Mr Han 1151

Chapter 1151: The Shameless Is Invincible

The netizens were presently still sunned at Wang Juhuai's sudden Weibo post.

Although it happened tonight at the dinner, the netizens had had no idea.

They had not caught wind of it.

The Net suddenly became flurried with activity. "What did Wang Juhuai mean by this?"

"What dinner? Any kind souls who know about this, care to spill?"

"I smell gossip."

"Search no further, Nan Yin just published an article!"

It turned out to be y Tang Zi, who quickly snapped a few close-ups of Lin Jinshu's twisted grimace and immediately wrote an article before posting it to Weibo. He dared not dilly-dally.

If he were slower, someone else would have seized the chance to publish the headlines.

Nan Yin headlines: "CEO of LYNN Company, Lin Jinshu, gets slapped by Wang Juhuai publicly for falsely claiming to be his wife at the investment dinner held by Sheng Yue tonight."

It was followed by a video and three close-up shots of Lin Jinshu's twisted face.

Because of Lu Man's advance notice, Tang Zi was able to publish this news instantly.

While the other reporters were crowded around Lin Jinshu before the dinner ended, Tang Zi had already exited the crowd and seized the opportunity to churn out this news.

"My God, what a shameless woman!"

"Who's that Qingwei that Wang Juhuai mentioned?"

"Don't know, that's not important. The main focus is on Lin Jinshu, okay?"

"No wonder Wang Juhuai is so infuriated. Divorced for ten whole years and yet the ex-wife still refused to give up and kept hanging on to him, even brazenly claiming to be his wife while slandering his current wife. Anyone else would be angry too."

"Lin Jinshu didn't refute it when Wang Juhuai said she threatened him. Must be true, then."

"Goodness, how shameless! 'The shameless is invincible'—that describes Lin Jinshu perfectly!"

"I think the reason they divorced is because Lin Jinshu's too shameless."

"Haha, see if Lin Jinshu can continue going around maligning others!"

Wang Juhuai saw the news when he was on the way home.

Right away, "Eight Skin Entertainment" released another satire Weibo post accompanied with pictures and captions.

And Lin Jinshu had yet to see all of these.

She was still trapped at the dinner, surrounded by reporters.

"Go away!" Lin Jinshu fumed. "I have nothing to explain!"

"This is my private affair!" Lin Jinshu said as she pushed at the reporters, desperate to dash out.

But she appeared pathetic being blocked by reporters.

Her earlier elegance was gone, replaced with an ugly rage.

Her carefully styled hair now utterly messed up, not one inch of gracefulness was left on her; she just looked like a crazy woman.

Right then, Lin Jinshu saw the one who brought her here and hurriedly called out, "CEO Lin! CEO Lin, help me!"

CEO Lin was furious. Why would he be willing to help her?

Ha!

He treated her as a friend, introducing her to people of importance in B City. Yet she lied to him and made him into a joke!

When Wang Juhuai reached Yi Garden, Han Zhuoli was there too.

Wang Juhuai smiled. Han Zhuoli was really his wife's shadow; wherever Lu Man was, he would be there as well.

"Everything's settled," Wang Juhuai told Xia Qingwei. "No need to worry."

"I saw the Weibo posts already." Xia Qingwei took the coat he took off.

When she saw the video, she felt for Wang Juhuai. An artist who's usually courteous and elegant, he actually had to shout at Lin Jinshu publicly.

No wonder Lu Man kept reminding him to not feel embarrassed.

"All thanks to Man Man." Wang Juhuai heaved a sigh of relief. "Your reaction was so fast. From the moment I ripped apart Lin Jinshu's lies to the headlines published online, and then to have marketing accounts publish satire images, everything was done within half an hour. Now Lin Jinshu can't react and save her public image even if she wishes to."

Chapter 1152: Good News

"That's true. Our Man Man is professional, the crème de la crème. Lin Jinshu's not even her competitor in this area," Xia Qingwei said proudly, especially pleased.

"Right, right," Wang Juhuai nodded hurriedly.

"Like this, at least no one will believe her if she says anything bad about you both in the future," Lu Man said.

Wang Juhuai then looked at the netizens' comments again.

"Wang Juhuai never had any scandals and never bothered with making himself the talk of the town. This means that the matter is Lin Jinshu's responsibility, and Wang Juhuai's really angry."

