

Superstar 1661

Chapter 1661: The first episode is out!

Two days later.

It was the weekend.

On Weibo.

“There’s nothing to watch on TV. Anyone with any shows to recommend?”

“I have none. There haven’t been any good shows recently.”

“That’s right. The variety shows these days are all the same.”

“The domestic TV dramas aren’t good either. They’re all following the same plots.”

“I’m watching an American TV series now. It’s quite good.”

“Yeah, the American and British TV series are all very exquisitely made.”

“There are several good TV shows overseas as well. They’re really enjoyable to watch. If China can also produce such quality programs someday, that would be really great!”

“Isn’t Face-smacking Zhang making an international show too?”

“I heard that they’ve already started shooting for the show.”

“Yeah, I wonder how the shoot is progressing so far.”

“I’m quite looking forward to it.”

“Do you guys really expect Face-smacking Zhang to pave a way forward for our Chinese shows?”

“What do you think? If Zhang Ye can’t do it, then no one else can.”

“Let’s see if Face-smacking Zhang can perform another miracle!”

...

Beijing.

Xijiao Airport ¹.

This was originally a military airport that was predominantly used for military purposes, and they also accepted aircraft support missions. However, a civilian flight route was approved today to fly into Xijiao Airport, and a small civilian plane was cleared to enter the airspace.

On the ground.

Ha Qiqi and the others were here.

Little Wang looked up. “Why aren’t they back yet! Why haven’t they arrived!”

Ha Qiqi was also incredibly anxious, but she said, "Don't be so impatient. They should be here soon."

"I wonder how everyone is doing?" Little Zhou was worried sick. "The people are all waiting for our new show to broadcast. If by any chance it isn't filmed well, then—"

Everyone from Zhang Ye's Studio was eagerly looking into the sky.

Most of them were the female employees who had stayed behind to watch over the studio's day-to-day operations.

Suddenly, a plane appeared in their line of sight and slowly landed.

"They're here!"

"They're here!"

"It's their plane!"

The group of them shouted in excitement and rushed forward to welcome the team back!

Not long after, the cabin's hatch opened, and someone came out of the aircraft.

The first to come out was Tong Fu.

The moment they saw Tong Fu, the group consisting of Ha Qiqi, Little Wang, and the others were dumbfounded!

The once fair complexion of Tong Fu had been tanned as dark as a black dog's bollocks! He was tanned to the point where a gloss glowed from his dark skin. His hair was a mess, and it was obvious that he had not even taken a bath. His clothes were torn and his pants were tattered. The most speechless part was that he only had one shoe on his feet. The other was bare.

His wife was also here today.

Huang Dandan exclaimed, "Damn, Hubby, what happened to you!"

Tong Fu started crying and hugging his wife, "My wife! My lovely wife! Your Brother Tong thought that he would never get to see you again in this lifetime!"

Little Wang was stunned. "Where are your shoes?"

Ha Qiqi was shocked. "What happened to you guys?"

Behind him, the second person came out.

Wu Yi said, "He lost his shoes when we were running away from something."

Huang Dandan said in disbelief, "But I prepared three pairs of shoes for you."

Tong Fu cried and said, "I lost them all."

Everyone was floored when they saw the film crew disembark from the aircraft. They either looked pathetic, tired, tanned, or had only one shoe on. The welcoming party could only wonder what the film crew had been through!

In the end, Sun Kuang and Zhang Ye also disembarked.

Ha Qiqi rushed over to welcome them back. "Director Zhang! How was it?"

Zhang Ye looked to be in an even worse state than them. He was almost unrecognizable as there were dust and mud caking his face. However, his state of mind was especially good. This was clearly where he was different from others. He laughed and said, "Haha, I'm fine, it's just that I look a bit worse off than the others. It's just that I headed straight to the airport after getting out of the wilderness. No one wanted to rest for another day at the local hotel, so I made some arrangements with the military, and they approved a flight route for us to fly back directly."

Little Wang asked, "Why didn't you all rest up first?"

Tong Fu was crying. He said, "Rest? How can we rest? I couldn't stand staying in that damned place for a minute longer. I just wanted to come home as soon as we could!"

Wu Yi also said with some lingering fear, "It was too dangerous. It was really too dangerous this time. Have you guys encountered a bear before? We did! The bear came after us for three days and nights! The first time, we managed to escape from it. Then it came back on the second day. We don't even know if it was the same bear as the one we met on the first day. All we knew was that we had to run. We ran so much that our legs almost broke!"

Everyone was extremely shocked!

"What?"

"A bear?"

"Damn, you guys encountered a bear?"

Sun Kuang rolled his eyes. "There were also venomous snakes, wild beasts, and high cliffs too. We encountered all of those things on this trip."

Ha Qiqi said, "Filming isn't done for the show yet?"

Tong Fu said nervously, "Sister Ha, based on Director Zhang's temper, do you think we could come home if we didn't finish the shoot?"

Zhang Ye called out to everyone, "Let's go. This is a military airport, so let's not cause any delay for them. We'll go back to the studio first and talk on the way there!" As they were walking out, he introduced Sun Kuang to everyone. "This is Sun Kuang. Some of you have not met him yet, right? Thanks to Old Sun, this time, we were able to successfully complete the shoot. There were many dangerous scenes where Old Sun followed me and caught them on camera. In the future, Old Sun will be appointed as our studio's independent videographer."

But Sun Kuang said, "Who's from your studio? Don't drag me into this. You want me to work with you? Even if I have several lives, it wouldn't fucking be enough!"

Zhang Ye laughed, "Haha."

On the way back.

In the minibus.

Everyone started complaining. They began relating their adventures in the wild and recounting their encounters over the past few days in detail. Ha Qiqi and the others from the studio were all frightened out of their wits when they heard about it. They had never experienced it before, nor had they seen the things that were being described by the film crew. But just by their words alone, it was enough to shock them to death. Only then did Ha Qiqi and the others realize how greatly the film crew had suffered over these past few days!

Bear attack?

Leaping off cliffs?

Falling into a river?

Encountering venomous snakes?

Ha Qiqi said, "I said this show is too dangerous!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "Fame and fortune come from taking risks."

Sun Kuang harrumphed, "But will this show of yours be any good?"

None of them really knew what the show would be like.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "You guys don't know, but when the show is edited, you will all understand. I'll take a hot shower right after we get back and have something to eat first. After that, I'll head over to Central TV to edit the footage and add in the narration and subtitles. I'll do my best to finish up the first episode as soon as possible and then broadcast the first episode to test out the market. Since everyone won't have anything to do for the next two days, I want you all to go back home quickly to get some rest and relax a little. If the first episode is well-received, we will still have to shoot the second and third episodes. At that time, we'll get really busy and probably won't have any time to go back home between shoots."

Tong Fu sobbed, "There's still some more filming to do?"

Sun Kuang said in a terrified manner, "I'm not gonna do it anymore!"

Zhang Ye said, "That won't do. Actually, I didn't have much experience either when we filmed the first episode. It's my first time doing such a show after all, so the prep work wasn't done well. That was why we ran into so many problems during the trip. But since we have the knowledge now, we'll just have to add a little more manpower and work out better safety guidelines to ensure that there won't be any more hiccups." He added, "Don't worry, with me around, everyone's safety will be assured, I guarantee."

Everyone mourned.

Guarantee, my ass!

You still went over to get two photos when the bear was approaching!

You still wanted to get a selfie when the venomous snakes were coming!

It's precisely because of you that we're in danger!

The minibus arrived back at the studio.

The film crew dispersed and went back to their respective homes.

After Zhang Ye took a shower, he didn't stay idle when he came out. He started organizing the footage that he had on hand and got Ha Qiqi to contact Central TV.

Sun Kuang was still around. "Aren't you gonna get some rest?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "I'll consider it after I'm done with work."

Sun Kuang was impressed. "You're truly a warrior!"

Ha Qiqi said helplessly, "This is what Director Zhang is like. No one can persuade him otherwise."

They had survived out in the wilderness for so many days, so even though everyone else was complaining loudly after they came back, they still knew that Zhang Ye was actually the most tired. But who could have known that he would return to work the moment he arrived back without even resting? On this point, no one in the industry would dare to compare themselves with Zhang Ye. This fellow was really just like an ironman!

On the same day.

At night.

After Zhang Ye had returned to Beijing, he did not even go back home. Instead, he went straight to Central TV International and locked himself up in the studio. Then he began editing the show for the rest of the night.

An hour.

Two hours.

Three hours.

Finally, the footage was fully edited!

Total runtime: 42 minutes and 30 seconds!

The first episode of Man vs. Wild was out!

Chapter 1662: Advertising abroad!

Sunday.

In the morning.

After working all night, Zhang Ye returned home exhausted.

When the door opened, Wu Zeqing was startled. "Whoa."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I'm home, Old Wu."

Wu Zeqing smiled. "How did you get so tan?"

"Hai, it's because I was exposed to the elements." Zhang Ye said, "My daughter!"

Sisi cheered and ran over happily. "Daddy! Daddy!"

