

Mr Han 1521

Chapter 1521: Sense of Animosity

Although he was not as famous as Shana, in terms of development potential, Howard was stronger than she was.

Shana was stuck with an idol image now. Whether she could break out of this image at a later time still depended on herself.

Her looks were sweet and nice to begin with. It would be a little hard for her to break out of that image.

Not to mention how Hollywood was a place that favored males over females. Male actors tended to have a smoother development than female actors and were paid higher as well.

To top it all off, Howard had the backing of Bourbotte.

Although *Attack Force* had failed miserably here, its ratings overseas were pretty good and Bourbotte's reputation and status were not affected at all.

He was still a god-level director.

As long as Bourbotte was around, Howard would not need to worry about his future development.

"Yeah. Part of the reason why I came here was because of my uncle," Howard said frankly. "But even without this relationship, I still wanted to come here and take a look as well. I want to see what that arrogant woman looks like exactly. What right does she have to destroy our pride?"

Howard continued, "*Attack Force* is a very outstanding film. The response and reputation garnered from various countries are all very good. And films from Hollywood have always dominated various huge markets. As long as our films are there, other films would stand no chance at all. That Lu Man. She didn't rely on the quality of the film itself to have a fair competition. Instead, she used unusual means to chase *Attack Force* away. This is something that's unforgivable.

"Even if this had nothing to do with my uncle and it had happened to another film, I still won't allow her to step on our pride like this," Howard said coldly.

At the mention of this, everyone went silent for a while.

Shana lifted her chin up proudly and said, "Of course. It's true that someone from the publicity team had said some inappropriate things when *Attack Force* came here to publicize that time. Even if the film industry here is way more backward than ours, they still can't just say it so frankly. But this bunch of Chinese also can't ruin our outstanding work just like that. That was going way too far. I also want to see who exactly that Lu Man is. How is she so arrogant?!"

Everyone else expressed the same views.

They had just arrived and had not even seen each other, yet there was already such a strong sense of animosity.

But the leading teacher did not dissuade them at all.

Having a sense of animosity was pretty good. It could incite their fighting spirit so that they could win even more brilliantly and make the other party lose in despondence, without giving them face at all.

And then they could hang their school flag on their walls of honor.

The teacher fantasized about that gleefully.

“Stop looking, it’s time for class,” Lu Man reminded her.

“Oh, right!” Zheng Yuan quickly pulled Pan Xue and Han Leilei along. “Let’s go, let’s go. Stop joining in the buzz, or else we are going to be late.”

This class was an acting practice class.

Lu Man and the girls made it to class on time. The moment they sat down, the school bell rang.

At the same time, Dean He also personally welcomed the exchange team.

Behind him, students from the student council who had no lessons right now also came along.

“Welcome, welcome. You guys came a long way,” Dean He said politely.

“We’re good. We had a good rest yesterday. Thank you for your welcome,” the leading teacher said. “I am the teacher leading the team this time. You can just call me Luzern. This is the Vice-Dean of our performing arts major, Mr. Edinburgh.”

“Hello,” Dean He greeted politely.

“This is our teacher from the performing arts school, Professor Hurk.” Luzern introduced them one by one.

Chapter 1522: She’s the Only Talkative One, Talking Non-stop

Dean He also introduced the teachers on his side and said, “Our school principal has to attend a meeting with the principals of the other three schools, so he could not make it in person today. He specially asked me to convey his apologies.”

“No worries.” Luzern gave a small smile.

“These students here are from our student council. We will lead you all on a tour around the school. How is that?” Dean He suggested.

“Sure. We would love to look around as well,” Luzern said with a smile.

“This way.” Dean He walked alongside Luzern and the other teachers as he briefly explained, “Here in front is our school building for Performing Arts.”

The moment he said that, Howard suddenly interjected, “Since you are all here, can we go and take a look at how your classes are conducted? I am quite curious about that.”

The other students also expressed the same thoughts.

Luzern put on a pretense and said, “That won’t be nice. We would interfere with the other students having lessons.”

Since this matter was brought up and it was not some very rude request, Dean He naturally could not reject them. "No worries. We can watch from outside the classroom."

Ultimately, he also did not want the students to be disturbed while they were in class.

He knew, too, that in this team, Shana was a member. She was very popular among young people. As long as she appeared, it would definitely cause a huge impact on the order in the classroom and distract the students from their lessons.

