

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 821

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 821-Half an hour later, Qiao Zhan brought Ruan Anxi to the underground snooker bar.

At that moment, it was early in the morning. Initially, Ruan Anxi was feeling a little drowsy, but not anymore.

“Are you kidnapping me right now? Are you aware of the consequences of your actions?” Ruan Anxi questioned grimly.

His presumptuous attitude pisses me off. It seems he still doesn't understand he's in Flower City, not M Nation's forest. No matter how powerful or influential he is in South East Aploth, he can't use any of it here. There's a saying that one can't win without their home advantage, yet this guy has the gall to threaten Ning Ran again in Flower City. It's only natural Nan Chen is furious that such a thing happened in his territory. However, some matters are too inconvenient for him to handle personally, which is when I come out. I was prepared to keep playing with Ruan Anxi, pressuring him to stay in his vehicle until his food supply was exhausted. I didn't expect he would get so agitated that he left the vehicle. It certainly saved me a lot of trouble. When I caught him, I almost laughed out loud. Who would've thought it would be that easy? As Qiao Zhan's train of thought ended there, he noticed Ruan Anxi was still putting up an act.

In response, he grabbed a bottle of wine and glugged two mouthfuls of it.

Ruan Anxi watched him drink like that with disdain and frowned. “Such a boorish way of drinking will hurt your body! You have no taste.”

“If you keep yapping, I'll crack your head like an egg with my fist!” Qiao Zhan pointed at Ruan Anxi as he yelled.

Ruan Anxi shook his head. What a vulgar, uncivilized man. He doesn't even have the discipline to be a bad guy. He'll attack someone if he wants to hurt them, and he swears like a crass, drunken sailor.

“What are you shaking your head for? Do you really believe you're the king of South East Aploth? Don't forget; this is Flower City, China. I can't tell whether you're crazy or stupid to cause trouble here.” Qiao Zhan took another swig.

With a grin, Ruan Anxi questioned, “Do you have the guts to kill me?”

That ticked Qiao Zhan off because he knew he didn't.

“If you kill me, my subordinates will avenge me, regardless of the consequences. Rivers of blood will flow in Flower City and the Nan residence!”

"You're overthinking it. Once you're dead, your subordinates will scatter. Who'll avenge you then?" scoffed Qiao Zhan.

"Now that's something you don't understand. If I really am dead, someone will avenge me. Give it a try if you don't believe me, but many people will die." Then Ruan Anxi cackled again.

He really is a demon. Even though he's my captive right now, and I can squash him like an ant at any moment, he's still utterly fearless. It's as if he doesn't care that he's in danger right now. Argh! I hate his stupid, arrogant face! I want to punch him so badly, but if I do that, I may accidentally kill this weak b*stard, which will be troublesome. As hateful thoughts crossed Qiao Zhan's mind, he handed a phone to Ruan Anxi. "Call your subordinates and tell them to release Ding Fei's sh*tty parents now."

Ruan Anxi didn't take the phone. "What do you mean by 'sh*tty parents'?"

"It means I don't like them. If not for Mrs. Nan's orders, I wouldn't give a d*mn if they die or not."

That roused Ruan Anxi's interest. "Why do you dislike them? Is it because they mistreated Ning Ran before?"

"I'm not interested in chatting with you. Tell your subordinates right now to release them!"

Ruan Anxi chuckled. "Do you really think I'll listen to you? If you want to kill me, just kill me. Ask someone else to do it if you don't have the guts to."

In response, Qiao Zhan raised his fist in anger again. "You..."

"I suggest you refrain from attacking me. I'm pretty weak, after all. If you accidentally kill me, you and Nan Chen will be in a lot of trouble. Hahaha!" Ruan Anxi was acting so arrogantly that one might mistake him as the captor and Qiao Zhan as the prisoner.

"Fine. While you may not want to call them now, you will soon enough. Keep your eyes on him. Don't let him escape or drink any water," Qiao Zhan ordered his subordinates.

"Understood."

The next day in the afternoon, after Ning Ran finished her meeting at Star Entertainment, she called Qiao Zhan and asked him about Ruan Anxi.

Qiao Zhan was hesitant to answer her questions, so it took a while before she learned Ruan Anxi was in the snooker bar.

From him, she learned that Ruan Anxi refused to talk to anyone and demanded to speak only to her.

Believing that keeping Ruan Anxi in continued captivity wouldn't be a great idea, she asked Qiao Zhan to arrange a meeting between her and Ruan Anxi.

She was aware of Ruan Anxi's personality. Even if Qiao Zhan confronted or even killed him, it wouldn't solve the problem.

While she wasn't sure if her conversation with Ruan Anxi would be beneficial, she was certain she would yield better results than Qiao Zhan.

Qiao Zhan didn't have the final say on the matter since Ruan Anxi was a dangerous man. Thus, he asked Nan Chen for permission.

Upon receiving Nan Chen's approval, Qiao Zhan went to Raining Pavilion to pick up Ning Ran.

Even though Qiao Zhan remained quiet throughout the entire journey, she was certain he had some opinions he was bottling up.

"If you have something to say, just say it," she proposed.

The moment he started speaking, he was enraged. "I just don't understand why you want to help someone as evil as Luo Fei. Now, we have a big problem on our hands, and we have to take care of her parents, too. Ruan Anxi's a stubborn mad dog. When he said he was only willing to talk to you and no one else, I was so anxious that, on multiple occasions, I wanted to beat him to death!"

It seems like he has no idea how to handle Ruan Anxi, which is what I expected. How can you threaten someone fearless of death? It's not like we can take lessons from his cruelty and remove his organs one by one.

Ning Ran comforted, "Since you know he's a mad dog, you shouldn't get yourself worked up. It's not worth it. As for Luo Fei, she's pregnant right now. If not for her baby, I wouldn't have helped her. The consequences will be dire if we hand her over to him at this moment. Just think of helping her as an act of goodwill. I know you're a man with a strong sense of justice, Chief Qiao. Are you willing to watch Ruan Anxi destroy an unborn life?"

Qiao Zhan's mood was greatly lifted when he heard her praise him for having a strong sense of justice and calling him "Chief Qiao."

"You're a kind person, Mrs. Nan. However, don't put up with that mad dog too much. Please don't listen to him if he makes any outrageous demands," he reminded.

She assured, "Of course. Since he's in your custody at the moment, I won't be threatened by him. Heck, he couldn't even threaten me when he kidnapped me. Furthermore, we have the initiative right now. Don't worry, I got this."

"Mhm, I believe in your ability."

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 822

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 822-When Ning Ran entered the billiard lounge, she discovered Ruan Anxi sleeping on the pool table.

"Get the hell out!" The man heard a commotion and thought it was someone else, so he waved his hand and shooed the person away.

"It's me," Ning Ran replied.

Upon hearing the familiar voice, Ruan Anxi immediately jumped up. "You're here, Ran."

The man looked paler than before, with very dry, almost peeling lips. Due to a lack of cleaning, his long hair appeared greasy, unlike his usual immaculate appearance.

Seeing Ning Ran looking at him, Ruan Anxi blushed and murmured, "We can't take a bath here, and the guy doesn't let me drink water. I can't be bothered to plead with him."

"You can't drink water?" the woman asked incredulously.

Pointing to the bottles of liquid on the shelf, Ruan Anxi confessed sheepishly, "They're watching my every move to make sure that I don't take a sip of water. It's impossible to win a fight against them because I don't have any weapons, not to mention the fact that I'm outnumbered."

Qiao Zhan had arranged for five to six men to watch over Ruan Anxi. They were all big and burly, albeit not as strong as their boss.

Given Ruan Anxi's small build, he would have a hard time dealing with even one of these men, let alone five or six.

"Get me a bottle of water," Ning Ran ordered one of Qiao Zhan's subordinates.

When the men refused to budge an inch and lowered his head, Ning Ran knew that Qiao Zhan had sent his most trusted men for the job.

Qiao Zhan must have commanded them not to give Ruan Anxi any water, no matter who spoke. No wonder these people refuse to listen to my instruction.

The matter came as no surprise to Ning Ran, as it was understandable for Qiao Zhan to have loyal aides who only followed his orders. It would be challenging to accomplish anything if his men's allegiance could be swayed so easily.

Ning Ran walked up to the refrigerator and took out a bottle of mineral water, which she handed to Ruan Anxi.

Although Qiao Zhan's subordinates refused to pass the bottle to Ruan Anxi, they did not prevent Ning Ran from doing so.

"I'm dying of thirst!" Ruan Anxi exclaimed as he drained the bottle in a single gulp.

"Actually, Qiao Zhan isn't that bad. If you're willing to speak politely to him, he may agree to let you drink water," Ning Ran suggested.

Ruan Anxi waved his hand and shot the woman a disgusted look. "I'm not going to beg him. Who does he think he is? I'll just have to endure the thirst since he forbids me from drinking. He doesn't dare to murder me anyway." After saying that, he chuckled.

The man's indifferent attitude left Ning Ran feeling exasperated. She could not understand how he could keep his cool despite being under Qiao Zhan's control.

"As a doctor, you should know that although humans can live for extended periods of time without eating, they cannot survive without water," Ning Ran reminded.

"I know, but that doesn't mean I'm willing to beg him. Ran, are you here to visit me?" Ruan Anxi asked, a rumbling sound coming from his stomach.

Seems like he's not only thirsty but also hungry.

