

Superstar 181

Chapter 181: Zhang Ye's Taiji Fist!

First day...

Third day...

Fifth day...

After a week, "Zhang Ye's Analysis of the Three Kingdoms" came to an end.

"With Analysis of the Three Kingdoms finished, what's there to watch in the future?"

"That's right! Historical segments in the future will not be watchable."

"It's such a good program. What a pity. I still hope Teacher Zhang Ye will carry on lecturing. Even if it's not the Three Kingdoms, something else would do, too."

"Teacher Zhang already doesn't care if it's winter, summer, spring or fall. He has retired into the forest."

"I don't believe that one bit. I'm waiting for Teacher Zhang Ye to come out of the mountains!"

"No television station wants Teacher Zhang, so how is he going to make a reappearance?"

Online topics on Zhang Ye had been quiet for many days, but with "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms" ending, there were discussions once again.

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In the afternoon, after the last episode was broadcast, ex-colleague Xiao Lu called, "Teacher Zhang, the program has ended. Brother Hu wanted me to let you know."

Zhang Ye was bored at home, watching television, "How were the ratings?"

"The last few episodes maintained a very high standard. Even the ratings for Monday to Friday's episodes were about 6.4%. During the weekend, it even reached as high as 8.97%. Although it was quite unfortunate that it did not break 9% in the end, historical and educative segments are not as popular, so it can't compare with variety shows. So this rating is already quite heaven-defying. It's the hottest new segment in our Beijing Television Station's Arts Channel. It even ranks high amongst all the television station's programs." Xiao Lu told Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye acknowledged, "Has the new season been fixed?"

"It has been recorded." Upon saying this, Xiao Lu was a bit embarrassed. "With you gone, we had no choice but to invite a history professor. The next episode talks about an ancient poet. It will discuss about his life from the moment he was born until he died. I also heard him when recording the first episode. It was so-so."

"So-so?" Zhang Ye had already treated "Lecture Room" as his own child. No matter what, even the name of the program was given by him, so he was very concerned.

Xiao Lu said helplessly, "That's right. It's definitely incomparable to you. I would only say it barely makes the cut." With a pause, she asked, "How about you? About work...."

Zhang Ye laughed, "I haven't found any yet."

Xiao Lu said angrily, "How can that be? Do they not have eyes?"

"How can't it be? Not a single person in related industries have contacted me over the past week. I am also not worried. I can also take the time to take a break." After exchanging a few more words, Zhang Ye hung up.

Not worried?

That was definitely a lie!

The moment "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms" ended, it meant that he had no more opportunities to show his face. The increase in his game Reputation points would be minimal. And Zhang Ye, who only wanted to become a top star, knew that once his exposure was lowered, it would greatly affect his popularity. He would then gradually disappear from the public's view. Don't think too much about how the netizens and fans shout Zhang Ye's name daily. Things like supporting him for a lifetime? If Zhang Ye were to really stay quiet for a month or two, it was likely that most people would even forget his name. Celebrities did not rely on the heat of the moment, but a prolonged period of sustained exposure. This was the core essence needed in maintaining or increasing one's popularity.

He checked the official site of the Celebrity Rankings.

Zhang Ye was still an E-list celebrity, but after the past few days of exposure, he had already reached the forefront of the E-list ranks, ranking fourth. A local TV variety program's host was ranked ahead of him. His ratings were even higher than Zhang Ye's. Placed second was an actor. He had previously acted in a pretty popular TV series, and had quite a few works. He mainly acted as a supporting character, but that was last year. This actor had actually dropped from being a D-list celebrity to an E-list celebrity, as he did not have any good works this year. The person ranked first amongst the E-list celebrities was a woman. She was a singer and considered a rookie. She had recently released an album with pretty good sales. She had also acted in a movie.

If he overtook them, then Zhang Ye would enter the ranks of D-list celebrities. Although D- and E-list celebrities should not be demarcated like that, with the rankings just for reference, and a comprehensive rating a person's influence and popularity, everyone acknowledged it, be it official entities or civilians. So this was the most authoritative statistic. And from the scores, Zhang Ye would clearly not be able to overtake them. With "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms" ended, Zhang Ye's rating scores were already dropping. Although it was minimal, the trend was as such. It reflected Zhang Ye's future decline in popularity and visibility.

How could he not be worried?

Zhang Ye had still not thought of the path he should walk on for the time being. He was only hoping to maintain his current popularity. And for that, he needed to do something.

He had to mess things up!

He definitely had to mess something up!

This was Zhang Ye's first reaction.

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While hungry, Zhang Ye looked at his Reputation points in his game ring. There was slightly more than two million Reputation points. Clearly, it was the accumulation of this week's "Analysis of the Three Kingdoms". Leaving a few hundred thousand as backup, Zhang Ye was still thinking about the Taiji Fist skill books. He ended up going to the Merchant Shop and bought another two Experience Books with two million Reputation points.

Flipping it open!

Eating it!

The experience had been absorbed by him!

However, it was the same this time, too. Zhang Ye still did not feel any changes. He tried his best to recall, but not a single Taiji Fist move appeared. All he had were moves and actions from Taekwondo, such as side kicks and cross kicks. There was no Taiji Fist. It made him depressed!

With the experience eaten, there definitely were some effects.

However, without any moves or styles, how was he to use it?

After using his brain so much, Zhang Ye became more hungry. Having not eaten breakfast and lunch because he was lazy to go downstairs, he was really feeling the pangs of hunger. It was also too late for Zhang Ye to buy Lamian two streets away. He could only use his usual tactic and walked out the door towards the landlady's house.