And Bourbotte's nephew was here as well. Who knew if he harbored animosity towards Lu Man?

Dean He did not want to let them disturb the students, so he could only compromise and not let them enter the classroom.

"Of course." Luzern was unhappy deep down, but he still maintained an understanding and reasonable demeanor. "We won't want to disrupt the students in their classes as well."

Haha!

The fact that they were going to take a look was already giving these country bumpkins enough face.

Saying they did not want to disturb the students previously was merely an attempt at politeness. He did not expect Dean He to take advantage of this point.

Howard scoffed lightly in disdain.

The whole bunch of them walked into the school building.

"I heard Lu Man is a student in your school. Is that true?" Shana asked.

"Yes." Dean He nodded, not saying anything more.

Howard could not hold it back and asked first, "Then is she attending class right now?"

Dean He frowned very slightly. Looking at Howard's demeanor, he could tell that he was up to no good. He might just be going there to look for trouble.

Howard was still a young man. Furthermore, he did not treat the people at the National Film Academy with any respect, whether it was the school leaders or the students. In his eyes, they were all the same. They would all collapse at the first blow and were totally not their match.

Hence, his face could not hide any of these thoughts.

Not only could it not hide his disdain for the National Film Academy, but it also could not hide his animosity towards Lu Man.

That look of eagerness on his face nearly spelled out the word "provocation" on it.

How could Dean He be at ease?

"I really don't know about this." Of course Dean He knew. "There are so many students, I can't possibly know whether every student is attending class or where their classrooms are."

Alas, the moment Dean He said that, a girl from the student council behind him said, "Lu Man is having an acting practice class right now."

Dean He could not even be bothered to hide it now and just turned around to stare at her with a cold look on his face.

Of all people, she's the only talkative one, talking non-stop!

As an outstanding student of the National Film Academy who was also Han Zhuoli's wife, Lu Man had always been a concern of the school.

Would he not know which class she was in right now?

Anyone with brains should know that. He was just looking for an excuse to prevent this bunch of people from going over to cause trouble.

She just had to make herself be the capable one. Did she think she was the only one who knew Lu Man was in acting practice class right now?

Chapter 1523: Request

There were so many students from the student council around. Would no one else know about it?

Other people knew. They just did not say it!

But she had to come out and say it, huh?!

Turning to glance at her made Dean He even more angry.

This female student was the Vice President of the student council. He had an impression of her. She was called Chen Jingying.

When he glanced at her again, he saw that this Chen Jingying was clearly trying to curry favor with Shana and Howard.

What good is there in sucking up to these two people?

Do you think they will bring you to Hollywood to advance your career?

Utterly brainless!

Did she not see how these exchange students all had their eyes above their heads and were completely looking down on the students at the National Film Academy?

This was not the way to go, even in front of your idol.

Thankfully, the President of the student council was a clear-minded person and quickly pulled Chen Jingying behind.

The few students beside them tacitly understood and stepped forward, squeezing Chen Jingying to the back, not giving her a chance to "present" herself again.

Chen Jingying's face changed. As the Vice President, she had naturally lost to the President during the voting. She had always been especially upset over it, so she never stopped thinking about dragging down the President, Li Shiyu.

Now that this had happened, her first reaction was to think that Li Shiyu was discriminating against her and did not want her to have a chance to present herself on such an important occasion.

People who were already famous before entering the school, such as Lu Man and Zhang Xiaoying, would all not join the student council.

That's because they did not want to be tied down by the work in the student council. If they had the time, they might as well take on more jobs.

Only people like them who had not acted in productions before, or acted but did not leave a deep impression on the audiences and did not have many job opportunities, would seize the chance to join the student council to increase their competitive edge.

Some jobs, after all, would directly liaise with the school. They would have to go through another layer of processes at the student council. This would be a good chance for them.

Just like today. The first to welcome the exchange students were also the students from the student council.

Chen Jingying did not really know what she was thinking either. Anyway, she just saw that they looked very incredible, so she wanted to present herself a little more. What if she could really gain some benefits from it?

Hence, she'd just said what she did out loud.

"What are you guys doing?" At least Chen Jingying knew not to let the people from the exchange team hear her and knew to speak in a small voice.

