

Work Hard 581

Chapter 581: She Is Indeed An Actress

In the end, Master Ni could only smile at Tangning with scornful admiration, "She is indeed an actress. Mrs Mo was well-prepared from the start, yet she still allowed me to make a pointless appearance. I am completely convinced by her intelligence."

"I'm sure Master Ni is aware that if Yang Xi actually had important information against you, you would not be standing here today," Tangning said quietly.

Master Ni gave a slight smile and turned to leave. As he walked out, he said to Mo Ting, "President Mo's wife is indeed different."

"Pregnant women have too much spare time on their hands, so it's normal to find something to do," Mo Ting said dotingly with a layer of warning.

"In that case, I won't get in the way of your little get-together," Master Ni said with a deeper meaning as he glared at Yang Xi and left. Although he was annoyed that he had lost to Tangning, he understood how to cut his losses. After all, he still had a huge gang of brothers that he needed to protect.

"Master Ni, watch your step..." Tangning smiled.

It didn't take long before Master Ni disappeared from sight and Yang Xi finally let out a sigh of relief as she knelt on the floor.

Just a moment ago, when Master Ni came to take her away, she seriously thought that her life had reached its end. Who would have thought...

...Tangning actually had the ability to bring the police chief to them.

But, just as she was about to stand up and greet the police chief, the 'police chief' turned to Mo Ting and bowed as he spoke in a voice that was nowhere near as powerful as before, "President Mo."

"You did well," Mo Ting nodded.

Yang Xi froze...

It turned out, there was no Chief Li in the room; Mo Ting had merely found an actor that resembled the chief. If they thought about the situation logically, why would a police chief take an actress in as his goddaughter? Especially since this woman was connected to the gangs. Did he not want his position anymore?

Of course, everything that happened in the cafe today, would never be spoken of again.

Whether it was Master Ni or Tangning, everyone was going to pretend that nothing happened.

After all, Master Ni had too much pride. There was no way he'd tell everyone that he had lost to Tangning; a mere entertainer.

So, as soon as Yang Xi understood the mind game that was being played, she was completely convinced. The difference between her and Tangning wasn't just a Master Ni, there was also Mo Ting.

Of course, from this moment onwards, Yang Xi decided to give Tangning her life.

She had struggled her entire life to escape Master Ni, yet a simple plan from Tangning was enough to make her wish come true...

"Following on, how do you plan to make up for what you tried to do to my child and I?"

Yang Xi did not respond. But, as she looked at Tangning, she suddenly felt like she was beyond reach...

On the way home, Mo Ting rubbed Tangning's belly as he asked, "Are you planning to just let Yang Xi go like that?"

"There's no point getting greedy over a moment of satisfaction. Would you believe that Yang Xi will end up paying back more than she owes? In fact, she will pay me back when I am in my most difficult of times."

Mo Ting lowered his head and placed a kiss on Tangning's forehead as he revealed a handsome smile. He trusted Tangning's decisions.

"It's time to deal with Tang Xuan!"

With the mention of this name, the couple's eyes darkened. The reason was simple: this woman had challenged their bottom line too many times and could no longer be tolerated.

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Meanwhile, after the situation at the Xu Household was resolved, Xu Qingyan had been busy trying to sell off the house. But, because of the memories of her mother that remained, everytime a potential buyer arrived, Xu Qingyan would end up hesitating. Eventually, Tang Jingxuan could no longer stand idly by, "Why don't you hand the house to me and I'll sell it for you?"

Xu Qingyan thought for a moment and shook her head, "No, it's OK. I've already settled on a buyer. He is a young neurological doctor that just returned from overseas and his hospital happens to be nearby."

"Everything's already settled?" Tang Jingxuan confirmed.

"Yes," Xu Qingyan nodded her head. "Plus, let me tell you, the young doctor has a really hot body. If he wasn't a doctor, he could have been a model without any problems."

Hearing this, Tang Jingxuan suddenly felt a slight discomfort that he couldn't quite explain.

Back when Father Xu was kicked out of the household, the hug that Xu Qingyan gave him left quite an impression. But, they were classmates! Was he developing feelings for people too easily?

"However, I heard that this doctor is quite close to your second sister. Who knows, perhaps they are a couple."

"Don't you like guys like that?" Tang Jingxuan took the opportunity to test her.

"I don't like boring people who's only hobby is to cut open a person's brain...Just the thought of it gives me goosebumps..." Xu Qingyan replied casually. "I prefer guys that are bright and cheery. After all, my life is already full of enough darkness."

"In that case, what do you think about me?" Tang Jingxuan suddenly asked in seriousness as he looked into Xu Qingyan's eyes. Her eyes seemed to twinkle like a sky full of stars.

Xu Qingyan was suddenly dumbfounded as her heart began to race. After quite some time, she finally mumbled, "Our relationship may be confusing to the public, but we are simply helping each other out, right? If that's the case, don't you think your question is a little awkward between classmates?"

Hearing this, Tang Jingxuan spoke even more seriously, "Do you feel awkward around me and not comfortable?"

"I...haven't thought too much into it."

The two people simultaneously turned silent. After quite some time, Tang Jingxuan finally changed the subject, "Have you found a place to live yet?"

"Yes, I've found a house in Beijing with the highest safety rating," Xu Qingyan nodded. "Don't worry, I won't allow myself to get hurt again."

Tang Jingxuan gave a slight smile as he nodded his head.

To prevent history from repeating itself, Tang Jingxuan did not dwell on the topic of relationships. He hated when he acted so immature.

"If anything happens, make sure to tell me," Tang Jingxuan reminded Xu Qingyan.

"Yes, stop being so naggy. Also, thank you for dinner tonight. However, I have some matters to deal with at Xu Corps, so I'll leave first," Xu Qingyan returned to her usual energetic self.

"Ok, take care," Tang Jingxuan did not offer to escort her. At this moment, it was important for him to learn some self control.

Xu Qingyan smiled before she turned and left the hotel..

Tang Jingxuan followed behind until he saw her drive off in her car. He then boarded his Rolls Royce Phantom. But, at this moment, he suddenly noticed a black car speeding towards Xu Qingyan's car from the distance. Tang Jingxuan directly drove over and blocked the car's path without a second thought.

By this time, Xu Qingyan's red sports car had already disappeared around the corner...

Chapter 582: I Don't Like Playing Games That Have No Ending

Sitting inside the black car was none other than Father Xu.

He was filled with so much hatred that the windshield could not block the loathing that was shooting out from his eyes.

“Let’s put an end to this today!” Tang Jingxuan said to Father Xu. The two men drove their cars to a nearby carpark and stepped out to face each other, “Stop hurting Qingyan. She has already suffered your abuse for much too long!”

“I gave birth to her, so I am her father! Yet that unfilial child treated me in such a way. I cannot accept it!”

“You still haven’t learned your lesson. What else do you want?” Tang Jingxuan increased the volume of his voice. “What will you get from dwelling on this situation? Let me give you a word of advice, before things get out of hand and while you still have a chance, I suggest you stop doing such meaningless things.”

“After all, Xu Qingyan is no longer someone you can afford to offend.”

After speaking, Tang Jingxuan turned to leave. However, Father Xu suddenly pulled out a dagger from behind him and directly aimed for Tang Jingxuan’s back...

Tang Jingxuan noticed something wasn’t quite right. But, just as he turned around, he was already too late to avoid the incoming dagger. Although the dagger didn’t damage any major organs, it was lodged into the left side of his stomach. Blood quickly soaked through Tang Jingxuan’s clothes as Xu Zhenqing took a few steps back in fear.

Xu Zhenqing’s expression changed as he began to tremble...After a few moments of shock, he regained his composure and quickly got back into his car. As he drove away, the car hit Tang Jingxuan on the right side of his body.

