Mr Han 1331

Chapter 1331: Why Don't I Make a Bet with You?

"No!" The moment Yan Zhiqing said that, Lu Man's phone call came.

"I have a phone call. Quick, give me back the phone," Yan Zhiqing said.

Mou Danqiong took a look and saw that it was from Lu Man.

She kind of did not want to give it to her.

She was afraid that Lu Man called specifically to ask Yan Zhiqing to help her. If so, Yan Zhiqing would surely help her.

"No, you can't take this call," Mou Danqiong said.

Yan Zhiqing suddenly stared at her silently. She was angry. "You persuaded me not to speak up openly about this. I know you're concerned about me, so I did not say much. But now, you won't even let me answer Lu Man's call. Elder Sister Mou, this is too much.

"Lu Man is my friend. No matter what she says, I must take this call! You can't possibly interfere in my normal friendships, right?" Yan Zhiqing said coldly. "Furthermore, I can assure you that Lu Man's call is definitely not to ask me to help her come out to prove anything. On the contrary, she is probably calling me to tell me not to say anything and just watch from the sidelines. Do you believe me?"

Although Mou Danqiong knew how to manage Yan Zhiqing, she would still back down when Yan Zhiqing was really angry.

"That's not what I meant..." Mou Dangiong said timidly.

However, she still felt like Lu Man would ask Yan Zhiqing for help.

She did not believe that Lu Man would really spare a thought for Yan Zhiqing.

Given the situation that Lu Man was in, she naturally had to clutch at the people who would help her.

Everyone was selfish deep down. So was Lu Man.

She did not trust Lu Man.

"Then give me the phone." Yan Zhiqing stretched her hand out towards Mou Danqiong. "Elder Sister Mou, I still call you Elder Sister Mou and treat you like my elder sister. I respect you, so you should respect me too. You can't interfere in my life like this."

Mou Danqiong pursed her lips and said, "Okay, I can give it to you. But if Lu Man really asks you to come out and help her, you cannot agree. At this moment, the people who make such requests of you will not be treating you like a friend anymore. You treat her so sincerely, yet she doesn't do it in return."

Yan Zhiqing went silent for a few seconds before she said, "Why don't I make a bet with you?"

Mou Dangiong paused for a moment before she asked, "What are we betting on?"

"If Lu Man does what I said, that she isn't calling to ask for my help but rather to tell me not to do anything at all, then next time, you cannot oppose my decisions. Even if you oppose it, you cannot say it. I will do whatever I want.

"Conversely, if Lu Man does what you said, calling to ask me for help, it would be like what you said, that she does not care about me at all. Then in such situations next time, I will have to listen to you," Yan Zhiqing said.

Mou Danqiong was pretty confident, so she did not think so much and just agreed. "Okay, I'm in."

Yan Zhiqing stretched out her hand. "Then now, give me the phone."

Mou Danqiong passed the phone to her.

However, by the time Yan Zhiqing had taken the phone, the call had already ended because it went unanswered for too long.

Yan Zhiqing turned her phone on loudspeaker and called Lu Man back.

In this way, no matter what Lu Man said, Mou Dangiong would be able to hear it.

Lu Man thought that Yan Zhiqing was busy at first, since her phone rang for so long but she did not answer.

However, not long after the call ended, Yan Zhiqing called her back.

Lu Man answered the call, "Zhiqing."

"Man Man." Yan Zhiqing addressed her and said, "Are you looking for me because of the rumors online?"

"Yeah," Lu Man said. "I wanted to tell you not to worry about what they're saying of me online. I have a way to resolve this. In the worse case, I still have Zhuoli. You were a judge on the film festival and is directly connected to Liang Chengbing's removal from the panel of judges, so don't get yourself into this. It'll be very easy for other people to take advantage of you and smear your name."

Chapter 1332: Have Too Much Time on Your Hands

"But will you be able to resolve it on your end?" Yan Zhiqing asked as she raised her eyebrow gloatingly at Mou Danqiong.

Lu Man was really giving her pride right now!

"Don't worry, I know my limits. Anyway, I have Zhuoli supporting me as well. No matter how much of a ruckus they make, they won't be a match for Zhuoli." Lu Man was very confident. "I already told Uncle Sun and Older Brother Ji not to come out and speak as well. If there's someone who wants to drag you all in, rest assured, I'm here. I will definitely not let anyone drag you all into this."