Ding dong. He pressed the doorbell.

It took a long while before the door opened, revealing Chenchen's little head. She was small in size. Clearly, she had tiptoed to reach the door handle. After she opened the door, she was even panting.

Zhang Ye said in a friendly manner, "Chenchen, where's your aunt?"

Chenchen said with a straight face, "My aunt isn't home. She went out jogging." Saying that, she was planning on closing the door.

Zhang Ye took the opportunity to step in, "It's even better that she's not around. I'm not looking for her." Upon entering the house, he did not stand on ceremony. He ran straight to the kitchen to churn through it. Finally, he found two plates of leftovers in the refrigerator. One of them was a plate of braised beef, while the other was a plate of fried celery. Without saying a word, he poked through the wrap with a toothpick to let it breathe. Then he threw it into the microwave and let it spin for two minutes. When it came out, it was steaming hot!

Chenchen asked in surprise, "What are you doing?"

Zhang Ye did not care about talking. As he drew in the fragrance, he sat at the dining table and found a pair of chopsticks to eat in a quick manner!

The sound of keys rang.

The door was opened from the outside.

Rao Aimin was dressed in sportswear today. Her top was a striped white vest worn by hurdle athletes. Her pair of pants was a training pants and looked more baggy. However, at this moment, her body was wet from her sweat. Drops of sweat were dripping down her hair. This appearance made her look mature and attractive.

Zhang Ye already knew Big Sis Rao was a martial arts practitioner, so maintaining her physical fitness and strength was key. So she had went out on a run in the afternoon.

“Kid, why are you here?” Rao Aimin was covered in sweat, but she was not short of breath. Her breaths were still calm, and she did not look tired in any way.

Chenchen covered her forehead like an adult, “The devil has entered the village!”

Rao Aimin was amused by her niece, “What has the devil swept?”

“A plate of beef, a plate of fried parsley and a bowl of rice,” Chenchen reported.

Zhang Ye nearly spat out the food from his mouth when he heard her description, “Who’s the devil?” These two women, one’s tongue was sharper than the other!

I graduated from a broadcasting major?

It was more like the two of you were broadcasting majors!

“You only know to scrounge for food all day and do not know how to find a job. Rotten kid, you have been idle at home for a week, right?” Rao Aimin glanced at him, “Wash the dishes in a while!”

Zhang Ye had already finished eating. There was nothing left from the two plates and bowl of rice. He rubbed his belly and burped. He could not help but sweep his gaze across the landlady’s wet vest. Whether it was because she knew she would sweat or because it was uncomfortable, the landlady had not worn a bra. From the clues, he could tell. However, despite not wearing any underwear, Rao Aimin’s breasts still appeared large,

Heavenly Queen Zhang’s were large and ample.

Rao Aimin’s were large and straight.

Both had their merits and their individual beauty.

Zhang Ye acted dead after eating his fill, “I can’t wash the dishes. I’m too full. I can’t move.”

Upon hearing this, Rao Aimin, who was taking off her shoes, kicked up and the sneaker on her beautiful foot came shooting straight at Zhang Ye, “Hurry up and go!”

Shua!

The shoe flew across like lightning!

Zhang Ye did not have any time to react, and upon seeing it flying towards him, without a thought, he subconsciously lifted his leg to block. But when he stretched out his leg, the movement in his leg changed. It was like a reflex action. When Zhang Ye's leg lifted, the tip of his foot angled and managed to meet the flying shoe. Then, with his ankle trembling in a manner he could not comprehend, he seemed to draw a circle in midair and reduced the force in Rao Aimin's shoe. And with the bottom of Zhang Ye's foot lifting up again, the shoe flew back along its original trajectory. Bada. It landed exactly where Rao Aimin's foot was!

Rao Aimin exclaimed!

Chenchen also looked at Zhang Ye in surprise!

Zhang Ye was dumbfounded. What had happened?

This set of actions was like flowing water. Zhang Ye's feet were as if they were dancing. A kick, a roll and a shot caused the shoe to return along its original trajectory!

This was...Taiji?

This bro really knows the Taiji Fist?

Chenchen could not tell what move Zhang Ye had used. She only found it fascinating and beautiful!

The landlady had not looked at him after kicking her shoe. She was busy changing into slippers, so she had not seen Zhang Ye's motions, "Your Taekwondo level has increased?"

Zhang Ye chuckled and did not speak the truth, "Indeed. As a neighbor of Big Sis Rao, being influenced by a martial arts master all this time, there would definitely be some improvements."

Rao Aimin smiled. "That's something I like to hear."

Chenchen exposed him, "Bootlicker. Aunt, he doesn't want to wash the dishes."

Zhang Ye, "...?" This wicked child. How does she know what I'm thinking!?

In the end, Zhang Ye had to reluctantly wash the dishes. Actually, he was just engaging in idle banter. After scrounging for food, it was only appropriate for him to wash the dishes. Hence, to allow him to scrounge for food and drink in the future, Zhang Ye still did the house chores.

While he was hard at work in the kitchen, his heart was in turmoil. The Taiji Fist skill books were not ineffective. Look at those moves just now!

Too cool!

Too beautiful!

Zhang Ye looked outside the kitchen. Seeing that Rao Aimin and Chenchen were not around, he picked up a bowl and played with the bowl. He wanted to try it again. But this time, it was the same result as the numerous attempts he had before. There was no effect, and he nearly dropped the bowl! Could the Taiji Fist skill be too high level for him? Hence, he was unable to use the moves as he wished, like he did with Taekwondo? It could only be used on sudden inspiration? Damn, why does it sound like I'm Duan

Yu from Jin Yong's novel! Despite having the skill of the Six Meridian Divine Sword, he could not use it usually! Isn't this a problem!?

