Mr Han 1001

Chapter 1001: How Could This Person Be So Lacking in Morals?

"Lu Qi's performance is very normal. Sure, it's not like Qiao Luna's, which was practically the scene of a car crash. But compared to Ni Xue, it's obvious that she is lacking. Why would those audience members vote for Lu Qi?"

"Since it's an audience vote and the judges don't participate, then what they are competing on are popularity and acting skills. In terms of acting skills, Ni Xue is obviously better than Lu Qi. In terms of popularity, Lu Qi has been unpopular for very long already and does not have many fans. Why does she have more votes than Ni Xue?"

"As expected, The Performer has internal workings."

"Even if you say there aren't any internal workings, I won't believe it."

"Haha, Lu Qi is really so disgusting. Her acting skills are not even good enough, yet she doesn't have any self-awareness and insisted on getting the win. Her over-confident face is too much."

It was usually the case that the main sponsor would have someone whom they had invested in enter the show, and they'd request for the production team to give this celebrity special treatment and have him or her enjoy some special privileges.

These were all rules that had already been silently agreed on.

Even if they didn't mention it, everyone would all know what was going on.

In fact, they would even feel that this was something normal.

But as soon as it was brought up in front of people, it no longer seems to be a very good practice, and it was easy to be attacked by other fans of celebrities and by netizens.

Just like Lu Qi at present.

Her acting skills were not good enough, and her popularity was not good enough, yet she wanted to make an appearance.

So, Ni Xue's fans were unhappy, and all ran to the production team's Weibo and Lu Qi's Weibo to scold them.

"What kind of horrible show are you running, treating our Xiao Xue like that? It serves you right that your viewership ratings have flopped!"

There was even a trending topic called "Heart Aches For Ni Xue."

Also, there was a topic called "Lu Qi Get Out Of The Entertainment Industry."

Lu Qi exploded in anger. She had originally been planning on using this show to increase her popularity.

Yet who knew that there would be this kind of situation?

During the show yesterday, her turn had come with much difficulty, but the audience members changed stations.

Still, she should have been able to use the views on the online video to make a comeback, but who'd have guessed that a large verified account in the entertainment industry would manage to destroy that path as well?

That Eight Skin Entertainment was horrible. Even if he said that there was something wrong with the competition between her and Ni Xue, those netizens who did not watch would have been curious and gone to Xing Ke Station's website to watch it there. That would have been fine too.

It would have increased the views on the show and boosted her popularity.

But he had created a solo clip of her and Ni Xue. She did not manage to gain anything. In fact, she was even scolded by Ni Xue's fans!

It was not only Lu Qi who was cursing out Eight Skin Entertainment. Ge Guangzhen was too.

He could have left Ni Xue and Lu Qi's situation alone for now. At least at the moment, this was to have been a good chance to increase the views online.

Yet this sort of good chance was ruined by Eight Skin Entertainment.

Why was this person so horrible?!

Eight Skin Entertainment went to Lu Man. "I have to say, you are really too evil. You were the one who made the clip of the show and thought of this plan, but in the end, the one being scapegoated is me."

"Haha," Lu Man laughed. "Thank you so much. But because of this, didn't your fans increase in number again?"

Eight Skin Entertainment: "... That's true."

At that moment, Lu Dongliu also made a phone call.

Lu Man hurriedly told Eight Skin Entertainment, "Let me pick up this call."

Eight Skin Entertainment: "Go on."

Lu Man closed the chat window and picked up the phone. "Director Lu?"

"Lu Man, dear, the situation with Lu Qi and Ni Xue online, did you do it?" Lu Dongliu asked.

Lu Man smiled and admitted it. "I took your public relations fee. I can't take your money and not do anything, right?"

Chapter 1002: Totally Dead

Lu Dongliu laughed and said, "I thought you had already completed your job. Because of you, our show has totally stepped on The Performer in terms of viewership ratings."

Lu Dongliu thought that with this alone, Lu Man had completed her assignment already.

The next episode had nothing to do with this episode.

He did not think that Lu Man felt that her task was not yet completed at all.

"Alright, then, I'll pass this thing on to you." Lu Dongliu happily hung up the phone.

With the presence of Lu Man in their hair, The Performer was now probably totally dead.

Ni Xue was still happy.

Originally, she'd seen the situation between her and Lu Qi being brought up and thought that she was over already.

Who'd have known that the netizens would be standing on her side, even feeling heartache for her, and that all of them would be attacking Lu Qi?

It looked like there was a possibility for her popularity to increase.

