

All R. Artist 551

Chapter 551:

No matter how many seasons of “The Masked Singer” continued after, people would never forget the stunning moment when Maestro Junior Xian Yu first revealed his face.

It was as if the eyes of the entire world were locked onto that youthful figure!

Scrolling on!

The program crew frantically captured everyone’s reactions with their cameras.

But almost everyone was stunned, with no two reactions being quite the same!

The sprite was stunned!

The white swan was stunned!

The robot was stunned!

The kings and queens of singing were all stunned!

“We were actually competing against Xian Yu ...”

“Xian Yu beat us using his identity as a singer, shouldn’t he be sitting on the judge’s seat ...”

“And he’s so young ... About the same age as my son ...”

“No wonder Xian Yu always writes songs for the Prince of Lanling, so he is the authentic Envious Fish ...”

“A judge-level figure is competing with us?”

“.....”

Among the kings and queens of singing.

Fei Yang seemed to have lost his ability to think, just gazing blankly at Xian Yu.

This was the person who had put him in the perennial runner-up seat.

This was the person who made him always lose to “Fish”.

He once said he didn’t want to be critiqued by Xian Yu on this program.

But in fact, Xian Yu had already critiqued him, he just didn’t know it ...

So it turns out this round of being runner-up was arranged by Xian Yu.

And it was as a singer that he once again proved his superiority, in the most convincing manner!

He couldn’t help but laugh bitterly.

If there really is a Yu Dynasty, then at this moment the audience would have become the subjects of this dynasty.

But some changes are actually developing from the details.

Don’t forget the story behind the program.

Just before the Prince of Lanling was about to reveal his face, many dissatisfied people had already formed a massive troop.

However.

This was clearly not a well-ordered army.

Because their charges had already scattered before they began.

The event occurred in an instant, at the moment when Xian Yu revealed his identity—

A complete silence fell over the multitude of critics!

A terrifying barrage of comments that was enough to trigger some people's agoraphobia!

At that moment, the ton of "Fish Papa" labels could scare all other singer's fans to pale!

"Retreat!"

"Retreat quickly!"

Fans of singers who had been attacked by Xian Yu were suddenly urgently messaging all group members.

Even the most aggressive keyboard warriors could only smash their keyboards into pieces at this time; a sea of fire lay ahead.

"Fuck it!"

"We must all kneel!"

"Why is it him!"

"I actually followed you idiots and insulted Fish Papa, shit shit shit shit shit, what the hell is Mu Shi, I am a die-hard fan of Fish Papa, I don't want to stay in this shitty group!"

A singers' fan group.

A large-scale heat of exit.

The atmosphere was abnormal at this moment in Yuan Xi's fan group.

Even the administrators who had previously been the most active, organizing attacks on blogs and forums of various tribes, were stunned.

What did this mean ...

The inner core of the administrators knew it well.

The rebellion of Yuan Xi's fans, actually had more or less the tacit instigation of Yuan Xi himself. Including Yuan Xi's manager who had appeared in the group more than once, otherwise, Yuan Xi's fans wouldn't be so heated.

The reason was simple.

Yuan Xi wanted to use the Prince of Lanling to hype up his popularity.

The Prince of Lanling attracted too many people during the competition. If Yuan Xi were to defeat him, it could terrifyingly increase his popularity.

This was quite normal.

Many stars liked to play this hype-up strategy, the Prince of Lanling just gave away the ladder, and Yuan Xi was only to climb up along the pole.

But with things having progressed to this point, the backlash was also most frightening!

Just because he is Xian Yu ...

So Yuan Xi was doomed to fail.

The group was still exploding, already a boiling mess.

“Boss, are we still going to charge, charge Xian Yu’s tribe or Xian Yu’s blog, Xian Yu doesn’t seem to be on the blog, he usually plays more in tribes, I suggest we just push over.”

“Push your sister!”

“Are you nuts!”

“Don’t you know who Xian Yu is?”

“I feel so sorry for Fish Papa.”

“Although I also like Yuan Xi a lot, I have many idols, but there can only be one god, sorry you guys play, I’ll go and apologize to Fish Papa, also, I am now anti-Yuan Xi!”

“...”

Here too, there’s a mass exodus from the group.

Yuan Xi’s die-hard fans, his staunch supporters, at this moment dare not let out a peep.

It’s as if a pack of wolves has turned into a bunch of huskies, sticking out their little tongues in innocence, their eyes portraying as much innocence as possible.

We have no intention of disrupting Fish Papa!

You guys misunderstood!

...

The online world is going entirely crazy!

People are laughing!

Why is it that these fans of the singers aren't making a peep?

What happened to the promised army of thousands, to the vaunted prehistoric monsters?

Did all the horses die?!

Did the monster's teeth all shatter?!

Didn't you guys say that Prince of Lanling, this champion isn't up to mark?

Didn't you guys claim that Prince of Lanling only topped because of Envious Fish's songs?

My apologies.

Prince of Lanling is Envious Fish!

All the songs he's singing are his own!

Correct.

When the fans of Yuan Xi and other singers prepared to attack Envious Fish, they were shocked when Envious Fish's real identity was revealed, resulting in the collective retreat.

It made a lot of people's scalp tingle!

The trend has already been set!

The public refreshed real-time topics at a much faster pace than one could imagine:

#Prince_of_Lanling_is_Envious_Fish#

#Envious_Fish_Unveiled#

#Prince_of_Lanling_Unmasked#

#Envious_Fish_Revealed#

Blogs followed suit quickly, almost without any changes, as if the two sides were copying each other's hot topics.

.....

Meanwhile.

Qin Arts alumni group exploded!

“Did you see The Masked Singer? Envious Fish is from our school!”

“OMG, I know him, the music department's hunk, my senior is Authentic Envious Fish!”

“Please, he's the campus hunk, just low profile, so many people don't know there's this handsome guy in the music department, it was because of a friend that I found out about him!”

“Oh my, it's our music department senior!”

“I've seen him too! I love you, senior, crazy in love!”

“How did I not notice this hunk in our school before, if I had known he was Envious Fish, I would have served him food and drinks every day!”

.....

The same reaction is happening in Lin Yuan's class group.

The group is abuzz—

“Lin Yuan is Envious Fish!!”

“I saw him unmask, I thought I was mistaken!”

“My God!”

“I can't believe I only found out when I was a senior!”

“Lin Yuan is really low key!”

“Call him Fish Papa!”

“No wonder Ye Han saw Lin Yuan at Starlight that day!”

“Because Lin Yuan is Envious Fish, of course, he was at Starlight!”

“Never would have imagined, I was actually classmates with Envious Fish, we even lived in the same dorm!”

“I was even his deskmate!”

“Next time I see him I need an autograph aaaaah!”

“.....”

The group is all @Lin Yuan.

There are also quite a few @Ye Han.

Ye Han finally appears: “Let me breathe, this is too shocking, I need some time to process.....”

Yes.

Let’s take it slow.

Didn’t I just invite Fish Papa out for dinner recently?

Even though I was rejected.....

What’s this?

There’s a hidden gem right beside me?

Chapter 552: Concluding

A great master was beside me all along!

This wasn’t just the thought of Qin Art and Lin Yuan’s classmates!

Inside the Shadow Studio.

Luo Wei and the studio’s assistants, being loyal viewers of the show, of course didn’t miss the revelation of Prince of Lanling.

Then they were stunned!

“Isn’t this Teacher Shadow?”

“Teacher Shadow is Admirable Fish?”

“My goodness!”

“Shadow Chu Kuang Admirable Fish, isn’t actually three people, but two!”

“...”

Teacher Shadow doesn’t only draw!

But also composes music!

And he can sing!

What does this signify?

They were speechless!

In fact, the most shocked was the Shadow Studio, because other people only saw that the Prince of Lanling was Admirable Fish, but they knew more facts and truths:

Prince of Lanling isn’t merely Maestro Junior Admirable Fish!

But also the peak artistic talent, Teacher Shadow!

This identity!

Is still unknown to the outside world!

Luo Wei subconsciously looked at Jin Mu on the couch, who had a mysterious smile on his face and yelled, “Uncle Jin, you knew all along!”

“Yes, I’ve known for a long time.”

Jin Mu knew it was his turn to step in: “But Teacher Shadow’s identity still needs to be kept secret, I have added a temporary confidentiality contract for everyone. Please sign it later. Of course, there are benefits. From now on everyone’s monthly salary will increase by 2,000 yuan. This is the benefit I fought for you.”

“Long live Uncle Jin!”

Everyone immediately got excited.

The fact that the Prince of Lanling is Admirable Fish and also Shadow is just a piece of gossip for the people in the studio, it’s a long way from their real lives. But this secrecy benefit is very real!

“I would sign without getting extra cash!”

One of the assistants declared with excitement, “I’m a die-hard fan of teacher Admirable Fish, I downloaded all of his songs in my playlist, I’m willing to keep Teacher Shadow’s secret, I’m willing to work for Teacher Shadow...”

The rest glared at the assistant.

The assistant sheepishly closed his mouth.

Seeing this, Jin Mu couldn’t close his mouth due to laughter, it seemed that keeping a secret wouldn’t be difficult.