Tang Jingxuan fell to the ground and rolled a fair distance due to the impact. After quite some struggling, he managed to use his last remaining strength to pull out his phone and gave Tangning a phone call, “Sister...Three...save me...”

Tangning and Mo Ting were originally on their way to deal with Tang Xuan when they received Tang Jingxuan’s phone call. As a result, they immediately asked Lu Che to turn the car around and Mo Ting quickly contacted everyone he could to track down Tang Jingxuan’s location. But, by the time they found him, he was already unconscious.

To prevent Tang Jingxuan from appearing on the headlines, Mo Ting immediately contacted a trustworthy hospital and sent Tang Jingxuan straight into the emergency operating theater.

As Tangning looked at the blood-covered Tang Jingxuan, she shut her eyes tightly, “Lu Che, go investigate what happened.”

Lu Che understood as he quickly nodded his head, “Don’t worry Madam, leave it with me.”

“Also, keep this entire incident under wraps. We can’t let anyone know about this. Especially not Master Ni.”

If Master Ni realized that he could target the Tang Family, who knew what disgusting ideas he would develop.

“Understood,” Lu Che nodded once again.

Xu Qingyan had no idea that Tang Jingxuan was injured. As soon as she arrived home, she began thinking about the conversation she had with him earlier and found herself subconsciously blushing. In reality, she too reminisced about the hug that she had with Tang Jingxuan and the feelings that she felt that day. But, even though she felt that they had exceeded the relationship of normal friends, she did not think that they had reached the stage of lovers.

“He wouldn’t be angry at me, would he?” Xu Qingyan began to wonder if she had gone too far, so she picked up her phone to give Tang Jingxuan a call. However, the Tang Jingxuan that usually picked up within three seconds, did not react at all.

Xu Qingyan did not give up. So, she tried again. But, the result was the same.

“Could he really be angry?”

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“Madam, the owners of the shopping centre agreed to cooperate by looking into their surveillance cameras. The person that stabbed Jingxuan has been confirmed. It was Xu Zhenqing!” Lu Che said unhappily. “It appears that Jingxuan was attacked by Xu Zhenqing because he was trying to protect Miss Xu. Madam, should we notify Miss Xu? I’m afraid...”

“Are you afraid that Qingyan doesn’t know how to be grateful?” Tangning finished Lu Che’s sentence for him. “Let’s talk about it after Jingxuan wakes up.”

“Lu Che, report this to the police, but request that they keep their investigation confidential,” Mo Ting suddenly instructed.

Hearing this, Lu Che gently nodded his head. Mo Ting’s intention was clear: he was going to make Xu Zhenqing live out the rest of his life in jail.

Since he was a danger to society, it was only right for them to help clean out the trash...

So, Xu Qingyan had absolutely no idea what had happened to Tang Jingxuan. In fact, she was completely unaware that after she left the hotel, Tang Jingxuan had rushed over to shield her from danger.

But, this incident still managed to spread within smaller circles of the industry. Especially for people like Long Jie, who’s speciality was to gather information from various sources, news like this wasn’t difficult for her to find out about. So, amongst the people that had heard of the news, there was one other person worth mentioning.

Song Yanshu!

She didn’t understand why, but whenever she heard Tang Jingxuan’s name, her heart would involuntarily speed up. This was especially the case when she heard that he was currently in hospital.

To save herself from regrets, Song Yanshu secretly visited the hospital without anyone knowing.

At this moment, Tang Jingxuan had just finished in the operating theater and was being sent to his hospital room. Mo Ting was worried that Tangning would tire herself out, so she instructed Lu Che to watch over Tang Jingxuan until he woke up.

Song Yanshu waited until Lu Che stepped out of the room before she pushed open the door and approached Tang Jingxuan. Seeing him lying weakly in bed, Song Yanshu's heart sank.

In reality, Tang Jingxuan was already awake. But, when he opened his eyes and caught a glance of Song Yanshu, he was quite surprised, "Why are you here?"

"I heard you were injured, so I came to visit you," Song Yanshu sat down on the edge of Tang Jingxuan's bed as her eyes began to redden. "If I had a choice, I would hope for things to return to how they used to be; back to a time when you were still my artist and nothing had changed between us."

Hearing this, Tang Jingxuan closed his eyes tiredly, "If this is all you've come to say, then please leave."

"Jingxuan..."

"I think the relationship between us is perfectly clear. Plus, you already have a fiancée; please control your feelings. Yanshu, when I express my love, I invest myself 100%. But, once I retrieve it, then I'm sorry...you are worse than a stranger to me. I think it's best if we stop adding to each other's baggage."

"But..."

"I got hurt because I didn't want to see Qingyan get hurt, nor did I want to see her sad," Tang Jingxuan explained, "Your family background is very similar to hers, but fate has led the two of you down very different paths. Yanshu, you have someone that dotes on you and loves you, but Qingyan has nothing."

"Must you protect her this way?"

"At least, if I decide to hate her one day, she wouldn't continue to cling onto me," Tang Jingxuan said coldly. "Please close the door on your way out. I know that my sister has been trying to keep my injury a secret. If news gets leaked, I will blame it on you regardless of who's fault it may actually be."

"Does Xu Qingyan know that you protected in such a way?" Song Yanshu suddenly asked after a moment of silence.

Tang Jingxuan did not respond.

"Jingxuan, how about we leave this place together. Let's leave Beijing and start afresh."

"Sorry, I don't like playing games that have no ending," Tang Jingxuan replied straightforwardly, "It disgusts me!"

Chapter 583: You Are The One That Doesn't Want Me !

"But, that night..."

With the mention of 'that night', Tang Jingxuan couldn't help but laugh in ridicule. The laugh tugged at his wound a little, putting him into pain, "Back then, I offered to take responsibility, but you pretended that nothing happened. Why are you concerned about it now? I know I was wrong, so what do you want me to do about it?"

"Yanshu, do you want to hold onto your fiancée with one hand and cling onto me with the other?"

"I am willing to give up on him..."

"But, I don't want you," Tang Jingxuan replied swiftly without a trace of hesitation.

"Are you sure that Xu Qingyan is the person that you want, then?"

"I'm not sure about anyone. But, it's not like I can't survive without being in a relationship," Tang Jingxuan sneered before he pointed to the door, "If that's all you came here for, please leave. Stop wasting your time here."

"The fact that I've announced my retreat means that I will never turn back."

"Please give me another chance..." Song Yanshu started crying in front of Tang Jingxuan. The pain in her eyes looked like it was tearing her apart. The Song Yanshu at this time was probably the most similar to the originally pure Song Yanshu that followed by Tangning's side. "I truly want to be with you."

"I no longer have any feelings for you. What use do you have for an empty shell like me? Don't you have any self respect?" Tang Jingxuan asked. "Yanshu, leave this place and enjoy the rest of your life with your fiancé. Stop letting your mind wander."

If Tang Jingxuan's previous words hadn't fully hurt Song Yanshu, the mention of self respect was like a sword that lodged itself deeply into her heart.

Self respect...

Of course she had self respect. And, it was because of this self respect that she could no longer reach out her arms towards Tang Jingxuan.

A certain writer once said, "If you still maintain your self respect when talking about love, there is only one reason, the person you truly love – is yourself!"

Tang Jingxuan had exhausted all his energy, so he decided to close his eyes and get some rest. At this time, Song Yanshu was left looking insignificant and displeased.

"Tang Jingxuan. Don't forget your decision today. You are the one that doesn't want me."

After speaking, Song Yanshu turned to leave. As she walked out the door, she ran into Lu Che.

As soon as Lu Che saw Song Yanshu, he looked at Tang Jingxuan questioningly. But, Tang Jingxuan simply shook his head, "It's nothing."