But Dean He heard it. He did not wait for Li Shiyu to explain and just turned around and said in a low voice, "You should go and look for your counselor first and help her out."

Chen Jingying was stunned. She reflexively asked, "What would our counselor need help with?"

"You will know once you go." Dean He's expression turned colder as he gave her a warning look.

Chen Jingying could not take it lying down. She did not want to miss this chance, but it was clear that Dean He did not want her to stay. What did he mean, go to help the counselor? That was just an excuse.

In the end, she could only leave reluctantly.

A mocking look flashed across Howard's face. Afraid that Dean He would just gloss over things, he quickly said, "Then let's just go to that acting practice class to take a look."

Luzern was still putting on a front and said, "It's better not to disturb the students during class."

"We will just stand at the side to watch, we won't disturb them," the slightly fat young man in the car previously said.

“Leo is right.” Howard nodded. “We will just watch from the side.”

Luzern then glanced apologetically at Dean He and said, “I’m sorry, my students are too willful. They actually made such a selfish request. But they will just watch quietly from the side. Furthermore, they already said when they came here that they wanted to experience how classes are conducted here, and how different it is from our school. They want to learn from your acting classes here and study some different performing styles.”

Chapter 1524: I Felt Insulted

Dean He smiled on the surface but kept rolling his eyes in his mind.

Learn from their acting classes and study different performing styles.

Were they supposed to make the teachers teach in English and make all the students in class accommodate them?

Dean He put on a fake smile and said, “You’re too kind. Come with me, this way.”

Dean He brought the team of people over to the area outside the classroom where the acting practice class was being held.

The door to the classroom had a glass window the size of a human face.

Although they said they would just watch from the side without talking, they could not possibly really let the whole bunch of them stand outside and peer in from that tiny glass window, right?

Dean He could only knock on the door and push it open. He stood at the door and said to Teacher Hong in an apologetic tone, “Teacher Hong, my apologies for interrupting your class. The guests from the exchange team are touring around our school and want to take a look at how our classes are conducted.”

Teacher Hong and Dean He exchanged glances. It was evident both of them did not really think well of such behavior from the exchange team.

However, Teacher Hong still had an intuitive understanding of the exchange team.

She politely smiled and said, “Please come in.”

When the exchange students all came in, Teacher Hong let her students leave out some space for the exchange students to sit down.

“Today, the exchange students from New York University came here to tour around our school. I think everyone knows already. They are here to watch us having class, nothing else. Let’s continue with the class.”

Teacher Hong called two students up to perform.

Although the students from the exchange team did not understand Chinese, they could understand their performance, from their body language to their emotions.

Many of them shook their heads and were becoming even more disdainful.

With such standards, they still wanted to compete with them?

Leo chuckled. "To be honest, the best students in our school are left behind and did not come over. Among this batch of students, aside from Shana, the rest are all second or third rank students."

Howard actually did not get angry when he heard that. He was indeed a second rank.

He had to admit that his skills were not as good.

In their school, there were too many people who were better than he was. If that were not so, he would have been selected into the team that would remain in school, not on the exchange team.

But this did not mean that he admitted defeat. He would rise to the first rank sooner or later.

"Even so, this bunch of people might not even be able to compare with any of us. Whoever they pick to compete against any one of us, they would not have any winning chances at all." Leo shook his head in disdain. "They are too weak."

Howard chuckled. "Even the top students they picked out of their whole country lost when they came to our school, much less those weak people who were left behind."

Another girl called Colleen also said in a low voice, "The expressions and actions of that girl wearing a black shirt is too exaggerated, as if she's afraid that people won't know she's acting. The other one in white just can't get into the mood of acting. When she is not in character, the expressions on her face become very superficial."

Nottingham scoffed lightly. "With such standards, they actually want to compete against us? This is simply an insult to our acting skills. I don't know what you guys are thinking. Anyway, if my opponent were such a person, I would feel insulted."

They spoke in soft voices, and they spoke fast.

The students from the performing arts major spent much of their time in high school focusing on learning acting, so their English literacy rate was average.

Furthermore, these people were speaking too softly. No one actually clearly heard what they said.

Lu Man was sitting opposite them. She was too far away, so she could not hear what they were saying at all.

But she could see the obvious looks of disdain on their faces.