Luo Wei on the side took a deep breath, trying to calm her astonished feelings.

She suddenly remembered, Teacher Shadow once said that although she was his student, she is not his elder sister.

Now it seems that this might be because Teacher Admirable Fish has some student’s rights?

Speaking of painting, she should still be the elder sister!

She suddenly began giggling.

This master of hers, he's simply horrifying!

After laughing for a bit, Luo Wei's gaze shifted towards the TV screen in the studio.

At this moment.

The live broadcast hadn't ended yet.

With the unveiling of Admirable Fish, the venue had been boiling for a long time.

And the crew didn't purposely control the atmosphere.

Even the director of the program, Tong Shuwen, who was behind the scene was grinning from ear to ear.

Finally unveiled!

Not only was everyone else anticipating this moment!

Tong Shuwen, who knew the true identity of the Prince of Lanling, had been waiting for this moment countless times!

He had been holding it in for several months and finally didn't have to hold it any longer!

It was so hard!

And next to him.

The deputy director and other crew members were already stunned!

All these looks gave Tong Shuwen an indescribable sense of joy.

So satisfying!

It was only when everyone's emotions had calmed down a bit, host Anhong walked onto the stage again.

At this moment.

Sun Yaohuo and the others had already returned to their seats.

The stage only had Anhong and Lin Yuan.

...

The venue got quiet.

Everyone at the moment was looking forward to what Teacher Admirable Fish would say next!

The host Anhong naturally understood the audience's anticipation!

He forced a smile, "Teacher Admirable Fish, it's actually you. How did you come up with the idea of participating as a singer, the program originally invited you to be a judge..."

Lin Yuan replied, "I have always been a singer."

He didn't feign modesty, yet he wasn't deliberately cold, he was just in his usual state.

The feeling of unease brought on by the camera had completely disappeared without him noticing.

He could now comfortably be himself.

“By saying you have always been a singer, you mean...”

“When I first signed with Starlight, I was preparing to debut as a singer, but due to health issues...”

Lin Yuan hesitated for a moment, not disclosing the specifics of his sickness, but he didn’t realize his hesitation left enough space for the audience’s imagination and exploration.

He continued:

“The deterioration of my health led to problems with my voice, the doctor said I would never be able to sing again, so I became a composer, and transferred to the composition department in my second year of university.”

Pfft!

Everyone was stunned!

Admirable Fish became a composer just because he couldn’t sing anymore. He had never planned to study composition-

Is he some sort of deity?!

A novice composer like you became the little Maestro in the world of composition?!

Is this genius?

No, this is wicked genius!

Host Anhong was also taken aback, he muttered, “So your switch to composing was just out of necessity, but you achieved such great success, now...”

“My health is recovering, so my voice is back.”

Lin Yuan didn't explain too much, he just briefly mention why he joined the competition, "I just happened to catch this talent show, and I wanted to fulfill my dream of being a singer."

"So..."

Host Anhong said with emotion, "There was never any Admirable Fish writing songs for Prince of Lanling, all the songs you sang in the show...you composed them yourself!"

"No."

Lin Yuan had to acknowledge that the songs provided by the system were his own creation, but he had to single out one song: "I also sang Teacher Yang Zhongming's 'Leaving' to pay tribute to him. He's like a teacher to me..."

The camera focused on Yang Zhongming's face.

Yang Zhongming smiled at Lin Yuan, his eyes were unusually gentle, especially when he heard Lin Yuan saying he considered him as his teacher, the corners of his mouth curved upward, barely concealing his smile.

What a kid.

Despite the fact that he had never taught him anything...

In front of the screen.

The barrage of comments kept at a high pace:

"I can handle this!!"

"What's with the way Father Yang looks at Admirable Fish? It's doting, it's full of love!"

"I finally understand why Teacher Yang Zhongming always seemed to be defending Admirable Fish in the show. He must have recognized Teacher Admirable Fish long ago!"

“Is this the legendary Father-Son Protection Pact?”

“I’m drunk with that look!”

“Expert Auntie Smile Detected.”

“....”

The live audience also broke into Auntie Smiles.

Yang Zhongming’s look at Lin Yuan was too affectionate!

Host Anhong looked at Teacher Yang Zhongming: “It seems that Teacher Yang Zhongming knew about it all along...”

“No.”

Yang Zhongming thought about it and said, “The first time, I felt a strange familiarity from him, but I didn’t think much about it until the second time when he started playing the piano. That’s when I suspected, because I know how good Admirable Fish is at the piano. After the third performance, I immediately went back to the company and pulled out the audition tape from when Admirable Fish first joined the company. His voice was identical to one of the voices of Prince of Lanling, and that’s when I confirmed it.”

Lin Yuan: “....”

So, they had pulled out the video of my initial audition at the company. With Yang Zhongming’s keen ears for voices, he indeed could confirm my identity.

“You kept me in the dark about this!”

Zheng Jing on the side was unhappy. Then she sighed with a reluctant smile, “Admirable Fish is our golden boy at Starlight. I may not spend much time with him, but he has a charm that makes you fall in love at first sight.”

Host Anhong chuckled, “Because he’s handsome.”

Zheng Jing laughed, and the audience both on and off the screen also laughed along.

“The award presentation is supposed to be done by our host, but how about we let Teacher Yang Zhongming present the award?”

Host Anhong knows how to build the atmosphere.

The arena immediately erupted in cheers:

“Yang Zhongming!”

Of course, Yang Zhongming wouldn’t refuse.

Amidst the music, he presented the trophy for the first season of ‘The Masked Singer’ to Lin Yuan.

The background music was the song ‘Laughing in the Vast Sea’, which Lin Yuan sung in the third round of the competition.

The first time they heard the song, nobody knew the identity of Prince of Lanling.

Now, when they hear the song again, everyone had a different feel for it.

In fact.

Revisiting all of Prince of Lanling’s performances on this stage and combining it with Admirable Fish’s basic introduction of himself gave everyone a subtle feeling. Many have decided to go back and watch every round of Prince of Lanling’s performances.

“Zheng Jing.”

Yang Zhongming looked at Zheng Jing, her eyes seemed pretty jealous, so he invited:

“Want to sing together?”

Everyone knew this song by now.

Without any hesitation, Zheng Jing dashed up to the stage, then suddenly turned around and dragged Yin Dong and Ye Zhi Qiu up as well.

And thus.

The scene turned into a grand chorus by Lin Yuan, Yang Zhongming, Zheng Jing, Yin Dong and Ye Zhi Qiu, all iconic figures in the music industry.

“Laughter over the vast sea

Waves crashing on either shore

Remember this moment with the ebb and flow

Under a smiling sky, the world is but a show

Who will lose, who will win, the heavens know...”

The first season of ‘The Masked Singer’ came to end amidst the chorus of ‘Laughing in the Vast Sea’ by Lin Yuan and the four Maestros.

By the end of the song.

Everyone was laughing heartily, joyously.

At this moment.

At Starlight Entertainment.

The same song rang out, everyone in the company, including the high-level executives, was watching the show and witnessed Admirable Fish's unmasking....

Chapter 553:

Starlight Entertainment.

The meeting room was very silent.

Everyone was staring at the big screen.

The faces of the company's top executives were full of suppressed excitement.

Even those who are usually able to hide their emotions couldn't stay calm when Admirable Fish unveiled himself.

Even Li Songhua, the chairman, couldn't hide his unrest at this moment!

Prince of Lanling, Admirable Fish!

Who would have guessed!

This little Maestro, behind the company's back, had created such big news!

He finally revealed his face!

In the most shocking way!

At this moment.

A senior executive said with a trembling voice: “Admirable Fish’s value is now immeasurable. The revealing of his identity has caused the company’s stock to skyrocket. It’s like we’re in a frenzy of stock price increases...”

Thunderous.

The silence was broken.

A high-level executive coughed: “Isn’t Admirable Fish’s office a little small?”

“Indeed.”

“We need to improve Admirable Fish’s treatment.”

“From now on, whatever Admirable Fish requests, don’t even bother reporting it, just satisfy him straight away.”

“Let him do whatever he likes.”

“As long as he doesn’t break the company, let him do whatever he wants. He’s just a kid.”

“Don’t we have to indulge a child however he behaves?”

“But now, other entertainment companies must be green with envy. We must do something about it...”

“Our Starlight Crown Prince, is not for outsiders to meddle.”

“...”

The phrase ‘Starlight Crown Prince’ is often used in a teasing manner by the company’s employees, but never uttered by the execs.

This was the first time.

But everyone, in this very moment, nodded in agreement.

Indeed!

He is our company's Crown Prince!

Ours!

Starlight's!

Anyone looking to meddle, break their fingers!

No one would dare to underestimate the determination of the Starlight execs at this moment.

For Admirable Fish, they would wage a war against any company!

"I am considering inviting Admirable Fish to hold some shares in the company. We can discuss the specific shareholding ratio later."

Li Songhua's words, spoken while tapping his fingers on the table, suddenly silenced the conference room again.

"I agree, let's hold another meeting to discuss that later."

