

Superstar 131

Chapter 131: A Professor was Dumbfounded by Zhang Ye's Questions!

Ignoring the whispers and doubts of many audience members.

Zhang Ye was calm and composed, saying, "Zhou Yu was a very loyal and heroic character. When he was 24, he was appointed by Sun Ce as the 'General of the Household Who Establishes Might' and started to gain credit and make contributions. In the same year, he and Sun Ce, who were the same age, married the beauties, Da Qiao and Xiao Qiao. It can be said that Zhou Yu enjoyed success from a young age and was riding the crest of success. He was good-looking, and he did things well. Back then, in Wuzhong, he was addressed as Zhou-Lang. The meaning of the word Lang refers to a young lad, but there is an intention of praise in it. In a place like Wuzhong, Sun Ce was called Sun-Lang, and Zhou Yu was called Zhou-Lang. If translated, they will be 'Stunner Sun' ...and 'Stunner Zhou'."

What?

Stunner?

Xiao Lu and Xiaofang exclaimed!

Quite a number of the female audience could not help but laugh!

Was this talking about the Three Kingdoms? Why were there modern phrases?

"So, think about it..." Zhang Ye looked at everyone, "Zhou Yu was already 'General of the Household Who Establishes Might' in his twenties. He had married the prettiest babe as his wife. It could be said that in the arena of combat, politics and romance, he was well accomplished. So why would he be jealous of others? It was more likely that others would be jealous of him!"

Babe?

Even babe was used?

Many people nearly fainted. Many people were amused!

"In fact, the historical Zhou Yu was a very magnanimous person." Zhang Ye carried on, "Chen Shou once said that he was a broad-minded person. His contemporaries' ratings of him were also very high. Liu Bei's appraisal of him was that he was magnanimous. Jian Gan's appraisal of him was that he was graceful, so if one was to say that Zhou Yu was a very spiteful person, it is a great wrong!" Ma Hengyuan's program that had been abolished had even said that Zhou Yu was a petty person, but this was refuted by Zhang Ye. Furthermore, he had reason, and his arguments were referenced from the passages in the books. The Face Smacking Specialist vibe was at full flare!

The audience was skeptical.

Ma Hengyuan believed that Zhang Ye was speaking nonsense!

The two surnamed Xu guests completely disagreed with Zhang Ye's view!

Zhang Ye laughed, "Some people might disagree, but I can certainly say that the novel, 'Romance of the Three Kingdoms', is not history. Why is Zhou Yu's image so different from the impression that we have?

Why are we both familiar and unfamiliar with the historical period during the Three Kingdoms? There are three reasons.

There are three images regarding the history of the Three Kingdoms. The first comes from historical books. Mainly, it is the image recorded in history. It is the image mainly advocated by historians. This image will be called the 'Historical Image'. I want to make it clear that the Historical Image does not mean historical fact. This is because historical records are not necessarily reliable. The second is the image from artistic works. I call this the 'Artistic Image'. The third one is made from the legends and belief that the common citizens have. I call this the 'Civil Image'."

People listened and thought at the same time.

"As such, this can already explain why Zhou Yu's image is so different from what we have in mind. This is because everyone has an image and evaluation of a person. Once this image is formed, some people would not be able to accept other images. If you say he is different, you will say that isn't right. You are wrong. So when we see some historical dramas, there will always be an audience member in the comments saying, 'Aiyah, this Zhou Yu doesn't seem right'." Zhang Ye seemed to look at Ma Hengyuan and company and then said, "Eh, this Zhou Yu doesn't seem right? Then have you seen.. the real Zhou Yu?"

The audience laughed again, "Hur Hur Hur Hur."

Hu Fei was also amused. This Little Zhang!

Ma Hengyuan's beard had went crooked from anger, but he could not refute it!

"Hence, history is not a novel, nor are the characters appearing in a literary piece of work." Zhang Ye said, "Then for example, Zhuge Liang. When Zhuge Liang is mentioned, most people will think of the empty fort strategy first, where his military talent was displayed. But actually, all of this was described and created in a novel. Of course, there are some logic and reasons behind it and it was for a good reason. In recent years, there was a person called Guo Chong. This Guo Chong was probably a hardcore fan of Zhuge Liang."

Hardcore fan?

The audience was amused hearing that.

However, Zhang Ye was extremely serious, "Hence, he wrote a book, 'Bringing to Light Five Hidden Matters of Liang'. He revealed five things that most people do not know about Zhuge Liang. The third matter was the empty fort strategy. So the empty fort strategy was not seen as fabricated, and had a origin. However, we all know that the words of hardcore fans aren't very reliable. I will solemnly tell you that the historical Zhuge Liang was an excellent politician, but his military talent was far lacking. He was in no way a military genius. As for the empty fort strategy..." Zhang Ye said a shocking sentence without any heed, "It doesn't exist at all!"

What?

The empty fort strategy did not exist? It was all fabricated?

Ma Hengyuan immediately was angered, "What nonsense is that!?"

“How can it not exist? Isn’t that nonsense!?” Teacher Xu was also angered.

Hu Fei and Xiao Lu were also stunned. The audience doubted even more. After all, many things were already entrenched in their minds!

Zhang Ye said in a manner that was neither too fast or slow, “Many people are questioning this point. This is the position in the hearts of the common people known as the Civil Image I mentioned earlier. However, I still have the same thing to say. History is not a novel. Just now, the person who refuted was Professor Ma Hengyuan, right?” The cameraman immediately focused the camera on Ma Hengyuan. “You are in the field of literature research, so you research literary works. For the dissection of ‘Romance of the Three Kingdoms’, I believe not many people in the country can compare with you. However, that is not history. This is an adapted piece of literature inspired from history. If someone still doesn’t believe me or does not agree with my view, then let me ask two questions. Guo Chong said that Sima Yi led his soldiers to attack Yangping. Back then, Zhuge Liang did not have any soldiers on hand, hence he came up with an empty fort strategy, causing Sima Yi to retreat. That was it, right?”

“That’s right.”

“Isn’t that so.”

“What’s wrong with that?”

The audience answered.

Zhang Ye chuckled, “Then here comes my first question. According to historical records and validation, Sima Yi was stationed at Wancheng in the north of Jing Province. He was not at the battleground in Yangping. Since he was not there, how did this thing happen?”

“Ah?”

“This...”

“Is that true?”

The audience was confused.

Ma Hengyuan and Teacher Xu looked at each other and did not have a clue. They were, after all, not historians, so they could not refute it!

Zhang Ye carried on, “Then there’s the second problem. Sima Yi’s large army had arrived and Zhuge Liang was very quick-witted. He opened the city gates and got old soldiers to sweep the city gates. Then he had two children with him while sitting on the top of the city gates, singing karaoke.”

“Pfft!”

“Karaoke?”

“Haha!”

A few members of the audience were laughing in stitches.

Zhang Ye said, "What does he sing in plays? Standing on the city walls, admiring the mountain scenery, I hear noise and confusion below everywhere. Their generals are in disagreement, that insatiable Sima Yi has attacked me once again? If you are coming, so be it. I am fully prepared. The streets are swept spotless. Tasty wine is prepared to reward your victorious three armies. Since you are here, come into the city. Come! Come! Come into the city, and hear me strum the zither!"

Everyone laughed again. They felt that the way Zhang Ye acted as Zhuge Liang was too wretched!

Zhang Ye blinked and then said, "At this moment, Sima Yi was already at the city gates. He looked up and smacked his lips. In his mind, he was thinking... What's the meaning of this bro? He's inviting me up to sing karaoke with him? Oh, so if I go up, I'll ended up being OK-ed (killed)? I won't fall for this trick. Retreat!"

Everyone laughed even louder!

Zhang Ye also smirked, "Then here's my second question. This matter does not conform to logic at all. Why did Sima Yi not dare to attack? He was just afraid of an ambush in the city. But how many people could there be hiding in the city? In the era of cold metallic weapons, it was impossible to bury a Scud missile, right? There can't be any other weapons of mass destruction. Couldn't he send some reconnaissance to scout ahead and check if there really was an ambush? Why should he retreat?"

Scud missiles?

Weapons of mass destruction?

The audience was once again tickled!

Ma Hengyuan and company could not say a thing. They had been rendered speechless by Zhang Ye!

Zhang Ye looked at Ma Hengyuan and said, "Also, wasn't Sima Yi able to see Zhuge Liang? Wasn't he hearing him playing the zither above the city gates? And he could even hear him sing karaoke. Based on this description, the distance between Sima Yi and Zhuge Liang must have been very short. Even if you were afraid of an ambush and did not dare to enter the city, why couldn't you order an archer to kill Zhuge Liang? Why did you have to leave?" Pausing for a moment, "Furthermore, according to Guo Chong's account, or according to 'Romance of the Three Kingdoms', the difference between the military power between the two armies was highly disparate. Some said it was 200,000, while others said there was 100,000. Couldn't you just surround the fortress? Can't you surround the city for three to five days, trapping them inside? Why would you withdraw the army?"

No one could answer Zhang Ye's three questions!

Everyone was listening very attentively, while others were shocked!

Even Ma Hengyuan and company could not say a thing. Every question of Zhang Ye was very sharp. Even academics like them could not figure it out!

There really was no empty fort strategy?

This was all fabricated?

Zhang Ye summarized, "So this claim of the empty fort strategy is completely unreliable. As for the others, such as the Battle of Bowang, borrowing arrows with straw boats, or praying for the eastern wind. None of these were recorded in history. However, literary works had illustrated him in an extremely exaggerated manner. Zhuge Liang became a person with divine strategy and shrewd calculations, while all the other generals became idiots. Oh, in a war, Zhuge Liang gave his orders to the army. What happened to the other generals? They didn't even know themselves. They just went there, and played it by ear. Then, when they reached their destination, they didn't do anything but open the military orders in the satchel. The satchel had brilliant strategies after all. Only then did they know what they had to do or what to fight. Isn't this treating war like a game!?"

At this moment, it was unknown who first gave an applause!

Bba Bba Bba, following that, several members of the audience also began to join in the applause!

Exciting!

Really exciting!

Who said that Zhang Ye was unable to talk about the Three Kingdoms and did not know history as a host? What he said was not only humorous and interesting, it overthrew what people knew. It caused people to subconsciously be engrossed in it. And in terms of historical information, there was no problem at all. Didn't you see Ma Hengyuan, Teacher Xu and Editor Xu being dumbfounded by the questions?

The crucial point was that after he used Zhou Yu to refute Ma Hengyuan, he had mentioned Zhuge Liang. Previously, Ma Hengyuan had mentioned how Zhuge Liang was so clever and formidable during his lecture, but in a blink of an eye, Zhang Ye had thrown a bomb. The empty fort strategy did not exist at all! Praying for the eastern wind was completely fabricated! Zhuge Liang was no military genius at all!

If this wasn't face slapping, what was?

Zhang Ye had completely refuted the views of Ma Hengyuan and the two guests! He had ripped them to pieces!

Chapter 132: Unending Applause from the Audience!

"Hence, be it the empty fort strategy, or praying for the eastern wind, they are just artistic imaginations of the writers. This is not called history." Zhang Ye's words seemed to vaguely beat down on Ma Hengyuan, Teacher Xu and Editor Xu. He then said, "What if we use artistic works such as 'Romance of the Three Kingdoms' or plays of the Three Kingdoms as a basis to understand history? If we used the plot of these artistic works as lectures, or used them to analyze these historical figures, then it would be making things too trivial. Even the real image of the historical figure is something you don't understand, so what can you analyze?"

Ma Hengyuan and company nearly cursed out!

Zhang Ye! Do you have no end to that? Who are you trying to beat upon?

Teacher Xu immediately stood up and shouted loudly, "What a load of crap! How can a young kid like yourself know any history!?"

The audience was startled. What's wrong with you? Have you gone mad?

Hu Fei was also angered, "Stop the camera!" This scene was definitely not suitable for broadcasting.

Zhang Ye looked at them and said, "If you think what I said is wrong, you can refute it. If your point of view is right and it makes sense, anyone will listen to it. Please tell me which part of what I said was nonsense?"

Ma Hengyuan also said, "You just don't know a thing!"