"Song Yanshu has changed too much. I can't quite recognize her anymore," Lu Che didn't question Tang Jingxuan any further as he sat down on the edge of the bed. "She was previously by the Madam's side through many ups and downs. So, I thought she was a good person. Who would have thought that her true self was hidden so deep inside. I guess, only time could reveal a person's true nature."

"Was my sister frightened by what happened today?" Tang Jingxuan asked, changing the subject.

"Of course. You were covered in blood!"

"What about Qingyan..."

“She doesn’t know yet,” Lu Che sighed. “What was the reason for your actions this time? Aren’t you afraid that Xu Qingyan will end up like Song Yanshu?”

“I’ve know Qingyan since we were kids. She is not that kind of person,” Tang Jingxuan explained. “By the way, don’t tell her about this incident.”

“OK. The Madam told me to do as you say. Anyhow, get some rest, you’ve just come out of a surgery...”
Lu Che placed Tang Jingxuan’s phone on the bedside table and Tang Jingxuan immediately picked it up and turned it on.

As soon as it turned on, Xu Qingyan’s messages flooded in, “You aren’t angry at me, are you? You wouldn’t treat an old classmate like this, right?”

“Do you still remember the Japanese restaurant near our school? The old lady there used to give me a few extra pieces of sushi.”

“I wish I could eat it again.”

Tang Jingxuan held onto his phone. He originally wanted to send her a reply, but after typing out a few lines of text, he ended up deleting them, one word at a time. “Forget it...Lu Che, can you drive me somewhere?”

“In your current state?” Lu Che asked with doubt.

“Nothing major has been damaged, right? In that case, let me follow my heart for once.” Although Tang Jingxuan’s face looked pale, his eyes contained a hopeful glow. A glow that had also appeared in Lu Che’s eyes at one time.

So, Lu Che did not stop him, “OK, I’ll take you where you need to go. But, if you feel any form of discomfort or pain, you need to tell me.”

Tang Jingxuan nodded his head. Afterwards, under Lu Che’s protection he arrived outside the school that he and Xu Qingyan once attended and bought a whole heap of Japanese food from the restaurant they once frequented.

“Should I deliver it for you?”

Tang Jingxuan sat in the front passenger’s seat as he closed his eyes and shook his head. “No need. I can go there myself.”

Like he had said before, he wanted to follow his heart this time. He no longer wanted to experience any regrets.

Although Lu Che was worried about Tang Jingxuan’s injuries, he still drove him over to Xu Qingyan’s home. At that time, Xu Qingyan was just leaving the house. As soon as she saw Tang Jingxuan in his car, she immediately ran over, “Why are you here?”

“Didn’t you try to call me a few times? I’m here to apologize,” Tang Jingxuan smiled.

“Did you visit our old school?” Xu Qingyan smiled in surprise as she received the bag of food from Tang Jingxuan’s hands.

After seeing the smile on Xu Qingyan's face, the dullness in Tang Jingxuan's heart disappeared, "Little Monkey, let's forever remain friends."

"Of course," Xu Qingyan's gaze was focused on the food that Tang Jingxuan had brought, "Old classmates will never change."

Tang Jingxuan nodded his head as he forced a smile on his face and turned to Lu Che, "Let's go home."

"You're leaving? Don't you want to eat together?"

"No, I can't, I still have some things to deal with. You enjoy it yourself," Tang Jingxuan immediately gestured for Lu Che to open the car door. Before Xu Qingyan could even respond, Tang Jingxuan had already driven away.

Seeing this, Lu Che did not question Tang Jingxuan whatsoever. He simply drove him back to the hospital in one piece as Xu Qingyan watched him disappear from her sight. She had absolutely no idea what thoughts were running through his head while he went to buy her food from their memories.

But...the media were nosy. A few members of the paparazzi captured photos of the two and placed the images online. Originally, it didn't attract much interest, but...

...there were people that knew of Tang Jingxuan's injury. So, the fact that he appeared safely in front of a beauty, naturally meant that his injuries weren't that serious, right?

Others may not have seen, nor did they have the opportunity to investigate further into it, but Song Yanshu saw with her own eyes how Tang Jingxuan lay weakly in the hospital bed. She had only left the hospital not long ago, yet these photos already appeared online.

Did Tang Jingxuan really like Xu Qingyan that much? So much that he'd drag his injured and limp body all the way to see her?

Song Yanshu realized that things didn't seem right. Xu Qingyan must not have known that Tang Jingxuan was injured because Tang Jingxuan wouldn't have wanted her to know of the cause. So, she began to wonder if Xu Qingyan would also disregard everything and reciprocate Tang Jingxuan's feelings if she knew the truth...

Chapter 584: A Beauty's Misunderstanding

At the time that Xu Qingyan received Song Yanshu's phone call, she was in the middle of stuffing her face with food. After all, this food contained a lot of memories and was bought by Tang Jingxuan, so she especially cherished it.

"Hi, it's Song Yanshu. Let's meet."

Xu Qingyan pulled the phone away confusedly before returning it to her ear, "If you have something to say, then just say it. I don't want to see you."

"I'll meet you in the lobby of Glory Hotel. You have 30 minutes. It's regarding Jingxuan. If you don't come, you will regret it," Song Yanshu said as she looked at the watch on her wrist before she hung up.

Xu Qingyan sighed at Song Yanshu's arrogant and unreasonable attitude. It wasn't like she was a small assistant that followed her around. What right did she have to demand her to come and go as she pleased?

However, even though it made her uncomfortable, the mention of Tang Jingxuan's name left her with no choice but to put down the food in her hands. After tidying up a little and getting changed, she left her house and headed for the hotel.

In less than 20 minutes, Xu Qingyan was led into the hotel by a bellboy. As soon as she spotted Song Yanshu sitting by the window, elegantly sipping a cup of coffee, she immediately walked over and asked, "Whatever it is, speak!"

Song Yanshu lifted her head and looked at Xu Qingyan. She had a mysterious look in her eyes that made Xu Qingyan extremely uncomfortable.

Xu Qingyan looked questioningly into Song Yanshu's eyes. This was the first time that the two women had met in private.

"Have you seen today's news?" Song Yanshu already had her phone opened to an article as she handed it to Xu Qingyan.

Xu Qingyan took the phone from Song Yanshu's hands suspiciously. It didn't take long before she realized the main point, "This can't be possible, I just saw him not long ago."

"Anything is possible. I also saw him just before he came to see you. I was by his side the entire time," Song Yanshu smiled. "I can confirm that he just came out of surgery and his injuries are, in fact, quite serious."

"But, why..."

"This is why I am here to see you," Song Yanshu retrieved her phone and looked at Xu Qingyan in seriousness. In a slightly helpless and contemptuous voice, she continued, "Jingxuan and I have made up...I'm sorry that he used you all this time. His injury this time was all because of me, but this incident has allowed us to see how we feel about each other; we are truly in love."

"So, could I please ask you to keep your distance from now on?"

"I don't believe a single word that is coming out of your mouth," Xu Qingyan replied. "I am going to ask him to explain in person..."

"Go ahead. If it comes from his lips, it will be easier for you to accept," Song Yanshu smiled as she did a welcoming gesture.

Xu Qingyan turned around angrily as she headed for the exit. But, at this time, Song Yanshu suddenly held her back, "I was just joking..."

"What?" Xu Qingyan's mind was muddled up by Song Yanshu's confusing words.

"I said, I was just joking. You're well aware that I am already engaged, so there's no way I would turn back. But, Tang Jingxuan did indeed get hurt because of me."

This time, Xu Qingyan did not hesitate as she directly threw a slap across Song Yanshu's face, "Do you know how disgusting you look?"

"I've heard bits and pieces about you. You were once a great assistant by Tangning's side. But...what happened to you? Why have you changed so much? How are you really like as a person?"