Zhang Ye picked her up and kissed her many times. "My dear, Daddy has missed you so much! Have you been obedient and listened to Mommy these past few days? Hmm? Have you been a good girl at school?"

Sisi nodded firmly and said, "Sisi has been a very good girl!"

Zhang Ye's smile filled his face.

Wu Zeqing asked, "Have you eaten yet?"

"Not yet." At the mention of it, Zhang Ye became very hungry. "Old Wu, quick, I haven't had any hot food in so many days. Hurry and cook some meat for me to eat. I want to have red braised pork as well as stewed pork ribs."

Wu Zeqing said, "You want to eat that this early in the morning?"

Zhang Ye said, "I'm hungry."

Wu Zeqing chuckled, "Hur hur, alright."

Soon after, his parents also came by. When they saw their son, the two of them got a fright as well.

His mother said dumbfoundedly, "Did you get conquered ¹ by the Japanese?"

His father said, "Just what kind of show are you making? Why does it look like there's so much hardship involved?"

Zhang Ye collapsed on the sofa and said listlessly, "It's a show that no one in the world has ever done before. Both of you will find out in a few days when it broadcasts."

Pork belly.

Pork ribs.

Chicken soup.

Zhang Ye devoured the dishes and even had five bowls of rice along with them.

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "Can't you eat slower?"

Zhang Ye didn't want to hear that. "It's tasty and oh so delicious!"

His mother stared at him. "You're gonna get indigestion. Don't overeat."

Zhang Ye pushed an empty bowl over and said as he wiped his mouth, "Another half a bowl of rice please."

His mother harrumphed. "Oh, alright, keep stuffing yourself."

Old Wu smiled and served him more rice.

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

When Zhang Ye saw the caller ID, he answered it.

It was from the director at Central TV International.

Director Meng's voice sounded a little excited: "Director Zhang, a few of the leaders and I have already watched the first episode of your show."

Zhang Ye smiled and asked: "How was it, Old Meng?"

Director Meng said: "I think it's pretty good."

Zhang Ye asked: "So what about the publicity for it?"

Director Meng was silent for a moment before saying: "Our Chinese TV shows have stayed quiet for too long. This time, we should try to pull off a big one. I've already fought to get the advertisements broadcast in over 10 countries. If we can get even more funding approved, we'll be showing the ads in up to 20 countries."

Advertisements?

Abroad?

It was the first time that Zhang Ye had heard of something like this. He knew that Central TV was famous for being tightfisted and would rarely do any advertising for their own station's programs, much less advertising abroad.

Zhang Ye was surprised. "How much does that cost?"

Director Meng smiled and said: "Teacher Zhang, you know what we've always been hoping to achieve, and I know that is also what you want to get done. This time, we have partnered up in order to try to push China's shows out into the world. With all the great effort that you've put in, we naturally cannot afford to hold back. Everyone knows that the viewership ratings for CTV International have always been poor. If there isn't enough publicity and advertising, a show's potential will be limited no matter how good it is. We at the station have already discussed this, so we've already decided that we'll take a bet on it together with you this time. It will also be a bet on the future of our Chinese TV shows."

Zhang Ye said: "You really trust me, huh?"

Director Meng said in seriousness: "Right, I really do trust you. The entirety of Central TV trusts you as well."

Zhang Ye laughed. "Thanks."

"It should be us thanking you instead."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye finished his food and went upstairs to sleep.

In his sleep, he dreamed of millions of heroic soldiers.

In his dream, all of the past dynasties of China came to worship him.

...

Submitting for review.

Requesting approval.

Getting approved.

The show was filed with the authorities.

A series of procedures were quickly formalized.

At this moment, Zhang Ye's new show was finally revealed.

The promotions for the show were also carried out in full swing!

On Central TV.

On the forums.

On the video hosting sites.

In the media outlets and newspapers.

It was getting publicized everywhere.

Man vs. Wild's synopsis: Central TV International has launched a brand new show hosted by Zhang Ye, who will travel across the globe to find the most dangerous tourist locations and environments in order to show us how to survive in them. Zhang Ye will trap himself in some of the most popular destinations in the wilderness where tourists often get lost or encounter danger. He will go airborne and descend into tropical rainforests, rappel into deserts and lakes, and climb the highest and most isolated peaks in the Americas. By placing himself in the most realistic of situations, Zhang Ye will use his professional survival skills to escape from danger, survive, and find his way back to civilization.

...

In the Chinese entertainment industry.

"His new show is about to get broadcast."

"I heard about it too. It's called Man vs. Wild?"

"What genre is it?"

"I think it's something about survival in the wild. It's a show that he created himself that no one has done before. So no one really knows what this show is going to be like."

"How risky!"

"Yeah, I thought he would do a show that he's good at."

“Zhang Ye wants to rely on this brand-new genre to take on the world?”

“It’s difficult to predict anything right now. After all, this is Zhang Ye we’re talking about. His shows have created miracles countless times before, so who knows if it will be the same again this time.”

...

On Weibo.

“It’s finally showing!”

“Zhang Ye’s new show has been announced!”

“Ah? Which day is it on?”

“Next Saturday!”

“That’s right, it’s called Man vs. Wild. The broadcast date has been set!”

“Man? Vs. Wild? What the heck is that?”

“Pfft, Face-smacking Zhang has created another new format for his show?”

“I’m really worried for Zhang Ye. Although he has also done TV shows before, he only had to compete against one or two competitors at the same time slot in the domestic market back then. But it’s different this time. He going to broadcast the show on China’s only international channel and compete with all the other TV shows that are showing at the same time slot from around the world. American TV series? Talk shows? British TV shows? Korean reality shows? Japanese cartoons? Unless Face-smacking Zhang’s new show is really so heaven-defying, and even then, it has to be heaven-defying to an absolute extent for it to be able to break out of the encirclement by the TV shows from all over the world. Is that even possible?”

“It won’t be easy.”

“Let’s see if Face-smacking Zhang can keep at it this time.”

“We can’t control what other people do. But for Zhang Ye’s show, we definitely have to give our utmost support!”

“That’s right! As long as it’s a show made by Zhang Ye, I will watch it even if it’s shit!”

“Haha, just six more days! I’m looking forward to it!”

...

America.

“Eh?”

“An ad for a Chinese show?”

“The hell? It’s Zhang Ye’s new show?”

“This is the first time I’ve seen a Chinese show get advertised!”

...

Japan.

“Man vs. Wild?”

“Zhang Ye’s new program?”

“They even showing the ad for it in Japan?”

...

Korea.

“It’s going to broadcast this soon?”

“They’re showing so many ads for it?”

“They must have spent a great deal of money!”

“China’s TV station is really rich.”

...

The UK.

“Wilderness survival?”

“It does sound quite interesting.”

“Mhm, let’s have a watch when it broadcasts.”

“I quite like this Nobel Peace Prize recipient, haha.”

...

China.

“Holy shit!”

“Central TV has a little something, doesn’t it?”

“They’re going crazy with the ads!”

“I even saw it at Times Square in New York!”

...

Many countries around the world were seeing advertisements for Man vs. Wild!

Unlike Man vs. Wild, Wolf Warrior 2 did not get any publicity overseas as its target audience wasn’t there. Even if he did any advertisements for the movie, they would have been wasted. But Man vs. Wild was different. To Zhang Ye and Central TV, it was an international show whose audience was the entire world. It wasn’t just going to be shown in China. With this status, the advertisements would also have to be targeted. And this time, Central TV was going all out. Be it the publicity efforts or coverage, it was

almost unprecedented. The advertisements were so numerous that quite a few television industry insiders overseas were shocked.

For a moment.

The global attention on Man vs. Wild was soaring high!

Chapter 1663: The International Hosting Qualifications Examination!

Tuesday.

Advertisements.

Promotional footage.

Trailers.

The publicity efforts were in full swing.

The countdown to Man vs. Wild's premiere officially began. There were only four more days left to the broadcast of the show, and all preparations for it were ready.

At Zhang Ye's Studio.

In the early morning, everyone had gathered for a meeting.

"It's time to get ready to shoot the next episode."

"Ah? So quickly?"

"Who's signing up to join the film crew this time?"

"Director Zhang, can I not go?"

"Tong Fu, you have to go."

"I lost three pairs of shoes the previous time around."

"Then bring four pairs this time."

"Pfft!"

"Where are we going to shoot the second episode, Director Zhang?"

"I've already decided on the destination and am in contact with them right now."

Zhang Ye had always been very efficient when it came to planning his work. The first episode was just a pilot that he lined up to be broadcast on Saturday. But after that, he didn't want to broadcast just one episode a week. His original plan was to have two episodes a week, with one episode on Saturday and one episode on Sunday. Therefore, the filming plan involved a heavy workload with a huge time crunch.

At this moment, a call arrived.

It was from Yu Yingyi.

Yu Yingyi said in a hurry: “Zhang’er!”

Zhang Ye smiled and said: “What’s up, Yingyi?”

“Hurry down to Central TV! Something has happened!”