Zhang Ye laughed, "I'm asking what I do not know. Can you tell me?" Seeing that they could not say a thing, Zhang Ye's face sank, "The three of you say I'm not right. Fine, I am willing to accept the opinions of others. But can you at least say something? Without any reasons or arguments, you are just saying that I do not understand. You just keep insisting that I don't know a thing. Are you professors and teachers, or are you rogue hooligans? Even I know that when a teacher lectures, he would need to use reason and arguments to convince a student. Why are experts and professors like yourselves unknowing of that fact? Is this a joke? You say I do not understand. Yes, I don't understand. So, are you gods? Wherever you say there is light, there will be light?"

The audience erupted into laughter. They felt that this host was extremely humorous!

"What you said is totally unfounded!" Ma Hengyuan said angrily with a black face.

Big Sis Zhou was the first person who could not take it any longer, "You old fart, what do you mean by saying that Teacher Little Zhang's words were unfounded? Everything he said was clear and following the details!"

Auntie Sun also scolded, "What mess are you trying to create!?"

Xiaofang said angrily, "To think he's a professor. He's so lacking in manners!"

A member of the audience also said, "That's right. He was doing a good job, and we were enjoying it. Why are you interrupting offstage? Previously, you even said the host interrupted you? Ah, others can't do it, but when it comes to you, you can?"

"Hurry and go back home!"

"Right, stop ridiculing yourself. The host is doing such a good job!"

"And Professor Ma? Just an undeserved title! I really wonder how you went on CCTV! With the Three Kingdoms from what you said just now? Our whole family was nearly falling asleep from it!"

"The three of you are really funny. It's clear that you are turning angry from embarrassment!"

"You even said the host doesn't know history? I think it's you who do not know!"

Quite a number of audience members began to boo. They did not have any good impressions on these so-called professors and experts who put on airs!

Ma Hengyuan and the two Xu surnamed guests still wanted to speak. Even Teacher Xu stood up and flared at the audience, "You can go on television saying the Three Kingdoms like that? Do you even know history!?"

Big Sis Zhou erupted, "Do you only know how to f**king say that? You just keep saying others do not know. You are f**king sick!" She cursed!

Teacher Xu was flustered as she pointed to Big Sis Zhou, "I dare you to scold me again!"

A person in the audience could no longer let this go. He stood up and stood by Big Sis Zhou, "Why are you shouting at a woman like that!? If you have the ability, shout at me! Shout for me to see!" He was a stout middle-aged man with a height of 1.9m!

Teacher Xu immediately shut up.

Auntie Sun also spat, "Only you know! Only you are the professionals!?"

"What the heck!"

"How can they be so hypocritical!"

"Did us the audience pick the fight? Why are you yelling at us?"

"Hurry and get lost! What kind of sh*t are they!"

The audience began to curse. The situation was quite out of control!

Zhang Ye was also disgusted. He immediately took the microphone and said, "A few of the stronger staff, I'll trouble you. Please throw the people who have interrupted the recording out!"

Dafei and Hou Ge had long disliked them. They immediately rushed forward!

There were two guards and three staff members who volunteered. They immediately surrounded Ma Hengyuan and company. Lifting them up, they were thrown out of the studio's door. Not only were they not cooperating with the recording, they did not listen to anyone's directions. They had even messed up a scene and impeded the recording. Not only would throwing them out not be a problem, even beating them up would have been fine. Did you really think that you were some big shot star? Bullsh*t!

The third guest, Reporter Ci from before, also shook her head and sighed. Ma Hengyuan and company had really lost their reputation and had disgraced themselves!

Zhang Ye cleared his throat, "There has been a complication, so please do not mind. Let's continue analyzing the Three Kingdoms."

Hu Fei did the countdown once again, "Three, two, one. Begin."

Zhang Ye continued from before, "So that is why we must differentiate between 'Historical Image' and 'Artistic Image'. The differences are huge, but then we ask: is the 'Artistic Image' worthless then? It does have value. There's much worth in the studying and analyzing of it, like the 'Empty Fort Strategy'. Sima Yi was a scholar. The way he thought would be more complicated. When something is said or an action is made, he would have given it some thought. Aiyo, what does this mean? What could this mean? Hur Hur, if it was a gang of thieves or bandits, they would have entered the city directly, with the attitude of 'who cares'! Then what would have happened? Zhuge Liang would have been caught!"

Everyone was laughing for the umpteenth time.

After speaking for another ten minutes, Hu Fei made some hand signals.

Zhang Ye understood that this episode's time was almost up, so he made a closing, but suddenly remembered that this was the most important first episode, so how could he just make a simple closing to it? It didn't seem to be good enough; it didn't match the beginning well. With a flash of brilliance, Zhang Ye said, "The first episode is coming to an end. Some of you may still be wondering why this episode was named as 'Great River Flows East'?" Because I have composed a melody poem, and these four words are a very important part of this melody poem. So I would like to use this as an ending, which I was lucky enough to have gone to the Red Cliff and had been inspired by it to create this melody poem."

Melody poem

Ancient poetry?

A few people were listening in earnest now. They had likely heard of Zhang Ye's 'Shuidiao Getou' before, and knew of his melody poetry's prowess.

Zhang Ye built up the moment; this was a famous Su Shi melody poem. It was comparable with 'Shuidiao Getou'. In his previous world, there were other versions of it. But the one he would be using was Yi Zhongtian's opening to 'Analysis of the Three Kingdoms', although it was not used in full.

When speaking of the Three Kingdoms, Su Shi's melody poem had to be mentioned as well!

But since there was no Su Shi in this world, many other literary scholars involved with Three Kingdoms poems had also not existed, Zhang Ye made some modifications accordingly to the flow of 'Analysis of the Three Kingdoms'.

Zhang Ye looked at the audience and began reciting, "Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff".

The audience were listening earnestly, they were curious to know what it would be.

Zhang Ye said with a balanced tone, but his voice had no lack of majestic energy, "The great gushing Yangtze with piling waves flows towards the east; away it carries gallant souls of the remote bygone days."

The first line had captured everyone!

The ancient fort on the west is said to be The Crimson Cliff, where Zhou of the Three Kingdoms era defeated Wei's navy. Stones were hurled into the sky indiscriminately; Mighty waves must have crushed onto shores hurling high snow-like foam." Zhang Ye said with a smile, as his eyebrows appeared concentrated, "The river and mountains today's landscapes paint; Where once there were many courageous and heroic men. Picture Zhou in his prime; dressed in plain clothes together with his young bride, gallant he must have been. Topped with a silk crest, he held in his hand a fan of feathers; with humor he helped see to that the masts and sculls of Wei's navy go up in smoke and ashes turn into. My mind wanders in the history vested hither; My sentimentality, no doubt, has caused my early grey. Life is a dream; Allow me to libate a drink to the river, the moon and its reflection."

Many people were engrossed listening to it!

The river and mountains today's landscapes paint? Where once there were many courageous and heroic men?

Many of the male comrades became very passionate when they heard it! As though they were now in battle during the Three Kingdoms era! They could hear the the sounds of battle around them!

The female comrades were all charmed by Zhou Yu's description of 'With humor he helped see to that the masts and sculls of Wei's navy go up in smoke and ashes turn into.' What sort of grace was this? What level of daringness was this?

But in the end, everyone was a little hurt by the first line of Zhang Ye's poem!

Yes, "Great River Flows East". How many heroes in history had been washed away by the waters of the great river?

What a spectacular "Great River Flows East"! What a great "Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff"! What a great "Lecture Room"! What a great Zhang Ye!

Hu Fei stood up, stunned!

The audience also didn't make a sound when they heard it!

Zhang Ye closed off with this, "As it is, how many events of history are hidden within light-hearted conversations? Starting from today's program, I will be sharing with everyone through light-hearted conversations an analysis of the Three Kingdoms. But where should we start from? I think that we should begin from that era's most contentious figure, whether in historical image or civil image. Let him lead us as we delve into the most complex and magnificent history next week with 'The Real Cao Cao'!"

After finishing.

The recording studio was silent for a moment.

Suddenly, Big Sis Zhou and Auntie Sun stood up and applauded with all their might!

Everyone else stood up one by one from their seats and applauded with admiration!

Even the staff present, the cameraman, Hou Ge, Hou Di, Dafei and others also applauded loudly. They were all very excited!

In that time, the studio was filled with thunderous applause!

It went on for a full minute before stopping!

No one left, as they did not want to leave!

Zhang Ye was very flattered and clasp his hands together, "Thank you, everyone. Thank you, thank you." This was a huge acknowledgment to him!

But in the closing poem, there was a flaw. Because at the end, there was a sentence about early graying of hair. This was Su Shi's plight and not Zhang Ye's. Therefore, with analysis, this would be a small flaw. But Zhang Ye did not care, it was not a bother to him!

My hair has precisely grayed early!

I precisely have gray hair at a young age!

Are you going to bite me?

Chapter 133: Waiting for the Rating!

After the program.

The audience cleared from the studio. A lot of them were left wanting for more. As they left, they were discussing about Zhang Ye's "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms".

"What a good lecture!"

"That's right; I was so engrossed in listening!"

"I just came to join in on the buzz, and was thinking of improving my knowledge at the television station. But who knew that I would encounter such a quality program? I will definitely watch every episode!"

"The same goes for me; I will watch every episode for sure too!"

"Such an exciting program... Only a fool would not watch it!"

"It also enriches our knowledge. I only found out today that the 'Empty Fort Strategy' did not exist!"

"Hur Hur, compared to this host, those so-called experts are like clowns. Their knowledge is not enough and their delivery was so boring. Who would want to listen to them blabber? They are totally not as good as that Zhang host. Ah yes... He's called Zhang Ye; I will remember him!"

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After the studio was cleared out.

Zhang Ye looked at his colleagues, "Was that okay?"

Xiao Lu was the first to run up, "It was not only okay, it was too okay!"

Hou Ge also rushed forward, "Man, Teacher Zhang was really able to speak about the Three Kingdoms! You even gave the expert professor a hard time! And you let the audience clap for you for the whole day!"

Zhang Ye humbly said, "It was not that I was good; it's just that the experts were clueless to begin with. About the 'Empty Fort Strategy', Zhuge Liang and Zhou Yu, all of that was just history's general knowledge. With just some digging, anyone would know. Even without researching, just reading 'Records of the Three Kingdoms' would make it understandable. Even though 'Records of the Three Kingdoms' is also a literature work, compared to 'Romance of the Three Kingdoms', it was more historically unbiased. As long as it was something unverifiable, 'Records of the Three Kingdoms' would not blindly write about it. There's also a lot of information to help the reader understand about that period of history."

Dafei blushed and said, "I have not heard of 'Records of the Three Kingdoms'."

Xiao Lu coughed, "I've heard of it, but never read it. This book seems to be less popular; not many people have read it before. Besides, some of the things that you mentioned about, I did not even know about them. Do you think that everyone's knowledge is as rich as yours?"

What?

There are people who have never heard of "Records of the Three Kingdoms"?

That shouldn't be! How can anyone not know about it?

Only then did Zhang Ye understand. Although in this world there were classics like "Romance of the Three Kingdoms", the cultural background was a little different. Su Shi did not exist, and a number of other works also did not exist anymore. Even though "Records of the Three Kingdoms" was still preserved, the influence and popularity of it was different from Zhang Ye's previous world. Because of the game ring's modifications, it had created such a situation now. It had created a world where everyone seemed to have the wrong perception and understanding of the Three Kingdoms. If it were in his previous world, this would not have happened. Because even though most people did not know of the real Three Kingdoms, a big portion of them still did understand the true Three Kingdoms!

No wonder that literature professor, Ma Hengyuan, was not clear about things like the empty fort strategy. Because this world's study of the Three Kingdoms went through "Romance of the Three Kingdoms", while the most authentic "Records of the Three Kingdoms" and other similar works were not mainstream! This was why when Zhang Ye brought Professor Yi Zhongtian's "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms" first episode out, it had received such a big reaction!

This was helping the illiterate!

Zhang Ye did not know whether to laugh or to cry when he thought of this.

Hu Fei had just finished speaking with the cameraman. He then rushed over and gave a squeeze on Zhang Ye's shoulders, clearly emotional and said, "You were great, Little Zhang! That was done too well!"

Zhang Ye laughed, "As long as I didn't throw your face, that is good enough."

"You, throw my face? Haha!" Hu Fei excitedly said, "Let me tell you, this is exactly what I wanted in a program. It was even better than what I had expected! I listened from the beginning to the end without missing any words. I dare to say that this is the best historical segment I have listened to before!"