Finally, a senior executive with real power nodded seriously, his gaze fixated on the grand conclusion celebration image on the program.

There on the stage, Admirable Fish was shining brightly.

"I have no objections."

“Agreed.”

“Let’s do it.”

The other executives nodded in agreement after a slight pause, acknowledging Admirable Fish’s worth.

“Oh right...”

“What about Yuan Xi...”

A high-level executive angrily interrupted: “Not just Yuan Xi.”

Someone couldn’t hold back anymore and wanted to take action.

Didn’t know Prince of Lanling was Admirable Fish, you can slander him freely.

But after knowing Prince of Lanling is Admirable Fish, taking everything into consideration, Starlight is furious!

“No need.”

Li Songhua spoke again: “You’ve all been paying attention to Admirable Fish, you should know his character, these fans who are ignorant are not at fault, they will know what to do next. As for Yuan Xi...”

Li Songhua paused, and said with a complicated tone: “Is there really a need for us to take action?”

Everyone was taken aback for a moment and then laughed.

Admirable Fish’s influence has risen to another level with the stage of The Masked Singer, there’s no need for Starlight to punish anyone under these circumstances.

Li Songhua said nothing.

In fact, given Admirable Fish's personality, he probably wouldn't hold a grudge against Yuan Xi, he may even forget about it.

Li Songhua has privately concluded this from studying Admirable Fish's character countless times.

The truth is, this matter has nothing to do with Admirable Fish anymore.

Some insiders decided to stir up some trouble on their own.

That's the entertainment industry for you.

How big a mistake did Yuan Xi make?

It was nothing more than tacitly allowing, or even inciting fans, while secretly using small means not making it to the table, in order to climb on top of Prince of Lanling.

This is a common "backstabbing" behavior in the entertainment industry.

Many celebrities have done similar things, what's a little backstabbing?

There have even been cases where the other party was slandered until their career was ruined, and they could no longer show their face in public.

Starlight doesn't take action, in order to protect Admirable Fish, and not to leave the impression in the industry that Admirable Fish is too domineering.

But Starlight is not an old good person who returns gratitude with resentment.

The precondition to this matter is that someone will take action for Admirable Fish, for Starlight.

While Li Songhua has been able to steadily control Blue Star, a top music company for many years, secretly his teeth have been poisoned.

...

The show had already come to an end.

The audience left the stage, reluctant to part.

Lin Yuan went backstage, and on seeing Tongtong gazing at him absentmindedly, he couldn't help but laugh:

"Thank you."

Tongtong had been defending the Prince of Lanling during the competition. Lin Yuan was vaguely aware of that.

"You are..."

Suddenly, Tongtong pulled out a small notebook. "Can you give me your autograph?"

"Sure."

Lin Yuan penned his name for her in standard script – two graceful characters spelling out "Admirable Fish."

"Thank you!"

Tongtong was overjoyed.

Knowing the real identity of the Prince of Lanling, Tongtong was profoundly shocked!

Now it all made sense.

She completely understood!

Why the Prince of Lanling dared to critique other singers without hesitation, why the Prince of Lanling never cared about the uproar from the fans...

Because he was Admirable Fish!

Whatever he said was golden words of wisdom. If he wanted, he could sit in the judges' seat.

Around the corner...

Sun Yaohuo and Xia Fan, among others, emerged out of nowhere, excitedly calling:

“Junior Brother!”

“Lin Yuan!”

“Teacher Admirable Fish!”

All sorts of things were being shouted.

Lin Yuan looked at the singers he was most familiar with, chuckled and said: “We’ve embraced enough already. Go and have some well-deserved rest. I will get in touch with all of you later.”

“Okay!”

People like Sun Yaohuo instantly nodded.

Zhao Ying Ge’s eyes widened, feeling faint from the sudden onslaught of happiness...

“Them!”

Not “you”!

“You all,” including herself!

Alright then.

Zhao Ying Ge was aware of it.

She knew, in terms of closeness, her relationship with Admirable Fish didn’t match that of Sun Yaohuo and others. But this competition made her stand out in Admirable Fish’s eyes!

What competition...

What top twelve...

None of these could compare to the last sentence from Admirable Fish!

From now on, she was truly going to belong to the Fish family!

“Not bad.”

Xia Fan stepped forward and patted Lin Yuan’s arm.

As childhood friends, she knew much more than others did, like the matter of Lin Yuan’s damaged vocal cords and his poor health since he was little...

Now that Admirable Fish’s voice had recovered, she was too happy for words!

“By the way.”

Xia Fan suddenly said, “Jian Yi was cursing at you in the group chat just now.”

“Cursing me for what?”

“For being an emotionless liar.”

Lin Yuan: “...”

He glanced at his phone’s group chat. Sure enough, Jian Yi was raving mad in there.

“And also...”

Xia Fan said with a strange expression on her face, “A few singers just apologized to you online, and some are here right now, wanting to come over and apologize to you in person...”

Lin Yuan was taken aback.

Only then did he see not far away, singers like Elf and Mu Shi were standing in a line, looking eagerly at him, like a bunch of guilty school children.

Lin Yuan could only helplessly walk over to comfort them.

He didn’t think the issue was severe enough to warrant an apology.

Seeing Lin Yuan’s reaction, Xia Fan knew:

Her friend still didn’t fully grasp what the two characters “Admirable Fish” meant for the music scene of today.

Especially...

After this unmasking.

A little while later, the White Swan Robot and some others also came backstage to find Lin Yuan, with one goal:

To add him as a friend!

Of course, Lin Yuan also satisfied this group of people.

Once backstage business was done, he finally managed to extricate himself.

“Finally, it’s over.”

Sitting in Gu Dong’s car on his way home, Lin Yuan finally let out a sigh of relief, commenting how navigating the suddenly transforming social interactions backstage due to the unmasking was even more exhausting than a singing duel.

Is it over?

It might not be

Lil Goodoong chuckled secretly. This competition had dealt tons of hard blows to countless people.

Once again, the same statement-

Lin Yuan somewhat underestimated the impact of “Admirable Fish”.

Chapter 554: The Extraordinary Road

Online.

The discussion about the Prince of Lanling being Xian Yu didn’t stop with the end of the show.

On the contrary, it intensified.

Especially...

As those singers previously criticized by the Prince of Lanling began to publicly apologize on various platforms one after another:

“I accept Teacher Admirable Fish’s criticism, @AdmirableFish, I’ve learned a lot!”

“@Teacher Admirable Fish’s critique has given me the motivation to move forward!”

“Thank you, Teacher Admirable Fish, your review made me realize my deficiencies @AdmirableFish.”

“@AdmirableFish thanks for guiding my path!”

“No more talking, I am going to practice breathing techniques @AdmirableFish, (cheer up) (work hard)”

“@AdmirableFish, I feel guilty about my fans attacking Teacher Admirable Fish. I will control myself strictly in the future, give my fans a good lead, and humbly accept Teacher Admirable Fish’s criticism (love)”

“...”

Whoosh!

Everyone apologized!

Even some singers who had apologized to Lin Yuan backstage after the show now remembered to self-criticize publicly again.

Netizens are overjoyed!

Wow!

So many people at once...

No, no.

So many first-line singers, even King and Queen level singers are apologizing at the same time?

How spectacular!

All these people are big shots ah!

Any one of them is a big star!

Maybe just this once, the closely followed entertainment circle will never see the same scene again in the future!

Because no big name in the music industry would be foolish enough to offend Maestro—

Unless that Maestro wears a mask!

But who else beside the freakish Xian Yu, can sing and compose like he does?

On a forum.

Amusing netizen posts like: “Let me translate all the apologies from these big shots: Daddy Admirable Fish, I was wrong. Please, Daddy, spare me. It was all the fans’ fault, I’ll go back and discipline them!”

Countless people laughed out loud.

It really was a shocking turn of events!

The tongue-lashing from the Prince of Lanling, at this moment, actually became a guidance.

Although some of the jesting was meant as a joke, it indeed effectively dispelled any hostility.

Even if Xian Yu is Maestro, he wouldn't actually make enemies with everyone, and everyone didn't relentlessly criticize these singers.

Moreover, they didn't really say anything wrong.

Even Xian Yu didn't mention this kind of thing on stage or offline.

Compared to that.

What everyone discussed the most were the songs sung by Xian Yu.

"I just listened to again, and damn, it's solid gold. That scene where Fish Papa, wearing the demonic mask of the Prince of Lanling, was incredibly handsome!"

"I listened to again, didn't feel much at the time, but now I think it's good."

"Hahahaha, so true. Because Xian Yu sung it, you felt that you were capable too?"

"Stop talking nonsense, this song is great, even eating while listening to this song feels truly fragrant."

"For the , indeed only someone like Xian Yu could sing it out!"

"Hearty Laughter in the Sea, huh, Xian Yu's state of mind is almost unfathomable now!"

"..."

Furthermore.

Some of the things said on the show by Xian Yu were also being discussed over and over:

"Teacher Fish said he had to become Maestro due to his throat issues..."

“When I heard this, my face was like: (☹o☹)!!!”

“I can also translate this sentence for everyone: Didn’t have a choice, can’t be King of Singing, can only be Maestro.”

