#### Hidden 2031

## Chapter 2031: I Believe You

Han Zixuan glared at Yi Xudong. She was begging for forgiveness on the ground in desperation. "Mrs. Yi, it's my fault. I'm sorry... Please forgive me just this once..."

Of course, Jiang Manli was not an easygoing person. She had someone get her a chair and she sat on it before she gestured to Yi Xudong to massage her shoulders as she ordered her henchmen to continue.

The fuss continued until the police got involved.

passersby took photos and videos of what happened and it was shared with every corner of the Internet.

Han Zixuan had no idea how she escaped the nightmare. Out of fear, she rushed into an underground car park.

A car came around the corner quickly and braked, causing a loud screech before it stopped right before Han Zixuan.

The driver quickly came out of the car to see what had happened, then he realized that it was a girl in a

The man was taken aback when he saw the girl's face. "Han Zixuan?"

Han Zixuan was stunned when she saw that it was someone she knew. "C-CEO Su..."

"You..." Su Yan frowned.

Han Zixuan could not say anything. She broke down and started crying.

Su Yan looked at Han Zixuan who had scratches all over her body and somewhat guessed what had happened, but he did not point it out.

After all, if Han Zixuan had not decided to release the video of her conversation with Ning Xueluo, things would not have ended up like this. Ning Xi's misunderstanding of him would not have gone any further.

He certainly did not have a favorable impression of Han Zixuan.

Su Yan gave her his coat and then left in his car.

Han Zixuan clutched onto the coat tightly as she stared at the car with hateful eyes.

...

At Spirit Studio.

"Wow! Big news! Look at this, Boss. Han Zixuan was stripped naked and beaten up by Yi Xudong's wife in public! It's all over the Net now! How satisfying!" Han Momo skipped over to Ning Xi gleefully, her face brimming with a big smile.

Ning Xi only glanced at her and then looked away. Her eyes focused back on Gong Shangze's drafts.

"The two bastards, Ning Xueluo and Su Yan, are really frustrating. They still dare to post pictures of them being lovey-dovey!" Han Momo looked unsatisfied.

Ning Xi looked helpless. "Stop looking at gossip all day. Lorraine International Fashion Week is happening next month. Have you arranged the schedule?"

"It's all done. I'll never be behind on my work!"

"Good."

"History is so shameless. They copied our style again and again, then even accused us of plagiarizing then. We'll defeat them for sure this time!" Han Momo said angrily.

Ning Xi put the drafts down and walked over to Gong Shangze as he was quiet the whole time and seemed unfocused. "Ze, what are you thinking about?"

Gong Shangze seemed like he wanted to say something, but then he shook his head. "It's nothing, Boss."

Ning Xi narrowed her eyes and asked, "Does David still have your drafts?"

Gong Shangze bit his lip. "I thought about it. There shouldn't be any left, but I can't be sure if I left something out."

Ning Xi understood Gong Shangze's worries. His biggest challenge was to surpass himself.

Gong Shangze pursed his lips, then he looked at Ning Xi. "Boss, will you be there?"

Ning Xi nodded. "Of course, how can I not be present at such a crucial moment? I should be at Lorraine filming at that time. I'll be sure to head over."

Gong Shangze's uneasy expression faded away after he heard Ning Xi's reply. His eyes brightened up. "Boss, I won't let you down!"

Ning Xi smiled. "I believe you."

Gong Shangze then asked, "Boss, during this time, is it alright if I stay over at your place in Deer Town for several days?"

Ning Xi replied swiftly, "Of course, you can! Your inspiration really flowed well there, didn't it? Even I miss that place a lot!"

Gong Shangze did not explain. He just nodded. "Mmm."

## **Chapter 2032: Fate Made Me Meet Mother**

In Deer Town.

"Ah, what should I do? It's vomiting milk again!" Ning Xi had a milk bottle in one hand and a white tiger cub in another.