Xiao Lu said, "That's right!"

Dafei said, "It can't even be described with 'wonderful'!"

Hou Di gave a thumbs up, "Just one word – awesome!"

"Did you write that melody poem by yourself?" Hu Fei asked.

"Yes," Zhang Ye replied.

"You are surprising me over and over again. The background of this poem... Amongst all other Three Kingdoms poems, nothing can compare to it. It was too well written!" Hu Fei said happily, "If I knew you

would be so good, I wouldn't have invited that Ma Hengyuan. I didn't even have to look for guests! Do you think I have nothing better to do? I would have just put you in. Yeah, but the incident this time, with all those last-minute changes in the program name, studio settings, lecturer change and such, we will have to seek approval from the Arts Channel again. We need the Leader's approval!"

A cameraman said, "Producer Hu, it should be done in an hour. Any deletion needed, you can just assign someone to follow up with us and we will do so accordingly."

Dafei, who was in charge of the technical and studio settings, said, "I will follow up with them."

Hu Fei said "Okay, I will leave it to you then. Once it's done, I will send it up for approval."

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Afternoon.

Lecture Room's first episode was completed. The segment was edited to its allotted time and informational graphics were added in.

Hu Fei watched it once over, and being satisfied, he looked for the Arts Channel Leader, Wang Shuixin, in his office. When he went in, the Leader was having his lunch.

"Director, you are eating?" Hu Fei laughed.

Wang Shuixin did not look happy, "Old Hu, I was just looking for you. I heard that your program recording encountered a big problem. In the end, even the program name was changed? And the lecturer and guests were thrown out? That was the lecturer that you had a hard time inviting. What is wrong with you all?"

Hu Fei was angry at the mention of him, "There's no need to invite them anymore. I have a better candidate here. The program also has a better development plan now. Hur Hur, do you still remember that I wanted Zhang Ye here at all costs? He is now the lecturer. We no longer need a host or any guests. The program effects were still very well done. No, it's precisely because we don't need those that the program's effect is so good!"

Wang Shuixin frowned, "Zhang Ye? What can he say? Old Hu, I know you think highly of this young man, but don't you think that you are being too biased? This is a historical segment we are talking about!"

"When you look at the recording, you will understand." Hu Fei knew that he didn't need to say too much, so he just handed the recording over to him.

Wang Shuixin lowered his head and looked, "Let's go." He asked a few other deputies and staff members to accompany them to watch the screening.

"Zhang Ye?"

"He is speaking about the Three Kingdoms?"

"He's just a young lad. What does he know about the Three Kingdoms?"

But a few minutes after the screening began, no one made any further comments.

After an hour had passed, everyone looked at each other. They were all astonished and no one said a word.

Hu Fei asked, "What does everyone think? Are the changes acceptable?"

A head from another program team said in jealousy and regret, "If I knew this person was so capable, I would have fought with Old Hu for him and brought him into my own program team!"

"Director?" Hu Fei looked towards Wang Shuixin.

Wang Shuixin was silent for a moment before saying, "Let's just air it and see what the viewership is like on Saturday. We will see if the audience approves; if it does well, we will continue Sunday's segment."

Hu Fei replied, "Won't it be too rushed if we were to record on Saturday?"

Wang Shuixin flatly replied, "We still have not seen what the market's response to it is. We need to be careful. After all, Little Zhang is young and lacking in qualifications. The audience might not agree to him lecturing on history. So we need to make adjustments according to the actual scenario. Let's broadcast it to test the waters. Only then can we decide if he can continue being the lecturer of this segment!"

Putting it plainly, Wang Shuixin did not trust Zhang Ye that much. Wang Shuixin already felt that it was inappropriate for Zhang Ye to become a host or guest earlier on for such a big program. He felt that Zhang Ye's height and image were all problematic. And now, it was even worse. Zhang Ye went from a host, who would appear occasionally, to the only lecturer of the program? He became the most important person on the program? This was a bit too fast!

However, Hu Fei was extremely confident, "Alright then, let's wait for the rating."

A deputy who spoke previously said, "With this standard, the rating definitely can't be bad. Just that 'Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff' makes it exceptional!"

Another woman said, "That might not be true. The tastes of the market is becoming more and more complex these days. No one can figure out what programs the audience likes. Even people like us, with years of experience, make guesses from our experience. Who dares to guarantee? I think that this program is just average. It is unconventional, but isn't the content a bit too sensational? The empty fort strategy really doesn't exist? That's too assertive!"

A middle-aged man present, who was a bit more learned, said, "According to what I know, the empty fort strategy is indeed fabricated. I once got reprimanded by a scholar who researched history."

The woman shook her head, "But the audience doesn't know that. It is really challenging the beliefs of the audience. Sometimes being unconventional might result in an opposite effect."

"I'm rather optimistic about it."

"I don't think it will do. A young man can't hold the ground. If there are any mistakes in logic or historical facts, the audience will pick a fault with it and curse us to death. After all, a historical segment is all about authenticity. Who knows if what Zhang Ye said was right or wrong? If it was all made up by him and found out by the audience, then our television station's reputation will be hammered!"

There were disagreements with different judgments.

Wang Shuixin rapped on his table to stop the debate, "There's no need to say anything anymore. Let's wait for the rating on Saturday. That would be the most objective thing."

Chapter 134: An Alarming Rating!

Friday.

Zhang Ye rested for a day.

Upon being informed by Xiao Lu, he switched on his television at home, and then tuned to the Arts Channel.

"Beijing's BTV Arts Channel's new segment, 'Lecture Room'. Inviting Beijing's well-known broadcasting host, Silver Microphone awardee, Beijing Mid-Autumn Festival Poetry Meet's champion, Beijing Couplet Competition's champion, famous poet, famous literary author, famous children's fairy tale author, famous supernatural best-selling author, famous advertiser, leader of the popular phrases on the internet, Teacher Zhang Ye. With him as lecturer, he will let us have a taste of the period of the warring Three Kingdoms. He will tell everyone things you might not know about the Three Kingdoms. BTV-Arts. We look forward to you watching, this Thursday at 1 P.M.!"

There were so many titles that Zhang Ye turned a bit red from hearing them. And nearly all of them were prefixed with the word 'famous'. Although Zhang Ye did have these works and achievements, he knew clearly that he was far from worthy of these titles with the word 'famous'. He did not dare to accept it. However, it was an advertisement. There was no other way of doing it. Advertisements were all done this way. They had to use some gimmicks to attract the attention of eyeballs before the broadcast.

This was the advertisement of his own channel.

Hence, it did not spare anything in bragging about Zhang Ye.

At this moment on the internet, a few video websites released advertisements for "Lecture Room". This was all because of Hu Fei. As a pretty well-known former producer of Central TV, he was definitely given some preferential treatment after being headhunted by the Beijing Television Station. Of course, the station gave him quite a bit of advertising for his new segment, both online and offline. They had done their best!

Everything was ready.

Now, only tomorrow's rating mattered!

Zhang Ye also knew of the Leader's attitude from Hu Fei. If the rating was not ideal, then he might not have a chance to be the lecturer for "Lecture Room". The program was likely to return to the initial template from before. Zhang Ye would then return to being a host that only appeared from time to time. Hou Ge, Xiao Lu and the other colleagues had their hearts strung. However, Zhang Ye did not feel the pressure, or it could be said he was not worried at all!

It was just a provincial station's 1% rating!

What segment was this? This was "Lecture Room"!

Although Zhang Ye did not know how high the ratings would be, he was certain that it would not be below 1%. If it was, he might as well jump into a river!

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Saturday.

In the afternoon at 12 o'clock.

Zhang Ye had prepared something to fill his stomach before he met his unit's colleagues, to watch the broadcast together. However, while he was rummaging through his refrigerator, someone suddenly knocked on his door.

Knock, knock.

The knocking on the door was very slow and very dull.

Zhang Ye opened the door and did not see anyone at first glance. Only when he lowered his head did he see a very short girl. It was Rao Chenchen.

Chenchen glanced at him, "My aunt is calling you over for lunch."

Zhang Ye was overjoyed, "I happen to not have eaten. Let's go, let's go."

The two went to the landlady's house. Rao Aimin was taking off her apron and had finished cooking. Seeing Zhang Ye, she greeted with him with a, "Let's eat!"

"Well, thank you, Landlady Auntie." Zhang Ye did not stand on ceremony as he picked up a pair of chopsticks to wolf down the food.

Rao Aimin derided him, "Look at the way you eat. Were you reborn from a starving ghost? I'm telling you that I need to go out in the afternoon to settle the residential information for Chenchen. It was not settled the last time, so I need to go again. I won't be home, so help me babysit. I do not trust others."

Zhang Ye smiled wryly, "Man, so this meal wasn't for free. Landlady Auntie, I won't be resting today. I still need to go to work in the afternoon."

Rao Aimin picked her eyebrow, "I don't care about that. Anyway, the child is in your hands."

Zhang Ye said helplessly, "But how can I bring the child to the television station?"

At this moment, Chenchen looked at him and said with a hoarse voice, "Television station? I want to see!"

"There's nothing to see there. It's all office and equipment!" Zhang Ye said.

Chenchen ignored his words and stared at him, "Zhang Ye, bring me to see the television station."

"You guys figure it out. I don't care." After finishing the meal, Rao Aimin packed her things and left.

Zhang Ye was at a loss of whether to laugh or to cry. He could not leave Chenchen alone at home, so after some thinking, he drove his BMW X5 with Chenchen to his unit.

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Television station's door.

After getting out of the car, Zhang Ye reached out his hand with his palm facing up.

Chenchen looked at him before reluctantly placing her tiny hand into Zhang Ye's.

Zhang Ye brought the little rascal upstairs. On the way, many of the television station's staff looked over at Chenchen. They liked her a lot.

"She's so pretty!"

"Eh, whose kid is that?"

"Why is she so cute? I really want to pinch her."

"Eh, isn't that Zhang Ye? He has a kid?"

Upstairs, in the segment team's office. Zhang Ye led the child in as the office turned into chaos!

Xiao Lu seemed to melt, "Aiyo, aiyo. This kid is so pretty!"

Zhang Ye explained, "My neighbor's child. She has something to do in the afternoon and got me to take care of her for a day, so I brought her to the unit." Looking at Hu Fei, he said coyly, "Leader, your thoughts?"

Hu Fei laughed, "It's alright. There're so many of us here anyway. When you are recording the program, others can help you take care of the child."

Zhang Ye glanced at Chenchen and smiled wryly, "I suspect I'll have to take care of her. Others can't handle her."

Xiao Lu smiled and walked over, "What do you mean by others can't handle her? I'm very good at taking care of children. Back then, I took care of my young nephew for a week. He had a great time with me." Saying that, she bent down and said to Chenchen, "Little rascal, you are so cute. Let sister carry you."

Chenchen glanced at her, "Auntie, there's no need."

Xiao Lu nearly fainted, "Who's the auntie? I'm a sister!"

Chenchen eyed her from top to bottom a few times before letting out a laugh, "Hur Hur."

Xiao Lu nearly vomited a mouthful of blood.

Hou Ge volunteered, "Let me do it. That bag of bones won't be able to carry you. Little rascal, let uncle raise you high, high up."

High, high up?

Chenchen shriveled her mouth, "Immature."

Hou Ge, "... He suddenly suffered from internal injuries.

"All of you won't do. Watch me. You must pander to a child's liking." Dafei smiled and greeted her, "Come to uncle. Uncle will teach you how to play games."

Chenchen did not look at him and instead looked at Zhang Ye, "Zhang Ye, you can still play games at work? No wonder television programs these days are getting boring. The employees are not working."

Dafei nearly planted his face onto the ground as he looked carefully at Hu Fei.

Hu Fei erupted into laughter, "This young lady sure is interesting."

Only then did everyone understand why Zhang Ye had said that he had to take care of her even while he was recording, while others couldn't. This was no child. She was clearly a tiny adult. She was too derisive with her words!

Xiao Lu and company tried a few times to communicate with Chenchen, but they were helpless. Not to mention carrying her, they could not even hold onto Chenchen's hand to bring her around the television station. Chenchen did not agree to anything. Her little hand was only exclusive to Zhang Ye. No one else could hold it. This little rascal refused to recognize them!

Hu Fei suddenly looked at his watch, "Stop fooling around. The program is beginning."