“Xian Yu: Ah, I really didn’t want to be Maestro!”

“Xian Yu: Eh, I can’t sing anymore, might as well causally be Maestro.”

“Being coerced into becoming Maestro, seriously?”

“...”

Of course.

Xian Yu’s disclosure about his past health issues also became a focal point of interest for many people.

Everyone could sense Xian Yu’s reluctance to express himself.

So, someone went digging for Xian Yu’s story.

As a result...

Some of Xian Yu’s past was indeed dug up by a zealous netizen!

In the live broadcast of a TV station.

A doctor suddenly accepted an interview:

“I’m a viewer of ‘The Masked Singer’. Like everyone else, I was stunned when the Prince of Lanling unmasked himself. My shock not only came from discovering he was Xian Yu, but also because he was once my patient, and at that time, he had been diagnosed with a terminal illness—”

“Indeed, it was a terminal condition!”

“I’m not kidding, nor do I intend to reveal Xian Yu’s privacy. I contacted Xian Yu and got his agreement before daring to tell this story. I remember him so clearly because I felt regretful for his condition. That boy had a good nature and was liked by everyone. He even secretly told a nurse that his dream was to become a singer. But such a child, at such a young age, already...”

The doctor shook his head.

This doctor did indeed get in touch with Lin Yuan.

To be accurate, he contacted Lin Yuan’s mother.

Only after his mother sought Lin Yuan’s opinion and confirmed there was nothing to hide, did she tell the doctor he could share the story.

So, the doctor accepted the interview.

“All of us doctors were helpless about his condition; everyone thought he wouldn’t live past twenty-five. During an attack caused by his condition, he even lost his voice. Before that, he loved singing so much, always singing for patients in the hospital ward...”

The doctor sighed.

Then, he smiled in relief:

“But miracles do happen in medicine. For some unknown reason, he magically recovered—each year, there are always some patients who create miracles—he survived, and it seems his voice recovered too. He achieved tremendous success. On behalf of all the staff of Cloud City Hospital, we wish him eternal health—”

Well then.

He took the chance to advertise at the end.

After the doctor, some of Lin Yuan's middle school, high school, and university classmates were interviewed by the journalists.

As a result.

All the interviews, directly or indirectly, confirmed the truth of the matter!

For a moment!

The whole internet was stunned!

Nobody expected that Xian Yu's reluctance to tell his story hid such a desperate tale!

It turned out...

The dazzling Xian Yu, who had enchanted countless people, had once faced such adversities in life. His experiences alongside his achievements simply make for a legend!

No exaggeration!

Very legendary!

At this moment, a lot of people suddenly thought of "The Ordinary Road" that Xian Yu sang during the finals. The beautiful and moving melody seemed to echo once again in everyone's ears:

"...

If you are wandering on the road,

will you choose to go on?

Treasuring your fragile pride, that was once my demeanor too.

Keep on moving forward, keep walking on.

No matter what is taken from you.

I destroyed everything I once had, wanting to leave forever.

I once fell into endless darkness, struggling but unable to extricate myself.

I asked the whole world, but never received an answer.

I was once like you, like him, like those wild flowers and grass, despaired yet yearned, crying and laughing ordinarily...

The road the wind has blown open still stretches far off.

Where has your story reached?

..."

Some people started crying.

That song didn't intend to be sentimental.

At first listening, everyone just found it pleasing to the ear, and a bit carefree, treating it just like any other song, not something that could move them to tears.

But now.

Knowing some of Xian Yu's experiences and then looking at the lyrics of this song, everyone seemed to suddenly touch on a certain period of Xian Yu's state of mind, almost reaching tear point.

So, the lyrics were about his own life.

Nobody had thought about it before.

The so-called "Ordinary Road" was in fact the road Xian Yu truly travelled.

That road...

Was not ordinary at all.

Chapter 555: The Correct Way to Open

This deeply moving emotion lingered in everyone's hearts, refusing to fade.

Fans of Xian Yu couldn't resist tearing up in the face of such sentimentality.

Then, someone mentioned "Life Like A Summer Flower."

It logically followed.

"If I'm not mistaken, 'Life Like A Summer Flower' might be a reflection of Xian Yu's feelings at some point."

"Fits perfectly."

"The refrain of that song goes: 'I am this dazzling moment, the fleeting flame across the sky, I would risk everything for you to see me, I will extinguish and never return... Back then, very few people would have associated death with this song.'"

Ephemeral as a startled wild goose!

Radiant like a summer flower!

The meaning expressed by this song is somewhat similar to 'The Ordinary Road', yet distinctly different.

The difference lies in that 'Life Like A Summer Flower' is about loss of hope, wanting only to shine brightly one more time.

Whereas 'The Ordinary Road' is much more broad-minded.

The phrase "I used to be" in the refrain is 'Life Like A Summer Flower'.

But now it's just "used to be."

Updated by NovG○.co

The last line 'Where is your story at' conveys more of a hopeful future.

Because he is still on this journey.

He is still creating and delivering new songs to his fans.

At this moment.

Many people felt relieved.

Thankfully, Xian Yu has recovered.

Thankfully, he can still compose creation.

Thankfully, he has realized his dream of singing.

For a while.

Many people felt deeply moved.

These interviews, these discussions, swept across the internet in a short span of time.

More and more people learned about Xian Yu's fragile and desperate past overshadowed by the halo of the Maestro.

"Unimaginable."

"The lyrics subtly reveal a tendency—Xian Yu once contemplated ending his own life."

"Thank heavens he didn't give up."

"I believe the heavens still took care of him, the chance of recovery from a terminal illness is slim."

"Enough chit-chat, I'm going to download these two songs."

"So this is how to truly appreciate 'Life Like A Summer Flower'."

"So...this is how to understand 'The Ordinary Road'."

"Now I completely understand why Xian Yu chose to sing 'The Ordinary Road' at the finals, because only this song can express his current feelings and insights."

"..."

If it's about competitive performance sheathed in the ambiance of that time, 'Exaggerated' should be the song with the strongest competitive potential and easiest way to captivate the audience on The Masked Singer's stage!

So when Xian Yu decided to compete with another song against Overlord, many people didn't understand.

Even after hearing 'The Ordinary Road', they still didn't get it.

The song is fantastic.

But it isn't as explosive as 'Exaggerated'!

It was only after learning about Xian Yu's past and all that he had gone through that they truly understood the significance of 'The Ordinary Road'.

"Perhaps Xian Yu is not as concerned about winning or losing the competition."

"This competition was a dream come true for him. The final title of 'King of Singing' is the best reward he could have received. His dream has blossomed. He is the most deserving contestant."

"Please be a judge in the next season!"

"Let's not talk about the next season anymore. The first season with Xian Yu participating as the Prince of Lanling has already set an unparalleled standard, which can be seen as both good and bad news for the production team."

Indeed.

The first season has become a classic, despite it just recently concluding.

Many people could never forget the moment when Xian Yu won, and the scene of the five Maestros singing 'A Laugh Over The Vast Sea'.

...

Of course, Lin Yuan saw the comments online.

When he chose to unmask himself and face the camera, whether his past got exposed or not didn't matter anymore.

This time.

Many people still interpreted his song.

But unlike before, about eighty percent of the interpretations hit the mark this time.

At least in terms of his emotional journey in choosing 'The Ordinary Road', it pretty much matched what everyone had imagined. Lin Yuan had a reason to sing this song during the finals.

At this moment.

Gu Dong's car stopped at Lin Yuan's house.

Home at last.

After unmasking himself, Lin Yuan chose to go home instead of returning to the company.

Because he knew his family must be waiting for him at this moment.

Lin Yuan got out of the car and bid goodbye to Lil Goodoong.

Turning around, he saw Antarctica running excitedly towards him from a distance, panting.

Behind Antarctica.

Mom, sister, little sister, all standing at the door looking at him.

He smiled, rubbed the dog's head, and then said,

“Let’s go in and talk.”

“When did your voice recover, brother?”

Behind Lin Yuan, Lin Yao asked curiously.

Lin Yuan thought for a moment and said, “That day when you ate one less piece of broccoli than I did.”

Lin Xuan: “...”

Mom: “...”

Lin Yao suddenly realized, “So, it was January 27th!”

How do you remember that so clearly?

Lin Xuan sighed helplessly and said, “Did you want to surprise us?”

“This surprise is huge!”

Mom had cried while watching the show. Now she had stopped crying, leaving her eyes dry, “Why didn’t anyone tell me about your voice recovering?”

Lin Yuan said, “Oh, I told Antarctica.”

“Antarctica, why didn’t you tell me!” Lin Yao was not happy and asked, “Who do you love more, my brother or me?”

Antarctica: “...”

I can’t answer that question.

Because I am just a dog—

A super star dog.

After entering the living room, Mom suddenly noticed an apple core on the floor, “Who gnawed this apple?”

Antarctica ran off in a flash.

Big sister laughed and said, “I am a fan of Prince of Lanling. This situation is strange... No wonder I felt a kinship when I first watched Lanling. It was my beloved little brother all along!”

“Big sister became a fan of Lanling after hearing the song ‘I Surrender’.”