But Ni Xue had yet to feel happy when a large verified account in the entertainment circle, Expert On Watching Drama From The Sidelines, posted, "You guys are all feeling heartache for Ni Xue? Don't joke. At that time, when they signed the contract, didn't she already know about the internal decisions in The Performer? Didn't she know that if the production team wanted her to win, she would win, and that if they wanted her to lose, she would lose? Didn't she already know that the production team would discuss it with her first, whether they'd let her win or lose? Even though she knew these things, she chose to sign the contract. She herself does not care if she wins or loses. She was willing to fake results with the production team. Her losing to Lu Qi was of her own will. She and Lu Qi, as well as the production team, acted out a show together. Yet you guys still feel heartache for her?"

"Haha, to be famous, Ni Xue does not care about using these schemes at all. So you all should not let your heart ache for her."

When Expert On Watching Drama From The Sidelines posted that, the netizens who had been angered because of Lu Qi and the production team were reminded of that fact.

Ni Xue, who had originally been pitied, was stunned in an instant.

It was also the case that the good foundation that Wu Guan, Xu Jingfeng, Jiang Yuhan, and Xu Fei had created was ruined by Ni Xue and Lu Qi.

Even Wu Guan and the other three were affected.

Especially Jiang Yuhan. Her acting skills had been improving, but now, the netizens were suspecting that she had faked things for money.

All the celebrities in the first episode were suspected.

Even those celebrities whose participation the production team had already announced but whose episodes had yet to be aired were all affected.

The Performer's view count on the Xing Ke Station's official website was not increasing anymore.

"What is the number of views online now?" Ge Guangzhen asked.

Team Leader Wu sighed and said, "It's just at 2.58 million views right now."

"Why is it so few!" Ge Guangzhen was anxious.

This was Xing Ke Station's website!

Normally, their popular variety shows would all have tens of millions of views by now, and after a few days, it would reach a billion.

But The Performer had only 2.58 million!

It was already a mess online.

Ni Xue was being attacked, Lu Qi was being attacked, Wu Guan was being attacked, Xu Jingfeng was being attacked, Jiang Yuhan was being attacked, and Xu Jingfeng was being attacked!

Because of The Performer, the celebrities who participated were greatly affected.

Jiang Yuhan was the first to speak out: "At the start, *The Performer'*s production team (I'll simply call it production team from now) did not invite me, and later on, the Internet had exposed The Performer's internally-decided competition results. Because of this, a lot of seniors in the industry had pulled out. Later on, the production team came to find me and promised that there would definitely be no internal decisions. I was moved by the sincerity of the production team, so I agreed to participate. I followed the rules and competed. Whether there were internal decisions in the episode I won, I'm not sure. The production team has never mentioned it to me. But if there really was, I'm very sorry for making you all disappointed. So, I decided to pull out of The Performer. I will not be participating in the competition from today onwards."

Chapter 1003: Bow Down to the Great Lu Man

Xu Jingfeng, who also won the competition, expressed that he would never participate in it again.

As for those artistes who hadn't recorded the show yet, they saw that the matter had blown up so much that it was even more serious than during the incident with Lu Man.

Hence, all of them declared that they would be leaving the show.

"How could they just one-sidedly leave the show?" Ge Guangzhen said angrily. "Do they think the contract is just some joke?"

"Jiang Yuhan's manager has contacted us already," Team Leader Wu said. "They can pay us back based on the contract."

"Same for the others," Assistant Director Wang said.

"If this goes on, we won't even be able to record our second episode," the new assistant director called Zhang, who was here to replace Xu Yaojie, said.

Manager Wu said hesitantly, "Director Ge, I have an idea, but I don't know if I should say it or not."

"We're already at this stage, what's there left that should not be said?!" Ge Guangzhen said anxiously. "Say it. At this juncture, no matter what the idea is, just say it out loud. We can discuss its possibility." "Should we ask Lu Man to help us with public relations?" Team Leader Wu said. "If we do not, even if we really manage to broadcast the next episode, it will still be a problem as to whether or not people would watch it. In this aspect, Lu Man is the real top expert in the field. No one is faster than she is in terms of public relations. Lin Yi might be impressive, but the main point is that Wei Zilin is not in the entertainment industry and focuses mainly on business public relations. In a situation such as this, it would be more suitable to look for Lu Man."

Ge Guangzhen frowned. He was unwilling to bow down to Lu Man.

"Director Ge, consider it properly. We are in conflict with Lu Man, but would this conflict really be that big that it would make our show stop airing? Look at all the ruckus that's going on on the internet." Team Leader Wu urged. "Lu Man's tactic is just right there. *Classic X Files* sought out Lu Man, and in the end, their viewership ratings for that episode broke 2%."

Right now, there was even a saying, "If you get Lu Man, you will get viewership ratings too."