"Right, right. I nearly forgot about it. Quick, switch on the TV." Xiao Lu immediately switched on the television. There was one in the office and the television was quite good. It was a 50-inch television and it was mounted on the wall. The direction it faced could also be adjusted freely. She then turned her head to Chenchen, saying, "Little rascal, your uncle Zhang Ye will be on television soon. Let's not talk about the impressiveness. All the burden of our program rests on your uncle alone. Whether the program stays will all depend on today's rating."

Everyone was sitting before the television. Although they had watched the recording live and they had watched it after the editing, there was a different feeling when watching a broadcast.

"It's here!"

"Time is up."

"Heh. Teacher Zhang, you sure look okay."

"That's right; there's an author's air to him at a glance."

Zhang Ye was actually quite happy deep down as he quickly said, "No way, no way."

This was the first time he was appearing on television. And it was also a program with him alone. And the time slot was not bad. So, of course, Zhang Ye was quite excited. Seeing himself looking awesome while lecturing on television, he was quite in admiration of himself. As such, he got out his cell phone and sent a few short messages to his parents, relatives and friends. He also informed his three younger cousins, getting them to watch the show.

This was different from a radio station. It was a television station. It was Zhang Ye's brand new step onto a bigger stage.

"The empty fort strategy... It doesn't exist at all!"

"The great gushing Yangtze with piling waves flows towards the east; away it carries gallant souls of the remote bygone days!"

The program was done broadcasting as the advertisements rolled in.

Immediately, Xiao Lu, Dafei and company applauded in the office. The applause was all dedicated to Zhang Ye.

Hu Fei got up and left. One could tell that he was not very sure either, "I'll go get the rating!"

"It will be out so early?" Xiao Lu was surprised.

Hu Fei said, "The result calculated at this moment is just a preliminary estimate of the rating. It is not accurate, but it isn't that much different from the actual rating. It won't deviate too greatly."

Hu Fei left.

The few of them were left anxiously waiting.

Hou Ge raised the spirits as he said, "It should not be a problem. Teacher Little Zhang did a very good job."

"What we are afraid is that single mishap. What if the audience doesn't like it?" Xiao Lu said as she worried about the gains and the losses.

Dafei asked, "What are your estimations? I'm estimating about 2%."

"The first episode has such a high rating? That's not realistic, right?" Hou Di said, "I'm estimating 1.5%."

Xiao Lu said, "Anyway, we just need 1% to keep the program. I would be satisfied with it."

As they chatted, Zhang Ye did not say a word. He was actually more concerned with the viewership rating than anyone else. As every number and every result in the television station would become a foundation of Zhang Ye's qualifications and achievements, so naturally he took it very seriously. He clearly would not work in the television station for the rest of his life, nor would he do a program for the rest of his life. He had to go to higher places to develop himself.

Now, "Lecture Room" was a historical educative segment. Be it the host or the lecturer, one's looks were not very important. What was most important was a person's knowledge and ability to orate. There was no doubt that this was the best place Zhang Ye could be. It was the best place for him to develop. As long as he built a good foundation for himself and created good results, then it would pave a solid path into the core of the entertainment industry.

That was a place where things were ruthless. Zhang Ye could not rely on his looks, the way others could. He had to rely on his qualifications and skills!

Rating?

Let's hope it's higher!

Just as everyone was worrying, Hu Fei returned.

"Brother Hu!"

“How was it?”

“What was the rough estimate? Did it pass one?”

Everyone kept asking. Zhang Ye’s heart also missed a beat upon seeing Hu Fei’s expression.

At this moment, Hu Fei’s expression was sunken. His emotions did not seem good. As he heard them, Hu Fei inattentively slumped into his seat and remained silent for a long while.

Xiao Lu was alarmed, “It did not hit 1%?”

Dafei inhaled, “Our program is going to be axed? Or it needs to change a person?”

However, who knew the Hu Fei, who was sullen looking, suddenly lost that heaviness as he erupted into laughter, “The initial estimate of the rating is 7.8%! Our program is hot! And it is extremely hot! The Arts Channel’s Leaders, the television station’s Leaders and other segment teams were dumbfounded when they saw the results! None of them could believe it! Hahahaha!”

Chapter 135: Extreme Validation from Peking University’s Professor!

“7.8%?”

“Holy sh*t! It broke 7?”

“This is too amazing!”

“Brother Hu! Are you bluffing us!?”

“That’s right; I thought we were done for when you came in with your face sullen!”

Everyone in the office was in jubilation. Xiao Lu threw all the documents in her hands into the air. She was unable to contain her joy and kept screaming!

Zhang Ye was also scared by Hu Fei’s earlier behaviour. When he knew the real rating, he gave a sigh of relief. He knew it! This was the well known “Lecture Room”, and he had presented an exact reproduction of Yi Zhongtian’s version of the show. How would it then receive a rating of less than 1%? It was all because of Hu Fei’s antics that scared them. Who would have expected Brother Hu to have such a side to him? But with some thought, Hu Fei was also too excited, so he decided to play a trick on them!

Dafei said, “Teacher Zhang, congratulations.”

Xiao Lu had come back to her senses now, “Right, right. Teacher Zhang, in the future we have to add another title to your introduction: famous program host!”

“Seven point something percent... That is at least 2nd place in our Arts Channel’s more than 20 years of program listings. Even if we were to include all of the programs that were ever shown from this television station, this would definitely be in the top 15 to 20 places. This is really too awesome!” Hou Ge said with amazement.

Zhang Ye quickly replied, “It’s all because of Brother Hu’s good leadership. It’s everyone’s credit and also our team’s contributions. I am not capable of all that by myself.”

Hu Fei laughed and pointed at him, "Don't act all humble!"

Xiao Lu giggled, "Leader, are we getting a treat tonight?"

"Treat? Of course there will be a treat!" Hu Fei announced, "During tonight's celebration feast, everyone has to be present!"

"Oh, that's great!" Xiao Lu cheered, "I want to have big prawns!"

Little Chenchen also raised her head and said, "I want to eat hairy crabs."

Zhang Ye smacked her head, "You want a part in everything. Hur Hur."

Chenchen threw her tantrum and said, "Zhang Ye, you did not wash your hands! Don't touch my head."

Everyone was amused by the little one.

After that, Hu Fei cautioned, "Teacher Zhang, Sunday's program recording is scheduled after this at 5 P.M. Please get ready your script.... Oh, right. I forgot that you don't need those. Hur Hur. Then maybe you can do some conceptualization for the second episode, 'The Real Cao Cao'. The others can go and freshen up, but don't let it drag back your work. After the celebrations, get back to work in the afternoon. Make the most of the weekend. Let's go towards a rating of 8%! We will bring 'Lecture Room' to the top of the Arts Channel with the highest ratings! We will show those who doubt us what we can do! Is everyone confident?"

"We are!"

"We are confident!"

"That's for sure!"

"Haha. With Teacher Zhang Ye, who can scare us!"

Everyone was giving their opinions and thoughts. They were full of fighting spirit!

When they first arrived at the station, not many people expected things from the motley crew of those who dabbled in TV drama and journalism. Even for the program itself, many of those from other programs were not optimistic about it. Historical segment? Scientific segment? They felt that there was no market for this. Those who had talked behind Hu Fei's back were now proven wrong by their team's vision and working ability!

A rating of 7.8%!

Who would now dare to gossip about them anymore?

Those who did were probably now still in a state of shock!

.....

Afternoon.

Zhang Ye signalled from his seat, "Chenchen, come over."

Chenchen came over from Dafei's side with a cellphone. She was playing with it and then looked up and asked, "What?"

"Don't make trouble at Uncle Dafei's side. Come over here. Don't be further than two meters from me." Zhang Ye insisted that she come over. This child was different from other children; she wasn't so straightforward to handle. Zhang Ye thought that it would be better if she was in his sight. Otherwise, if something were to happen, he couldn't possibly answer to Rao Aimin. "I will give you half my seat; you can play here. If you want to do something else, tell me. If you need the toilet, ask Sister Xiao Lu to bring you."

Chenchen rolled her eyes, "I'm not unable to take care of myself."

Zhang Ye gave half his seat and sat her down. He went online to check on the comments. This was part of his job. He would take in suggestions from everyone.

Upon looking, he saw the attention that he had gathered!

"Zhang Ye went to the TV station?"

"D*mn, why did this guy become a lecturer?"

"Yeah, does he have the qualifications? Isn't he just a university graduate? And he's a broadcast major graduate, too, right? This doesn't match up! He's not a learner of history!"

"One look and I know that you all have not watched 'Lecture Room'!"

"You watched it? How was it? It must have been a mess, right?"

"A mess, my a*s! You don't even know how good it was to watch it!"

"Yes, yes. My dad dragged me to watch it. It was so intriguing to watch!"

"This Zhang Ye spoke too well. It seems like you guys are saying he is very famous? I have really never heard of him. I need to check the internet. Otherwise, I will be behind the times."

"This talk about the Three Kingdoms is really too godly!"

"Is that so? Why do I feel that it is just normal?"

Everyone had all kinds of opinions, but the number of those who praised it was in the majority.

Of course, the doubtful voices were also catching up.

"This Zhang Ye, what does he know about the Three Kingdoms! Zhuge Liang was not a military genius? What the heck! He dares to insult my idol?"

"The empty fort strategy does not exist? Hahahaha. What a joke!"

"Borrowing the east wind was a historical event, right? How could it not exist?"

"To find someone who doesn't know a sh*t about the Three Kingdoms to speak about it? What is wrong with the television station!"

“That’s right! With this kind of standard, he can appear on TV? With those kind of looks, he can appear on TV? I am laughing. Alright, I will admit that Zhang Ye can write poetry well. In Beijing, the number of writers and authors who dare say that they can write better poetry than him can be easily counted. That ‘Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff’ and ‘Shuidiao Getou’ can be considered as incomparable. Zhang has such capabilities, and no one can question that. But to speak about history? He is far from it!”

But just as these people were scolding, suddenly, a Weibo verified account belonging to a Peking University history professor commented. He presented today’s “Analysis of the Three Kingdoms” examples cited by Zhang Ye in its original form and said, “It’s true that there are too many people in our country these days who do not know enough about the Three Kingdoms history, but they write books and appear on TV to speak about it. This is getting too common and it is also our history world’s sadness. But I must tell everyone that the kind of person that you guys are discussing about is not Zhang Ye. With just the first episode’s ‘Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff’, I also have to address Zhang Ye as Teacher Zhang!”

“Uh.”

“History professor?”

“That is a professor of Peking University!”

“Let’s not talk first, we should listen to what the professor has to say.”

Finally, someone from the field with authority has spoken. The netizens on Weibo had also quietened down.

The history professor said, “I can tell everyone that, as a history professor, what Teacher Zhang Ye has said can be fully backed by facts, records and has good historical logic. Of course, some of that is Teacher Zhang Ye’s personal opinions; I will not comment on those. But since this is a discussion, everyone has their own thoughts. They can add their opinions and analysis into it. A little deviation is normal. But even so, the deviation cannot be too much. Like the empty fort strategy and borrowing the east wind? These are not recorded in history. In fact, many history experts and I share the same analysis as Teacher Zhang Ye. These two events did not exist. Even if they did, they couldn’t be so exaggerated, nor could they have happened because of Zhuge Liang. This is totally cooking up facts or embellishment, but it is not the true history. Zhuge Liang is also not a military genius; at most, you can say that he was a military practitioner. Zhuge Liang can also be called a political genius, but his true achievements were not with the military!”

Below, a lot of people immediately Liked the comment and followed it.

Within them, there were a number of history scholars, including the Peking University professor’s colleagues, his students and postdocs. Even other university’s professors began to start commenting to argue for Zhang Ye, to let this historical truth dawn upon the mass audiences.

“What?”

“There was really no empty fort strategy?”

“F**k! Zhang Ye was the one who spoke the truth? Those other lecturers were the ones who were bullshi**ing?”

“I’ve been enlightened! I nearly scolded the wrong person!”

“That’s not right. I recall that there was a professor on the scene during the program’s recording. He was even given a shot. I know him. That person went on Central TV before. He had doubted Zhang Ye!”

The Peking University’s professor clearly knew Ma Hengyuan, “You are talking about Ma Hengyuan, right? I also saw him. However, you have to know that Professor Ma is an elite in the realm of literature. But if you want to talk about his research and contribution to the realm of history? Sorry, but he doesn’t exist in our history circles.” He was probably long aware of Ma Hengyuan’s spread of misinformation about the Three Kingdoms, so he was not pleased with him. Hence, his tone was not very polite.