"Alright, I got it." Yan Zhiqing smiled and said, "But if you need my help, just let me know. You know me, I never care about what those people say."

"Alright. Don't worry," Lu Man said as she smiled.

Yan Zhiqing ended the call and smiled gloatingly at Mou Danqiong. "What now, Elder Sister Mou? I was right, wasn't I? Lu Man wasn't calling me to ask for help at all."

Mou Danqiong was very surprised too. She did not expect that she would have guessed wrongly.

Yan Zhiqing laughed. "We have to do as we said earlier on. In such situations in the future, you cannot interfere with what I do."

How could Mou Danqiong have known that Lu Man would be different from other people? She'd agreed on this bet totally because she thought that she could win.

There was no choice. Mou Danqiong could only unwillingly agree to it.

On this side, Han Zhuoli directly contacted Ke Kebo.

"Mr. Ke," Han Zhuoli said.

Ke Kebo immediately tensed up as he replied, "Young Master Han, you called me... What is it for?"

"You still don't know about the negative rumors about Lu Man online?" Han Zhuoli asked him back coldly.

"Ah, this... I just heard about this. I didn't have time to react to it," Ke Kebo immediately said. "As for Lu Man's matter, we will immediately release an official explanation."

"Lu Man's matter is of secondary importance. The most important problem now is Liang Chengbing," Han Zhuoli said plainly.

Ke Kebo paused for a moment, confused. "What has this got to do with Liang Chengbing? I read the discussions about Liang Chengbing. Could this have an impact on Lu Man?"

To be honest, Ke Kebo did not want to offend Han Zhuoli, but he did not want to offend Liang Chengbing just like that either.

Previously, when he revoked Liang Chengbing's position as judge, the public announcement released by the organizers of the film festival did enough to give Liang Chengbing face. This was precisely because he did not want to completely break their ties and sever their relationship.

Han Zhuoli did not beat around the bush with him. "One group of people slandering Lu Man right now is instructed by Liang Chengbing. I cannot let Lu Man get bullied by him for nothing."

Ke Kebo immediately felt his teeth hurting.

Did this Liang Chengbing have too much time on his hands?!

He already knew of Lu Man's relationship with Han Zhuoli, so he should have clutched his tail and lived his life quietly since he had already offended Lu Man.

Even if he did not apologize to Lu Man, he should at least have tried to be an invisible person and lowered his presence.

Did he not see how people like Zhang Lun and Wang Shuyi have all gone silent?

He, Liang Chengbing, was still making a scene as if he was having fun from it!

Even without Han Zhuoli's call, Ke Kebo also knew that Liang Chengbing had hired paid posters.

Did he really think that if he did not come out to speak himself, no one would know that he was the one who did it?

Liang Chengbing really treated other people like fools.

Ke Kebo was troubled. He could not help Liang Chengbing this time around either.

It looked like he could only choose between Han Zhuoli and Liang Chengbing.

Then he would definitely choose Han Zhuoli!

"What does Young Master Han want me to do, then?" Ke Kebo asked.

"It's nothing difficult," Han Zhuoli said. "I just want you, as the organizers, to announce the real reason why Liang Chengbing had been removed from his position as a judge."

Chapter 1333: Intriguing

Ke Kebo had guessed it and gritted his teeth before saying, "Okay, I will do it right now."

After ending the previous call, Lu Man was contacting Eight Skin Entertainment.

When he saw that she was done conversing, Han Zhuoli said, "You don't need to worry about whether there's evidence or not. The official channels of the film festival will be releasing a public announcement shortly."

Not long after, Ke Kebo sent Han Zhuoli a message telling him that the public announcement had already been posted and that he can go and take a look.

Lu Man used her phone to search it up. Han Zhuoli hugged Lu Man so they could look at it together.

The official Weibo account of the film festival said, "During the process of judging this time around, there has been an incident where the one veto vote had been used inappropriately, causing the other judges on the panel to lodge a complaint. The original intention of the film festival in giving each judge one veto vote was to prevent unexpected situations where good films and good actors get sidelined.

"However, we did not expect the film festival this year to be used as a tool for personal vengeance. This led to an incident that was largely unfair to an artiste during the judgment process. In view of this incident, the organizers of the film festival had decided that, starting from next year onwards, the right of the judges to each have one veto vote will be rescinded. We will also have further discussions to come up with a new set of rules specifically for the panel of judges.

