

FMH Marriage 611

Chapter 611: Meet You At Our Old Meeting Spot In Philadelphia

After he saw the screen, the man was stunned. “What the f*ck? What’s wrong with Tang Ye? Has he gone mad? Damn him, he’s flirting with girls behind my back!”

“Based on my calculations, you have six hours for him to travel back,” Lu Tingxiao reminded him and was about to turn off the video but the man quickly stopped him. “Wait! Hmm...this girl looks familiar...why does she look like my Little Junior Sister? She really does look like her! Little Junior Sister in a girl’s outfit?! Boss, please give me a high definition version for better clarity!”

All of a sudden, Lu Tingxiao ended the call without hesitation.

Lu Tingxiao continued staring at the screen. The shot was taken from a distance, so there was no audio. He did not know what their conversation was about but from Ning Xi’s expression, she seemed to have rejected him.

The two of them had suddenly fought in combat with each other and then came down to a discussion...

In the end, Tang Ye told Ning Xi, “If he contacts you, let me know immediately.”

It really was true love between them...

“Okay.” Ning Xi nodded, then asked, “But how do I contact you? I can’t call or message your number!”

“I’ll give you permission to, but only a message a day.”

Ning Xi was speechless. This guy was even harder to contact than the emperor.

Tang Ye raised his hand and the helicopter behind him started whirring to life.

Ning Xi held her skirt down as the wind churned all around her.

Tang Ye stood there and stared at her as if he was examining an exotic creature.

Ning Xi was confused, “First Senior Brother, what’s wrong?”

“Little Junior Sister, are you really a woman?” Tang Ye looked at her like one of the world’s wonders.

Ning Xi’s face darkened like the bottom of a burnt pot and ground out between her clenched teeth, “Don’t you think your sentence doesn’t make sense? How can your Little Junior Sister be a man?”

The girl in front of him donned a pink dress, with silky long hair whipping in the air, looking extremely feminine and surprisingly attractive.

If he had not seen her picture in a female outfit before, he could not have possibly recognized her as Tang Xi finally announced, "I'm leaving."

However, before he stepped away, he turned around. "Can't you think about it?"

He felt he should do more since it was an S class mission after all.

Ning Xi was wondering what he was going to say and did not expect this attempt of his. "No, thanks, I would like to stay alive longer!"

Tang Ye nodded, agreeing with her point.

Ning Xi was relieved to see Tang Ye finally leaving but Tang Ye spoke further, "Satan asked me to tell you something."

Ning Xi raised an eyebrow coolly. "What?"

"I'll meet you at our old meeting spot a month later in Philadelphia." Tang Ye then boarded the helicopter without waiting for Ning Xi's response.

The helicopter rose slowly and the wind picked up. Ning Xi looked glumly at the departing helicopter.

Damn it! She thought she could get away with this! There was more to it...

How long was she going to suffer from this?

Chapter 612: My Brother Went On A Rampage

After Tang Ye left, Ning Xi felt pressured for a whole month as if she was just diagnosed with cancer by the doctor and was counting down the days till the Grim Reaper came for her.

Meeting Tang Ye and meeting that person directly were two completely different matters altogether. There were many unpredictable events on this journey. And she had to go.

Ning Xi passed the days by bringing Little Treasure to different places and having fun. She put all her effort into Spirit Studio and the promotion for "The World". She also made sure to spend some time with her grandfather.

The post-processing for "The World" was complete and she now had to travel to various cities to promote the movie. Everyone with experience would know that promoting was much more exhausting than acting itself.

Ning Xueluo and Zhao Sizhou were both busy and they only went to a few main cities to promote it but Ning Xi had to follow the crew and travel everywhere. In between promoting, she spent some of her precious time discussing with Gong Shangze about the upcoming Golden Award Competition.

She was not keen on preparing herself for her new acting gig yet as she was afraid that she might not be able to come back...

She wished that she could have more time to spare, even skimping on her sleep to four to five hours everyday.

She simply had too much to do in this short one month...

When Ning Xi just finished one of her road shows, she received a call from Lu Jingli.

"Xiao Xi Xi, why couldn't I reach you?" Lu Jingli asked urgently.

"I was on the plane just now. What's up? You have 10 seconds!" Ning Xi said coldly.

"Xiao Xi Xi, are you possessed by my brother? Why are you talking like him?" Lu Jingli asked.

"You have seven more seconds!"