“OK, I’ll be right there.”

At Central TV.

Central TV International.

When Zhang Ye and his staff from the studio arrived, he saw a panicky Yu Yingyi together with the staff from CTV International. Even the channel’s Director Meng was here as well.

Zhang Ye asked, “What’s the situation?”

Yu Yingyi hurriedly said, “Zhang’er, do you have an international hosting license?”

Zhang Ye was taken aback. “What?”

Director Meng said, “An international hosting license!”

Zhang Ye threw his hands up. “I only have a hosting license for China.”

Ha Qiqi was also taken aback. “Why does he need that?”

Director Meng immediately said, “It’s not us who require you to have it. All the different countries have their own host qualifications exam. Even at Central TV International, we don’t usually have to worry about this. But it’s true that many of the other countries do require their international channel hosts or announcers to have this certification to be able to work. We also request this from our hosts and announcers. Before Yingyi came to our channel, she also spent a year earning her international hosting license. But we didn’t originally need you to have it since this type of show doesn’t truly have a host.”

Ha Qiqi said, “That’s right, Man vs. Wild doesn’t have a host.”

Director Meng said, “But there are people finding trouble with this right now. They’re questioning Zhang Ye’s lack of international hosting credentials. In their minds, Teacher Zhang’s role in Man vs. Wild is as a host. India, America, and Canada have all suggested that if they do not see Zhang Ye’s license, they will unilaterally halt the broadcast of the show.

Ha Qiqi’s face sank. “Halt it?”

“How can they halt it at this time!” Zhang Zuo said angrily.

Little Wang said in a rage, “This was clearly targeted at us!”

No one had expected this to happen when the show was about to be broadcast.

Zhang Ye said, “Is there any way to remedy this?”

Director Meng said, "The worst case scenario is that we have to give up on broadcasting the show in America, India, Canada, and some of the other countries. But if we give up on premiering it in those countries, the impact on our show will surely be fatal. The viewership ratings will be greatly reduced, and all of the previous publicity efforts would have been for naught. This loss will be difficult to bear for us. Our people are still negotiating with the relevant authorities in those countries, but it seems like it will be very difficult to reach an agreement."

Zhang Ye asked, "What's the best way to deal with this?"

Director Meng looked at him. "The best way would be for you to obtain an international hosting license."

Zhang Ye asked, "How often is the exam held?"

Yu Yingyi knew about this. "Once every half a year."

"When is the next time they're holding it?" Zhang Ye asked.

Yu Yingyi said, "Uh, tomorrow."

Zhang Ye nodded. "Is it too late to register for it now?"

Yu Yingyi hurriedly explained, "The designated exam center in China this year is in Shanghai. There's still time to register for it, but the international hosting exam is different from the one we took for the domestic license. They're aimed more at the professional international news broadcasters, so the topics tested are slightly biased on their profession. International geography, international history, and topics regarding politics are all tested. It basically doesn't have anything to do with what we've studied before. Moreover, it is also separated into an interview segment and a written test and requires a very high score to pass!"

Next to them, another male host from CTV International smiled bitterly and said, "That's right, I prepared for it for a year and took the exam three times before I passed. The questions are extremely difficult. Yingyi managed to get it faster than me, but even she took two tries. Many of the other professional hosts in the country can't pass the exam even after many attempts."

Zhang Ye smiled. "No problem, just help me register for it."

Director Meng glanced at him. "Can you handle it?"

Zhang Ye said indifferently, "Don't worry, Old Meng."

Yu Yingyi clenched her teeth. "I won't be going anywhere today. Let me guide you on how to study for it."

Zhang Ye said happily, "No need for that. Just recommend me the relevant books to study for the exam."

Director Meng sighed and said, "We're depending on you."

Registration.

Purchasing the books.

Booking tickets to Shanghai.

They could only do this. The rest was up to Zhang Ye himself. No one else could help him with this matter.

...

On the same day.

The international news started spreading.

“Man vs. Wild faces a broadcast suspension?”

“Zhang Ye doesn’t have an international hosting license!”

“Multiple countries demand the halt of show’s broadcast!”

“China’s show faces an international stranding!”

“China’s show gets besieged by multiple countries!”

“Zhang Ye applies for this round of the International Hosting Qualifications Examination at the last minute!”

On the Web.

People from all over the world were watching the commotion.

An Indian netizen: “Hahaha, he deserves it!”

An American netizen: “Zhang Ye’s new show is done for!”

A UK netizen: “Someone must be deliberately targeting him, right?”

A French netizen: “Many of the program and talk show hosts in America also broadcast their shows internationally, but why don’t I see anyone asking for their international hosting licenses? If it’s not something they themselves can enforce, what gives them the right to demand a Chinese host have it? Handling matters in such a way is shameful.”

A Dutch netizen: “That’s right. The famous American talk show host, Jeff, has not been able to earn his international hosting license in two years. However, he’s still doing great in his job as a host.”

A German netizen: “I heard that this is the most difficult exam for a host to take.”

A Finnish netizen: “Zhang Ye has already registered to take the exam?”

A Thai netizen: “The exam is taking place tomorrow. Even a god couldn’t pass it if they decided to take it on a whim.”

A Korean netizen: “Not necessarily.”

A Japanese netizen: “Yeah, I agree.”

An American netizen: “Haha, do you guys really think he can pass?”

Many people around the world were waiting to see China make a fool of themselves.

At this moment, the Chinese netizens came forward.

“Fucking idiots!”

“You guys are trying to mess with Face-smacking Zhang again?”

“Hur hur!”

“It’s just the International Hosting Qualifications Examination, isn’t it? Just wait and see!”

“Just watch Zhang Ye pass!”

Zhang Ye.

Man vs. Wild.

For a moment, these two names were pushed into the headlines again!

Chapter 1664: A shocking examination result!

The next day.

In the morning.

The outside world was in an uproar.

This year’s International Hosting Qualifications Examination had attracted worldwide attention.

To watch the commotion.

To see a joke.

There were all kinds of people paying attention to it.

Many of Zhang Ye’s family, friends, and colleagues also heard about the difficulty of the exam and were feeling nervous for him. They knew that if he did not pass the exam this time, it would spell the end of his new show. He had received three calls from his mother alone. But at present, on the high-speed rail from Beijing to Shanghai, Zhang Ye was sitting crossed-legged with a relaxed expression. He was listening to music and flipping through books related to the International Hosting Qualifications Examination. The matter did not bother him at all. From his expression, there was no trace of Zhang Ye being nervous or worried. This fellow would even hum a few lines of the song that he was listening to every so often. Occasionally, he would also take out his cell phone to browse Weibo.

On Weibo.

“Good luck, Face-smacking Zhang!”

“Don’t come back if you don’t pass the exam!”

“Teacher Zhang! Fuck them all!”

“Hurry up and get your license. Don’t be afraid!”

“We’re all waiting to watch your new show!”

“Teacher Zhang, can you do it or not?”

Zhang Ye replied to one of the Weibo posts: “Who knows?”

That Weibo reply immediately blew up!

“Damn!”

“Teacher Zhang has suddenly appeared!”

“Haha, what a surprise to see Face-smacking Zhang!”

The atmosphere was a jubilant one.

The train arrived.

A car came to pick him up and he headed straight to the examination venue.

When Zhang appeared, he immediately became the center of attention. All of the announcers and hosts who had come to take the exam were looking at him in surprise.

A young woman came walking over in a hurry and said respectfully, “Pro-Professor Zhang.”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “Did you graduate recently?”

The young woman said shyly, “I just graduated this year.”

Another youth came over. “Professor Zhang, it’s really you!”

Zhang Ye smiled and nodded at him. “Hello.”

The youth said worriedly, “Are you prepared for the exam?”

The young woman stared at him. “You’re worried that Professor Zhang won’t pass?”

The youth said in embarrassment, “I’m not. But I’m worried because I’ve studied this exam all year. The questions are especially odd, and the paper is all in English too. It’s too difficult.”

The young woman clearly knew him. “That’s because you’re dumb.”

The youth said in shame, “Alright.”

As the two of them addressed Zhang Ye as professor the moment they met him, Zhang Ye immediately deduced that they must be students or recent graduates of Media College. Zhang Ye was a professor at Media College, so he would also be considered their teacher. This was even though this teacher was a little raffish and didn’t even hold any classes over the years.

Everyone was chatting as they headed in.

There was only one examination venue, and the number of people taking part in the exam this time was 27. There weren’t many people here, as many people had already given up on taking it after failing the

exam several times. There were both Chinese proctors and foreign ones. The exam was the same throughout the world in every country and was in English.

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The exam began.

When Zhang received his exam, he smiled and started answering the questions.

An hour.

Two hours.

Three hours.

The written exam.

Handing in the exam.

Lunch

Lining up.

Going through the interview segment.

When Zhang Ye came out of the venue, it was almost dark.

There were still a lot of things to handle back in Beijing, so he had no time to check the answers, nor pay further attention to any exam-related matters. He just took the high-speed rail straight back to Beijing.