Big Yaoyao corrected.

Mom smiled. She was the one who felt that kinship towards Prince of Lanling.

Even though she couldn’t recognize her own son beforehand.

“Oh yes!”

The sister curiously looked at Lin Yuan, “Did you have a feud with Fei Yang?”

“Not at all.”

Lin Yuan never thought that Overlord was Fei Yang.

The sister laughed, “Then why are you always having him end up as the runner-up? At least before, it was your Yu Dynasty taking the win, this time you directly stepped in yourself!”

Lin Yuan: “...”

The situation was indeed peculiar.

Who would have thought that Fei Yang would participate in ‘The Masked Singer’ as the ‘Overlord’?

Although at the end of the show, the comments were respectful towards Fei Yang and did not rabidly dub him “second.”

But.

The playful nature of netizens will not change.

On the internet.

Aside from countless discussions about Xian Yu.

Fei Yang’s comment section was once again flooded with the bright red character “二” (second).

Speaking of which.

In a similarly luxurious villa.

The mask and costume of Overlord were thrown onto the sofa.

Fei Yang stared at the comment section in despair, “He even did it himself to keep me as runner-up!”

“Actually...”

The agent next to him hesitated.

Fei Yang stared at him, “Spit it out!”

The agent carefully said, “The major music companies have shifted to focus on film production, only Starlight is both working on films and still focusing on music...”

“Speak normal language!”

“Reflect on how Chen Zhiyu, the original Perennial Runner-up, solved his curse. Maybe this can be a reference for you.”

Fei Yang: “...”

If you can’t beat them, join them?

Chapter 556: Xian Yu’s Fourth Movie

The next day.

Lin Yuan, who had revealed his identity in the show, had finally returned to the company. The moment he walked in, he was greeted by everyone’s attention and whispers. However, Lin Yuan didn’t feel anything was amiss. Whether in the past, present, or the future, wherever he went, he could not escape the attention of others. This had little to do with his fame. Therefore, it could be said that unveiling his identity on The Masked Singer did not greatly affect Lin Yuan’s life.

He wasn’t too bothered.

Not long after he arrived at his office, Yi Chenggong and others found him. They started off by congratulating him for his successful vocal recovery and for winning The Masked Singer. After a lively chat, they brought up their purpose, “The production of ‘Spiderman’ has been completed. Now we have to consider the release date.”

“Hmm.”

Lin Yuan nodded.

This was the fourth movie that he participated in as a core scriptwriter and it happened to be the most commercial one. It was an excellent launch pad to make a splash in the box office and Lin Yuan was looking forward to it.

This matter was decided.

After a while, a delighted Gu Dong entered. He skillfully brewed a cup of tea for Lin Yuan, then they started discussing work. “Now that you have officially revealed your face, many businesses want you to endorse their products. The offers are even more lucrative than before. If you’re interested, I can show you the details. The bottom line is, it’s up to you to decide whether to accept these endorsements or not.”

“I’ll consider it.”

Lin Yuan wasn’t averse to doing advertisements. Now that he has embraced the idea of appearing in public, he wouldn’t resist being in the spotlight. However, he needed to consider these opportunities carefully. “Are there any other offers apart from endorsements?”

“Of course.”

Gu Dong had been contacted by numerous parties wanting to collaborate with Xian Yu since last night, his phone kept buzzing till date. “Various reality TV shows from Blue Star, as well as dozens of popular reality shows, have sent you invitations. Several magazines and media outlets have also invited you for exclusive interviews after your past was revealed.”

“Deny all.”

Updated by NovG○.co

Lin Yuan wasn’t interested.

He didn’t even ask about the pay as he knew that the amount suggested by Gu Dong would be tempting. As a person, Lin Yuan was not good at resisting money, so to avoid temptations, he didn’t ask about it. As for his past, there were already numerous discussions online and his Tribe fan community was filled with messages of comfort and encouragement from his fans...

“Alright.”

Gu Dong wasn't surprised.

Mr. Lin had participated in The Masked Singer just for his love for singing. Unlike others who sought fame, he didn't lack any. Perhaps, Mr. Lin will still be focusing on behind-the-scenes work in the future.

“By the way!”

Gu Dong continued, “The download count of all the songs you sang on the show soared after your identity was revealed. I estimate that it won't be long before you become a frontline singer, although this target may be meaningless for you.”

It indeed was meaningless.

Lin Yuan did not need to reach the level of first-tier singers in terms of data. He was an exceptional case in Blue Star. No matter where he went, everyone would recognize him as possessing talent on par with the King of Singing. Just as everyone regarded Lin Yuan on the same level as the Maestro even though he hadn't won the title, when influence reaches a certain level, so-called rules can actually be broken.

Take Earth for example.

Haruki Murakami hasn't...

Forget about the Nobel thing.

Let's talk about Little Leo instead.

Even if Little Leo had not won an Oscar at that time, it in no way affected his position in the hearts of his fans. Of course, it would have been even better if he could win an award, as some people value tangible recognition, which is why the internet was abuzz discussing when Little Leo won the Oscar.

“There's another thing.”

Gu Dong smiled lightly, “The Prince of Lanling mask you designed has been produced and sold by a merchant who bought its copyright. It is selling very well right now, we have even run out of stocks due to the high demand. Most interestingly, today there was a popular post on the forum where a woman asked her husband to wear the Prince of Lanling mask when they...”

“When they what?”

Lin Yuan looked utterly confused.

Gu Dong coughed awkwardly, “Just the usual stuff that happens between a husband and wife. The woman was a bit excessive as she demanded her husband to wear the Prince of Lanling mask and even asked him to play your songs on her phone while they do it...”

Lin Yuan: “?”

These people are not normal.

After chit-chatting with Lin Yuan for a while, Gu Dong left. Lin Yuan took a sip of his tea casually, but soon realized something was off with the taste.

Upon looking down, he saw seven or eight large, red...

Goji berries??

What’s going on?

Why are there goji berries in my tea?

Alright.

They were left by Sun Yao Huo.

Of course, Gu Dong was aware of this too.

She had been given the task to take care of Lin Yuan's health...

Not dwelling on the issue of goji berries.

Lin Yuan logged onto Tribe and released several posters of 'Spiderman'.

"The new movie 'Spiderman' has been completed, stay tuned!"

It was a simple movie promotion.

Nevertheless, once the promotion was released, the comments section exploded. This was the first update from Xian Yu after he had revealed his identity on The Masked Singer!

The comments were all over the map.

Some were urging him to take care of his health, others wanted him to release more songs.

There were even more miscellaneous comments than the ones discussing the movie.

Luckily, there were also people who took notice of the movie.

"Fish Papa's new movie is going on screen soon?"

"Is the new movie a superhero one?"

"Huh?"

"If I remember correctly, there are other superhero movies releasing soon, not just Fish Papa's movie."

"Is Fish Papa also starting to make commercial films?"

“I’m sick of superhero movies. Fish Papa should consider making some comedies, like ‘Flirting Scholar’.”

“Flirting Scholar is indeed a classic!”

“After this movie, all cockroaches were named Xiao Qiang.”

“That’s not all, this movie has also resulted in the naming of countless dogs as ‘Wangcai’ nationwide.”

“...”

From these comments, it is evident that the superhero genre isn’t novel for Blue Star’s audience.

Moreover...

It seems like in the near future, there won’t be just one superhero movie being released?

Chapter 557: Super Piglet

After promoting Tribe with a trailer.

Lin Yuan contacted Ol’ Zhou, asking about the movie’s release.

“It should be next month.”

Ol’ Zhou said: “The exact date will be determined after the company’s screening event. However, there is something I need to tell you, we won’t be the only superhero movie released next month.”

“Who else is there?”

Lin Yuan suspected this as he had seen comments in his Tribe section suggesting that there was a formidable competitor.

“Long Yang!”

Ol’ Zhou uttered this name.

Lin Yuan paused for a moment. Was this name a joke?

It seemed real.

Since Ol’ Zhou appeared very serious when he mentioned this name: “Long Yang, like you, follows the writer-centric production approach. He’s a fierce character whose film is titled ‘Legend of the Dragonman’. With a budget of nearly 300 million yuan, the leading male role is played by the A-list actor, Jiang Meng. You should realize the problem—their investment is higher than ours, and their lead role is played by an A-list actor, while ours is played by a newcomer.”

Lin Yuan nodded.

In fact, he was not really trying to save money this time.

The movie that tells the origin of ‘Spiderman’ certainly doesn’t require a substantial investment.

Updated by NovG○.co

Most special effects shots could be focused on Spiderman’s travels and fights among the city’s skyscrapers.

The charm of Spiderman is that he’s a people’s hero.

As for the problem of selecting newcomer Jian Yi as the leading actor...

This movie was intended by Lin Yuan to elevate Jian Yi’s fame.

Because Lin Yuan believes that when Spiderman shows off his cool moves, he's always wearing a headcover, so there's no emphasis on who played the part. There have been many different Spiderman actors around the world, but it hasn't caused much backlash from audiences.

"This is actually very common."