Little Treasure freaked out as well. He almost cried as he saw the white tiger cub suffering.

Lu Tingxiao pinched the space between his eyebrows. "Let me do it."

He carefully took the cub and patted its back, then he changed positions and continued feeding it.

This time, the white tiger cub finally gulped the milk smoothly.

How loving!

Ning Xi was impressed. "Darling, did you feed Little Treasure like this when he was little?"

Before Lu Tingxiao could answer, Little Treasure shook his head wildly. "He has never fed me milk."

Ning Xi laughed. "How do you know? Do you remember the things that happened when you were little?"

Little Treasure continued with his offense in a determined tone. "It's a reasonable speculation."

Lu Tingxiao looked at his child and coughed lightly with a helpless expression, yet he could not say anything.

Well, he had been really busy back then, and... he had no feelings for this son who had not been part of his life plan.

Little Treasure looked up at his mother. "The heavens had plans for me. My will would be burdened, my body would be worked, my stomach would be starved. I had to empty myself and cleanse myself through thoroughly. Fate must've made me undergo those experiences to meet you, Mommy."

Ning Xi was feeling bad for him, yet Little Treasure's eyes lit up and told her those words with such an honest pair of eyes. She hugged the little guy and gave him a kiss. "Baby, how are you so cute?"

Lu Tingxiao was speechless.

Burden his will, work his body, starve his stomach? Was he torturing him?

He felt oddly wronged...

At the same time, by the lakeside, deer were drinking from the lake and a flock of birds flew past.

Gong Shangze was sitting on the grass with the lake behind him as he focused intently on the loving family. He held paper and pen in his hand, and his eyes were glittering.

As if blessed with life, the pen tip was dancing swiftly across the draft papers.

Lu Jingli hid from Ning Xi and his brother. He held half a watermelon in his hand and was eating it with a spoon as he watched Gong Shangze work.

After a long time, the sweetness in the air was almost suffocating but Gong Shangze still did not move one bit.

Lu Jingli could not hold it in anymore. He looked at Gong Shangze like how a person would look at God and said, "Bro, you're... really courageous!"

It was the first time he had seen someone request to watch people display their affection to each other and even watched it so seriously.

Gong Shangze gave him a doubtful look. He did not understand what Lu Jingli was talking about. "Second Master, what's wrong?"

Lu Jingli patted his shoulder. "As a single person, don't you feel your heart ache watching them?"

Gong Shangze looked at Lu Jingli in surprise. "Why? I'm very happy."

Lu Jingli's mouth twitched.

The mind of a genius was very different from others!

Chapter 2033: I'm Focusing

As the entertainment industry was still gossiping about the topic of cheating and mistresses, the international market experienced drastic changes each day. All the magazines and economy sections of newspapers were talking about it.

For the Lu Corporation, Lu Tingxiao's name almost appeared as much as Ning Xi's name in the entertainment section.

The man, who was supposedly controlling the fate of China, was now holding the hand of his wife and trimming her nails.

His phone rang but Lu Tingxiao was busy with his hands, so he signaled to Ning Xi to pick it up for him.

Ning Xi held the phone with her free hand and placed it next to Lu Tingxiao's ear.

Lu Tingxiao polished his wife's nail cleanly as he spoke to the other person on the phone, "You're giving me too much credit. As a citizen of China, it's my responsibility..."

Lu Tingxiao used a lot of technical terms related to economics, so Ning Xi understood nothing about them, but she felt that his tone was a little odd.

"Change your hand," reminded Lu Tingxiao.

"Oh..." Ning Xi swapped her hand. Lu Tingxiao continued to polish the other hand which had been holding the phone earlier.

Lu Tingxiao's expression became gentler as the person on the phone said something. He replied, "My wife."

After the call ended, Ning Xi's fingernails were polished like artistic artifacts.

"Darling, who called you just now?" Ning Xi asked.

Lu Tingxiao gave her a name.