Lu Jingli was speechless.

"Five more seconds."

"Please help me, Bro Xi! I know you've been really busy recently, but I wouldn't call you if it's not urgent!" Lu Jingli quickly blurted out.

"What happened?" Ning Xi asked.

"My brother went on a rampage!" Lu Jingli groaned.

"What do you mean?" Ning Xi frowned.

"Actually, this happened half a month ago. He has been acting weird ever since you went to Fahua Temple and convinced Xi Shiqing to turn away from monkhood!"

"Fahua Temple?" Ning Xi had been so overwhelmed with her last few weeks on Earth and she almost forgot about the entire incident. In fact, she felt like it happened eons ago.

"Yes! And I'm sorry, Bro Xi, there...there's been something I've hidden from you..." Lu Jingli stuttered.

"What is it? Tell me quickly! I'm on my way to the studio to have some discussion with Gong Shangze. It's the Golden Award Competition tomorrow!" Ning Xi pressed him.

"My brother found out about what you did to Xi Shiqing in the temple!" Lu Jingli divulged swiftly.

Ning Xi was speechless.

Then, she roared into her phone, "Why would your brother know about it?! Lu Jingli!"

"Uhh..."

"Did you rat me out? You told him, didn't you?" Ning Xi would strangle him to death across the line if she could.

Lu Jingli quickly explained, “I was going to check on the situation, but he figured it out himself that you’d seduce Xi Shiqing, so I could only tell him the truth! In the end...tragedy broke out! My brother has been in hell mode since that day! Not only that, there’s one more thing...”

Chapter 613: Go And Get Me A Bottle Of Wine

Ning Xi put her hand to her forehead and clenched her teeth. “Lu Jingli, you idiot! Couldn’t you just have denied it?”

She took a deep breath and calmed herself down. “What else?”

“That midnight, at the top floor of the Regal Riveria Hotel, my brother saw someone proposing to you...”

Ning Xi clamped her lips tightly together, not wanting to say anything. Could there possibly be anyone unluckier than her? This was one of her worst moments ever in her life! Everything was falling out of place! Murphy sure was going all out on her with his stupid law.

“Bro Xi, only you can do this, I can only rely on you now!” Lu Jingli begged.

“There’s no use! What can I do?” Ning Xi said exasperatedly, flailing her hand into the air.

“Please help, Bro Xi, my brother is acting really weird lately. I hope that you can at least talk to him. I really wanted to share his burden but he’s not telling me anything...” Lu Jingli sounded disappointed.

Although Lu Tingxiao always looked cold, he was a really kind and caring person beneath that steely exterior. As his only brother, he had always been protected safely under Lu Tingxiao. Despite being strict with him, he would never let him be involved in anything dangerous.

Behind Lu Corporation’s achievements lies the abyss, and Lu Tingxiao was the one who handled it, and what Lu Jingli faced was just the glory...

At the airport, Ning Xi inhaled deeply and looked at the time on her phone. She asked while flagging down a taxi, “Where’s your brother now?”

Lu Jingli quickly replied, “In the office! Little Treasure’s here too!”

“Got it, I’ll be there in half an hour.” Ning Xi sent Gong Shangze a message to let him know that she would be late, then she hopped into a taxi and went on her way to the Lu Corporation.

It was about half a month since she last saw Lu Tingxiao. If she only had a month left to live, what she wanted most, of course, would be to spend those precious moments with the person she loved...

But she had too much to be done and she did not dare to face Lu Tingxiao because she was afraid that she might not be able to control herself.

The share prices of the Lu Corporation had been rocketing and major achievements of the company were announced one after another, so she thought that Lu Tingxiao was doing well...

At the office, Ning Xi looked at the employees and saw everyone had dark circles under their eyes, looking as if they had just crawled out from the grave. Those achievements that were strewn across the business news surely came at a high price...

Lu Jingli quickly pulled her to a corner when he saw her. "Bro Xi, have you got a plan?"

Ning Xi looked at him expressionlessly. "No!"

Lu Jingli's face went pale and he mumbled, "Void as the world, the world as void...I should go and become a monk as well...then, I can go to the heavens instead of to hell..."

Ning Xi glared at him and stomped on his shoe. "Go and get me a bottle of wine!"

What a troublemaker!

Lu Jingli's eyes shone. "Have you got a solution now?"

Ning Xi massaged her arms which were stiff from the long period of sitting on the plane. "Quickly!"