“So that’s the case.”

“Sh*t, that means this Zhang Ye is so good?”

“No way. I must watch the next episode!”

“Are there tickets to the live recording? My dad loves this new segment so much. I want to get a ticket for my dad to let him watch it live and also see with his own eyes Teacher Zhang Ye’s awesomeness!”

Public opinion quickly changed. Not many people doubted Zhang Ye anymore. With so many history professors and scholars affirming it, who could say a thing?

Finally, that Peking University professor and a few history professors recommended “Lecture Room”, “I had not thought of the subject for my upcoming lesson for graduate students, but now I have thought of it. I will get them to do a thorough analysis of ‘Zhang Ye’s Analysis of the Three Kingdoms’. This is a good program. This is a program with real history mixed in with Zhang Ye’s personal views that agree with historical reasoning. If I have a chance, I really want to have an exchange with Teacher Zhang Ye, face to face. I will watch every episode in the future.”

Upon seeing this, Zhang Ye quickly replied, “Professor, you are too kind. There’s no exchange to speak of. I should be the one learning from you.”

The Peking University History professor said, “You are being humble, Teacher Zhang. Just with your historical standard and lecturing ability, even in Tsinghua or Peking University, you will at the minimum obtain a title of Associate Professor!

Associate Professor?

Man, I can even be an Associate Professor?

But why was that impossible? Zhang Ye recalled that there were several famous hosts in his world who went to universities to become associate professors to lecture after quitting their jobs. Some of them even took hosting as a sideline, while they had an internal position in the university. This direction into academia was not bad.

Zhang Ye was slightly tempted, but he knew that the professor was just making a remark. He did not have the credentials yet. He had to prove himself.

“Teacher Zhang is impressive!”

“Teacher Zhang Ye, I love you!”

“I have three televisions at home! Every ‘Lecture Room’ episode in the future, I’ll turn on all three televisions! Well, but it seems that the television station ratings are calculated through sampling statistics. Three televisions would probably be of no use!”

“I don’t really like the Three Kingdoms, nor did I read the novel. But as long it’s Teacher Zhang’s work or segment, I will unconditionally support it!”

“Because of that line, ‘The river and mountains today’s landscapes paint; Where once there were many courageous and heroic men’, I have become Teacher Zhang’s hardcore fan!”

“Well said. Every one of Teacher Zhang Ye’s poems are so classic. It was too fast when shown on TV, so I didn’t see it clearly. I’m hoping that Teacher Zhang Ye will post the original text!”

With the doubts ending, what was left were the cheers from Zhang Ye’s fans.

Zhang Ye responded to his fans’ request. He posted “Lyrics to Remembering Your Charm – Remembrance of the Tale of the Crimson Cliff”!

Immediately, everyone began to forward it and Like it. Furthermore, all of the comments were full of praise, drowning out everything else!

Initially, people were unsure or did not understand Zhang Ye’s Analysis of the Three Kingdoms, so there were many criticisms and doubts. But with this poem, not a single person issued a statement criticizing it!

This poem was too good!

The romance, warring and the appearance of heroes in the era of the Three Kingdoms was vividly embodied in this piece!

Many people even believed that amongst all the poems on the Three Kingdoms, this poem was the best, and.. that there was nothing that could compare!

Chapter 136: The Difficulty of Getting One Live Ticket!

4 o’clock.

Two hours after the program was broadcasted, the reactions and reviews online became more and more heated. The discussions and praises kept coming in. Some areas outside of Beijing, like Hebei province or the northeastern provinces, were not able to receive the broadcast of BTV – Arts Channel, but they got curious and, with the trending news of it, went ahead to search for online videos and watched “Lecture Room”’s first episode on streaming websites.

The program was going viral!

It was really viral!

Shortly after, a few people suddenly loitered around outside Hu Fei's team's office. A 30-something-year-old woman and two youths looked in and said, "Excuse me. Is this the office of 'Lecture Room'?"

Xiao Lu, who was the closest to them, replied, "Yes. Who are you looking for?"

The woman said, "It's like this. We are from BTV – Sports Channel, and are your fellow colleagues. I would like to ask if there are any tickets to today's recording for 'Lecture Room'?"

Xiao Lu looked at Hu Fei, "Leader?"

"There are. Besides the ones we distributed, we still have about 50 tickets left." Hu Fei opened the drawer and generously passed the tickets to Xiao Lu, "I had nearly forgotten about them. Please distribute them as you like. Hur Hur."

Xiao Lu gave them three tickets.

The woman said, "Thank you so much. If there's any competition, as long as it's sports related, we will definitely have some tickets. Just look for us."

Xiao Lu smiled. "It's fine. We are all colleagues."

Ring, ring, ring. Suddenly, Hou Ge's phone rang.

Hou Ge answered, "Hello. Old Sun? I'm busy right now; it's almost recording time. I will call you back tonight."

The caller seemed to be someone from the television station, "Don't hang up. First, help me get a few tickets for 'Lecture Room'. I have a few friends who like the show very much. Since they know I work here, they are insisting that I help get tickets for them. My goddess is one of them! Old Bro, you need to help me out here. My happiness depends on you! I will come upstairs to look for you later. That's set, so leave me three tickets at least!"

Hou Ge was speechless and hung up.

Outside, there was someone again, "Is Dafei around?"

Dafei looked up, "Yo. Isn't that Science Channel's Brother Wu?"

That Brother Wu smiled. "Dafei, my dad and mom would like to attend the live recording of 'Lecture Room', I heard you start at around 5 to 6 P.M.? Let me have two tickets then."

Dafei generously agreed, "Sure. If uncle and auntie wants to watch, it won't be problem."

Wave after wave, people came to ask for tickets. Some were for themselves and some were for friends. There were even people asking for their parents and relatives. In the blink of an eye, their 50 tickets became less than 40 tickets. It was decreasing rapidly, but the number of people who came to ask for tickets kept increasing.

"Hou Ge, give me a ticket!"

"Brother Fei, are there still any tickets? Just one will do."

“Sister Xiao Lu, please just give me one. My friend really wants to come. If I don’t get one for him, how can I show my face!”

Xiao Lu did not know whether to laugh or to cry, “But I don’t have any.”

“Help me to find one, please. Thank you.”

“Oh, alright then. Teacher Zhang, can you give me two of your tickets?” Xiao Lu could only turn to Zhang Ye for help.

The 50 tickets from before were already handed out to the team earlier. Zhang Ye had received ten tickets himself. Since he did not know many people in the station, he handed them to Xiao Lu, “Take them.”

This afternoon, Hu Fei’s program team had become highly sought after. It was difficult to get ahold of a ticket from them!

Later on, the people from the advertising section who knew Zhang Ye from before also wanted some tickets. But Zhang Ye had none left. He was practically empty.

Xiao Lu wiped off her sweat, “So our program is this popular?”

Hou Ge also said tiredly, “Whoever comes next, I won’t be able to give anymore tickets to. I’m out of tickets, too.”

Hou Di seemed to enjoy the attention. He said, “When we are going around next time, we can puff our chests out and be proud. Let’s see who dares say our program cannot make it!”

Zhang Ye laughed. Suddenly, he looked around, “Eh? Where’s Chenchen?”

Xiao Lu also helped to look around, “I don’t see her around. Where did she go? She couldn’t have gotten lost, right?”

Hou Ge happily said, “Can you even lose that little one? Anyone can be lost, but she will never be lost! She’s got the street smarts! I’ve never seen a kid as smart as her!”

As he was saying that, Chenchen came back holding a can of cold Coke, walking and happily slurping her drink. She even gave a delightful burp!

Zhang Ye stared at her, “Where did you go to? I told you not to wander around!”

Chenchen put out her hand and said commandingly, “Zhang Ye, give me a live ticket.”

Zhang Ye was stunned, “I will bring you in later. You don’t need a ticket. Why would you need one?”

Chenchen pointed outside towards the door, “That auntie bought me Coke. I promised her a ticket.”

Zhang Ye smacked his forehead. He had been utterly defeated by the little imp. She even knew how to take bribes now. He had to give Chenchen the last ticket in his hand.

Chenchen took it to the auntie.

She said before leaving, “Thank you, lovely baby. Teacher Zhang, thank you, too.”

Hou Ge was very excited, "Look. You guys, even the kid has been activated. This shows how popular our program is. They are crazy for it!"

Hu Fei laughed, "Alright, we should get to the studio earlier."

Hou Ge said excitedly, "Right, we should work hard on today's recording, too. Usually the first episode's ratings are higher. After all, it was a new program. It's more refreshing and audiences watch it with hopes that it will be different. But from the second episode onwards, the quality really matters. If it's not a good program or does not hold up to expectations, the ratings would drop by a lot. We have to do better in this episode than the last one!"

Dafei gave to Zhang Ye a bottle of mineral water, "Teacher Zhang, it's all yours."

"Leave it to me." Zhang Ye took a sip before leading Chenchen by her hand to the recording studio.

.....

The recording was starting soon.

The audience had gradually entered the set.

Zhang Ye was testing the microphone onstage, when he noticed a few people walking in. They were the Arts Channel's several Leaders, including the Director, Wang Shuixin. He had actually come to observe the recording.

Hu Fei went forward to welcome him, "Director."

Wang Shuixin sat down with the others and said, "Carry on, Old Hu. We are here today as audience members. We just want to have a look; you don't need to be bothered by us."

Hu Fei was not bothered, "Okay, then we will do our work."

Today, there were many colleagues from the television station. They took up a fifth of the seats in the studio. Some of them really liked the program, while the others were instructed by the Leaders to observe and learn. After all, the preliminary rating for "Lecture Room" was too surprising; the first episode hit 7.8%. With such success, there was definitely something worth learning here.

There were many people.

So many pairs of eyes.

These included the colleagues of the television station and their Leaders.

Zhang Ye could feel a little pressure, but it wasn't much. It did not affect him too much, because he had the mental strength and he was never afraid of being onstage!

It was almost time.

Zhang Ye went to the camera and pulled Chenchen, who was curiously listening to what the cameraman was saying, to the audience seats. He carried her up, placed her on a chair and instructed her, "Sit still. When Uncle is recording, don't move or run around. Understood?"

Chenchen impatiently nodded, "Understood."

This child... Sometimes, she made people worried. But most times, she was the most reassuring child, because little Chenchen was different from children her age. She was more mature and knew how to behave, even if you didn't tell her.

Zhang Ye went onto the stage, assured.

Hu Fei said, "Teacher Zhang, are you ready?"

Zhang Ye habitually signalled a number 1 with his finger. This was a habit from the days of being a radio host at the radio station. It was a way of communication to say it was time for a recording or live broadcast in the radio station.

"Alright. Everyone, on cue. 3, 2, 1, start!"

Zhang Ye was very professional. After all, he was a graduate from the broadcast major. He had no expression at first. But once the cameras started rolling, his face wore a big smile, "Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's 'Lecture Room'. I am Zhang Ye. Last episode, I read a melody poem for everyone. It was very well received, especially the part 'With humor he helped see to that the masts and skulls of Wei's navy go up in smoke and ashes turn into', that had received many positive remarks. It highlighted Zhou Yu's coolness. Yes, actually many of the quotes from any literary person are unreliable."

A few people smiled.

Zhang Ye was self-deprecating about his words, and said, "'With humor he helped see to that the masts and skulls of Wei's navy go up in smoke and ashes turn into', this was a little exaggerated. He wasn't that cool; it's only my artistic polishing that made him so. Likewise, Cao Cao had also been artistically polished into a more complex character. Today, we will be speaking about him. When we mention Cao Cao, there are at least three perceptions of him. First, as a hero. Second, as an arch-careerist. Third, as a traitor. So, which one was the most accurate depiction him?"

Which was the most accurate?

Cao Cao was definitely a traitor or an arch-careerist! Were there still any doubts?

Zhang Ye's question had piqued the curiosity of everyone. They were wondering what Zhang Ye would say now.

Zhang Ye continued on, "People say that Cao Cao was wicked. A lot of people do not like him. During the times of Northern Song, Cao Cao was already an unpopular person. So why was he unpopular? Everyone knew that Cao Cao had famously said this before, 'I'd rather do wrong to others, than have others do wrong on me', What did this mean? This was simply saying that he would rather be the one doing wrong to everyone than to have anyone do any wrong to him. To have had said this, this person must have been really wicked. That was why people hated Cao Cao. Now, let us clear this up as to whether this was the truth."