At first, Lu Man was raising up a storm only in the film industry. After all, there were differences between film, television shows, and variety shows.

Different professions are different worlds.

One might be able to make it in the film industry, but that didn't mean that one would be like a fish in water in the television industry or the variety show industry as well.

When it came to variety shows, especially, there were many artistes who originally had a pretty good reputation but whose image after they'd joined a variety show immediately crashed, causing many of their fans to leave.

People always had their own strengths and weaknesses.

And yet, Lu Man seemed to have no shortcomings at all. As long as it was something in the entertainment industry, she was good at anything!

For example, with *Classic X Files*, Lu Man showed an honest, legitimate, and irrefutable example.

Right now, there were many television stations itching and getting ready to seek out Lu Man and ask her to join their shows.

They all wished that she could help their viewership ratings rise a little.

It was as if they had completely lost all logic and reason and blindly believed that Lu Man definitely would find a way for them.

Team Leader Wu realized that he had such a feeling too.

If it was Lu Man, she could definitely bring back *The Performer* from the dead and help it completely make a comeback.

"Perhaps it was Lu Man who made our show end up like this right now!" Ge Guangzhen said.

"Even so, so what? Even if this time was not because of Lu Man, at the very start, it was Lu Man who exposed the behind-the-scenes dealings in our production team. And this time, *Classic X Files* had paid

Lu Man and so, naturally, she had to work for *Classic X Files*. However, that would make things a lot easier. Lu Man can work for *Classic X Files*, and she can also work for us."

Ge Guangzhen was silent. Even if they didn't ask Lu Man for help, would it even work if they sought out anyone else?

Ge Guangzhen nodded with much difficulty. "Alright, you, go and..."

Chapter 1004: Don't Go Overboard

Ge Guangzhen paused. "Never mind, I'll contact her personally."

The relationship between their production team and Lu Man was really tense. Ge Guangzhen wasn't sure that Lu Man would be willing to help either.

After asking Team Leader Wu and the others to leave, Ge Guangzhen called Lu Man personally.

"Hello." Lu Man picked up the phone rather quickly.

"Lu Man, hello. I'm the executive director of *The Performer*, Ge Guangzhen," Ge Guangzhen said.

Lu Man really didn't expect that Ge Guangzhen would call. She said lightly, "Hello."

Ge Guangzhen paused for a moment and said, "It's like this, our production team right now is in a pretty awkward and difficult spot. I believe that you know about it too."

"I've heard things," Lu Man said calmly.

Ge Guangzhen rolled his eyes dramatically. He thought to himself, Why are you still pretending?

You played such a huge role in making the production team end up like this today!

Besides, when you were paying attention to the viewership ratings of Classic X Files*, how could you not know about the pitiful state of* The Performer*?*

Moreover, it was very likely that this time was all of your doing!

"I'll be straightforward, then. I'm representing our production team to ask you to help us solve the difficult situation our show is currently facing." Ge Guangzhen said. "The fee for your public relations job will be according to your market rate."

"I'm sorry, I won't be able to help," Lu Man said.

Ge Guangzhen pursed his lips and said, "Lu Man, I know that there was some unhappiness between us, but these are two separate matters. There's no need to drag it over to work. This is a work matter, and as a professional public relations officer, you should be more professional with your work. Don't let your personal emotions affect your work."

Lu Man laughed a little. This Ge Guangzhen was here to ask her to help but ended up trying to educate her.

"I'm not agreeing to it partly because of your production team. I might be a public relations professional, but I have my own likes. I have the right to decide if I want to accept your job offer based on my likes and wants. I don't like how your production team has behind-the-scenes dealings, and I don't like how your production team works. Back then, you guys slandered me, but right now, if I help you out because of money, that would just make me so despicable." Lu Man laughed lightly.

Ge Guangzhen forcefully held back his anger and said, "Back then, what happened was my decision. I admit that my decision was wrong. I would like to apologize to you now. I hope that we can let bygones be bygones."

Ge Guangzhen paused and said, "Lu Man, as long as you help our show this one time, other than giving you the public relations fee you deserve, I can also promise you that there will definitely be a spot for you to guest in our Xing Ke Station's flagship variety show."

Ge Guangzhen's promise was a pretty big deal. Xing Ke Station was a huge station; hence, they would have a wide array of really rich variety shows.

Many artistes liked Xing Ke Station's variety shows. Some of them were even willing to ask for a much lower pay just so that they could appear on one and get some publicity.

When *Classic X Files* managed to crush *The Performer*'s viewership ratings to smithereens, it was only so shocking because this was way out of the ordinary. It was even something that had never happened before.

