currently performing on stage.

Soon after that, perhaps her will to attract Mu Yichen’s attention was too strong, Young Master Mu somehow finally turned to look at her just as her fixed-point presentation time frame was about to end.

Bai Xinxin could finally heave a sigh of relief.

She quickly raised her head and puffed out her chest. She turned her head sideways by a tiny bit and made several sexy and alluring poses in an attempt to draw Mu Yichen’s attention.

However, who would have thought that Young Master Mu’s gaze did not even linger on her in the least bit before moving away instantly.

How could this be?

Bai Xinxin could not help but become anxious. She racked her brain to think of a way to attract the man’s gaze.

At this moment, she swept her gaze across the crowd and suddenly discovered a staff member jumping desperately in the middle. He was waving at her.

Bai Xinxin was stunned for a moment before she suddenly came to her senses. She felt like a bucket of ice cold water just got dumped on her head.

It turned out that she was too focused on Mu Yichen that she forgot that she was on stage!

The time frame for her fixed-point presentation had already passed, yet she had forgotten to leave the stage!

Chapter 177: The Contrast Between Them Spells the Difference

Such a stage mistake was completely unheard of ever since Bai Xinxin's debut as a model.

For a brief moment, she stood dumbfounded on stage, not knowing what to do next.

It was not until the staff gestured at her as a signal to retreat from stage that she finally reacted and turned around to leave the runway.

The audience was in an uproar.

"What's up with Bai Xinxin? I can't believe she actually stayed on the runway past her allocated time on stage!"

"I guess she must've reckoned that no one would seriously put up a good show in a mere competition for rookies? That's why she couldn't be bothered to do a good job! All she cared about was to make money off this gig, how unprofessional!"

"Did you just realize that she is completely unprofessional? If you had paid attention to her footwork when she first appeared on stage, how can you even call that a legitimate catwalk? Didn't that look more like she was taking a casual walk in the wilderness instead?"

"That's right! That's right! Try recalling those poses she made at the fixed points on the runway. Did they even look like a professional model's poses? She totally looked like a temptress trying to seduce men instead! How unsightly!"

In fact, after enjoying years of popularity, Bai Xinxin's professional standards were indeed getting subpar as time passed. Not to mention, her catwalk was getting worse.

Ironically, news of her acting like an arrogant big shot often made the headlines instead.

Most people who worked with her had long grown to detest her for her lack of professionalism, but they all kept quiet about it because she was still the top model of the industry by domestic standards.

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Thanks to Bai Xinxin further toppling her own reputation this time, negative comments and criticism immediately came swarming at her like a furious tide.

Bai Xinxin could not even bear to raise her head when she retreated from the runway and could only walk away as fast as she could.

In the end, she almost tripped, so she stumbled around as she ran down the runway.

Seeing this, even Sheng Yu's face became as dark as the bottom of a wok.

“What the h*ll is Bai Xinxin doing? So much for our preplanned stage rhythm! Thanks to her messing up her own part and wasting so much time, how are the models coming up supposed to perform their part now?”

To be fair, Bai Xinxin had only wasted a little more than a minute.

However, for a fashion show that revolved around well-timed rhythm like this, every model’s appearance and presentation timing had to stick precisely to the prearranged timing. Aside from the models’ catwalk, the lighting, music, and the overall management had to be perfectly coordinated. Even a timing missed by a margin of merely ten seconds would become an irreparable mistake.

This meant that Bai Xinxin had single-handedly ruined the entire fashion show just from her carelessness!

“Quick, get the last two models to come on stage! Replay the previous part of the music for a few more seconds. We have to keep it steady and grasp the rhythm back!”

Sheng Yu was secretly breaking out a cold sweat for Luo Chenxi.

Not only had Bai Xinxin ruined Wu Lingshan’s presentation, she also made things worse for Luo Chenxi’s presentation which was supposed to come up directly after Wu Lingshan’s turn.

If Luo Chenxi’s models could not improvise, it would all be over for them.

At this moment, Fang Ziqian appeared on stage.

She was wearing a gown designed by Luo Chenxi, and it had silver tassels that glittered brightly under the lights.

The fishtail-shaped skirt outlined her tall and perfect figure.

Her appearance stunned the crowd.

Her footwork was steady and firm, every step taken was on point.

Fang Ziqian quickened her footwork to make up for the time Bai Xinxin had wasted earlier, so her entire catwalk sequence was almost twice as fast as the previous models. Yet, her entire figure did not seem the least bit shaken by her quickened footwork.