The audience stirred.

What? How can that not be the truth?

F**k, yesterday you had just vindicated Zhou Yu, then took off Zhuge Liang's halo. Today, you want to vindicate Cao Cao, too? But Cao Cao's case has already been judged! How can there still be disputes? Those words were said by him. If he could have said it, how could he have been a good person?

Wang Shuixin frowned; he hated Cao Cao very much too.

A lot of colleagues from the television station also looked at each other, waiting for Zhang Ye to continue on.

Zhang Ye said, "On this matter, there are some contradictions in the records of history books. It was likely due to Dong Zhuo's persecution that led to Cao Cao fleeing from the capital. While fleeing, he came across an old friend's house. This old friend was called Lu Boshe and he was involved in the tragedy when Cao Cao killed him and his family. There are three versions of this incident. The first one was....." After saying that, Zhang Ye analyzed, "Actually, Cao Cao did not mean to kill them or had killed them wrongly. When they died, Cao Cao was very sad, too. Sigh, what's done is done. Saying he'd rather do wrong to others than have others do wrong on him... So let us look at the situational analysis of this. Cao Cao likely said this as a form of self-comfort, to put the blame on himself for the mistake he had made. But when it was presented in Romance of the Three Kingdoms, he said that with a sense of self-righteousness. In fact, Cao Cao's original words were not as everyone had known it."

Oh?

What were his actual words?

It's not this? Really not?

Zhang Ye slowly explained, "Cao Cao's original words were 'I'd rather have done wrong, than have others be wronged.' But this was changed in Romance of the Three Kingdoms, where he was implied to be self-centered. This would have made the difference; Cao Cao said those words for that particular situation. Since they were dead, nothing could be done to make up for it. He could only admit that he was in the wrong, rather than let them die under the guise that he was right to kill them. This showed a certain kindness in him. Therefore, from this matter, it could be said that most people's impressions of him are questionable."

"Moving on to the tolerance of Cao Cao....."

"Cao Cao's will was written as such....."

"So I believe that the evaluation of Cao Cao's should be summed up in these three words — a lovable arch-careerist! Why a lovable arch-careerist though? Please stay tuned to the next episode, "The Mystery of the Arch-Careerist"!

Zhang Ye finished with a bow.

As this moment, everyone erupted into applause!

It was the same reaction as the first episode. This time, all the audience had also stood up. Bba bba bba bba! The applause was all for Zhang Ye!

What a cute "lovable arch-careerist"!

So Cao Cao was actually not as they had known him to be!

This condemned traitor had such a side to him!

Everyone were hooked on listening to the lecture. A few of the audience members rushed up to Zhang Ye for autographs when the recording was done. They liked his program very much and were very impressed by Zhang Ye's knowledge!

Chapter 137: Meeting Thieves in Crime!

At night.

Hu Fei brought everyone out for the celebration feast.

There was a newstand on the way. Xiao Lu said, "I'm going to buy some newspapers."

"Buy a few more." Hu Fei laughed, "The relevant papers should have it."

"Okay. But leader, you will need to let me do a claim for those." Xiao Lu giggled and joked around.

Hu Fei laughingly said, "It's only a dollar each. You are so stingy. Fine, I will submit a claim."

After the papers were brought over, Zhang Ye also took some of them and brought Chenchen to the restaurant which Hu Fei had booked. Sitting in the hall, he started flipping through them. Sure enough, the reports were out.

"A mind-changing Analysis of the Three Kingdoms!"

"Lecture Room ignites the studies of National History!"

"BTV – New Arts Program, record-breaking rating creates a new miracle in historical programs!"

"Lecture Room – Why did it become so popular? Watch the series and be brought into Zhang Ye's world of the Three Kingdoms!"

"Zhang Ye – A miracle man at every stage, from being a radio host to a supernatural author to a fairy tale writer to an advertising creative to a television lecturer. See Zhang Ye's route of success!"

Many of the Beijing newspapers mentioned his new program. One of them had even chronologically listed out his achievements!

"What a great success!" Hou Ge praised.

Dafei smiled. "Teacher Zhang, this time you are famous in Beijing again."

Zhang Ye dismissed it, "That's not true. With my image, no one would remember me."

Just as he said that, a middle-aged couple, who were having lunch in the same hall, suddenly pointed at Zhang Ye. They stood up and walked over, "Are you Teacher Zhang?"

Zhang Ye acknowledged, "That's me."

The woman said happily, "Oh, it's really you."

"I told you he looked like him," her husband said. "Teacher Little Zhang, we watched your program. It is really good. Everything on TV these days are variety programs. They are either pranking or singing. I'm so bored of them. There's no depth to them at all. I still prefer 'Lecture Room'. You are too humorous and made us laugh. The suspense is good, too. It especially hooks us in. Moreover, the program is really good for knowledge. I've learned a lot and have a deeper understanding of history now. This is what I call a good program. Even though those variety programs have good ratings, but what's the use of them? They don't even compare to 'Lecture Room'."

Zhang Ye quickly replied, "Thank you. It's all thanks to your support. It's because of everyone that my program could achieve such a result."

The woman suggested, "Could we have a picture together?"

Zhang Ye smiled. "Of course. No problem," and stood up.

Xiao Lu volunteered, "Let me help you take the photo." She took the digital camera from the woman. She snapped two photos for them.

The couple walked away, satisfied.

Hou Di said, "Look at the popularity of our Teacher Zhang."

Zhang Ye had not expected this. This was the first time that he had been recognized outside. At Chenchen's school, he did have some fans who wanted his autograph, but that was after Zhang Ye mentioned who he was. They did not recognize him first. It could be said that TV was the best form of promotional media. It was where you could become famous most easily. Look, he had been with the radio station for so long, had written so many poems and fairy tales, and yet he remained an unknown. But now, just after one episode of "Lecture Room", people could recognize him. There would still be more episodes broadcasted in the near future. His popularity would definitely keep rising. Yes, even if the broadcast area was kept within Beijing, and even if his popularity would be confined to the city's audiences, but that would be considered quite a success!

The dishes were served.

The steaming hot crabs were being served at the table.

"Chenchen, this was ordered by you. Eat up." Xiao Lu took some to put on her dish.

But Chenchen was looking for something. She finally found a pen and a notebook and looked at Zhang Ye with her big eyes, "Zhang Ye, sign this for me."

Zhang Ye was a little surprised, "Did the sun rise up from the west today?"

Chenchen urged him, "Help me to sign a few more. I will give it to my teachers when I go back to school. This way, even if I don't do my homework, they won't scold me."

Zhang Ye nearly fainted, "Was this your motive all along? Then I won't sign it."

Chenchen used her small hands to push him, "Sign it, sign it."

Everyone was tickled funny by Chenchen, "Your Uncle Zhang does not have so much charm to do that."

Chenchen pursed her lips and said, "He has. One of my female teachers is his hardcore fan. My form teacher is, too."

"Female teacher?" Hou Ge said jealously, "Sigh! Sigh! When will I have treatment like this!"

.....

After dinner.

Everyone headed home after having a good time.

Zhang Ye drove home with Chenchen to Jiaomen. When they arrived, Chenchen had already fallen asleep. Zhang Ye parked the car and tried to wake her up, but she stayed sound asleep. It had been a long day for the child. She had been following him all around the television station, all day long. Zhang Ye undid the seatbelt and carried her in his arms. Heh, she was quite heavy. He turned around and went into the lift to go upstairs.

Dong, dong.

Dong, dong, dong.

"Landlady Auntie?" Zhang Ye shouted from outside the door.

It was almost 9 P.M. There was no sound in the house. Was Rao Aimin still not home?

The shout had woken little Chenchen. She rubbed her eyes cutely, "Zhang Ye, I want to sleep."

"I know, but I think your aunt is not home." Zhang Ye continued knocking.

Suddenly, there was a sound of a small movement coming from inside the house. Squeak. Then came another sound. Ding, dang. The noise was not loud, but both Zhang Ye and Chenchen heard it.

"There's someone inside?" Zhang Ye was stunned.

Chenchen said, "There's a burglar! A burglar!"

Zhang Ye expression changed, "Maybe Landlady Auntie might be at home? Did she get tied up by the burglar?"

Upon hearing, Chenchen said "That's not possible. My aunt is very skilled at kung fu. In this whole world, less than 20 people can beat her!"

Zhang Ye said, "Are you exaggerating?"

Chenchen glanced at him, "It's up to you to believe it or not."

Zhang Ye knocked on the door again, but there was no answer.

Chenchen nervously pulled him, "Zhang Ye, quickly get inside. Quickly!"

"How can I get inside? I don't have the key!" Zhang Ye was also getting worried. He didn't believe Chenchen's words. Even though the Landlady Auntie knew some kung fu, she was probably an amateur. Besides, she was a woman. What if the burglar had a knife.....

No way!

I need to get in!

Zhang Ye looked left and right. Along the hallway was a house with some construction materials outside the door. Inside, there were some PVC boards, the kinds that were used as a roof for the kitchen and bathroom. Zhang Ye quickly walked over and bent down to pick up a piece and broke off one end of it. Then he walked back to the landlady's door and took out an earpick that was chained to his keys. He inserted the earpick in and adjusted the PVC board. With a twist and a push, the lock moved along with the earpick!

Chenchen asked curiously, "What are you doing?"

"Opening the door," Zhang Ye said.

Kacha! The door was unlocked the next moment!

Chenchen wore an expression of shock. She was dumbfounded!

This was the Skills book he had gained from the last draw at the lottery. For items, he still had two "Saves" and a "Lucky Bread". As for the Skills Category, he had eaten ten Taekwondo Experience Books, while he had eaten seven Calligraphy Experience Books. Finally, he had eaten the least with Lock Picking Experience Books, with the number at two. However, in a small and simple district, even two Skill Experience Books were enough for Zhang Ye. He did not need to think much, as the scenes of how to pick the lock appeared in his brain. There were at least five to six methods that could easily allow him to open Rao Aimin's door.

Zhang Ye threw the keys to his own house to her, "Go to my house. It's dangerous here!"

Chenchen didn't want to do it, "I'm not going. I also know kung fu. My mom and aunt taught me the Eight Trigrams Palm since I was two!"

Zhang Ye suspiciously said, "Eight Trigrams Palm? Then I know Taiji!"

Chenchen argued, "I really know it! My aunt is the Eight Trigrams Palms' number....."

Zhang Ye called 110 and threw the phone to her, "Quickly report to the police. I know that you are smart and know how to tell them. Quickly, go!" He had become serious with her because he was worried that something had happened to Rao Aimin in the house. He had to get inside immediately, but he couldn't possibly bring the child in with him!

Chenchen could only hold the phone and move further away, "Hello. Policeman uncle? There's a burglar at my house!"

With the little one gone, Zhang Ye didn't have any second thoughts. He suppressed his emotions and walked into the house. He looked around and took the broom from the shoe cabinet beside the door. With the broom in hand, he slowly and carefully walked further into the house. After just two steps, two shadows appeared! It was already dark, and the house was unlit. He could only see that there were two men. They were not too old; they were in their twenties!

Shua!

There was a beam that flashed!

It was a knife! Each of them had a knife!

The moonlight was reflected by the blade onto Zhang Ye's face. He saw it clearly and his face went pale!

Holy sh*t! There really were thieves! I'm finished, I'm finished! This bro is done for today!

However, Zhang Ye did not take a step back and instead moved forward and bolstered his courage, "How dare you rob a private residence under broad daylight! Are you looking for death?"

A thief immediately decided, "Kill him!"

"Alright," said the other thief.

Zhang Ye flustered, "I'm telling you, don't come over. I know kung fu. Stay away from me. If you come closer, my internal energies will injure you with vibrations!"

The two thieves, "..."

Zhang Ye carried on, "What happened to the Big Sis in the house!? What did you do to her?"

A thief said, "What Big Sis?"

Zhang Ye was relieved when he heard that. They did not know? The Landlady Auntie wasn't home? Then that was great!

"Cut the crap with him. Attack! Let's quickly leave after killing him!" One of the thieves was clearly the leader.

Zhang Ye swung the broom in his hand in a flustered manner, "Don't come over. I'm telling you not to come over. I can really injure you. You haven't seen my prowess! I don't usually fight! But when I do, people will die!" This rascal was a broadcasting professional. All his skills used his mouth!