"This weird lady should just f*ck off, stop tarnishing Wang Juhuai's reputation."

Meanwhile, at the dinner, Lin Jinshu finally escaped the reporters and had no face to stay on.

All the guests at the dinner looked at her with undisguised disgust.

Lu Qi never expected things to go this way.

She was stunned when she saw Wang Juhuai throw the divorce certificates.

Though Wang Juhuai did not mention the full name and others might not know who he meant, Lu Qi knew clearly who exactly the "Qingwei" he mentioned was.

Even if she was reluctant to admit it, she knew in her heart Wang Juhuai's "Qingwei" meant Xia Qingwei.

Wang Juhuai actually really married Xia Qingwei and even ripped apart Lin Jinshu's lies for her!

That meant Lu Man's really Wang Juhuai's stepdaughter!

Lu Qi could not help but recall the exposure about Han Zhuoli's wife previously.

No, that's impossible!

The wedding ring was clearly different!

Someone was spouting nonsense for sure.

So what if Wang Juhuai's Lu Man's stepfather?

Though Wang Juhuai and Xia Qingwei both were on their second marriages, would Wang Juhuai really not be bothered about Lu Man?

Since Lu Man was Lu Qiyuan's daughter, would Wang Juhuai's heart really feel comfortable?

Lu Qi comforted herself with these thoughts.

Meanwhile, at Yi Garden.

"You didn't eat anything at the dinner, right?" Xia Qingwei asked Wang Juhuai.

Wang Juhuai went out before 6 pm, and having dinner at 4 or 5 o'clock seemed too early.

Hence, he never had dinner.

And now that he was back, it's already past 8 pm.

"Didn't occur to me." Wang Juhuai rubbed his stomach. "Strange, I'm not that hungry either, I'm probably full from the anger Lin Jinshu caused me."

"We've already eaten." Since it was quite late.

She wanted to wait for Wang Juhuai, and she would not mind if Lu Man waited with her.

But to let Han Zhuoli remain hungry made Xia Qingwei slightly stressed.

As such, the three of them had had dinner.

"I'll make some for you," Xia Qingwei said.

"No need for it to be too complicated, just a simple bowl of noodles and vegetables will do," Wang Juhuai said.

"Alright."

Xia Qingwei went to the kitchen, and Lu Man received a call from Sun Yiwu.

"Uncle Sun?" Lu Man said after picking up.

"I saw the news on the Net. Are you all alright?" Sun Yiwu asked first.

"We're fine, I controlled all of those," Lu Man explained.

"That's good." Sun Yiwu laughed. "There's some good news I want to tell you."

"Oh? What is it?"

"You know that the Fei Yue International Film Festival for this year is going to be held soon, right?" Sun Yiwu said.

"Yes." A thought struck Lu Man. "I'm invited too?"

The Fei Yue International Film Festival was considered to be the most influential among all the other film festivals held within the country.

Chapter 1153: Nomination

Over time, its influence grew and was almost catching up with the Venice and Cannes film festivals.

Every year, outstanding films from countries all over the world would participate in the selection. Of course, the movie stars from the various countries were not to be missed out on either. This included the A-listers in the international film scene, who would bring their works along with them. Some would be invited as guests by the organizers.

Participating in this film festival would surely stabilize one's position in this industry.

Aside from two movies and one variety show, Lu Man did not have any other works. She really needed a chance like this.

"Haha, of course you have a share," Sun Yiwu said with a smile. "I sent in your name for Best Supporting Actress. Ji Cheng sent in your name for Best Actress."

"Older Brother Ji also sent in my name?" Lu Man was shocked. She had actually been nominated for both Best Supporting Actress and Best Actress at the same time.

"Isn't this a must?" Sun Yiwu said as he laughed. "But you're also lucky. You managed to act in both of our films at the same time. Both films were also shot around the same time and are within the time frame when the film festival was accepting nominations. Furthermore, this is the first time Ji Cheng has produced a film. This is his first film, so it is very important to him."

"Thank you," Lu Man said. "I will give Older Brother Ji a call in a moment."

Although it was just a sending in of her name and she might not even get nominated, it was good that she still had a chance like this.

The competition was fierce in an international film festival like this. There were too many outstanding films and actors.

Lu Man knew that she was basically there to be a side character. Actually, as long as she could be nominated, it would be considered an improvement and a confirmation of her abilities.