...

The next day.

In the afternoon.

Because of the small number of candidates who took the exam, the results came out very soon.

The International Association for Broadcasters and Announcers had already published the results and passing candidates on its website. Every person who had obtained the international hosting license would have their names appear on a dedicated page of the website. Currently, there were only 239 people in the world who had obtained a certificate of qualification as an international host. Some of the countries had eight to nine of such hosts in total while a few countries didn't even have anyone with the qualifications to be an international host. From this, it could be seen how valuable the license was.

On this day, the website nearly crashed.

Countless people from all over the world had come to check the results of the examination.

...

At home.

Zhang Ye's parents had Chenchen take control of the computer.

“Did he pass?”

“How many points did your Uncle Zhang score?”

“It’s out, have a look at it yourselves.”

“Ah!”

“What?”

...

At Central TV.

“Is it out?”

“Why haven’t they announced it yet?”

“The scores are out!”

“Where? Where is it?!”

“Did he pass?”

“Holy shit! This score—”

...

Media College.

“Oh my God!”

“Something big has happened!”

“Quickly come and have a look at Professor Zhang’s score!”

“What the hell!”

“Awesome! This is too fucking awesome!”

...

Dong Shanshan’s house.

Yu Yingyi and she were having a chat.

“I wonder how it went.”

“I think the scores have been announced.”

“Damn, they’re really out!”

“This madman!”

“I should have known! Why did I bother worrying about him? Just how on earth did this guy take his exam!”

...

The scores were announced.

The results of every country's candidates were published.

Emerson: Written test, 167 points; Interview, 75 points (Passed)

Zhang Fanghua: Written test, 148 points; Interview, 69 points (Failed)

Arthur: Written test, 154 points; Interview, 62 points (Failed)

This was a list containing the results of several hundred candidates who took the exam. The majority of everyone's scores were spread between 160 to 250 points, although there were also some who didn't do well and only had a combined score of 120 points for the written test and the interview. This exam had 250 points as the maximum score for the written test. The interview segment had a maximum score of 100 points. For most of the candidates, reaching a combined 240 points would mean that they had passed the exam. But of course, there were also special circumstances. If one did outstandingly excellent on the interview portion, the requirements for their written test could be adjusted lower.

The scores densely populated the list.

But currently, the entire world's attention was only focused on one person's results!

When they saw this person's result, nobody could believe their eyes!

Zhang Ye's result:

Written test, 250 points (Full marks)

Interview, 100 points (Full marks)

Total score, 350 points (Full marks)

He had scored perfectly for the written test and interview segment!

...

On Weibo.

Everyone was exclaiming.

"Hahahaha!"

"It's a perfect score!"

"Oh my awesome Zhang!"

"Face-smacking Zhang is smacking faces again!"

"666!"

"There's no problem at all, buddy!"

"I'm doubling over with laughter! This is who Zhang Ye is!"

“I’m laughing as well. There were actually some foreigners who thought that he wouldn’t pass the exam? They must not be in the know about how Zhang Ye had scored perfectly in the judicial exam back as a host!”

...

On the Web.

The people of the world were stunned.

An American netizen: “What the fuck!”

An Indian netizen: “How on earth did he take the exam!”

A UK netizen: “Full marks?”

A Canadian netizen: “He really managed to pass it?!”

A Japanese netizen: “I knew it!”

An American netizen: “This is the International Hosting Qualifications Examination. It’s known as one of the most difficult exams in the world, but he can still get a perfect score on it?”

A German netizen: “He didn’t even have a full day to prepare for it and went to take the exam directly, yet he still managed a perfect score? This Zhang Ye is too smart. It looks like there’s no fault in labeling him as the smartest person to exist in a few hundred years. Those who were waiting to see him make a fool of himself had wishful thinking!”

...

On this day.

On the website of the International Association of Broadcasters and Announcers, Zhang Ye’s name was right at the top.

The list was ranked according to the results of the exam candidates. Ever since the International Hosting Qualifications Examination was implemented, Zhang Ye was the only person in several decades to have scored full marks on it!

Chapter 1665: Premiere broadcast!

Two days later.

Saturday.

China was filled with anticipation.

“The premiere episode is about to begin.”

“There’s only one more hour before it begins.”

“I really want to see it. Hurry up and start already!”

“I’ve been waiting all morning!”

“Zhang Ye, go for it!”

“I hope to be surprised!”

“Face-smacking Zhang has returned to doing entertainment programs after so many years. I wonder if it will still be as brilliant as before?”

“We’ll find out soon, won’t we?”

...

Back at home.

Old Wu was taking the day off today. His parents were also here.

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, “Aren’t you going down to Central TV?”

Zhang Ye was leaning back on the sofa and amusing his daughter. “I’m not going. Let’s watch together at home as a family.”

His mother had already switched the channel in anticipation. “Why isn’t there anything on TV?”

His father said, “Aiya, it isn’t time.”

His mother asked Wu Zeqing, “Zeqing, have you told your parents to watch?”

Wu Zeqing smiled. “I’ve told them about it already. They know what time it will be showing, so I suppose they’re also watching it at home right now.”

His mother smacked her lips and said, “Why do I feel a little nervous?”

“Mom, I’m not even nervous, so what are you nervous about.” Zhang Ye was amused. “Just relax and watch it normally. Since I dared to bring this show out, it will definitely be a good one. Don’t you worry.”

His father was in high spirits. “It’s starting!”

His mother hurriedly sat down. “Stop talking!”

Countless pairs of eyes.

Countless discussions.

The media, public, industry insiders, and even viewers from countries all over the world were attracted by the advertising and news. Their curiosity for the show had peaked. Some people were already waiting in front of the television early in the morning, while it was nighttime for others. Some people in China also turned on their televisions and switched it to Central TV International, a channel they had never paid attention to before today.

Under everyone’s attention, Man vs. Wild finally premiered!

This was the first time that China had brought out a show they wanted to show to the whole world!

...

On the screen.

Zhang Ye appeared.[note: <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3b76tn>]

"I'm Zhang Ye. Some people say that I'm a host, and others say I'm a writer, film actor, movie director, singer, mathematician, and hacker. I won't deny any of those, but I know that there is still a title I have that nobody knows about. I am a wilderness survival specialist. Now, my challenge is to go alone into one of America's deadliest places: the Rocky Mountains. Millions of people visit them every year; 2,000 don't return alive. I'm going into one of the most remote areas in the Rockies with only the clothes I'm wearing to show you how to be an ultimate survivor."

On the plane.

The wind was whistling.

"I'm flying 3,000 meters above the Rockies, somewhere near the Canadian border. Since most people who end up in trouble here are caught by surprise, my team has arranged one for me. At any moment, the pilot will tell me to jump. Where? I don't know. I don't have a map, spare clothing, water, or food. Not even a cell phone. My mission is simple: Use all my skills to get out alive in under three days."

The cabin's hatch was opened.

Zhang Ye parachuted down.

"Oh, it's a jungle!"

"This is a very dangerous position to be!"

"God save me!"

"Damn, I'm stuck in a tree."

"Phew, I'm lucky to still be alive. I have to find a way to leave this place. I'm at least 10 meters up. If I jump, I'll break my legs. There's only one way out of this, and it's something I've never done before. Remember, if you get into danger in the wild, the first thing to do is to keep calm, because that will likely save your life."

"Ah!"

"I'm down."

"I need to look for a river now, as that means food and water."

"Look at what I found. This is a type of local vegetation. I know that it might not taste good, but I don't really have a choice. I have to eat it to recover some of my strength."

"Oh, a snake!"

"This is a rattlesnake and it's extremely venomous."

"You'll need a branch that looks like this. See, I've caught it."

"This is great. That's gonna make for a good bit of dinner."

“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 a 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.”

“Heavens! It’s a bear!”

“Goddammit! I have to get out of here!”

“Run!”

“It’s a cliff, I have nowhere else I can go!”

“I’m gonna jump, wish me luck!”

...

At the studio.

Many of the staff were speechless. They were watching it for the first time.

“What kind of grass is that!”

“No idea.”

“Did Director Zhang really eat it?”

“Yeah, he really ate it.”

...

At Yao Jiancai’s house.

“Dad, Uncle Zhang could even eat tree bark?”

“This fellow must have gone crazy from hunger!”

“Ah, he even ate the venomous snake?”

“This glutton!”

...

At Central TV.

“It’s a bear!”

“Heavens!”

“It’s a real bear! It’s been recorded!”

“It’s over! This is too dangerous!”

...

Back at home.

“Son, have you gone crazy!”

“You even leaped off the cliff?”

“Didn’t you say that there wouldn’t be any danger?! There was even a bear!”

“Ahem, it’s really not dangerous. We found actors to play it. It was just actors.”

“Actors, your grandpa! Like you have any actors with so much body hair!”

...

China.

“Ahhh!”

“Face-smacking Zhang is gonna get sacrificed!”

“It’s really a bear!”

“How thrilling! This is so fun to watch!”

“He really risked his life to film this show!”