Pan Xue quietly tugged Lu Man and said in a low voice, "Why do I feel like the expressions on the faces of these exchange students are a little off? Am I thinking too much?"

Chapter 1525: Mocking

Han Leilei hit the nail on the head when she said, "Even a scatterbrain like you can see that. It just shows how obvious the looks of disdain and arrogance on their faces are."

Pan Xue: "..."

Lu Man glanced over calmly and said in a low voice, “You are right, they really do look down on us quite a lot.”

Bourbotte was like that, but she did not expect these bunch of students to be like that as well.

Of course Lu Man did not believe that the actors across the Pacific were all so arrogant and demeaning.

It was just perfect that they met people of such standard.

Given how spirited these bunch of young people from the exchange team were, all the more they could not hide their emotions and were utterly disrespectful to people who were not as good as they were. This made Lu Man think they were really a joke.

After those two students finished performing, Teacher Hong gave them her feedback. She pointed out one by one all the areas they did not do well in and provided a few better ways of performing.

As she gave her feedback, Teacher Hong seemed to forget that the exchange students were still there and did not even throw a glance over.

At first, Teacher Hong wanted to let Lu Man come up and demonstrate. They did not have to learn Lu Man’s way of acting per se, but at least she could let the students see how above standard—and even extremely good acting—should look like.

How another person would interpret how to perform at which points.

However, as the exchange students were around, Teacher Hong also had her personal interests at heart. She was afraid that Lu Man’s acting skills would be exposed too early in front of the exchange students and this would let them guard against Lu Man.

Although Lu Man had shot films before, the level of influence they had in America could be said to be almost none at all.

Judging from these people’s arrogant and conceited personalities, they definitely would not go and analyze the films Lu Man had acted in just for her alone.

Hence, regarding Lu Man’s acting skills, they would probably be completely clueless.

Needless to say, Teacher Hong’s analysis within such a short time was spot on.

Shana was simply proud and felt that her capabilities would be enough to crush them.

However, when it came down to looking down on them, it was not to that extent.

Those few people led by Howard really looked down on them from the bottom of their hearts, and they even looked down on the whole country’s entertainment industry.

To them, so what if Lu Man had high appraisal within the country?

She was nothing but a bumpkin who had not seen real acting before.

Within such a small scope with lower overall standards, she was just a big fish in a small pond.

Was this worth being proud of?

In their eyes, it would only seem even more ridiculous.

Howard scoffed disrespectfully and said to Leo, "This class is really ridiculously bad."

These words were not spoken by the ear. Although the sound was not loud, many people still heard it.

And it was not some complicated sentence either. Each word was very basic and very simple. Although everyone's English standard was average, they could still understand such a simple sentence.

Instantly, the people who heard it did not have good looks on their faces.

Anyone could tell that Howard was mocking them.

Teacher Hong's face sank. The faces of the two students who just went back to their seats flushed red.

They were the ones who performed badly just now, but their standards compared to the whole class were quite low.

The others using their standards to represent the whole class instantly made both of them feel like they'd embarrassed their whole class.

"They're too much!" Yuan Menghan said angrily. "How can they be so disdainful of others?"

Yuan Menghan also wanted to say that the standards of those two people were average to begin with.

But at least she knew that it was not appropriate to say this in such a situation.

And seeing how both students were on the verge of tears from embarrassment, no one would even say such a thing anymore.

Chapter 1526: Provocation

It wouldn't do any good if they said it and they would even be chided by other people instead.

"Lu Man, you go up!" Yuan Menghan suddenly said. "Give them a good show so they don't look down on us!"

Lu Man pursed her lips and did not say anything. She would never present herself in a moment like this.

If she went up to defend their reputation just because they did not want to be laughed at, it would actually backfire.

Furthermore, it would seem like they anxiously needed the approval of the exchange team.

Who do the exchange team students think they are? Do we even need their approval?

Another thing was that she had the same thought as Teacher Hong.

There was no need to reveal her skill level in advance.

Lu Man was not so arrogant as to think that her own skills would dominate everyone else's.

She still did not know the skill level of the exchange team.

One thing was for sure: their skills would definitely not be bad. It remained to be seen what kind of result she would get from competing with the other party.

Since she did not know the skill level of the exchange team, all the more she could not reveal her own to them too early on.

The exchange team was unfamiliar with their side. They couldn't possibly let themselves become a known factor to the exchange team, right?