If it was a program on Xing Ke Station, no matter how bad it was, their viewership ratings wouldn't be crushed so badly.

Ge Guangzhen was the executive director only for *The Performer* and not for any other program.

For him to dare to say that, he would definitely have to owe the directors of other shows a favor.

It could be said that Ge Guangzhen was really at his wits' end.

Lu Man was barely moved by that. "I still can't agree."

"Lu Man, this is already the best condition I could offer, don't go too overboard," Ge Guangzhen said in all seriousness. "I've come to seek you out with my greatest sincerity. We can completely forget about all the unhappiness between us in the past. From now, there would be plenty of opportunities for us to work together."

Chapter 1005: I'm Not Threatening You

Ge Guangzhen scoffed lightly. "We are both in the same industry. Our paths will always cross and our connections are greatly and closely intertwined. Perhaps someone you know would be connected with someone I know. Moreover, in the future, you will have plenty of development in the film and television industry. However, for publicity, you will definitely have to appear on Xing Ke Station's shows."

"What are you trying to say?" Lu Man laughed coldly. "You're asking me to not offend Xing Ke Station?"

Ge Guangzhen pondered silently for a while. "I'm not threatening you."

After all, he was still asking Lu Man to help him out.

"I'm just laying the facts out for you. If you make *The Performer* lose face, Xing Ke Station would be affected too," Ge Guangzhen said. "Our station has really high expectations for this show. Be it manpower, resources, or money, the expenditure is really great. Right now, the premiere of *The Performer* didn't perform well. I am indeed under a lot of pressure, and the station is really angry too. To whom do you think they would blame this matter on?"

Of course they would blame it on Lu Man, the one who started it all.

"Our station would often bear grudges. In the past, there was an artiste who participated in one of our station's shows but decided to act like a diva and behaved obnoxiously. That person was directly blacklisted and would never be able to appear on any of our shows ever again. There was also another artiste who didn't cooperate with the recording of one of our station's shows. When the production team stated their requests in order to create some show effect, he just ignored all of those requests. He was blacklisted by our station too. Until now, he has never appeared in any of our station's shows."

"You are threatening me," Lu Man said coldly.

"Alright, then, I'll leave it to you to interpret." Ge Guangzhen curled the corner of his lips upwards smugly. He could hear that Lu Man's attitude had changed. She was angry.

She was angry, precisely because she was threatened but couldn't do anything about it either.

"Lu Man, you have already offended our station. You should think this through properly. Could it be that you wish to never appear on any of our station's shows for the rest of your life? That's the same as losing half of your opportunities to let people get to know you. We are all in the same industry. Even if we don't work together now, you also can't avoid the fact that we might possibly work together in the future. You have to think about your future," Ge Guangzhen said.

As Lu Man listened, she started laughing.

"What are you laughing about?!" Ge Guangzhen asked unhappily.

"I'm laughing about how all you people don't even know how to change your lines when trying to threaten people," Lu Man said. "In the past, *Great Desert*'s production team had also contacted me before and asked me to stop. If I didn't, if in the future I offended someone in the industry, I would not have an easy time. After that, *Great Desert*'s viewership ratings flopped all the way to the pits. As for me, I'm still doing fine."

"In the past, the team leader of your publicity team contacted me and asked me to cooperate with you guys and put all the blame on myself. If not, I would only lose out from all of this. But in the end? You guys are still the ones who flopped." Lu Man dropped her laughter and said coldly, "So, do you think I will still care about your threats right now?"

"You want to go against our entire Xing Ke Station?!" Ge Guangzhen questioned her incredulously.

Lu Man shook her head. "First off, it was you who came asking me to help, yet you ended up threatening me instead. This method of asking for a favor sure is extraordinary. Secondly, before Xing Ke Station starts bearing a grudge against me, I'll get rid of you first. If you hadn't made that wrong decision and riled me up first, *The Performer* wouldn't have ended up in such an awkward state right now. Instead of threatening me or showing 'concern' about my future development, why don't you be more concerned

about your own career? Do you think you can still continue being the executive director of *The Performer* or stay with Xing Ke Station?"

Chapter 1006: Face as Black as Charcoal

Ge Guangzhen was so furious, he wanted to break something.

This Lu Man, how could she not fall for either the carrot or the stick!

The way she talked was too infuriating!

Lu Man smiled and said, "Thirdly, other than your production team itself, there's another reason why I won't agree to work for your production team."

Ge Guangzhen frowned. "What's the reason?"

"Because your main sponsor is the Lu Corporation," Lu Man said directly.

Ge Guangzhen suddenly recalled the conflict between Lu Man and Lu Qiyuan.

