

## Superstar 1651

### Chapter 1651: The International Celebrity Rankings Index!

The next day.

A day after the movie was taken out of theaters.

On the Web.

“738 million USD!”

“It’s ranked 96th place on the global box office rankings of all time!”

“This is truly heaven-defying!”

“The Chinese movie has created a miracle!”

“It’s the first time a foreign movie has defeated a Hollywood movie in history!”

“The final box office earnings that Commando 2 took in was only 398 million USD. It didn’t even cross 400 million!”

“China finally has a world-class movie director.”

“That’s right. He’s the only Chinese director who can compete with Hollywood’s might!”

“It is hard to imagine, but you have to admit, China has really risen.”

“For a Nobel Peace Prize laureate to have a military movie that climbed into the all-time global box office rankings, is it a joke or did it really happen? Shouldn’t a Nobel Peace Prize laureate be committed to the cause of peace? Shouldn’t they all be dedicated to philanthropy? Why is he completely different from all the others! Ever since he got onto the international celebrity rankings, he’s been beating up people at awards ceremonies, promoting military strategies on television, and filming military movies. Is this something that a Nobel Peace Prize recipient should be doing?”

“Pfft, the people from the Nobel Prize Committee are probably regretting awarding him the Peace Prize!”

“Zhang Ye? I’ll remember him.”

“I’ve remembered it as well. He’s a weirdo.”

“International showbiz is gonna get interesting.”

Netizens from all over the world commented one after another.

Zhang Ye’s international popularity blew up again. Many foreigners who did not know Zhang Ye before were now starting to learn of his name through this incident. Those who had heard of Zhang Ye in the past were now becoming more familiar with him through this topic as well. From the discussions of the foreign netizens, it was very obvious that everyone used to refer to him as “that Chinese guy,” and

hardly anyone could name him. But now, the foreigners were all typing out Zhang Ye's name every few lines, so this showed just how much his popularity had grown.

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Back at home.

In the villa.

After being busy for close to three months, Zhang Ye was finally able to get some rest. When he got home last night, he immediately laid down and fell sound asleep. He did not wake up until this morning.

His back ached.

His feet ached.

His neck ached.

He was aching everywhere.

Old Wu asked, "Are you up yet?"

Zhang Ye said, "I want to sleep a little more."

"Hur hur, but aren't you already awake?"

"I can't get up, I want to lie down for a while longer."

"I have to go and buy some groceries to make lunch."

"No, let me hug you for a while more."

Sisi said, "Daddy, play with me."

Zhang Ye said, "Daddy can't move anymore."

Zhang Ye closed his eyes and hugged his wife. He did not want to get up, nor did he allow Old Wu out of the bed. He placed his hand over her stomach and put his leg over hers, mumbling shamelessly about not letting her get up.

Old Wu smiled and massaged his head and neck. She knew that he must have been utterly exhausted during the past few months.

The television was on.

The news on it was all about Wolf Warrior 2.

The last day of the box office earnings yesterday had allowed a Chinese movie to break the monopoly that Hollywood had on the global box office rankings. With this, they were finally able to make their name and voice known to people from all over the world. This incident had caught countless Chinese media outlets and industry insiders off guard, and the news started blowing up yesterday.

On the television: "This is the first time a Chinese movie has left an impression on the world, so let us remember this historic moment and remember the name Zhang Ye as well!"

Astonishment!

Mania!

Disbelief!

There was jubilation everywhere!

—This was the atmosphere in China at the moment.

Zhang Ye narrowed his eyes at the television screen. “Turn it off. I’m getting tired of listening to that racket.”

Old Wu chuckled. “But I haven’t.”

Zhang Ye asked, “Have the international celebrity rankings been updated yet?”

“Let me see.” Old Wu browsed online and said, “Not yet.”

Zhang Ye said, “How inefficient!”

He had been waiting for today’s international celebrity rankings to be updated. To him, his work this time had been completed. He had given his country a huge gift, given the whole world a huge shock, and given Hollywood a slap to the face. He had achieved all that he wanted to do. All that was left were his personal affairs he was most concerned about, such as his international celebrity ranking, his achievements, the news about him, how many awards he could get—all of which were directly dependent on how much popularity he had. This was also an important indicator of his results. After putting in so much blood and sweat for close to three months, it had better not be for nothing.

Noise suddenly came from downstairs.

His parents and parents-in-law were here.

Only then did Zhang Ye and Old Wu get up to go downstairs.

Li Qinqin said with a smile, “Little Ye, why didn’t you sleep in for a while longer? You’ve become a national hero. Did you see the news yet?”

Zhang Ye smiled. “Mom, tell me, in what way do I look like a hero?”

Li Qinqin scanned him from head to toe, then covered her mouth and laughed. She said, “You totally look like one.”

Zhang Ye threw his hands in the air. “I dare not be called a hero. I’ll be thanking the Heavens as long as no one scolds me.”

“Who still dares to scold you now?” His mother said in amusement, “Take a look for yourself online.”

Li Qinqin also said, “No one in the country dares to criticize you anymore. It’s fine if they compliment you, but if it’s anything negative, they’ll immediately attract a storm. Don’t you know what happened a few days ago? Two celebrities who feuded with you in the past had pointed out flaws in *Wolf Warrior 2* on Weibo. On the very same day, they were immediately taken to task by the entire country’s netizens. As a result, both of them had to shut down their Weibo accounts and still haven’t reopened them as of

yet. Then there's also that male idol, Song Qi, the one who backstabbed the production. He has been collectively boycotted by the country's directors and is being scolded crazily by the netizens as well."

Zhang Ye said nervously, "Surely not, right?"

No one is scolding me?

Why do I not feel used to this?

His father said, "Do you know your domestic popularity right now? Chenchen showed the domestic celebrity rankings to your mom and me this morning. You're still in first place on the S-list, but you've already surpassed that male idol who is in second place by almost double his popularity score."

This was indeed the truth.

In the past, everyone thought that after Zhang Ye rose to become the number one celebrity in China, his popularity would not increase by too much anymore. But no one could have expected that Zhang Ye, who had already ascended to the top of the entertainment circle, would still be able to increase his Chinese popularity score by so much. From another point of view, Wolf Warrior 2 had provided a really huge boost to Zhang Ye's popularity. Furthermore, his domestic popularity would accumulate and be counted towards his ranking on the international celebrity rankings as well. Back when he was still bordering on an appearance in the international celebrity rankings, and before winning the Nobel Prize, Zhang Ye had mainly gotten there as a result of his domestic popularity score.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "It looks like I've made the right choice in shooting this movie."

His mother beamed. "More than that, this movie has catapulted you to fame. How much has our family earned this time?"

His father also asked in concern, "Have you counted it yet? Your parents-in-law and Zeqing still have their properties mortgaged, so you should quickly return the money to them."

Zhang Ye smiled. "I've already done the calculations."

Everyone sat down on the sofa.

Zhang Ye brought over a pen and paper, then happily scribbled on it. When it came to this matter, he was very excited. "Everyone, take a look. The gross box office earnings figure is 4.83 billion yuan, with some of it coming from overseas. That part of the split will be a little complicated, so let's not talk about it for now. Domestically, we've earned around 4.8 billion from the Chinese market alone. After deducting taxes and related expenses, we will be splitting the sum with the various major movie theater chains so that they will take about 50% to 51%. After that is accounted for, the investors will end up receiving about 1.8 billion or so. Since it was our own family who wholly invested in the movie, there isn't a need to split the earnings with any other investors. All of the 1.8 billion belongs to us. Oh, there will also be some additional income later on. For example, Wolf Warrior 2 will be selling its Internet streaming copyright and TV broadcast copyright as well. Based on the box office earnings we had, that won't be a small sum either. Furthermore, this future sum basically belongs to us, and there won't be a need to share it with anyone else. Therefore, I calculated the final sum to be this in the end."

A figure was written on the piece of paper.

When the family members saw it, they all shook in their boots.

—2 billion RMB!

His mother's jaw dropped. "We'll be getting 2 billion in total?"

Zhang Ye chuckled and said, "That's right, and I've already deducted the rest of the money as well."

Wu Changhe, who had been silent all this time, was startled. "Why is it so much?"

"Because the box office earnings are high," Zhang Ye said with a smile.

His mother yelled, "We're rich! We're rich!"

His father sighed and said, "Why does this feel so unreal? 2 billion? That's all ours? I've never seen so much money before in my entire life!"

Wu Changhe sighed. "I've never seen it before either."

Li Qinqin said in surprise, "We invested 200 million, and we got back 2 billion?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I said it before I started the shoot. Since all of you were willing to invest the money in me, I'd return it by several times the amount."

His father waved it off. "Your mom and I only came up with a bit of money, so don't count our share of it."

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "Dad, that won't do. Business is business."

Zhang Ye said, "That's right, you gotta take your share."

His mother was feeling generous for once. She waved it off and said, "Enough. Your dad and I don't have anywhere we can spend that much money on anyway, so keep it for yourself."

Li Qinqin laughed and said, "We don't want it either. When the money comes in, let's just pay back the mortgages. You two can keep the rest of the money. In the future, if you wish to shoot a movie or TV series, there won't be a need to go around raising money or be afraid that you can't get any investors again."

Zhang Ye was getting anxious. "That won't do!"

Wu Changhe said, "Just keep it with the both of you."

After haggling for a long time, they still insisted on not accepting it.

Finally, Wu Zeqing said, "Then let Little Ye and me put the money aside for you."

At this moment, the latest International Celebrity Rankings Index was refreshed!

Old Wu said, "It's been updated."

Li Qinqin asked, "What ranking are you now?"

His mother asked, "What's your rank?"

Ever since Wolf Warrior 2 was released, Zhang Ye's international popularity had been on a continuous rise.

59th place.

52nd place.

47th place.

45th place.

He had gradually been moving higher on the International C-list Rankings.

But it was only today that the popularity that Zhang Ye had amassed was finally revealed. His position on the international celebrity rankings changed once again.

The International Celebrity Rankings Index.

International C-list Rankings:

Zhang Ye's ranking: 29th place!

He jumped a level from mid-tier C-lister to become a front runner. He was getting closer to the B-list. Remember, just three months ago, Zhang Ye wasn't even on the international celebrity rankings yet. At that time, he still wasn't considered to be an international star!

From not being in the rankings.

To getting onto it.

From being at the bottom of the rankings.

And advancing to the middle of the rankings.

To becoming a front runner.

All of that took only three months!

He had rocketed to his current position!

This momentum that he was progressing at was simply too shocking for the people of this world!

...

On the Web.

"It's out!"

"The celebrity rankings index has been refreshed!"

"Heavens! Jacques has advanced!"

"Jacques has risen to the middle of the International C-list Rankings! He was previously just a lowly C-list celebrity!"

“It must be due to the popularity that he gained from China with Wolf Warrior 2!”

“Guys, look at Zhang Ye’s ranking!”

“He’s at 29th place on the C-list rankings!”

“This is too frightening!”

“No one has progressed so quickly before!”

“Yeah, the international superstars from back then like Farrah, Robert, and Lillian, none of them progressed at such a speed before!”

“How many months has it been? That Chinese celebrity has only been on the international celebrity rankings for three months, but he’s already making a push for the International B-list Rankings?”

“This is too fast!”

“What’s wrong with this world?”

“There has never been a Chinese celebrity who has reached such heights on the International Celebrity Rankings Index!”

“With just one movie, Zhang Ye’s path on the international scene has completely opened up!”

#### **Chapter 1652: The first international brand endorsement contract!**

Sunday.

In the morning.

Outside the window, the clouds were a cottonlike presence.

“It looks like quite a good day today.”

“Daddy, I want to go out and play.”

“Where would you like to go to play?”

“I don’t know. I want Daddy and Mommy to bring me out to play.”