Chapter 182: Zhang Ye is Publishing Another Book!

Around 2 P.M.

Chenchen needed her afternoon nap, so Rao Aimin chased Zhang Ye out of the house.

Having filled his stomach, he made a burp of satisfaction and headed for his apartment. When he had mostly digested his food, Zhang Ye got changed into his sports attire and a pair of sneakers, as he did not have running shoes. He had to make do with what he had and headed out for a run, just like Rao Aimin.

1 round...

3 rounds...

He ran around the neighborhood to improve his fitness.

Zhang Ye thought that his Taiji Fist could not be used effectively because his body could not keep up with the skill. Like Taekwondo, he had the experience and movements in his head, but he could not execute the moves to its full potential. He lacked strength, reaction speed and stamina. When he fought Wang Cen, his technical skill was slightly better, but yet he was at the disadvantage and on the losing end. In the end, he had to use the consumable item, Health Potion, that he had received from the Lottery to turn the tables around. Zhang Ye had learned his lesson.

Just kung fu alone doesn't cut it!

His body had to match up, too!

For instance, for Taiji Fist, even if he ate 1,000 Taiji experience books, as long as his physical strength remained the same, not even 10,000 experience books would enable him to do what Rao Aimin did — slicing the steel scissors!

He needed to train!

This had to go through the process and he had to remain determined!

In the future, he would have to run and do some pushups every day.

After running for over an hour, Zhang Ye headed home, drenched in sweat. Just as he entered through the door, the phone in his pocket started ringing.

"Hello, who is this?" Zhang Ye said, catching his breath.

"Hello, Teacher Zhang. We are from the North Chinese Youth and Children's Publishing House." It was a middle-aged man's voice on the other side. It sounded rather hoarse.

Zhang Ye stayed on the phone as he went into the toilet to grab a towel to wipe off his sweat, "Oh, I'm sorry, but my fairy tale stories copyrights have all been sold."

The middle-aged man was a little stunned, but said cheerfully, "We are not calling regarding your fairy tales. We know that your fairy tales have already been published by the Beijing Education Publishing Firm. I'm looking for you to discuss about other publication opportunities. To my understanding, some of your written works and your modern poems have not been published yet, right? If the copyright is not in your hands, then we will forget about it. But I don't see any publications in the market now."

Zhang Ye kept silent for a bit and threw down his towel, "My poems?"

"Yes. We want to do a compilation for you, a 'Zhang Ye's Compilation', that has all your written works and poems, including your couplets." The middle-aged man said, "Let's meet up for a chat? Or you can visit our publication house?"

This interested Zhang Ye. He had been worried about being out of a job and not having enough exposure to maintain his popularity since the afternoon. But good news came knocking on his door. Zhang Ye had not thought of publishing a compilation of his works before. He knew that it was difficult. Which of the authors, who had ever released a compilation, was not well-known? Of course, some unknown authors had also released compilations before. They either bought their way in or depended on their network, but the sales were too poor. They were better off not releasing it.

Zhang Ye always believed that if he wanted to publish his poetry compilation, the biggest hurdle was that he started too late. It had only been a few months and his works only numbered in the dozens. What was the concept of having a dozen poems? Even if they increased the font and put a poem on each page, he would only have a dozen pages. Ignoring the publication of a book, even for a pamphlet, it was too thin! Zhang Ye also did not want to bring over all the classic poems from his previous world in one shot. Whenever he used one, there was one less. He needed to keep them on the blade, so he gave up on the idea of releasing a poetry compilation. He had not expected someone to approach him about this matter instead.

"Alright, I will head on over."

"You sound out of breath. Did you just get home?"

"I was always home, hur hur, but I went for a run just now."

"Why don't I go over to your place instead? You can choose where to meet. It's up to you."

"It's fine. I would like to take a look at your publishing house, too. Send me your address, and I will drive over."

After hanging up, he received a message with the address. Zhang Ye took a quick shower to wash off his sweat and then drove to the location.

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North Chinese Youth and Children's Publishing House.

The headquarters was in Beijing, but the place was a bit out of the way, with it not being in the city's center.

On the way there, Zhang Ye went online on his phone to check out the publishing house. He found out that there were many youth and children's publishing houses in the country, but none of them only

published reading materials for youths or children. Some even did not publish such materials, but instead dealt with traditional novels or web novels. That had nothing to do with “youths” or “children” at all.

In the lobby.

Zhang Ye finally found the building and walked in.

Just as he was walking to the front desk reception, Zhang Ye was immediately recognized by the young lady seated there. She said to him, “Teacher Zhang Ye, you came? I’ll take you upstairs.”

Zhang Ye smiled. “Thank you.”

“You’re welcome,” the young lady said as she led him to the 3rd floor.

Knocking on the door, she then opened it and walked in. “Editor-in-Chief Zhang, Teacher Zhang Ye is here.”

That person stood up to welcome him, smiling with his outstretched hand, “How are you, Teacher Zhang? We are family; both of us are Zhangs. My name is Zhang Lu. I have heard of you for a long time now.” From his voice, this was likely the middle aged-man who had spoken with him over the phone just now.

Zhang Ye shook his hand, “It’s all infamy.”