"You are well aware of the pain that Jingxuan suffered because of you. To break away from the past, he gave up on the singing career that he loved and retreated from the entertainment industry. What else do you want from him?"

"Why do you think you are still standing here today? It's because Ning Jie is a grateful person; she remembers all that you have done for her. Otherwise, did you think that you could still survive in Beijing?"

"Song Yanshu, you should remain level-headed. Have you thought about the way that the Tang Family has treated you?"

"It's obvious that Jingxuan would never turn back, and even if he did, did you think you are doing the right thing by degrading someone that loves you wholeheartedly?"

Song Yanshu did not say a word. To be exact, Xu Qingyan had already read her mind. So, all she could do was smile.

"What about you? What are your feelings towards Jingxuan?"

"It's none of your business," Xu Qingyan growled. "Song Yanshu, I am not the one that should distance myself from Jingxuan, you are...No matter what you want to do, Jingxuan and I are not from the entertainment industry. We don't care if you want to create hype or do anything else. It has nothing to do with us!"

"If you want Ning Jie to still consider you as a friend, I think you know what to do."

After speaking, Xu Qingyan left the hotel without looking back. As she walked away, she anxiously contacted Tangning, "Ning Jie, where is Jingxuan right now?"

In reality, Xu Qingyan actually believed that Tang Jingxuan had gotten hurt because of Song Yanshu. After all, Tang Jingxuan was a righteous person that viewed relationships highly. But she wondered, didn't he feel that it wasn't worth it?

Even so, regardless of the reason for his injuries, the fact that Tang Jingxuan went so far to buy her food from their childhood, was proof enough that Tang Jingxuan was a silly idiot.

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Not long after returning to the hospital, Tang Jingxuan fell into a deep sleep. After all, the weather was cold and he had just awoken from his surgery not long ago. So, when Xu Qingyan walked into the hospital room, he remained asleep in bed without a clue that she had arrived.

It turned out that the silly idiot had indeed traveled all the way to buy her food even though he was seriously injured...

“You...” As soon as Lu Che saw Xu Qingyan appear at the hospital, he was full of curiosity. Didn’t Hai Rui have everything under wraps? Had their line of defense been broken?

“Song Yanshu came looking for me...” Xu Qingyan explained. “She told me that this idiot was injured.”

“Would she really be that nice?” Lu Che’s image of Song Yanshu had been completely ruined. To him, she was practically in the same category as Yang Xi and Ye Lan.

“I feel bad for this idiot. Why would he still risk his life for a woman like that?” Xu Qingyan looked at Tang Jingxuan disappointedly. She was so tempted to wake him up right at that moment.

Lu Che realized something wasn’t right as he raised an eyebrow questioningly, “Is that what Song Yanshu told you?”

“Uh huh.”

“And you believe her just like that?”

“If not, what other reason would he have? Anyhow, it doesn’t matter. I already hit that woman. You can leave Jingxuan with me from now on, I’ll take care of him. After all, he has helped me many times in the past.”

Lu Che gently held his head with a helpless expression. It wasn’t easy for Tang Jingxuan to be a hero, yet the beauty that he saved misunderstood him...

But, he was going to leave the explaining for Tang Jingxuan to do himself.

“Miss Xu, there are a few words that I would like to say to you. After all, I think of Jingxuan as family.”

“He has made a lot of mistakes in love, I’m sure you’ve seen how badly he’s been hurt. I hope he won’t come across another woman that wants to play around with him while they have another man in their heart...”

Chapter 585: Tangning Is Unpredictable

“He does not lack female friends. And if he wants, there are plenty of women who are willing to be his girlfriend.”

Lu Che’s expression was serious. Within his dark pupils, only the image of Xu Qingyan existed. He wanted her to know that he wasn’t joking.

Xu Qingyan glanced at the bedridden Tang Jingxuan before looking back at Lu Che as she nodded her head in a cautious but confused manner.

She understood why Lu Che was acting so serious, but she didn’t completely understand what his words meant.

A moment later, Tang Jingxuan awoke from his sleep. When he opened his eyes and saw Xu Qingyan sitting by his bed, he was a little stunned. He covered his stomach and sat up, “How did you find out?”

“Song Yanshu came looking for me and told me that you got hurt because of her.”

“Really?” Tang Jingxuan laughed. However, he had no intention to explain things to her, “Don’t worry, I have Lu Che here to take care of me.”

“Lu Che has a family and wife, why would he stay here to take care of you?” As she spoke, Xu Qingyan poured out some takeaway chicken soup that she had ordered and placed it in front of Tang Jingxuan, “That’s why you should leave that job to me.”

“Is this a team building exercise between classmates?” Tang Jingxuan gave a slight smile as he received the bowl from Xu Qingyan.

“Can’t you just ignore that woman?”

“I don’t think it’s possible!” Tang Jingxuan replied as he took a sip of soup.

However...

...the woman he was referring to was not Song Yanshu, but someone called, Xu Qingyan...

...

Meanwhile, Lu Che returned to Hyatt Regency to report on Tang Jingxuan’s condition. Of course, he also mentioned how Song Yanshu deliberately provoked Xu Qingyan. After taking in all the information, Tangning remained calm as usual. But, her words contained a deeper meaning and a slight sense of ridicule

“Has someone cast a spell on her? She’s completely changed.”

“Madam...”

Tangning did not say anymore as she turned to look at the man that was hugging her with one arm while working.

Mo Ting sensed his wife’s gaze, so he said to Lu Che without lifting his head, “Take all the good artists that are currently in Xu Qingyan’s hands and allocate them to other managers. From now on, she will only be in charge of those that are banned from taking jobs and those that have a bad record. This will pose as a warning to her.”

“Is that all?” Lu Che felt that keeping Song Yanshu around would eventually lead to trouble.

“Rather than sending her somewhere else to scheme. We might as well keep her in our line of sight.”

Lu Che understood Mo Ting’s intention, but for someone that was once so close to Tangning to suddenly become like a stranger, made him feel a little unsettled.

However, it was normal for relationships to grow and fall apart within the industry. Even though Tangning felt that her relationship with Song Yanshu was a pity, she did not force it to go the other way.

Because, her main priority at the moment, was the Fei Tian Awards and Tang Xuan!

After everything that she experienced, Tangning started to view things differently. Especially since she was currently 6 months pregnant, the level of importance that some things held in her heart had begun to change.

February 30th was announced as the official day of the Fei Tian Awards Ceremony. So, all the biggest entertainment websites began to guess who they thought would win in each category. But, as a highly prestigious award in the industry, the Fei Tian Awards managed to maintain its secrecy as always.

Although there was a slight interlude during the selection stage, everyone knew that the final winners would definitely be well-deserved.

Regarding this matter, the internet was already filled with discussions.

“I never took notice of the Fei Tian Awards. But, because of the huge battle that went on, it attracted my curiosity. I’m sure I’m not the only one.”

“You can add me to that!”

“Me too!”

“It’s strange. Logically speaking, Hai Rui’s Tangning caused the biggest drama, so it makes sense for everyone’s attention to be focused on her. But, the most amazing thing is, everyone still has complete trust in the fairness of the Fei Tian Awards.”

“That’s because Tangning is unpredictable. Perhaps she’ll win the award, reject it and then change to become a singer.”

“Those with true talent have the right to act recklessly.”

“Go Tangning!”

“The awards ceremony is almost here, I can’t wait to find out who the winner of The Best Newcomer Award is.”

Faced with the hype from the netizens, Mo Ting did not feel anxious. Because in his heart, Tangning was already the best actress.

That night, inside Tangning’s walk-in wardrobe at Hyatt Regency.

Long Jie had delivered the outfit that Tangning was to wear to the ceremony the next day. Looking at the silver gown on her body, Tangning felt a little foreign.