“Alright then, but you’ll have to let you Mommy shower you first.”

“I, I don’t want a shower.”

“Be good. If you clean up, Daddy and Mommy will bring you out to play.”

“Oh, will Sister Chenchen be going too?”

“Yes, we’ll all be going together.”

“Mhm!”

Zhang Ye signaled to Old Wu with his eyes.

Wu Zeqing smiled slightly and took Sisi to the shower.

This little girl was good in every way and was usually very obedient as well. However, she would always start getting resistant at the mention of a shower as she did not really like it. This was why Zhang Ye and his wife always had to work together to cajole her into taking one.

Two hours later.

At a vacation destination in the suburbs.

The family drove their car and went on an outing.

Fishing.

Swimming.

Soaking in the hot springs.

Sisi was having heaps of fun and feeling spoiled.

Zhang Ye laid down on the deck chair and commanded, "Chenchen, watch your sister closely. Don't let her bump into anything, and keep her away from the riverbank. Make sure she doesn't fall into the ditch as well."

Chenchen was furious. "Zhang Ye, why are you so lazy!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "This bro hasn't had any rest at all during the two months of filming, so why can't you let me have some rest now?"

Chenchen said angrily, "You said over the phone that you were bringing me out to play. Zhang Ye, how the hell did I believe you!"

"Sister Chenchen!" Sisi pointed at the river and exclaimed, "It's a big fish! A big fish!"

Chenchen wanted to shirk her responsibility. "Get your daddy to help reel it in."

Sisi grabbed Chenchen's hands and playfully waved them around. "I want Sister Chenchen to catch it for me."

Chenchen rolled her eyes. "I'm gonna end up becoming your little nanny soon." Although she said that, she still used the kid's fishing rod to reel in the fish earnestly.

"It's a big fish! Sister Chenchen, hurry! Sister Chenchen, quick!"

"I know, I know, don't rush me."

"Ah, there's another one!"

"Stand further back. Be careful of falling in."

"Quickly! Quickly! Ah, quickly catch it! Oh! You've caught the big fish! Mommy, come and see. Daddy, come and see! The big fish is so big!"

"Hey, that's cool!"



The whole family was enjoying themselves and having a great time.

When it came time for lunch, it was a feast of grilled fish.

Wu Zeqing was smiling as she fanned the flames. She had taken the responsibility of grilling the fish. Off to the side, three mouths were waiting eagerly to eat them.

Old Wu said, "OK, I've got one that's ready, a non-spicy one."

Sisi called out, "Mommy, give me, give me."

"Alright, eat it slowly. It's hot." Old Wu handed it to her.

A moment later, another piece was done.

Chenchen called out, "It's mine! Mine!"

Zhang Ye tried to snatch it from her. "Give it to me!"

Chenchen said in annoyance, "This one's mine!"

Zhang Ye said, "You can have the next piece."

The two of them nearly got into a fight over a piece of grilled fish.

Finally, Wu Zeqing had to step in and say something. "No fighting over the food. Let Chenchen have this piece first." She stretched out her hand to block off her husband and personally handed the grilled fish to Chenchen.

Chenchen gave Zhang Ye a look before gobbling up the fish.

Zhang Ye harrumphed.

Wu Zeqing laughed and said, "You're an international star. Why are you still fighting over food with a child?"

Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. "An international star still needs to eat, right?"

At this moment, Zhang Ye's cell phone rang.

It was from the studio.

Zhang Ye answered: "Hello, Sister Ha."

Ha Qiqi immediately said: "Director Zhang, something big has happened!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said: "I'm most afraid of something big happening right now. Is it good news or bad news?"

"It's good news." Ha Qiqi said: "We have been approached for an endorsement contract."

Zhang Ye wasn't too interested in that. He said: "Is it a brand endorsement? Which brand is it for? If it's any of those brand names that I had endorsed before, reject them. I won't do it no matter how much money they are willing to pay. When this bro was sent to jail back then, all of them kicked me while I was down and took legal action against me for breach of contract. In the end, we had to pay so much in

compensation that my wife even had to dip into her savings and pay them off for me. We nearly went bankrupt as a result. I'll always remember them for that."

Ha Qiqi laughed and said: "It's not a domestic brand name."

Zhang Ye said: "An overseas brand?"

Ha Qiqi said: "And you won't be able to guess which one it is for sure!"

Zhang Ye blinked and said: "Which one?"

Ha Qiqi said something astonishing. "The number one beverage brand in the world."

"Is it Cola?" Zhang Ye was taken aback.

"That's right!" Ha Qiqi said excitedly.

Zhang Ye said happily, "Why would they come to me?"

Ha Qiqi said: "Your international fame is on a completely different level from before. You're at the peak of your popularity right now, have you forgotten? The biggest sales market of Cola is China, so I guess that's why they wanted you to be their brand ambassador. We've just been contacted by them, and this is an opportunity for us to increase our international presence and visibility. This is why we quickly got in touch with you to let you know."

"How much are they offering?" Zhang Ye asked.

Ha Qiqi said: "10 million US dollars."

"How long is the contract for?"

"One year."

"When does the contract negotiation start?"

"Their representatives will arrive tomorrow."

"OK, I got it."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye was in a very good mood.

Wu Zeqing said, "I've finished grilling another one, who wants it?"

Zhang Ye immediately scuttled forward. "It's mine, it's mine!"

"Oh, you!" Wu Zeqing shook her head and laughed. "Who was that call from?"

Zhang Ye ate while answering, "It was from the studio. There's a global brand endorsement deal from The Cola Company in America. It's the leading international beverage."

Chenchen loved drinking Cola the most. When she heard that, her eyes lit up. "Zhang Ye, you're going to endorse Cola?"

Zhang Ye said, "What do you want?"

Chenchen said, "Get me ten boxes!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Ten boxes? Do you want to die from drinking all of that!"

There weren't many cola brands in this world.

Coca-Cola?

PepsiCo?

Future Cola?[1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Future\\_Cola](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Future_Cola)]

All of those didn't exist. There was only The Cola Company.

This brand was also the largest beverage brand in the world, with no other company coming close. Usually, a first- or second-tier international celebrity would be chosen to represent an international brand name like this, and the choice of the brand ambassador would be changed on an annual basis. Even for an international celebrity like Lillian, an endorsement deal from Cola was considered a huge contract. This was a slice of the pie many celebrities had their eyes on. And unexpectedly, just as the current endorsement deal for The Cola Company was running out, the first person they approached turned out to be Zhang Ye. This one movie did open up Zhang Ye's international path.

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The negotiations.

Signing the contract.

Shooting the ads.

Everything progressed very quickly.

Several days later, the advertisements were out.

A new batch of products was gradually pushed out onto the shelves all across the world.

...

China.

"What?"

"Why is Zhang Ye's picture on this Cola?"

"Wasn't it endorsed by Francis?"

"Ah! They've changed the brand ambassador to Zhang Ye?"

"Zhang Ye has taken an endorsement deal for a top international brand?"

...

America.

"There's new packaging for Cola?"

“Zhang Ye is endorsing it?”

“This is such a big contract. Why did they get him to do it?”

“He’s become really popular.”

...

Korea.

“Holy shit!”

“Look at this ad!”

“Cola has changed its brand ambassador?”

“Does he even have the qualifications?”

“It looks like after Wolf Warrior 2, the entire world has changed its perception of the Chinese market.”

### **Chapter 1653: A television show that has yet to appear in this world!**

Several days later.

In the morning.

After resting for a few days, Zhang Ye finally got back to work at the studio.

Ha Qiqi smiled and greeted, “Good morning, Director Zhang.”

Zhang Zuo greeted, “Good morning.”

“Have you finished resting?” Little Wang said, giggling.

Zhang Ye chuckled and said, “What rest? I’ve been accompanying my wife and child at home for the past few days. I was either cooking or going on outings with them. It was even more tiring than working.”

Little Zhou burst out laughing. “What a humblebrag! I was taken by surprise!”

Little Wang rolled her eyes. “Have you ever spared a thought for those lonely people in the office? You’ve got such a good daughter and a beautiful wife. How could you feel tired about that? Don’t you know how to be content with what you have in life? Oh right, I forgot. You’re face-blind and don’t know that your wife is pretty.”

Zhang Ye said in amusement, “You’re teasing me now, are you?”

Everyone laughed.

Zhang Ye asked, “How’s the ad doing?”

“They’ve started a global campaign.” Ha Qiqi said, “The effects are quite good.”

Zhang Zuo smiled and said, "I've spoken with The Cola Company, and they've mentioned that they're pretty satisfied with it and it's on the right track overall. Our international presence and fame are slowly building up too. Our position on the international celebrity rankings these few days has been very stable and we didn't increase or drop in ranking as we maintain our grip on a frontrunner position. It might be quite difficult to go further up the rankings, but it won't be easy to drop down in the near future either."

Ha Qiqi said pleased, "We've gained stable footing in the international scene."

"That'll do, not bad." Zhang Ye nodded approvingly.

Ha Qiqi asked, "What are your plans?"

Zhang Ye questioned back, "What do you guys think I should do?"

Ha Qiqi waved her hands in response. "We don't dare to give any more suggestions. When Hollywood invited you to shoot a movie, we persuaded you to do it. As a result, we nearly caused a huge mess that would have sent our international popularity plummeting. So it's better that you make your own decisions when it comes to work. We'll carry out the dirty work in whichever direction you point us in." She then laughed and said, "History has already proven countless times that the projects you choose will always turn out fine."

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Come on, I haven't thought of anything yet either."

Movies?

Music?

Novels?

Games?

What should he dabble in this time?

He really had no ideas.

The movie this time had indeed brought him a lot of gains, and things like fame and qualifications were earned through it as well. But strictly speaking, he also resorted to quite a few gimmicks to achieve those results. Wolf Warrior 2 had indeed entered the Top 100 of the global box office rankings and shocked the entire world. But in reality, most of the box office earnings were achieved in China. Meanwhile, the people in most other countries had almost not even watched this movie. Hence, the popularity that he received through the screening of this movie was always lacking a little something and had its own set of restrictions in turn. This was also the reason why Zhang Ye would find it hard to break past the international C-list rankings in the short term. Even if he were to make another movie like Wolf Warrior 2, or another two or three movies like it, his popularity wouldn't be able to go much higher. At most, he would be able to stay at the top of the International C-list Rankings.

C-list?

B-list?

There was a fundamental difference between these two rankings!

Since this was the international stage, he would of course have to do something with an international appeal and influence. It couldn't be a show that only his own countrymen would like, but something that foreign citizens would take to as well. Only by crossing that line would Zhang Ye stand a chance of advancing towards his goal of reaching the International B-list Rankings. Any other talk right now would just be for naught.

Noon.

The takeout was delivered.

"Director Zhang, it's time to eat."

"You're still pondering about it?"

"Mhm."

While they were eating, Zhang Ye was still considering this matter.

He asked, "We didn't receive any invitations for any projects?"

Ha Qiqi said with a wry smile, "We really didn't."

Zhang Ye wondered out loud, "How is that possible?"

"It's because your popularity right now is too high." Ha Qiqi said helplessly, "That's why everyone thinks that you're too expensive to work with and that they can't afford you. That is probably the reason."

Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. "Sure, it's my fault for being so popular."

Zhang Zuo said, "The main issue is you're way too popular. You're a director of a five billion yuan movie!"

Zhang Ye corrected, "It's 4.8 billion."

Ha Qiqi laughed and said, "Don't mention 4.8 billion yuan. In China, even a director or actor who has had a part in an 800 million yuan production can easily call the shots in the entertainment circle. Just think, how many times have you exceeded their achievements by? But I guess we can wait for a bit longer. There will be no projects extending an invitation to us. The only thing we should be concerned about is whether it suits us or not. What we lack now is not work, but a good project. We have to first open up our path on the international market before we can go further."