What was more impressive was the tassels on her gown that swayed naturally from side to side with the music rhythm without Fang Ziqian intentionally wobbling her body. The swaying tassels redirected streams of dazzling lights into the eyes of the crowd.

The audience who were still talking about Bai Xinxin’s mistake instantly got drawn in.

After a brief moment of trance, they all raised their cameras and tapped furiously on the shutter.

“This... Now this is what a catwalk should look like! What the heck was it that Bai Xinxin did just now?”

“Who is this model? Why haven’t I seen her before? Could she be a supermodel who came back from abroad?”

“Their contrast spells the difference between the two. How dare Bai Xinxin call herself the number one supermodel? Isn’t she embarrassed for calling herself that?”

“The little gown she’s wearing is also very beautiful. It has elegance that doesn’t overshadow its lively vibe! Now that I look at it again, the one on Bai Xinxin was totally a nouveau riche’s outfit!”

Wu Lingshan almost fainted from anger when she heard these words.

Never in her dreams did she expect Bai Xinxin to make such a big fool of herself and for Luo Chenxi to have such an outstanding model!

‘D*mn you, Xing Chen! Where exactly did you find that model?’ Wu Lingshan gnashed her teeth.

‘Nevermind, it doesn’t matter how good your female model is. With Shao Mingyi gone, let’s see which male model you managed to get to catwalk for you!’

Chapter 178: Get Lost!

Soon, Fang Ziqian arrived at the designated fixed point on the runway.

She stopped walking, spun around, and then turned to look in the direction of the backstage, as if she was waiting for something.

The audience realized that she was waiting for her male partner’s appearance. They subconsciously held their breaths as they looked expectantly in the same direction.

On the other hand, Wu Lingshan’s Weibo post had spread online like wildfire within the past half an hour.

Thus, even the media reporters present knew that the male model who was going to appear next was the singer who recently got popular, Shao Mingyi!

This was one of the main highlights of the day and it would surely make the headlines.

All the reporters stood up excitedly, their hands ready to tap on the shutter to take the photos at any time.

They were not the only ones highly anticipating the appearance of Shao Mingyi. On every major broadcasting platform, the viewership from viewers watching the Huafeng Competition live from behind their screens skyrocketed and broke through 10 million!

It was definitely a stark contrast with the previous Huafeng Competitions, which barely reached one to two million viewership.

This time, the vast majority of the viewers were Shao Mingyi’s fans.

Seeing as Shao Mingyi was about to make his appearance, countless chats popped up, overlapping one another, quickly filling the chat section and completely covering the netizens’ screens.

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“Young Master Shao! Young Master Shao! Young Master Shao!”

“Young Master Shao, I love you with all my heart! I will ring you up all day!”

“Quick, quick, quick! I want to see my prince charming modelling on the runway!”

Under the expectant gaze of all, a slender figure appeared on stage.

He was wearing a custom-tailored, silverish blue tuxedo. Similar to Fang Ziqian’s gown, his shoulders and collars were decorated with silver tassels.

With a steady and firm footwork, the man walked toward Fang Ziqian at a moderate pace.

His cold and handsome face had facial features of perfection. His every movement naturally exuded an elegant aristocratic aura.

This model who appeared on the runway was actually Luo Chenxi!

When Shao Mingyi was being sent to the hospital earlier, there was less than ten minutes before the fashion show started, so there was no way she could find someone to take his place.

Under such urgent circumstances, she suddenly recalled that she often disguised herself as a man in high school to perform in dramas.

Back then, Luo Chenxi’s disguise managed to charm countless girls in the school. She was even branded as the number 1 prince charming in her arts school.

Now that she could not find a replacement, she had no choice but to do it herself. It was better than withdrawing from the competition anyway.

Fortunately, she had a tall figure that was just a tiny bit shorter than Shao Mingyi, so she only needed to modify the clothes slightly before she wore them.

Following the appearance of Luo Chenxi on the runway, the hall fell into complete silence for a few seconds.

How handsome!

‘Such handsomeness was not humanly possible!’

This was everyone’s very first reaction.

However, they quickly came back to their senses and realized that something was very wrong.

This male model was indeed a gorgeous one, however, he was not Shao Mingyi!

A light commotion suddenly rose in the hall.

“What’s going on? Wasn’t Shao Mingyi supposed to make the final appearance? Who the heck is this?”

“Not a clue. Could the news online be just a rumor?”

“How is that possible? They even posted photos of him backstage. How can it be a mere rumor?”

The audience whispered to each other as they tried to guess why Shao Mingyi had not appeared on the runway. Everyone gradually lost interest in fashion show.

Wu Lingshan was also briefly stunned by the male model who appeared on stage.