Ol' Zhou noted: "The Qin Continent is too vast. There's always an overlap of movie genres in each period. Superhero movies typically start with a floor of a hundred million yuan in production costs, so the frequency of clashing genres is actually quite low, but occasionally it does happen."

At that moment,

Ol' Zhou suddenly changed the subject: "However, we don't have to worry about our competitors too much. At least your fan base as a writer is quite significant, and your reputation in the film circle has always been top-notch. I believe there will still be an audience willing to pay for our movie. It's not necessary for us to think about defeating our competitor. After all, isn't everyone making superhero movies just to make money?"

Ol' Zhou's idea was simple.

Not to compare box office sales or anything like that.

As long as the movie could make a profit, that would be enough.

Combining it with the buzz of Xian Yu's revelation as the real identity of the Prince of Lanling on 'The Masked Singer', it could definitely lead to sizable audiences for Lin Yuan's new movie.

"Yes."

Lin Yuan thought it made sense.

As if recalling something, Ol' Zhou suddenly laughed: "You may not know, but you and Long Yang have actually intersected before."

"Really?"

Lin Yuan responded casually.

Ol' Zhou laughed: "Long Yang once wrote a script and wanted Zhang Xiuming to play the leading role. Both parties initially had the intention to collaborate, but Zhang Xiuming rejected Long Yang's offer after reading the script of 'Hachiko'."

"Oh."

Such things often happen in the film industry. It's normal, and Lin Yuan didn't think it was a big deal.

That night,

Lin Yuan and Yi Chenggong, along with other key members of the movie, fully watched the final cut of 'Spiderman'.

It was touching.

Exciting points were there.

After watching it, Lin Yuan was very pleased with the results. Yi Chenggong's ability to execute the script was getting stronger.

...

Qin Continent, the capital city.

In a leisure club.

A person who appeared to be an assistant said to a middle-aged man: "Teacher Long Yang, the theater chain has confirmed that our movie will be released on July 7. However, Xian Yu's new film, which is also a superhero film, will be released at the same time."

This middle-aged man was Long Yang.

Upon hearing Xian Yu's name, he couldn't help but laugh: "I seem to be hearing this name a lot recently. The script for 'Hachiko' was indeed well written; it's no wonder why Zhang Xiuming rejected me to act in it."

There was no anger in Long Yang's voice when he mentioned this.

There was no reason for him to be angry in the first place.

Zhang Xiuming didn't promise him anything. He only said he would consider it. In the end, Zhang choosing Xian Yu was entirely his decision. Therefore, both Long Yang and Lin Yuan didn't take this small incident to heart.

"So it's just by chance?"

The assistant laughed: "I didn't expect you two to face competition so soon. This time, instead of fighting for actors, it's about box office revenue. Coincidentally, both of you have taken the writer-centric approach."

"Yes."

Long Yang nodded: "What's the situation on his side?"

The assistant recited it as if he were a connoisseur: "Xian Yu's new movie is titled 'Spiderman', and the starring role is played by a young newcomer. The production cost is around a hundred million yuan."

"A small budget, huh?"

Long Yang felt some relief. Calling 'Spiderman' a low-budget film was a bit presumptuous, but in terms of superhero movies, the budget is considered low.

Movies released at the same time are considered competitors, and the competition becomes fiercer when they belong to the same genre.

Although the market is enormous, to create a blockbuster, you must stand out from the crowd!

Luckily, the threat Xian Yu posed isn't significant.

Compared to his own, both the budget and the cast fell significantly short.

Under such circumstances, Long Yang wasn't too worried—

For some reason, Long Yang had a deep understanding of Xian Yu.

He was aware of his accomplishments in the music industry.

However, this was the film industry.

In the film industry, compared to the highly experienced Long Yang, Xian Yu was still a newcomer.

Thinking of this,

Long Yang suddenly made a phone call.

After the call connected, Long Yang laughed: "Son, how about I take you to a movie in a few days?"

"I don't want to."

A boy's voice came from the other end of the phone: "I've already watched 'Legend of the Dragonman' at the company with you, haven't I?"

Long Yang said: "Not 'Legend of the Dragonman'."

The boy paused: "Then what movie is it?"

Long Yang laughed: “Xian Yu’s new movie. It seems to be called ‘Piggy Hero’.”

The assistant helplessly looked at Long Yang.

It’s Spiderman!

Not Piggy Hero!

“Xian Yu?”

The boy on the other end of the phone seemed interested: “Then I will go see ‘Piggy Hero’. Xian Yu’s movies are always good!”

“That’s settled then.”

Long Yang hung up the phone cheerfully, then looked at the assistant: “This child has been quite obsessed with Xian Yu recently.”

“So is my wife!”

The assistant suddenly became a little angry, as if he had been triggered.

Long Yang complained: “What I can’t stand the most is that my son actually said that Xian Yu’s movies are better than mine...”

The assistant couldn’t help but laugh: “It looks like you’re unwilling to accept that.”

Long Yang pursed his lips: “Let him watch Xian Yu’s new movie. That way, he can compare it to mine. As his father, I can’t let an outsider surpass me, can I?”

Assistant: “...”

How childish can you be?

But it's a good idea. Maybe I can take my wife to see it too?

Chapter 558: Palace Intrigue Drama

The following days.

The movie's promotion began.

And Lin Yuan officially graduated from his five-year program a few days later. For this, he made a special trip to Qin Continent Art Academy to participate in the final dissertation defense arranged by the school—

That's right!

He's a graduate now!

The thesis was completed by Lin Yuan during his downtime in the competition. With his compositional skills under the guidance of Yang Zhongming's character card training, completing such a thesis was not tough. However, Lin Yuan was somewhat baffled during his defense as the teacher in charge didn't ask any thesis-related questions from start to finish, only some random gossiping questions. In the end, the teacher even asked for Lin Yuan's autograph and a chance to take a photo together, to which Lin Yuan agreed.

Then.

Taking graduation photos.

The shooting times of the graduation photos for different faculties were separate, so there were no other students around. However, even the composition department's people couldn't help but let out a wave of screams when they saw Lin Yuan.

Someone first shouted "Admirable Fish"...

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

The entire scene was shouting “Admirable Fish”.

Among them, Lin Yuan’s original roommates and classmates, even his desk-mate, were the most excited. In the end, Lin Yuan himself couldn’t even remember how many group photos he had taken and how many autographs he had given. Even the teachers and many school leaders, including the principal, came to join in the fun, insisting on participating in the composition department’s graduation photo shoot. As a result, what should’ve been a simple graduation photo shoot turned into something akin to a fan meeting for Lin Yuan, with both the process and outcome being exceptionally grand.

The fortunate thing was:

Updated by NovG○.co

The school didn’t let in the reporters who had already found out that Admirable Fish was returning to school today to take graduation photos, otherwise these reporters would have been even crazier. Since being unveiled on “The Masked Singer”, Admirable Fish hadn’t shown his face in a public setting. As he didn’t like attending interviews, the public’s curiosity towards Admirable Fish remained unsatisfied.

So.

After the commotion.

Lin Yuan rode home in Lil Goodoong’s car. Gu Dong suddenly smiled and asked, “Mr. Lin, are you planning on going to a movie tonight? If you need, I can help you book a seat.”

“No need.”

Lin Yuan knew that the movie Gu Dong was talking about was “Spiderman”. Not only was today his thesis defense and graduation photo day, but it was also the official premiere day of that movie. However, since he had already watched the movie one time at the company, he didn’t have any interest in revisiting it so soon and opted to take his dog for a walk instead.

“Alright.”

Gu Dong nodded.

At this point, Lin Yuan took out his phone to scroll through his friends' circle, and surprisingly, he saw quite a lot of related content about "Spiderman".

Such as the post by Zhao Ying Ge in her friends' circle:

[Going to watch "Spiderman" tonight.]

The post was accompanied by a photo of a "Spiderman" movie ticket.

Then Jiang Kui also posted an update:[Teacher Admirable Fish's new movie is out. I don't have a boyfriend yet but I still bought two tickets in support of Teacher Admirable Fish's new work!]

The post was accompanied by photos of two "Spiderman" movie tickets.

And then.

Chen Zhiyu surprisingly also posted an update:

[Watching "Spiderman" tonight. If anyone wants to join, you are welcome. I've booked the entire theater.]

Accompanying the post was...

A screenshot of the purchase of tickets for the entire hall.

In the end.

Lin Yuan scrolled to Sun Yaohuo's post.

[Tonight, anyone who watches “Spiderman” can enjoy a 60% dining discount at all branches of our Flaming Catering with their ticket stubs. Additionally, you can also receive a free Flaming Catering membership card. As long as you watch Teacher Admirable Fish’s new movie, we’re good friends!]

Attached was a photo of in-store advertisements and tribal promotion.

At this point, they had arrived home. Lin Yuan casually liked Sun Yaohuo’s post and then got out of the car.

...

Zhao Ying Ge looked at her friends’ circle and was stunned.

She had made her post mainly to curry favor with Admirable Fish.

But she hadn’t expected that her post would look so humble compared to the others.

“Is this how everyone plays?”