"Okay," Sun Yiwu said. "Basically, according to the usual rules last time, the panel committee usually does not reject the names sent in by big-name directors and will send them straight to the nomination round. Your name was sent in by me and Ji Cheng at the same time. Even if you can't get nominated for both Best Supporting Actress and Best Actress, you will at least be nominated for one of these categories."

Lu Man was still a layman to all these things. No one would be a match for her in public relations, but when it came to certain rules in the entertainment industry, she was still in the exploration stage.

She knew of all these only after Sun Yiwu told her.

After ending the call, Lu Man immediately called Ji Cheng.

She could hear the sounds made by his baby daughter, Ji Simian, playing over the phone. She could also hear the sounds of a cartoon show being played in the background.

Lu Man could not help but smile when she heard that and said, "Older Brother Ji, are you at home?"

"Aye, I'm playing with my baby daughter," Ji Cheng said as he smiled.

"Uncle Sun called me just now and told me that both of you sent in my name to the Fei Yue International Film Festival," Lu Man said. "Thank you so much."

"Why are being so polite?" Seeing that Ji Simian had stretched out her hand, Ji Cheng passed the remote control to her and let her change the channel on her own. "We submitted your name at the same time, you will definitely be nominated for at least one of the categories. Prepare yourself well for it."

"Alright."

"Oh right, aside from these usual awards, the Fei Yue Film Festival also added a Best Newcomer Award this year. We can't send in your name for this category because all the new actors in the movies that aired this year will be automatically eligible for selection in the nomination round where the Best

Newcomer will be chosen," Ji Cheng said. "You fulfill all the requirements and will definitely be nominated. From what I see, you are the most outstanding one out of all the newcomers this year. The others are no match for you."

Although Ji Cheng said that, Lu Man could not really think that she had no rivals or that the award was hers to keep.

There were too many variables involved in selecting the ultimate award winner, and this was related to many other aspects as well.

Chapter 1154: Backing Out

Lu Man knew that it was impossible for the selection in this film festival to be entirely fair.

Even if it was entirely fair, she might not be the winner of the award either.

After ending the call, Lu Man told Han Zhuoli about this matter.

"Unlike you, I am very confident in you," Han Zhuoli said.

Lu Man felt that there was never a time when this man did not have confidence in her.

Lin Jinshu greatly embarrassed herself at the dinner banquet. Afterward, she was even mocked and attacked by netizens. It made her so angry for a few days that she did not go online or step outside at all

Wang Qianyun did not expect that Lin Jinshu would lose her first battle right when she came back!

From her point of view, Lin Jinshu's plan was great. Even she had to admit that Lin Jinshu was way too scheming.

Who would have guessed that she would be defeated in an instant?

She had no way of fighting back at all.

She had been waiting for Lin Jinshu to strike back these few days and felt that it was impossible for her to lose so easily. She must have had some other tricks up her sleeve.

In the end, nothing came.

Wang Qianyun finally confirmed that Lin Jinshu had indeed lost!

Wang Qianyun did not think much of it when Wang Juhuai exposed Lin Jinshu directly at the dinner banquet.

It was possible since Wang Juhuai was so flustered.

However, right after that, she saw that the online news sites were filled with articles about it.

Everything from Wang Juhuai's Weibo post to the media's exposé happened within half an hour.

Wang Qianyun would not believe that this was all done by Wang Juhuai.

Wang Juhuai could not have sent out the Weibo post while he was walking out of the hotel.

No matter what, this was a huge incident. He definitely had to be measured in his tone and send it out only after confirming that there were no mistakes in it. He could not have treated it like child's play.

Needless to say, Wang Juhuai had just left before the news and those Weibo accounts caught up with him. It was as if they had known everything about the matter even though it had just happened.

Looking at this made Wang Qianyun feel as if she had smelled a familiar scent.

When she looked at it again, she realized that there was an "Eight Skin Entertainment" in one of the accounts. Wasn't this the account Lu Man used and worked with?

Though not all of the Weibo posts on "Eight Skin Entertainment" were done in collaboration with Lu Man, the name of the account itself would easily make one think of Lu Man.

This was too obvious as the matter concerned Wang Juhuai especially.

This was certainly done by Lu Man!

Wang Juhuai only needed to slap Lin Jinshu in the face at the dinner. The real mastermind behind all this was Lu Man.

Lu Man contacted the media and those accounts to attack Lin Jinshu and catch her off-guard. It actually knocked her off of her feet completely!