"Alright, just a moment!"

Lu Jingli came back with a bottle of wine. "Bro Xi, the wine is here!"

Ning Xi took it over from Lu Jingli, opened it and to his horror, poured it all over herself. Then, she drank a little and handed the bottle to him.

Chapter 614: Boss, Can I Bribe You?

"Bro Xi, what are you doing?" Lu Jingli asked weakly.

Ning Xi had a terrifying expression on her face. She only uttered, "Your brother."

She then walked towards the CEO's office.

Lu Jingli was speechless by the situation that had just unfolded.

Brother? What was happening?

Lu Jingli could only watch as Ning Xi went into the CEO's office and he waited outside anxiously.

The moment she got in, Little Treasure went up to her. She had not seen Little Treasure for a few days as she had been traveling for the past one week.

She kissed him and did not want to let go but she remembered what she had to do, so she told him gently, "Baby, can you go to your Second Uncle for a while? Spare me 10 minutes here."

Little Treasure nodded obediently and went out to look for Lu Jingli.

Lu Jingli was nervously wringing his hands and pacing up and down nervously outside.

10 minutes, she said? Would that be enough?

After Little Treasure went out, Lu Tingxiao looked at the girl with his stormy eyes, his real emotions barely showing through. “You’re back.”

The girl looked slimmer and her aura was slightly different as well. It seemed colder than before, conflict flashing momentarily in her eyes.

What did not change was his impulse to hug her right away...

During that period of time, he thought about flying over to her place to see her even for a single glance but he did not dare to.

He could not face her with the knowledge of what he had done behind her back. He knew that she was the love of his life but he had still done something that might hurt her...

“Mmm.” Ning Xi put down her luggage and handbag, then took off her coat and walked towards Lu Tingxiao.

As Ning Xi came closer, Lu Tingxiao’s eyebrows furrowed and he interrogated in a slightly unhappy tone, “Did you drink?”

“Yeah.”

“You promised Little Treasure you’d cut down on alcohol.” With such a thick cloying stench of alcohol on her, she seemed to have drunk a lot.

Ning Xi rested her palms on his table and grinned at him. “Are you going to tell on me?”

The notches between his eyebrows deepened even more as Ning Xi displayed her indifference. “If you don’t take care of yourself, I might consider putting your current work on a halt.”

Ning Xi felt bitter about this man’s unique way of showing his concern. She was probably going to die soon, so what was the point of taking care of herself? What was there left to ponder so much about? She should just let herself go and not bother concealing anything anymore...

Lu Tingxiao seemed very upset. He picked up the phone and was about to call Ling Zhizhi.

“Hello...”

Before Lu Tingxiao could continue any further, Ning Xi pressed down on the hang up button and cut off the line. Then, much to his shock, she suddenly closed in and pressed her lips against his...

Lu Tingxiao’s hand froze with the dead dial tone still beeping on the phone. His expression was indescribable and he was rigid as a statue.

Ning Xi slowly backed away after a few seconds. She looked at him seductively with a blush creeping to the apples of her cheeks and in an innocent tone, she said, “Boss, can I bribe you?”

Chapter 615: I Can’t Sleep

“You’re drunk,” Lu Tingxiao declared as he broke out of his stupor and kept his composure.

“Boss, you haven’t answered my question!” Ning Xi refused to give up so easily and her smoldering gaze made her act even more realistic.

She wore a short black dress today, fully exposing her delicious skin and her luscious collarbones.

Lu Tingxiao gulped as he averted his gaze from her and ordered coldly, “We’ll talk about this after you’re sober. Go and take a nap in the lounge.”

Ning Xi felt annoyed. She put in so much effort into this! And now he was acting like a saint?

You devil, if you are going to continue acting this way, you will never ever get laid!

Ning Xi clenched her teeth and decided to take the game to the next level. “Lu Tingxiao, I can’t move...Carry me there!”

She even changed her way of addressing him, drawing out his name pleadingly!

Lu Tingxiao’s hand slipped and he accidentally made a mark on the paper with his pen. He refused to look at her and dismissed her. “Go on your own.”

Damn it!

Ning Xi was really impatient now. Her time was precious! He could at least be kinder towards her! They had not met for such a long time and he was treating her this coldly!

Ning Xi took out her phone and pouted. “Fine! I’ll get someone else to carry me!”