...

America.

“Holy fuck!”

“Zhang Ye has been attacked!”

“Will he escape?”

“He jumped off the cliff! God! That was terrifying!”

“His physical fitness is really good!”

...

The UK.

“Whew, he finally shook it off!”

“It was so close!”

“Oh no, there’s another bear! It doesn’t look like the one from before!”

“The Chinese man is out of luck! He’s in danger!”

...

Japan.

“It’s a real situation!”

“Are there shows that are shot like that?”

“Has he gone mad?”

“Of course he’s mad! Is this the first day you learned about him?”

...

Korea.

“Quick, watch Man vs. Wild!”

“I’m definitely not watching Zhang Ye’s show!”

“Zhang Ye is going to get eaten by a bear!”

“What? Which channel is it on? I’ll go watch it right away!”

“Pfft, can you guys be a bit more humane?”

...

India.

“Devour him! Devour him!”

“Quickly eat him! This stupid bear! Chase after him, quick!”

“Zhang Ye is escaping by swimming away! Quickly chase after him!”

“What a dumb bear, why is it running so slowly!”

...

Pakistan.

“He’s managed to escape!”

“There’s a road there!”

“Thank goodness!”

“Impressive, my Chinese bro!”

“He’s indeed the man who ran the best half-marathon this year!”

...

Another 40 minutes passed.

The first episode ended.

Immediately, heated discussions blew up all across the world!

Chapter 1666: The international viewership ratings are out!

The UK.

At the home of international superstar Lillian.

Lillian praised with a sigh, "Oh my awesome fellow smoker."

Her father pointed at the television and asked, "Is this that friend of yours from China?"

"Haha, that's right," Lillian said.

Her father said, "He's really quite different from most other people."

Lillian smiled and said, "In my opinion, it won't be long before he chases up to me."

Her father was taken aback. "You're an international A-lister. Do you really think that highly of him?"

Lillian acknowledged him and said, "In the past, his development was limited to just within China, so his works also tended to be aimed at only the Chinese audience. That made it difficult for him to achieve anything internationally. But it's different this time. Coming back after three years, he has finally decided to make an appearance on the international stage. Even I don't know how far he can go. You're right, Dad, this smoking buddy of mine is indeed unlike most other celebrities."

...

On the Web.

"This is a Chinese show?"

"Oh my god!"

"Amazing! The host is so impressive!"

"Why does this Chinese man know everything!"

"Moreover, he can even identify everything! He actually knows about the local vegetation as well?"

"Watching this gives me goosebumps all over!"

"Yeah, my eyes never left the screen the entire time!"

"Is it really that fun to watch?"

"Go and watch it to find out. There might be a rerun, or maybe a video will be uploaded!"

"I really can't believe that this show was made by a Chinese guy! It's so unbelievable!"

"So this guy is Zhang Ye? I've heard of his name, but this is the first time I've seen his work!"

...

In China.

On Weibo.

“Face-smacking Zhang, 666!”

“It was crazy fun to watch!”

“Where’s the second episode? When’s it showing?”

“I knew Zhang Ye would pull it off!”

“Hahahaha, Face-smacking Zhang might really be able to defy the heavens this time!”

“A Chinese show is finally going to make it out there on the international stage!”

“I wonder what the viewership ratings abroad are going to be like!”

“Yeah, I’m not worried about the viewership ratings in China. It’s mainly how it performs overseas!”

“We should find out tonight!”

...

At home.

The entire family was dumbfounded.

Sisi screamed in fright the entire episode.

After the broadcast finished, Zhang Ye’s mother looked at him in shock. “This is your new show? How did you come up with an idea like this?”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “I just thought of it.”

Wu Zeqing said, “It’s a bit dangerous.”

Zhang Ye explained, “Actually, it was really nothing. The danger that you guys felt was just from the effect of my editing. I purposely landed in the jungle, and everything was under my control the entire time. I knew exactly what I was doing. For the bear, the film crew was also equipped with a tranquilizer gun. If there were any signs of danger, they would immediately tranquilize it. With two shots of that, even a bear that large would drop to the ground. Besides, I’m sure you all know how skilled I am. It was really nothing much.”

Sisi yelled out, “Daddy is awesome!”

Zhang Ye gave his daughter a kiss. “Thanks for the compliments, my dear.”

His father slapped his thigh and exclaimed, “This show is going to be on fire!”

His mother also said, “It was really good, but I wonder if the foreigners will accept it.”

At this moment, the calls started arriving one by one.

His mother-in-law, Li Qinqin, was the first to call.

“Little Ye.”

“Mom.”

“That was such a good show. I loved it!”

“Haha, thanks, Mom.”

“When does the second episode broadcast?”

“I haven’t filmed it yet, but I’ll be getting to it tomorrow.”

“You must take care of yourself, alright?”

“Alright, Mom.”

Then Ning Lan called.

“Zhang’er, I’ve watched the show.”

“Was it OK?”

“It was way too OK! I think it’s gonna be on fire!”

“Hopefully.”

“Believe me, this show is definitely going to be very popular!”

Then Dong Shanshan called.

“It’s indeed a show done by you. It was amazing.”

“Thanks, Shanshan.”

“I bet the entire world didn’t expect you to make a show like this.”

“All they know is how to stab me in the back.”

“This time, I feel like you’re gonna end up smacking their faces again.”

“Haha, who knows?”

Call after call.

Countless family and friends phoned him.

The feedback from everyone was almost unanimous praise. They all felt that the show was very refreshing, because no one in the world had ever made something like it before. Wilderness? Survival? Absolutely no one had such an idea for a show, and no one thought that there would be anyone who would watch something like that. Therefore, after watching Man vs. Wild, a lot of people were dumbfounded.

It could even be done this way?

There was even such a thing?

Choosing to do Man vs. Wild and using this particular episode for the premiere broadcast was a decision that Zhang Ye made after having considered it for a very long time. He had filmed the first episode with a relatively conservative attitude, and there were not too many shocking scenes in it. He did this mainly

because he wanted to use it to open up the global television market and pull in the viewers first. In the past, the shows that he made were generally limited to a certain type of audience. For example, the performances on the music shows mainly covered pop songs, which made a lot of the older viewers not want to watch it. Or the Lecture Room series, which most younger people did not have the patience for. And even a show like A Bite of China, which attracted viewers of all demographics, was still limited by the cultural differences of overseas viewers. However, Man vs. Wild wasn't the same. Be it man or woman, young or old, be it the nationality of the viewers, there were no clear limitations. This was also why Zhang Ye placed great importance on this show and was the least worried about it.

On the same night.

At the studio.

Zhang Ye drove back here.

Ha Qiqi looked very excited. "Director Zhang!"

"Whoa, you guys haven't knocked off yet?" Zhang Ye smiled and looked at everyone in the studio. Almost all of the staff were still around and no one was rushing to knock off yet.

Zhang Zuo said anxiously, "Why would we want to knock off so early? Everyone is waiting for the viewership ratings to come out!"

Zhang Ye asked, "So are they out yet?"

Little Wang said, "They'll come out soon."

Zhang Ye said, "How about the stats from the overseas market?"

Ha Qiqi said, "The overseas viewership ratings will be gradually made known. The other countries use different calculation methods. Some are based on the viewership ratings, and some are based on the viewer numbers. We're just waiting for Central TV to draw up a summary of the results before they call and update us."

Half an hour.

An hour.

In fact, it wasn't just them.

All of China was also waiting.

The entire world's media outlets were also waiting.

People around the globe were also waiting.

Everyone wanted to know what kind of answer Zhang Ye could come up with!

Finally, under everyone's attention, the answer was revealed. When they saw the results, the entire world had a look of horror just like the one they had when they saw Zhang Ye's International Hosting Qualifications Examination score. To say nothing of them, even Zhang Ye and his studio's staff were all dumbfounded as well!

Man vs. Wild's global viewership ratings (or viewer numbers) ranking for the day.

China: #1

The UK: #4

America: #6

France: #5

Japan: #3

Korea: #4

India: #9

Canada: #7

Pakistan: #2

An international channel had actually made it into the top ten of the viewership ratings or viewer numbers rankings of so many different countries. It had to be known that all of these countries had their own television shows, as well as many television channels on their own country's networks. Among the dozens of channels and hundreds of television shows showing in those countries, the performance of Central TV International's Man vs. Wild was too shocking for the rest of the countries to handle!

Chapter 1667: It's time to go wild!

At the studio.

The viewership ratings for each country was compiled and sent over.

"Another one has been made known!"

"The ratings for Australia are out!"

"What place did we get?"

"We're in 9th place!"

"The viewership ratings for the Netherlands are out too."

"How did we rank in the Netherlands?"

"We're in 6th place!"

"Heavens!"

The rankings were not limited to entertainment programs alone, but also included all other programs like variety shows, television series, and even documentaries that broadcast on the same day in each country. Therefore, the importance of the viewership rankings for the various countries was obvious.

There were screams of astonishment everywhere in the studio!

Nobody could believe their eyes and ears!