Chapter 138: Zhang Ye's Shows His Prowess!

Even talking about killing now?

And even internal energies?

You even know kung fu?

The two thieves looked at Zhang Ye and his physique and immediately realised that this was a guy who wouldn't have passed physical education in primary school. Looking at his weapon, a broom, made them even less worried. How could they be afraid of him?

The two of them went up against him at that point!

Zhang Ye readied the broom once more, ready to start the fight with the thieves!

The taller thief attacked first with a few slashes of the knife!

Zhang Ye was scared sh*tless, but at least he was somewhat capable. While brandishing the broom, he could ward them off at a distance of one meter. They could not approach!

However, the thieves were not dumb. How much offensive power could a broom have? A thief decided to move forward and ignored the two hits of Zhang Ye's broom. It was not especially painful. He wanted to get into "close combat" with Zhang Ye as the shiny sword stabbed over!

Zhang Ye threw the broom down, as he was out of options!

The two thieves sneered and began to approach!

It was unknown when Chenchen suddenly appeared behind him, "Zhang Ye!"

Zhang Ye was worried, "The damn kid! What are you doing here! Quickly go! Hurry!" He could tell that the two were really capable of killing. As Zhang Ye had seen their faces, now with Chenchen here, Zhang Ye could no longer run. As long as he retreated, Chenchen would definitely be caught!

"No one leaves!"

"Kill the both of them!"

The two thieves turned aggressive!

Chenchen was, after all, just a child. She did not even run and just stood rooted to the spot!

Zhang Ye was truly angered at this moment. In his opinion, it was alright to slash at him, but for them to do it to a child? They even wanted to slash at a child? F**k your grandpa! In that instant, Zhang Ye was no longer flustered. His heart was filled with angry emotions!

Let's risk it!

Who gives a f**k who your mother is!

Without the broom, Zhang Ye's hands were empty, but he still charged forward at the two thieves! The shorter thief lifted the knife above his head and slashed at Zhang Ye's head! At this second, a movement suddenly appeared in Zhang Ye's mind. It was as if he had long learned this movement and had honed it a thousand times. Without any thought, he lifted his leg and very accurately kicked the knife in the short thief's hand. And like a conditional reflex, Zhang Ye moved his body to the side and lifted his right leg and used a very precise Taekwondo side kick, hitting the thief's stomach!

Smash!

The thief fell backwards in shock!

The other tall thief was surprised as he quickly stabbed his knife at Zhang Ye!

Zhang Ye's body slanted and evaded it as much as he could, but his arm was still grazed by the knife, causing blood to flow out!

The tall thief kept his momentum as he stabbed at Zhang Ye a few more times. He was also new to this, so his stabbing was not very accurate!

Zhang Ye dodged three times consecutively and his anger flared once again. Phew. As he sent a straight kick, he kicked the knife out of the second thief's hand. Instead of retreating, Zhang Ye charged forward! He kicked the tall thief's crotch fiercely and heard a terrible cry from him. However, Zhang Ye did not

seem to stop. With a turn of his head, he moved his thigh and did a complete roundhouse kick from Taekwondo, hitting straight at the person's chest!

Smash!

The second thief was sent flying backwards!

At this point, not only were the two thieves stunned, even Zhang Ye himself was dumbfounded!

Holy sh*t! I am really an expert! Who knew that this bro was so powerful! Who knew that the ten Taekwondo Experience Books were so useful!

Zhang Ye immediately felt inflated and felt awesome. As he cursed, he began stamping the two thieves on the ground. He did not give them have a chance to recover, "What did I say? Eh? What did I say? I told you that I knew kung fu! And you guys didn't believe? Your dog eyes are blind! Now do you know? Eh? I already said I did not dare attack because I feared for your lives! And you still force me!?"

Smash! Peng!

One stomp after another!

Zhang Ye felt a high from it!

"Hero! Hero, spare us!"

"Aiyo! We failed to recognize a great person like yourself! Please stop beating us! Ah! Please stop beating us!"

The two thieves began pleading.

At this moment, many neighbors were startled!

The sirens of police cars were heard downstairs. Five to six policemen had arrived!

"Where're the thieves? Where are they?" Two policemen even came with guns.

Zhang Ye also stopped his beating, "Comrade policemen, here they are. I have subdued the criminals!"

The policemen also saw the two knives in the house and were surprised, "They were using knives and you managed to subdue the two of them alone?"

A young policeman was suddenly stunned, "Eh, you are... You are that...that...one on the television! Zhang Ye! You are Teacher Zhang Ye!"

Zhang Ye smiled. "That's me."

Chenchen shouted, "Zhang Ye! Blood! Blood!"

Zhang Ye waved his hand, "It's no matter; I'm alright." But when he looked down at the wound left behind by the criminals, he wobbled and immediately collapsed and leaned on the door frame, crying out, "Aiyah, hey! I can't take it anymore! I can't take it!"

The policemen were speechless, "...It's fine. It's just a small wound."

A neighbor also said, "There's not that much blood."

The policeman, who recognized Zhang Ye, said, "Should we call an ambulance?"

Zhang Ye screamed like he was a pig being slaughtered, "Hurry and call the ambulance! Hurry!"

Suddenly, Rao Aimin's figure appeared along the corridor, "What happened? Chenchen!"

Chenchen rushed at her aunt and grabbed her waist upon seeing her aunt back, "Aunt! Thieves came to our house! Zhang Ye was injured!"

Rao Aimin's face sunk, "What about you? Were you injured?"

Chenchen said, "I'm fine. Zhang Ye was protecting me all this while."

A female neighbor said, "I saw it when I came out. Little Zhang sure was good. In the beginning, he was unable to defeat the criminals, but once he saw that they were slashing at Chenchen, Little Zhang was angered and charged at them without any regard. Finally, he used a few kicks to defeat the two thieves. Little Rao, your tenant sure is good!" The auntie gave a thumbs up. "If it were anyone else, they would have long fled!"

When the policemen and neighbors heard this, they felt respect for Zhang Ye!

The only regret was that Zhang Ye did not look anything like a big hero at this moment. The entire corridor was filled with his screams as he covered his arm, "Is the ambulance here? Is the ambulance here?"

Everyone, "..."

A policeman asked Rao Aimin, "Are you the landlady?"

Rao Aimin ignored him and walked straight towards Zhang Ye, "Let me take a look." Grabbing his arm, she pressed an acupuncture point on Zhang Ye's back. Following that, she pressed forcefully on an acupuncture point on his arm. After massaging it for about ten seconds, she released her hands. "There's no need for an ambulance. It's fine. I'll wrap it up for you in a while."

A miraculous scene happened!

The wound on Zhang Ye's arm had ceased bleeding!

A tenant exclaimed, "Landlady Auntie, you are a traditional Chinese medicine doctor?"

Zhang Ye said eagerly, "I think it's safer to send me to the hospital. What if there's poison on their knives!"

Everyone was at a loss once again. Do you think this is a wuxia novel? Poison?

The thieves were handcuffed by the police, but suddenly the tall thief had a burst of strength as he jumped up. He was trying to escape!

Rao Aimin glanced at him. She was about two meters away from the thief. But when she suddenly made a move, it seemed like she was moving in the style of the Eight Trigrams. She did not even run, but with a twist of her body and two steps, she had appeared in the blink of an eye behind the thief. With her

palm raised slightly, she pressed forward. It did not seem to use any strength, but when her palm hit the running thief's thigh, the thief suddenly flew up and slammed to the ground with a thud!

There was no scream and the thief did not even move. The thief laid on the floor, motionless. He had fainted! Seeing the thief's thigh, everyone gasped! His thigh had deformed! There was no need to ask to know! His bones must have been broken!

Just with that one palm?

That light palm?

And it looked like a fluttering move! How could it break bones!?

Rao Aimin's attack frightened the people present, as they turned dumbfounded!

Zhang Ye was also dumbfounded. Your sister! Can you not be so fierce? He knew that Rao Aimin was truly angered, but he had never expected her to be so powerful. Thinking of the words Rao Chenchen said before, Zhang Ye suddenly believed in it. Rao Aimin had really trained in Chinese martial arts? This was the Eight Trigram Palms? However, Zhang Ye had seen the Eight Trigram Palms before. Many old grandpas and grannies did the Taiji or Eight Trigram Palms in the parks. But who had seen such powerful Eight Trigram Palms!?

An old policeman exclaimed, "Is this...hidden force?"

"What? This world really has hidden force?" a younger policeman gaped.

"That can't be! She's just a woman; how could she have reached the point of having hidden force?" another policeman said softly in disbelief. "Isn't that something that only Chinese martial arts grandmasters could obtain?" And all of this was just from what they heard. They had never even seen it before! Could the thief have broken his bones himself when he fell to the ground?

The policemen could not figure it out. Since none of them had even seen a Chinese martial arts expert, none of them could tell, so they could only blindly guess.

The surrounding neighbors did not understand, "What's hidden force? What does it mean?"

An old policeman looked at Rao Aimin with respect, "May I know who..."

Rao Aimin leered at him, "I just deal with renting apartments."

The old policeman cleared his throat, "Is that the case?"

Rao Aimin said, "The matters here have been settled, right? I have someone injured here, and the child has received some shock. Can the testimony be left until tomorrow?"

"Alright, alright. Please take a rest. We will come again tomorrow." The old policeman led the group, as well as the two thieves, away.

The other neighbors were not too concerned with Rao Aimin's prowess, as everyone knew how Rao Aimin had previously beaten two hooligans in the tiny district bare-handedly. They all knew that she was powerful and knew some kung fu. Everyone's focus was on Zhang Ye. He had stepped forward bravely to protect little Chenchen!

"Zhang Ye, you are too fantastic!"

"Little Zhang, I saw you on television. I never knew that you became a celebrity!"

"Ah? Little Zhang went on television?"

"Isn't that the case? None of you have watched 'Lecture Room', right? Little Zhang did a very good job!"

"To think that Little Zhang, who could not pay his rent when he first came, is now working at a television station in the blink of an eye!"

"Then we must call him Teacher Zhang in the future. Just the quality of being able to risk his life to save another... The results Teacher Little Zhang has obtained is in no way strange!"

"That's right. Little Rao, you must thank Zhang Ye well in the future!"

"Right, if not for Little Zhang, your house would definitely be robbed clean. Chenchen would also be in danger!"

Chapter 139: Teacher Zhang Shamelessly Refuses to Leave!

Deep into the night, even the moon was setting.

Rao Aimin's house, a small maisonette.

After the matters were settled, Zhang Ye lay on the landlady's large fragrant-smelling bed and began to brag, "Landlady Auntie, you may not know, for you came late and didn't see me. Did you know how formidable I was? Eh? In the beginning, I was haphazardly swinging a broom so as to appear weak to the enemy. Do you understand about appearing weak? It wasn't that I couldn't beat them. How can just the two of them be a threat to me? What a joke. That would be ridiculing me. Firstly, I was letting them lower their guard, and secondly, I was fooling around with them. I have kung fu myself, Taekwondo!"

Rao Aimin was rummaging through for medicine in a first-aid kit.

Chenchen leered at Zhang Ye, "...Hur Hur."

Zhang Ye smirked, "Little rascal, what's with that reaction of yours? The pathetic me you saw just now was me just acting. It was really just an act. I was fooling around with them. Did you see uncle's two key kicks that kicked away the knives? Was it interesting? Was it powerful? Haha! That was like a kick from a god! Also, my most beautiful roundhouse kick, that was practically a model example found in textbooks! Was I cool?"

Rao Aimin found a bandage and ointment and smacked him, "Stop bragging. Lie still!"

"Aye," Zhang Ye looked at her worriedly, "Landlady auntie, can you do it lighter. Will this ointment hurt? If it's painful, I sure cannot withstand it. You must..."

Rao Aimin had already poured the ointment!

With that, Zhang Ye screamed out loud, "Ah! Painful, painful, painful!"

Rao Aimin used a cotton bud to dab at his wound, "Endure it, even if it's painful."

"It's really painful! I can't take it! I'm dying! I'm dying!" Zhang Ye wanted to push her, to prevent her from using the ointment.

Rao Aimin roared, "Kid, stop moving!"

"No can do, I don't want it!" Zhang Ye became shameless.

Chenchen looked at him, "Zhang Ye, you are so shameless."