Perhaps the exchange team really insisted on coming here to observe their class with the intent of judging their standards.

It was precisely because of this that she could not go up to perform at this point in time.

Teacher Hong did not say anything, so Lu Man felt that she probably had the same concerns.

Yet Yuan Menghan could not think things through and insisted on her standing up at this time.

Han Leilei said coldly, "Are you the teacher or the class monitor? Who are you ordering around?!"

"You!" Yuan Menghan shouted angrily. "What are you saying?! Don't I just want those foreigners who are looking down on us to see our capabilities?"

"Then you can go up yourself. Lu Man's capabilities belong to Lu Man. What has it got to do with you?" Pan Xue said bluntly.

Yuan Menghan was utterly at a loss for words.

Why do these people say such infuriating things?!

And their words just had to be so stinging.

If she was that capable, would she need Lu Man?

"Lu Man's capabilities might have nothing to do with me, but it definitely has something to do with our class and our school, doesn't it?! Those foreigners are looking down on us right now as a whole, and 'us' includes Lu Man! So what's wrong with asking Lu Man to go up and perform? What's the issue with that?" Yuan Menghan said coldly. She still sounded so righteous when she said that, thinking that there was nothing wrong with what she had said.

Lu Man merely said, "If you want us to prove ourselves, we can wait until the friendly exchange competition to do it properly. Why should we do it right now?"

Dean He and Teacher Hong both heaved a sigh of relief.

They'd really been afraid that Lu Man would not be able to take the provocation and really go up to perform.

If Lu Man had insisted, they could not have said anything either.

To tell the truth, in the whole school, no one would really dare to boss Lu Man around or tell her what to do.

She was like an almighty god sitting right here!

Luckily, Lu Man had thought things through properly. She was very clear deep down in her heart what she ought to do!

Yet Yuan Menghan still thought she was being smart.

Lu Man had already said as much. If Yuan Menghan still did not get it, the only option left would be to make Yuan Menghan leave.

Yuan Menghan indeed did not get it and was about to say something again.

Luckily, Zhang Xiaoying, who was beside her, understood it and tugged Yuan Menghan's sleeve.

"We completely do not know about the caliber of the exchange team, but they also do not know about ours. If we let Lu Man go up and reveal her capability to the exchange team in advance, won't they know what we're capable of inside out?" Zhang Xiaoying said in a low voice.

Yuan Menghan finally got it, and her face burned red as she scoffed at Lu Man from a distance.

Although she did not say anything more, she still could not get over her pride and remained unhappy.

"I didn't expect this bunch of people to be so timid. Not a single capable person could come out and prove themselves," Howard said in a displeased manner. He then raised his voice and said, "I heard Lu Man is in this class. Why don't you let Lu Man come out and try so that we can learn as well?"

Chapter 1527: We All Have a Straightforward Personality

The moment he said that, everyone from the National Film Academy instantly got angry.

It was one thing to be upset about being mocked by them and wanting to prove themselves.

But Howard had said such words and even pointed out Lu Man directly. What right did he have to do that?

Why should they listen to the words of these bunch of foreigners?

Everyone went silent.

Lu Man stood up.

"Lu Man!" Dean He and Teacher Hong almost called at her at the same time, thinking that Lu Man had lost her cool.

Yet they did not expect Lu Man to say in fluent English, "We are having class right now. How we should perform, who should perform, all these had been prepared and arranged by our teacher in advance. The students who just went up to perform did so because they wanted to find out what they were lacking. The way the teacher arranged this was also to let the students understand their own shortcomings and thereafter correct them.

"Teacher Hong prepares for class every day and always teaches based on what the students are lacking. The topics she'd give are all directed at the students' shortcomings, so it is very normal for them to

perform worse than expected. Who would look outstanding when comparing their own weaknesses with the strengths of others?"

The two girls who'd felt so ashamed of themselves previously instantly looked a little better when they heard Lu Man's words.

The knot in their hearts disappeared as well.

What Lu Man said was right too!

It was precisely because of this that they now had a deeper understanding of what they were lacking.

It is not an easy thing to correct one's own shortcomings. It is a process that needs time and practice. There would surely come a day when they would be able to correct them.

Even though there may be some difficulties in that, it was much better than always being blind about one's own shortcomings.