"Damn!" Ning Xi almost vomited blood. "Shouldn't you be more focused!?"

He had been on the call with that person while polishing her nails!

She felt her nails were burdened with great sin!

With that person calling him this late at night, it seems that things were really tough.

It was not exactly a bad thing. At least, Lu Tingxiao was not alone, the country was with him.

"I'm focusing." The man kissed the girl's finger.

Ning Xi was speechless.

Focused on polishing her nails?

Ning Xi was lifted airborne and they went upstairs into the bedroom.

Little Treasure was in the next room and was already fast asleep.

"Do you have to be up early tomorrow?"

At the same time, the man put the girl gently on the bed, then he used his long fingers to unbutton her qipao .

Her ccollarbonewas revealed and the man's eyes darkened. The next moment, he was kissing her skin.

Ning Xi trembled a little. "Hmm... I don't have work tomorrow... but I'm helping Jiang Muye for his feminine image..."

"Mmm," the man replied.

In the end...

The sun was already rising and the chirping of birds came through the window.

In the bedroom, Ning Xi's hair was all damp with sweat and she had no more stamina, yet the man in front of her was still energetic.

When Ning Xi woke up, it was not morning or afternoon. In fact, it was already evening and the sky was getting dark.

Ning Xi scratched her head and took a look at her phone. As expected, Jiang Muye had called her countless times.

**Chapter 2034: My Poor Eyes** 

Ning Xi changed and walked downstairs with soft footsteps.

From afar, she saw that Little Treasure was taking care of the tiger cub while a certain someone held a newspaper in his hands. He wore casual home clothes as his forehead tilted forward while he sat on the rattan chair under a rack of flowers in the manner of an immortal without a trace of mundanity.

Ning Xi ran over and then glared at him angrily.

Lu Tingxiao instantly gulped at the way his wife's beautiful eyes were spurting fires of rage. He put the newspaper in his hands down and hurled out a hand to pull her to his knees. His wide palm started to massage her aching lower back with the right amount of strength. "What's wrong?"

"Massage a little higher!" Ning Xi asked with a darkened expression, "How dare you ask? I already told you I had something to do today!"

"I only did it once."

When she saw his innocent expression, Ning Xi exploded. "Then, did I feed it to the dogs the few times after that?"

Lu Tingxiao's lips curled. "The few times after that, you asked for it, my wife. Did you forget?"

"[..."

Shoot! It really was her who had asked for it...

Bloody hell, the problem was that he made the first move to seduce her, so how could she resist?

Now, she finally knew why there were so many incapable rulers who were charmed by lust in history.

...

Whatever it was, when Ning Xi had rushed to look for Jiang Muye, it was already late at night.

Ning Xi managed to console the little master with all of her might.

"Don't waste time anymore. Quickly go change!"

When he saw Ning Xi's impatient manner, Jiang Muye was even angrier. This dude wanted to see him in a female outfit so much, yet she could still be late for an entire day and only woke after sleeping till the afternoon. He could already guess with the tip of his toes about what she had been doing last night.

Ning Xi waited anxiously in the living room as Jiang Muye dillydallied for about half an hour before his bedroom door finally opened.

"Have you changed?" Ning Xi impatiently looked over.

In the next second, Ning Xi covered her eyes and rolled in suffering on the sofa. "Crap! My poor eyes!"

When Jiang Muye saw Ning Xi's reaction, he was so angry that he stomped over in his high heels aggressively. "Ning Xiao Xi, what do you mean?"

Jiang Muye wore a red dress with a pair of 12-centimeter high heels. His hair was tousled in golden waves and he had smoky-eye makeup and flaming red lips.

This scene... was just...

Ning Xi was dying as she held her chest in fits of laughter. "Even if I was late, you can't take revenge on me like this!"

Jiang Muye frowned. "Do I look that terrible? But I was just following Carl's image!"