Zhang Ye nodded. "I agree with that."

Suddenly, his cell phone rang.

It was a call from his old classmate, Yu Yingyi.

"Zhang'er."

"Yingyi? What's up?"

"Are you at the studio?"

"Yeah."

“Alright, I’ll head over for a visit.”

“Sure, come over.”

10 minutes later, Yu Yingyi arrived.

The moment she entered the office, she said in surprise, “You’re still eating takeout?”

Zhang Ye laughed as he ate, “Then what should I be eating?”

“You’re already worth over 2 billion yuan, so why are you still eating this?” Yu Yingyi said in amusement, “I would have thought that you’d be feasting on abalone and lobster every day. I wanted to come here to scrounge a meal off of you.”

Zhang Ye chuckled and said, “The money is not in yet. I’m still as poor as I was right now.”

Ha Qiqi gave up her seat. “I’ve finished eating. Take a seat here, Teacher Yu.”

Yu Yingyi smiled and said, “Thanks, Sister Ha.”

Zhang Ye looked up and asked, “What made you come to my office to visit today?”

Sitting down, Yu Yingyi said, “Someone never visits unless they need something.”

“So what is it?” Zhang Ye blinked.

Yu Yingyi looked at him. “You’ve really done us Chinese people proud with your movie. In just a few months, you’ve built such a good reputation for our Chinese film industry. However, you’re still a host based on your profession, and we both came through the television system. Surely you can’t only be thinking of making movies now, can you? Shouldn’t you also do your part and better the television industry of China as well? By making a TV show that can bring us up onto the international scene, right?”

Zhang Ye said nervously, “Do you think it’s that easy?”

Yu Yingyi laughed and said, “It’s not easy, which is why I came to you.”

“Forget it, I’m not that capable.” Zhang Ye hurriedly waved it off.

Yu Yingyi said, not giving up, “What do you think of Central TV International?”

Zhang Ye said honestly, “I don’t think it’s much.”

Yu Yingyi was horrified. “We’re the only international channel in China. How is that not something?”

“Do you guys have the viewership ratings to back it up?” Zhang Ye asked.

Yu Yingyi said coldly, “We have the coverage!”

Zhang Ye said, “What do you mean by that? Are you thinking of doing an entertainment show on CTV International? Hasn’t it always been showing only politics and military programs?”

Yu Yingyi said, “We have to keep up with the times too.”

Zhang Ye said, “It’s not easy making a TV show these days.”

Yu Yingyi said, "You mean there are still things that you can't do?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Sister, I'm not a god. Do you think that making a show is that easy? And you even want it to be interesting to international viewers too? Do you know what kinds of shows foreigners like? Talk shows? Although I was the one who started that format, it spread overseas a long time ago. They already have their own talk shows that are quite popular with the viewers. Who still wants to watch ours? Or do you want to make a documentary? The international documentaries have higher production value than ours', and their investments are larger as well. Their hosts fly all over the world to film their footage, so how can we compete? Or do you want to make a survival show? They're so overdone by the other countries that we won't have the first-move advantage, so it will be a surefire fail if we were to do them as well. This is why China does not have a share in the world when it comes to TV shows. If we wish to use our own TV shows to promote ourselves overseas, it's an almost impossible task. No one will watch any of them."

It wasn't that he didn't want to make a television show to open up China's path overseas. This was something that he wished to do back then, but making television shows was different from making a movie. China's television shows had even less of a presence in the world than China's movies. After thinking for a very long time, there wasn't anything that Zhang Ye could bring to the table.

As such, he said, "Just forget about it."

Yu Yingyi was taken aback. "Wait a minute."

Zhang Ye asked, "What?"

Yu Yingyi looked at him with a puzzled face. "When you mentioned that talk shows and documentaries are very popular overseas, I know that. But did you mention something about survival shows just now?"

"Yeah," Zhang Ye said matter-of-factly.

But Yu Yingyi asked, "What's that?"

Zhang Ye was startled. "Haven't you watched a survival show before?"

Yu Yingyi scratched her head. "No, I've never watched one before."

Zhang Ye said, "They have such shows overseas, and they're under the exploration genre"

Yu Yingyi said, looking confused, "I really don't know about them. What are you talking about?"

Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. "Why are you such a hick?" Then he turned and looked at Ha Qiqi, Zhang Zuo, and the others. "Explain it to her."

However, their reactions were the same as Yu Yingyi.

Ha Qiqi said, "I don't think I've heard of it before either."

Zhang Zuo seemed like he was thinking hard. "Are there shows like that?"

Little Wang said, "Exploration? Exploration of what? Digging for oil?"

Everyone was shaking their heads. No one had heard of it before.



Zhang Ye was dumbfounded. "Ah? There isn't such a thing?"

He quickly searched for it on his computer.

Soon, a surprised expression appeared on Zhang Ye's face. He shouted, "What the fuck, it really doesn't fucking exist!"

Yu Yingyi said curiously, "Just what sort of strange show did you watch?"

Strange show?

That show isn't strange at all!

It was a phenomenal show that was extremely popular all around the world!

### **Chapter 1654: I'll film it!**

On that night.

Beijing.

At a gym.

A car parked outside. Zhang Ye and Wu Zeqing stepped out with their daughter.

Old Wu asked, "What made you want to come to the gym all of a sudden?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I wanted to train a little and also wanted to have Sisi learn how to swim since there are coaches here. I've already made the arrangements. There won't be any outsiders around."

Old Wu asked, "Who's the owner?"

Zhang Ye said, "Xu Meilan. It's not usually open to the public."

Sisi was a little conflicted. "Daddy, I don't want to swim."

Zhang Ye patted her on the head. "Be good. When you learn how to swim, Daddy will buy you something nice to eat."

Wu Zeqing smiled. "She's been afraid of water since birth."

Zhang Ye said, "That's why I want her to learn. It's best to conquer your fears."

Someone was already waiting for them at the entrance.

That person came up and welcomed them. "Teacher Zhang, you're here? My last name is Zheng. I'm a coach here. Sister Lan just called me and arranged everything. Please follow me."

Zhang Ye said, "Thank you."

Coach Zheng smiled and said, "You're welcome."

The gym wasn't big, but it was very luxurious. As it wasn't open to the public, there was hardly anyone around. Most of the people here were either employees or coaches. When they saw Zhang Ye, there was a noticeable commotion. Although Heavenly Queen Xu Meilan had opened the gym, and the people who came by were often celebrities and big shots they were used to seeing, they still reacted a little differently when they saw Zhang Ye. Zhang Ye was an international star.

Sisi went to learn to swim.

Sitting where the equipment was, Zhang Ye and his wife watched through a glass panel.

Zhang Ye suddenly said, "My classmate came to look for me today."

"Mhm?"

Zhang Ye said, "CTV International approached me to make a show for them."

Old Wu asked, "Have you accepted it?"

"I haven't given them my word yet."

"If it's going to be for the international audience, it won't be easy."

"Yeah, I know that."

"Do you a concept?"

"I do have some ideas, but I'm not sure if they'll work. I still have to ponder over it for a bit. If I'm really going to make that show, I won't be able to stay at home for a period of time again. That's why I'm hesitating. I have to get my wife's permission since I just finished making a movie."

"What genre is it?"

"Wilderness survival."

"Wilderness survival? Are there shows like that?"

"It's precisely because there aren't any that I wanted to give it a try."

"Any danger involved?"

"Uh, no."

"Do it if you think it will work. I'll take care of matters at home."

"Alright, I'll think about it then."

Wu Zeqing stretched her arms a little. "Let's go and work out as well."

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Do your warmups first. Don't pull any muscles."

Not far away.

Several female trainers were arguing.

"I'll take them, I'll take them!"

“Sister Chen, you’ve already clocked out.”

“Can’t I apply for overtime today?”

“I’m the one who’s supposed to work overtime today. Don’t you all dare to fight with me over it!”

“Aiya, stop arguing already. Why don’t we all handle this together?”

Coach Zheng shook his head and said, “Look at you all, arguing over something like this! I’ll take Teacher Zhang. You all can go and guide Minister Wu.”

Two of the female trainers went over to help Wu Zeqing. However, their eyes turned to Zhang Ye every now and then.

Coach Zheng went over and said with a smile, “Teacher Zhang, what kind of workout would you like to do?”

Zhang Ye shrugged. “I’ll be fine with any workout.”

But Coach Zheng said sternly, “You shouldn’t be working out like that. You don’t usually come to the gym and work out with the equipment, right? You’ll need someone who can guide you. Otherwise, you won’t be able to achieve the full effects of the workout. It will also be easy to injure yourself that way. From your physique, you’re slightly on the thin side and don’t have much strength and muscle, so you’ve got to do a full workout.”

Zhang Ye said, “That won’t be necessary.”

Coach Zheng said, “You really should.” He raised his arms and flexed to show off his muscles. “Look, all this is a result from years of training. I know that you’re doing this for your movie roles, but it’s still your muscles or strength in the end. It’s not something that anyone would find too much of. Your physical fitness should be quite good, so let me think up a workout regimen for you. I’ll also suggest a diet that you can incorporate protein powder into. If you can stick to this plan for the next three to five years, you can also have nice muscles and be strong like us. I can guarantee you that.”

Zhang Ye waved his hands and said, “Protein powder? Count me out.”

Nearby, a female trainer also said, “You have to take it, or you won’t be able to increase your strength.”

Coach Zheng added, “That’s right.”

But Zhang Ye kept waving it off. He said with a laugh, “Forget it, I’m not really thinking of working out so hard anyway. Just put the focus on my wife and guide her well. You don’t really have to worry about me.”

Everyone was helpless.

Wu Zeqing had already started her workout.

Zhang Ye found a random machine beside her and started working out on it noisily.

The trainers were all shaking their heads. “Alright then, let us know if there’s anything you need.”

Zhang Ye's mind was not on gym workouts at all. He had come out with Old Wu today mainly to get her opinion on a matter. He had been filming Wolf Warrior 2 for two months and then being busy for another month for the screening of the movie. During these three months, Zhang Ye was hardly at home, so he was afraid that his wife would mind if he were to be away again for his work. Fortunately, Old Wu had always been fully supportive of him when it came to work. This made Zhang Ye feel very grateful about his situation.

Should he make the show or not?

Could it work?

No matter how much Zhang Ye thought about it, he found it to be an enormous risk.

Just as he had said to Yu Yingyi, it was almost impossible for a show from China to get accepted by the entire world's viewers. Be it the region, language, or culture, all of those factors would have already made this path an unwalkable one. But a wilderness survival show was different. This type of show was not limited by international boundaries of any type. It just needed one person and a film crew, and they'd be able to film the show in the wilderness anywhere in the world. Then the show would just have to be translated into English or another language, and everyone around the world could watch it. The method for survival would also be scientific, so it isn't limited by cultural differences either. In addition, Zhang Ye was an international star now, so he had a certain influence on the international scene. Therefore, it didn't really matter much whether the person who hosted the show was Chinese, English, or American. The most important thing was: this kind of show didn't exist in this world.

An hour.

Two hours.

Wu Zeqing checked her watch. "It's about time, isn't it?"

"Alright, let's get going." Zhang Ye smiled and got off the equipment.

Wu Zeqing smiled and said to the trainer beside her, "Thank you for your guidance."

The female trainer smiled and said, "When you come here next time, do look for me again."

Old Wu said, "Alright."

Another female coach said, "It's just that Teacher Zhang didn't really do much working out."

Zhang Ye laughed. "Didn't I just work out for two hours?"

The female trainer covered her mouth and laughed. "That weight you were working out with, even us female trainers find it to be too light. We'd only lift that during our warmups."

Zhang Ye said in amusement, "That's because you're all professionals."