"Auntie, now that things have come to this, what do you plan to do next? You can't possibly let things go just like that, right?" Wang Qianyun said urgently.

"Don't rush me," Lin Jinshu said in an annoyed tone. "I have been staying at home these few days just to think about what I should do next."

At that moment, Lin Jinshu's assistant called.

"What?" Lin Jinshu answered.

"CEO Lin, that CEO Lin, CEO Liu, and CEO Zhang just contacted me and said that they are backing out from the projects that we have discussed with them previously," said Assistant Qian anxiously.

"Didn't we already discuss everything previously?!" Lin Jinshu screamed anxiously.

"Yes," Assistant Qian said. "But they suddenly said they don't want to work with us anymore."

"Did they say what the reason was?" Lin Jinshu asked.

"Er..." They did say, but the other party said that they only agreed to work with Lin Jinshu on Wang Juhuai's account. However, Lin Jinshu was no longer Wang Juhuai's wife, yet she'd still used Wang Juhuai's name to lie to them.

Chapter 1155: Continuous Invites

They were especially proactive in helping Lin Jinshu expand her connections because of her links to Wang Juhuai. They aggressively promoted all kinds of operations and bragged about her. As long as they

could form long-term friendly working relations with Lin Jinshu, if they ever needed help from Wang Juhuai, would Wang Juhuai refuse?

And how did that turn out?

Lin Jinshu was slapped and berated by Wang Juhuai publicly. CEO Lin and a few others who had introduced Lin Jinshu were utterly embarrassed because of this as well.

They wanted to use Lin Jinshu to boost their prestige, but they ended up embarrassing themselves to no end.

Why would they still want to work with Lin Jinshu? It was good enough that they did not seek revenge on her.

The other party did not hide and made their stand very clear. They even vented all their rage towards Lin Jinshu on Assistant Qian.

Assistant Qian felt very wronged too. However, he did not dare to tell Lin Jinshu all these directly.

"Enough," Lin Jinshu said. "I'll ask him myself."

Lin Jinshu ended the call and called CEO Lin immediately.

After a long time, CEO Lin finally picked up. "Madam Lin."

Lin Jinshu took in a deep breath. Her tone was very polite and she said, "CEO Lin, why did I hear from my assistant that you decided not to continue working with me anymore?"

"Yes," CEO Lin replied stiffly.

"What's going on? Didn't we already agree on this?" Lin Jinshu asked.

CEO Lin replied coldly, "We only talked about this before and did not formally sign an agreement. Furthermore, as long as no contract has been signed, I reserve the right to rescind my words. Why do you make it sound as if I did something wrong? You're actually questioning me now."

CEO Lin's words just now were very rude.

Lin Jinshu's face changed. "CEO Lin, that is not what I meant."

"I won't beat around the bush," CEO Lin said coldly. "Don't you have any idea why I went back on my words? You're the one who lied to me first. You don't even have basic integrity and you want me to work with you? I'm afraid that you will just lie to me again."

Lin Jinshu almost choked before she said, "CEO Lin, I have my own difficulties in this matter."

"I don't care what difficulties you have. Anyway, I don't dare to trust you. This time, because of you, I embarrassed myself so much. I can't afford to lose face to this extent again. Madam Lin, you don't need to contact me anymore in the future either," CEO Lin said sternly. "Goodbye."

Before Lin Jinshu could reply, CEO Lin ended the call.

Lin Jinshu's anger was all pent up in her heart. She had never felt so aggrieved before!

She took in two deep breaths to regain her composure and started to call the others.

Some others did not sound as stern as CEO Lin. After all, CEO Lin suffered the most humiliation because of Lin Jinshu. However, they were definitely not any more polite either.

In the end, no matter what Lin Jinshu said, they all insisted not to work with Lin Jinshu again.

Lin Jinshu thought of going to find Wang Juhuai at this moment. However, he had already resolved his issue with her and was no longer under her threat. Why would Wang Juhuai still need to listen to her? He had long ago blacklisted her number.

After this incident, Lu Man's student life regained peace.

She was just waiting for the results from the Fei Yue Film Festival.

After her name was sent in, no matter whether she was nominated or declared the winner, the organizers would surely contact her.

If she was nominated, she naturally had to attend the film festival.

If she was the award winner, she would need to prepare an acceptance speech.