Instantly, both of them felt immensely grateful to Teacher Hong.

Teacher Hong never explained it. It was inevitable that her students would misunderstand her and think that the topics she gave were always too hard, or that her standards were too high, or that she purposely picked on them, etc.

Yet she did not expect Lu Man to actually know what her intentions were.

She did not know if Lu Man knew from the start or guessed it afterward.

But no matter what, Teacher Hong still felt especially touched that there was someone who understood her efforts and the lengths she went to.

Her expression, which had hardened from when she heard the banter of the exchange students, softened again.

"It's a must that we understand our own shortcomings. This is so that when it comes time for the real performance, we would know how to avoid them. There is a saying in China that goes, 'Yang chang bi duan.' It means 'to promote and foster one's strengths while avoiding one's weaknesses.'" Lu Man raised her eyebrow and continued, "Words as refined and rich in meaning like these are probably absent in the English language."

Howard had an old grudge with Lu Man to begin with.

Of course, this "old grudge" was a one-sided belief of Howard's.

Lu Man did not even respect Bourbotte. Why would she bother with him?

She had never even heard of this person.

But this did not stop Howard from saying angrily, "You can just say what you want to say. What right do you have to insult our language? Uneducated!"

"There is another Chinese saying that goes, 'Li shang wang lai.' We will treat you the same way you have treated us. You guys requested to come and observe our class. As the host, we agreed out of courtesy to

our guests. But you guys didn't honor your promise to watch quietly and not disrupt our class. On the contrary, you guys were criticizing us on the sidelines and nitpicking at our classmates' performance with utter disdain. If you guys can say so bluntly and rudely that you look down on the actors from our country, then, I think, I can also say very bluntly what is lacking in your language.

"After all, we all have a straightforward personality," Lu Man said half-jokingly.

At first, the other party could still use the excuse that people from their culture all had straightforward personalities and say whatever came to their minds. This line from Lu Man solidly blocked their excuse.

Chapter 1528: Too Cunning

You're looking down on our entertainment industry?

Feel free to do so!

But that also means I'm free to point out the things I look down on about you guys.

Nothing wrong with that.

How could Howard hope to be as eloquent as Lu Man?

Lu Man had no difficulty switching between Chinese and English and could even translate the meaning of Chinese idioms for them.

But what did Howard know?

He wanted to show off some Old English phrases, but he didn't know any!

"Also," Lu Man began coldly, "you guys interrupted our class so many times. How is that being polite?"

The looks on the faces of the exchange students instantly turned ugly.

Their rude acts were highlighted one by one by Lu Man, yet they had no hope of arguing their way out.

Luzern's expression did not look good. He fully expressed his displeasure and said stiffly, "As guests, we did not expect you guys to be so unwelcoming towards us."

Dean He came out at the right moment to mediate and smooth things over. "There's definitely no such thing. They're all youngsters, they can't hold back their temper all that well. They are quick with their words and say whatever comes to their minds. No worries, no worries. This is quite good too, haha. It won't be easy to have misunderstandings."

Luzern: "..."

Luzern was fuming, yet he could also express himself.

Was that what he meant?

Dean He was acting dumb with him!

These people are too cunning!

“Why don’t we stop disrupting their class? There are still many places we can tour around,” Dean He said.

They were in no mood to stay on either after being called out like this by Lu Man.

So they could only stand up and go out with Dean He.

Before going out, Howard kept glaring fiercely at Lu Man.

What a despicable woman!

The moment they left, the classroom flew into a frenzy.

Everyone could not take it lying down. “Is everyone from New York University like this? Then won’t the students we’d sent over on exchange be subjected to such treatment as well?”

“The whole school can’t possibly target a small group of people like this. They’re too disrespectful.”

“It’s a pity that the people who went last year were all in Year 3 or Year 4 and have now graduated and gone out to act in films. They’re no longer in school, so we can’t find anyone to ask either.”

“Enough, enough. Can we all quieten down for a bit?” Teacher Hong said. “Don’t think too much about those unnecessary things. Let’s continue with our lesson for now. No matter how they look down on us, at the root of it is that our capabilities are just not good enough. As long as we managed to raise our own capabilities and not give others a chance to look down on us, that will be better than anything else.”

Whether it was because Teacher Hong’s current words were effective or whether it was because of what Lu Man had said earlier, it made the students understand Teacher Hong’s efforts.