"Fei Yue International Film Festival is still very young and has many shortcomings. Compared to established international film festivals, we still have many areas to improve on. We ask for everyone to supervise us, support us, and be patient with us, as we grow together with the film festival."

At such a moment, the organizers suddenly released a public announcement like this. It was really intriguing.

Ke Kebo remained reluctant to sever his connection with Liang Chengbing. Hence, in this public announcement, he did not name the person directly.

However, the netizens were not dumb either. Each of them was like Detective Conan.

The moment they saw this announcement, they immediately thought of Liang Chengbing.

"Did you guys notice? The public announcement specifically pointed out that only one person in this film festival used the one veto vote. This meant that the other judges did not use it. Combining this with what Eight Skin Entertainment had said previously, Liang Chengbing had been cut off precisely because he abused his veto vote. This matches with what was said about him."

"Yeah, this is what I feel too. Liang Chengbing had been a judge for only a day, yet he was removed on the second day. He also said in his interview that he happened to have judged for the Best Actress and Best Supporting Female Lead nomination rounds. According to what Eight Skin Entertainment said, he made use of the veto to pull Lu Man down. What kind of situation would warrant the use of a veto vote? It is only when all the other judges have passed an affirmative vote, or when at least half of the votes have been affirmative. When he saw that Lu Man was about to get into the nomination round, he immediately took out his vetoing right to disqualify Lu Man."

"Previously, someone posted a name list of the judges and said that Sun Yiwu and Ji Cheng had good relations with the Lu Family, and Yan Zhiqing had good ties with the Han Family, so she definitely knows Lu Man, and so Lu Man would have had votes based on personal relationships. Let's not talk about whether the votes were given because of personal relations first. Whether Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and Yan Zhiqing all voted for Lu Man because Lu Man was really fit for it, or because of their personal ties, we can leave that aside first. As for the remaining judges, aside from Liang Chengbing, there's also Gao Zishan, Dong Qinrong, and Cao Jingcheng. Among the three of them, at least one of them also voted for Lu Man. When the number of votes exceeded the half-mark, Liang Chengbing felt that things were not looking good, so he decided to use his one veto vote."

"According to the exposé, the three of them all voted for Lu Man. Liang Chengbing doing this is clearly abusing his authority for his personal vengeance. Of course the organizers of the film festival would want to revoke Liang Chengbing's position as judge."

Chapter 1334: Cannot Stand Me and Cannot Even Do Anything About Me

"Gao Zishan came out to speak," a netizen said.

Everyone quickly rushed to see. Gao Zishan posted a line that said, "For the Best Supporting Female Lead Award, I had voted for Lu Man."

Gao Zishan's words were simple, but it was enough for people to see through many things.

"Let me analyze this. Gao Zishan purposely pointed out that she voted for Lu Man for the Best Supporting Female Lead Award. This means that Liang Chengbing used the veto on the Best Supporting Female Lead Award to disqualify Lu Man. Although Gao Zishan did not say anything else, it is obvious that she meant that Lu Man should have been nominated."

"The analysis by the person above is solid."

"Cao Jingcheng also came out to speak!"

Cao Jingcheng: "I also voted for Lu Man during the judgment for the Best Supporting Female Lead Award."

"Alright, now we already know of two votes. Among Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and Yan Zhiqing, at least one of them voted for Lu Man, right?"

"Why are you all still guessing? The suspense is no longer there, right?! Cao Jingcheng said the exact same thing. Liang Chengbing abused his authority for personal vengeance. It's like a nail in the coffin."

"Haha, he actually has the gall to talk about Lu Man like that! He's utterly shameless!"

Seeing the change in the discussions online, Lu Man knew that she had successfully shifted the suspicion on the fairness of her getting an award to Liang Chengbing.

Next, Dong Qinrong also came out and said that he voted for Lu Man.

"This is already three votes. I don't believe Sun Yiwu and the rest did not vote for Lu Man."

This time, Sun Yiwu did not ask Lu Man. He just posted by himself and said that he too voted for Lu Man.

Ji Cheng and Yan Zhiqing also came out one after another to express their stand.

As she'd made a bet with Mou Danqiong previously, Mou Danqiong could not intervene with what Yan Zhiqing wanted to do now.

"That means, aside from Liang Chengbing, she basically got all the votes. No wonder Liang Chengbing shamelessly vetoed them all."