Ning Xi opened her eyes with much difficulty and looked at Jiang Muye. "The person who played Carl in the original version was smaller than you. His features weren't as sharp as yours too. Of course, this look is fine, but for you to completely imitate him is too shocking!"

"Then, what do you suggest I do?"

Soon, they would be going to Lorraine to shoot and his scene in the female disguise was coming up very soon. Even though he had already read the script through and through, the challenge for this character this time was huge and he was really not confident.

When the time came, the filming crew would have professionals do his makeup. However, before that, he needed to have a foundation himself, which was why he had pulled Ning Xi over for advice. Initially, Lei Ming had said he would arrange a professional stylist for him, but he had firmly rejected the offer.

Ning Xi pinched the space between her brows. "Enough, change out of all your clothes. I'll help you do your makeup again too! You really don't know how to use things sparingly!"

"Are you sure you can?" Jiang Muye looked at her a little worriedly.

"Believe my judgment, alright? I'm just worried that you'll fall in love with yourself later!"

Jiang Muye was speechless.

#### **Chapter 2035: Not Alone Anymore**

With long and straight jet-black hair, the figure strutted in in a black sequinned skin-tight dress paired with a leather jacket. Dashing and confident in Dr. Martens, without deliberating using feminine makeup, Ning Xi only deepened the eyeliner slightly and adjusted the lip color.

Even though it portrayed the image of a female, it maintained Jiang Muye's own characteristics, his wildness, and his unruliness.

When Jiang Muye opened his eyes, this was who he saw as himself.

It was unexpectedly not as hard to accept as he had imagined.

Ning Xi held her chin and looked with glittering eyes at this beauty before her. "Oh, my! Jiang Muye! The way you look right now makes me willing to climb a mountain of swords or plunge into a deep fryer for you!"

Jiang Muye glared helplessly at this girl who was using a tone that she used to pick up girls with him. "Shut up!"

"The way you look when you say 'shut up' is so cute!"

"Ning Xiao Xi!"

The good thing was that with Ning Xi messing around with him, he actually felt much more assured. His masochism was becoming more and more severe!

Ning Xi suddenly thought of something. "What now? Let's go test out this result!"

Jiang Muye looked alarmed at the way she looked like she was up to no good. "How do we test it out?"

"Let's make a trip to the bar! If any man hits on you, that means you've succeeded!"

"No thanks! From your gaze, I can tell that I've already succeeded!" Jiang Muye firmly rejected.

Ning Xi found his comeback regretful.

...

In Lorraine, America.

Lorraine's International Fashion Week was near. Ning Xi had rushed over in advance because she was shooting "Assassin".

A few days after, Spirit's team had also flown to this city of fashion, preparing to face the upcoming week of their most important battle.

Lorraine was renowned for its beauty and fashion This city was the sacred place in the hearts of women all over the world who chased fashion. It was also the birthplace of many excellent designers.

Fashion Week was part of the history of the city of Lorraine. Up till now, Lorraine's Fashion Week was still highly influential to all top designers from all over the world.

Lorraine Fashion Week possessed the supreme position in the fashion world. It decided fashion trends for the year and the next. Every year, designers from all over the world would appear in close to hundreds of fashion shows within seven days, delivering the latest in fashion trends to fashionistas globally.

Now, one of the most symbolic brands of oriental fashion, History, had made their name when they radiated brilliance on the Lorraine Fashion Week stage back then. They instantly became a representative of the Oriental style in the international fashion circle, revered by all fashionistas in China.

Last year, History had participated as well. Even though it was not as breathtaking as the first time, their performance was worthy of praise too.

As for Spirit, this would be their first time appearing on an international stage.

This time, in Lorraine, most of the scenes were Jiang Muye's. Ning Xi's shooting schedule in Lorraine was very easygoing.

On the day after she finished her shoots, she rushed to the airport to greet them.

From afar, she saw Gong Shangze, Qiao Weilan, and Han Momo.