Lu Tingxiao finally looked up and glanced at the screen of her phone. He saw Xi Shiqing’s name.

Before Ning Xi could put the phone to her ear, she suddenly felt herself floating away from the floor.

Instinctively, she wrapped her arms around Lu Tingxiao’s neck to keep her balance and with a cunning look in her eyes, she tried her best not to grin.

Lu Tingxiao’s expression became even colder as he carried her to the lounge.

Although he looked really unhappy, he put her down on the bed very gently.

He then helped her to remove her shoes and pulled the sheets up to her chin, exposing only her palm-sized face and spoke to her in a warning tone, “Sleep.”

Ning Xi blinked her eyes and nodded like an obedient little child but what she was about to do was the complete opposite.

The moment Lu Tingxiao stood up, Ning Xi yanked his hand so hard that Lu Tingxiao lost his balance and ended up on the bed right beside her.

To avoid him escaping, she crawled onto him and pinned him down, whining, “I can’t sleep...Stay here with me...”

Lu Tingxiao was annoyed and asked in a low voice, “Who gave you the wine?”

He was going to kill that person!

In the meeting room, Lu Jingli, who was with Little Treasure, suddenly sneezed multiple times. “Ugh, who’s cursing me behind my back?”

He glanced at his watch. Five minutes had passed and he had no idea what was happening in the room.

In order to ensure his own survival, however, he did not dare to peek, no matter how curious he was. He just suppressed his curiosity and imaginary situations flew around in his head. He had no idea what Ning Xi was going to do and what would happen if she failed...

Chapter 616: I Switched It Off, Any Complaints?

Ning Xi looked at the man and gently caressed his face. She ran her slender fingers along his high nose, his cold eyes, his thin lips...

She wanted to remember his face, every inch of it, every angular surface, every stubble...

“Okay?”

She wanted him to accompany her even for just a little while longer.

Even though he knew that she was not sober, he could not refuse her request. “Okay.”

Ning Xi gave him a satisfied smile and closed her eyes in peace.

But after a while, she peeked at him and whispered, “I still can’t fall asleep. Can you pretty please kiss me?”

“Sleep!” With a piercing look, Lu Tingxiao pulled the sheets higher, covering her.

“Oh...” Ning Xi was disappointed.

Lu Tingxiao softened when he saw Ning Xi’s mournful eyes and he kissed her on the forehead. As he was preparing to leave, the girl threw her arms around his neck and kissed him on the lips, molding her lithe body as close as she could to his...

It was not his first time kissing her; he had tried many methods to get closer to her before but this was the first time she kissed him on her own accord...

Lu Tingxiao felt her sweet, gentle lips undulating against his as an indescribable feeling rose in him...

His emotions ushered him to indulge in this sweetness while his rationale practically yelled at him. Who did she think was she kissing and who did she take him for?

His rationale was straying further and further away, drowned out by the lust. At last, he hugged her and was going to take the lead but she fell on his chest...

Lu Tingxiao panicked and quickly helped her up, then he saw her fast asleep...

Lu Tingxiao was speechless.

This girl acted all drunk and crazy, turned him on and now she was asleep?!

Ning Xi was exhausted after a long flight. Even on the plane, she had been busy settling matters related to her studio to the point that she could even fall asleep while seducing the devil. Even she did not expect this herself...

While she was in her slumberland, she faintly felt a feather-like sensation on her forehead which brushed downwards to her lips. At first, it hurt slightly, then it became gentler...

Ning Xi slept soundly and by the time she woke up, the sky was already dark.

Ning Xi quickly sat up and turned on the table lamp. She checked the clock on the table – she had been sleeping for two hours! What the heck did Lu Jingli give her? Just one gulp of that wine and down she went!

“How did I sleep for so long...” She thought she would just take 10 minutes. She had a lot of things to work on and she wondered if the studio tried calling her...

Ning Xi quickly looked at her phone, then she realized it was switched off. “Damn! Who switched off my phone?!” She had charged her phone fully not too long ago. It was impossible for it to run out of battery so soon.

“I switched it off. Any complaints?” A cold voice suddenly came from the sofa opposite her.

Ning Xi trembled at the voice. She slowly turned her head towards the man. “No...nothing...as you wish...”

“Are you sober now?” Lu Tingxiao looked at her while closing his file.

“Yes, very sober...” She knew he was going to get back at her now.

“Then, let’s talk about your issues at work.”

As expected.