Hearing his self-deprecating tone, Zhang Lu said, “That’s not true; you have helped Father Wei seek justice. Anyone who knows about it will give you the thumbs up. How could they fire you?” Zhang Lu laughed, “They let a treasure like you slip away. It’s so laughable.” This was rather true, and it was also Zhang Lu’s opinion. If Zhang Ye was from his publishing firm, even if he had created so much trouble, the firm would fight to keep him since Zhang Ye’s intentions were good in the first place. They had already heard of the extremely good sales of “Ghost Blows Out the Light” and his other fairy tales. Who wouldn’t fight to keep such a cash cow?

Of course, you cannot compare apples to oranges. After all, a publishing firm and a television station were very different. Profits were now the main concern for publishing firms, as political publications had decreased. For television stations, who earned money from ratings and advertising sponsorship, they were much focused on political implications, so their industries were different.

There were about 3 to 4 other people in the room.

Zhang Lu introduced them to Zhang Ye one by one. They were people of both sexes, all employees of the publishing firm.

After the introductions, Zhang Ye sat down, “About the compilation, I don’t really understand or know why you would like to publish them. There will not be enough pages, right?”

Zhang Lu smiled. “There will be enough. We will have illustrations as well.”

“Illustrations?” Zhang Ye said, “Would that help much?”

“There will also be translations and sentence analysis. A poem will take up to 3 to 4 pages; one page of illustration, another one to two pages of analysis. But of course, the analysis would not be written by us. We wouldn’t dare to because no one can claim to understand all of your works. This would be better left to the author. The same would go for the couplets. Two to three couplets would appear on each page and we would be able to come up with a compilation without problems,” said Zhang Lu.

Zhang Ye pondered for a moment, “The explanation is not a problem, but.. isn’t the amount of content still lacking?” He felt that it was just to bolster the page count.

A youth at the back said, “It’s not little at all. Even if we take one of your poems and make a book out of it, no one would dare to say a thing, let alone having so many of your works in the book. “The Song of the Stormy Petrel” and “Tribute to the White Poplar”, with their words enlarged a little, will easily be able to take up 7 to 8 pages.”

F**k!

How big would the words have to be then!

But Zhang Ye himself wanted to publish a book, too. Firstly, there was his fame to consider. Secondly, it was to maintain his popularity. Thirdly, whether it be for money or Reputation points, he could also do with some extra money.

Finally, it came to the point of them discussing about the price.

They would buy all his copyright for 400,000 Yuan!

This was already quite a high price. After all, a literary compilation was not a novel. It was not as popular with the masses as entertainment material like novels. Only some cultural hipsters would buy it, hence the price naturally could not compare with “Ghost Blows Out the Light”, and could only be about the same price as the children’s fairy tales. And if no comparison was made with novels, compared to other pure literary works or compilations of other authors, the price for Zhang Ye’s compilation was definitely much higher than theirs.

There was no reason to wonder why!

It was because every piece of Zhang Ye’s works were too popular!

With the negotiations settled and the contract drawn up, Zhang Lu and Zhang Ye shook hands once again, “We had a good time working together. Thank you for trusting our publication house. Leave the publishing and promotional matters to us. With your reputation and fame in Beijing, the sales will definitely not be low.” With a pause, he said, “About the analysis of the poems...”

Zhang Ye said, “I’ll write it when I get home. I’ll pass it to you tomorrow.”

Zhang Lu extremely liked Zhang Ye’s straightforwardness and his high efficiency, as he said, “Alright, then I’ll count on your hard work. Actually doing so in a month would do. After all, analysis work is not something trivial. Oh, and there’s also something. We might need a preface or prologue, or some overall introduction to the poetry compilation.”

Zhang Ye blinked, “Preface?”

Zhang Lu nodded, "Right. Write anything that comes to your mind. It preferably resonates with the poetry compilation's contents. If the first page began with the poetry compilation, it would feel like something is lacking. What say you?"

"Alright." Zhang Ye asked, "Do you have a pen?"

Zhang Lu's eyes lit up, "Are you writing it now? Good! Of course there is!"

The people behind him all knew that it wasn't easy for someone to witness Zhang Ye creating a work on the spot. They were very happy and excited, "Why don't you use a brush? If that's the case, we can directly use your words for the cover or preface. It will feel better than using computer fonts."

Zhang Lu agreed, "Right. What a good idea. I heard that Teacher Zhang's words are pretty good."

"Sure," Zhang Ye did not mind.

A youth quickly prepared it. A minute later, he came back with an ink stick and took the initiative to grind the ink for Zhang Ye.

"I'll take the pictures." A woman took out a camera and took a few pictures from the side and front. She included the Editor-in-Chief, Zhang Lu, too. In the future, they could also use it in promotional materials. Then the woman focused the camera and waited to take a picture of Teacher Zhang Ye writing.

Preface?

It had to match the content?

His literary compilation definitely needed his own thoughts and values.

Thinking of the death written of in "My Confession" and "Prisoner's Song", and then thinking of the existence in "A Generation" and "Tribute to the White Poplar"...

Zhang Ye lifted his brush and wrote a preface on the calligraphy paper.

"Let life be beautiful like summer flowers and death like autumn leaves — Zhang Ye."

Chapter 183: The Heavenly Queen is going to be Zhang Ye's Wife?

Zhang Lu was dumbfounded, "Let life be beautiful like summer flowers?"

"Death like... autumn leaves?" The young editor recited it in a daze.

"The words are written so nicely! This poem is even better!" An old editor gave his kudos.

"Teacher Zhang Ye is indeed talented! I believe it today!" the only woman there said.

Zhang Ye put down the brush and smiled at the female editor, "Could it be that you didn't believe it in the past?"