In an attempt to alleviate Ruan Anxi's hunger, Ning Ran searched for some snacks and offered to share them.

To her surprise, the man rejected her kind offer. "I don't eat junk food. It's not good for the body."

Ning Ran was impressed by Ruan Anxi's strong will. Despite being so hungry, he still refused to eat junk food. If she were in his position, she would have gladly accepted any food that could satisfy her hunger.

"What would you like to eat, then? I'll send someone to buy it," the woman offered.

"I would like a medium-rare steak and an 87 Chateau Lafite," Ruan Anxi replied.

Does he think he's on vacation? How dare he order such a lavish meal!

As she shrugged helplessly at his unreasonable demands, Ning Ran gently reminded Ruan Anxi of his situation. "You can eat those foods after you leave here. They aren't available now."

"All right, let's head for a meal," the man said delightfully. His answer caught Ning Ran off-guard.

Has this guy forgotten about his current situation?

"You can get out of here once the matter is settled. I hope you can release the Ning couple," Ning Ran said, stating her intentions clearly.

"He mentioned this to me earlier. He thought that by imprisoning me, he could scare me into doing things his way. Unfortunately, that's never an option. I never give in to threats, and moreover, he will never hurt me. Nan Chen and Nanshi Corporation will be in huge danger if something awful happens to me. It'll also cause a bloodbath in Flower City." Ruan Anxi sounded not just uninterested in the topic, but also arrogant. No wonder Qiao Zhan despised the man, as even Ning Ran was growing tired of him.

Ning Ran took a deep breath and told herself to calm down. After all, the purpose of the visit was to find a solution, not to argue with Ruan Anxi.

After taking a seat in front of him, she stared him in the eyes and said sternly, "You said you would only speak to me. Now that I'm here, you refuse to have a proper conversation. What's the point of continuing this discussion?"

Just then, Ruan Anxi's stomach grumbled again, reminding him of his lack of food and water.

Serve him right for being so arrogant even though he's in hunger.

The man responded, "I can't be bothered to talk to the rest, not even when they threaten to hurt me. I'm only willing to speak to you because I think we are the same kind of people."

His words left Ning Ran feeling puzzled. What do you mean we are of the same kind? I'm obviously different from you. You are a ruthless scumbag who's willing to do anything to achieve your goals, while I'm a sweet, innocent being. We are complete opposites!

Ning Ran coughed awkwardly before clarifying, "I believe there's a misunderstanding. Our professions, thoughts, behaviors, and methods of handling things differ, indicating that we aren't the same kind of people."

"There's no need to be so cryptic with your words. In a nutshell, you're saying that I'm a bad person, and you are a good person." Ruan Anxi chuckled lightly.

Seeing there was no need to stay cordial, Ning Ran nodded and said, "Yeah, that's what I meant."

"All right, I accept that I'm not exactly a good man. What I meant was that we are both stubborn. We'll never give in to coercion even if it means sacrificing our lives," Ruan Anxi explained.

Disagreeing with his interpretation, Ning Ran waved her hand and protested, "No, no, no, you've got it wrong. I'm scared of death!"

"Yet you were fearless when I held you captive. Most other women would have been so terrified," Ruan Anxi rebutted.

In truth, Ning Ran had been petrified but pretended not to be. Her worry had been slightly alleviated by the knowledge that Ruan Anxi would not murder her.

As it would be challenging for Ning Ran to explain herself, she made the decision to change the subject. "Let's get down to business. What would it take for you to release Ning Ziqiang and his wife?"

Before Ruan Anxi could answer, Qiao Zhan walked in.

"Get out. I'm having a great conversation with Ran. Why are you interrupting?" Ruan Anxi waved his hands dismissively.

Before an infuriated Qiao Zhan could punish Ruan Anxi for his haughty attitude, Ning Ran rushed over to pull him aside.

She figured that there must be a reason for Qiao Zhan's sudden appearance. Earlier, they had agreed that the man would remain outside while she spoke with Ruan Anxi.

"I need to talk to you in private." Ning Ran took the initiative to speak to Qiao Zhan. "What's the matter?" she whispered after the pair went to a corner.

"Someone from the embassy of M Nation filed a police report in Flower City about a missing special liaison officer. Guess who was in the photo provided to the police? It's the b*stard, Ruan Anxi. Sir Chen has instructed us not to blow up the matter. We need to find a way to get that man to release Ning Ziqiang so that we can free him as soon as possible," Qiao Zhan explained in a hushed voice.

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Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 823-"When did Ruan Anxi become M Nation's special liaison officer? What the hell is this job? Who is he liaising with?" Even Ning Ran found it absurd.

“Rumor has it that this b*stard is one of the royals’ illegitimate sons, so he’s well-protected in M Nation. That’s why he’s lording over everyone. Since the embassy has called the cops, they’ll surely make a proper identity for this b*stard. I have to let him go, or else I’ll risk diplomatic chaos. Nanshi Corporation has large investments in M Nation as well. If this thing blows up, the consequences will be unimaginable. This is what Sir Chen wants.”

Frankly, Ning Ran did not need Qiao Zhan to explain to her to figure out that it was Nan Chen’s idea.

Ruan Anxi had been emphasizing that there would be a bloodbath in Flower City if he died. Whether he was lying or not was something Ning Ran could not verify.

However, it was true there would be many troubles if M Nation were to find out that Ruan Anxi had been locked up.

Evidently, someone in M Nation wanted to protect Ruan Anxi, and therefore, they had pulled some strings.

It was not worth it to risk a war between two countries for one person.

Furthermore, Nanshi Corporation had a range of major projects in M Nation. Nan Chen did not wish for his private matters to affect Nanshi Corporation’s profits. After all, he was the one in charge of the company, so he had to consider the big picture.

Letting Ruan Anxi go was something he had to do. As to how they were going to settle the score with Ruan Anxi, that was a matter for the future. For now, they had to let him go to avoid things from blowing up further.

“I understand. Tell Nan Chen that I’ll deal with this properly,” Ning Ran said in a low voice.

“All right,” Qiao Zhan said before leaving.

Ning Ran walked over to Ruan Anxi, who was staring at her. It seemed that he was guessing what Ning Ran and Qiao Zhan could have been saying.

Ning Ran offered the answer. “Qiao Zhan said that there are people looking for you.”

She knew that Ruan Anxi would be suspicious if she were to lie to him. However, Ruan Anxi believed her.

He let out a creepy chuckle and said, “Of course there are people looking for me. I’m important.”

Ning Ran nodded. "What Qiao Zhan means is that this place may accidentally end up in a fire if you don't work with us."

Some colors drained out of Ruan Anxi's face at that. "What do you mean? Are you telling me the big guy's trying to burn me to death?"

"He didn't say that. He only said that this place is a bar with lots of bottles with high alcoholic content. Alcohol is a flammable liquid, and it's nothing unusual if a fire happens," Ning Ran said calmly.

Ruan Anxi chuckled again. "You're right. I'll be burned to a crisp if he wants to kill me here. No one will be able to identify me, but you won't let him do that, right?"

Ning Ran put on a troubled look. "I've never intervened in the men's matters. Of course, I don't hope for this place to end up catching fire. That doesn't sound nice. Why don't you let Ning Ziqiang and his wife go? I'll talk to Qiao Zhan and convince him to dismiss the idea."

Ruan Anxi shook his head in determination. "Did you think I'll relent because you're giving me death threats? No way. Let him set this place on fire. I don't care."

How stubborn.

"We're not threatening you. I just think that you're only here in Flower City for Ding Fei. Why would you want to make things hard for—"

"No. I'm mainly here for you. Capturing Ding Fei is just a side task."

Ning Ran could not reply to that. She knew how things would be even more complicated if Nan Chen were to hear Ruan Anxi say that.

"Why don't you name a condition and let Ning Ziqiang and his wife go? Didn't I give you a promise already? Once Ding Fei gives birth to her baby, she'll be yours. What's the point of being so stubborn still?" Ning Ran said, pretending to be angry.

"I would've agreed to this if you had come to me earlier. If I'm in a good mood, I won't mind letting anyone go, but threats are useless. How can someone who doesn't even dare to kill me threaten me? What a joke! If I were him, I'd have chopped off a hand first, but since all my limbs are still intact, it must mean he doesn't dare to lay a finger on me."

A look of contempt was on Ruan Anxi's face. He was looking down at them for not daring to do anything ruthless to him.

Ning Ran asked impatiently, "Well, I'm here now, so talk. What will it take for you to let Ning Ziqiang go? Stop wasting our time. It's pointless."

Ruan Anxi said, "As long as you have four meals with me every month, I'll let Ning Ziqiang and his wife go. I know your relationship with Ning Ziqiang. You won't sit on your hands and let him die."

That was a request that surprised Ning Ran.

There are four weeks in a month. If I have to have four meals with him every month, that means I have to keep him company once every week. Isn't that a lot? I'm no friend of this b*stard! I'm avoiding him like a plague, but now I even have to have meals with him? But if I don't agree with his request, it'll be hard to wrap this matter up.

"I'm busy with work, so four meals won't do. Two."

"Three."

"Two meals, and no more. I don't even have more than two meals in a month with Nan Chen sometimes."

"Deal. You can't go back on your words. The consequences will be dire if you break your promise," Ruan Anxi said with an eerie grin.

"I know. Call your men and tell them to let them go now, then send me the video. I want to make sure that Ning Ziqiang and his wife have regained their freedom."