No, it was probably no longer suitable to just call it a conflict.

It wouldn't be too much to even call the two of them enemies.

Lu Man was very straightforward and blunt too. "If I help your production team become popular, won't the main sponsor, the Lu Corporation, become popular too?"

Ever since *The Performer* had started to partner with the Lu Corporation, both of them had become one entity to Lu Man.

Ge Guangzhen was shocked. "Because of the Lu Corporation, you won't help us?"

"Yes," Lu Man said very assuredly.

"If the Lu Corporation wasn't around, would you help our show?" Ge Guangzhen asked.

Lu Man smiled lightly. "I can consider it then."

Ge Guangzhen: "..."

So the biggest reason wasn't the conflict between Lu Man and their production team. It was completely because of the conflict between Lu Man and Lu Qiyuan!

How could their production team be implicated in this?!

Ge Guangzhen took in a deep breath. Right now, he wanted to immediately break their contract with the Lu Corporation.

But it was already too late!

"Let's end this talk here, alright?" Lu Man said to Ge Guangzhen as she smiled. "Besides, I'm not the only one in this field, you can also seek out someone else."

Ge Guangzhen was just about to say something when the secretary from outside the door knocked and entered.

"What's the matter?" Ge Guangzhen covered the microphone of his phone.

"The chief needs you to head over, sir," the assistant said softly.

"Got it." Ge Guangzhen released his grip and said to Lu Man, "I understand."

After he finished, he hung up the phone.

Ge Guangzhen went to the chief's office. Chief Hu of the Broadcasting Station's face was as black as charcoal. The report of *The Performer*'s viewership ratings was also on the table.

"I heard that you've contacted Lu Man? How did she reply?" Chief Hu of the Broadcasting Station asked solemnly.

"She rejected it." Ge Guangzhen hurriedly explained, "Not because of her conflict with the production team, but because the main sponsor of *The Performer* is the Lu Corporation."

"So? What do you plan to do after this?" Chief Hu asked.

"The production team can't break our contract with the Lu Corporation, so it seems that Lu Man won't be a possibility anymore. I'll look for other public relations teams. The second episode has already been recorded. We'll strive to raise the viewership ratings. The viewership ratings of that episode of *Classic X Files* managed to blow up because Lu Man had invited Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng. They can't possibly invite another heavyweight guest like them again for the next episode, right? So, for the second episode, we can still fight."

Chief Hu raised his eyebrows. "Are you sure? Right now, *The Performer* still has a bunch of mess to clean up. The second episode has been recorded, but what about after that? There are so many artistes who have already decided to leave."

Chief Hu's liver started hurting just thinking about it. "If you guys hadn't riled up Lu Man in the first place, right now, Ji Cheng and Sun Yiwu would have been the guests in the first episode of *The Performer*. It would have been our station whose viewership ratings had blown up. Dong Hua Station would completely have had nothing to do about it at all! The people working under you couldn't control their own months. You have been with the station for so long, so do you also think that our station is invincible and has no competition, that you could just manipulate a small artiste like Lu Man? Is that it?"

Ge Guangzhen lowered his head. Right now, he still wasn't sure how things had ended up this way.

In a haze of confusion, everything had immediately become such a mess.

If he went to ask those other people who were defeated by Lu Man, they would probably all give him the same answer. "Back then, we too didn't know how things had ended up in that state. In a blur, we have foolishly lost."

Chapter 1007: It's A Win-Win

Chief Hu waved his hand in annoyance. "Let's not talk about that."

He was under a lot of pressure too. The station had given The Performer the go-ahead and pumped in so much money into the show.

Were the other programs happy about that?

Since long ago, there had been quite a lot of people who were unhappy about it.

"Previously, it's not like you guys couldn't find someone to do PR, but what happened in the end?" Chief Hu asked.

Ge Guangzhen didn't say anything. He had nothing to say.

It didn't work out previously. It probably would be equally bad this time around.

"Since you've already recorded the second episode, then we shall air it as scheduled," Chief Hu of the Broadcasting Station said.

Ge Guangzhen still hadn't had the time to let out a sigh of relief when Chief Hu said, "If the viewership ratings for the second episode don't improve, then the show will stop airing."

"Chief!" Ge Guangzhen called nervously.

"When the time comes, we'll see if there's any chance that it could be temporarily stopped and rescheduled. If not, it will be stopped indefinitely." Chief Hu waved his hand. "Alright, then, go back and properly think about how to increase the viewership ratings for the second episode."

Elsewhere, right after Lu Man had ended her call with Ge Guangzhen, Lu Dongliu called her.

"Director Lu," Lu Man said as she smiled.