Ha Qiqi looked at the datasheet and said in shock, "We're ranked within the top ten in almost every country? Even in India, we're in 9th place? How can it possibly be that high? This makes no sense at all! This is only the first episode! How can the premiere episode achieve such high viewership ratings? It would be understandable if this was just the domestic viewership ratings since we already have a certain level of influence back home. But what's with this situation overseas? They're giving so much face to us? Since when did we also become so influential abroad?"

Zhang Zuo was stunned. "It's like the show is on fucking steroids or something!"

Little Wang was roaring with laughter. "How awesome! It's awesome!"

Tong Fu said pleasantly surprised, "Director Zhang, you're simply godly!"

Zhang Ye also laughed. "I guess it wasn't too bad."

Wu Yi slapped his thigh and said loudly, "We were initially hoping that the show would make it beyond our country's shores. But damn, with the results we've gotten, it's no longer going to be as simple as that. This has totally exceeded all our expectations! Even a rocket couldn't have propelled it out China's doors so quickly! This sort of result can be hailed as one of the top few achievements in the global television show industry!"

Sun Kuang was also here today. Right now, he was also somewhat stunned by the developments.

The publicity.

The show's quality.

The show's innovation.

Zhang Ye's fame.

All of these factors had blown the doors off!

All of the preparation and effort they had put in was repaid to them through the viewership ratings!

...

At Central TV.

Screams rang out through the International Channel.

"Look at this!"

"Ahhhh!"

"The viewership ratings have blown up!"

"The show has made it into the top ten all around the world!"

"Heavens! Is this really happening?"

"Can someone pinch me? I'm not dreaming, am I? W-We actually got to witness a day like this?"

“It has broken all the records! All of the statistics for Man vs. Wild have broken the records for a Chinese TV show! It has broken the domestic records! And also broken the overseas records!”

“I knew we were right to bring Director Zhang aboard to do the show!”

...

In the Chinese entertainment industry.

“What the hell!”

“He really did it!”

“Yeah, this fellow really managed it!”

“He’s really brought a Chinese TV show to the international stage!”

“How impressive!”

“This battle was well fought. I’m so proud!”

...

On Weibo.

“Invincible!”

“Face-smacking Zhang is truly invincible!”

“First, he did it with a movie. Then he did it again with a TV show! 666!”

“Face-smacking Zhang has gained another achievement to his name!”

“Hahahaha, beautifully done!”

“The entire world has probably been dumbfounded by what happened!”

“Zhang Ye has made history again!”

...

On the Web.

“It has such a high viewership rating?”

“It placed 6th on the American viewership ranking?”

“How did they come up with that number?”

“It actually exceeded the viewership ratings of so many other American TV series?”

“Two talk shows have been swept aside by him as well!”

“The results are a little shocking. But I have to say, this show is indeed quite enjoyable to watch!”

“Is that Chinese man unstoppable?”

...

The media outlets of the various countries.

“A Chinese TV show shakes up the industry!”

“Man vs. Wild ignites a heated global discussion!”

“Yet another counterattack by Zhang Ye?”

“A new, global rising star!”

“Man vs. Wild innovates a new genre for TV shows!”

“Rave reviews received in many countries!”

A media outlet reported the following:

—According to an analysis by a panel of international experts, the popularity of Man vs. Wild was quite expected. This is a completely new genre that matches very well with the discipline of television shows, and includes adventure, knowledge, and food, making it very easy for the audience to relate to the host’s perspective as they go with him on an adventure. They might even experience the same sense of danger that the host is experiencing. This show has opened up new grounds for future shows and has to be praised. The father of talk shows is worthy of his reputation.

...

There was a sense of exhilaration in China!

The world was in an uproar!

Man vs. Wild became very popular just like this!

The heaven-defying results that the premiere episode had achieved was an occurrence that was considered extremely rare in the global television show industry.

On the same day.

The International Celebrity Rankings Index was refreshed.

On it, it could be seen that Zhang Ye’s popularity had blown up once again.

On the index, he had climbed five places up on the International C-list Rankings in one shot. This rate of increase was shocking for many of the international A- and B-listers. As such, more and more international stars and people from various countries started taking note of Zhang Ye. In the past, when Zhang Ye first made it into the international celebrity rankings, many of the international celebrities did not pay much attention to him. But at this moment, no one could ignore him anymore. This was only the first episode, so who knew how much more popular Zhang Ye would get when a complete season of Man vs. Wild had been broadcast?

...

The next day. In the morning.

At Zhang Ye's Studio.

Right now, attention from all over the world was focused on them. Countless eyes were watching and waiting to see how their show would turn out.

Zhang Ye's luggage was already packed. "We're going to shoot the second episode today, followed by the third episode after that. I seem to remember that many of you had wanted to quit the show previously? So how about now? We'll be setting off very soon, so there's still time to think about it. Once we get to the wild, you can't come back even if you want to."

Tong Fu was the first to call out, "Why would we want to come back? Let's do it!"

Wu Yi said, "Who says we're quitting the show? Let's do it!"

Zhang Zuo said, "I want to join in this time as well!"

Zhang Ye looked around. "Where's Old Sun at?"

The door opened. Sun Kuang had arrived late. "I'm here, I'm here."

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "I thought you had run away."

Sun Kuang rolled his eyes. "With viewership like this, I'll have to take part in the filming even if I don't want to. So what if it's a little dangerous, I'll just have to be more careful. If I miss this opportunity, I will regret it for the rest of my life." Seeing everyone looking at him in surprise, Sun Kuang couldn't help but chuckle. "This might be the one and only time that China has a TV show that can be proudly shown to the world. I may not be brave, but I'm not dumb either. Let's just go ahead and do what needs to be done, I'll be going all out this time!"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "The first episode's viewership ratings don't mean much. Whether or not a show gets popular depends on the long-term development. A good start is a good thing, of course, and that tells us that we're already halfway to success. The other half will be decided by the rest of the show. Let's put in more effort and aim to bring the viewership ratings to the next level!"

Little Wang said, "Ah? It can still go higher?"

Zhang Ye nodded and said, "Let's give it a try."

Tong Fu was exuberant. "That's right, we never aim for second place!"

Wu Yi laughed heartily. "Yeah, if we have to aim for something, it would be for the top of the world!"

Zhang Ye raised his arm and waved, saying, "Let's go, bros! It's time to set off!"

The first episode had been filmed in a rather conservative manner.

But starting from the second episode, Zhang Ye felt that it was time to go wild!

Chapter 1668: Zhang Ye eats an alligator!

Several days later.

Saturday.

Many viewers around the world had turned their televisions on.

"It's about to begin!"

"It's time for the second episode."

"Yeah, I've been waiting an entire week for this."

"I wonder if the second episode will be as good as the first episode."

"I didn't watch it last week, so I definitely have to watch it this week."

"Is it really that good?"

"You'll find out after you watch it."

"Is it broadcasting on Central TV International?"

"Yes, it's on the only international channel that China has."

"Alright, it's starting, it's starting."

"What? A swamp?"

"He's heading into such a dangerous place?"

"I know where this place is! There are alligators there!"

Under the anticipation of viewers from all over the world, the second episode of Man vs. Wild officially began. A lot of people took out their snacks, soft drinks, or beer as they watched the show on television with their families. Unlike soccer, talk shows, and the various TV series, Man vs. Wild was a show that was very suited for a family of all demographics to watch together.

...

On TV.

Zhang Ye appeared on screen again.

This time, he appeared at a terrifying swamp.

"I'm Zhang Ye. Some people say that I'm a host, and others say I'm a writer, film actor, movie director, singer, mathematician, and hacker. I won't deny any of those, but I know that there is still a title I have that nobody knows about. I am a wilderness survival specialist. I'm in the Everglades, in Florida, over 20,202 square kilometers of waterlogged grassland. Every year, this wilderness attracts 6 million visitors. Many get lost and need to be airlifted to safety. I'm starting in the most challenging part of the Everglades, the swamps. I'll only have a knife, flint, and a canteen with me. I'm gonna put myself in the position of a lost tourist and show you how to survive in a wilderness like this."

"I'm descending into the swamp."

"Oh, there's water all around."

"I don't like this place at all. It's very disorienting, and you just can't see what is in the water. It's a very bad feeling, so I have to get out of here as quickly as possible and find dry land."

"What I need now is a weapon, so I'm going to cut this pop ash branch down. At a critical moment, this could very well save my life."

"First of all, I need to get my bearings."

"I'm going to teach everyone a technique. Basically, the Everglades has a really wide river that runs from the north to the south, but it runs really slowly. So a good way of working out directions is to tie a water bottle to a stick and wait half an hour to see which way the bottle swings 'round. From there, I can find out which direction to head toward—OK, I've determined the direction, let's go."

"It's been two hours, and I've been walking all this time. This is very tiring."

"Walking through the swamp uses up a lot of energy, and you need to eat something."

"Look, what's this?"

"Break open a piece of deadwood and you'll find carpenter ants in there."

"These are carpenter ant larvae. Let me have a taste."