"Boss! Here!" Han Momo waved vigorously with both hands amidst the crowd as she rushed over to Ning Xi cheerfully.

Gong Shangze was a few steps behind. He pulled a trolley with him and looked blankly at the sky above them in Lorraine, lost in thought.

Lorraine...

This city that had given him unlimited life and hope was the same one that had thrown him into the abyss.

He had finally stepped onto this land again. He had finally returned.

"Ah Ze, let's go!" A warm voice was heard.

"Mmm."

Gong Shangze looked at the people beside him as his floating thoughts started to come back, turning into an unlimited force.

This time, he was not alone anymore.

Chapter 2036: Why Don't They Die?

"Boss, the airplane wasn't good. I'm so hungry!" Han Momo said with teary eyes.

Ning Xi rubbed the little girl's hair. "Let's go. I'll take you to eat something yummy first!"

After they put their luggage into the car, Ning Xi drove the three of them to a local famous Michelin restaurant.

"Wow! Three Michelin stars! Will it be very expensive?"

Ning Xi broke out into laughter. "Don't worry, your boss won't go broke from your eating just yet!"

The four of them found a quiet corner by the window to sit. Han Momo started to order with full focus, while Qiao Weilan started to report about work to Ning Xi.

Gong Shangze looked out of the window at a corner not too far away. Suddenly, he said, "That place used to be mine."

Ning Xi turned to where Gong Shangze stared at and saw a black beggar lying there asleep, sprawled out on his back.

Ning Xi was stunned for a moment, then she smiled. "What a coincidence! Geez!"

The first time she met Gong Shangze was right there. Less than 300 meters away was a History boutique.

That day, she had finished shopping for clothes from History when she met the nitpicking Gong Shangze on the streets.

"What, what? That's the place when Boss picked up our Director Gong?"

When Han Momo heard this, she immediately became interested and started to ask Ning Xi and Gong Shangze for details of when they first met. Qiao Weilan looked over with interest too.

"Exactly, too long has passed. I didn't remember immediately..."

The four of them were speaking happily when the restaurant door was pushed open. A line of seven to eight people walked in one after another.

The leading one was a sly-looking, squat, old man of about thirty odd years. Following behind him was someone in an Armani couture tuxedo with a Patek Phillipe on his wrist. It was someone familiar.

"Whoa! Isn't that David? Enemies really meet on narrow roads! How did we even bump into them like this?" Han Momo was suddenly emotional.

Those people were History's design team.

The person leading them was called Liu Minghui, he was David's right hand man, History's vice director of design, to use Han Momo's words would be to call him David's henchman.

David and the rest were speaking to each other, so they did not notice them. Then, the few of them sat down in a half-closed room not too far away.

Even though they could not see them, their loud arrogant voices could be clearly heard by Ning Xi and the group.

"This time the Boss's work is amazing. You can definitely amaze those foreigners!" One of them exclaimed in an excited tone.

"Boss is amazing. You actually came up with such a creative idea! It will definitely become very popular!" The person who spoke was Liu Minghui.

"The workmanship and skills are top-notch! There's no way it could be made without at least a year or more! The boss must've prepared in advance, yet he hid it from us and didn't tell anyone!"

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When she heard those pompous praises from across, Han Momo pouted in disdain. "They're so good at bragging! Why don't they just die?!"

Ning Xi smiled and did not say anything.

Seeing David once again, Gong Shangze was no longer as emotional as he was in the past.

However, when he listened to those isolated phrases, his brows had knitted slightly.

When he went back, he had gone through all of David's released works and compared it with his design drafts that had been stolen to confirm that there was nothing he missed.

He knew that apart from this design team that David had to show, he had personally recruited a group of people, including many experts. He was not sure how David had gotten them to be used willingly. Otherwise, there was no way David would be able to survive till now.

The works that he would be exhibiting this time would probably be the handiwork of that group of people.