Zhang Ye cried out, "What do you mean, shameless!? If you have the ability, come try it! Ah! Ah!"

Rao Aimin gave a glance and sat down and restricted his body to prevent him from squirming before dabbing his wound with ointment, "To call yourself a cultural artist or host, or someone on television. Look at what you are!"

Zhang Ye also immediately stopped moving, "Cultural artists are also people!"

After Rao Aimin finished dabbing his wound with ointment and bandaged him up, "Who asked a kid like you to not wait for me to return home? If you think there are thieves at home, just give me a call and wait for me to return!"

Zhang Ye grumbled, "Didn't I think that you were at home, and was afraid that you had been tied up by the thieves and was in some danger? Or else, do you think I would choose to fight it out with thieves?"

Rao Aimin was still sitting beside him, "Even if there were twenty of them, they would not be even able to come close to me, let alone two thieves. To think that a kid like you wants to act powerful!"

Zhang Ye grunted, "Who knew you were so powerful?"

Chenchen smirked, "I already said that the number of people who can defeat my aunt does not exceed..."

Rao Aimin interrupted her speech, "Aren't you speaking too much? Return to the house and do your homework!"

Zhang Ye was also curious and asked, "Landlady Auntie, are you really so powerful? What kung fu do you train in? Eight Trigram Palms? When did you learn it?"

Rao Aimin tied a knot in the bandage, "Ask less about my matters!"

"Aunt, I'll be going to do my homework," Chenchen said reluctantly.

Rao Aimin turned her head, "Wait a moment. Have you thanked Uncle Zhang?"

Chenchen acknowledged tersely and looked towards Zhang Ye, "Thank you, Uncle."

Zhang Ye waved his hands, "You're welcome. It was convenient. It's nothing."

After the child left, Zhang Ye no longer cared about his face, "My other arm is also in pain."

"Was it twisted?" The corner of Rao Aimin's mouth showed her frustration.

Zhang Ye lied down with his face down and presented his arm behind him, "Yes, treat it for me."

Rao Aimin took his arm and began pressing on it.

Zhang Ye felt extremely comfortable.

Suddenly, she began massaging his hand, and naturally, the landlady's hand was placed in Zhang Ye's hand. Her hands were not very slender and was a bit hard, yet it presented a different feeling.

Zhang Ye was enjoying himself greatly.

"It's done!" Rao Aimin got up, "Your injury is fine. You will recover in a few days. Don't touch water and don't eat stimulating foods, such as mutton, fish and shrimp or spicy foods."

Once food was mentioned, Zhang Ye felt hungry and rolled on the bed before looking at Rao Aimin, "I'm hungry. I want to eat Zhajiang noodles."

Rao Aimin squinted her eyes, "A kid like you became a lord?"

Zhang Ye cried out, "I'm severely injured; I can't even move."

"Look at a man like you behaving this way. Chenchen is even stronger than you!" Rao Aimin's mouth was vicious, but she was soft-hearted. She turned and left, "Wait a while!"

A while later, the fragrance of Zhajiang could be smelled from downstairs.

Zhang Ye took in a few delightful breaths of the fragrance.

After that, Rao Aimin brought a bowl of noodles upstairs. She threw it on the table in a bad mood, "Eat it!"

Zhang Ye looked up with watery eyes, "My arm is injured. The other arm has also been pulled. I can't move. Feed me." Upon seeing the landlady's face go black, Zhang Ye immediately sat up from the bed, "Hai, I was just joking. I'll eat by myself."

"It's hot."

"I know. Hu. Hu. It's so fragrant. Your cooking skills are awesome!"

"Just eat, there's no need to say so much when eating. Why do you have so much crap to say!?"

On the other side, little Chenchen, who was done with her homework, smelled the fragrance and came over, "Aunt, I also want to eat Zhajiang noodles!". She then stared at Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye protected his food, "I'll fight with anyone who wants to steal my food!"

Chenchen said, "Zhang Ye, give me half. Give me half of yours!"

.....

After the meal.

The young and old one were done eating and were lying on the bed, rubbing their stomachs.

Rao Aimin gestured with her chin towards the door and said to Zhang Ye, "Alright, it's almost 11 P.M. Kid, get lost. These two girls need to sleep!"

Zhang Ye shamelessly refused to leave, "No. What if I fall sick at night? What if there was poison on the knife and it shows its effects at night? There's no one to take care of me at home. When I shout for someone, it would be useless. Also, what if the thieves' accomplices seek me for revenge? Although my kung fu is quite formidable, but that's when I'm not seriously injured. I can't go. I have to stay here."

Rao Aimin stared at him, "Why is a rotten kid like you so squeamish?"

Zhang Ye was lying down comfortably and said in life-cherishing way, "Anyway, I will be staying here. If there's anything, I'll call out to you at night. You know traditional Chinese medicine and can save me in time."

Chenchen did not have any reactions. She lay beside Zhang Ye and fell asleep. Even her shoes were not taken off.

Rao Aimin was unforgiving with her mouth, but she had great maternal instincts. She gently took off Chenchen's tiny shoes before adjusting Chenchen and covering her with a blanket. She then glared at Zhang Ye and covered his legs with a blanket, "Just this night. Get lost tomorrow!"

Zhang Ye acknowledged, "Then I'm sleeping."

After switching off the lights, Rao Aimin did not seem tired. She carried a book downstairs into the living room.

Zhang Ye had gone through quite a lot today. He had never fought before, ever since he was young. Today, he had even injured himself after battling with the criminals, so he could not last any longer. He fell asleep the moment his head hit the bed.

Chapter 140: Taking Advantage again!

Late at night.

Rao Aimin and Chenchen were both asleep.

After Zhang Ye slept for an hour, he was suddenly bright and alert. Besides, he was laying beside the landlady. Her bathrobe's sleeves was on Zhang Ye's shoulder, so she was very near to him. The bed was filled with the fragrance of a mature woman, which came from the landlady. Her body's warmth was even constantly emitted, so it would be a wonder if Zhang Ye could carry on sleeping. His heart began to turn itchy like a cat's claw. He once again thought of taking advantage of Rao Aimin like the last time.

Try touching another time? However, it was not easy to take advantage of the landlady. Although Rao Aimin did not pursue the matter the last time, she had still thrown Zhang Ye over her shoulder from the bed onto the ground. Just thinking of it made Zhang Ye feel jittery. He did not have the guts, despite feeling the temptation. However, after a lot of thinking, he came to a conclusion. That's not right. He was now a patient, so the landlady wouldn't be too harsh on him, right?

It was worth it, even if she turned rough!

Being thrown over the shoulder was also worth it!

Zhang Ye was emboldened and was planning to risk his life. Despite the lesson from the burglar who broke his leg, this fellow was risking his life to be a hooligan!

Turning his body sideways, he went from facing the ceiling to facing the landlady. Rao Aimin was sleeping with her back facing him. Her long hair was coiled up, revealing her white neck. Zhang Ye took a deep breath. He moved his hand under the blanket and slowly lifted it up to move it over. As his hand moved across the warm bed, he touched the landlady's bathrobe at her hips. After some hesitation, he grabbed her hip, despite the bathrobe separating them.

One second...

Two seconds...

The landlady did not respond.

Zhang Ye became even more bold as he gently squeezed the cloth on her hips.

But at this moment, Rao Aimin suddenly moved. Zhang Ye felt her body move, and the bed shake. She used one hand and pinched Zhang Ye's hand, and then threw his hand off from her ass. Zhang Ye felt himself perspire and did not dare move. However, Rao Aimin did not seem to say a word after she made that move. It was like she had returned to sleep.

"Aunt." Chenchen woke up groggily.

Rao Aimin turned around, "What?"

Chenchen yawned, "I want to pee."

Rao Aimin acknowledged, "Got it." She threw away the blanket and stepped down from the bed, barefooted.

Chenchen could go to the toilet herself, as she was not too young anymore. She could do anything adults could do. But as she was too short, she could not reach the bathroom's light switch. Hence, every time that she needed to go to the bathroom at night, she would need to get Rao Aimin to switch the lights on for her. It didn't matter in the day.

The lights switched on.

Chenchen dragged her tiny slippers as she rubbed her eyes.

Zhang Ye was afraid that the landlady would settle the score with him. He pretended to sleep and even pretended to make a few sleepy grunts.

Huala. The toilet's flush was heard. Little Chenchen walked back and fell back to sleep the moment she crawled back into bed.

Rao Aimin switched off the bathroom's lights and returned to bed. Pulling the blanket open, she placed her beautiful legs inside and lay down. She then covered herself and went back to sleep.

After waiting for more than ten minutes.

Zhang Ye looked towards Rao Aimin from the side again. Her back was still facing him. Zhang Ye's heart turned crooked again. After some struggles with his thoughts, he moved his hand over, bit by bit. This time, he touched Rao Aimin's outer thigh under the blanket. As the landlady's hips were perky, and a woman's hip bone was naturally wider than a man's, her thigh was naturally in a higher position with

her laying sideways. Zhang Ye had to go through quite a lot to reach there. His arm was beginning to ache. After all, he had sprained it while fighting with the burglars. He wanted to move his hand lower. If he let his arm rest on her thigh, then it would be a lot more comfortable. With that, if he moved his hand downwards, then he could move his body over. His fingers could then grab onto the opening of the landlady's bathrobe, and then move upwards.

It was unknown if Rao Aimin was sleeping or not, as she did not move.

Zhang Ye uncovered a bit of the bathrobe on her legs. After uncovering it, he flipped it backwards.

Rao Aimin's right leg was naturally exposed. However, Zhang Ye could not see it due to the blanket, but he could still touch it.

Smooth!

Tight!

Soft and delicate!

However, just after touching a few times and before he could recollect the pleasant feel of it, Rao Aimin's hand suddenly shot out and grabbed Zhang Ye's wrist, throwing his hand once again.

Zhang Ye coughed. Seeing Rao Aimin not throw him over her shoulder, he was no longer afraid. He became bolder. After his hand was thrown, Zhang Ye moved his hand over again with his face straight. He touched the behind of her ankle and thigh, and swept across it a time or two. Maybe it was because it was a bit hot under the blanket, Rao Aimin's leg was also becoming sweaty. It was moist, but her sweat was fragrant. It came with her body's delicate fragrance.

Eh.

He touched fabric.

When Zhang Ye's hand moved backwards, his thumb touched the fabric at the corner of Rao Aimin's hip. It was 100% cotton. Zhang Ye understood that this was definitely the landlady's panties. She took off her bra when sleeping, as it was uncomfortable. However, she did not take off her panties.

Zhang Ye used his finger to feel the fabric. The boundary was thin cotton without lace. Moving further upwards, his fingers touched all sorts of patterns. They were definitely flowery patterns. Zhang Ye rubbed his hand a few times and felt the overall fabric. He discovered that it was likely peony flowers or roses.

She wore very traditional undergarments.

Zhang Ye swallowed his saliva as he felt his heart heated up.

At this moment, Rao Aimin turned around. From being on her side, she lay flat.

Zhang Ye quickly pulled his hand away with fright. After a second and seeing Rao Aimin sleeping, he moved his hand over again. This time, he touched the landlady's waist. After feeling the perimeter, Zhang Ye hesitantly moved further in. He released the bathrobe's belt, which was very easy to

release. Then he carefully separated the frontal bathrobe of the landlady. He squeezed his hand into the bathrobe and touched her stomach.

Oh?

There was a scar?

Previously, Zhang Ye had seen it, but he did not pay much attention to it. With this touch, he realized that Rao Aimin was covered in scars. Some of them were protruding and clearly left over from injuries. It was inevitable for martial arts practitioners. However, Zhang Ye felt his heart ache for her.

Rao Aimin suddenly spoke, "Can you sleep already?"

"Cough, yes, yes," Zhang Ye said embarrassingly.

Rao Aimin threw his hand out from her clothes, "Sleep! I'm sleepy!"

Since she had already spoken, Zhang Ye did not dare to be impetuous again. Clearing his throat, he lay down properly and did not touch the landlady again. Hai, it was best to stop before she got angry. If he really angered Rao Aimin, probably ten of Zhang Ye himself would end up being beaten up by the landlady.

However, he had taken a lot of advantages!

Zhang Ye secretly moved his hand to his nose and smelled it. It was filled with the fragrance of the landlady's sweat. Of course, it wasn't really especially fragrant, but it was a smell that made his heart be at ease.