For the first time, Zhao Ying Ge understood the terror of Sun Yaohuo and the others. She had just recently joined this small circle around Admirable Fish and didn’t understand how brutal this circle could be.

Now, she sort of got it.

At the same time.

Jiang Kui was also a bit confused.

It’s understood about Sun Yaohuo, but how come Chen Zhiyu had also become so proficient?

Supporting the movie is support...

Why did you book the entire theater?

Can you surpass that guy Sun Yaohuo?

Of course.

The most confused was Chen Zhiyu.

He thought that booking the entire theater was quite impressive already.

But he hadn't imagined that Sun Yaohuo would also have such a move!

What's this about?

Wait a minute!

Under Sun Yaohuo's friend circle, there was a prominent notice: "Your friend, Teacher Admirable Fish, thinks this is fantastic."

Admirable Fish liked Sun Yaohuo's post!

Chen Zhiyu sighed.

The agent next to him couldn't help but look up, his face peculiarly odd, "Why am I having such a strong sense of déjà vu?"

Chen Zhiyu: "What?"

Agent: "Palace harem fighting."

Chen Zhiyu: "That's a bit far-fetched, isn't it?"

Agent shrugging: “Then how do you explain the fact that you don’t like each other’s posts?”

Chen Zhiyu: “...”

Several similar posts had been made by the fish, but none of them mutually liked each other’s posts.

Either way you look at it, it seems fishy.

“They’re the ones being weird.”

Chen Zhiyu defended himself earnestly, “We all acted like siblings on ‘The Masked Singer’. But after the show, everyone’s true colours came out!”

The agent just shook his head.

He felt a sour hint in Chen Zhiyu’s words.

Chen Zhiyu indeed felt bitter.

The fish school was gathering perfectly fine, but he somehow fell behind the pack!

He was, after all...

He was the first one to become a top-tier singer!

Among the fish in the show, only Chen Zhiyu had collaborated with Admirable Fish after becoming a top-tier singer. Yet, now he felt he was being overtaken by others incessantly.

No way!

This can’t go on!

Chen Zhiyu felt he needed to put in more effort!

Among this group of fish, Jiang Kui should become the Queen of Singing first.

Then he must become the King of Singing before Sun Yaohuo does!

Among this group of fish,

Only Sun Yaohuo, let out a lonely laugh of an expert, these people were far from catching up.

He bowed his head, took out his cellphone, and opened his large catering group chat: “All the store managers, put up the Spiderman posters tonight, Flaming Catering will have a Spiderman theme tonight, the designs must be new and interesting!”

“Received!”

“Received!”

“Received!”

The managers responded one after another.

At this moment, a newly appointed manager spoke, “Boss, isn’t our discount a bit too steep? From the market research I conducted, ‘Legend of the Dragonman’ is going to be a significant competitor to Admirable Fish’s movie both in terms of investment and the cast. So, if Admirable Fish’s movie doesn’t turn out to be a hit...”

“Why are you overthinking things?”

“You’re not supporting Fish Papa’s movie?”

“We support Fish Papa unconditionally!”

“What’s a little loss!”

“Isn’t it enough to support Fish Papa?”

The other managers instantly rallied in support.

Sun Yaohuo nodded approvingly and then tagged the doubting manager, saying:

“Just do as instructed.”

What’s with all this talk about whether it’s a hit or not?

This new manager isn’t great.

Everyone under my Flaming Catering banner, all the managers of my restaurants, must be die-hard fans of Admirable Fish!

Even the interview questions are related to Admirable Fish.

Did this guy cheat on the test?

Maybe, he’s not a real fan at all!

Let’s investigate a little more and if it doesn’t work out, let’s have him removed and replaced!

Sun Yaohuo made a mental note of him.

Meanwhile.

It was getting dark.

The cinema was beginning to fill up.

Chapter 559: The Most Down-to-Earth Superhero

Inside a movie theater.

Long Yang takes his son, Little Tiger, to watch a movie.

In addition to Long Yang and his son, Long Yang's assistant and the assistant's wife have also come along.

"Four tickets!"

The assistant distributes four tickets for "Spiderman," then laughs and says,

"I observed just now, it seems our 'Legend of the Dragonman' is more popular, most of the audience are specifically here for our movie."

That's to be expected.

Whether in terms of investment cost or casting lineup, 'Legend of the Dragonman' has a higher profile, and the audience knows how to choose.

Those who choose 'Spiderman' largely have their personal preferences at play, for example, they may be fans of Xian Yu.

Long Yang smiles and nods, then looks at his son, Little Tiger, with a bit of triumph.

Did you hear that, kiddo?

Your dad's movie is the most popular one!

But then Little Tiger is staring at the poster of 'Spiderman' with sparkling eyes, murmuring,

“So cool!”

Updated by NovG○.co

On the poster.

Spiderman is wearing his classic red battle suit, legs apart, showing off his iconic action of shooting spider webs; this is Spiderman’s classic fighting style.

Long Yang’s smile freezes, he feels a bit awkward.

Soon after, ‘Spiderman’ starts ticket inspection.

Long Yang and his party enter the theater, sitting in the seventh row, which is perfect for viewing.

Coke, popcorn.

The standard setup for watching a movie.

Without too much waiting, the movie begins.

The popcorn-munching, coke-drinking audience settles down to watch the big screen.

The movie starts with a simple narrative, introducing the main character and his relationships with the people around him.

The protagonist is named Peter Parker, an ordinary student.

He becomes an orphan at a tender age but is kind-hearted by nature and grows up in his aunt and uncle’s home.

He harbors a secret crush on a schoolmate and has a good buddy.

After introducing the characters and their backgrounds, the movie finally bestows the protagonist with a superpower.

At a science research exhibition, Peter Parker gets bitten by a spider.

On the subway ride home, Peter Parker faints.

Inside the subway car, a tattooed guy, amidst his friends' laughter, tries to prank the sleeping Peter Parker.

But then Peter, who is deep asleep, suddenly gets goosebumps and abruptly opens his eyes, almost instinctively climbing onto...

The wall of the car?

Caught in the surprised stares around him, Peter Parker is stunned himself, and hastily climbs down.

A woman next to him tries to push him, he resists with one hand yet when he let go, he unintentionally tears apart the woman's clothes, leaving only the last bit that covered her. The scene gets a bit raunchy...

"Pff!"

The audience breaks into laughter.

The ensuing tumultuous scene in the subway car is filmed quite humorously.

While trying to get used to his strangely familiar superpower, Peter Parker ends up in confrontations with the hoodlums.

He sporadically attaches himself to the ceiling, or dangles from the subway's poles, nimble like a spider.

The playful and fast-paced background score, however, makes this scene very lively and interesting.

“Comedic approach?”

Long Yang looks surprised.

It’s the first time he has seen a superhero movie use comedic techniques.

The usual tone of other superhero movies largely revolves around the ‘save-the-world, avenge-injustice’ theme.

But watching ‘Spiderman’ imparts a relaxed and cheerful feeling!

Xian Yu is truly audacious!

This is quite a breakthrough for the other conventional superhero formats.

Would the audience accept it?

The audience would, of course, accept it!

Surrounding bursts of laughter from the audience say it all!

In the confined subway car space, the protagonist’s cool and anti-human moves, the camera’s alternating fast and slow shots, and the comically chaotic characters meld together seamlessly.

Little Tiger is also laughing, having a great time!

Long Yang suddenly gets a bad feeling in his heart.

The plot continues.

Peter Parker starts learning about his ability and makes a device that can shoot spider web.

The movie employs montage techniques to show his growing familiarity and use of his power. And when he perfects his red spider battle suit, and skillfully swings through skyscrapers using his spider webs, a ripple of excitement surges through the audience!

What a thrill!

Why are superhero movies enduringly popular?

Isn't it because the powers of a superhero let the audience fantasize?

Watching Spiderman swing through the city, helping the police punish villains, everyone finds it extremely satisfying!

This kind of thrill is very direct!

Along with the intense thrill, the hearty laughter this movie brought was genuinely entertaining!

Because this Spiderman...

He sure can chatter!

This guy loves to fully utilize his chatterbox nature while fighting, cracking all sorts of humorous comments.

With his crisp, efficient actions, he gives off a feeling of being cool, dashing, daring but steady!

Extremely joyful!

When the police arrived late once again, they found the bad guys already dangling from the bank doors, trapped in spider webs.

Who knows what place this is, the law and order here is just too bad...

“Help!”

“I’m calling the police!”

“I want to report that guy swinging on that swing on the wall!”

“...”

The thieves were as happy to see the police as if they were their own parents!

Seeing this, the audience was completely amused, saying how Spiderman swinging through the city sky was really quite a sight.

But please!

You guys are thieves!

Why do you seem so vexed?

But when they think about how pitifully the thieves were bullied by Spiderman and had to endure his mockery and prattle, everyone suddenly felt sorry for these thieves...

“Boss.”

The assistant turned to Long Yang.

He also felt that something wasn’t right.

The audience’s reaction to this movie was really too enthusiastic!

In fact, even he himself couldn’t help but be amused.

This Spiderman, completely different from the superhero he had in mind.