Chapter 2037: The Circle Which Was A Class Lower

Two days later, Lorraine Fashion Week officially started.

The gathering of stars and world-famous designers was not just a moment longed by fashion hobbyist and models. It was also the best time for new designers to carve their name in the international fashion industry.

At the moment, the entertainment sections of the Chinese newspapers were filled with news about the Lorraine Fashion Week. It was either about a certain celebrity being invited or how gorgeous a certain person looked at the show.

Many celebrities posted photos of them appearing at the event on their social media accounts.

Actually, being an international fashion show, guests had to have received invitations from renowned brands or investors.

During the fashion week, 40% of the invitations would be given to top fashion media; 30% for famous fashionistas and buyers; 10% for special guests; 10% for top clients; and the last 10% was kept for special reservations.

In other words, celebrities from the entertainment industry represented only 10% of all the guests, and most of them would not be placed in the front seats.

Where you sat symbolized your position in the fashion industry. Everyone who sat in the first row would be the most valued guests.

Many people who posted photos and seemed like they were invited, but in actual fact, they did not even have a seat there. They paid their way there and just hung around the entrance to take some photos, deceiving people who were not familiar with the regulations.

The official venue was the Lorraine Palace.

On the ceiling of the palace were crystal lights which lit up the venue like stars of galaxies. The plain hall was modified and formed a T-shaped stage. On either side of the stage were the guests.

Celebrities who were invited put in effort in their outward appearances and strutted the red carpet elegantly. They flaunted their assets and presented their best selves to the cameras, then they proceeded to their seats.

International fashion shows did not use to be publicized, but with the normalcy of live streaming, everyone could see what was happening in their homes.

A certain popular site in China received an exclusive right to live stream the whole event. Everyone was looking at it as they were impressed by the appearance of internationally well-known celebrities one after another, commenting on their appearances and clothing.

"Oh! I saw my idol, Orlando. He's so handsome! His floral shirt is so flirty!"

"Damn, what is Xu Jiaojiao wearing? Did she just put on a blanket and walk out? How weird!"

"Everyone's giving their all just for a bit more of attention!"

"Did I just see Ning Xueluo? Didn't she leave the entertainment industry a long time ago? She's sitting in the first row! I think in the whole of China, only Song Lin has the right to be in the first row. She's the Chinese representative in LA! However, she's already half-retired and she's not even attending the event this time!"

"Ning Xi's position should be worthy too! Unfortunately, Ning Xi's never endorsed any clothing brand. Could it be that she's not invited?"

"Aside from guests, the first row of seats are reserved for people within the industry. While Ning Xueluo's not an artiste anymore, she's the founder of History!"

"No wonder!"

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Under the envious gaze of Chinese actresses at the scene, Ning Xueluo wore a History dress made for pregnant women and also donned Winston jewelry. She slowly sat down on her designated seat.

So what if she left the entertainment industry?

She never cared about the circle which was a class lower anyway.

**Chapter 2038: Nothing** 

A journalist from China greeted her warmly, "CEO Ning, this is the third time History has appeared in an international fashion week representing China. How do you feel?"

Ning Xueluo smiled sweetly. "I'm honored to have History recognized by professionals. I'm also very happy to represent our country to demonstrate the unique colors of our country to the world on this international stage."

Ning Xueluo's reply was well-received by patriotic members.

"Taking her personality aside, she's pretty capable!"

"She did contribute to our country's international presence!"

At the same time, the designer David was being interviewed by the media too.

"Mr. David, History's design shocked the world two years ago. It even created an Oriental fashion fever in the fashion industry, yet the performance last year was pretty bland. Will History be bringing us some surprises this year?"

David looked proud as he was interviewed by foreign journalists, but his facial expression froze a little when he heard the comment about the performance last year being "pretty bland", He replied confidently, "I spent two years on this upcoming work. I believe it won't disappoint everyone!"

Suddenly, many journalists turned towards the direction of the entrance.