Ning Xi remembered the last few moments before she had fallen asleep just now. Was it too late to continue seducing the devil now?

Chapter 617: No Bribing The Boss

“Look.” Lu Tingxiao handed the document to her.

“What is this?” Ning Xi took it suspiciously. “Hmm, working policy? Number one: No working more than six hours a day? Uh, isn’t that too little? According to the law, the maximum is eight working hours!”

As she mumbled, Lu Tingxiao gave her a cold stare, so Ning Xi shut up and continued, “Number two: No overdrinking. Number three: Eat three meals a day. Number four...”

Finally, Ning Xi came to the last one. “Number ten: No bribing the boss? Huh?”

“Memorize them.”

“Oh...”

Under Lu Tingxiao’s supervision, only after she had memorized all ten of his commandments did he let her leave.

She was chased out as if he was afraid that she might jump him again...

Was she that terrifying?

What she did was not completely an act. The effects from Lu Jingli’s wine was pretty strong.

Was the devil not concerned about her seducing Xi Shiqing? She was trying to make it up to him and make him feel better but things escalated so quickly and went way out of her hands, and in the end...

Ning Xi felt better though as if she had taken some magical potion. She felt relieved from all her fatigue and stress, and even her steps became lighter. Come to think about it, it seemed like Lu Tingxiao had comforted her instead of the other way round.

She had given herself too much pressure. Things were not as bad as she had thought. If the person wanted to do something against her, he had had many chances earlier. He could have even wiped her out during Tang Ye’s last visit.

From her one year of absence, she knew that she was just an unimportant character. She vowed to settle it this time at the meeting.

However, it would remind her of her old pathetic self by going there alone. It was not that she could not face Tang Ye or that person...it was her old self that she did not want to face...

On the way to the studio, Ning Xi was about to call Gong Shangze when a call came in.

Lu Jingli’s excited voice came through, “Bro Xi, Bro Xi, Bro Xi, Bro Xi!”

“Are you a broken CD player?”

“My brother has returned to normal! Did you guys do it?” Lu Jingli sniggered. He could only think of that possibility!

Ning Xi’s nostrils flared as she scolded him, “Stop imagining things. Do you think your brother would act that fast?”

Lu Jingli had no words to reply. He would not have thought about it since Ning Xi had said it would take just 10 minutes but in the end, Ning Xi had stayed in there for over two hours!

Two hours was not short! However, it seemed like an eternity for his brother who had been holding in for so long!

“Speaking of which, what kind of wine did you give me?”

“It was an expensive one! It’s known as the one-shot-down!” Lu Jingli told her excitedly.

“What are you trying to do by giving me a whole bottle of that?”

“I thought you’d give it to my brother and seduce him, so of course, I got you the best! Who’d have known that you would only drink a little and pour the rest all over yourself?!”

Hmm...he was not wrong. She really did seduce him but not with the wine, you idiot...

Chapter 618: Sis Xi, Your Boyfriend Skills Are Amazing!

After talking to Lu Jingli on the phone, Ning Xi was chatting to Little Treasure when a phone call from the studio came.

“Hello, Momo.”

“Sis Xi, something...something’s wrong! Something happened to Gong Shangze! Come over quickly!” the studio assistant urged, her voice laced with worry.

“Something has happened to Gong Shangze? What is it?”

“He suddenly fainted!”

Ning Xi gasped, “Why did he suddenly faint? Don’t worry, I’m already on my way. I’ll be there soon!”

That naughty child! He must have overworked himself!

At Spirit Studio.

The moment Ning Xi pushed the door open, she saw Gong Shangze’s ashen face in the midst of a large pile of crumpled up draft papers. The assistant, Han Momo, lay beside him, sobbing her eyes out.

“Sis Xi! You’re finally here!” Han Momo looked up at her as though her savior had just arrived. She said between sobs, “I’ve called for the ambulance but the hospital says that they’re too busy and can’t arrange for a vehicle to come over and I alone can’t seem to carry him...”

Ning Xi passed her bag and handphone to the assistant then bent over and immediately lifted the unconscious Gong Shangze by the waist before putting him on the sofa bed in the lounge area...

Han Momo watched as Gong Shangze was practically being carried like a bride over the threshold and her mouth turn into an “O”. She exclaimed, “Sis Xi, your boyfriend skills are amazing!!!”