Ruan Anxi laughed. "You don't trust me? I'll let them go if I say so. Honestly, they aren't important to me. They're only minor characters in the grand story. I'm delighted to get you to agree to have meals with me. I don't want the money Ding Fei took from me anymore. Tell her to give everything to you instead."

Ning Ran was taken aback by his words. "Give it to me?"

"Yes. It's quite an amount too. Tell her that as long as she gives you the money, I won't hold her accountable for her actions anymore. Everything will be negotiable. Does money matter? What I have most is money. My happiness is of utmost importance."

Ning Ran was quick to reject. "I don't want it! I don't want your money!"

"If you don't want it, then Ding Fei will have taken advantage of me. Then, as long as I'm alive, I'll never let Ning Ziqiang go."

Ning Ran could not believe that Ruan Anxi would go back on his words just because of that.

She had no choice but to incline her head. "Fine. I'll donate your money. I don't want it."

"You can do anything you like after you get it as long as Ding Fei doesn't get anything from this. If she's the one who receives the money, then I'm never going to let anyone go. You might as well burn me alive here."

Ning Ran simply could not wrap her head around what went on in Ruan Anxi's mind. The things he did were baffling.

"Fine. I got it. Make your call and get them to let those two go," Ning Ran said reluctantly.

A smile finally appeared on Ruan Anxi's face. "Okay. I'll let them go right away."

An anxious thought popped into Ning Ran's head as she handed him the phone. She feared he would pull some sort of trick. "You have to turn on the speaker once the call goes through. Also, I want to see the video."

Ruan Anxi chuckled. "I usually do good on my promise. Even if I lie to others, I won't lie to you."

That was something Ning Ran did not wish to respond to. "Hurry up and call them now."

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 824

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 824-Later on, Ning Ran received a call from Wang Xiaoou, telling her that she needed to take a trip to the office for some matters.

When Ning Ran reached Star Entertainment, Wang Xiaoou gave her a document. "I wanted to send you the digital copy so that you don't need to come here, but I realized that we'll need to discuss some details, so I asked you to come instead."

Ning Ran gave her a small smile as she nodded. "Of course. You're too courteous, Ou. This is just my job."

"Let me give you a brief explanation. This is a reality TV, and its name is Dashing Stars. I'm sure you can hear from its name that this is a challenging reality TV. The participating celebrities will be split into two teams. Each production team will be considered a team, and they will be competing against each other," Wang Xiaoou introduced.

Ning Ran nodded. "So our production team's main cast will be joining this?"

"Yes, but only the three main stars: you and Huang Zichao. There's one more spot left, and the program production team is hoping that you'll bring along your darling daughter because she's in the film too..."

"Sorry, but that won't do. I won't let my daughter join reality TV. She's too young," Ning Ran swiftly rejected.

Wang Xiaoou smiled. "We know you won't agree to it, let alone Mr. Chen, so our staff has rejected them for you. Tang Jing is in it instead, so the three of you are now up against the other cast members, who are the representatives of another film, Gray Town. Their main cast members are big shots as well. One of them is a member of the rising band, The Riot Boys—Shi Jie. There's someone else you know too. It's Ye Meng, but she's no longer one of the top stars, so she's only playing a side character. There's also a new actor, but I don't remember their name."

Ye Meng? The actress who used to be at the top of the pyramid?

Ning Ran had Nan Chen backing her when she filmed her first advertisement for an international brand—Channing.

Ye Meng used to be the brand ambassador for Channing, but Ning Ran ended up taking her place. Ever since then, Ye Meng had been doing everything she could to target Ning Ran.

In the end, Ning Ran still won Ye Meng with Nan Chen's support, and she even forced Ye Meng to the bottom of the pyramid.

The world was truly small. Ning Ran never thought she would meet Ye Meng again.

Wang Xiaoou noticed Ning Ran's worry. Sure enough, she knew about the conflict between Ning Ran and Ye Meng back then.

"Don't worry. Ye Meng's no longer the top star she used to be, so she won't pose much threat to you. I remember that the grudge between you and Ye Meng has been resolved, right? She even helped you out in getting the Best Newcomer Award," Wang Xiaoou pointed out with a chuckle.

"I'm not worried about it. I just think it might end up a little awkward. She's been in showbiz longer than I have, after all."

"It'll be fine. We're all here to promote our films, right? Everyone's only working. This is strictly business, and the competition is only for the audience. Don't take it to heart. The filming will last three days, so prepare yourself for it. We'll be having a meeting tomorrow afternoon."

Ning Ran was a little taken aback by how fast it was.

Shouldn't a program like this be pre-arranged? The filming is starting tomorrow even though I've only received news about it today.

"Mr. Chen pulled some strings to swap the production team, so things are a little hasty. Still, it's nothing complicated. I'm sure you'll be able to pull through it."

Despite Wang Xiaou's words, Ning Ran still felt somewhat pressured.

"If there aren't any other problems, we'll start preparing now. Don't worry about the arrangements. Cheng Xiangyun and I will be dealing with that. You don't need to think about anything. Just rest and ready yourself for the exercise."

"All right, then. Thank you, Ou."

After leaving the office, Ning Ran went to pick up the two children.

Only when most of the children had left did she see Dabao holding Erbao's hand and ambling their way out of school.

Happiness washed over Ning Ran when she saw the two children.

After getting out of the car, Ning Ran walked toward them.

Both Erbao and Dabao did not expect their mother to pick them up herself. Upon spotting her, they dashed toward her.

"Mommy, why were you free to pick us up today?"

"I'm not working today, so here I am. What did you do in school today?"

"We learned to dance, sing, and recite old poems!" Erbao reported.

"That's a lot of lessons! It must be tough for you. Come on, let me carry you." Ning Ran hunched over to lift Erbao into her arms.

"It's not tough! You're the one who has it tough, Mommy! You need to work and take care of us. Now that's tough," Erbao muttered as she leaned her cheek against Ning Ran's.

"You're saying sweeter and sweeter things with each passing day. What a good girl."

"Mommy, let's go and find Daddy! Let's find out what Daddy's doing," Erbao said with a giggle.

Ning Ran pinched her cheek and uttered, "What can your daddy possibly be doing right now? He's surely at work, so let's not disturb him."

"Come on! It's been such a long time since we've been to Daddy's office. Why don't we go there and wait for him to finish work?" Erbao pestered.

In the end, Ning Ran agreed to Erbao's request when she recalled she would be going to work the next day and could not accompany her children again.

When they reached the headquarters of Nanshi Corporation, Nan Chen was working in his office and giving instructions to Jiang Zhe.

Erbao was quite obedient. She was not mischievous, but she started wandering to other offices to play with the staff.

That was why the girl liked going to the office. It was a lively place, and the people there liked her.

Erbao had learned her lesson and did not take the staff's snacks this time. After a while of playing with them, she obediently went back to Nan Chen's office.

However, Nan Chen was still busy as he worked and answered calls.

Ning Ran was studying her script, and Dabao was reading a book.

Feeling bored, Erbao went out again.

When working hours were over, one of the staff suggested taking Erbao out for food. Erbao was tempted, but she rejected them, for she knew her parents would not agree to it.

The staff decided to stay in the office to play with Erbao until Ning Ran came over to get her.

"Sorry for the trouble, everyone. Please head home to rest," Ning Ran said with an apologetic smile.

"It's fine, Ma'am. Your darling's pretty and cute. You and Mr. Chen have amazing genes to have a sweetheart as pretty as her."

Ning Ran felt strange to hear someone call her "ma'am," but she still gave the other person a smile.

Erbao stood by the elevators and waved to the others like a little princess. She was adorable.

By the time they went back to Nan Chen's office, he was finally close to wrapping up his work.

Glancing at his watch, he said, "Give me another half an hour. I need to deal with some documents before we head out for dinner."

“Are we disturbing you?” Ning Ran asked apologetically.

“No, it’s fine. Just wait for me a little while,” Nan Chen replied.

Right then, the phone on Nan Chen’s desk rang, and he picked it up. He spoke in English, and Ning Ran heard the name, Zhiyi, again.

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Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 825-Ning Ran tried her best to keep a composed exterior, pretending to be deaf. Nevertheless, she was actually seething inside.

After the call ended, Nan Chen returned to his tasks at hand. He stayed focused and worked diligently until he could finish his tasks and clock out for the day.

He had reserved a table for them at a Ferropenian restaurant.

Ning Ran preferred hotpot, but since Nan Chen had already made the reservation for their dinner, she chose not to say anything and decided to go along with his decision.

Nan Chen had previously suggested that they should take the children to higher-class restaurants more frequently to help widen their worldviews and develop their characters.

Being a part of the Nan family meant that the children could no longer simply frequent kids’ cafes and hotpot restaurants.

Nan Chen thought that Ning Ran should go to hotpot restaurants on her own if she had a craving for it. There was no need for her to expose the kids to rowdy environments.

He preferred if Erbao could broaden her horizons. Money should never be a constraint when it comes to educating a girl. He was determined to ensure she did not remain unrefined and uncultured.

Nan Chen ordered four set meals, two for the children and two for the adults. He also ordered a bottle of wine to accompany the meal.

Their dishes were being served when Nan Chen’s phone rang.

He retrieved it and walked aside to answer the call.

Ning Ran paid attention to his conversation and seemed to hear the name “Zhiyi” again.