The female trainer pointed to the side. "Coach Zheng is the most professional one here. Look at him."

Coach Zheng was bench pressing some weights.

A few trainers were standing around him.

“He’s increasing the weight.”

“It’s already at 180 kilos!”

“How impressive!”

“That’s twice his weight.”

When Coach Zheng saw so many people watching him, he felt even more motivated. He probably didn’t lift this much normally. Letting out a shout, he braced himself until his veins were showing. With great effort, he unracked the bar and pushed it upwards with his arms trembling mightily!

Everyone cheered.

“Great!”

“Nice!”

“He lifted it!”

The trainers were all clapping.

Zhang Ye and Wu Zeqing did not pay much attention to that. They just smiled and prepared to go and fetch their daughter.

But at this moment, just as they were walking past, a loud voice rang out. “Aiyo!”

The bar in Coach Zheng’s hands slipped. His left hand couldn’t grip it and he lost control momentarily as 180 kilograms of weight came crashing down towards him!

“Ah!”

“Careful!”

“Old Zheng!”

Several of the female trainers paled!

The male trainers rushed up, wanting to help, but none of them dared to even stretch out their hands out to catch the bar. It contained 180 kilograms. For such a load to fall downwards, they wouldn’t be able to catch it unless all three of them caught it at the same time. However, none of them were prepared for this.

Coach Zheng was so terrified his face turned green!

At the very last moment, a hand suddenly appeared above Coach Zheng’s head.

Zhang Ye was happening to pass by when he turned his head and noticed the situation. With just a look, his reflexive response caused him to stretch one hand out and grab hold of the bar.

He stopped it from falling!

It was stopped just 2 centimeters above Coach Zheng’s eyes!

Zhang Ye asked, “Are you OK?”

Coach Zheng was stunned!

The trainers around were all dumbfounded!

Coach Zheng said, "Ah, yes, I'm fine."

Zhang Ye nodded before lifting the barbell up with one hand and placing it back onto the rack with a loud clang. Throughout all of this, he did not even blink at all. "Don't push yourself too hard. Take it easy."

Then he left together with his wife.

The two of them chatted as they walked off.

Old Wu asked, "So how's your thinking coming along?"

Zhang Ye replied, "Hur hur, I've already thought it through."

"What's your decision?"

"I'll film it!"

"That's good."

"If I miss this opportunity, there won't be another chance like it. I definitely have to seize it. It's just that there's some difficulty to it. I haven't even climbed a mountain or lived in the wilderness before. I'm just afraid that my fitness isn't good enough."

"Work out more then."

"I will."

After picking up Sisi, the family of three walked out of the gym.

Leaving the coaches in the gym nearly vomiting blood at what just happened!

Everyone looked at Zhang Ye as he left. Then they turned to look at that 180-kilogram barbell on the equipment rack. Beads of sweat formed on every one of their foreheads. They looked at Zhang Ye like they had seen a god!

A female trainer gulped. "180 kilos?"

A male trainer grunted, "Mhm."

Another female trainer said, "H-He caught it with one hand?"

Another male trainer said, "He did."

Everyone knew what this weight represented.

They knew even better what it meant to be able to catch that with one hand.

And it looked like he did not even put in any effort?

What left them even more speechless was that before leaving, Zhang Ye actually said, "I'm only afraid that my fitness isn't good enough," while speaking to his wife.

Your fitness isn't good enough?

Then how fucking good does it have to be before it can be deemed good enough!

Silence.

It was so silent that it was awkward.

It was so awkward that they could feel their faces flushing.

They thought about how they even suggested to Zhang Ye earlier to take protein powder to increase his strength.

Protein powder? You couldn't fucking train to that level even if you took 50 kilograms of protein powder every day!

### **Chapter 1655: Preparing to shoot Man vs. Wild!**

The next day.

In the morning.

At Zhang Ye's Studio.

The moment Zhang Ye arrived at work, he clapped his hands and gathered everyone together. "Everyone, drop your work for now. I have something to announce. Yesterday, CTV International invited us to make a show that is suitable for international audiences. I've thought about it for a whole day and finally decided that this will be our next project. I won't be taking any new jobs for the next few months and I want everyone to make the development of this new show their top priority."

Little Wang said in surprise, "What?"

Tong Fu was taken aback. "We're really going to do it?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Really."

Ha Qiqi said curiously, "Didn't you say that you didn't want to do it?"

"Yeah." Wu Yi said nervously, "You said yourself that it wouldn't work."

China's television shows had always been stuck in a difficult spot, especially in the three years that Zhang Ye was serving his sentence. The bustling activity was just an appearance, but be it variety shows or documentaries, or even television series, their potential had always been limited to China. None of them were able to make it out there. During these years, there was also a continuous stream of television workers who tried to bring China's shows onto the international stage. But the end results were always failures without exception. Gradually, no one attempted it anymore.

But this time, Zhang Ye wanted to give it a try.

Zhang Ye smiled gleefully. "If it were any ordinary show, of course it wouldn't work. This show we're trying to make will be totally different. It's a genre the world has never seen before. It can even be described as unique. Believe me, if this show is produced according to my expectations, it wouldn't be too exaggerated to say that it will become popular all over the world. Whether or not a Chinese television show can make it outside of our own country will all depend on this. But I have to tell everyone this first: The show won't be easy to shoot. It's going to be extremely difficult, so I will also have very high expectations for our crew. This is an outdoor survival show that will be filmed in the wilderness. Although we also have a lot of experience filming documentaries, television series, and movies, even if we have trekked through the mountains and the countryside, this is still going to be something different. Therefore, for the film crew this time, I prefer women not to take part and stay behind in the office to work."

Little Wang rolled her eyes. "Director Zhang, you're discriminating against women this way."

Zhang Ye said in amusement, "Believe me, you definitely do not want to follow along. It's possible that everyone will have to stay out in the wilderness for up to three or four days without any sort of logistic support. The accommodations and living conditions are not going to be too convenient for women, so you might as well not go. I'll plan around that by focusing on our male staff for the shoot."

Ha Qiqi asked, "Just what is the show going to be like?"

Little Wang also asked, "Yeah, is it really that good?"

Make it out of China?

Become popular all over the world?

They were completely unable to imagine what Zhang Ye described.

Zhang Ye chuckled and thought that he might as well bring out the proposal he had worked on through the night to prepare.

Everyone immediately lowered their heads to read it.

—Man vs. Wild?

One page.

Five pages.

Ten pages.

After looking through it, everyone in the studio had a look of shock on their faces. Before this, none of them understood exactly what Zhang Ye had meant when he talked about it being a survival show shot in the wilderness. It was even more difficult to understand what the format would be like and how it would be filmed. But after looking at the program proposal, they finally got a taste of what it would be like!

Little Wang exclaimed, "Oh my God!"

Ha Qiqi said anxiously, "No way! Th-This is too dangerous!"



Zhang Zuo stared, aghast. "You're risking your life like this!"

Wu Yi said in shock, "If anything goes wrong, someone could die!"

Zhang Ye smacked his lips and said, "Die? I know the limits!"

"The safety of the film crew is not a big problem since we won't have to follow along for every scene." Tong Fu said, "But who's going to be responsible for your safety? This is even more dangerous than the time we were filming the lion scene in the African savanna. If something really happens, we won't even have enough time for the rescue. According to this program plan, it wouldn't be enough even if you had ten lives. Who the heck wrote this lousy proposal!"

Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. "I wrote it."

Tong Fu said, "Uh..."

Zhang Zuo said firmly, "I object!"

Ha Qiqi said, "I object too!"

Almost everyone protested against it.

But Zhang Ye said bluntly, "Objections overruled. We're going to do it. We'll prioritize the stronger guys to be the members of the film crew. Of course, it's all voluntary. Those who are afraid or can't endure hardships don't have to go. Same for those who are physically weak. Otherwise, they can't handle any unforeseen situations in the wild. After you've thought it through, register your interest with Old Ha. I want to see the list for the film crew before getting off work today. Oh yes, I will also need a dedicated cameraman to stick with me throughout. This job is going to be very dangerous as well, but our studio's staff won't be able to do it since they don't have the abilities. See if there's anyone out there who's suitable for this job and employ them for the production. I don't need someone who's very good at filming as this is not an art film. What's more important is that they are hardy and physically fit and have wilderness survival experience."

Everyone kept looking at one another.

Zhang Ye blinked and said, "What are you all standing there for? Old Ha?"

Ha Qiqi said helplessly, "Understood."

Zhang Ye looked at Zhang Zuo. "Brother Zuo?"

Zhang Zuo threw his hands up and gave in. "Whatever you say."

They both understood that if Director Zhang had decided on it, there would be no point in persuading him.

Zhang Ye laughed. "Come on, let's get moving. When we're done filming the show, you guys will understand why I'd rather take the risk and finish making the show. Just wait and see how this show will sweep the world off its feet. Whatever TV shows from America, the UK, or Japan, whatever talk shows, variety shows, and documentaries, they will all be vanquished! It's not going to be difficult at all."

Everyone was speechless. They didn't know if Director Zhang was serious or just taking them for fools.

Sweep the world?

Broadcast all over the world?

Was that possible?

With just a survival show in the wilderness?

Would anyone enjoy watching a show with a “fool” wandering around in the mountains?

...

On the same day.

The news of Zhang Ye’s cooperation with Central TV International spread.

Although there weren’t any specifics and details made known, many media outlets and citizens could already guess through the existence of this news. Zhang Ye’s new work was going to be revealed soon, and it was going to be an international television show too! This was really big news. Ever since Wolf Warrior 2, media outlets from all over the world were paying attention to Zhang Ye’s activities. To everyone’s surprise, Zhang Ye, who had just become famous worldwide as a movie director, was turning back to making television shows!

On the Web.

“Zhang Ye is not going to make movies anymore?”

“You’re a movie director. Why would you be making TV shows!”

“There’s a saying in China: If you’re don’t have a diamond drill, don’t be mending ceramics <sup>1</sup>, lol.”

“What’s there in China that’s worthy enough to make into a TV show?”

“Who knows? Do you guys have any memory of a Chinese TV show?”

“Nope, never watched one before.”

“Me neither, I’ve never heard of any.”

“In the field of the global television industry, there has never been a share for China.”

“China’s shows don’t have a shred of presence.”

The netizens of the various countries couldn’t feel optimistic at all as all kinds of contemptuous voices rang out.

In the end, they were slapped by the Chinese netizens.

A Chinese netizen: “Previous posters, I wouldn’t refute it if you said anything else. But since we’re on this topic, I have to say something about it, hur hur. Perhaps you guys still don’t know about this, but the talk shows that you love watching the most actually originated in China.”

The netizens of the various countries were surprised.

“What?”

“Talk shows?”

“It spread from China?”

“How is that possible!”

Many of the foreigners could not believe it.

Countless Chinese netizens laughed and said: “Go on and check it out. It’s especially legendary!”

When the netizens of countries around the world heard this, they went to check if it was true. Only then did they realize that the talk show format really originated in China and that the earliest talk show first appeared there. Many of their foreign talk shows had imitated that show, and some even paid copyright fees to China to adopt the format. This discovery really shocked them.

The foreign netizens:

“It was really from China!”

“This is ridiculous!”

“I’m finding out about this for the first time!”

“There’s such an impressive TV personality in China?”

“So who was the first person to do a talk show?”

They were really curious.

Immediately, the Chinese netizens gave them the answer: “The first talk show in the world was made by Zhang Ye. The copyright money that you guys have been paying all these years were paid to him.”

Many of the foreigners couldn’t help but yell, “Fuck!”

### **Chapter 1656: Zhang Ye turns survival specialist in double time!**

The world still did not know Zhang Ye well enough.

At least, they did not know him as well as they thought they did.