“It’s been a while since I’ve dressed up like this. I suddenly feel a little odd,” Tangning mumbled. She then asked Long Jie as she looked in the mirror, “What do you think?”

The silver gown had a short-sleeved, round collared design and the body consisted of a partially transparent chiffon. It was beautifully handmade and made Tangning appear pure and elegant. Of course, as her first appearance in front of the public since the announcement of her pregnancy, she wanted everyone to know that she wasn’t the woman that had been previously rumored as unable to bear a child; she didn’t need anyone to worry about her.

Long Jie scanned her eyes across Tangning and raised her thumb, “You are the only one that can still maintain such a great body even when you’re six months pregnant.”

Tangning smiled. At this time, Mo Ting had just finished his work and entered the wardrobe. As soon as he saw Tangning in her gown, his eyes suddenly lit up...

“Long Jie, you can leave.”

Long Jie looked at Tangning and gave her a wink as she reminded, “Be careful, this is handmade. There is only one in the world.”

Tangning understood the hidden meaning to Long Jie’s words as she looked at her helplessly. After she was gone, Tangning walked over to Mo Ting and hooked her arms around his neck, “Don’t listen to her nonsense.”

“But, she seems to understand what I am thinking,” Mo Ting said seductively beside Tangning’s ear, “Mrs Mo...”

Tangning’s entire body began to tingle as she placed her hands on Mo Ting’s chest and gently distanced herself, “Be serious...”

However, Mo Ting reached behind her back, unzipped her gown and began kissing her neck, “I want it...”

Tangning did not say a word. She simply lifted her chin as she searched for Mo Ting’s lips and pressed her lips firmly against his.

Mo Ting couldn’t kiss this pregnant woman too violently, nor could he touch her recklessly, so he simply pressed her against the wall and restrained her hands above her head as he covered each inch of her body gently with his lips.

“Ning...relax...”

Hearing Mo Ting’s charming voice, Tangning opened her eyes slightly and clung onto Mo Ting’s body.

This man always seemed to have a mesmerizing aura that uncontrollably drew her in.

Especially when his hands brushed past every inch of her skin.

Eventually, Tangning couldn’t resist anymore as she lifted her chin, gesturing for Mo Ting to take things further...

Chapter 586: Awards Ceremony

“Do you want it?” Mo Ting gently lifted her up and placed her on the bed, holding her down from the right hand side.

Tangning opened her eyes and looked seriously at Mo Ting. At times like this, she did not try to hide her admiration and obsession with this man, “Yes...I’ve always wanted it and will always want it.”

Mo Ting gently brushed Tangning’s hair behind her ear and tore off the clothes on his body, ignoring the buttons that fell to the ground. He straightened his strong body; even at a time like this, he was like a noble and imposing king.

Meanwhile, Tangning was still the same Tangning. Even though she was pregnant, it did not skew her perfection. In fact, it made her even more attractive.

Because Tangning was pregnant, the couple could not move too drastically or intensely. So, their entangled bodies could only rub together slowly and gently...

“The gown...”

“Am I not being serious enough? How could you think of your gown at a time like this? Huh?”

...

Over the past few days, Tang Xuan had no idea that her whereabouts was already discovered by Mo Ting. But, she was still as terrified as ever.

Especially after seeing Ye Lan and Yang Xi’s fate, all she could think about was how to hide herself well and not get discovered by Tangning. In reality, it was all because of the awards ceremony that Tangning had not dealt with her yet.

She fell pregnant before Tangning, so her stomach was bigger and rounder. Of course, her days did not pass by as well as she had hoped. A mere \$2 million wasn’t enough to support the extravagant lifestyle she was used to. Even though she was supposed to be hiding, she did not forget to eat and drink well, so she left a lot of evidence for Lu Che to easily trace.

At this moment, she was hiding on a quiet island. Of course, she was no longer living in the extravagant resorts she was used to. Instead, she was staying in an average residential area. As the security wasn’t guaranteed, she was often harassed by the local troublemakers. But, a precarious life like this was better than being found by Mo Ting and Tangning.

The funny thing was, within the seemingly average apartment that she stayed in, she discovered a whole heap of counterfeit money hidden beneath the bed. To live a more comfortable life, she took the money and used it to scam old people. This was the easiest way to avoid detection.

However, she wasn’t always lucky. One particular time, the bakery owner’s son decided to help out at the store. As he looked down at the note that she handed over, he said to Tang Xuan, “This note is fake.”

“How could that be?” Tang Xuan asked with a trace of guilt.

“I was wondering why my mum kept receiving counterfeit money recently. So it’s you!” the young man’s expression darkened, making him look extra fierce, “How could you trick an old person...”

“I didn’t...” Tang Xuan denied, “Don’t...don’t, blame the innocent.”

“Come with me to the police station!”

With the mention of the police, Tang Xuan fell into a panic as she turned to all the customers and started screaming, “Help! This man is harassing me!”

Although the people in the bakery did not physically help, their judgmental glares were full of disdain. As a result, Tang Xuan managed to escape. But, as she left, the man pointed to her angrily.

The look in his eyes seemed to be warning her, “This isn’t over!”

Tang Xuan was so frightened that she immediately ran off and no longer dared to step foot in the bakery again.

But, there was no way that she'd give up on using the counterfeit money. So, she continuously changed locations and found different old people to scam. Eventually, someone tracked down where she lived. In fact, it wasn't just one person.

Tang Xuan was so frightened that she didn't dare to open the door. All she could do was huddle up on the sofa until the people left. But, to prevent her from escaping, the people took shifts at guarding her door; regardless of whether it was day or night.

"B*tch, if you have the guts to trick old people, why don't you have the guts to come out? Don't think that we can't do anything to you just because you are pregnant!"

Tang Xuan trembled in fear...

She remained on the sofa for a good few days, too afraid to go anywhere.

Eventually, news of this traveled to Lu Che's ears. To ensure that she remained safe until Tangning got the chance to deal with her, Lu Che compensated all the people that she had tricked and said to them in seriousness, "Don't worry, you will see the result that you want. But, it won't be right now."

"A woman like this should just die. To trick old people like this is completely immoral. You need to teach her a proper lesson."

A little while later, Tang Xuan's front door finally returned to peace and quiet. There was no more knocking on the door.

Tang Xuan thought they had lost their patience, but she had no idea that it was Lu Che's doing and a bigger form of torture was on its way.

Of course, they would have to wait until tomorrow night was over before it happened.

Actually, in Tang Xuan's heart, she felt that she was more pitiful than the old people. So, when she scammed them, she did not feel an ounce of guilt.

When Tangning heard about what had happened the next day, she couldn't help but laugh, "There are people in this world that could be more shameless than demons even if you throw them into hell."

"Do you still have hope that a person like this would know shame?"

"She can't even be considered a person," Mo Ting said coldly from the side.

"But, why do I feel like she would make a great inspiration for a film?"

Hearing Tangning's joke, something suddenly clicked in Mo Ting's mind. But, she had no idea that her simple joke would some day create another miracle in the film industry.

After breakfast, Mo Ting accompanied Tangning to shop for another gown. The gown from the previous night was now just a lump of mess.

Don't forget, tonight was the night of the Fei Tian Awards Ceremony!

It was the biggest annual film event!

Without exception, the awards ceremony was inevitably a stage full of competition. But, the Fei Tian Awards was a little different to other awards. The nominees all fought to keep a low profile because the judges of the Fei Tian Awards did not like things that were overhyped with no substance. As a result, actors felt like they had a higher chance at receiving awards.

Of course, this was just a non-physical form of comfort.

However, the strangest thing about this year's awards, was the fact that everyone's focus was not on the Best Actor and Best Actress, but on The Best Newcomer!

Naturally, because of the huge battle that went on, the nominees of The Best Newcomer all appeared in related searches for some of the hottest keywords online.