"Hm, I can say for sure that it doesn't taste good."

"Oh, come and have a look at this. Ahead of me now is muddy bog. It's a place where the earth will literally suck you in. The more you struggle, the more it sucks you into it. Each year, many people around the world lose their lives because of this. This is also one of the greatest dangers that you can encounter in the swamp. Usually when we see it, we should avoid it or go back the way we came. But what I'm going to do is jump in and show you how to get out of it if you fall into one."

"I'm going in!"

"The sinkhole is constantly sucking me in!"

"My waist has completely sunk in!"

"Remember the stick that I had from before? It's time to use it to save my life now. Use that to create more surface area to put your weight on, and try to wriggle your chest onto it. Once you're up on the surface, just prone crawl until you hit solid ground. And then it's quite easy like that."

"Let's keep going forward."

"Look at what I found."

"It's a little tree frog."

"Alright, I'm going to eat it."

"Goddammit, the taste is really terrible."

"I'm feeling extremely cold and hungry now. I'm in really bad shape, and I have to find food and water and build a campsite as well. Otherwise, I might not be able to get out of this swampland."

“Wait!”

“There are some air bubbles coming up from the water!”

“Dammit! It’s an alligator! I’ve been noticed!”

“In the swamp, I won’t be able to outrun it. It’s much faster than me!”

“Damn! There are three of them!”

...

Dong Shanshan’s house.

His old classmates had gathered here.

“I’m gonna faint!”

“Those are ants!”

“How is this bastard able to eat everything!”

“Wasn’t he like this when we went to university? Cicadas, crickets, grasshoppers, he has eaten all of those before.”

“But he’s eating the ants raw!”

“He said that it didn’t taste good, so why did he still eat a dozen of them?”

...

The UK.

“Oh my God!”

“It’s a sinkhole!”

“Other people can’t wait to avoid something like that! Yet you still jump right into it!”

“He’s trapped!”

“Oh, he’s asking for it!”

“Wow, he managed to escape!”

“How terrifying!”

...

Russia.

“A frog?”

“He ate it! He really ate it!”

“I’m gonna puke!”

“Me too! Urgh!”

“He ate a live frog?”

“Everyone says we Russians are a warrior people! But damn! It feels like this fellow is even more of a warrior than we are!”

...

Japan.

“An alligator!”

“It’s the American alligator ¹ !”

“There are three of them! Zhang Ye is done for!”

“He’s been surrounded!”

“This is the real deal!”

“Haha, that’s what he gets for only caring about eating. See what a surprise he’s gotten into?”

...

India.

“You can do it, gator!”

“Bite him!”

“Bite him!”

“Attack him, gator!”

“Please attack, gator!”

...

China.

“Hahaha, Face-smacking Zhang is screwed!”

“Let him eat it!”

“Why isn’t he eating the alligators!”

“Yeah, he should continue with that next. Why is he running away!”

“I’m cramping up with laughter. This fellow is too reckless!”

“Wait, dammit!”

“Face-smacking Zhang has come back again!”

“What?”

...

Canada.

“Why did he come back?”

“The gators are still there!”

“Ahhh! One of the gators dropped out of the group!”

“Oh my God! Zhang Ye, h-he’s back for revenge!”

“He pounced on it!”

“My God! He pounced onto the back of the gator! He held its mouth shut!”

...

Korea.

“Holy shit!”

“He killed the alligator!”

“W-What is he trying to do!”

“He’s skinning it.”

“Oh my god! H-H-He’s going to eat the alligator!”

“He really ate it!”

“This glutton has gone mad!”

“Does he have to go this far!”

...

The second episode finished up.

The entire world’s viewers were stunned!

Ants.

Frogs.

Turtles.

Alligators.

With the second episode of Man vs. Wild, Zhang Ye once again swept through another wilderness. Everywhere he went, the place would be left barren. He ate everything that could be eaten!

On this day.

Countless people pissed their pants!

On this day.

Countless people were left kneeling!

The second episode's viewership ratings had gone up again!

China: #1

America: #5

The UK: #3

Korea: #3

India: #7

Russia: #4

Man vs. Wild was close to unstoppable!

Chapter 1669: Zhang Ye eats a shark!

The next day.

Sunday.

It blew up on the Internet.

"Wow!"

"There's another episode today!"

"There will be two straight episodes shown on Saturday and Sunday from now on!"

"How generous!"

"I can't wait!"

"Yesterday's episode was too fucking good!"

"The first episode was quite good as well!"

"This show must be very difficult to shoot, right? Doesn't Zhang Ye need to rest?"

"Start broadcasting already! I'm dying from the wait!"

"I'm also dying of anticipation. I want to see how reckless Face-smacking Zhang can be again today!"

"Hahahaha, this glutton will get into trouble sooner or later!"

"Yeah, he even dares to eat an alligator! I really have to take my hat off to him!"

"It's starting, it's starting!"

"Wow! They're off to an island for this episode!"

“What a beautiful place!”

The entire world had its attention on this.

After the massive round of heated discussions and word of mouth for the first two episodes, the number of viewers watching Man vs. Wild around the world surged even higher. More and more people were waiting at their televisions with the channel switched to Central TV International. It was as though this show had a magical touch. After only broadcasting two episodes, it had captured the attention of the entire world.

...

On TV.

It was Zhang Ye’s standard introduction again.

“I’m Zhang Ye. Some people say that I’m a host, and others say I’m a writer, film actor, movie director, singer, mathematician, and hacker. I won’t deny any of those, but I know that there is still a title I have that nobody knows about. I am a wilderness survival specialist. I’ve come to a deserted island in the Western Pacific. The scenery here is beautiful, but danger is lurking everywhere as well. I’ll be showing everyone how to survive in a wilderness like this.”

“Oh, this place is so beautiful.”

“Look, the ocean, the blue sky, and the beach.”

“I would really love to lie down on this beach to enjoy the beautiful scenery, but I know that’s not going to happen. The mistake people often make is that they wait too long to take action towards their survival. The time to act is when you’re feeling strong and feeling fresh. My priority right now is to orient myself and work out my options. Let’s go.”

“There’s nothing here.”

“This island is too small.”

“There are no coconuts, no fresh water, and no food.”

“I’m already hungry, so I must start looking for food.”

“Look, what’s this over here?”

“Oh, there’s a giant larva ¹ in here.”

“Alright, this is it. I’m going to have to replenish my protein.”

“Damn, this tastes really bad.”

“Hey, have a look at this. There’s an island opposite and is separated by the sea. This is a twin island, and the island on the other side looks much larger, so there should be more resources as well. The chances of survival over there will be much higher. I’ve already decided I’m going to try to get to that island. What I need to do is build a simple raft to get there with.”

“I’m going out to the sea, wish me luck.”

"I'm almost there, I can already see the opposite shore."

"Oh, damn! It's a shark!"

"It's hitting the raft!"

"The raft is gonna sink! Damn!"

"I'm gonna have to swim over!"

"Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!"

"A shark just swam past my leg! It's coming after me!"

"I've finally come ashore!"

"I'm so exhausted. I need some food."

"I've got terrible luck. There's no food on this island either. All I see is a few sharks swimming around in the shallow waters. It seems like they've gotten trapped after trying to chase me. I can't go out to the sea to catch any fish, and there's no food sources on this island either. My biggest problem right now is hunger."

"What should I do now?"

"It looks like I have no other choice."

"Come on, I'm going to try to pull a shark onto the shore!"

...

At Peking University.

"How beautiful."

"I have an urge to go on an adventure too."

"Ah! What's Professor Zhang eating this time?"

"It's larva!"

"Urgh!"

"I'm gonna puke!"

"Me too!"

...

Japan.

"Why does he eat everything!"

"He can even eat the larva raw?"

"He's so impressive!"

“I’m convinced!”

...

In Germany.

“He going to the opposite shore.”

“The raft’s very well-made.”

“This Zhang Ye really has the skills to survive in the wilderness.”

“He’s impressive.”

“Ah, a shark!”

“There’s a shark coming!

...

The UK.

“Oh my God!”

“There are four of those sharks!”

“No, there’s five of them!”

“They’re chasing up to him! The raft is sinking!”

“Zhang Ye is in danger!”

...

India.

“Eat him!”

“Bite him!”

“Get him, shark!”

“Attack him!”

“Chase after him! Do it!”

...

China.

“Danger!”

“Aiyo, oh my God! Those are real sharks!”

“Hurry up and swim, Face-smacking Zhang!”

“Who told you to brag! Now look who’s the foolish one!”

“Hurry up and run!”

“He’s back on shore! He’s safe now!”

“Thank God! I got such a scare!”

...

America.

“There’s no food.”

“He has no way out.”

“Haha, he’s not going to make it past this episode.”

“If there’s no food, he’ll starve to death.”

“He deserves it! If he’s so great, maybe he should try eating a shark, haha!”

“Wait!”

“What is he planning?”

“Fuck! H-He’s really going to eat a shark!”

...

Korea.

“He’s gone back to the beach!”