To them, Zhang Ye was a Nobel Prize winner, an author, and a movie director. They might also know that he was the current number one hacker in the world. But other than that, they didn’t really have a deeper understanding of him. After all, Zhang Ye’s status in the international scene still hadn’t reached the stage where the entire world was obsessed with his every move. As such, when they heard that Zhang Ye was actually thinking of moving into the field of television, the people of the various countries all found it laughable. They thought that Zhang Ye was a total amateur and layman. But on this day, after getting slapped in the face by the Chinese netizens, countless foreigners shockingly discovered many facts that they didn’t know.

He was the one who invented the talk show!

Their countries’ television stations had actually been paying copyright fees to Zhang Ye all this while!

Not only that, Zhang Ye also did many other things as well!

Documentaries.

Educational programs.

Variety shows.

Television series.

Television actor.

Program planning.

Skit actor.

Crosstalk comedian.

Host.

Television guest and coach.

Even the world's largest program, the Spring Festival Gala, had been directed by him as well!

As long as there was anything related to television, and as long as it could be shown on television, Zhang Ye had done them all! If they had to find the most professional and most legendary television personality in China, if they had to find the number one person in the television industry, then that person would definitely be Zhang Ye. There would be no other choice!

At this moment, the entire world finally found out that Zhang Ye was the most professional television personality in China. So he didn't start off by writing novels, nor did he come through by making movies. Instead, he had majored in broadcasting in university. That was the field that he was most proficient at!

The number one television personality in China!

It would be his first time creating an international television show!

Could a miracle be about to happen again?

At this moment, no one knew. They would have to wait until the show was broadcast!

...

In the morning.

Back at home.

Zhang Ye's parents came to pick up his daughter.

Zhang Ye said with an embarrassed smile, "Dad, Mom, I'll have to trouble you two again for a while. This bro will be getting busy again and won't have time for other things."

His father said, "It's fine."

His mother gave him a stare and said, "What's fine? You've only rested for how long after shooting the movie? Besides, why did you go back to making TV shows? How many years has it been since you've made a TV show?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "That's why I'm doing it again."

His father asked, "Everyone's discussing it on the Internet. So what kind of show is it?"

Zhang Ye laughed. "I'll be keeping it a secret for now."

His mother said, "Is it an international show?"

"That's right." Zhang Ye nodded.

His mother said suspiciously, "Are you sure you can do it? You better not fool around and come up with something lousy."

Zhang Ye laughed. "If I can't do it, then no one else can."

His mother said, "When are you going to start filming it?"

Zhang Ye said, "Once Central TV has finished their arrangements. It should be soon."

The equipment.

The personnel.

Travel visas.

Funding.

There was a lot of preparation work to handle.

Zhang Ye had only needed to set up the film crew, and he was already pretty much done. The rest of the work that would be handled by Central TV International were tasks like chartering a plane, renting boats, coordinating for the entry of the crew to various countries, and so on. Zhang Ye couldn't handle all that, so he had to leave it to them. Zhang Ye had his own matters to deal with. During the preparation period, he urgently needed to fix any flaws with the show.

The selling point of the show was not as simple as just having a few skills to survive in the wilderness. The relevant knowledge, the ways to survive, the methods to make camp, what could be eaten, what could not be eaten, how to build a boat, how to escape danger, etc., all of these were skills that Zhang Ye did not possess. If he were to shoot the show in his current state, it would definitely not work. Therefore, there was still a lot of preparation work that he needed to do. He had to transform from a layman who knew nothing into an all-around survival specialist with knowledge of everything!

And so, his wife was currently helping him shop for books online.

Old Wu asked, "The Wilderness Camping Manual, is this fine?"

Zhang Ye replied, "Yeah, buy it."

"Ten Ways to Identify Time in the Outdoors?"

“Buy it.”

“A Detailed Description of Animal Species?”

“Buy it.”

“Fire Starting with the Hand Drill Method?”

“Buy them all.”

His mother was dumbfounded. “Rascal, are you thinking of setting up a library?”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “That’s not even a lot of books.”

His father said, “Will you be able to read them all?”

“Of course,” Zhang Ye said.

During the day.

The books were delivered.

100 books.

200 books.

300 books.

The entire living room was almost filled to the brim with books.

Some of the books covered outdoor experiences, some covered scientific knowledge, and some were introductions to flora and fauna. There were Chinese books and English ones as well. These books covered nearly all of the knowledge on how to survive in the wilderness around the world. There were even medical books that taught about how to give treatment for external injuries. For others, wanting to gain experience in a short period of time from books was not too practical a method. But doing this was not difficult for Zhang Ye. This was because he could use the game ring’s Memory Search Capsule to quickly assimilate this knowledge into his mind, which would then become a part of him. As long as it was written in the books, as long as the information was available online, he could learn them all.

If a 100 books weren’t enough, he would read a 1,000 books.

If a 1,000 books weren’t enough, he would read 2,000.

In just a short duration, Zhang Ye had speedily absorbed the knowledge and gained experience. He learned so much that he even believed that no other survival specialist in the world knew more knowledge than him. And neither would any specialists from his previous world. In his previous world, on many of such survival shows, most of the survival specialists only looked like they knew a lot. In actual fact, they had a professional team supporting them from behind. There were botanists, zoologists, and medical experts too. It was those people who supported and channeled their knowledge through the host from behind the cameras.

But Zhang Ye didn’t need such a team. He could do it all by himself.

Of course, the things that involved mobility and operational skills were too difficult to learn by just reading about them in books. After all, without actual practice, there would be no accumulation of experience. This was different from looking at a plant and being able to name it. Hence, Zhang Ye opened up the game ring with the idea of getting some items from it.

The virtual screen popped up. His total Reputation Points was at a terrifying figure. He had not used it in such a long time, and he had accumulated a lot of Reputation Points. Naturally, Zhang Ye did not feel the pinch anymore. This was something that would directly affect his new show, which was a very important step in his plans to go international. As such, he definitely could not be stingy. He activated the Lucky Halo (Ultra) and picked Lottery Draw (Three). It was finally time to try his luck, so Zhang Ye held his breath in anticipation.

He opened the golden Treasure Chests (Large) one by one.

[Skydiving Skill] × 56

[Knife Skills] × 100

[Fruit of Agility] × 33

[Diving Skill] × 128

[Surgical Technique] × 66

And so on.

There was an assortment of items.

In the space of a night, Zhang Ye had turned into a wilderness survival specialist like he was on steroids. He couldn't be more awesome than this!

### **Chapter 1657: Chenchen gets into a fight!**

In the morning.

At Sister Lan's gym.

Zhang Ye was here again today. His main purpose in coming to the gym was to lose some fat and bulk up. After the movie was done filming, he had begun to neglect his training. As his wife's cooking was so good, he would always have a huge appetite whenever he ate at home. His abs were almost gone, so he thought of working out to make his muscles larger and more defined again before the show started filming. There would surely be scenes in the show where he would not be wearing any clothes, so he was doing this to make sure that he would appear nicer on television and hopefully boost the ratings a little.

Bench presses.

Squats.

Lat pulldowns.

Cardio.

After he was finished the whole set of exercises, he wasn't even sweating all that much.

Coach Zheng and the other trainers who were standing nearby were looking at him as though he were some kind of god. No one dared to give Zhang Ye any advice or offer him any guidance because they knew that he much fitter than they were. Even if all of them were to join forces, they would probably still not match up to Zhang Ye in terms of fitness.

At this moment, Ha Qiqi called.

Zhang Ye answered: "Sister Ha, have you found someone?"

Ha Qiqi said: "Not yet, the requirements for the camera operator are set too high. The ones that I'd managed to find were already some of the more outstanding ones in China."

Zhang Ye shook his head. "Those few definitely won't do. If they don't have any experience surviving in the wilderness, or if they haven't attempted skydiving before, how could they handle being my dedicated videographer? How are we supposed to film the aerial scenes? What about when we get into a situation that requires me to rock climb? Even though I can take a camera with me and film myself, such angles would only work once or twice in an episode. Surely I can't be doing that throughout the show, right? This is why having a dedicated videographer is very important. He's going to be more important than anyone else in the film crew, so I have to find a professional no matter what. Keep looking. Go and ask around in the circle and see if there are good ones somewhere."

Ha Qiqi said: "Alright, I'll continue asking."

Zhang Ye said: "Hurry, there isn't much time left."

Ha Qiqi said: "Understood."

Central TV's preparations were more or less completed, while his own matters were mostly settled as well. It was only the issue of the dedicated videographer that was still up in the air, so he couldn't help but feel a little anxious.

Suddenly, another phone call arrived.

It was from his mother.

Zhang Ye picked it up. "Mom, I'm working out at the gym. What is it?"

His mother immediately said: "Chenchen got into a fight in school!"

"Ah?" Zhang Ye was dumbfounded. "Who did she fight?"

His mother sounded very anxious. "She beat up a male classmate. Her form teacher has called to ask for her guardian to head down to the school right now. The boy's father is at the school as well and refuses to drop the issue, so run on over!"

Zhang Ye said: "Alright, alright, don't worry, I'll go over right away!"

His mother said angrily: "You few are always making me worry!"



Zhang Ye didn't know whether to laugh or cry: "She's the one who got into a fight. What does it have to do with me?"

"Isn't it all because she learned it from you!" his mother harrumphed.

After hanging up, Zhang Ye drove over to the middle school Chenchen studied at.

...

At a school.

In a middle school class.

It was extremely chaotic in the classroom that was packed full of people!

A tanned man who looked very strong stood there refusing to leave. He was so angry he was blue in the face. "Get your parents here immediately! Immediately! Let me tell you, this isn't over!"

Chenchen curled her lips. "Hur hur."

The form teacher hurriedly said, "Mengmeng's dad, everything can be worked out."

Several nearby teachers were also trying to persuade him. "That's right, everything can be worked out if we talk through it."

Sun Kuang spat out, "No, this will not be worked out through talking! How did they educate their child? Huh? Such a young child, and such a young girl at that, and they actually taught her martial arts? And it's even the highly lethal Eight Trigrams Palm? How can her parents be so inconsiderate! I must teach them a lesson today!"

Chenchen snorted and looked up at him.

Her classmates and the other teachers looked at Chenchen in confusion.

Martial arts?

Eight Trigrams Palm?

How could a child like that possibly know martial arts?

Actually, the incident in class today had given the students and teacher a bad scare. It wasn't such a big deal at the beginning, and Sun Xiaomeng and Chenchen were both classmates. During the break, Sun Xiaomeng, who was a rather mischievous child, had pranked a female classmate. He stuffed a caterpillar into her pencil case and frightened the female classmate so badly she burst into tears. But Sun Xiaomeng was still not done. He continued running around with the caterpillar and scaring the girls in the class to the point of crying. In the end, Chenchen banged on a table and stood up, then gave Sun Xiaomeng a beating right in front of their shocked classmates. When the teacher arrived, she was also dumbfounded by this scene. A petite girl chasing after a plump boy wanting to beat him up—can you even imagine a scene like that? Only then did they realize that this little girl who didn't mix well with the class was actually so fearsome!

Sun Kuang roared, "Why aren't your parents here yet?"

His son, Sun Xiaomeng, had a bruised face and tugged at his dad, whispering, "Dad, forget it. We were just playing."

Sun Kuang said furiously, "You rascal, would your face be all bruised if it was just playing? Would it? And what's this? You're so big, yet you couldn't even beat a girl? You refused to learn the Eight Extremities Fist when you were young, so look at what's happened now. You're getting stepped on!"

Chenchen narrowed her eyes. "You practice the Eight Extremities Fist<sup>1</sup>?"

Sun Kuang sneered. "Don't think that you can act all arrogant just because you have a grandmaster in your Eight Trigrams branch of martial arts. I just want to know what kind of people your parents are."