The woman's face turned red and she quickly waved her hands, "No, no such thing. I never saw it with my own eyes in the past, so I did not feel as strongly. Hai, I chose my words wrongly. Tonight, Editor-in-Chief Zhang will treat you to dinner. I will punish myself with a cup of alcohol as to atone for my sins."

Zhang Ye immediately said, "It's fine. I'm not that particular. Hur hur, I was just joking."

Zhang Lu was still looking at the words, “Was this really thought up on the spot by you? It’s absolutely impressive. Using this poem for the preface is extremely apt! The mood written in it is indescribable!”

The people from the publishing house were giving their kudos. Some even applauded and were not stingy with their praises towards Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye hurriedly answered with a few modest words. This poem was just a simple sentence. In terms of word count, it was even shorter than “A Generation”. However, the fewer the words, the more apparent his skill was. It was not easy to write it. A saying went that the philosophy at the highest level can be described with the simplest words. It was probably this principle. This poem actually had a great origin. It was a poem from his world’s famous Indian poet, Tagore, in “Stray Birds”. The translation was by Zheng Zhenduo. It was a very famous poem in Zhang Ye’s world. Actually, even “See Me or Not” and “This is also Everything” were not as famous as this poem. Be it the original version or the translated version, just a short sentence had a strong mood leap out of the paper!

Why did he use this as a prologue?

Why did Zhang Ye use this sentence as a prologue?

Firstly, Zhang Ye wanted it to resonate with the works in the compilation. The poetry he liked and the poems he used from his world were all more open and free. Be it being indifferent, or cursing, or moving, or taking death lightly, or a life full of vibrancy, this poem that came from “Stray Birds” was perfectly apt. It was as if it summarized all his works at once. Secondly, this poem also reflected Zhang Ye’s character and ideals. It could also be said to describe his wishes.

Let life be beautiful like summer flowers and death like autumn leaves.

This sentence might seem slightly artistic, but in simple words, and using the words great men used to commemorate Comrade Liu Hulan, this poem could also be said to be—A great life! A glorious death! Actually, Zhang Ye also wanted this sentence of the greats as a prologue, but it was too blunt, nor was he that great and glorious to praise himself. Hence, his world’s famous poem from “Stray Birds” came out!

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Back home.

Zhang Ye began doing the comments and notes.

This was indeed a heavy workload. If he had to make up something, it would not only take more than a day, even a month would not be enough. It would bound to be full of errors, too. Zhang Ye then took a look at his Game Reputation. Once it crept up slowly to 200,000 points, he bought 2 Memory Search Capsules from the Merchant Shop to look through the analysis and notes of those poems back in his world.

After staying up the whole night and day, he finally finished and delivered them to the publishing house.

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Today.

It was almost nighttime now. Autumn was almost over and the nights fell earlier.

Zhang Ye looked on as the sun set. He lay in bed without moving. His arms were sore and his neck was aching. There was no part of him that was not tired. He had spent the past two days writing up his comments. Even though all the content was already in his head and with the Memory Search Capsules, he could retrieve all the information fully intact, it was still a lot of work. He also had to work on modifying the script and comments until late at night before everything was completed. For the whole of today, Zhang Ye lazed in bed without moving. He even skipped running, which he had been doing daily for the last few days. He needed a break.

Ring, ring, ring.

Zhang Lu from the publishing house called.

Zhang Ye, who had been lying down all day, had some life injected into him. He reached out to answer the call, "Hello, Editor Zhang."

"Teacher Zhang, you have worked hard." Zhang Lu was smiling widely on the other side, "I have read through the comments and notes last night. Everything is good. We got the typesetting done today and the illustrations are also ready. I just got out from the printers. The first edition has already been printed. If nothing goes wrong, we will be using this edition for release. They will be released for sale in the next few days. But before that, I think you should have a look at it first. It's your compilation after all. Are you at home now? Is it convenient?"

Zhang Ye politely said, "Why don't I look for you instead?"

"No need. I am around the area. Shall I go over to your place?" asked Zhang Lu.

"That's fine, too." It did not matter to Zhang Ye. He wanted to quickly see the finished product, too. Compared to "Ghost Blows Out the Light" and the fairy tales, this compilation might not be comparable to them in terms of sales; there was nothing to even compete with. But "Zhang Ye's Compilation" had immeasurable value. But in terms of literature, in terms of its meaning, "Ghost Blows Out the Light" would not even stand a chance against this!

What did the compilation represent?

It represented fame! It represented reputation!

It could be said that once the compilation was released, Zhang Ye would have made his mark in the literary world. No one could refute him as his place had already been recognized by the market and audience. Whichever poet or author they might be, they all had to be tested by the market before they could claim to be a writer. Otherwise, it would only be considered as self-praise. Literature was not only for other literary persons, but for the masses, too. Take for example Wang Shuixin. Although he was quite a bigwig in the country's poetry circles, if he wanted to publish a compilation of his poetry, it was unlikely that any publishers would work with him because, if they did, they might not even make much profit. Even worse, the publishers might even take a big loss!

It was time to get up.

Zhang Ye showered before cleaning up his house.

Ding dong, the bell sounded. He went to open the door, "Editor-in-Chief Zhang, come...." even before he could complete the sentence, he was slightly shocked, "It's you?"

There was a strange person standing at the door.

Wearing a hat, aviator shades and a face mask.

If it were anyone else, they would have jumped in shock, thinking that this was some criminal. But Zhang Ye was familiar with this person. This sort of situation had already happened a few times, "Sister Zhang? Why are you here?"

Zhang Yuanqi's beautiful eyes hidden behind her sunglasses looked at him, "You don't welcome me?"

"Of course I welcome you." Zhang Ye said listlessly, "Please come in."