"Lu Man, I heard that Ge Guangzhen wanted to invite you to do PR for their show. Is that true?" Lu Dongliu asked directly.

Lu Man raised her eyebrows, smiled, and asked, "Looks like Director Lu has someone in Xing Ke Station. You hear about news so quickly. I had just ended the call."

"Hey!" Lu Dongliu didn't worry about being evasive. "Know thyself and know thy enemy, and you'll never be defeated! Xing Ke Station definitely has someone in our Dong Hua Station too. If not, I wouldn't have been so particular and tight regarding security for that episode. I was just afraid that they would find out something."

Lu Man smiled and said, "Please rest assured, I didn't agree to him. Please don't forget why I'm going against The Performer. It's not because of their show but because of the Lu Corporation."

Lu Dongliu let out a sigh of relief. "I'll stop worrying, then. It's not that I don't trust you, but I just feel really uneasy in my heart. I had to confirm with you one more time just to be sure."

Lu Man laughed without saying anything.

"Oh, right, do you want to do anything about their second episode?" Lu Dongliu asked.

Lu Man smiled. "I just didn't agree to help them. As for bashing them, it will depend on the situation."

Lu Dongliu: "..."

What "depends on the situation"?

"I believe that after Classic X Files, various television stations will start believing in my ability. There will be people who will come looking for me. Not only can I help them raise their viewership ratings, but I can also drag The Performer down. It's a win-win," Lu Man said, smiling happily.

Lu Dongliu: "..."

It was a win-win for her, but what about them?

"There are already other production teams who have started looking for you?" Lu Dongliu asked.

"Yeah." Lu Man took out a list and named, "Matchmaking Congregation, Speedy Life, and Running Show have all looked for me."

It had only been one morning. It was highly likely that there would be some other production teams who would look for her in the afternoon too.

Lu Dongliu almost fell to his knees and knelt down. "Don't agree to work with them, just continue working with us. Didn't we sign a contract with you and it's calculated based on each episode? We will continue signing a contract with you for the next episode. After all, you don't really know them, but you've worked with us before and we're both familiar with each other. It will be more convenient for us to work together. What do you think?"

Lu Man considered it for a while and said, "Sure."

"Really?" Lu Dongliu didn't expect that Lu Man would agree so readily.

"Just as you've said, we had a good partnership. It will be even more successful if we work together again. Moreover, right now, your show is at the top in viewership ratings and a lot of people are paying attention to the show. If I help your show do publicity, more people will pay attention to me too. It's a win-win for both of us."

Chapter 1008: Getting the Marriage Certificate as Soon as They Returned

Lu Dongliu: "..."

Alright, he finally could see it.

No matter what kind of double win it was or whom she would double win with, it was for sure that Lu Man would win.

And so, the cooperation between the two was confirmed.

She had just hung up when she saw Han Zhuoli walk over.

Seeing his dark face, Lu Man directly extended a hand towards him. "What is it?"

Han Zhuoli held on to the hand Lu Man had extended, sat by her side, and pulled Lu Man into his embrace.

"I have to go on a work trip. I'll be leaving tonight and will come back on the ninth day after the Chinese New Year," Han Zhuoli said.

Wasn't that the day they were supposed to get their marriage certificate?

Han Zhuoli said, "I'll rush back on the morning of that day."

Han Zhuoli looked at his schedule on his phone. "The flight will land at 10:30 am. At that time, we can directly meet at the doorway of the Civil Affairs Bureau. I can arrive roughly before 11:30."

She had originally wanted to say that maybe they should get their marriage certificate another day, but upon hearing that he would be coming back so early, Lu Man did not say anything else.

Han Zhuoli held her hand, his forefingers touching the tips of her fingers one by one, then interlacing them. "Anyway, no matter what, we must definitely get our marriage certificate on that day. We can't delay it."

The earlier he married her, the more at ease he'd feel.

This Chinese New Year holiday was probably the hardest holiday he had gone through. He wanted the time to pass faster, to be able to marry her as soon as possible.

"Are you finished with your luggage packing?" Lu Man asked. "What time are you leaving tonight?"

"Not yet. My flight is at eight pm," Han Zhuoli said.

This holiday was probably the longest time she had spend with him after she got together with Han Zhuoli.

Most of the time, the two of them did not go anywhere and just stayed together, not feeling annoyed or bored no matter how long they did so.

Anyway, to Lu Man, even if she was looking at Han Zhuoli's face every second and every minute, no matter how long she looked, she would not be bored of it.

Han Zhuoli's face was handsome and very nice to look at; no matter how long she looked, she would not get tired of looking.

She just kept feeling like she had not looked at him enough.