The chatroom in the streaming sites was spammed.

"Ah! Bro Xi, Bro Xi, Bro Xi!"

...

In contrast to the other female stars wearing extravagant outfits, Ning Xi wore a simple champagne twopiece vest and dress. Aside from a few stitches on the dress and collar area, there were no extra ornaments. It was very clean and sleek, very much different from what everyone expected.

During international fashion weeks, guests were there to watch the shows, yet more and more people turned from seeing the shows to walking the shows, transforming the event into an attention-seeking contest. The situation was much worse back in China.

Ning Xi's simple and neat appearance gave a positive impression to many foreign journalists and people from the fashion industry.

In addition to the news of Ning Xi starring in "Assassin", she had a lot of exposure internationally, so many foreign journalists interviewed her, breaking the glass ceiling of China's artistes being neglected.

Fans were really excited to see her on the live stream.

With Ning Xi's appearance, Ning Xueluo's expression darkened. However, she looked relieved when Ning Xi walked towards the row in the back.

While Ning Xi had a lot of endorsements, she had never endorsed any clothing brands. It was impossible for her to receive an invitation from big brands. Invitations received from magazines would usually be for back row seats, or she might not even have a seat herself.

Ning Xueluo sat on the first row as she glanced at Ning Xi walked to the very last row.

So what if you are at the top of the entertainment industry?

In here, you are nothing!

Ning Xueluo was chatting with several industry experts happily, but in the next second, she was stunned.

After Ning Xi greeted Qin Shuang sitting in the last row, she walked towards the first row and sat down in an empty seat.

### **Chapter 2039: Rainbow Feathers**

Ning Xueluo did not look very pleased, but her expression soon turned mocking.

Who knows what she had done to get here?

She was the so-called top star of China, after all, so she was supposed to do these things.

She was obviously unqualified yet she still forced herself here. While she could deceive the ignorant fans, the people in the industry could tell something was off.

On the stage, the host announced the start of fashion week and everyone focused on the T-stage.

All the big brands brought out their new releases for the summer and it was a grand feast for the eyes.

The audiences in the streaming sites were impressed. At the same time, they were looking forward to the appearance of the Chinese brands.

"When's History's turn?! I'm really excited!"

"I took a look at the schedule. It's today and there's also MOON from China too!"

"MOON is alright, but it doesn't really carry a unique Chinese style. I still like History better!"

"I heard that Spirit is in too!"

"Huh! You mean the one that's been following History's style?"

•••

In fashion week every year, the brands that represented their country held a certain amount of influence in their own country. To be able to represent a whole nation, the designers needed to be at the top level within the country.

They could only receive official invitations after the assessment of the judges.

There were three brands from China that passed the assessment. One was the brand MOON under Qu Guanyang, also known as the top designer in China, one was History, and the other one was Spirit.

Qu Guanyang was the first Chinese designer to receive attention on an international stage. However, his style was more catered towards the taste of international audiences. History was the first brand to demonstrate the beauty of Chinese element in fashion.

In the beginning, Spirit was still on par with History, but after a year of inactivity, not only internationally, they had even almost vanished in China. Now, it was slowly returning to the market with the two recent series.

Unfortunately, Spirit was assumed to just be the side dish of the show, or even thought to be a brand chasing after History's style. It stood shrouded under the tall and dark shadow of History.

It was normal that in this industry, everyone only remembered the first place.

All the fans and fashion hobbyists from China, who were watching the live stream, were waiting for brands from their country to appear, including overseas professionals who were interested in the growth of Chinese fashion.

After Qu Guanyang's MOON finished, the name "History" appeared on the big screen.

Everyone focused on the stage. Even the Fashion Guru Adam straightened his back and focused intently.

With the sound of zither music, models appeared donning History's garments.

When the first model walked out, she took everyone's breaths away.

They were absolutely beautiful!