However, before Lu Man received any news from the organizers, she first got a call from Lu Dongliu.

"Director Lu?" Lu Man said with a smile. "We haven't talked in a while. Why did you suddenly think of me?"

Ever since she helped Classic X Files to throw hate on The Performer until it was suspended indefinitely, Lu Dongliu had had nothing to be stressed about at all.

Chapter 1156: Who Else Is There?

Looking at the current situation, there was no other variety show that could rival Classic X Files.

Hence, Lu Man had temporarily ended her collaboration with Classic X Files.

Hence, when Lu Dongliu called this time, Lu Man was really a little surprised.

"Haha, Lu Man, did you forget? I told you before that you must come for the finale episode of Classic X Files," Lu Dongliu said. "The norm for our finale episode is to invite the most outstanding and popular artiste at the moment to come and attend our show."

"So many episodes have aired this season, but you're definitely the most popular artiste at the moment, there is no doubt about that. You're the first person I called to invite, you must definitely attend," Lu Dongliu said.

Lu Man thought about it and felt that she could attend, given her good working relationship with Lu Dongliu and Classic X Files's current popularity.

It was just perfect as she could use this to boost her selection chances at the Fei Yue Film Festival.

"Sure. When do I go for the recording?" Lu Man readily agreed.

Lu Dongliu was a little afraid that Lu Man would not agree.

It was because Lu Man was really too special.

She was focused on acting and seemed not to care about all those publicity and celebrity gossips.

The netizens always said that Lu Man liked to stir up her popularity, but upon thinking about it carefully again, he realized she was actually the one stirring up the popularity of others.

She helped Du Lin, Greedy Wolf Operation, Red Tiger, and Classic X Files. However, not once in all these cases did she stir up her own popularity.

She helped so many people and programs, but she simply focused on acting quietly on her own.

Hence, Lu Dongliu was really worried that Lu Man did not want to participate in too many of these programs.

He did not expect Lu Man to agree to him so readily. Lu Dongliu relaxed quite a bit as well. "Alright, then, that's settled. I will ask someone to send you a contract later on."

After ending the call, Lu Dongliu started to contact other people.

As it was the finale episode, he regarded it highly. The people he contacted were all important figures; hence, he personally contacted them.

For the last person, Lu Dongliu dialed Liang Chengbing's number and said, "Hello, Director Liang. I am Lu Dongliu, the Director of Classic X Files."

"Hello, nice to hear from you," Liang Chengbing replied politely.

Lu Dongliu thought of Liang Chengbing because Liang Chengbing had once shot a classic film and had a good reputation.

Furthermore, he had just finished shooting a new movie, which would be aired soon. Liang Chengbing definitely needed much exposure to publicize his new movie.

Classic X Files was thus a good choice.

Indeed, Liang Chengbing's attitude towards Lu Dongliu was very polite.

"It's like this, our show is about to record its finale episode. Hence, I want to invite Director Liang to come and participate in the recording of our finale episode. May I know if Director Liang has the time to attend?" Lu Dongliu asked and also informed him of the dates of the recording.

Liang Chengbing did not agree immediately and asked pretentiously, "Who are the other guests that will be attending?"

Lu Dongliu did not mind this. He knew that Liang Chengbing wanted to confirm how famous the other guests were so that he would not end up attending the show with some unknown celebrities that would lower his status and reputation.

These things were not uncommon, and Lu Dongliu was very experienced with such situations, so he told him the names of the confirmed guests.

Liang Chengbing was very satisfied with all the other guests.

However, when Lu Dongliu mentioned Lu Man, Liang Chengbing suddenly interjected, "Hang on! Who else is there?"

Chapter 1157: There Can Only Be Me Without Her

"Lu Man," Lu Dongliu repeated himself.

Liang Chengbing's face immediately hardened. "You think a C-list celebrity like Lu Man is fit to be on the same show as me? Director Lu, the guests that you mentioned previously were all not bad, but Lu Man? Her celebrity status is obviously not high enough for her to be on the same show as us. Won't it be too strange to bring her on the show?"

They were all A-listers. Even the lowest-ranking ones were the best of the B-list celebrities or directors. The sudden addition of Lu Man skewed the whole picture.

Lu Dongliu understood the implication behind Liang Chengbing's words. Lu Man's celebrity status might not be the only thing he was disdainful of.