This award was such a popular topic of discussion that even actors discussed it amongst themselves, "The Best Newcomer Award is quite important this year. It's never been this hyped up before."

"Hey, take a guess, who do you think will win?"

"I...really don't know..." – Everyone laughed – "But, regardless of who wins, Tangning's appearance is already a highlight, isn't it? It's just, not winning anything will be a little...awkward..."

"I personally don't think it will be her!"

Chapter 587: The Host's Challenge

Tangning frequented the hottest searches and faced problems with a tough attitude, making her appear like a star amongst the industry.

She was obviously an actress with talent, yet, because of a few heated discussions and random opinions, some people viewed her as 'just a pretty face'.

People in the industry all knew that she was capable and they all acknowledged her, but it didn't mean that she didn't appear like someone that hadn't settled down. Compared to the celebrities that depended on creating hype to get famous, she didn't appear any different.

...

The awards ceremony was scheduled for 7pm. So, the celebrities began walking up the red carpet at 6pm.

As the biggest annual film event, the awards ceremony naturally attracted the interest of the public and attention of the media.

It was an obviously cold night, but those that stepped onto the red carpet were all wearing a thin layer of clothes whilst maintaining dazzling smiles on their faces. Especially when facing the cameras, they did not allow themselves to show any flaws.

The two sides of the red carpet was covered by a sea of cameras. Although the scale of the Fei Tian Awards was the biggest, it ran just like any other awards ceremony.

As they were nominated, the attendees included two actors that had previously worked with Tangning: Lin Sheng and Bei Chendong. And because they were both super talented actors, they were regulars at the Fei Tian Awards.

Apart from these two men, An Zihao was also invited as a guest presenter.

So, apart from the ceremony itself, Tangning was most excited by the notion of catching up with old friends...

It didn't take long before Mo Ting's car pulled up at the head of the red carpet. Plenty of reporters recognized it, so their excitement immediately increased. In fact, some stood up and started snapping frantically at the car. At this time, Mo Ting first stepped out wearing a dark blue retro suit. Afterwards...

...Tangning appeared in front of everyone wearing a flowing white gown.

This was her first appearance in the public since the announcement of her pregnancy. The design of the white, deep-v-collared gown beautifully accentuated the curves of her body and the delicate light blue magnolia embroidered on the body of the gown, perfectly highlighted her air of elegance...

To ensure that Tangning wasn't cold, Mo Ting covered her in a beige shawl, displaying his responsibility as a personal manager. However, Mo Ting tried his best to avoid the cameras as he did this, making his actions natural and thoughtful. If it was someone else, their caring gesture may have appeared fake.

Tangning smiled. She had always been appreciative and thankful towards her man's thoughtfulness. After all, no one's kindness was ever a given and she was well aware of this.

"Tangning, look here..."

"Tangning, over here, over here..."

Tangning approached the signing wall under Mo Ting's protection as the media requested for photos. Her popularity at this moment was higher than any top actress or actor that was present...

The host stopped the couple in their track. He wasn't going to let this climactic moment go so easily. Above all, his questions were going to be more tricky than others, "Tangning, who do you think will win The Best Newcomer Award tonight? Don't say something too generic. Be honest with me."

Tangning had always been good with PR; everyone knew this. Plus she was famous for having a high EQ.

"If I answer you honestly, will I be exempt from answering your next question?" Tangning negotiated jokingly.

"Yes, but you must answer this question properly."

Tangning let out a gentle laugh as she turned to look at Mo Ting.

Mo Ting never worried about Tangning's responses, so he simply looked at her in seriousness without saying a word.

"If I was to say that I don't care if I win the award, that would be a lie. This is, after all, the best form of acknowledgment for an actor. But, if you were to ask me who I think would win, I don't think someone

that can't be considered a proper actor would be professional enough to give their opinion. So, I can only trust in the judges."

"I hope it is me, but if it isn't, then it simply means that I'm not as good as someone else. It's as simple as that."

"Indeed..." the host smiled. He was completely convinced by Tangning's ability to play Tai Chi around a question.

Her words sounded both honest and false. On the surface, it appeared like she had said a lot, but in reality, it was almost like she hadn't said anything at all.

Of course, the host did not put the pregnant lady in a difficult position. If something was to happen to her, he wouldn't be able to handle the repercussions.

So, after taking a few photos, Tangning was allowed into the venue of the awards ceremony. As she looked up at the big screen and saw the golden phoenix that represented the Fei Tian Awards, Tangning felt a little emotional.

"Don't be nervous," Mo Ting felt the sweat on Tangning's palms. So, he rubbed her hand between his comfortingly.

"If it's not me, what should I do?" Tangning asked. "I don't like it when things are beyond my control."

"Your competitors aren't weak. Would you feel embarrassed if you were to lose to them?" Mo Ting gestured to the empty seats next to her. "Both of us – especially you – have already done our best."

Tangning was aware that Mo Ting had already gotten rid of any outside factors that may pose an obstruction, so he had already done more than enough.

If he wanted to influence the internal operations of the awards, it wasn't impossible, but Mo Ting knew that she wouldn't want him to do that.

"In that case, let's wait patiently together for the result."

It didn't take long before the other actors piled into the venue. Of course, actors like Bei Chendong and Lin Sheng, naturally received the best seats in the house. Tangning clearly saw the distance between herself and them.

The host of the awards ceremony was a famous variety show MC, Gu Xingyun. He was cool and carefree and had a good reputation. This man practically owned every single hosting opportunity for the Fei Tian Awards. And after watching him for so many years, barely anyone found him annoying.

"Our attendees today are amazing..."

"Chendong brought along his little assistant, while Tangning brought along her personal manager; each person is outdoing the other. They are definitely doing well in both love and career; how admirable. More importantly, Tangning and President Mo are actually attending as a family of three!"

"Gu Ge, be careful what you say. What if it is actually a family of four?" the female host beside him smiled.

“Oh, if that’s the case, then that would be even more amazing! Our Tangning will need to try her best!”

“For the sake of her child, she decided to retreat from the industry. God will definitely protect her and have the best things planned for her.”

Gu Xingyun spoke with complete sincerity. This was why the public did not dislike him. His blessings always came straight from the heart.

“OK, let’s stop wasting time. I’m sure everyone can’t wait for the winners to be announced...”

Chapter 588: The Most Popular Award

“Firstly, let’s welcome the Oscar award winning screenwriter and national treasure, Mr. Chen Feng, to the stage to say a few words and present our first award.”

As the crowd erupted into an applause, an old man with a head full of hair and black-framed glasses appeared on the glittery stage. He stood behind the microphone, clasped his hands together and began speaking in a loud and confident voice.

“Too many generic words have been said, so I won’t say too much. I will simply mention one thing that has sparked my interest. The competition for this year’s Best Newcomer Award has been fierce, and the popularity of the award has surpassed all the other awards this year. This is the first time this has happened on the Fei Tian Awards stage.”

“So, I decided to watch the films of the women that were nominated: Yu Rong’s ‘Glory’, Dai Ziwen’s ‘Old Tribe’, Wang Siwen’s ‘Green-blooded Bullet’ and, of course, Tangning’s ‘W.H.’. I also watched the film featuring the eliminated Yang Xi...”

“After watching all of them, I personally have a favorite. Of course, I won’t mention any names just yet. I simply want to say that this particular film made me realize that there are still people out there willing to invest their entire soul into the acting profession.”

“So, I have a deep respect for this particular actress. Because her hard work is no less than those of us that have been in the industry our entire lives.”

“This is all I’m going to say. Following on, I will be announcing the winner of the 37th Annual Fei Tian Awards Best Supporting Actress. This will be the first award for the night. Every actor starts off as a supporting character and every director and screenwriter starts off as a rookie. I hope the winner of the Best Supporting Actress will some day become the Best Actress.”