Zhang Yuanqi was dressed to the nines today. A bright red dress paired with red heels of at least 10 cm or more. She was even taller than Zhang Ye.

Was she not afraid of the cold?

Zhang Ye closed the door, "Where did you go to?"

Zhang Yuanqi kicked off her heels while leaning against the door. She let out a breath and said tiredly, "Movie premiere."

Kicking off her heels?

Barefooted?

What sort of image was she giving! What Heavenly Queen!

"White Maiden 2? The premiere was today?" Zhang Ye knew about it as he had paid attention to her news.

Zhang Yuanqi nodded, "I got a cab while everyone was still busy. Do you have water?"

"Let me see." Zhang Ye looked a little, then threw an unopened bottle of water to her, "It's the last bottle. Leave some for me. I'm thirsty, too." He was not so polite anymore since he was quite familiar with the Heavenly Queen already. "Oh, give me a call first in future if you are coming. At least let me get prepared."

Zhang Yuanqi looked at him, "My phone's with my manager. Where can I put it in this dress of mine? Oh, you need to go downstairs. I have not paid for the cab yet."

"Ah?"

"I did not bring my purse."

"....You're really great."

Zhang Ye could only quickly make his way downstairs.

The cab driver had been waiting for the longest time. Seeing Zhang Ye coming to pay up, he said angrily, "You are keeping me from doing my job! Dare to take a cab when she didn't even bring money! Is that

your girlfriend? How could she....” At this moment, the cab driver was surprised, “Aiyo, aren’t you Teacher Zhang Ye?”

Zhang Ye gave a wry smile, “That’s me.”

The cab driver stuffed the money back to him, “Then I don’t want it.”

Zhang Ye a little stunned said, “How is that? Take it, take it.”

The cab driver looked at him, “Who doesn’t know about you going broke to save a fan’s life? And after that, seeking justice for Father Wei and losing your job? If I were to take your money, I would be cursed to death by my other cab colleagues! Don’t want, don’t want! I’m leaving!”

“Don’t! Hey! Driver!” Zhang Ye chased after him.

The cab driver had sped away after making a turn.

Zhang Ye felt a little warm inside and shouted out to the cab, “Then thank you!”

The car windows rolled down and the driver put out his hands to give Zhang Ye a thumbs up. Then the cab disappeared into the distance.

Back upstairs.

The windows were open. Zhang Yuanqi probably heard everything.

Zhang Yuanqi was sitting cross-legged on the chair, reading a book. She looked up and said, “You have some reputation, don’t you?”

Zhang Ye said, “Don’t kid me. If you removed your face mask, you would be free to walk all over the country. How could my little reputation compare to you?”

Zhang Yuanqi muttered, “I will pay you back next time.”

“Forget it. I did not expect you to anyway. Just don’t steal my song next time.”

Just as they were chatting, the doorbell rang!

Holy sh*t! This was going to be bad!

Zhang Ye acknowledged the knocking, but suddenly realized something. He looked over to Zhang Yuanqi, “Uhm, so someone is coming over from the publishing house. You....”

Zhang Yuanqi frowned, “Why didn’t you say so earlier?”

“You did not inform me earlier either!” Zhang Ye looked left and right to find a place.

Zhang Yuanqi reached for her sunglasses and face mask.

Zhang Ye did not know whether to laugh or to cry, “It’s already dark. Who wears this at home at this time? It’ll look odd!”

An open apartment like this could not possibly hide anyone. Zhang Yuanqi simply slid into the chair with her back facing the door. She continued to read like nothing was wrong, “This will do!”

The bell sounded again.

Zhang Ye could not delay anymore. He was worried that if anyone saw the Heavenly Queen at his home, it would be a mess. Hesitating for a moment, he still opened the door, but stood at the entrance. It looked like he did not intend to ask them in, "Editor Zhang, yo. Editor Chen and Editor Sun are here, too?"

Three people had come over; two men and a woman.

Zhang Lu smiled. "We were just passing by after work. We came together in a car."

The female editor standing behind had sharp eyes. She spotted the woman's figure in the apartment, "Eh! That is....."

Zhang Ye paused for a moment. It's done for. This time it's bad! The Heavenly Queen had been recognized!

The female editor the laughed and said, "Is that Teacher Zhang Ye's wife? Just from her back, I can tell that she is beautiful! Teacher Zhang is really blessed!"

Chapter 183: The Heavenly Queen is going to be Zhang Ye's Wife?

My wife?

I really do wish so.

But I can't afford to have such a 'wife'.

Zhang Ye gave a perfunctory smile to the visitors standing outside, "Oh no, I'm not married yet. That's a friend of mine. She came to visit and to borrow some books."

The Heavenly Queen continued sitting with her back facing them. She did not make a sound.

The female editor felt that it was a little strange. Even if they were just friends, how could she not stand up to welcome them when there visitors were about to enter the house? She did not even turn her head? What kind of situation was this? Why was it so bizarre? The female editor courteously greeted the woman whose face could not be seen, "Hello, elder sister." She could see that she was older just by the way she dressed up and her hairstyle. And Zhang Ye's reputation was not small either, so being his friend, calling her elder sister would not be wrong.

The woman who was reading the books acknowledged softly and then continued doing her thing.

The female editor awkwardly scratched her hair and said to Zhang Ye, "Uh, did we.....come at the wrong time?"

Zhang Ye could only make up something saying, "No, she....she just had an argument with me. Her mood's not that good. Don't mind her. I'm sorry about it."

Argument?

Weren't you just friends? What argument?