"It's like this, Lu Man attended our show previously and the rankings for that episode did quite well. The audience loved her very much. Inviting the most popular guests back for our finale episode is the norm for our show. We invited Lu Man based on her popularity," Lu Dongliu explained. "Although Lu Man's celebrity status is not very high, she is very well-liked by the public."

"That still won't do. A small-time celebrity is a small-time celebrity. If she wants to be on the same show as me, she can wait until her ranking rises," Liang Chengbing insisted stubbornly.

Lu Dongliu frowned as he asked, "Director Liang, you're saying that if I want to invite you, I can't invite Lu Man?"

"That's right." Liang Chengbing did not disguise his words and continued, "I won't be in the same show as Lu Man, be it for this program or for others. There can only be me without her. If you want me to be on your show, remove Lu Man from the list."

Liang Chengbing's words were very harsh.

Lu Dongliu frowned. Liang Chengbing's actions were effectively out to ban Lu Man!

Be it for this show or for other events, as long as he, Liang Chengbing, was to attend, Lu Man would not be allowed to attend.

Liang Chengbing had said this rather confidently as well. When he said it, he even smiled afterward.

He felt that anyone with brains would know which choice to make.

He was an A-list director. A C-list actress like Lu Man was obviously not comparable to his caliber.

Take that episode that Lu Man participated in, for example. Actually, Lu Man's appearance did not really help much. It was because Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng were around that hot topics were created and viewership ratings were raised.

Even if Lu Man were not there and was replaced by another person, the effect would have been the same.

Lu Man's presence was negligible. Credit for the ratings of that episode should in fact go to Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng.

It showed how much influence A-list directors like them could have on the show's viewership ratings and audience.

He believed that with him in the finale episode, the same result could be achieved.

As for the hot topics and popularity that Lu Dongliu attributed to Lu Man, those were all illusions.

Lu Man merely got some exposure because of Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng.

Hence, it did not matter whether Lu Man appeared on the show or not.

It was the same this time around. Without Lu Man around but with him around, the viewership ratings for the finale episode would still be equally high and popular!

Liang Chengbing believed that Lu Dongliu knew which choice to make.

Lu Dongliu frowned and only said, "I understand. Let me think about it."

Liang Chengbing got angry the moment he heard it. It was clearly obvious who Lu Dongliu should choose in such a situation. Why did he still need to consider it?

He was slighting him!

Liang Chengbing's voice stiffened as he replied, "Okay."

He actually needed to think about choosing between him and Lu Man!

After Lu Dongliu ended the call, he pressed the space between his eyebrows and thought for a while before he called Lu Man again.

"Director Lu?" Lu Man asked curiously.

"Lu Man, did you offend Liang Chengbing?" Lu Dongliu asked.

Lu Man was shocked and could not recall anything immediately. "Why do you say so?"

Chapter 1158: No Need to Feel Troubled

"For the finale episode, I invited you and a few other guests." Lu Dongliu told Lu Man the list of guests he invited and continued, "The last person I invited is Liang Chengbing. However, he said there can only be him without you, and he even said that it is not just for our show. He said that even for other shows, as long as he was invited, you can't be on the show. If you are, then he won't attend the show."

Lu Dongliu's voice sank a little. "Director Liang is an A-list director, after all. His status in the industry has considerable weight. He obviously wants to ban you from the industry with his words. If he were to say this to other people, I'm afraid a lot of other shows would not invite you. Even if they don't invite him, they won't invite you, because Liang Chengbing has already made it clear that he wants to ban you. Even if those shows don't invite Liang Chengbing but also don't invite you again, they will still get into the good books of Liang Chengbing."

After all, with so many artistes around, one less Lu Man was not really a loss for them.

Lu Man was shocked. However, Lu Dongliu continued to ask, "So, how exactly did you offend him?"

Lu Man thought about it and recited Liang Chengbing's name three times in her mind before she finally recalled it. "Sounds of Winter is directed by him, right?"

"Yeah, the movie had just finished shooting. It is making preparations to be aired now. It is also because of this that I considered inviting him. He needed publicity for his movie, so it should have been easier to invite him," Lu Dongliu said.

Lu Man laughed. "Do you remember the news about Sounds of Winter blocking off the roads back then? At that time, my mother's house was situated right on that road, which was also blocked. No one could come in or go out from there. I went to visit my mom, but I was forced to stay outside. The situation was the same for many of the residents there and we protested there together. Someone spread the news online and I helped to share the post. The incident blew up because of that, and the Sounds of Winter production crew had had no choice but to remove the roadblock and shoot at another location."