“Could everyone please look to the screen for the final results!”

As soon as Chen Feng finished speaking, the screen behind him began naming the nominees. Of course, a spotlight lit up each of the women one at a time. After a few rotations, the spotlight finally stopped on one of the women as the name of the award recipient appeared on the big screen.

During this time, Tangning’s gaze happened to fall upon a certain person. A person that she had met once, but left a lasting impression.

Zhang Qingping.

This so-called 'President of the Film Association' and top grade actor and director, was currently sitting proudly, not too far from her.

Although the incident between them had happened quite some time ago, Han Yufan's mother and her husband, Director Zheng, had used this man to slander her in the past. At that time, Mo Ting had also said a few words to refute against him.

At that time, Mother Han had mentioned that this man was a judge for the Fei Tian Awards.

After such a long period of time, Tangning had already forgotten about this. But, the industry was small...

"What's wrong?" Mo Ting noticed something wasn't right.

Tangning pointed to the man with her chin and Mo Ting followed the direction of her gaze. As soon as he saw Zhang Qingping, he knew what she was thinking.

"I almost forgot that I had offended this man. If I had known..."

"It's fine," Tangning cut in. "You didn't do anything wrong. If he insists on involving personal grudges, then I'd rather not receive the award."

Mo Ting did not say anything. He simply ran his hand through Tangning's hair.

"Following on, please welcome our next guest presenter..."

According to the normal order of presentation, after the Best Supporting Actress was announced, the Best Newcomer Award was supposed to follow closely behind. After all, compared to the highly important awards at the end, The Best Newcomer Award did not hold much weight; it was simply a form of encouragement for rookies. Plus, winning a Best Newcomer Award did not guarantee that they would end up winning a Best Actress/Actor Award in the future. But, this year was a little different...

The organizers delayed the Best Newcomer Award towards the end...

All the guests sighed. It seemed, the Fei Tian Awards finally knew how to keep up with the times and play with gimmicks.

Of course, this proved that the competition for this year's Best Newcomer was fierce and was held in high esteem.

"Following on, we will be presenting the award for The Most Promising Director. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these young people for contributing to the film industry. It's because of you that the older generation feel deeply comforted and can see hope in the industry."

"The winner is...please look at the screen..."

"The director of 'W.H.', An Zihao."

An Zihao froze at the sound of his own name. He had not received any notification about this award and had simply shown up to be a guest presenter. He never expected to receive such a surprise.

The way that An Zihao was hurt by Cheng Tian and the way that he changed from being a manager to a director was all witnessed by Tangning. On top of that, his persistence during the filming of 'W.H.' was what encouraged Tangning and Bei Chendong to keep persevering.

So, seeing An Zihao receive an award, naturally made Tangning happy for her friend.

"Ting, Zihao received an award!" Tangning smiled. Mo Ting was surprised by this smile, because it had been a long time since he had seen such a simple and pure smile on her face.

She was simply happy because her friend had received an award.

"He will receive even more awards in the future," Mo Ting said as he watched An Zihao walk up onto the stage.

Tangning nodded her head before she listened intently to An Zihao's speech.

"I am very surprised," An Zihao began. "I never thought that I'd receive an award. 'W.H.' was my first film and a great start to my career as a director. As I stand up here, the first person I want to thank is Tangning."

"Thank you for not complaining and asking questions. For the sake of this film, she was willing to go to any lengths."

"She has always been a friend that I have truly respected."

"Secondly, I would like to thank Bei Chendong. Of course, I am referring to the fact that he participated in this film for free!"

"It was because of these two people that I truly understood how it felt to have a film come to life."

"As for my production team, they are all of the same heart. So, I won't go into too much detail about who else to thank. However, there is one more thing I would like to address."

"I hope that everyone can be nice to Tangning. She is truly a good person and extremely talented. But, I know she is constantly thrown into a storm and being hurt and attacked."

"Up here, I would like to declare that Tangning and I will forever be the best of friends! From today onwards, no matter what happens, I will be on her side!"

"So, Tangning..."

"Keep up the hard work!"

"Lastly, I know that everyone is waiting to see the winner of The Best Newcomer Award, so I won't take up any more of your precious time. I will now hand the stage back to the hosts." After speaking, An Zihao placed a kiss on his trophy.

Chapter 589: Unworthy Of The Name

The Best Newcomer Award!

How many people inside and outside of the venue were waiting for this award?

“Following on, we will be presenting the winners of the Best Newcomer Award. Please welcome our guests: the president of the film association and one of the nation’s best directors, Mr Zhang Qingping; as well as the honorary chairwoman of Times Media, Ms Rong Xiuhua; to the stage.”

As the crowd erupted in an applause and watched the two important personalities appear on the stage, there was a deeper meaning to quite a few people’s smiles. No matter how popular this award was, they couldn’t lose sight of the bigger picture. They couldn’t allow the most important Best Actress/Actor awards to be overshadowed by the Best Newcomer Award.

“Mr Zhang is a much respected senior in the industry...” Rong Xiuhua clapped her hands.

“And Ms Rong has produced a lot of miracles in the film industry,” the old man smiled. “But, the film industry now is definitely a lot different to how it was back in our time.”

“Why would you say that?”

“Real actors are becoming scarce, whereas those that only know how to flirt and suck up are increasing. Storytellers are dying out, whereas those that deceive the audience are growing in numbers. Cheap graphics are everywhere, but ticket sales are still through the roof. I am struggling to understand the way that this generation judges quality. Perhaps I am getting old...” the old man laughed in self-ridicule.

“Let’s take this Best Newcomer Award for example. Although newcomers deserve encouragement, shouldn’t the public’s attention be focused on those that have spent a lifetime dedicated to acting?”

“I am especially disgusted by those that decide to become an actor just because they can’t survive in their own industry. Acting is indeed a money-making profession, but people like this, end up skewing the public’s judgment and is not healthy for the development of the industry.”

“You are indeed a straightforward senior...” Rong Xiuhua said awkwardly.

His words were much too obvious and direct.

All that was missing was for him to mention Tangning’s name!

He was from the previous generation and had achieved a lot, but he was arrogant and ignored the current market trends, even though Tangning was practically aloof from the world like a monk.

“I won’t say any more, we should focus on presenting the award. Over the years, the awards that have been handed over from my hands has never been this cheap,” Zhang Qingping spoke without showing any mercy and naturally attracted a lot of hatred...

“The winner of the 37th Annual Fei Tian Award for The Best Newcomer is...”

The spotlight suddenly alternated between Tangning and the other nominees as everyone held their breaths and stared intently at the image on the screen.

Tangning felt unusually nervous so she began to hold nervously to Mo Ting’s hand.

Mo Ting’s heart ached as he looked at the nervous expression on her face. He subconsciously held onto her hand and rubbed it comfortingly.

“...Tangning from ‘W.H.’!”

Seeing this result, everyone was overcome with complex emotions. The result seemed both expected, yet also surprising.

Tangning also felt quite complex. She knew that to outsiders, she didn't seem to deserve this award. Otherwise, Zhang Qingping would not have said what he did.

And it was because of this that everyone watched in deep thought as Tangning stood up from her seat. Of course, as her husband, Mo Ting also stood up, held onto her hand and headed to the stage with her.

Zhang Qingping was unwilling to present the award to Tangning, so the entire process was handled by Rong Xiuhua. Tangning got what she wished for and finally held the golden phoenix trophy in her hands. But...

"Tangning, could you please share with us your thoughts?"

Hearing the host's invite, Tangning walked up to the microphone, scanned the audience and began speaking in a loud and clear voice, "Firstly, I have a few words I would like to say to Mr. Zhang Qingping." Tangning turned to the side and placed the golden phoenix trophy on the floor.