Other superheroes were often filled with sorrow and vengeance, even self-sacrifice, their characters imbued with heroic traits and a sense of tragedy.

But what about Spiderman?

Comic relief!

Vibrancy!

Joy!

Even innocence!

His mouth is always chattering away without end!

Possibly he was fighting crime with his face covered as Spiderman one day, making criminals lose their nerve, then the next day he would be racking his brains over his exam papers and figuring out how to confess his feelings to the girl he likes...

If it weren't for Spiderman's hidden identity, he would just be an ordinary student.

Just like every ordinary person.

Even after Spiderman puts on his mask, he doesn't completely become a different person. After he finishes fighting the bad guys, he casually helps a little kid on the street...

This is the first time!

Everyone is identifying with a superhero!

He's not so grandiose.

No longer full of sorrow and vengeance.

He's not a hero to all of humanity, he didn't save the world.

But he's like a good-natured neighbor who lives amongst us, always more than willing to lend a hand!

"A superhero of ordinary people..."

Long Yang finally understood Xian Yu's intention.

The same superhero, everyone is increasingly doing it on a larger scale, including his own "Legend of the Dragonman".

How majestic and powerful dragons are?

Sacred and dignified!

Dominant and unrivaled!

They must save Blue Star!

But Xian Yu did the opposite!

While others are creating superheroes with major special effects and grand scenes, Xian Yu's Spiderman is actually downsizing!

While other superheroes are fighting for the fate of humanity,

Spiderman is focusing on beating thugs in his city, spewing whatever comment he fancies, even making a casual detour to run errands for children. He is devoted to saving every ordinary person he sees in difficulty, no matter how big or small the trouble is...

Such an approach!

It's completely reversed!

But at the same time...

It also means:

Spiderman is extremely down-to-earth!

This almost contradicts the traditional thinking of superheroes, yet it allows the audience to fully invest themselves in the story!

As Long Yang's uneasiness grew, it got stronger!

Chapter 560: The Greater the Ability, the Greater the Responsibility

This was the first time that Blue Star's audience saw a superhero movie portrayed in a comedic style.

Under the influence of novelty, everyone in the theater was engrossed!

Long Yang was certain:

The audience loved the plot so far.

Spiderman was quirky and chatty, two qualities that were indeed endearing.

But was it somewhat superficial to base character development solely on light-hearted comedy?

Xian Yu, being able to think outside the box and use comedy as a wrapper for presenting an unconventional superhero, must have considered this, right?

Many comedies often conceal a sense of tragedy at their core...

As expected.

The following plot development was no longer pure joy and silliness.

At school.

Because he was provoked by a classmate, Peter used his power to give him a severe lesson.

The next day.

Peter's uncle, an ordinary old man, had a deep conversation with Peter, mentioning the fight at school. He said solemnly to Peter, "Sometimes, the greater the power, the greater the responsibility."

Updated by NovG○.co

As you can imagine.

The conversation wasn't pleasant, Peter thought his uncle was nagging. It was the other party who provoked him, teenagers in their puberty tend to be brash, especially when they have such great power.

The uncle helplessly said, "I am not your father..."

Peter retorted as if stung, "Then stop pretending you are!"

The uncle looked somewhat disheartened, "Okay..."

Peter wanted to retort, regretting his outburst, but he ultimately didn't explain. In his heart, his uncle was no different from a father.

That night.

To vent his frustrations, Peter participated in an underground boxing match.

At home.

Seeing that Peter had not come back, the uncle thought about the unpleasant conversation during the day and couldn't help worrying. He went directly out to look for Peter, who hadn't come home so late.

Unquestionably.

Peter defeated all his opponents in the underground boxing match, but when Peter won the championship, he was tricked by the organizer—

The promotion said the winner would get a 50,000 yuan prize!

But the person responsible for the prize money made tons of excuses and only gave Spiderman 5,000 yuan.

Peter wanted to argue with him.

The person in charge pointed to the last sentence of the promotion, "All explanations are at the discretion of the organizer."

This sentence was quite significant.

Some viewers showed expressions of anger.

Clearly.

Many people have encountered this situation in real life.

Peter wanted to punch him. If it was before, Peter would have done it without hesitation, but he clenched his fist and finally held back.

“The greater the power, the heavier the responsibility.”

His uncle’s words did affect him, after all, he didn’t misuse his power.

Just then.

A robber appeared and stole all the money from the person in charge.

The person in charge asked Peter for help, Peter hesitated for a moment, but ultimately chose to remain silent—

He thought the man had it coming.

After all, there was still some resentment that needed to be vented.

After leaving the underground boxing ring, Peter prepared to go home, but suddenly there were gunshots in the distance.

Instinctively, he ran towards them.

But when Peter saw the victim, he trembled!

His uncle had been shot dead!

“No, no, no, no...”

Peter was stunned, he held his uncle’s hand tightly.

The cold wind bit into his mouth, cutting like a blade, his tears fell silently.

“Peter...”

His uncle was already hanging by a thread when he saw Peter.

That hand, spotted with age, held Peter’s hand tightly, but finally fell limp.

The theater.

There was silence.

The laughter in the theater paused for the first time, this scene was heartbreaking, the film turned heavy for the first time.

“The killer is escaping down Fifth Avenue, request for police intercept...”

The police had already arrived, the walkie-talkie called out.

Peter took one last look at his uncle, then rushed towards Fifth Avenue.

He was out for revenge!

In this scene, without any dialogue, Peter became Spiderman, weaving through the city to finally catch the killer.

But...

When he saw the murderer’s face, it felt like his worldview was completely shattered!

“It’s that robber!”

Some in the audience suddenly gasped.

The man who killed his uncle was the robber from before—

The robber that Peter didn't stop during the robbery!

Which means, his uncle's death was directly linked to Peter. If only Peter had stopped the robber, this scene might not have happened.

This was too cruel for Peter!

Some in the audience couldn't help but feel a twinge of heartache.

No one thought Spiderman was reckless, no one would dislike Spiderman for this, because anyone in the same situation would likely make a similar choice.

After all, Peter was just a kid.

Realization hit.

Spiderman broke down.

The police had arrived. Countless lights shone on Spiderman's face, countless eyes were locked on him. The police warned Spiderman against any hasty actions, and the crowd's murmuring voices merged into one...

"Die!"

In anger, Spiderman threw the murderer from the rooftop.

If the murderer hit the ground, he would undoubtedly die. Some onlookers couldn't help but cover their eyes, but in the end, Spiderman shot out his webbing and caught the killer, not killing him outright.

He chose to handle the murderer as before, by leaving him to the law.

As for himself, he chose to wallow in immense grief.

With blood and tears, he swallowed the bitter fruit of his own making.

He didn't even dare to tell his aunt the truth.

In front of the screen.

Long Yang had a solemn expression.

This part of the film was brilliantly done!

Peter was just an ordinary person who suddenly gained superpowers, with all the rebellion that comes with youth.

But such a person gaining superpowers was uncontrollable.

But his uncle's death would be the catalyst for Spiderman's growth.

Many truths can only be understood at a great cost, especially for the young.

"With great power comes great responsibility."

If this line was bluntly told, it would make the film seem preachy, the audience wouldn't buy it, they might even feel it's moral blackmail, because it's a bit too saintly.

But...

In a specific context, linking the cause and effect of the events, this line carries a myriad of meanings.

The audience couldn't help but ponder.

The “power” here isn't just power in a broad sense. It's more akin to a shorter version of the phrase:

When poor, keep to yourself for good.

When rich, aid the world for better.

Spiderman chose to disappear.

He didn't continue doing good deeds, but chose to be an ordinary student again. The internet was flooded with news about Spiderman, newspapers were filled with reports about him.

People had mixed opinions about this superhero.

The police were hunting Spiderman.

Although Spiderman was doing good deeds, he was beyond the law, and he once thought about killing the robber—

No one knew that the robber had killed Spiderman's uncle.

Everyone had seen the video of Spiderman beating the robber. The Spiderman in that video was full of violence and destruction, which was a direct reason some people disliked Spiderman.

This was also a point worth pondering.

If in reality, an individual has the power not to be bound by the law, even if that person is doing good, would people like it, or would it cause more fear?

Meanwhile.

A new plot twist appeared.

A new villain appeared in the city, unprecedentedly powerful, his strength was not inferior to Spiderman's.

The plot had hinted at this beforehand.

This villain was the chairman of a scientific research company. Due to his long-term research on weapons, he had lost his sanity and now possessed incredible destructive power.

He continuously engaged in criminal activities.

The power of the police couldn't stop this villain.

Whether they liked it or not, people suddenly missed Spiderman. Perhaps only the disappeared Spiderman had the strength to defeat this villain...

"The pacing is good."

Long Yang nodded.

He admitted that this design was more ingenious than his own film. The death of the uncle set up the emotions brilliantly, almost perfectly depicting Spiderman's character growth!

On his right.

His son, Little Tiger, was looking at the big screen with anticipation.

Long Yang knew what his son was looking forward to.

Long Yang knew, not only was his son looking forward to it, all the audience were anticipating—

Spiderman's comeback!

They yearned for Spiderman to rise again and return as a hero, to protect the city once more!