The teachers all knew that something big was about to happen.

After his child was beaten up, this parent was looking to get revenge on the other party's parents!

Listening to what had been said, these two families were even trained in martial arts? If they were to start fighting, would someone end up dying?

The form teacher said in panic, "What do we do?"

The language teacher said, "Call the police!"

The math teacher wiped at her sweat. "Something bad is gonna happen!"

Sun Kuang shouted, "I'm gonna teach your parents a lesson today on how to be a person!"

At this moment, a young man wearing sunglasses appeared at the entrance of the classroom.

He said, "Hey, who wants to teach me a lesson on how to be a person!"

The protagonist had arrived!

Everyone lost their wits!

"It's Chenchen's parent!"

"You, go back first!"

"Hold him back!"

A few teachers hurriedly tried to protect Chenchen's parent, but they were still a step too late.

Sun Kuang stared hard at him, and without saying anything further, threw a punch out. "Watch my punch!"

In the end, the young man wearing sunglasses blocked the attack head-on. His wrist lowered as he swiftly struck back with it.

After a single move, the young man wearing sunglasses did not move his feet in the slightest.

Instead, Sun Kuang had been thrown back three steps.

The young man wearing sunglasses said in amusement, "The Eight Extremities Fist?"

Sun Kuang's eyes widened as he pointed at him in shock. "Damn! It's the Taiji Fist! You're—you're—" He instantly knew who it was. Immediately, he thought of something else and nearly wanted to vomit out a mouthful of blood. He turned and stared at Chenchen. "Eight Trigrams Palm? Christ! Y-You're the child from Rao Aimin's family!

Chenchen chuckled, "Hur hur."

Sun Xiaomeng said in panic, "Dad, are you OK?"

Sun Kuang felt like crying. He had never wanted to cry this badly before in his entire life!

Zhang Ye!

Rao Aimin!

As a member of the Chinese martial arts world, and as someone with a rather high rank in the Eight Extremities Fist branch of martial arts, others might not know what those two names represented to the martial arts world, but how could he not know? One was a female hooligan who had dominated China's martial arts world for decades. The other was a hooligan who had single-handedly swept aside more than a dozen large sects. They were the ones who ran rampant in China's martial arts world, and anyone who saw them would want to stay as far away from them as possible!

What the hell!

How did I manage to provoke those two hooligans!

The atmosphere got a little awkward.

Zhang Ye asked, "Would you like to go on?"

Go on, your sister!

Sun Kuang waved his hand and said, "Forget it, forget it. I've already thought it through. We should let the children handle their own matters. As parents, we shouldn't interfere with their affairs. Moreover, this is a school, a sacred place, so we should listen to teachers and not just do anything rash."

The students jeered, "Boo!"

The teachers rolled their eyes. That wasn't what you said earlier!

But even if they were fools, they could also tell that Mengmeng's parent was not a match for Chenchen's parent!

Zhang Ye walked over to Chenchen. "What happened?"

Chenchen pointed at the little fatty. "He used a caterpillar to scare others."

Zhang Ye stared at her. "That doesn't mean you can beat up others. You're getting bold, aren't you?"

Chenchen said, "It's not like I used my full strength."

Zhang Ye said angrily, "That still won't do."

Chenchen curled her lips. "OK, got it."

When Sun Xiaomeng heard that, he trembled a little.

Sun Kuang was also chiding his son. "Don't bully girls in school again in the future! Do you hear me!"

Sun Xiaomeng said submissively, "I understand, Dad."

The matter was finally resolved. Both parties shook hands and made peace.

Seeing this, the teachers heaved a sigh of relief. Fortunately for them, nothing major happened.

However, the students in the class could no longer sit still. They immediately surrounded Chenchen, talking back and forth excitedly.

"Chenchen, you're so impressive!"

"You're really fearsome!"

"Even a boy can't beat you?"

"How did you learn that?"

"Chenchen, teach me!"

"Chenchen, your dad is very impressive as well. Is he some sort of a martial arts expert? Ah? He's not your dad? But anyway, I feel that he looks a little like some superstar celebrity."

...

In the teachers' office.

Zhang Ye and Sun Kuang were both called over. The form teacher lectured, "Earlier on in class, I didn't want to criticize the two of you in the presence of the students. As parents, you two were too incorrigible! Chenchen's parent, why do you still have your sunglasses on? Can't you give a little respect to a teacher?"

"Hai, I forgot." Zhang Ye took off his sunglasses.

As a result, the form teacher was stunned by what she saw. She screamed, "Zhang Ye?!"

Zhang Ye said, "I didn't discipline the child properly and caused trouble for you."

The form teacher hurriedly said, "It's not troublesome, not troublesome at all."

The teachers next to her were also stunned. Then they exclaimed and came over to look!

"It's Zhang Ye!"

"It's really him!"

"Heavens! I've finally seen him in person!"

The teachers were all very surprised.

The form teacher suddenly felt that her reaction didn't look so elegant, so she put on a straight face again on purpose. "Of the two of you, one of you is an international superstar, while the other is a

famous domestic cameraman. You're both persons of status, so please pay more attention to your children's education in the future. You can't slack off or spoil them, understand?"

Sun Kuang said, "Understood, Teacher."

Zhang Ye said, "Blame it on us, blame it on us."

The form teacher nodded in satisfaction and took out two pieces of paper. "Sign your names here and leave your contact numbers. If your children cause trouble again in the future, I'll look for you two."

Zhang Ye signed his name and then handed the pen to Sun Kuang.

Sun Kuang was also about to sign, but the ballpoint pen happened to run out of ink. "Teacher, do you have another pen?"

He watched the form teacher carefully stow away the piece of paper with Zhang Ye's signature and cell phone number on it. She put it into the drawer like it was a collector's item. When she heard Sun Kuang's request for another pen, she waved it off. "Oh, never mind, I don't need yours."

Sun Kuang was floored.

What do you mean you don't need mine!

...

Outside the school.

The two of them were walking side by side.

Sun Kuang didn't continue making a big fuss. He gave a fist and palm salute. "Master Zhang, sorry if I've offended you today."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Master Sun, please don't stand on ceremony. After all, friendship grows out of an exchange of blows. We were just doing it for our children."

Sun Kuang felt the same way. "Hai, the children these days are really too worrisome. Alright then, let's meet again if there is a chance. I'll be off now."

"Master Sun, please wait." Zhang Ye held out a hand to stop him.

Sun Kuang was startled. "Master Zhang, is anything else the matter?"

Zhang Ye looked at him and asked, "You're a cameraman?"

Sun Kuang smiled and said, "That's right. Not that I wanna brag, but I'm quite well-known in China. Many of my works have won gold medal awards in cinematography. I've also won prizes overseas too."

Zhang Ye asked with interest, "How are your martial arts skills?"

Sun Kuang was slightly embarrassed. "In front of Master Zhang, I definitely would not dare to claim that I'm very skilled. But ordinarily, not even three to five well-built men could get near me."

Zhang Ye blinked. "Do you have any experience in wilderness survival?"

“Yeah, I do.” Sun Kuang could not understand why he was being asked such questions. “The subjects that I usually shoot are things to do with nature, plants, insects, sunrises, and sunsets. In order to capture a shot, I sometimes have to wait up to a day or two. Of course I can’t stay at a hotel. I have to set up a tent and camp outside. Mountaineering has become a standard affair to me. I’m not bragging, but I’ve scaled Everest twice already.”

Zhang Ye said excitedly, “Do you know how to skydive?”

Sun Kuang said, “Yeah, I know that.”

Zhang Ye asked, “How about diving?”

Sun Kuang said, “For an underwater project that I did, I spent half a year to get a diving certification.”

Zhang Ye asked, “How about rock climbing?”

Sun Kuang said, “I might not be able to free solo, but I’m fine with ropes and protective gear.”

Zhang Ye got even more excited the more he listened.

But Sun Kuang was extremely confused. “Why are you asking all this?”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “I’m planning to make a show and need a dedicated videographer with me. I haven’t been able to find anyone up to the task, so I wonder if Master Sun would be interested?”

Sun Kuang was surprised. “You want to hire me?”

Zhang Ye nodded. “Yes.”

Sun Kuang said, “When does filming begin?”

Zhang Ye replied, “Immediately!”

### **Chapter 1658: Shooting begins for Man vs. Wild!**

A few days later.

Overseas somewhere.

At a small public airport, Zhang Ye was on the phone with his family. The signal wasn’t very strong and there was a lot of background noise. He had to speak as loudly as he could.

“Mom, I’ve arrived.”

“Be careful.”

“I know, but it won’t be dangerous.”

“Still, watch out for your safety.”

“I understand. It’s about time to start the shoot. I’m gonna hang up.”

There were a total of three groups of people on the scene.

One group was made up of the locals.

Another group was Zhang Ye's film crew.

The last group was sent by Central TV, and they were responsible for communication and ground coordination.

A person from Central TV ran over and said, "Director Zhang, the plane is ready to take off at any time. An advance party comprised of your people has already gone ahead. I've just established contact with them, and everything is progressing smoothly. We'll leave the remainder of the filming and coordination to you now. If anything unexpected happens over the next few days, you all must send us a signal. The locals have repeatedly reminded us that it is very dangerous over there. It's considered an uninhabited zone, so be very, very careful."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I understand, thanks."

The person from Central TV shook hands with him. "All the best to you guys."

Zhang Ye said, "I'll count on your blessings."

On the other side of him, the pilot stepped forward and handed them the parachutes.

Zhang Ye and Sun Kuang were the only two on the film crew who needed to skydive this time.

Sun Kuang took his parachute and went off.

However, Zhang Ye did not move. Instead, he unfolded his parachute amid everyone's startled gazes.

Sun Kuang was taken aback. "What are you doing?"

The pilot said in English, "What?"

Zhang Ye said, "I'll pack it myself."

He unfolded it.

He spread it flat.

He folded it properly.

He executed the steps in a flowing motion.

The pilot had a look of surprise on his face as he showed a smile and gave him a thumbs up.

Sun Kuang was also a little surprised. "You're such a professional!"

Zhang Ye smiled. "I feel at ease knowing that I packed it myself."

Sun Kuang could be considered someone who knew his stuff when it came to skydiving, although he wasn't exactly a professional skydiver. However, he had come across many such professionals before and knew that most experts would not usually allow others to pack their parachutes for them. Due to certain beliefs or safety concerns, they would only trust themselves with such a thing. They would only feel at ease if they folded and packed it themselves. There were not a lot of such people, but Sun Kuang

was clearly not one of them. That was why he a little impressed by Zhang Ye as he didn't expect him to actually know his stuff.

Soon after, the plane took off and headed straight to the filming location.

In fact, they had already started the shoot while on the plane.

Sun Kuang secured his recording equipment.

Zhang Ye started recording his narration.

Sun Kuang occasionally glanced down. "It's so beautiful!"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Stick close to me in a bit. There will be time to enjoy the views in the coming days."

Sun Kuang confidently said, "Don't worry, wherever you're going, I'm going too. I guarantee you I won't miss a shot."

"We're almost there. Get ready." Zhang Ye took out an action camera <sup>1</sup>.

Sun Kuang said, "Do you need me to put that on for you?"

Zhang Ye waved him off and affixed it very quickly.

Sun Kuang shrugged and put on his equipment as well.

The two of them repeatedly checked their respective gear to ensure everything was in order.

The staff on the light aircraft were giving them instructions in English. "It's very dangerous to do low-altitude jumps. We'll find an open site where you can land. There are crocodiles and other ferocious beasts in these lands, and all kinds of different dangers as well, so are you sure you all want to head there to film the show? I suggest that you say your prayers. I hope that we can still see you when we come back to get you." He didn't know what kind of show they were going to shoot. All he knew was that this group of Chinese people might just be crazy.