"If Mr. Zhang's opinion is representative of the entire older generation, then I can only say that it is a shame."

"The seniors of the film industry are indeed the founders and creators of the industry, but they should not represent arrogance and prejudice."

"Each generation leaves its own mark. Perhaps in Mr. Zhang's eyes I am not worthy, but, to the generation before you, were you viewed as perfect?"

"You..."

"I indeed changed from a model to an actress. But, firstly, I do not lack money, and secondly, I have put in the same amount of effort as everyone else, including the great actors that you speak of. In your eyes, can effort and sacrifice be separated into distinct categories?"

"For example, if a painter suddenly becomes an engineer, are they being disloyal to the arts and architecture industry?"

"I'm sorry, but it is our freedom of choice."

"You have indeed made a lot of contributions to the film industry, no one can ever replace that, but...Mr. Zhang, you must admit that you are getting old and times are changing. We need to keep up with trends. The current generation loves to look at things objectively. If the film industry has failed to be objective, I'm sure they would have been destroyed by the public already. Did you think it would be as prosperous as it is today?"

"Do you think that the younger generation is all wrong and you are the only one that is right?"

"Plus, we are indeed newcomers, the most lowly of creatures in your eyes. But hasn't everyone seated here today, including yourself, been a newcomer some time in their lives? Haven't they struggled their way up from nothing? By looking down on us, you are merely denying your past..."

Everyone was shocked by Tangning's words.

Of course, they were shocked that Tangning dared to be straightforward. But, they were cheering on the inside over what she had said.

This was the perfect way to deal with old men that looked down on newcomers.

Zhang Qingping wanted to argue back, but, as the words reached his lips, nothing came out. He could only glare at Tangning as the veins in his forehead began to show.

"As a senior of the industry, you aren't encouraging nor helpful to your juniors. You've already lost your dignity. Especially since you slandered a junior in front of everyone."

"Even a primary school student would not be taught in this way. Don't you think?"

In other words, she was saying that he was worse than a primary school student.

With these words, time seemed to have frozen. But, a few seconds later, the venue erupted in an applause.

Tangning had spoken exactly what everyone thought.

Chapter 590: Surprise Everyone

Seeing Zhang Qingping breathe out angrily as he left the stage, Tangning once again turned to face the audience.

"I placed this award beside my feet because I know a lot of people think that I don't deserve it."

"I'm sorry, but I Tangning, will only accept an award if everyone believes I am worthy of it."

"I know I attracted a lot of news, but I will always remember that I am an actress. Even when filming, I will always be serious."

"Today, I'm going to give the hosts a chance to challenge me. You can set the conditions and I'll perform in front of everyone. If everyone feels that my acting isn't up to standard, I can immediately give up on this award and never act again..."

Everyone was shocked by Tangning's words...

Tangning was going to act in front of everyone?

Didn't she know where she was currently standing?

The best of the best in the industry was right there. Wasn't she afraid of embarrassing herself? Why would she make such a big gamble...?

Why would she give up on the award?

Of course, there were plenty of people that were impressed by Tangning's bravery. If they were in her position, they wouldn't care what the judges thought. After all, the award was already in their hands

and this was their glory. Which person in their right mind would toss it away? Yet, Tangning was exactly this person.

This part of the ceremony wasn't part of the rehearsals nor was it preplanned.

But, seeing Tangning like this, the hosts were more than willing to give her an opportunity to prove herself. After all, she had fought her way here and struggled through many obstacles. So, they were willing to believe in a young person's persistence and abilities.

"In that case, have you watched the film 'Insanity' 1?"

This Oscar Award winning motion picture was a benchmark in the crime category.

And the female protagonist, Allie, was a very famous character.

Allie was a multiple personality patient who had been held hostage by the male lead. As she tried to negotiate with him, she slowly became his therapist. But, the most spectacular part of the film was the fact that Allie had a second personality hidden inside her: she was a psycho that was even more terrifying than the male lead. While her first personality tried to redeem the male lead, her second personality helped him commit murders. Allie suspected that the male lead had an accomplice and one of the most famous scenes was when – after a series of investigations – she discovered the accomplice was herself...

"Yes, I've watched it," Tangning nodded her head as she remembered the film.

Not only had she watched it, during the time that she filmed 'W.H.' she even pretended to be Allie, just so she could get a better understanding of Bei Chendong's psychotic character.

"Then, do you remember the scene when Allie woke up after her second personality had killed someone and tried frantically to find the killer?"

"Of course," Tangning nodded her head.

This film was much too famous. At the time of filming, the actress that played Allie, Baiansy, actually ended up with multiple personality disorder in real life. To this day, she was still being treated at the psychiatric hospital.

Most of the people present had watched this film before and had a deep impression of the scene that Gu Xingyun had mentioned. But, could Tangning really pull it off?

This was an impossible task. It was too difficult...

Even Baiansy had gone insane!

It was clear to see how consumed in the character she was at the time.

Could Tangning...

...really do it?

The scene took place in an underground garage with steam vents. Allie was sitting inside a car with a driver who was having a nap.

When the male driver awoke, he wanted to have his way with Allie, but he ended up being hit in the head and fell unconscious. At this time, Allie's second personality was awoken and directly slashed him to pieces skillfully without being stained by a single drop of blood.

Allie's first personality woke up to find that the garage roller door was open and a corpse lay beside her. She frantically tried to find the killer. But, when she went to investigate the surveillance footage, she realized that no one had entered the garage during that time...

She began to realize what was going on.

So, she ended up returning to the corpse to search for clues.

The scene that Tangning would need to act out, would be the scene when she checked the surveillance footage.

There were no props and no help. Just an empty awards stage.

Tangning started off with her head down like she was deep in thought. Then...she suddenly lifted it and shocked everyone.

The look in her eyes...

It seemed she had discovered something, but at the same time she appeared terrified as if a demon was standing behind her with an axe. The expression that sent chills down one's spine gave an immediate effect without the need for any words.

Everyone was drawn into the scene by the look in her eyes. It was almost like they were right there on the set of 'Insanity'.

Afterwards, Tangning suddenly turned around like she had thought of something. With her back facing the audience, she started walking away. But then, she suddenly turned back around and tugged at her hair like she was amused by the theory she had in her head. There couldn't possibly be demons right? However, a few moments later, her expression darkened. The expression made one shudder...

Not a single person had stepped foot into the underground garage, so she suspected that something supernatural had happened and a demon of some sort must have appeared to cause this murder. But, a moment later, she started to think about why her arms felt a little sore and why there was dark fabric between her fingernails.

She frantically returned to the garage and searched the body of the corpse. Finally, she discovered a pair of black gloves. She was so frightened that she immediately let out a scream and threw the gloves as far as she could.

Afterwards...

Tangning stood up calmly. As she was pregnant, she couldn't do any more complex movements, so she could only stop there.

But, the audience was disappointed that the performance had stopped...

Everyone wanted to see what was to happen next, but the act had ended.

That's right, it ended!

Even though this was a classic film that already had a stunning performance, it didn't mean that there wasn't other ways of expressing the scenes.

Tangning had added a lot of her own elements and interpretation on top of Baiansy's performance because she believed that it would bring Allie to life even more and complete the character in a way that was closer to reality.

The scene of the awards ceremony fell into silence for quite some time before the audience finally erupted in an applause.

At this moment, Tangning looked down at the audience, then at the hosts and finally at Zhang Qingping. She then picked up her golden phoenix trophy and raised it above her head before she left the stage under Mo Ting's protection.

Her faceslap was much too ruthless and fierce.

Tangning had never been afraid of proving her abilities because she believed in herself.

She performed a classic scene live on stage. In fact, she surpassed the original performance. She used her actions to prove to everyone that she deserved the award!

Would anyone still doubt her?

Only if they could prove that they could do better than her.

But, who had the confidence to do so?