The female editor thought to herself that this must definitely be your girlfriend!

Zhang Lu and the other editor also thought it was strange. They blinked and looked at Zhang Ye, "Teacher Zhang, we brought the books over. Where do you want to put it?"

A thick pile of books in a box.

Zhang Ye was surprised, "So many books? There must be 20 in there?"

Zhang Lu laughed, "30 books, and they are all first prints. There's no bulk print yet."

The editor holding the box looked inside the apartment, "Where do you want to place these? Look through them first. If they're okay, then we will do the bulk printing."

Zhang Ye immediately blocked the door, "There's no need. I trust you all. There won't be any problems."

"It's better to look at it first. If by any chance there's a wrong word, it would affect the quality and sales." Zhang Lu suggested.

The male editor had already entered the apartment, "I will put it here on the floor then. Hu, it's rather heavy."

Seeing the situation, Zhang Ye turned back to check on Zhang Yuanqi's position frequently, "This..."

But Zhang Lu and the female editor also followed in and even closed the door. Zhang Ye could not even make them leave now. There was no reason to!

This was bad!

The cat's going to be out of the bag soon!

"Let's.... Where should we sit and discuss?" Zhang Lu asked.

Zhang Ye wiped his sweat, "On the bed. Feel free to take a seat."

The Heavenly Queen, who was reading, was facing the corner. If they sat on the bed, they would not be able to see her face. At most, they would be able to see her side partially.

The female editor squatted down to open the box and took out a few books. She gave one to Zhang Ye first, "Take a look." and then turned around and politely said to the woman with an extremely beautiful back view, "Sis, for you...."

Before she could finish saying, the beautiful woman said coldly, "No need."

The female editor choked and coughed, "Okay then." The two of them really argued? From the looks of it, it was a very big argument. She didn't give any face at all?

Zhang Ye suddenly felt a loss of face, too, "Hey you, she was passing you a book." He knew that was the Heavenly Queen's attitude, but even so, even if you did not want to turn around, you can't say that. Where would this bro put his face now! So Zhang Ye took the book from the female editor's hands and walked over. He put it into Zhang Yuanqi's hands, "Help me take a look, too, to see whether there are any typos."

The Heavenly Queen did not reply.

Zhang Ye tried to smooth things over, "Take a seat. I will get some tea for you."

"There's no need, Teacher Zhang. We won't be staying long. Take a look at the compilation first. If it's okay, then it's set. We will not bother you two from resting." The male editor also smiled ambiguously.

Our rest?

Rest, my ass!

Zhang Ye could not argue. He flipped open "Zhang Ye's Compilation". The cover was simple. It looked elegant in a conventional way. Upon opening it, Zhang Ye's age and resume was written on the first page on the left. The first page on the right was the preface — "Let life be beautiful like summer flowers and death like autumn leaves."

Flipping to the next pages.

A page of poetry, a page of illustration, followed by a page or two of notes.

After reading it all, Zhang Ye nodded in satisfaction, "Okay, I'm done reading it. It's all good."

Usually when a book was published, the author would be the one begging the publishing house to quickly release the book. But for a person of Zhang Ye's level, it had become the publishing house who had to beg him. Otherwise, for normal authors, which chief editor of a publishing house would bring his team to send the first print to the doorstep? There was no need to mention how widespread Zhang Ye's poems were on the internet. Each one of them was a miracle. Any one of his works would easily gain at least a million clicks. On Weibo, it would have thousands of forwards and a few thousand comments. In addition, Zhang Ye's "Ghost Blows Out the Light" and his fairy tales had all accumulated several millions of Yuan in sales, so he was already a well-established author in this field. He had even been a radio host and television host before, so he already had a level of fame in Beijing. Although his number of fans was not extremely high, the number of hardcore fans was enough. If each bought a book, they would not have to incur any losses. So on the matter of publication, the publication house was very polite to Zhang Ye.

Zhang Lu stood up and smiled while shaking Zhang Ye's hands, "Okay then. The first edition is settled. I will rush the printing press tomorrow."

Zhang Ye said, "Let's work together happily."

"To good cooperation." Zhang Lu said.

The female editor said, "Teacher Zhang, then we will be leaving now."

"Let me see you out," Zhang Ye took a coat to wear.

"There's no need." said the male editor, "You must be tired from rushing out the notes these few days. You must not have slept much. Editor Zhang's car is just downstairs. There's no need to come out."

The female editor giggled, "Right, you should keep sister-in-law company."

Sister-in-law?

What sister-in-law!

Zhang Ye nearly fainted and said, “She’s really my friend, just ordinary friends. You’ve misunderstood.”

The female editor just smiled. The three of them then opened the door and left.

Zhang Ye walked them to the corridor as a gesture.

At this moment, Zhang Lu also laughed. He patted Zhang Ye on the shoulder, “Alright, go in and coax your partner. Your partner must really have a temper, just like my wife. My wife is the same; she won’t care at all when she’s angry. Doesn’t even leave any face for me. Being experienced in this, let me give you a few pointers. You know women; they all need to be coaxed. Give in when you need to give in. When she is over it, you can go back to being the man.”

Zhang Ye, “...”

He wanted to explain, but they had already taken the lift down.

Turning around, he saw that Zhang Yuanqi was still in the same position, reading the book and not looking behind.

Zhang Ye looked at her for a while, and then puckered his mouth. Hng, this Zhang Yuanqi has too many shortcomings.

1st, she puts on a false front!

2nd, her attitude was really poor!

3rd, her survival skills were low!

4th, she doesn’t take into consideration how others feel!

And so on and so forth. It numbered so much that it was uncountable!