This holiday, they were stuck together day and night, causing her to feel more unwilling to separate with him.

"I'll go and help you pack your luggage," Lu Man said.

Han Zhuoli then followed Lu Man as they returned to the room together, and Lu Man helped him to pack bit by bit.

She even prepared flu and stomach medicine. "It's very easy to be unused to the weather and food when you are overseas. It's better to prepare these."

Then she helped him pack in an umbrella and a raincoat.

When it was inconvenient to use an umbrella, he could wear a raincoat.

Bits and pieces, all kinds of detailed items, Lu Man packed them in for him.

In the past, it was Auntie He who packed for Han Zhuoli, and Han Zhuoli liked to pack simply, not liking bringing too many things, and naturally, Auntie He did not dare to not listen to him.

But Lu Man did not feel that kind of stress.

She packed very well for him.

"I'll send you off tonight," Lu Man said.

"Don't, I don't feel at ease letting you come back by yourself." Han Zhuoli directly carried her and sat by the bedside. "I'll give you a call when I reach the airport."

Lu Man nodded, her forehead resting on his shoulder.

Han Zhuoli saw her very cute look and had a difficult time imagining how she'd angered Ge Guangzhen so much just now.

"I will not be here, so if you have something you need help with, feel free to ask Manager Hao. Zheng Tianming is going with me for the overseas work trip. Sometimes, it might not be convenient to contact me or him due to the time difference and I might not be able to reply to you instantly," Han Zhuoli instructed, "So, for anything concerning the entertainment industry, you can directly look for Manager Hao. If you want to investigate anything, find Zhou Cheng and Xu Hui."

"Alright." Lu Man nodded. "You don't need to be worried."

Han Zhuoli smiled. "Anyway, the celebrities under the Han Corporation won't participate in *The Performer*."

Chapter 1009: They Aren't Human!

This way, the number of people Ge Guangzhen could seek out would be halved.

It could be seen that the little girl really could not bear to part with him.

When he was speaking, she kept sticking to him and even pulled on his hand, refusing to let go.

She even kept looking at him while they were eating.

Han Zhuoli helplessly waved his hand in front of her a few times. "Can you feel full just by looking?"

Lu Man shook her head. "I can't."

She suddenly stood up, leaned across the table, and kissed his lips. "Even kissing doesn't make me full."

Han Zhuoli laughed lowly and his hands held her face. Just when she was about to leave, he hurriedly kissed her.

This little girl was becoming more and more able to seduce him.

"Eat your food." Han Zhuoli kissed her lips lightly again. "When I'm not home, you have to take good care of yourself."

Lu Man nodded obediently.

Han Zhuoli still felt a bit uneasy. "You can look for Xiao Guo when you want to go out. He's the driver I assigned to you. Don't drive the car yourself."

"Alright," Lu Man replied with a smile. "It's not the first time you're going away for a business trip, don't treat me like an infant."

"It feels different. In the past, you were staying at your mom's house. Even if I'd gone on a business trip, you still had your mom to accompany you. But now that I'm going on a business trip, you'll be the only one left here," Han Zhuoli said. "This is the first time that you'll be staying here when I'm going on a business trip."

Butler Xiao Wang: "..."

Auntie He: "..."

They weren't human!

Haha!

Lu Man held back her laughter. "There's Butler Xiao Wang and Auntie He here. And when you aren't home, I can also go and find my mom."

As soon as Lu Man said that, she felt that something was wrong. Xia Qingwei had Wang Juhuai accompanying her now.

Lu Man instantly felt very strange.

Before this, she had been worried that when she and Han Zhuoli went to get their marriage certificate, she would officially become Han Zhuoli's wife and the Han Family's daughter-in-law, and everything would be different from the past.

During the New Year or other festivals, she'd have to go to the Han Family house.

Xia Qingwei, who'd be staying at home, would be too lonely, especially on festivals where everyone was having reunions. She would feel sad.

But now, with Wang Juhuai there, when Han Zhuoli left, the one who would be left alone was her instead.

After they finished eating, Han Zhuoli had to go to the airport.

Lu Man sent him out of the door, and when he entered the lift, she finally understood Han Zhuoli's meaning.

In the past, at home, when Han Zhuoli went on a work trip, she still had Xia Qingwei there.

But now, after personally sending Han Zhuoli out the door and seeing with her own eyes him pulling his luggage and leaving, even though there was Butler Xiao Wang and Auntie He at home, she still felt empty.

And so, on the second day, Lu Man returned to Xia Qingwei's house.

As soon as she entered the house, she heard Xia Qingwei and Wang Juhuai talking.

The two of them were busy talking and did not even hear her entering the door.