"I think Liang Chengbing might be bearing grudges against me for this," Lu Man said. "But this is just my guess. Aside from this incident, I don't have any other relations with Liang Chengbing."

Lu Dongliu laughed from anger. "That Liang Chengbing is so narrow-minded."

It's your fault for blocking off the road, but now you're even so shameless as to ban others?

"Director Lu, how will you decide on this matter?" Lu Man did not want to pressure Lu Dongliu, so she said, "I understand this matter. If you want to invite Liang Chengbing, I will also think that this is a very normal choice."

Lu Dongliu was quite embarrassed about it. "Lu Man..."

Lu Man laughed. "I'm not being sarcastic when I say this; neither am I sugarcoating my words. This is what I really feel. Compared to Liang Chengbing, I really don't have that much competitiveness. Let's just talk about work and leave our ties aside. It's very normal to choose Liang Chengbing. I also feel that when it comes to work, not everything can be based on kinship or friendship ties. So I really understand where you're coming from. You don't have to feel troubled."

"I am already very grateful that you told me about this. I would otherwise not have known that I've actually become an eyesore to Liang Chengbing," Lu Man said. From hearing her tone, one could tell that she really did not seem affected. "Furthermore, if you choose me and reject Liang Chengbing, given his temper, you might be blacklisted by him as well. He may also make things difficult for you next time."

Speaking of that, she and Lu Dongliu's ties were not actually that close.

Both of them worked well together and should have basic trust for each other.

But to let Lu Dongliu offend Liang Chengbing for her?

It was impossible.

Hence, if Lu Dongliu chose Liang Chengbing, she would really understand. She would not feel upset or disappointed.

Chapter 1159: The Choice

She was not the kind of person who was loved by everyone, nor did she feel that the world had to revolve around her and that everyone had to choose her and no one else.

However, she did not expect Lu Dongliu to say, "To be honest, even if he bears a grudge against me, what can he do to me? No matter how wide his reach is, he won't be able to affect the television station. The television station really doesn't think highly of him. If he wants publicity for his new movie, he has to go on a popular variety show. All the popular variety shows are either on our station or on Xing Ke Station. If he doesn't come on our show, it means that he would lose half of the publicity he could gain for his new movie. Hence, our station really isn't afraid of him. I have quite a few popular variety shows under my wing. My pay is also given by my station. He won't have a say in it."

"You mean..." Lu Man was a little shocked but touched in her heart as well.

"Haha, of course I mean you will continue to attend our finale episode. I already agreed on this with you. I'm not someone who will go back on my word," Lu Dongliu said with a laugh. "Furthermore, you are considerate of me and treat me like a friend. I, Lu Dongliu, am not someone who would sell out my friend in an instant."

"If I don't let you come on the show, there might probably be no other shows that would dare to invite you on anymore. You will really be banned by Liang Chengbing then. I can't control other shows, but at least I can send out the message that Liang Chengbing's words do not have that much weight, that there are shows that don't care about him," Lu Dongliu said. "Liang Chengbing will not be able to touch our show and our show will continue to do just fine, which will then prove the truth of the situation."

Lu Dongliu paused for a moment before he said, "But I can only help you this far. I can't do more than that with my capabilities even if I wanted to."

Lu Man knew that Liang Chengbing had no chance of affecting her at all.

However, Lu Dongliu did not know that. Even then, Lu Dongliu still chose to help Lu Man, so Lu Man engraved Lu Dongliu's goodness in her heart.

After she entered showbiz, aside from Han Zhuoli, she'd met three other benefactors: Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and now, Lu Dongliu.

"Thank you," Lu Man said gratefully. "You have done more than enough for me on this. Although you said that Liang Chengbing can't do anything to you, it's better not to offend him if you can. No one will offend someone for no reason, so it's better to be friends rather than enemies with others. You also said that Liang Chengbing is very narrow-minded. If you do this for me and offend Liang Chengbing, who knows what he will do next time?"

"Your help is too great on this matter, and I will remember it. If you have anything you need help with from now on, I will not hesitate to help you out," Lu Man said.

Lu Man really stored away Lu Dongliu's help for her in her heart and was very grateful to him.