“No...It’s just your director who’s so light! Didn’t I assign you to take care of him? Why does he look like he’s gotten scrawnier in the last few days?” Ning Xi scowled.

The assistant immediately looked guilty when she heard Ning Xi’s comment. “Sis Xi, I can’t seem to advise him...you are probably unaware that although Gong Shangze is generally a docile man,

once he started working, his entire attitude changes and it's frightening. He practically turns from a monkey into a gorilla. If I make so much of a sound, he would shout at me furiously. I don't even dare to make any sound when I walk across the room, much less remind him to have his meals and rest! Sis Xi, I think it's best if you talk to Director Gong yourself. He only listens to you..."

From a monkey to a gorilla?

Ning Xi was confused by the assistant's description but agreed to her. "Fine, I'll talk to him later."

Then, she touched Gong Shangze's forehead. Indeed, it was burning. "He has a slight fever... Momo, go to the pharmacy downstairs to buy some medicine for his fever!"

"Okay, I'll go now!" The assistant quickly ran down to get the medicine.

Ning Xi and the assistant took care of him for a good part of the night before Gong Shangze finally woke up and tried to sit up.

"Boss..."

"Lie down, don't move!" Ning Xi pushed him back down and glared at him sternly. "What did I tell you right from the start? Your body is your most important asset. If you don't have your life anymore, what use would that be? Those who didn't know better would think that I'm a cruel boss who mistreats her employees!"

This was karma. She finally understood how Lu Tingxiao felt. It really was difficult to be a boss...

"No, you don't. I am willing to!" Gong Shangze quickly responded.

"Even if you're willing, you still can't! I'm the boss and you have to listen to me! Or else, you should just get another job!" Ning Xi emphasized harshly.

Gong Shangze immediately panicked. "Boss, I won't do it again! Please don't say that."

Seeing the youth's haggard appearance, Ning Xi sighed, "Look at you. Can you still attend the competition tomorrow? Since we have already discussed the flow many times, I'll go over with Momo. You stay at home and rest well!"

"Boss, I have to go! It's already the finale! I'm fine, I won't have to do much then. I only need to watch the models on stage to make sure they don't make any mistakes."

Chapter 619: The Biggest Competition Was Himself

Gong Shangze persisted, "Even though I have tried my best, but the likelihood of us winning this time is quite low. The award is so important this time around. I am sure that David will definitely choose my favorite work."

Ning Xi's face darkened. To Gong Shangze, this was an arduous battle. Because his competition was not anyone else; it was himself.

“Don’t worry, as long as you’ve done your best, that’s enough. Even if you don’t make it this time, there will be a next time and another next time. One day, you will definitely defeat your demons from the past. You have unlimited possibilities, while the other rival only has a pile of design drafts that will run out one day. There is nothing to be afraid of, Gong Shangze!”

Gong Shangze looked at the girl’s shining eyes and felt recharged with gusto. He nodded at her confidently.

“Okay, rest well then. There’s still a hard battle to fight tomorrow!”

...

The next day at the Golden Award venue.

As the highest honorary award of Chinese fashion design, the venue was decorated luxuriously and had a magical vibe to it.

The seats were hung a meter above the ground and the lights were divided into five colorful strobes, glowing onto the T-shaped stage that was inspired by Noah’s Ark.

Passes to the competition were hard to get since everyone present was well-known within the fashion circle. Even Ning Xi received an invitation only because she was the owner of the studio which submission was shortlisted and not because she was a celebrity.

Ning Xi walked in with Gong Shangze and Han Momo, poised. Just a few steps into the venue, they found that the path ahead of them had been blocked.

The competition had yet to start, but the photographers and reporters were already crazily surrounding the hot designer highly anticipated to take home the award, David. The shutters of their cameras clicked away and they were scrambling to ask him questions.

“David, are you confident to win the award this time around? Everyone’s saying that this Golden Award will definitely be yours!”

“We heard that the last Golden Award winner, Teacher Lee Ming, also predicted that you would take home the award! Is that true?”

“This time, there are many seniors from the entertainment circle present and a number of them are your fans. They are even wearing your designs here to support you today. Do you have anything to say about that?”

...

David looked overbearing and confident in his straight posture. Facing the reporters surrounding him, he looked calm as he answered, “Every design is my heartfelt work. Naturally, I am confident about them. However, it is, after all, a competition, so we still need to leave it to the judges’ evaluations! As for Teacher Lee Ming, he is also a senior that I respect very much and I thank him for his compliments. And, of course, not forgetting all the love from the beautiful ladies!”