"Haha, those haters can say Sun Yiwu, Ji Cheng, and Yan Zhiqing voted for Lu Man out of personal ties. Then what about Gao Zishan, Dong Qinrong, and Cao Jingcheng? The three of them have no prior connections with Lu Man at all and they did not know about Lu Man's relationship with Han Zhuoli. What else can you haters say?"

Sun Yiwu: "I have a good personal relationship with Lu Man and treat her like my niece, but this does not mean I can give up my professional ethics. For the awards judgment this time around, I, Sun Yiwu, can swear to God that I definitely judged fairly and impartially. I did not disregard the other outstanding artistes just because of my personal relationship with Lu Man. If Lu Man's performance was not good, I would not have voted for her either."

Ji Cheng also expressed a similar view.

Yan Zhiqing: "I am someone with a straightforward and eager temperament. Those whom I dislike or can't stand, I won't give any face to. It's the same for the judging as well. If your acting sucks, even if you're my own younger sister, I still won't vote for you. Furthermore, I know Lu Man. She never needs this kind of friendship vote. What she wants is a fair and square vote. If it's good, it's good. If it's not good, it's not good. She never asks for anyone to falsify things for her."

Although there were people who could not stand Yan Zhiqing, Yan Zhiqing also put on an "I just like to watch you guys not being able to stand me but not being able to do anything about me" attitude. However, it was also because of her frank attitude that she attracted a huge fan following.

And these kinds of fans were loyal to the core the moment they became a fan.

They all came out to support Yan Zhiqing and said, "Wise words, Zhiqing!"

"Nice one, Zhiqing. I just like your frank and no BS attitude!"

Chapter 1335: What Two Teams Can Do Together

"Yes, people who know you will understand that you've always been this way, not caring for others' sensibility."

"I like you exactly because of this!"

"Yan Zhiqing's actions this time around are really appealing! I'm a fan of Lu Man, and I've decided to be a fan of Yan Zhiqing."

"Hello, fans of Lu Man, thank you for liking Zhiqing. We like Lu Man too."

"Can't go wrong with someone Zhiqing likes. She likes Lu Man, so we like her too."

"Lu Man surely hit it off with Zhiqing's personality. Both of them have similar tempers, no wonder they have a good relationship. Zhiqing's way of doing things suit our tastes, so Lu Man will suit our taste too."

And that's how two different teams of fans started interacting.

Xu Ningxian seized the chance to contact the chairman of Yan Zhiqing's official fan club.

The two fan clubs immediately became sister fan clubs.

Not long after, Xu Ningxian developed a great relationship with the chairman of Yan Zhiqing's official fan club and started calling her "Big Sis."

And then, the two fan clubs published a statement at the same time.

Announcing that the two teams had become sister clubs.

Lu Man laughed as she appeared in the fan club chat. "My chairperson is so impressive!"

"Lu Man! It's Lu Man!"

"Man Man, are you okay? Rest assured, we'll always support you!"

"Post slower, or else Sis Lu Man's would be lost!" Xu Ningxian said.

The administrator then set up a "stop chatting" function to let Lu Man speak first, or else it would be too confusing.

"Thank you, everyone, I'm fine. Everything's settled now. Thanks for this time, everybody," Lu Man said.

Because anti-fans had started criticizing her, her fans all stood up to defend her, not willing to be left out.

"Thank you for always believing in me and not getting swayed by the opinions, for standing resolutely by my side, for trusting me and supporting me." Lu Man was touched, and everyone could hear it since she'd used voice-recording. "I'm really lucky to have such cute fans behind me. Because of you all, I feel especially confident and unafraid, no matter what I face, come rain or shine. Thank you."

When Lu Man was done, the administrator turned off the "stop chatting" function.

The fans who could finally speak freely all showed their support for Lu Man.

"We'll obviously support you. My Man is the best!"

"Rest assured, Lu Man, we'll always stand with you!"

Lu Man chatted with them for an hour before exiting the chat.

And then the fans started dreaming with Yan Zhiqing's fans about creating an alliance.

Lu Man's fans would still chat within their own group occasionally.

"Chairman's really impressive this time. As expected of someone working in public relations!"

"Hahaha, the chairman's reaction was too fast! You actually went to make an alliance with Yan Zhiqing's fans already."

"Yan Zhiqing's fans have a similar temper as Yan Zhiqing, everyone's taking no sh*t from no one. Teaming up with them means that we'll have increased fighting power no matter who we are going up against next time!"