However, she remained calm. Zhiyi is something else, huh? She must have a special connection with Nan Chen to be able to call his private number, one that is typically only used by family members.

Nan Chen soon returned to his seat and placed his phone aside. He then left to wash his hands and sat down. Right when he was about to enjoy his meal, his phone rang again.

It was Zhiyi again.

Nan Chen grabbed his phone and went aside to answer the call.

After the call ended, he went to wash his hands again. He had already begun to cut into his steak when his phone suddenly rang again.

Ning Ran could no longer contain her thoughts and spoke out. "Perhaps you should take care of your business first before eating. It's going to get cold."

Nan Chen's hand froze midair before he could reach for his phone. An awkward expression crossed his face.

Both Dabao and Erbao stopped eating, their gazes darting between Ning Ran and Nan Chen.

"It's about work," Nan Chen said sheepishly.

"I know it's work. That was why I said you should take care of your business." Ning Ran softened her voice as it occurred to her that she had spoken impulsively.

"Forget it. I'm not taking any more calls. Let's eat!"

To Ning Ran's surprise, Nan Chen didn't lose his temper. He was playing along with her as the kids were present.

"Mommy, don't be mad," Erbao said timidly.

The children were fearful at the prospect of their parents getting into a fight, as they would feel completely powerless in the situation.

"I'm not mad. I just feel guilty that Daddy has to take out time to have dinner with us despite his hectic schedule," Ning Ran explained.

Her words were obviously a lie. Nan Chen frowned but didn't say anything.

Erbao was oblivious, but Dabao could sense that his mother was unhappy.

He knew it was related to the calls his father had answered.

After Nan Chen took a few bites, his phone rang again.

This time, he hesitated visibly.

“You should answer it since it’s about work. I’m fine with it,” Ning Ran said.

She wasn’t saying that to spite him. Instead, she regretted her impulsive words from earlier and wanted him to answer the call.

“Okay. Let me take this.”

Nan Chen took his phone and walked away. The call lasted for around ten minutes.

After the call ended, he slowly turned around and shot his family an apologetic look. “It was something related to work, I swear.”

“Daddy, didn’t you clock off earlier? Why are you still needed at work?” Erbao asked after placing her fork down.

“That was an overseas call. Our company has recently been listed overseas and has become the target of short-selling companies that released false information in an attempt to damage our reputation. To combat this and to restore our investors’ faith in our company, we decided to invite a third-party audit firm to investigate our finances and other relevant aspects of our business. The person in charge of this project is an old friend of mine, and I knew she had put in a lot of hard work by staying up till the early hours every day. I feel obliged to answer her calls, as I knew how much effort she was putting in.”

It seemed that Nan Chen was explaining the situation to Erbao, but his explanation was actually meant for Ning Ran.

Ning Ran didn’t know much about the corporate world, but her mother used to operate a company.

Ning Ran also majored in economics and knew some basic concepts.

Foreign short-selling companies had often been known to spread false reports about Chinese companies that had gone into international markets. This malicious tactic involved the release of fabricated news stories, and then taking advantage of the resulting dip in share prices by short-selling the company’s stocks.

Some reports were true, while some were fake.

To demonstrate that the reports were false, the victim would need to either conduct their investigation or hire an external audit firm to review their company. Using the results of this audit, they would be able to refute the claims made by the short-selling companies in their reports.

If the company in question did not take any proactive measures, short-selling firms would likely be the ones to initiate action, resulting in a sense of unease among investors that could result in them all following suit. This would be a disastrous outcome for the firm, as it could lead to a massive financial loss.

Ning Ran was fully aware that this was an issue of great importance.

However, her main point wasn't work, but the friend Nan Chen mentioned.

It was a "she," so it was clearly a female.

This lady wasn't just a colleague. If they were just colleagues, she wouldn't keep calling Nan Chen's private number.

Besides, Nan Chen's subordinates would usually handle such matters. He didn't have to go through everything himself.

If Nan Chen had to handle minor details such as coordinating with the audit firm, he would be overwhelmed by the amount of work.

It was a work matter, but Nan Chen took it seriously likely because of the woman involved.

The more Ning Ran pondered over the matter, the more annoyed she got.

As Ning Ran was silent, Nan Chen didn't bother starting a conversation.

Fortunately, Nan Chen was spared from further phone calls from Zhiyi. Perhaps he had told her he was in the middle of having dinner, so she felt embarrassed and stopped calling him.

Another possibility was that she had gone to bed. Despite working till the wee hours of the morning, she still needed to rest.

The family continued their dinner. However, Erbao felt uneasy as the atmosphere was pretty tense.

She loved having a good time and being in a relaxed environment, so the absence of sound was stifling to her.

"Daddy, Mommy, I learned a dance at school today. Let me show you!" Erbao exclaimed as she jumped off her chair, ready to showcase her dancing skills.

She was trying to lighten the mood by suggesting dancing during dinner.

"You can't go dancing until you've finished your meal," Ning Ran answered with a chuckle.

"I'm done eating. Now, it's time for me to give you and Daddy a performance. I'm sure you'll be delighted to watch me dance while you enjoy your meal. If I do a good job, then order a dessert for me," Erbao said as she licked her lips.

Oh, she's not done eating yet but wants some dessert.

Erbao started dancing.

Nan Chen placed his utensils down and watched her attentively.

It was a simple dance, but Erbao made it captivating.

When the dance came to an end, Nan Chen clapped his hands. "Good job!"

"Is it? I only started learning today. I can do better after practicing more!" Erbao responded enthusiastically.

"Yes. Erbao is the best dancer at school!" Dabao affirmed.

"It looks like my daughter has a talent for dancing. Should I get you a professional dance teacher to teach you how to dance?"

"No. I'm going to be an actress just like Mommy. I won't dance," Erbao rejected that offer immediately.

"Sure. You can do whatever you want. I'll order a dessert for you," Nan Chen said adoringly.

"Thanks, Daddy. I want a large one!" Erbao returned to her seat happily, as her plan had worked.

Something was weighing on Ning Ran's mind. Even though Erbao tried her best to interact with her, she seemed uninterested. They all went home after dinner ended on a tense note.

Nan Chen entered the study room and continued clearing his emails.

Usually, Ning Ran would brew some coffee for him, but as she was in a foul mood that day, she didn't even bother making him instant coffee.

Nan Chen needed coffee to work, and he wouldn't have trouble falling asleep even after taking caffeine at night.

After working for a bit, he had no choice but to come out to brew some coffee himself.

He was thoroughly dissatisfied, as he had noticed Ning Ran's cold attitude.

The following morning, Ning Ran woke up early as she had to participate in filming a show.

To her surprise, Nan Chen was already awake. He had just returned from his morning run.

Despite bumping into each other in the living room, they didn't say a word.

Ning Ran started preparing breakfast. Soon, Dabao and Erbao woke up.

The house became lively once they woke up.

During breakfast, Ning Ran mentioned that she would have to remain at the studio until the day after tomorrow. Someone else would have to take responsibility for getting the children to and from school.

"Mr. Qiao will pick you kids up after school. I'll be busy," Nan Chen said.

"Okay," Dabao and Erbao replied obediently.

After breakfast, Nan Chen and Ning Ran sent the kids to school.

Nan Chen only drove away after the teacher led the kids inside.

"If you're busy, you don't have to drive me there. I can take a taxi to Star Entertainment to meet up with Ou and the rest," Ning Ran said.

"I have a question for you. What did you promise Ruan Anxi? Why did he agree to release Ning Ziqiang?"

Nan Chen had been dying to know the answer for a long time but only came around to ask the question now.

Back when she talked to Ruan Anxi, Qiao Zhan wasn't around. She assumed Nan Chen had no idea of the incident. However, Nan Chen was smart enough to guess that they had come to an agreement.

It was actually a simple condition. Ning Ran had to eat with Ruan Anxi twice a month.

Eating together wasn't a big deal, but Ning Ran felt that it was strange for her to eat with someone of the opposite sex periodically. It felt a bit ambiguous.

Ning Ran couldn't bring herself to say it out loud or tell Nan Chen about it.

Now that Nan Chen had brought up the topic, she wasn't sure if he had discovered something or was merely making a simple inquiry.

She deliberated whether or not to tell him the truth.

Nan Chen took in her hesitance, and his suspicions grew.

No matter how harshly Qiao Zhan had tried to intimidate Ruan Anxi, the latter had remained steadfast in his resolve to only communicate with Ning Ran. He had adamantly refused to speak with anyone else.

After Ning Ran met him, Ruan Anxi changed and released Ning Ziqiang and his wife.

Nan Chen had been suspecting Ruan Anxi and Ning Ran had come to an agreement.

He had asked Qiao Zhan, but Qiao Zhan had no idea what it was.

Nan Chen knew Ruan Anxi well enough to know that he would definitely make a ridiculous demand.

"Won't you tell me about it?" Nan Chen asked icily.

"Oh, it was nothing. I didn't want to keep it a secret from you, but his request was weird. I didn't want you to misunderstand us," Ning Ran said guiltily.

"What do you mean?"

"H-He promised to release them if I agree to eat with him frequently."

Feeling troubled, Ning Ran told him that they would have to eat together frequently instead of eating together twice a month, hoping Nan Chen would find that more acceptable.

Alas, he still couldn't accept it. His gaze turned cold after he heard her explanation.