She never expected someone to actually take Shao Mingyi's place. On top of that, he was such a handsome man!

D*mn it, how could this be!

She became gloomy and quickly took out her cell phone to get a good look at the stage through the various online live streaming platforms.

At this moment, the screen had already been flooded with negative comments from Shao Mingyi's fans!

Many fans felt cheated as Shao Mingyi did not appear, so they blurted all kinds of curses out of anger.

"Who is this guy? Where's my dear Young Master Shao? Give me back my prince charming!"

"Sh*t, he's nothing more than a handsome young man. How can he compare to a true noble like my prince charming? Just get off the stage!"

"That's right. Who does he think he is? How dare you steal Young Master Shao's clothes for yourself? Hurry up and get lost!"

"Get lost!"

Chapter 179: My Wife Is So Darn Handsome!

Tonnes of curses surged through the internet. Luo Chenxi, who was on the stage, instantly became the target of netizens' criticism as they flamed her to oblivion.

Wu Lingshan heaved a sigh of relief when she saw the netizens' reaction. The corners of her mouth curled up, revealing a slight smirk.

So what if Xing Chen's models performed beautifully?

No matter how well they did, it would not change the fact that the male model was not Shao Mingyi!

Did Luo Chenxi still expect to be able to win the grand prize after provoking Shao Mingyi's fans? In her dreams!

However, just as she put away her phone, she suddenly heard a gasp from a female reporter beside her.

Following that, waves of exclamations could be heard from the crowd.

"Holy sh*t! Who is this model? He's so, so, so handsome! Oh, save my frail maiden heart!"

"I shall kneel before him! From today onwards, he's my new prince charming!"

"He's so handsome! When he glanced at the audience for a split second, I felt my heart pounding out of my chest! I can't take it anymore!"

What was going on?

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What were they talking about?

Wu Lingshan's heart skipped a beat, she quickly turned to look at the runway.

At this moment, Luo Chenxi had already walked to Fang Ziqian's side in her tuxedo tailcoat. She turned to face Fang Ziqian and locked eyes with her.

Fang Ziqian slightly opened her mouth and softly said in a voice that only the two of them on stage could hear, "Little Xixi, you're amazing!"

Luo Chenxi smiled without answering. The subtle curls at the corners of her lips gave off a hint of frivolity hidden behind her prideful front that completely enchanted the crowd and captured their full attention.

Then, with a hand behind her back, Luo Chenxi bent down slightly toward Fang Ziqian as she reached out her other arm, she performed a simple gesture of a man's invitation to a woman for a dance.

Luo Chenxi's courteous movements gave off a naturally elegant and noble vibe, as if she was a prince of the Medieval ages walking out from a castle.

When she looked up at Fang Ziqian with a deep and reserved gaze, gasps could be heard from the crowd.

"Cool! So d*mn cool!"

"My prince charming, please let me marry you!"

Just a moment ago, the audience were still lamenting at Shao Mingyi's unexpected absence and thought that there was no point left in watching the fashion show.

However, right now, their eyes had been completely drawn toward the young man on stage.

They had even forgotten that they were initially here for Shao Mingyi.

The audience remained in awe even after Luo Chenxi and Fang Ziqian turned around to complete the walk back down the runway, hand in hand.

Not only were the other female designers stunned, many male designers in the fashion industry also became dumbfounded in astonishment. Some even darted up to Sheng Yu to ask about the background of this male model.

"Chief Sheng, where did you find this model? Why hasn't anyone seen him before? Which agency is he from? Can you let us in on this? I really want him to model for me, this young man's got such a spiritual vibe on him, so he's definitely going to be so, so famous! It was no wonder you let him take Shao Mingyi's place as the showstopper."

Sheng Yu was also dumbfounded. "To... to be honest, I don't know him either. I also thought that Shao Mingyi was supposed to be the showstopper, so... Cough, cough! I too, have no idea what's going on."

Luo Chenxi's disguise as a male was a completely different appearance to her usual female look.

Even with an elegant face, there was not a single hint of femininity in her expression. Instead, she gave off a gentle and refined air around her.

Sheng Yu thought she looked familiar, but he could not pinpoint the model's identity in the heat of the moment.

Meanwhile, Young Master Mu's face had darkened to the brim.

"It is no wonder this woman stayed outdoors until midnight while I was away. She's disguising herself as a man to flirt around with people! She hasn't had enough of seducing men, so she goes off trying to seduce women to have her fill instead!"

The man truly refused to admit the fact that he had begun questioning his own sexuality the moment Luo Chenxi appeared.