"No need to wait," Xu Ningxian said. "There's a chance right now. Just now, we, the two chairpersons of the fanclubs, had a meeting with the administrators, and we agreed that we cannot let the anti-fans continue arrogantly. Weren't they so impressive when they were roasting our idols? This time, we'll let them see what two teams can do together."

"That's right. Yan Zhiqing gets scolded plenty on a regular basis. Her fans have already had enough. Now that there's a chance to fight back, they've already started sharpening their knives," an administrator said.

Chapter 1336: Hypocrite

Hence, everyone was picturing different outcomes during their discussion.

Every admin led a group of fans and started roasting back those anti-fans in a calculated manner.

Netizens on the sidelines were shocked at the magnitude.

"My god, Yan Zhiqing's and Lu Man's fans have actually united!"

"Goodness, the two fan clubs together? Their enemies stand no chance of winning!"

"Yan Zhiqing's fans are fierce enough, just like Yan Zhiqing herself—settling matters outright if anyone's unhappy. And they settle things like a bull, without any games or finesse, just scolding the person outright until he or she surrenders."

"Lu Man's fans are just like Lu Man too, dissing people in many different ways. They'd even once made their opponent the most searched person, humiliating him so bad! Only Lu Man's fans could use such dissing methods."

"OMG, I'm a bit scared now that these two fan clubs have joined forces."

"Don't be scared, commenter above, the ones who should be afraid are Liang Chengbing and the antifans."

Just as the netizens were discussing, Lu Man's and Yan Zhiqing's fans arrived at the battle site—Liang Chengbing's Weibo.

One admin of Lu Man's ordered like a general, "First Team of the Great Army of the Goddess of Fury, follow me! Let's make Liang Chengbing's comments section explode!"

An admin of Yan Zhiqing's said, "First Team of the Yan Family Army, Second Team of the Great Army of the Goddess of Fury, follow me and blow up Liang Chengbing's Post It!"

Whoever it was in the team who was the funny one, that person kept shouting "Your enemies' reaching the battle site in 5 seconds!" in his mind as he entered the Post It.

Liang Chengbing's Post It had few people in it, mostly discussing the movies he had filmed.

All that's left on the screen after the two teams had entered were just fans of Lu Man and Yan Zhiqing.

Just then, someone from the Yan Family Army said, "Liang Chengbing switched off the comment function on his Weibo."

"Then repost!" an admin of the Yan Family Army said. "Second Team of the Yan Family Army, follow me!"

As such, the Yan Family Army's second team and the Great Army of the Goddess of Fury's first team reposted Liang Chengbing's Weibo post until it reached the hundred-thousands.

This was the best record ever for Liang Chengbing.

"D*mn, the two fan clubs must've gone crazy. I'm feeling sorry for Liang Chengbing."

Liang Chengbing was in a daze, sitting on a chair and eyes popping in disbelief.

At this time, under the massive wave of attack by the fan clubs of Lu Man and Yan Zhiqing, all the work done by paid commenters and official companies became utterly useless.

Liang Chengbing panicked and turned to Li Yibo. "What now? Is my Weibo even seeable now? What do we do now?"

Li Yibo also became flustered, freezing for a few moments before saying, "I'll gather everyone to discuss and give a solution as fast as possible."

Not waiting for Liang Chengbing to say anything else, Li Yibo hurried out of Liang Chengbing's office.

Meanwhile, Lu Man's and Yan Zhiqing's fans were continuing their attacks.

"The rest of you, follow me and make him the top hit!"

Thus, Liang Chengbing, for the first time in his life, became the first among the most-searched people on Weibo.

Yes, the first time ever.

He might be a relatively famous director within the country, but his fans were still far fewer than those popular celebrities.

He'd never even appeared on the "most searched" list for a long, long time.

The one time he did, it was bought by him to publicize his movie.

There was a specific place for bought searches, and it would never be placed at the top of the list.

It was easy to tell who bought searches.

But now, the topic "Liang Chengbing is a real hypocrite" was number one, followed with an eye-catching red "explosive" word.

Chapter 1337: Feel the Respect Just from Mentioning His Name

As Lu Man's and Yan Zhiqing's fans were fighting on the frontlines, Lu Man was also busying herself with contacting Da Xiong.

"Lu Man, how could you leave me out of this?! You have such a huge thing going on with Han Zhuoli and you never even told me in advance so that I could have a big scoop!" Da Xiong joked.