“What is he trying to do?”

“Oh my Heavens! He’s trying to catch a shark!”

“This fellow has gone mad!”

...

Canada.

“Jesus!”

“He really went for it!”

“He’s gone into the sea!”

“Ahhh! This Chinese man is too fearsome!”

“Th-That’s a shark, alright!? You should be counting your blessings that it doesn’t eat you! So why are you trying to eat it instead?”

...

Australia.

“You can’t catch a shark!”

“He’s got huge balls!”

“Holy shit! Look!”

“It’s been caught! He caught it!”

...

The Netherlands.

“Wait, no.”

“It slipped from his hands. He didn’t manage to catch it!”

“One of the sharks got away! He has his eyes on another one!”

“Even the sharks are running away when they see him. Is this fellow still human?”

“He’s caught one again!”

“Fuck! He pulled it ashore!”

...

China.

“He ate it!”

“He ate the shark!”

“I’m gonna faint!”

“He really fucking ate it!”

“That’s a shark! That’s a motherfucking shark!”

“I thought that he wouldn’t dare to eat it, but I was wrong!”

“Lord Zhang, I’m kneeling to you!”

“I’m fucking kneeling as well!”

“That was so fucking barbaric!”

...

Man vs. Wild’s third episode rolled credits.

On this day, the entire world had been astonished by Zhang Ye once again!

The entire world had been convinced by this Chinese glutton’s spirit once again!

They had never seen a person like him before!

They had never seen someone as daring as him before!

Just like he had done on the first and second episodes, anywhere that Zhang Ye went to, the place would be left barren. He ate everything that could be eaten, including a shark, and even larvae! The scenes, the atmosphere, the tension, all of it was shockingly astounding. Countless viewers around the world started to look at Zhang Ye in a different way. They were really starting to suspect that an alien was actually under the skin of this person!

On the same day.

The global viewership ratings were published.

Everyone was once again dumbfounded by the viewership ratings of Man vs. Wild!

China: #1!

The UK: #2!

France: #2!

America: #4!

Japan: #2!

Korea: #2!

India: #5!

Canada: #3!

Man vs. Wild had actually made it into the top three most viewed shows in many countries!

Chapter 1670: Help me up, I can still take another bite!

America.

At a television station.

“Dammit!”

“Our show’s viewership numbers have dropped again!”

“It’s such a huge drop?”

“Ugh, everyone has gone to watch Man vs. Wild.”

“That show is too good.”

“Many of our American shows and series can’t even beat it!”

“That’s not necessarily true. We can always copy it.”

“That’s right, we can do a similar survival program!”

“It’s too late now. Putting aside the fact that an identical show almost always isn’t as good as the original, just who do you guys have in mind to invite as the host?”

“Anyone would do. There are so many survival specialists in the world.”

“But can they eat alligators?”

“Uh...”

“Can they eat sharks?”

“Uh...”

“So tell me, who can we get?”

“...Well, alright then.”

At this moment, the global television industry was in a state of helplessness.

Back then, they hadn’t even considered Man vs. Wild to be an opponent.

But now, they ended up not daring to go against Man vs. Wild.

The industry insiders from other countries could not do anything about Zhang Ye. They could not even imitate his style. If only Zhang Ye’s performance on the show wasn’t this good, then others could introduce their own shows and come up with a television show better than Man vs. Wild. However, Zhang Ye did not give anyone the chance to do so. He immediately stunned the entire world with his abilities and took only three episodes to capture the hearts of countless viewers around the world. There were many survival specialists in the world, but only one who behaved so “recklessly”—and that person was in China.

...

The next day.

In the morning.

At Zhang Ye’s Studio.

“Director Zhang!”

“Good morning, Director Zhang.”

“Have you seen the viewership ratings yet?”

“The third episode has broken records again!”

“We’re practically unstoppable now!”

“Ah, the international celebrity rankings have been updated.”

“Where is it? Where is it?”

“What rank is Director Zhang now?”

Today, the International Celebrity Rankings Index was refreshed again.

On the rankings, Zhang Ye's international popularity soared once more. With unstoppable momentum, he advanced another four positions and planted himself firmly among the frontrunners of the international C-list rankings. Several famous international hosts from America and the UK who were at the top got surpassed by Zhang Ye.

Overnight, Man vs. Wild became very popular!

Overnight, Zhang Ye also became very popular!

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "We've edged closer to the International B-list Rankings once more.

Ha Qiqi said excitedly, "It might not be long before we really get into the International B-list Rankings. Many viewers around the world and the media have high praise for our show, but I feel that it's still not the peak. The results from here on out could get even more astonishing."

Zhang Zuo agreed, "I agree with that point!"

Little Wang said with a laugh, "It's on fire! We're on fire again!"

Ha Qiqi was overwhelmed with emotion. "The global television industry is already in chaos. Have you guys watched the news? Many people are pouring cold water on us. Actually, I can understand how they feel, I really do. They must not have expected that a TV show from China would one day ride over their heads."

Zhang Zuo gave a wry smile. "It's not like we expected that such a day would come either, right?"

Tong Fu said, "I expected it! It's just that I didn't think it would come so soon!"

Ha Qiqi grinned from ear to ear. "That's right. This day has arrived so quickly that it feels a little unreal. When I woke up this morning, my family told me that I laughed myself awake."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Then we ought to shoot the next episodes even better."

Wu Yi said, "Don't you worry about that, we're all ready."

Zhang Ye said, "Let's get ready to set off then. I'll be counting on everyone to put in a little more hard work!"

Tong Fu said with a grin, "It's not hard work at all. We've already gotten used to it."

The office door opened. Zhang Ye's mother was here as well.

His mother said, "You're leaving again?"

Zhang Ye nodded and said, "The itinerary has been established."

His mother smacked her lips and said, "Be careful!"

"I know, Mom," Zhang Ye said.

His mother instructed, "Don't keep eating anything that moves!"

When she said that, the studio staff broke out into laughter.

Zhang Ye was also amused. "Alright, I'll heed your words."

Of course, it wasn't clear whether those words really had an effect on this fellow.

Without getting much rest, the film crew was about to set off again.

Film!

Film!

Film!

The studio staff only had one thing on their minds right now, and that was to film *Man vs. Wild* to the best that they could. This was the first television show they had that went global, as well as the first Chinese television show that made it abroad. Everyone's eyes were on them, and they needed to live up to the expectations by presenting the best show they could to everyone. As for how high Zhang Ye could lead them, they no longer cared.

...

Several days later.

The fourth episode was broadcast.

"It's starting!"

"Quick, let's watch it!!"

"What the hell! It's a volcano!"

"It's getting more and more dangerous each time."

"What kind of bug is that?"

"Heavens, Lord Zhang! Why are you catching bugs again?"

"Your sister, you just parachuted down less than a minute ago and you're already thinking about food?!"

"Lord Zhang is gonna sweep clean the volcanic valley."

"I can already see barren land at the end of this."

"Let's see what he's gonna eat today!"

"Ah, there's an animal carcass."

"Lord Zhang has spotted it!"

"Damn, how long has it been dead for?"

"He's dug the eyes¹ out of the carcass! Could he fucking be thinking of eating them? Damn! I refuse to believe that he'll eat them!"

“Ah! He ate them!”

“Yeah, he ate them.”

“I’m gonna faint!”

“I’m gonna puke!”

“I’ve already puked!”

...

The fifth episode was broadcast.

“It’s a spider!”

“RIP, the spider and its family won’t be able to escape this killer!”

“Haha, it’s gonna get roasted and eaten by Zhang Ye.”

“Ah, he didn’t roast it!”

“He ate it raw!”

“He swallowed the spider raw!”

“Oh my God!”

“Does this guy have an iron stomach or something?”

“He’s putting his will to survive ahead of everything else. On this aspect, Zhang Ye is showing that he’s really dedicated to his job. I don’t think there’s another person like him.”

“Hahaha, watch this, Face-smacking Zhang is down on his knees!”

“Zhang Ye is down!”

“I’m pissing my pants laughing. You’ve finally gotten ill from eating! You deserve it for eating anything that you can find!”

“This fellow has finally fallen ill. That’s what he gets for pretending to be tough!”

“Then what will happen in this episode?”

“Who knows? I’m gonna gloat anyways!”

“You guys are awful!”

“Wait, he’s getting up again. Damn, he’s eating more insects!”

“He’s down again! It looks like he’s gotten really sick this time. He looks terrible. It’s really dangerous for this to happen in the wild! He could die!”

“Ah, there’s a snake!”

“Lord Zhang is up again!”

“The snake has been eaten!”

“I’m gonna faint! You’re in such a state, yet you can still fucking eat? You just can’t forget about eating even though you’re already this sick, can you?”

“Zhang Ye says: ‘Help me up, I can still take another bite!’”

“Pfft, hahahahaha!”

...

Man vs. Wild continued to be a global hit!

At times, there was tension.

At times, there were screams.

At times, it was shocking.

At times, it was hilarious.

—Perhaps this was the charm of the show.