When they heard this, Ning Xi and Gong Shangze didn't react but Han Momo exploded, "Pfft! This person is so shameless! What heartfelt work? Whose heartfelt work is it really?"

When she was first hired, Han Momo did not know who Gong Shangze was. It was only after she saw his designs that she thought they looked familiar.

Due to the fact that plagiarizers were deemed the scum of all designers in the world of design, she could not help but harp on Gong Shangze copying David's style and other malicious things. She started to look down on Gong Shangze. Despite his assistant's negativity then, Gong Shangze did not rebut at all and he continued to design from dawn till dusk.

After interacting with him over some time, she slowly realized that something was not right. Gong Shangze was practically designing with his life at stake. That did not seem like what a plagiarizer would have done.

It was only after she bugged Ning Xi for a long time that she knew the ugly truth...

Chapter 620: The Most Perfect Work

No thanks to David, the doorway was blocked for over 10 minutes before the reporters finally dispersed to interview the other participants.

Gong Shangze was an unfamiliar face to the industry, plus he wore a mask since he was not feeling well that day, so naturally, no one paid him any attention. Nevertheless, the trio was happy to be left alone by the media vultures and they immediately rushed backstage to get prepared.

When Gong Shangze passed by, David eyed his back suspiciously. However, he kept his gaze short and continued to chit chat to the surrounding designers who were brownnosing him.

Backstage, models were busy getting dolled up and some even walked around in their underwear only. There were many male designers and assistants present, but everyone was already used to it.

Because this was a new situation to Gong Shangze, some distress rose in his eyes. However, when he started to turn his focus on the clothes the models paraded, his hawk eyes shone brightly.

"Wow...so many models with such amazing figures! Even a girl like myself is drooling!" Han Momo swallowed, her head whipping about to catch everyone in their glory.

At that moment, a bold model walked towards their direction in skyscraper heels and snapped, "Move it! Don't block the way!"

The model who was getting changed in front of Gong Shangze was shoved by her and her dress was about to be stepped on...

It was a good thing that Ning Xi was quick with her hands and feet. She grabbed the model by the waist and stabilized her as she wobbled. Not only would she have tripped, even the dress would have been ruined otherwise.

“Hey! What’s wrong with you? You almost ruined our dress!” Han Momo was high-strung as she immediately pulled the offending model to a halt.

The snobbish model looked at their outfit. Just a single glance was obvious that their design was close to David’s. She instantly looked condescendingly at them and sneered, “Just a piece of junk that was so obviously ripped off! You’d best believe that I can disqualify you from the competition at the snap of my fingers! Move it!”

Han Momo wanted to argue but then recognized her as the world famous model, Angie. She was a familiar face in the industry and was closely connected to the organizers of the award. On an occasion such as today, insulting her was the last thing to do, so she could only purse her lips and suppress her anger.

“Angie, dearest, come over quickly. It’s time to change!” someone called for her from afar.

Angie immediately broke into a smile and walked over. “Oh my, Director David, this dress is unbelievably gorgeous!”

“Isn’t it? I told you so. You’ll definitely love it!” David clapped his hands in delight.

“Mmm, I love it, alright! Only you can surprise me every time! No wonder even Teacher Lee said that the Golden Award will definitely be yours this time!” Angie purred, then she looked over at Gong Shangze and continued, “But the standards of the Golden Award is really deteriorating over the years. After all, how can a piece of work look like so similar to this too? Just now, someone wanted to pick a fight with me, but their dress was obviously a copy of your style! Way too funny!”

David adopted the attitude of an experienced professional and laughed generously, “Haha, the industry is like that, you’d best get used to it!”

Angie played around with the material of the outfit in her hand and fell deeper in love with it the more she looked at it. “Teacher David, you’re amazing, every dress you create is so different! You were practically born to design! You deserve Teacher Lee’s praises. You’re always getting copied but no one can ever surpass you!”

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The moment he saw the outfit in David’s hands, Gong Shangze instantly turned pale.

“What’s wrong, Director Gong?” Seeing Gong Shangze not looking quite right, Han Momo quickly peered at him worriedly.

Ning Xi frowned. “This David is really ruthless. He actually chose the same one...”

Gong Shangze had mentioned that outfit to her before. She even remembered how thrilled and proud he looked when he mentioned that design.