What the f*ck? How dare that thug force my woman to eat with him? He's insulting me! Why did Ning Ran agree to eat with him?

"You said yes?"

Hearing his tone, Ning Ran knew he was upset.

"I was focused on saving them. Besides, Qiao Zhan said if Ruan Anxi remains in custody, it may cause a diplomatic conflict, so I decided to say yes for now. I—"

“Why did you agree without asking me?” Nan Chen interjected.

“I...” Ning Ran didn’t know how to explain herself. “Back then, I—”

“I know. You think that has nothing to do with me, right?”

“No! I said yes to solve the problem. I didn’t think that much.”

Nan Chen gave off an intimidating aura when he was mad. Ning Ran felt so stressed out that she could barely breathe.

She had already felt guilty from the start, so when Nan Chen questioned her, she acted as though she had done something wrong.

“Don’t you know what kind of person he is? How could you agree to his request? If you give him your word and then fail to keep it, do you think he’ll forgive you easily? If you do it, then what is this? Are you seriously going to eat with an evil person? Have you ever considered my reputation?” Nan Chen roared.

His fury merely served to increase Ning Ran’s anxiety.

However, she believed that she had not done anything wrong. Under the circumstances, she had no choice but to give Ruan Anxi her word.

“Yes, you’re Sir Chen, so your reputation matters. I had no other choice back then. I’ve already given him my word, so it’s useless for you to yell at me...”

Before she could finish, Nan Chen’s phone suddenly rang.

Nan Chen was driving, so his phone was connected to the Bluetooth system.

However, he didn’t answer the call. Ning Ran glanced at the caller ID and realized it was Zhiyi again.

She helped him answer the call, and a woman’s voice rang out. “Good morning, Nan Chen.”

Ning Ran immediately realized something was off. Did she just call Nan Chen by his name? I rarely hear anyone calling him by his name. This woman is the first person I’ve heard do so. How are they related? Why does she get to call him by his given name?

“Good morning, Zhiyi,” Nan Chen greeted as the call was already answered.

“I’ve just arrived in Horbah. I’m going to rest for a bit at the hotel before taking a flight to Flower City. Remember to come to the airport to pick me up,” the woman said.

Right. During breakfast, Nan Chen said he has something to do in the afternoon and cannot pick the kids up from school. As it turns out, his engagement for the day is not related to work. Instead, he is going to pick up this woman.

“Okay. Got it,” came Nan Chen’s answer.

“I’m excited to see you soon. It’s been a while since we last met,” Zhiyi said. Her words sounded ambiguous.

Ning Ran wasn’t deaf nor a fool. The intimacy in Zhiyi’s words didn’t go unnoticed by her.

She wanted nothing more than to reprimand Zhiyi for being shameless, but Nan Chen had already told her that Zhiyi was the person in charge of the third-party audit firm in collaboration with Nanshi Corporation.

Despite brimming with fury, she knew she had to tamp down her anger so she would not embarrass Nan Chen.

“Yes, we haven’t met for some time. I’m driving. We’ll talk later. Bye!” Nan Chen ended the call.

“Stop the car!” Ning Ran said coldly.

“Why? We’re not there yet.”

“Stop the car. I’d like to get out now,” Ning Ran said loudly.

“Zhiyi is my friend. Her company is working with us to evaluate and audit Nanshi Corporation’s listed companies overseas—”

“I want to get out!” Ning Ran screamed.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 826

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 826-Nan Chen was pretty shocked, as Ning Ran had never yelled at him before.

No one had the courage to raise their voice at him due to his status, so he felt extremely unsettled after being shouted at.

Nan Chen pulled over and glanced at Ning Ran.

They were both furious, so it was pointless to communicate now.

Trying to communicate now would only serve to increase their fury.

Ning Ran grabbed her bag, got out of the car, and hailed a taxi in a huff.

After getting into the taxi, Ning Ran got more furious as she pondered over the matter.

I can't believe he didn't have time to pick up his kids but could spare time to pick up that woman!

Judging from the way the woman talked to Nan Chen, Ning Ran couldn't bring herself to believe that the woman had no connection with him.

Well, well. Right after Ouyang Qing entered prison, another woman named Zhiyi made her appearance!

Upon arrival at Star Entertainment, Ning Ran got out and composed herself. She didn't want anyone to realize that she was upset.

Wang Xiaoou and Cheng Xiangyun were discussing related matters as they waited for her.

Cheng Xiangyun was familiar with Ning Ran, so she immediately knew the latter wasn't in a good mood.

"We'll start filming right after meeting up with the production crew. You look strange. What happened?" Cheng Xiangyun asked softly.

"I'm fine," Ning Ran reassured her gently.

"You have to compose yourself. This reality show's rating is quite high, so you can't afford to screw up," Cheng Xiangyun said worriedly.

"Don't worry. I'll do my best."

"Let's go, then," Wang Xiaoou said.

Right then, an employee brought in a suitcase that Ning Ran instantly recognized as hers.

She was so infuriated that she had completely forgotten to grab her suitcase before alighting from Nan Chen's car earlier.

Ning Ran's anger dissipated a little when she realized he had delivered it to her.

Nevertheless, she quickly felt a jolt of anger again when she recalled that he would be picking up Zhiyi personally that day.

You're not married to him, so there's no need to be angry. Think positive!

Alas, it was hard to do so.

She remained furious on the way to their destination, having failed to compose her emotions.

Upon arrival, she spotted Huang Zichao coming toward her, wearing a bright, cheerful smile and carrying a gorgeous bouquet of roses.

Huang Zichao had completed all of his scenes for the movie before the official end of filming and had since moved on to join another production team to begin work on a new project. It had been quite a while since they had last seen each other.

“Hello. It’s been a while,” Huang Zichao greeted her before offering her the flowers.

Ning Ran gratefully accepted the flowers and brought them close to her face, inhaling their sweet fragrance. She finally felt much better.

Huang Zichao had nothing to do with lifting her spirits. It was the thoughtful gesture of someone who cared that made all the difference.

“Huang, this is unfair. You gave Ding flowers but not us!” Tang Jing joked as she came over to join them.

Ning Ran gave the bouquet to her. “I’ll give them to you, then.”

Tang Jing chuckled and shook her head. “I dare not take the flowers that the award-winning actor bought for you. His fans will chastise me for doing so.”

“That was inconsiderate of me. I should’ve prepared two bouquets,” Huang Zichao responded cheerfully.

“Huang, Ding is obviously the only one occupying a special place in your heart. It’s normal for you to prepare only one bouquet,” Tang Jing continued joking.

Ning Ran disliked such jokes as they were all public figures. If someone overheard the joke, they could misconstrue it and the news could spread like wildfire, leading to potentially damaging consequences.

“All right, let’s head in and meet our competitors,” Wang Xiaoou interjected with a smile.

The rest were already there. Seeing Ning Ran, Ye Meng came over to greet her. “Ms. Ding, it’s been a while.”

They gave each other a polite hug. Another rookie actress, Chen Gui, also came to greet her. She was a gorgeous young lady who had just graduated from acting school.

"Hello, Ding. My name is Chen Gui," she introduced herself.

"Hello. Nice to meet you." Ning Ran shook her hand.

"I absolutely love your dramas, Ding! Your acting skills are truly remarkable and you are a much better actress than many other female superstars. You are a wonderful role model for us rookies," Chen Gui gushed.

Her words rendered Ning Ran awkward, as Ye Meng was a female superstar.

Ning Ran couldn't help but wonder if she meant something else by claiming that Ning Ran was a better actress than many other female superstars.

I thought Chen Gui is good with her words, but I was wrong. I wonder if she said that on purpose.

Fortunately, Chen Gui went to Tang Jing after chatting briefly with Ning Ran. "Tang Jing, I'm glad to see you again."

Tang Jing was a highly accomplished graduate student at the renowned acting school. She was a model student and would often return to campus to join in various events. Chen Gui could recognize her almost immediately.

Despite not being an A-list celebrity, Tang Jing was widely acknowledged and highly respected by both teachers and fellow students alike for her outstanding academic achievements. Teachers had a special fondness for students who excelled in their studies, and Tang Jing was certainly no exception.

"How are you, Gui? Have you found a boyfriend?" Tang Jing greeted Chen Gui with a hug.

"No. Rich ladies have snatched all the handsome guys in our school. They left us with nothing, so I couldn't get myself a boyfriend," Chen Gui replied cheekily.

It looks like Chen Gui is fond of speaking recklessly when she's excited.

Tang Jing chuckled. "Really? Are the boys in our school that popular to be snatched by rich ladies?"

"Yeah! They are all taken!"

They were chatting pleasantly when someone else arrived.

A young man around sixteen or seventeen years old walked in, flanked by six staff. His appearance was grander than anyone else.

The boy was of average height, but his complexion was fair, and his features were delicate and attractive. He was dressed in a pristine white sweater and a pair of stylish black jeans.

He was one of the top five prettiest boys Ning Ran had ever seen.

However, Ning Ran knew she was no longer young. She wasn't interested in young boys, especially since this one brought so many staff with him. He gave off a pompous air.

"Oh, this is Shi Jie. He's pretty popular recently. When we were filming in Zaprington, hundreds of his fans waited outside every day," Ye Meng revealed, conflicting emotions swirling in her gaze.

"Oh? Is he a member of The Riot Boys?" Ning Ran asked. She had heard about them briefly but didn't know them well.