"You're being too polite like this. I've said this before. I treat you as a friend, you don't need to stand on formalities with me," Lu Dongliu said as he smiled.

As for the help that Lu Man mentioned, Lu Dongliu simply felt that given Lu Man's current status in the entertainment industry, even if there was something he really needed help with, she might not be able to help him with it.

There were many things that her public relations skills could not help with.

However, Lu Dongliu had indeed set his sights on Lu Man's future career in the industry. This young lady was capable, grounded, and knew what she wanted. However, she was not in a rush and took steady steps to reach her goal.

Lu Dongliu believed that a lady like Lu Man would surely go far in life.

It was not easy to say where she would be at next time.

He wanted to be on good terms with Lu Man was not just because she was a worthy friend, but also because Lu Dongliu knew that she had a bright future ahead of her.

It did not affect Lu Man even though she knew that Lu Dongliu might not believe her right now.

No one would look forward to someone running into trouble. Of course, he would hope that he would never need her help.

Chapter 1160: Ban

"Oh right, it's the same this time. We need to find a mystery guest. However, since we are inviting the popular guests from our past episodes for the finale episode, each artiste only needs to find one mystery guest." Lu Dongliu did not mention trying to help Lu Man find a guest.

No matter whom he found, he would not be able to find someone with a reputation comparable to that of either Sun Yiwu or Ji Cheng.

However, Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng had both attended the show before.

They could come on the show again, but the effect would surely be hugely discounted.

No matter how close they were with Lu Man, they might not be willing to attend the show again.

After all, both of them were big-name directors. If they attended too many of these events, it would easily reduce their prestige.

Furthermore, given Lu Man's sharp wit, she would definitely not overuse Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng like this.

He just did not know who Lu Man would find this time.

"Alright, rest assured," Lu Man agreed. "I will definitely find a suitable person."

Having worked with Lu Man a few times, Lu Dongliu trusted her without second thoughts.

Even though he knew that Lu Man did not know a lot of people, Lu Dongliu had a strange hunch that Lu Man would be able to surprise the audience this time around, given how she managed to find Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng previously.

"You gave up Liang Chengbing to help me and even have to offend him. I can't promise other things, but I will definitely promise you results regarding the viewership ratings for the finale episode," Lu Man said. "At the very least, it won't be worse than if Liang Chengbing were attending."

"Haha, I can definitely be assured with your words," Lu Dongliu said with a laugh. "You don't have to worry on my end, it's not as serious as you think it is."

Although Lu Dongliu said that, Lu Man did not really believe him.

She solemnly thanked Lu Dongliu before ending the call.

Not long after Lu Dongliu agreed with Lu Man, the production team of the show sent the contract to Hu Zhonghui.

Lu Dongliu did not tell Liang Chengbing that he was not going to work with him either.

Anyway, both of them did not agree on anything. Furthermore, since he was already going to offend Liang Chengbing, Lu Dongliu would not purposely contact him again and bear a scolding from Liang Chengbing over the phone.

At this time, Lu Dongliu still did not know how much benefits maintaining good ties with Lu Man would bring him.

When he found out later on, he would constantly feel sentimental about how rational his choice had been back then.

After she ended the call, Lu Man was fed a strawberry by Han Zhuoli, who said, "A new job came in?"

"Yeah." Lu Man told him about Lu Dongliu as well as Liang Chengbing's incident.

She was about to be banned by Liang Chengbing—of course she had to seek help from Mr. Boss!

Han Zhuoli laughed sarcastically. "He's tired of living."

"You don't have to worry about him," Han Zhuoli said. "His new movie is about to be released. Next time, every movie he shoots, I will make it fail. What's that nonsense about the ban? His words are useless."

When Han Zhuoli finished talking, he gave Zheng Tianming a call. "The Han Corporation won't invest in or produce any of Liang Chengbing's films in the future. Send down the orders in advance in case there are people who don't know and accept Liang Chengbing's investment proposal."

Hence, before Liang Chengbing could ban Lu Man, he had already been banned by Han Zhuoli.

Zheng Tianming did not know what Liang Chengbing did, but he was 80 to 90% sure he had offended Lu Man.

Zheng Tianming immediately agreed.

Han Zhuoli ended the call and Lu Man said, "Are there any artistes in the Han Corporation that can have their schedules freed out?"

If Lu Man asked, Han Zhuoli would surely not find a B-list or C-list artiste for her. The person had to be at least an A-lister.