The zen vibe from the traditional culture of China was expressed thoroughly. Each and every garment gave off the vibe of a strong Oriental flavor.

Each thread and each embroidery... None of them failed to present the beauty of the Chinese element.

Most importantly, these Rainbow Feathers showed the world of the ancient wisdom of China. K'o-ssu, Su embroidery, and Gold embroidery were all traditional crafts.

# **Chapter 2040: Heart-wrenching Pain**

"Oh my God! This is mind-blowingly beautiful!"

"Is this the legendary craftsmanship of China?"

"If I'm seeing it correctly, these few sets of outfits use the k'o-ssu 1technique that dated back to the Tang dynasty. The craftsmanship is extremely complicated. Just a few meters will cost an artisan a few months!"

"How unique! Such magical Chinese culture!"

Those present who were in this line of work and even the designers who had a prejudice against Chinese style had, at this moment, been stunned by the gorgeous and exquisite Rainbow Feathers clothing on the model.

At this moment, all of the fans from China were emotional in the live streams. All of them were filled with pride.

"Oh! Pretty, pretty! China's culture is just stunning!"

"Too awesome! History didn't let us down! Shaking, aren't you!? This is the traditional culture from the distant past of China!"

"I feel like I'm about to become a Ning Xueluo fan!"

...

Amidst the overwhelming praises, no one noticed that in a certain corner where the lighting was dim, a delicate-looking young man had turned pale. His trembling lips were almost bitten till they bled.

Rainbow! Feathers!

His Rainbow Feathers!

His Rainbow Feathers that he had spent half a year drafting designs of, and then another two whole years personally learning the skill from an old artisan before he finished it on his own with every needle and thread!

The Rainbow Feathers series that David had lied to him back then about how it had been destroyed in the sample room's huge fire!

Yet at this moment, it had appeared at the Lorraine International Fashion Week's T-shaped stage right before his eyes.

It was not the joy of regaining a loss. Instead, it was a torrential fury and hatred that bubbled up in him. It was the heart-wrenching pain of his flesh and blood being forcefully stolen by someone else!

Gong Shangze's eyes flashed with bloodlust. The veins on his forehead popped and his chest heaved increasingly intensely. His handsome face turned almost sinister as the blood in his entire body seemed to be flowing in reverse.

Not too far away in her seat, Ning Xi had a bad feeling the instant History's work appeared. Her first reaction was to observe Gong Shangze's reaction.

What she saw was indeed Gong Shangze seeming worse and worse. The young man's expression clearly showed that he was on the edge of breaking down.

Ning Xi had never seen Gong Shangze this stirred up.

Crap...

When Ning Xi saw this, she frowned.

It looked like David's so-called heartfelt work of two years was actually Gong Shangze's design.

In fact, it was probably not just the design. This so-called product might have even been personally handmade by Gong Shangze himself!

She remembered that more than once, she had heard Gong Shangze mention that the most perfect work of his life had been destroyed in a fire.

That set of clothes were called "Rainbow Feathers".

Could it be...

History's work had the world's breath away once again. All the journalists rushed up to interview the chief designer, David.

A certain foreign journalist asked, "Director David, this time your work is stunning. I wonder where your inspiration came from."

David smiled and said arrogantly, "Obviously, it comes from China's 5000-year culture!"

A certain Chinese journalist looked moved. "Director David, you're amazing! May we ask which of the ancient designs have these clothes utilized? Apparently, you've handmade all of it yourself. Is that true?"

David nodded. "I used K'o-ssu, Su embroidery, Gold embroidery, and other techniques. I completed the design drafts myself, but the production was completed by my team. We've all equally contributed."

"Director David, you're too humble. Everyone knows that the design is the soul of a clothing! Other than that, Mr. David, this time, your design is even more outstanding than the 'Spring Garden' show two years ago. I wonder what your series theme this time is called." The journalist complimented.

David answered, "It's called 'Rainbow Feathers'."