"Yes. They debuted on a reality television talent competition show. Neither of them can dance or sing well, but they are insanely popular," Ye Meng replied with a chuckle.

Ye Meng had more experience than Ning Ran in the entertainment industry, let alone the young Shi Jie.

In the entertainment industry, the old would have to make way for the young. While the young might not necessarily be more talented or successful than the old, they were guaranteed to take over and leave the old behind.

The fast-paced nature of the industry created an atmosphere of constant insecurity for those involved. One day, they could be beloved icons, but the next, they could easily be forgotten and replaced by a new rising star.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 827

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 827-That was why Ye Meng had mixed feelings when she saw Shi Jie, the rising star.

Ning Ran had just debuted a few months ago. When she got Channing's endorsement deal that was supposed to go to Ye Meng, the latter had put up a fight with her, only to fail miserably.

Now, Ning Ran was no longer a rookie, but new talents were being introduced to the public again. With how cruel things worked in the entertainment industry, there was no way Ye Meng would be at ease.

Both Ning Ran and Ye Meng contemplated whether they should take the initiative and greet Shi Jie.

They were all there to film for the show. If they didn't interact at all, it wouldn't be easy for them to bond later.

However, Ye Meng found it difficult to lower herself and greet a junior first.

On the other hand, Ning Ran wasn't too bothered. Although she was a few years older than Shi Jie, some people still considered her a rookie in the industry. After all, it hadn't been long since she got the Best Newcomer Award.

However, since Ye Meng didn't make a move, Ning Ran stayed still as well. She didn't want Ye Meng to accuse her of riding on a rising star's coattails.

Fortunately, Shi Jie walked over to them on his own. "Hello, Ms. Ye, Ms. Ding."

This was the first time Ning Ran and Shi Jie had met each other. As Ning Ran had been embroiled in various problems and incidents in the past few months, she didn't have the energy to pay attention to what was going on in the entertainment industry. She wasn't even aware of the birth of a superstar like Shi Jie.

"Hello, Shi. Long time no see," responded Ye Meng with a smile.

Ning Ran also smiled faintly and nodded. "Hello."

That was the only thing she could say. There was nothing to talk about since they didn't have any previous encounters, and Ning Ran did not see the need to make small talk.

"Ms. Ding, I love your show. When it started showing, I tuned in every day. Even when I finished work late at night, I made sure to watch the latest episode before going to sleep," Shi Jie chirped.

Ning Ran did not expect to hear that. She was pleasantly surprised to find out that Shi Jie was a fan of hers.

"Oh, really? Thank you for liking it. Actually, The Sound of Thunder 2 is the only show I've formally acted in so far. I don't have many works on my filmography. I'm just a rookie," said Ning Ran humbly.

Shi Jie complimented, "The fact that you impressed everyone with just one show means you're really good. It's useless to be on too many projects. What's most important is having a movie or show you're known for."

There was nothing wrong with what he said, but a dark look flashed across Ye Meng's face.

While Shi Jie did not intend to allude to her, Ye Meng couldn't help but assume those words were about her.

She had been in a lot of shows, but aside from her Jetroinian movie that gained popularity because of her nude scenes, her other works received lukewarm responses. Ye Meng was the type of actress who had a long list of filmography but no memorable work.

In truth, this was not wholly Ye Meng's fault. It was just how the entertainment industry worked. Once a celebrity went viral, they had to accept offers as much as they could and participate in all kinds of shows and events.

If they didn't make money while their career was at its peak, no one would spare a glance at them once their popularity died down.

Since their goal was to earn money, they couldn't possibly be picky about their work. They just acted in whatever shows they were offered.

If one tried to recall the career history of those celebrities who were popular across the entire country, one would only remember rumors and gossip about them but not the works they were in.

Ning Ran could see the stiffness in Ye Meng's expression, but she wasn't sure how to resolve the awkwardness.

Despite his huge popularity, Shi Jie was still young. He wasn't shrewd enough yet to consider the feelings of everyone around him when he spoke. He was totally unaware of Ye Meng's predicament.

Just then, Tang Jing came over. "Shi, you've been dominating the trending topics every day lately," she remarked.

Shi Jie did not know who Tang Jing was. As he stared at her blankly, yet another moment of awkward silence took place.

To save Tang Jing from embarrassment, Ning Ran grinned and introduced, "This is Tang Jing, one of the most important members of our cast. She's known among the circle for her academic achievements. She even has a doctorate degree in performing arts."

"Wow! Please forgive me for my disrespect. I'm actually planning to apply for a film academy, but I'm not sure if I'll get accepted," Shi Jie said.

Tang Jing gave Ning Ran a look of gratitude to thank the latter for breaking the awkwardness.

Then she said, "You're already so popular. Does it matter what major you study?"

“No. I just gained popularity thanks to my fans. I still have a lot to learn.” Surprisingly, Shi Jie was quite down-to-earth.

It was rare for someone to uphold this attitude after achieving great fame at a young age.

At that moment, the program director, Jiang Yang, approached them. He shook hands with everyone and thanked them for coming to the shoot.

“It’s our first meeting today, so let’s get to know each other first and break the ice. Why don’t each of you showcase your talents first?” Jiang Yang prompted.

That was when the celebrities realized the cameras were already rolling.

They had thought they would begin once they were fully prepared, so the sudden commencement of filming made everyone feel lost.

Moreover, they were only told that the representatives of the two participating production teams would be competing with each other. Nothing about a talent showcase was brought up, so none of them were prepared.

The only person with the upper hand was Shi Jie, a boy group member who debuted on a survival show. He still remembered the songs and dances he had practiced for that show, so he could just choose from one of them and perform that.

Shi Jie came forward and volunteered, “I’m the youngest, so I’ll go first. I’m looking forward to enjoying the seniors’ performances after my humble performance.”

With that, he began to dance. As Ye Meng said, his dancing was so-so. One could tell at a glance that he did not have a solid foundation, but since he was young, he was energetic throughout the performance.

Indeed, it was great to be young. Shi Jie was not out of breath even after dancing to a song.

Everyone gave him a warm round of applause.

“Who wants to go next?” the director asked.

The talent showcase was not part of the script, and the show’s production team did not notify the participants in advance. It was literally a surprise, but it was nothing strange.

To get more candid reactions out of celebrities, the show’s production team would often arrange some surprise segments aside from what was indicated in the script and make celebrities perform without any preparations.

To the artists who debuted as singers, this was not much of a problem. Since that was their expertise, they could just do what they usually did and impress others.

On the contrary, this posed a huge challenge to people like Ning Ran and Tang Jing, who solely depended on their acting skills.

With her spare time used to raising her kids, Ning Ran did not have the time to practice other skills.

Aside from Shi Jie, the other celebrities exchanged awkward glances. No one was willing to step forward.

After a while, Tang Jing piped up, "Shi went first because he's the youngest. This means we're going in order of age, starting from the youngest, right? If that's the case, is it Gui's turn now?"

"Yes, it's her turn now," the crowd agreed as they turned their attention to Chen Gui.

Feeling a bit nervous, Chen Gui said, "All right, then. I'll perform a dance too. I'm not very good at dancing, so please don't laugh at me."

Thereafter, she showcased a folk dance that stunned everybody.

Her dancing skills were exemplary.

Compared to Shi Jie, she had a much better foundation. Everyone was surprised to find that a student who majored in acting had such strong fundamentals in dancing.

When Chen Gui was done, she could see from everyone's expressions that her performance was great. Naturally, she felt a little proud.

"Gui, your moves look so professional. Did you receive dance lessons before?" asked Tang Jing.

"Yes. I used to study dance before I enrolled in the film academy," Chen Gui answered with a smile.

Hearing that, Ning Ran couldn't help but think that Chen Gui already had a head start on them.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 828

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 828-It was pointless to be envious of someone, for Ning Ran still had to perform.

Singing? Not my forte. Dancing? It can't even be counted as my weakness.

She had learned to dance when she was younger, but it had been such a long time.

Although she had received dancing lessons before, she dared not dance in front of others now for fear of getting laughed at.

What was most terrifying was that this show would be aired in the most popular time slot.

She knew she couldn't dance after seeing Chen Gui's magnificent performance. Otherwise, she would only embarrass herself.

Ning Ran didn't know what to do.

However, she had to face it no matter what, as it was her job as a celebrity.

"It's your turn now, Ms. Ding," the director reminded.

"I—" Ning Ran panicked.

She was not prepared. The sudden request gave her a headache.

"I don't have any talent to showcase. Can you spare me?" Ning Ran smiled bitterly.

"Of course not. You have to perform. You can do anything you want. If you have no idea what performance to put on, you can do a backflip," the director said jokingly.

"I can't do a backflip. I'm too old for it." Ning Ran laughed.

"You're still young and pretty, Ms. Ding. You're not old at all," Shi Jie commented.

Ning Ran gave a bitter chuckle. I'm not old compared to Ye Meng, but I'm definitely older than a kid like you.

"Ms. Ding, if you don't mind, why don't we sing together?" Shi Jie proposed a duet.

Ning Ran was stunned by his suggestion. This kid wants to sing with me? But we're from different generations. I'm sure we don't listen to the same songs. How can we do a duet?

"I can't sing." Ning Ran chuckled awkwardly.

"It can't be. You have a beautiful voice, Ms. Ding. I'm sure you can sing. Don't worry. We can perform a simple song. Do you have anything in mind, Ms. Ding? I can go along with any song." Shi Jie sounded excited.