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "We'll make it back."

The pilot shouted, "This place will do!"

Sun Kuang started getting nervous.

Zhang Ye took a breath. "Let's go!"

The cabin's hatch opened, and a strong gust of wind blew in.

Speaking of which, this was Zhang Ye's first time skydiving. Although he had grasped the technique of skydiving, this feeling was still very strange. When this fellow leaped out of the plane, his adrenaline surged as he started free falling!

"Wow!"

Zhang Ye had a smile on his face as he yelled.



The blue sky!

The white clouds!

The jungles!

The mountains!

It was such an exhilarating feeling!

At this moment, Zhang Ye finally entered the wilderness. He pulled the ripcord and successfully deployed the parachute, slowing his descent speed. Above him, Sun Kuang also deployed his parachute. He controlled the steering and chased after Zhang Ye from behind while keeping the camera pointed at him.

Sun Kuang roared, "This is so fun!"

Below them was open ground, the best spot to land.

They were even able to see the campsite the advance party of the film crew had set up.

On the ground.

Many of the crew members were waving.

Tong Fu shouted, "Director Zhang!"

Wu Yi shouted, "We're over here!"

Zhang Zuo laughed, "Haha, they've arrived!"

Sun Kuang was also calling out to them from above.

Everyone was laughing and the atmosphere was incomparably wonderful.

Actually, before they came here, everyone was still feeling a little worried. They knew how dangerous it was in a primitive uninhabited land like this, so they were all very nervous. But when they arrived, they realized how beautiful this place was. Having lived in the city for so many years, they had not experienced something like this before. It was a kind of release and exaltation for their souls. For a moment, everyone even rejoiced that Director Zhang had come up with such a show. Wasn't this as good as disguised tourism? Haha!

But very quickly, that thought completely disappeared!

This was because at this moment, Zhang Ye suddenly had an idea. Isn't this going too smoothly? A successful parachute jump? A safe landing? There was absolutely no sense of survival urgency that way. If one really ran into danger and was forced to parachute out into the unknown wilderness, it wouldn't be in the carefree situation that they were in now. It just wouldn't match up with the objective point of view of the show. Thus, he took a look around the area before suddenly twisting his body and shifting his weight to maneuver away from the open ground below him. He leisurely flew in the direction of the jungle a short distance away. This sight stunned everyone!

Zhang Zuo called out, "It's not that way!"

Tong Fu yelled, "Fuck! That's not it! You're going the wrong way!"

Wu Yi shouted, "Director Zhang, where the hell are you going off to!"

Sun Kuang was also scared out of his wits. "Your sister!"

One of the greatest dangers of low-altitude jumps is the flatness of the landing site, which is a very important factor. If the ground environment was too complex? If there were swamps? If there were seas? If there were jungles? All of those could threaten the safety of the parachutist, leading to injuries or even death. They were originally supposed to land out in the open, which would be extremely easy to pull off. All they needed to do was close their eyes and they would land without any problems. The only issue was that Zhang Ye had to get a brain fart at this moment when he decided to drift towards the jungle that was further in the distance!

Sun Kuang didn't dare follow him. Instead, he hurriedly prepared for landing!

When the studio staff saw Director Zhang drifting towards the jungle, they started panicking!

After Sun Kuang landed, everyone immediately gathered and headed toward the location Zhang Ye had drifted off to!

"Director Zhang!"

"Where are you!"

"Aiyu!"

Half an hour later.

They finally found Zhang Ye hanging in mid-air. His parachute had been caught in a tree, and his body dangled more than ten meters in the air!

Tong Fu was so scared that he was trembling. "Hurry up and rescue him!"

Zhang Zuo called out, "Come down, Director Zhang!"

But Zhang Ye was very calm. "Why would I go down? Hurry up and start capturing this on camera!"

Sun Kuang turned on the camera in a speechless manner. "This is ridiculous!"

Then Zhang Ye muttered some words and started narrating the situation that he was in. After that, he took out a dagger with much difficulty and start saving himself. If he really fell from a height of over ten meters, even if he didn't die, he would still be crippled. So the people standing below him could not be more terrified of watching him at this moment.

A few minutes passed.

Zhang Ye jumped down from the tree looking pathetic.

Tong Fu said, "Your stunts are too dangerous!"

Wu Yi said, "Why did you have to purposely get yourself into trouble! There was flat ground for you to land, but you had to choose to land in the jungle! I really have to take my hat off to you!"

Zhang Ye looked at them. “Didn’t you guys go through the script?”

Sun Kuang was taken aback. “What script?”

“Our show’s objective is to teach others how to overcome difficulties,” Zhang Ye explained.

Sun Kuang said dumbfoundedly, “What if there aren’t any dangers?”

Zhang Ye said, “Then we have to create danger.”

Oh my god! You mean making something out of nothing, right!

Zhang Ye knew that they had never watched a similar show before, nor did they understand the value of this show, so he explained it to them. “The significance of this show lies in teaching others how to survive in the wild. Over the coming days, I will show everyone the different ways of survival and also tell the audience what they should do when they get into danger in the wilderness. So we can’t have everything go smoothly for us either. Whatever danger that other people go through or experience when they are trapped in the wilderness, I’ll also have to experience it once myself. It’s not as though a person who is truly in danger can make a phone call, and someone will be dispatched to come and rescue them. They couldn’t choose where they could land after parachuting out, or find hardtack the moment they flip their bags open. That’s not realistic. So from now on for the recording, I will enter a state of true wilderness survival. I want all of you to just treat me as someone who is trapped in this place and not try to help me.”

Sun Kuang gasped. “You’re going to die!”

At this moment, they finally understood how dangerous of a show they were going to shoot!

The terrain was dangerous!

The environment was dangerous!

The wild animals were dangerous!

The director was even more dangerous!

### **Chapter 1659: Man v. Food!**

In the jungle.

An hour.

Two hours.

Zhang Ye had already been hiking for three hours. His pants had been torn by the bushes, and his face was covered with dirt. There was no food or water, and his lips were so dry that they were cracked. His energy level was rapidly decreasing. This was not a state he could achieve through makeup but an absolute effect from the reality of survival in the wild.

The camera was recording.

Zhang Ye said tiredly, "When you lose your way in the wild, the first thing you need to do is to locate a river. That means you'll have a source of water and even food. I've been walking for several hours, but I still don't know how far I am from a water source. I might have to continue walking for another day? Or two days? I don't know. All I know is that I'm hungry, very hungry. My energy levels have depleted rapidly and I can't take it anymore. I need to find some food to replenish my strength. Otherwise, I might really end up unable to get out of this jungle." His breathing then became much heavier.

Awhile later.

He squatted down around a patch of grass.

The film crew also stopped.

Then they saw Zhang Ye pull out a plant from the ground. It looked just like a bunch of grass, and there was nothing special about it. "It looks like I have no other choice left. Although not many people would eat it, I am convinced that this is edible."

Sun Kuang widened his eyes.

Tong Fu's jaw dropped.

Everyone looked at him dumbfoundedly.

They watched Zhang Ye look a little unsure before stuffing the wild vegetation into his mouth. He chewed on it and began to frown. "It doesn't taste bad, but it tastes a little like grass."

Nonsense!

That is fucking grass!

You really dare to eat anything, don't you!

Sun Kuang said anxiously, "That had better not be poisonous!"

Zhang Ye smiled. "Don't worry, it isn't."

Everyone continued on their way forward.

The wild vegetation was clearly not enough to fill Zhang Ye's stomach. His physical fitness was much better than everyone else's, and he had good stamina too. But because of that, his energy consumption was also much greater than most people. At this moment, Zhang Ye's stomach was rumbling with hunger. Along the way, his eyes glinted whenever he saw anything that looked edible.

As he walked.

He kept eating.

Strange wild vegetation.

Strange shrubs.

And even strange tree bark.

Zhang Ye tried all of them at least once.

“This one’s not bad.”

“This tastes a little strange.”

Everyone looked at him speechlessly.

Suddenly, Zhang Ye looked up a tree. “Wait! There’s a bird’s nest! From this angle, I can’t really see what species of bird it is. But it shouldn’t be a bird of prey. I also don’t know if there are any bird’s eggs in it.” He stood underneath the tree and observed for a long time. “It’s at a height of around 15 meters, and the tree trunk looks a little thin. I do not suggest climbing this sort of tree because it will be very difficult to support my entire weight. However, I’m feeling too hungry right now. I need to give it a try.”

The film crew said anxiously:

“Aiyo!”

“Please be careful!”

“You can’t possibly climb that, right?”

Everyone looked skeptical.

But in the next moment, Zhang Ye climbed right up the tree. With a grab and hooking his legs around the tree trunk, he began climbing while saying, “This kind of tree has a very thin trunk, so one has to pay close attention to their balance. It has to be done very slowly to keep movement to a minimal extent. Aiyo, that was a little dangerous. The trunk is starting to sway a little. Let it steady first, there’s no hurry.”

Five meters.

Ten meters.

He finally climbed up the tree.

Zhang Ye laughed. “Haha, how fortunate. I spotted two eggs, but they’re not big. It’s about the same size as a quail’s egg, but it should be enough for me to replenish my protein intake.” Saying that, he reached out to grab the eggs and held them lightly in one hand. Then he prepared to descend. But when he slid down a few meters, due to his one-handed manipulation, he lost his balance, and the tree tilted to one side!

Sun Kuang exclaimed, “Careful!”

Tong Fu paled. “He’s falling down!”

Wu Yi said, “Damn!”

Zhang Ye fell off the tree with a loud thud. The moment he hit the ground, he landed on his feet and rolled on the ground to relieve the impact. However, he still let out a loud, pained cry in the end. He picked himself up with some difficulty and opened his hand to have a look. “Luckily for me, the eggs are fine.”

Everyone ran up to him.

“How are you?”

“Did you get hurt?”

Zhang Ye stood up with a smile. “I’m fine.”

Everyone heaved a sigh of relief.

Zhang Ye said into the camera, “I still haven’t found a water source yet, so I don’t think I’ll have a chance to cook the eggs. There’s only one way left.” The next second, under the shocked gaze of the film crew, he tilted his back head and opened his mouth wide. Then he crushed one of the eggshells with one hand and swallowed the egg in it. “Oh, there’s quite a stench, but it still tastes quite good. Maybe it’s because I’m too hungry. Not bad, another one.” He also downed the second egg.

Wu Yi said, “You ate that for real?”

Tong Fu was a little disgusted. “Can that be eaten raw?”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “All eggs can be eaten raw.”

Sun Kuang was impressed. “You’re good!”

Zhang Ye said, “Come on, let’s go and see what’s up ahead.”

They walked for another hour.

The film crew was exhausted, so they set up camp.

Zhang Ye brought Sun Kuang along to explore the surroundings.

Suddenly, Zhang Ye shouted, “Old Sun! Don’t move!”

Sun Kuang blinked in confusion. “What’s wrong?”

When the film crew came over after hearing the commotion, they were all quite shocked!

At this time, Sun Kuang noticed a snake at his feet. His face turned green. “Fuck!”

Seeing that he was about to run off, Zhang Ye shouted again, “Don’t move!”

Sun Kuang said in panic, “What kind of fucking snake is this?”

“A rattlesnake.” Zhang Ye said, “It’s highly venomous.”

A venomous snake?

And it was even a rattlesnake?

Everyone was feeling really scared!

But Zhang Ye was very calm. In fact, he even looked excited. “This is a snake’s nest. I can already see three snakes, and there should still be more hiding within the grass. Old Sun, don’t move. I’ll take care of it for you.” Lowering his head to look around, he slowly crouched down and picked up a tree branch that was on the ground. He walked up and quickly caught the rattlesnake with it. The tip of the tree branch was Y-shaped and it pressed the rattlesnake down in place.