Strangely, he was not able to pull his gaze away from the 'man' that had appeared on stage.

It was not until he noticed the mole on Luo Chenxi's collar bone through the slightly opened collars of her outfit that he finally came to a realization.

His wife was actually modelling on stage, disguised as a man in a tailcoat!

And the worst part of it all—she was so darn handsome!

Chapter 180: Why is Young Master Mu Here?

The audience was still furiously discussing Chen Xi and Fang Ziqian's catwalk.

Suddenly, the music changed.

All the models once again stepped onto the runway.

This time, they did not have any assigned fixed point or timing by the organizers. Instead, they circled one round on the runway and eventually stood at their designated positions as they awaited their scores from the judges.

Fang Ziqian and Luo Chenxi received special attention from the media reporters as they once again came on stage.

Many of them had forgotten to snap photographs of the two during their catwalk as they were lost in thought while enjoying the two's magnificent performance earlier. Now that they had another chance, they quickly snapped photos to make up for it.

"Hey, both of you, please look over here!"

"Can you please turn this way, just a little?"

The reporters moved closer and kept taking photos.

This scene was comparable to a top celebrity walking on the red carpet at a film festival.

Bai Xinxin was standing in front of Fang Ziqian and Luo Chenxi, but the reporters completely ignored her and only focused on photographing the two unfamiliar faces behind her.

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Seeing this, Bai Xinxin was so angry that her nose could go crooked from the anger.

Were these reporters blind? Did they really have to be so snobbish?

All it took was for her to make one mistake on stage to have everyone start ignoring her!

What good were photographs of these rookie models anyway? They probably were not even worthy of being her side kick!

Luo Chenxi and Fang Ziqian tried their best to comply with the reporters' requests, so their faces gradually got stiff from smiling.

After a while, the reporters had no choice but to step away as the vice president of SL Corporation finally came on stage to give his speech.

Before Luo Chenxi even managed to heave a sigh of relief, she suddenly saw a familiar figure at the judicial panel's seat as she turned her head.

She then received a shock that almost threw her off the stage.

Holy crap!

Why was Young Master Mu Here?

Did he not go to M Country for a business trip?

At this moment, Mu Yichen also raised his head and looked at her.

Their eyes finally met.

Young Master Mu's deep black eyes gazed on her face for a brief moment, then he snorted coldly.

Luo Chenxi's expression stiffened even more.

It could not be... She was currently disguised as a man! Fang Ziqian even mentioned before that her male appearance was completely different from her usual female look! So, how could Young Master Mu have possibly seen through her disguise?

She felt a sense of guilt and subconsciously took a few steps toward Fang Ziqian.

Then, a wave of praises came from the crowd. "Wow, they look so sweet together!"

Hearing this, the coldness in Mu Yichen's eyes became even more obvious.

These two women actually wore matching couple outfits!

He recognized the woman standing next to Luo Chenxi. He had seen her the last time he went to Secret Clubhouse, it was Bai Shixun's female secretary!

Bai Shixun had recently been complaining about his endless pile of work because his secretary was on her annual leave, so he had been wanting to drag her back to work very badly.

Mu Yichen immediately whipped out his cell phone to send a WeChat message to Bai Shixun. "Shixun, have you seen the SL Corporation's fashion show today?"

Bai Shixun replied shortly after, "Don't talk to me about fashion shows! It doesn't matter what kind of gorgeous beauties are there, I won't even be the least bit interested! Also, I haven't been hitting the bar for a full month now because I have had to work overtime everyday!"

"I'd strongly suggest you check it out, assuming you want to escape your overtime hell."

"What do you mean?"

Bai Shixun was at a loss.

At this moment, the vice president's speech had ended.

Mu Yichen ignored Bai Shixun's repeated questions and straight up threw his cell phone to the side without replying.

"As everyone knows, the score for the Huafeng Competition finals are made up of two parts. For the first part, the judicial panel present is made up of famous figures from the fashion and business industry, so the points they award shall add up to 60% of a participant's final score, while the remaining 40% is made up of points given by netizens behind their screens."

"Now, before the judicial panel reveals the scores, let us listen to their reviews of the participants' works, and show us which designer's work is the number 1 in their hearts."

After the host finished speaking, he walked toward the judicial panel.

The designers on their respective booths all showed nervous and expectant looks.

Wu Lingshan sneered with disdain.

"What a bunch of idiots. Do they really think there would be people complimenting their works? My parents have connections with these judges, they have all been bribed to only nominate me as the winner!"

"The only exception is Young Master Mu. However, since he is here for Bai Xinxin, he is definitely on my side as well!"