Lu Man laughed in apology. "I'm sorry, that was an unexpected occurrence. We didn't even plan to make our relationship known. Rest assured, I'll definitely tell you first if I have any major scoop. Really sorry for this time."

"Sigh! I'm just kidding!" Da Xiong said lightheartedly. "Everyone knows why you both didn't want your relationship known; I won't be so rude as well.

"Oh, right, what do you need me for?" Da Xiong asked.

"I have proof that Liang Chengbing asked his company and paid commenters to flame me," Lu Man said.

Da Xiong's eyes sparkled on the computer screen. "You wish to give it to me?"

"That's right, didn't you want some juicy news? Is this juicy enough for you?" Lu Man smirked.

"Enough, enough," Da Xiong said hurriedly, "We paparazzi are having a hard time nowadays too! We're following everyone and anything, but there's not a single bit of news at all. Sometimes we manage to get something, but their PR teams were polite enough and we couldn't do anything. The netizens don't know anything and thought that our company is incapable. There's finally something to publish this time."

The evidence was gathered by Han Zhuoli's men and Lu Man could not personally intervene, so she handed them over to Da Xiong.

Not long after, Da Xiong posted them under the company's name.

"There are two batches of people who started flaming Lu Man today. One has been found, the other has yet to be discovered. I'm putting up what I've found so far."

A few pictures followed immediately after.

They were snapshots of a chat between an employee of Liang Chengbing's company approaching paid commenters, the asking price wanted by the commenter, and Liang Chengbing's request.

"D*mn, how shameless is Liang Chengbing? No wonder Lu Man's and Yan Zhiqing's fans are so upset. Everyone's minding their own business but he's just so intent on Lu Man, even using underhanded means. This type of person should be avoided as far as possible, or else we'd be harmed by him long before we knew when we've offended him."

"Sounds of Winter is premiering soon, isn't it? With morals such as his, I won't even watch the movie no matter how good it is. It's disgusting."

"Liang Chengbing thought that as long as he didn't appear himself, no one would know that it's him. Now that he's been found out, how stupid he must feel! See how Han Zhuoli's gonna deal with him."

"Wowowow, I'd have forgotten if you hadn't mentioned it. Lu Man's now different from before. Not only does she have Wang Juhuai, but she's also got Han Zhuoli, that ace. My god, I feel the respect for him just from mentioning his name. What's happening?"

"Hahahahaha. Remember when Lu Man was still dating Han Zhuoli and Zhang Lun offended Lu Man? Han Zhuoli directly reduced his film's schedule to only 1%. All to support *Red Tiger*, which Lu Man starred in, and refusing to give slots to showcase *Attack Force*. Protecting his wife to the max."

"To think that Liang Chengbing first purposely ruined any chance Lu Man had of winning the Best Supporting Female Lead, then found people to flame Lu Man. Can only give him some prayers now."

"I now believe that Lu Man won the Best Newcomer Award all of her own accord, fair and square. Had Han Zhuoli intervened, would he have allowed Liang Chengbing to bully Lu Man like this and ruin her chance of winning the Best Supporting Female Lead?"

Chapter 1338: Already a Flop Before Premiering

"What a joke, then, for Liang Chengbing to have kept implying that he looked down on Lu Man, saying how she's lousy and bad and all that, that there's bias, that there's unfair competition. In the end? He himself was the one abusing his power."

"Let's see how Han Zhuoli's gonna deal with him."

All the netizens were waiting for Liang Chengbing's comeuppance.

Han Zhuoli did not disappoint them. Just as the netizens were discussing this, the Han Corporation's theater chain's official Weibo released a piece of news.

"July's film showing schedule for the Han Corporation's theaters."

It was a simple statement accompanied by a picture of the schedule.

Everyone saw it and laughed.

"Han Zhuoli's ruthless enough! Not even one slot for Sounds of Winter in theaters within the country. Not one!"

"Sounds of Winter is a flop even before premiering."

The other three major theater chains had matched the Han Corporation's theater chain before.

And they didn't dare to go against the flow now.

In the first place, Liang Chengbing's reputation had soured so badly that even Sounds of Winter was being boycotted by the audience.

Under such circumstances, the three major theaters would not go against the flow and arrange for more slots for Sounds of Winter.

Being refused screening by the Han Corporation's theater chain, which dominated the local theater industry, meant that Sounds of Winter would not do well at the box office.

As such, other theater chains would obviously not want to suffer losses for it.

Hence, the other theater chains also released their movie screening schedules.