Sun Kuang quickly ran away!

Tong Fu said, "Run, Director Zhang!"

Wu Yi said, "Hurry up and get back over here. Teacher Sun is fine now!"

However, Zhang Ye did not move. Instead, he bent over and picked up the rattlesnake by its tail. Bang, bang, bang. He killed it by smashing it several times against the ground. Then, he heard the familiar sound of rattling coming from within the grass. When around five or six rattlesnakes suddenly rushed towards him, Zhang Ye finally turned around and made a run for it!

"Let's go!"

"Ah!"

"Run!"

When they returned to the campsite.

Everyone was sweating. It was too dangerous, so dangerous that they might just have lost their lives. Everyone was chattering among themselves to comfort each other. Suddenly, they remembered Zhang Ye and looked around to find him. Eh? Director Zhang? When they finally spotted Zhang Ye, everyone felt like vomiting blood!

This guy was trying to make fire by drilling wood together!

He actually wanted to eat snake meat!

Sun Kuang broke down. "Y-You still want to eat that?"

Tong Fu exclaimed, "That's a poisonous snake!"

Wu Yi said, "I'm fainting!"

This glutton!

He didn't care about his life at all when there was something to eat!

Zhang Ye spent more than half an hour before he finally got the fire started. Then he began handling and preparing the snake. He cut off its head and dug out its internal organs before placing it over the fire to roast it. His actions were all fluid and experienced. When the snake meat was done roasting, the aroma spread in all directions. Even the film crew had their appetites whetted.

Zhang Ye tore off a piece of snake meat and sniffed. Then he ate it. "Whoo, it smells so good. This is really the most delicious thing I've eaten today. Compared to the grass and eggs I had, this is what real food should be like."

Sun Kuang rolled his eyes.

Go on and eat!

You'd die from it sooner or later!

Man vs. Wild?

This is obviously closer to Man v. Food!

At this moment, a member of the film crew discovered a pawprint and immediately called out to everyone in a fluster, "Director Zhang, everyone, come and see this. What kind of pawprint is it?"

"It's so big?"

"What animal does it belong to?"

"I don't know."

They couldn't identify it.

When Sun Kuang saw it, his face immediately changed.

Zhang Ye narrowed his eyes and looked down. He reached out to feel the pawprint, "It's a bear! This mark should have been left here less than two hours ago."

The film crew was dumbfounded!

A bear?

There are bears here?

And it was just here awhile ago?

Sun Kuang said nervously, "We can't stay in this spot!"

Tong Fu said, "Hurry, let's go!"

On this mountain range, the bears were near the top of the food chain!

However, Zhang Ye's next words scared them out of their wits!

Zhang Ye muttered to himself, "Aren't bear paws quite tasty?"

Sun Kuang pulled him back. "Damn! You're still thinking about eating bear paws?"

"Director Zhang, calm down!" Tong Fu called out.

Wu Yi hurriedly grabbed onto him. "You mustn't eat that!"

Little Liu said, "What are you trying to do!"

Zhang Ye laughed dryly, "Haha, I was just joking."

You glutton!

You really don't fucking care about your life!

Everyone nearly broke down. On the way here, Zhang Ye seemed to have fucking eaten everything that he came across, like grass, tree bark, bird eggs, and snake meat. Although Zhang Ye said that he was only joking, no one knew whether that was true. This guy's brain circuits had always been wired differently from that of a normal person's, so they were afraid that Zhang Ye would start hungering for bear meat so much that he would send them to their deaths together with him. This was the wilderness, an area uninhabited by people. If they really encountered a bear here, they didn't know if Director



Zhang would really end up having bear meat or not. But one thing they knew was that the bunch of them would definitely get eaten by the bear first!

### **Chapter 1660: The bear appears!**

It was getting late at night.

The temperature in the jungle plummeted.

Zhang Ye was lying in his temporary shelter made from branches and leaves. He wore a windbreaker jacket and huddled with himself. Holding the camera in his hand, he scrubbed through the footage that had been recorded today. Sometimes, he would fast forward it, and sometimes he would pause it. With that, he was already forming an idea of which footage could be used and which had to be discarded. Although he was exhausted and did not even get a sip of water, he was still quite happy with how things had turned out. This was because they had managed to achieve many of the scenes he had wanted to shoot. The only pity was that they still lacked some terrifying and exciting scenes. There still wasn't enough tension.

It was time to rest.

The rest could be thought out tomorrow.

After turning off the camera, Zhang Ye took out a photo of his wife and daughter and kissed them before putting it away carefully and slowly falling asleep.

An hour.

Two hours.

Three hours.

After some time.

Zhang Ye jolted awake.

"Roar!"

His muscles tensed, and he immediately turned on the camera. He flipped over and looked outside while whispering to the camera, "It's the dead of night right now. I don't know exactly what time it is, but I can hear some sounds out there, and it's giving me a bad feeling. There, it's happening again! Did you hear that? It sounds like a wild beast, but I'm not sure what it is. This is terrible feeling, and I can't help but think of the bear prints during the day. Although I tried to stay as far away from the area as possible when I set up shelter, I know that bears have a very keen sense of smell. If it has really set its eyes on me, it's definitely not good news for me."

The film crew was still asleep.

Zhang Ye whispered, "Old Sun! Old Sun!"

A tent in the distance moved. "What is it?"

Zhang Ye said, "Listen."

The other side went silent for a moment before someone exclaimed, "Holy shit! Is that a bear?"

Zhang Ye said, "I'm not sure."

"What should we do?" Sun Kuang was flustered.

Zhang Ye said, "I think we should leave."

The film crew was called up. As they listened to the sounds made by the beast in the distance and heard the approaching rustles, they were all terrified!

Zhang Ye asked, "Where's the tranquilizer gun?"

Wu Yi took a deep breath. "It's here."

Zhang Ye said, "Everyone, be careful. Get ready to leave. Old Sun and I will go take a look first."

Sun Kuang said, "What do you still want to look for? Run!"

Zhang Ye said, "With so many of us, our group is just too big. We have too much equipment, so our movement speed will be slowed down for sure. It's also nighttime, and in uncertain circumstances, do you think you can outrun a bear?"

Hence, Zhang Ye and Sun Kuang turned on their cameras and went over.

100 meters.

200 meters.

Suddenly, a dark figure flashed by in the distance.

Sun Kuang said in shock, "Did you see that?"

Zhang Ye took a deep breath. "I saw it."

Sun Kuang said, "It's a bear!"

Then the dark figure vanished. The roars of the wild beast suddenly approached!

Zhang Ye shouted, "Run!"

Sun Kuang did not even think about it. He flew after Zhang Ye and ran away!

Zhang Ye said, "Don't run towards the campsite. Head in the other direction. The film crew has a tranquilizer gun, so they won't be in danger!"

Sun Kuang said, "Then what about the safety of the two of us!"

Zhang Ye said, "That depends on how fast you can run!"

Sun Kuang said, "Fuck!"

As they ran, Zhang Ye was still holding up his camera and aiming it behind him.

Sun Kuang was astounded. He wondered how Zhang Ye could still have the presence of mind to shoot the scene at a time like this. As he ran, he asked, "Master Zhang, give me some reassurance. If the bear corners us, can you defeat it?"

Zhang Ye asked back, "Can you?"

Sun Kuang was in tears. "Like I could fucking do that! Don't mention me, even my master would be kneeling if he were here!"

Zhang Ye said, "Then I can't beat it either."

Sun Kuang was somewhat skeptical. For people who practiced Chinese martial arts like Sun Kuang, be it the internal or external styles, it wouldn't be a problem to use them against most ordinary people, nor would it be ineffective when dealing with some small-time gangsters. But when faced with a wild animal, and in such rough terrain, there was basically no way to even make a move. The moment they encountered one would mean the end for them. But Sun Kuang knew that experts like Zhang Ye and Rao Aimin were different from the rest of them. No one knew how powerful their concealed power was.

They ran for five kilometers.

Sun Kuang was panting. "Has it caught up to us?"

Zhang Ye did not look too good. "It's still behind us!"

Sun Kuang said, "Motherfucker! It's got its eyes on us!"

Zhang Ye said, "Listen, there's water around here!"

Sun Kuang said, "A river?"

It was almost dawn, and visibility in the jungle was starting to get a little clearer.

In the distance, they could see that the path ahead had been cut off, and there was a cliff beyond it. The splashing of the water was coming from nearby, below the cliff. Behind them, the beast growled. They couldn't see the figure of the bear, but Zhang Ye and Sun Kuang both knew that it had been following closely all this while.

Sun Kuang said anxiously, "It's a dead end! How about we run along the cliff?"

Zhang Ye stood on the cliff and looked down. "I have an idea on how to shake the bear off our trail."

Sun Kuang said, "What is that?"

Zhang Ye picked up the camera and said into it, "It's a dead end up ahead. The bear is coming. It's my only option to shake it off my trail." He lowered the camera and aimed it down at the river that had a rather slow current. The height was over 20 meters!

Sun Kuang had a bad premonition!

"What are you doing?" Sun Kuang shouted.

Zhang Ye shouted, "Jump!"

Saying that, Zhang Ye leaped off the cliff!

Sun Kuang had such a fright that he cursed. Then he heard a roar come from behind him and couldn't help bursting into tears. He clenched his teeth and stomped his feet before jumping down as well, all while scolding, "Zhang Ye! Fuck your sister! Sooner or later, you'll be the death of me!"

Plop!

Plop!

As both of them were martial arts experts, they landed in the water with their bodies rigidly straight!

Zhang Ye poked his head out of the water first. "Old Sun!"

"Over here! Pfft!" Sun Kuang spat out a few mouthfuls of water.

Zhang Ye belly laughed. "Let's get ashore!"

When the two of them finally swam ashore, they were so exhausted they were gasping for air.

Zhang Ye started lapping up over a dozen mouthfuls of water from the shore. "Phew, I'm alive again! The thirst was killing me."

Sun Kuang said angrily, "You're alive, but I was nearly scared to death by you!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Let's contact the film crew and get everyone to gather."

Two hours later.

The film crew hurried over in panic.

Tong Fu was going crazy with anxiety. "Where's Director Zhang? Where's Director Zhang?"

Wu Yi cried out, "Are you two alright? Is anyone hurt?"

Little Liu looked around. "Where's Director Zhang? What happened?"

Sun Kuang pursed his lips, then nudged his chin in the direction of the river.

Everyone's gaze followed in that direction, and they nearly faceplanted into the ground. A bonfire had been set up by the river, and several fish had already been cooked!

What the hell!

You are way too efficient!

You can still think of eating at this time like this?!

Can't you stop eating for a minute!

After Zhang Ye finished filming with his camera, he turned around and said to everyone, "The fish have been cooked. Those who want some, please register your names first. There's a limited quantity, so it's first come, first served." Looking at his appearance, it didn't seem like he took last night's life-or-death situation seriously. His mental fortitude was clearly on a whole other level.

Sun Kuang asked, "Does your director usually not care about his life when he shoots a show or movie?"

When this point was raised, Tong Fu was filled with bitterness. "That's right, he's usually like this. We've been scared to death countless times by Director Zhang over the years. Hai, let's not talk about this anymore. It will just make me want to cry. I think I'll take a bite of that fish to calm myself down." Then he quickly ran over and said, "Leave one for me, Director Zhang!"

The others also shuffled off to eat.

Sun Kuang did not go over as he was still angry at Zhang Ye. He snorted as he took two bites of the hardtack that he had before he quickly got sick of eating it. Looking at the grilled fish they were eating, he stubbornly picked up two sticks of wood and tried to make a fire. In the end, he couldn't even manage to get the fire started. Sun Kuang was extremely embarrassed. Throwing away the wooden sticks in his hands, he shamelessly went over and ate the roasted fish that they were having.