“Great! A duet from Shi and Ding Mi. It will be fantastic.” The director couldn’t wait to see it.

“I can only sing old songs. I don’t know what kids these days listen to.”

Shi Jie was so eager to collaborate with Ning Ran that it made her feel bad about rejecting his suggestion. However, she was afraid of ruining the performance at the same time.

It was risky for Ning Ran to perform a duet with a famous star like Shi Jie. If she ruined their performance, she would be cursed by his fans, for sure.

Netizens might accuse her of riding on the coattails of a young idol.

Furthermore, Shi Jie had a younger group of fans. Younger people tend to be simple-minded. They either love or hate something.

If things went well, Ning Ran would be applauded and receive compliments. She could even gain new fans of her own. However, if things went the opposite way, the passionate young fans might attack Ning Ran with no mercy.

Before this, Ning Ran had received massive hate from Zheng Lunlun’s fans. Thinking back, she still had a lingering fear in her heart. She swore she wouldn’t do anything to provoke younger fans again.

However, Shi Jie suggested singing together first then. If Ning Ran did not cooperate, she would still get cursed at after the show was broadcasted.

His fans might criticize her for turning down his suggestion for them to work together and call her shameless.

Ning Ran was at a loss.

Since she could not avoid it, she decided to bite the bullet.

“Okay, but I only know songs that are old and outdated. Also, I can’t sing well since I’m not a professional singer like you. Don’t blame me if I become a burden to you!” Ning Ran made herself clear.

“No problem, but no music is outdated. Only classics can stand the test of time. So, what song do you know, Ms. Ding?” Shi Jie asked happily.

Ning Ran pondered for a while about the song selection. She was not professional at singing, so she couldn’t choose songs that were too difficult to perform. Otherwise, she would only embarrass herself.

The only choice left was to find a song that was somewhat easier to sing yet popular.

Generally, songs with higher popularity would have different versions and have already been covered by many younger singers, so the piece would not appear too dated.

An English song suddenly popped into her mind. When translated, it was called Beyond Heaven.

“Do you know the song Beyond Heaven?” Ning Ran asked.

“Yes, it’s a classic English song. I’ve performed it before.” Shi Jie beamed.

“All right, let’s perform this song together.”

After deciding on a note, the two started to sing.

Since Ning Ran was not a professional singer, she had no vocal techniques or singing skills. Her only strength was that she had spent a few years abroad, so she had high fluency in English, and her pronunciation was accurate.

After they finished performing the song, she found they did surprisingly well.

Ning Ran also realized what Ye Meng said was true. Although Shi Jie was a famous up-and-coming star, his singing was average. His biggest strength was his attractive look.

At last, this section is over. Ning Ran breathed out a sigh of relief.

Next, it was Ye Meng’s turn. After she saw that Shi Jie and Ning Ran worked well together, she asked Shi Jie to collaborate with her on a song as well.

However, Shi Jie rejected her, saying he had overused his voice earlier while coordinating with Ning Ran’s high note. Since he had a concert next month, he couldn’t overexert his voice anymore and refused to sing with her.

In other words, he wasn’t willing to perform with Ye Meng.

Ye Meng had made this request mainly because she thought she had a higher status in the industry than Ning Ran and was more popular than Ning Ran. She felt that Shi Jie wouldn’t reject her since he had even invited Ning Ran for a duet.

However, she was wrong. Ning Ran was pretty, so Shi Jie preferred to work with the beautiful Ding Mi instead of the old female superstar, Ye Meng.

The atmosphere was so awkward that even Ning Ran felt bad for Ye Meng.

With no other choice, Ye Meng performed by herself. In order not to lose out, she also sang a song. She sang well, even better than Ning Ran.

However, when it came to the stage outcome, it was naturally not as good as the duet performance of Ning Ran and the young idol.

Ye Meng's past grievances with Ning Ran had almost been resolved, but with the incident with Shi Jie today, she felt jealous of Ning Ran again.

Although Ye Meng knew this had nothing to do with Ning Ran, she still blamed the latter for Shi Jie's rejection.

Because of this, she secretly swore in her heart that she would beat Ning Ran in the next match.

If possible, she wanted Ning Ran to be humiliated and feel awkward like she did now to call it even.

Right then, the first mission was given by the director team. The two production teams would move separately. They had to find a well-known paper-cutting master in the ancient town where they filmed to learn the master's skills and cut out the words "Run, Celebrity" to complete the task.

Like other reality shows, the team that took lesser time to complete the task would win, and the group that lost would be punished.

The director team did not mention what the punishment was and only told them that it would be a severe punishment.

Everyone became nervous when they heard that.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 829

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 829-The shooting of the reality show had officially begun.

On television, reality shows always showed how much fun the celebrities had on the program. Everyone was always smiling and laughing, giving the viewers the impression that the atmosphere was relaxed and pleasant.

However, Ning Ran soon found out how difficult it was to shoot a reality show once the camera started rolling.

There were numerous cameras at all angles as the film crew followed the celebrities around. Every celebrity would eventually expose their weaknesses and shortcomings by accident.

Everyone had their fair share of flaws, including celebrities. After all, they were human too, not divine beings.

Moreover, the old town was huge. Ning Ran and the others ran around the ancient buildings at a high speed as they tried to complete the tasks of the program according to the clues that they were given. Not only were they challenged physically, but they were tested in their problem-solving skills as well.

Before the first round of tasks was completed, Ning Ran could already feel the heaviness in her legs. Unable to run anymore, she took a short breather.

At that moment, the phone in her bag started vibrating.

According to the rules of the contract, the stars had to hand over their phones to their assistants during the shoot. They were not allowed to pick up their phones in front of the cameras.

The reason being the sponsor of the show was a phone brand. If the celebrities took out phones of different brands in the show, it would negatively impact the profitability of the sponsoring brand.

However, Ning Ran had genuinely forgotten to hand her phone over to Cheng Xiangyun.

Turning around, Ning Ran took out her phone and glanced at the caller ID. It was a call from Erbao.

All of a sudden, Ning Ran remembered that Nan Chen had mentioned earlier in the morning that he would be occupied in the afternoon and would not be able to pick the kids up from school.

When she saw that Erbao was calling her, she began to wonder if Nan Chen had forgotten about the kids and had left them in school.

Anxiety rose to her heart, causing her to pick up the phone and not care about the repercussions she would face.

"Mommy, where are you? It's pouring. No one has come to pick us up." Erbao sounded as though she was on the verge of tears.

Ning Ran's heart was shattered into pieces when she heard Erbao's tearful voice. Nan Chen really did neglect the kids over some woman!

"Mommy's working right now. Hold on, Darling. I'll contact Mr. Qiao and ask him to pick you guys up immediately," Ning Ran reassured her daughter, panicked and heartbroken.

As Ning Ran spoke, her eyes turned red and welled up with tears.

“Okay. When are you coming back, Mommy? I miss you.”

When Ning Ran heard that, she felt even worse. “I’ll be back soon. I’ll go back immediately after work. Be a good girl, okay? I’ll hang up now and call Mr. Qiao at once.”

Just then, one of the crew members approached and tried to stop her. “Sorry, Ms. Ding. You’re not allowed to use any other phone brands during shooting.”

“My daughter is stuck in school with no one to pick her up! I’m arranging transport for her this instant. It’s raining cats and dogs for love’s sake!” Ning Ran snapped in an unfriendly tone. She was consumed by her worry.

At that moment, the call connected. “Hello, Madam. How may I help you?”

“Erbaos called me saying that no one has picked them up from school. Can you head over there to pick them up?” Ning Ran tried her best to keep herself from yelling in anger.

“I apologize for the trouble, Madam. I’ve already reached the school entrance. It’s raining heavily in Flower City and traffic is quite slow on the road. I’ve been stuck in a jam for some time, which is why I’m late. I’ll explain everything to Erbaos and Dabao. I truly am sorry,” explained Qiao Zhan.

Ning Ran breathed out a sigh of relief when she heard that Qiao Zhan had arrived at the school.

“Sorry for troubling you. I have to get back to work. I’ll leave it to you, then.”

“It’s no trouble, Madam. It’s me who’s running a little late. So sorry for that.”

Before she could hang up, Ning Ran’s phone started beeping as she received another call.

It took her only one glance to recognize the number as Nan Chen’s.

Ning Ran immediately rejected Nan Chen’s call, not wanting to answer.

After hanging up the call with Qiao Zhan, Ning Ran proceeded to ignore the subsequent calls from Nan Chen.

Nan Chen had not gone to the airport as he said he would. He had just gotten out of an important meeting when he received a call from Dabao saying that no one picked them up from school.

After a phone call, he found out that Qiao Zhan was caught in a jam.

Nan Chen figured that Erbao would call Ning Ran regarding the situation, which in turn would lead to Ning Ran panicking and blaming him for neglecting the kids. He wanted to give Ning Ran a call to explain. Unexpectedly, Ning Ran did not even pick up.

After five or six failed attempts in contacting Ning Ran, the wrath in Nan Chen's heart flared up, causing him to hurl his phone at the wall.

Jiang Zhe was standing at the side, When he saw Nan Chen's reaction, he stiffened slightly. Oh, no. Mr. Chen's beginning to smash phones again.