Though Sounds of Winter was not completely without screenings, what little it had were just symbolic.

Moreover, it was in the early morning, like 8 or 9 am.

Who would wake up so early and travel to the theaters just to watch a movie?

"Hahahahahaha, Sounds of Winter is screwed."

Liang Chengbing went to the meeting room, and Li Yibo and the others had yet to come to a solution.

They also saw the most recent news on the Net as they were discussing.

Now that Liang Chengbing's here, they already knew what was up.

"So how? Is there a solution yet?!" Liang Chengbing's really anxious now.

Liang Chengbing would not be too bothered no matter what the netizens said about him since everyone in this industry could handle the pressure of being criticized.

But this was regarding his box office success.

If the movie flopped and even suffered massive losses, who would look for him to direct movies in the future?

Li Yibo sighed, saying, "Now that it's come to this, there's no other way. It's not likely to work even if you seek out top PRs like Wei Zilin and Lu Man."

Not to mention, their opponent this time was Lu Man, one of the best PRs.

Lu Man would know every move they were going to make.

She would have made sure that she'd rendered every expected move of theirs completely useless.

So, no matter what they did now, it was useless.

"We've thought about it, and the best and only option for you now is to stay silent. Don't say anything, don't show your face anywhere, don't care whatever the netizens say," Li Yibo said.

"What about the movie?" Liang Chengbing panicked. "So I'm not supposed to care and just watch as my movie suffers losses?"

"That can't be helped. Furthermore, it's useless even if you try to apologize now as the public will think that you're only forced into it by the current circumstances. Such apologies are useless and would be for the worse," Li Yibo said.

"The obvious routes are out," Li Yibo said. "If you can convince Young Master Han, ask him and Lu Man to stop working against you. Win Lu Man's and Han Zhuoli's forgiveness, and ask Lu Man to personally appear and make peace with you. Only this can stop things from worsening."

Chapter 1339: Lin Jinshu Revealed

At this time, Liang Chengbing did not care about his "face" or whatnot. He decided without hesitation to find Han Zhuoli and Lu Man to make peace privately.

But he had no way of contacting Han Zhuoli and could reach only Zheng Tianming.

When Han Zhuoli contacted him regarding the road blockage the previous time, he had used Zheng Tianming's phone.

So Liang Chengbing could only contact Zheng Tianming.

Over at the other end, Zheng Tianming sneered to himself.

Now he knows to be frightened, knows to beg for forgiveness. What was he doing before that?

Liang Chengbing fit the phrase especially well, "You reap what you sow."

"Oh, it's Director Liang," Zheng Tianming said coolly. "It's so late, what's the matter?"

"Mr. Zheng, you should know about what is currently circulating on the Internet. I won't plead my case, I just want to apologize to Lu Man and Young Master Han directly. Could you help me contact Young Master Han?" Liang Chengbing pleaded.

Zheng Tianming said dismissively, "Director Liang, it's already so late, our CEO and his wife are already resting. It'll be rude of me to disturb them now. What about tomorrow? I'll help you ask tomorrow, okay?"

Liang Chengbing was anxious. "It's only eight, though?"

Are Han Zhuoli and Lu Man taking excessive care of their health or what?

Sleeping at eight o'clock?

Who do they think they are lying to?!

"Oh, is it?" Zheng Tianming laughed. "Alright, then, I'll just help you ask. But whether the CEO and his wife are willing to listen... That's not up to me. I'm just a messenger."

"I know, I know," Liang Chengbing said hurriedly. "When you've passed the message, could you also help me say that I'm bringing 120% of my sincerity to apologize? That no matter what they ask of me, I'll do it as long as they'll forgive me. I'll do it to the best of my abilities. I'll also publicly apologize to Lu Man. Everything's my fault and has nothing to do with her."

Not so smug now, are you? Zheng Tianming thought to himself.

But he did not say anything aloud. Zheng Tianming agreed, "Alright, I'll pass on your words."

"Sorry for the trouble." Liang Chengbing was being humble like never before.

He gave a bunch of thanks to Zheng Tianming before hanging up.

Zheng Tianming passed on his message exactly to Han Zhuoli, word for word.

When he finished listening, Han Zhuoli said, "If he comes to find you again in the future, just rebuff him straight away no matter what conditions he says. No need to report to me."

"Alright, I understand," Zheng Tianming replied.