This time, no one complained anymore.

Teacher Hong asked another two students to come up, gave them the topic, and let them perform.

After class, Lu Man, Zheng Yuan, and the other two girls left the classroom.

As they walked, Zheng Yuan said, “Those people are so infuriating. But don’t feel pressured, Lu Man. It’s like what Yuan Menghan said. This is a group competition, so there is no point if you’re the only one who performs well. No matter how well you perform, it would be useless if other people hinder you. It wouldn’t be your fault even if you lost.”

“Don’t worry. I will just do my best.” Lu Man smiled and said, “I’m not some superhero who can do everything. I just do my best in everything. For the competition this time, to be honest, I also know that the chances of us winning are slim. We will just do our best and not leave any regrets behind.”

She was not someone who could resolve every issue.

Zheng Yuan heard that and nodded.

Han Leilei sighed. “It’s a pity that I won’t be able to watch you competing with them.”

“Oh, right, you are setting off tomorrow, aren’t you?” Pan Xue asked.

“Yeah. I’m going over with the team tomorrow,” Han Leilei said. “But it’s fine. Anyway, Lu Man will be going there later as well. I can watch a whole other showdown then.”

Chapter 1529: Are You Really Okay with It?

Although they were going to New York University as exchange students for a year, they would not actually be gone for a full year.

After they’d been promoted to Year 3, the names of the exchange students had needed confirming, and after that, arranging for passports and visa paperwork matters had needed time as well.

On top of that, it was a group activity, so there would surely be situations where someone delayed something or was missing some material.

Hence, the real set off date was delayed until now.

As the welcome dinner was at night, Lu Man did not go home and just remained in school.

Han Zhuoli drove straight over after he got off work.

When he was about to arrive, he gave her a call.

Lu Man then went to the school entrance to wait for him.

Not long after, she saw Han Zhuoli’s Mulsanne from afar.

When Han Zhuoli saw her, he quickly stopped at the entrance of the school so that Lu Man could come in.

“Have you eaten?” Lu Man asked him.

“Nope. I was afraid you would be anxious while waiting here, so I came over right after work,” Han Zhuoli said as he drove into the school and parked his car at a parking lot.

Lu Man unfastened the seatbelt and smiled until her eyes formed a line. “I knew you definitely haven’t eaten, so I also waited for you before eating.”

Han Zhuoli glanced at the time. “You waited this long? Are you hungry?”

“I’m fine.” Lu Man really meant it. “Thinking that you haven’t eaten, I didn’t have much appetite to eat by myself anyway.”

“Do you have anything that you want to eat?” Han Zhuoli asked as both of them got off the car.

As the welcome party was happening at night, most of the students did not leave school and were all waiting to attend.

They did not have much to do after dinner, so they naturally wandered around in the vicinity.

Some were coming back after gallivanting one whole round outside, while some were preparing to go out to gallivant.

Some of them were couples who decided to remain in school for their date.

It could be said that this was one of the National Film Academy's most lively times.

Hence, everyone saw Lu Man and Han Zhuoli coming out from his Mulsanne.

Although everyone knew of Lu Man and Han Zhuoli's relationship, their reactions were still one of extreme amazement when they saw this Mulsanne.

After all, back when Han Zhuoli had not yet shown his face, the first thing they saw was this Mulsanne.

They even had negative guesses about Lu Man because of this car.

Even after Han Zhuoli had appeared later on, because he had never shown his face publicly, there was still no one who'd known that Lu Man's fiancée was Han Zhuoli. They felt only that the Mulsanne probably meant that he was a rich person, but he might not be a very amazing person.

It was not until Han Zhuoli's and Lu Man's relationship came out in the open that people realized in startlement that the Mulsanne and the back view of the man they saw previously actually belonged to Han Zhuoli!

The moment they thought of the words they'd said previously, they felt that they were utterly stupid and dumb.

Seeing Han Zhuoli's face now and looking at that car, it really felt like they were dreaming.

Han Zhuoli and Lu Man had long been used to these stares and did not care about them. The two of them just did what they should do.

Lu Man thought about it and said, "You haven't walked around the vicinity of my school, right? I would occasionally eat with Zheng Yuan and the girls for lunch nearby. There are quite a few small but good restaurants around.