Previously when he was young, Nan Chen had a terrible habit of throwing his phone in anger. There were days when he would destroy multiple phones in one day. Every time Jiang Zhe bought Nan Chen a new phone, he would buy ten of the same model and color. That way, he would just transfer the SD card to another phone if Nan Chen had smashed one.

Thankfully, ever since Ning Ran and the two children appeared in his life, Nan Chen no longer smashed his phone as frequently as he used to.

In fact, he had not destroyed any phones in the past few months. The phones that Jiang Zhe had prepared as backup had already fallen out of trend. Yet, not a single one of them had been touched.

Seeing that Nan Chen had smashed his phone again out of the blue, Jiang Zhe ran over to pick up the broken parts of the phone out of habit and was prepared to give Nan Chen a new phone.

Alas, Nan Chen's anger had not diminished. He glared at Jiang Zhe and asked, "Why are you picking it up?"

Jiang Zhe froze in bewilderment. The phone is smashed. Surely someone would have to pick it up eventually? Isn't that how things always play out? You throw the phone; I pick it up. If I don't pick it up, would you?

"The screen's broken. I'll change a new one for you," Jiang Zhe answered softly.

"Do you think I'm in the wrong too?" Nan Chen asked coldly.

"No. You're right to throw the phone," Jiang Zhe said against his true opinion.

To his horror, Nan Chen was even more furious. "I'm right to throw the phone, huh? Take out your phone!"

Not daring to go against Nan Chen's orders, Jiang Zhe could only take out his phone and place it on the table.

Without a word, Nan Chen picked up Jiang Zhe's phone and flung it across the room with all his might.

Jiang Zhe held his breath as he pressed his lips shut, not daring to even make a peep.

"The other one, too!" Nan Chen knew that Jiang Zhe had two phones.

"Mr. Chen, please calm down..." Jiang Zhe advised.

"The other one!"

Jiang Zhe reluctantly took out his other phone as well. It was a new model that he had just bought two days ago.

As expected, Nan Chen picked that phone up and smashed it without hesitation. Jiang Zhe felt his heart being torn in two as he grieved the loss of his new phone.

"Tell me, why isn't she picking up my calls?" Nan Chen's fury was not relieved even after he smashed the phones. He turned to Jiang Zhe and began interrogating the poor assistant.

Jiang Zhe was about to lose his mind. Shit. How do I answer a question like this? How am I supposed to know what happened between the two of you? How would I know the reason she refused to pick up your calls?

Not only that, he could not ask Nan Chen to tell him what had happened even if he were to try to figure out the problem. Nan Chen would definitely not explain anything.

"Was I wrong for caring for the company and getting busy with work?"

Jiang Zhe was glad that Nan Chen had finally asked him a question that he could answer.

"Of course not. With greater power comes greater responsibility. You're carrying the heavy duty of developing Nanshi Corporation. Of course you should work hard," Jiang Zhe said cautiously.

"Then why is she ignoring me?" Nan Chen thundered.

Jiang Zhe thought about it for a moment before coming up with what he thought was a smart answer. "Ms. Ning just wants you to spend more time spoiling her and just being with her. That's why she would occasionally throw a tantrum. She's not actually mad at you."

When Nan Chen heard that, he fell silent for a few seconds before retorting, "You're not her, so how would you know?"

Jiang Zhe was dumbfounded. That's right. I'm not her. How would I know? But I'm not her, so why are you asking me? Life is hard!

"Go! Go immediately to the town where they're shooting the program and see what she's doing. I want to know why on earth is she not answering my calls!" Nan Chen commanded.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 830

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 830-At eight o'clock in the evening, Ning Ran was still filming the reality show.

The filming of the first episode of the reality show was nearly finished. The two teams had completed their missions, with Ning Ran's team taking less time than the other team.

Ning Ran, Huang Zichao, and the other team members were about to celebrate when the director came over and told them it was not over yet.

Everyone quieted down, as they were confused. What does the director mean by it's not over yet?

"The team that finished this battle in the shortest time is the production team from I Am You, which is also the red team, but..." The director suddenly fell silent.

This tactic had been used many times to keep the audience in suspense.

"But?"

"Yes. Say it!"

"But the red team broke the rules. When completing the mission, a member stopped to answer a call. This is a violation of our filming rules. Those who violated these rules will be considered the losing team, so let us congratulate the production team of Gray Town, which is also the blue team for winning this round!"

With that, the director took the lead to give the blue team a round of applause.

However, no one applauded with him, as they were dumbfounded.

"Who broke the rules? Who answered a call?" Huang Zichao asked.

Even the blue team was astonished by their victory and didn't respond. How did we suddenly win?

Ning Ran knew without a doubt that the director was referring to her.

She couldn't decline the call when she saw it was from Erbao.

She would always answer her daughter's phone calls even if she was in a more pressing situation than filming a reality show.

"It was me. I'm sorry. I took a personal call and dragged you guys down with me," Ning Ran answered guiltily.

Tang Jing frowned in displeasure, as she had done her best during the mission. She had gone out of her way to get screen time because she desperately yearned to be famous.

In reality, she had accomplished her current success with her hard work.

It was extremely rare to have celebrities in China working on films and completing their doctorates at the same time. She was currently the only female in the entertainment industry to have accomplished this.

She was resentful of the loss because Ning Ran broke the rules and caused her efforts to become futile.

On the other hand, Huang Zichao wasn't too bothered. "It's fine. We will win in the next round."

Hearing that, Tang Jing immediately chimed in, "That's right. It's fine. We will definitely win tomorrow!"

Nevertheless, dissatisfaction lurked within her heart.

Ye Meng was the most satisfied. She had been irritated and angry with Ning Ran because Shi Jie had turned down a duet with her. Now, she felt rather pleased, knowing that Ning Ran had broken the rules and led her team to victory.

Nevertheless, she did not express her true emotions as she stated, "I think this is unfair of the production team to do this. Not picking up calls is a filming rule, but it's not part of the game rules. Since she didn't violate any game rules, the outcome of this mission shouldn't be changed."

Shi Jie instantly agreed with it. "I think so too. This is rather unjust to Ms. Ding."

The director disagreed, "Filming rules are part of the game rules. This is a fair judgment."

Ning Ran stepped forward and replied, "It's fine. I was wrong. I accept the punishment."

"The losing team will have to accept the punishment. We have two options for this. One is the sweet proposal, while the other is the brutal proposal. Which one do you choose?" the director asked.

Huang Zichao asked, "What do you mean by sweet and brutal?"

"I can't tell you that. I'll tell you guys once you make your choice." A sly smile spread across the director's face.

Tang Jing instantly muttered, "Then we will choose the sweet one. Who wants to be tortured?"

Huang Zichao chimed in, "Yes, we will choose the sweet one."

Ning Ran didn't say anything, as she wasn't in a good mood.

No matter the punishment, she was willing to bear the consequences.

The reason for her bad mood wasn't because she lost the game. Instead, she wondered if Nan Chen was having a candlelight dinner with the woman he picked up.

"There are two sweet proposals you guys can choose from. One is blowing balloons. The balloon has two openings, so two people will have to blow air into the balloon simultaneously. The punishment is done when the balloon bursts," the director explained.

Although it was not a heavy punishment, it was an uncomfortable one.

Since there were two openings in the balloon, two people would have to blow into the balloon simultaneously. If one person didn't blow into the balloon, the air blown in by the other would enter their mouth. It would be revolting, to say the least.

Jeez... How did the director and the production team think of such a disgusting punishment?

"What's the other option? This is too disgusting," Tang Jing stated.

"That's right. Let's hear the other option," Huang Zichao chimed in.

"The other option is more traditional. Two people have to munch on the apple at the same time until you can see the core," the director replied.

Everyone was shocked. Why does it sound like some terrible wedding custom?

“What are we going to choose?” Huang Zichao glanced at Ning Ran.

Ning Ran was irritated and didn’t want to choose any.

However, it was rude to say that, so Ning Ran replied, “Anything.”

“Then we will choose the second one. The first one is too sickening,” Huang Zichao suggested.

“Then you guys will munch on the apple?” the director asked.

It was also a difficult task. However, Huang Zichao thought it would be rather interesting to do it with Ning Ran.

Ning Ran was repulsed by the thought of sharing an apple with someone else even though she had never done so before. It was an extremely intimate action, as it looked like a kiss.

She didn’t want to do this more than the first option.

However, she was the reason her team lost, so she had to bear the consequences.

The staff member brought the apple over and tied it to a string. Two people were supposed to start munching on the apple from opposite sides.

Tang Jing could tell Ning Ran was troubled by it and didn’t want to play.

She knew Ning Ran had many considerations, as Nan Chen was her boyfriend.

“Ding, you must be tired. How about I do it?” Tang Jing volunteered herself.

Tang Jing also didn’t mind doing it as the other party was Huang Zichao, an award-winning international actor!

Who in their right mind would pass up the chance to be intimate with Huang Zichao? Tang Jing would never turn down such a good opportunity.

Ning Ran was more than happy to exchange places with Tang Jing. “You do it, then. I’m indeed quite tired.”

Huang Zichao was slightly disappointed that it wasn’t Ning Ran.

The two started munching on the apple. As the apple was swinging in the air, Tang Jing missed the apple and planted a kiss on Huang Zichao’s face.

The staff members cheered. This was exactly the outcome they wanted.

Tang Jing pretended to be embarrassed over it, but Huang Zichao was experienced and knew better. He didn't expose her even though he knew she did it on purpose.