Han Zhuoli did not care how Zheng Tianming carried his words to Liang Chengbing or how Liang Chengbing reacted.

Lu Man did not care either.

She never wanted Liang Chengbing to have an easy life, to forgive him, or to make peace with him.

She's not that naive.

Liang Chengbing's actions were borne out of the current situation.

The moment things turned for the better, he would revert back to his sneaky, underhanded, ungentlemanly ways.

Lu Man had never had any sympathy for such a person, nor would she be foolish enough to dig her own grave.

Meanwhile, everyone on the Net was scolding Liang Chengbing, and everyone now thought that Lu Man truly deserved her Best Newcomer Award.

The next day, Zheng Tianming found out who the next batch of people who flamed Lu Man was.

"It's someone Lin Jinshu contacted," Zheng Tianming said.

If Lin Jinshu's involved, Wang Qianyun probably was too.

Since matters now involved Lin Jinshu, Han Zhuoli and Lu Man returned to Yi Garden to inform Wang Juhuai.

Wang Juhuai blushed. "It's still my fault. I've implicated Man Man."

"Don't say that, Dad. It's Lin Jinshu's problem, not yours," Lu Man said.

Chapter 1340: Han Zhuoli Spoke

"I'll handle Lin Jinshu's matter," Han Zhuoli told Lu Man. "You just rest."

Otherwise, he'd feel useless, standing by the side and doing nothing as he watched Lu Man solve all her own problems.

"This time, I'll make Lin Jinshu and Wang Qianyun return to the US instantly," Han Zhuoli said coldly.

He had had enough of these two women.

Lu Man had seen the Han Family power at work—to exact revenge for Han Zhuoling, they had almost crushed the Xia Family.

There was no need for any massive manpower involved to fight Lin Jinshu, but what was at hand was more than enough.

Hence, even though Lin Jinshu had plans to expand her business in B City...

Her plans braked suddenly just as it started gaining momentum on the right track.

"CEO Wang, didn't we have an agreement the previous time?" Lin Jinshu was shocked. "What made you change your mind?"

"I have no choice either. Why don't you ask Han Zhuoli why he's working against you?" CEO Wang asked for the sake of it. Now, everyone knew of the unhappiness between Lin Jinshu and Xia Qingwei.

As Xia Qingwei was Han Zhuoli's mother-in-law, Han Zhuoli would obviously take her side and stand against Lin Jinshu.

"I'm just a small businessman, so how could I dare offend Han Zhuoli?" CEO Wang said.

"What did Han Zhuoli tell you?" Lin Jinshu's expression changed.

CEO Wang laughed. "I've already said it, CEO Lin, I'm just a small businessman. How could I even see Young Master Han personally! I've lived for so long and never had the chance to speak to Young Master Han. It's Young Master Han who released a statement saying he doesn't like seeing you expand your business within the country. He never even instructed us to do anything and we already don't dare to work with you.

"I'm just a small businessman, I really can't offend Young Master Han. If he were to find out that there are still people cooperating with you even though he'd already spoken, I'm afraid I'll be unable to bear the consequences. I'm not even as powerful as the Xia Family, and the Xia Family was almost ruined by them. My small company can't take the beating," CEO Wang said helplessly. "CEO Lin, have some

sympathy for this small businessman who can't go against the god-like Young Master Han. Our agreement shall come to an end here.

"Don't contact me in the future. I know that it's my bad for ending our agreement abruptly. I'd understand if you blame or hate me. If you succeed in expanding your business in the future, I wouldn't think of having another chance of working with you. It's what I deserve. When you're doing well, I won't go and beg you shamelessly. Let's just let it be," CEO Wang said.

Hearing that he'd already considered future possibilities, that even if she did excellently in the future, he still would not regret his decision now, Lin Jinshu had nothing else to say.

Lin Jinshu made countless similar calls like this, and all yielded the same results.

Just then, Wang Qianyun came back and threw her bag onto the sofa in frustration.

"How was it?" Lin Jinshu asked.

Wang Qianyun had recently started job-seeking.

Back when she worked for Mex, she did not save much of her salary.

Growing up in the States meant that the Western values on consumption were inculcated in her. Spending as much as she earned and not being used to saving.

Hence, when she became jobless, she lacked even the time to simply live on her savings.

She could only start looking for jobs immediately.

But even after she'd searched around, none of the companies were willing to employ her.

People now had yet to forget the series of opinions she'd made when she was with *Attack Force* and came here to publicize.