Lu Man walked into the living room and saw that the two of them were playing Monopoly...

The two of them, one was refined and stable, the other elegant and quiet, were actually sitting on the carpet right now.

In front of them was the Monopoly board. Next to their hand was the game money, and they were playing happily.

"Mom, Uncle Wang," Lu Man called.

Xia Qingwei noticed only then that Lu Man had come back and hurriedly stood up. "Why did you come back today?"

"Zhuoli went on a work trip, so I came to take a look around," Lu Man said as she smiled. "Mr. Wang came early?"

Xia Qingwei was a bit uncomfortable.

Wang Juhuai guiltily clenched his hands into fists, covered his mouth, and coughed lightly. "I've mostly been staying here recently."

Scared that Lu Man would misunderstand and have a bad impression of him, he hurriedly explained, "Staying in the guest bedroom."

Xia Qingwei's face was red. She and Wang Juhuai really had a pure relationship.

Chapter 1010: Coming to Find Them

Wang Juhuai was staying in the guest room, and normally, they would be chatting like this or going out and about to walk around.

Today, they had remembered the game that the two of them had played together when they were young, and Wang Juhuai had suggested that they play Monopoly together.

They did not do anything more intimate.

But in other people's eyes, it was definitely not like that.

Xia Qingwei's face turned red upon thinking about it. "Your Uncle Wang's new house is being renovated. He bought a villa in the villa area in this neighborhood, but he was not satisfied with the renovations and the things that came with the house, so he took everything down and decorated it according to his taste."

The truth was that it was according to her taste, and Wang Juhuai had insisted on pulling her to investigate the renovations and designs for villas.

He had found a designer and also wanted to ask for her opinion. He was asking what she liked, whether that design was good or not.

And in the end, unknowingly, everything was being renovated based on her opinion.

Wang Juhuai had said this, "I chose to stay and not leave, and it's because of you. My buying a villa in this neighborhood is also because of you. I hope that we can continue to stay in that house together in the future, so naturally, I'll follow what you like."

To be direct, the house was bought for Xia Qingwei.

"To make it convenient to see how the renovation is going, he's temporarily staying here," Xia Qingwei explained. "How long is Xiao Han going on a work trip for? How about you come back here to stay?"

Wang Juhuai felt very awkward. "If Lu Man is returning here to stay, then it wouldn't be very convenient for me to also stay here. I'll move out first and I'll come back after a few days."

Xia Qingwei could not help but glare at him. Why was he talking like this was his house?!

Lu Man smiled. "There's no need, there's no need, I'm not planning on coming back to stay. He'll be back on the morning of the ninth day after the New Year. At that time, we two can directly go to the Civil Affairs Bureau. I'm here today just to take a look, then I'll be going back first."

"This child!" How could Xia Qingwei let her go? She cleared up the games on the floor. "You can just stay and eat lunch here today. We are planning on eating dumplings in the afternoon."

Actually, Wang Juhuai had said that, having stayed overseas for so many years, he could not eat authentic dumplings at all.

The Chinese restaurants overseas had changed until they had suited the local taste. Not nice at all.

So, Xia Qingwei had made dumplings today.

Hearing what Xia Qingwei said, Lu Man thought that her relationship with Wang Juhuai had really slowly become very good.

Even she herself did not notice, but the feeling she gave off when they were talking was already very intimate.

"Alright," Lu Man agreed.

And at that moment, Lu Qiyuan was driving a car, bringing Xia Qingyang along, and came to the entrance of the neighborhood of Xia Qingwei.

Xia Qingyang looked at the location and environment of the neighborhood.

After finding out that Xia Qingwei was staying here, she had specially checked the price of the houses here.

At that moment, she said in a dark tone, "Lu Man has really earned a lot of money if they'd moved to such a good place. No wonder we couldn't find her before. The houses over here cost around 20 million yuan. Haha, Lu Man has money to buy a house but has no money to help you. The money that the Lu Corporation gave *The Performer* to be its main sponsor is 40 million yuan. If she'd given you 20 million yuan, your pressure would have been reduced instantly."

Xia Qingyang was very scared that Lu Qiyuan would blame the fact that the Lu Corporation had lost money on Lu Qi.

It was Lu Qi who had convinced Lu Qiyuan to be the main sponsor of *The Performer* as she'd been planning on trying to get in through the back door through that show.

Who'd have known that participating in the show would have no good effect at all and that she'd even get scolded by the netizens?

The Performer's viewership ratings were not good, and it looked like the money that the Lu Corporation had invested was about to go to waste.

Because of that, Xia Qingyang was using all her power to push Lu Qiyuan's anger onto Lu Man.