"Hmm..." Lu Man hummed before she said, "As they're near the school, though, the shops are all small establishments, so the environment is just average. Although it's not like those hole in the wall eateries, the restaurants are still very packed. But the smell of cooking smoke is very strong. Would you be okay with that?"

"What's there to be scared of?" Han Zhuoli held Lu Man's hand and said, "From what you say, it sounds very interesting."

To tell the truth, Han Zhuoli had indeed never eaten in such conditions described by Lu Man.

Chapter 1530: Seeing Shi Xiaoya and Guo Yujie Come In

All the restaurants he knew were those with good environments and classy styles.

He had not tried places with thick smoke smells like what Lu Man described, but he was quite curious about it.

Hence, both of them held hands and went to a street behind the school.

As Lu Man walked, she introduced him around. "This street has all these small restaurants that mainly serve street food. Sichuan fish with pickled mustard greens, baby lobsters and traditional hot pot, they

have all of that. Whenever we have classes in the morning and afternoon and need to eat in school, we would come out and eat, so we have eaten everything along this whole street.”

“You actually ate such things behind my back?” Han Zhuoli pinched her nose lightly and said, “I have to say, your stomach is really strong.”

Lu Man laughed. “I’m not someone born in prestige. In the past, I couldn’t even afford to eat at such small restaurants. At most, I would eat bento lunches with a bunch of extras. The lunches of film extras were different from that of the main actors. In the past, people from the same production crew still ate the same meals. But now, the artistes that are a little more capable all order their own meals. The bento lunches are mostly for the staff and the extras, so it wasn’t very good, and it was even unhygienic, but I’m still fine eating that.”

The first few times Lu Man ate it, she was indeed still not used to it.

At that time, she was Lu Qi’s assistant. The first time she joined a production crew with Lu Qi, Lu Qi ate a low-calorie meal to preserve her figure.

Meanwhile, Lu Man went to collect the bento lunches provided by the production crew, along with the extras. Those lunches in white styrofoam boxes all had mushy vegetables and meat mixed together in it.

The most frequently seen dishes were fried potatoes and roasted chicken bits. The chicken bits were pathetically meager. Most of it was chicken skin and the rest were potato slices.

Who knew under what kinds of conditions these bento lunches were made?

Basically, the first time Lu Man ate it, she really vomited and had diarrhea for quite a while and was even unstable on her feet when she walked the next day.

It was probably because she had been through such training that whatever she ate afterward, no matter how bad the sanitation conditions were, Lu Man could still take it.

Suddenly, Lu Man felt a little hesitant to bring Han Zhuoli along to eat now.

“You’ve never eaten such things before. What if you get a stomach upset from this? Forget it, why don’t we just go to the school cafeteria and eat?” Lu Man said.

Although the food in the school cafeteria was not that nice, at least the hygiene standards were passable.

Han Zhuoli pulled her back and said, “I’m not as fragile as you think I am. Anyway, if we go to the cafeteria and eat, won’t we be asking to be swarmed by crowds of people staring at us? What do you want to eat? I think baby lobsters are not bad, or maybe Sichuan fish? Hot pot is a very hearty meal and will leave a smell, so it won’t be convenient for attending the welcome party tonight.”

“Then how about Sichuan fish?” Lu Man suggested. “If we go for baby lobsters, the sauces can easily stain our clothes, so it doesn’t seem very convenient either.”

“Alright.”

Both of them then entered a restaurant serving Sichuan fish. Although the restaurant did not look big, there were still two private rooms on the second floor.

As it was beside the school, boys would like to gather together to drink and chat, so the private rooms were reserved for them.

Lu Man and Han Zhuoli were just two people, so they picked a table near a corner where not many people would pass by.

Just as they finished ordering their dishes, Lu Man, who happened to be facing the entrance, saw Shi Xiaoya and Guo Yujie come in.

“Xiaoya!” Lu Man immediately waved at them.

When Shi Xiaoya saw her, she walked over with Guo Yujie and said, “Lu Man, Young Master Han, what a coincidence.”

“Yeah. You like to eat here too?” Lu Man asked as she smiled.

“We haven’t eaten yet, so we decided to come and eat something before going back to work,” Shi Xiaoya explained.

“Then let’s eat together. We can move to a bigger table,” Lu Man said.

When Shi Xiaoya heard that, she did not refuse.