As for her strong points, she had one — She was pretty.

And then, is there any need to go on? No, there’s nothing more to say. Then..... All the shortcomings from before no longer mattered!

Chapter 185

At home.

The two of them said nothing.

Zhang Ye bent down and picked the box of books up. He placed the books by the window and after throwing away the empty box, he looked at the floor. He then picked up the red stilettos that the Heavenly Queen had kicked away and walked a few steps to place them by the door. He then threw a pair of slippers towards her.

“Slippers!” Zhang Ye reminded her.

“Oh...” Zhang Yuanqi placed her feet down and wore them.

Zhang Ye looked at her, “Have you eaten?”

“Yes,” Zhang Yuanqi answered half-heartedly.

“Then carry on reading. I will make some food.” said Zhang Ye.

The Heavenly Queen did not turn her head, she continued to read the book. It was Zhang Ye’s compilation book.

Zhang Ye was hungry. Zhang Lu and company made him nervous. The Heavenly Queen had nearly been discovered, resulting in Zhang Ye’s heart being on tenterhooks. He turned on the stove and prepared a bowl of Guamian noodles, eggs and some green onions. He was sick of eating instant noodles. So he wanted to eat Guamian noodles to have a change of taste.

He slurped it up.

As he was eating, the Heavenly Queen suddenly closed the book, “Give me the book.”

“Ah?” Zhang Ye said with the noodles forming a beard on his chin, “Take it, I have plenty anyway.”

Zhang Yuanqi glanced at him, “Let life be beautiful like summer flowers and death like autumn leaves.’ Did you write that?”

“Who else could it be?” Zhang Ye laughed, “Why? It’s not bad, right?”

Zhang Yuanqi said nonchalantly, “One day when I publish a book, help me write a preface. That’s settled.”

“What do you mean, ‘settled’!? That won’t do.” Zhang Ye tutted, “My poems aren’t freely given. If you really like my poems, I can give you the book and give you my autograph.”

Zhang Yuanqi said without giving any face, “The autograph is unnecessary.”

Zhang Ye said angrily, “You won’t have any friends in the future by being like that!”

After finishing the noodles and washing the dishes, Zhang Ye looked at his watch. It was getting late.

“Are you leaving today?” Zhang Ye asked.

“Yes.” Zhang Yuanqi also raised her wrist to check the time. She probably also found out that it was late. Looking sideways, her eyes landed on Zhang Ye’s wallet. Without any propriety, she picked up the wallet on the table and opened it. She then took 500 Yuan out of it.

Zhang Ye said in alarm, “What are you doing?”

“I didn’t bring money. Lend me some,” Zhang Yuanqi said coldly.

Zhang Ye said helplessly, “Forget it. I’ll send you back.”

Zhang Yuanqi acknowledged, “That would do.”

“Man, can you be more polite?” Zhang Ye was at a loss whether to laugh or to cry, “Where is your house? As long as it’s not too far. It’s nearly 9. If it’s the suburbs, I won’t be able to come back after going there.”

Zhang Yuanqi said coldly, “There’s a Jinyuan hotel at Ma Jia Bao. You can send me there.”

“Why are you going to a hotel?” Zhang Ye asked curiously.

“Peace and quiet for two days. I’m evading a job,” Zhang Yuanqi said.

Zhang Ye only realized that the Heavenly Queen came to his house every time to relax. She was evading the bustle. At his place, she did not need to care about her status as the Heavenly Queen. She could do or say anything she wanted. Today, the Heavenly Queen clearly had such intentions. But since it was already late, she most likely did not want to stay in Zhang Ye’s house. It was unbecoming for a male and female to be alone together. The first time was only because she was drunk and had no clothes to wear.

Hai, forget it. He would go all the way to help her. Whenever the Heavenly Queen was stressed with work, she would first think of Zhang Ye and come to him. Although Zhang Ye constantly complained, he was quite flattered deep down. The Heavenly Queen did not stand on ceremony with her nonchalant attitude. From a different angle, if the Heavenly Queen really disliked Zhang Ye as much as she said she did, why would she come to Zhang Ye’s house every time she wanted to relax? Why would she not find other friends? Hence, Zhang Ye believed that although he was not important in the Heavenly Queen’s heart, he was at least special. Besides, the Heavenly Queen trusted him greatly. Thinking of this, Zhang Ye wore a tender smile. Trusting me would be right. You have the foresight to know that this bro would not spout nonsense about you. The Heavenly Queen has a bad temper, so she had a way of evaluating people.

The Heavenly Queen already wore her sunglasses and face mask.

Zhang Ye was also afraid that he would be recognized. He was after all somewhat famous in Beijing. Hence, he also wore a pair of sunglasses and he avoided arousing suspicion by not walking together with the Heavenly Queen. He first went down to drive the car over. After he stopped the car at a secluded spot, Zhang Yuanqi also appeared downstairs a short while later.

“Over here.” Zhang Ye rolled down his car windows and said softly.

Zhang Yuanqi looked at his BMW X5. She did not sit in the passenger seat, she sat at the back. This made it difficult for people to see her. “Your car?”

Zhang Ye tapped the steering wheel, “That’s right. Not bad, right!? You must think that this is a normal X5, right? Ha, then you would be wrong! This car of mine is...”

Zhang Yuanqi lowered her head and carried on reading Zhang Ye’s compilation.

Zhang Ye wanted to brag but he ended up choking on his words. He could only depressingly drive off. He did not brag again. This Heavenly Queen did not like chatting!

It was not far away.

In front of them, the signboard of Jinyuan hotel appeared.

Zhang Ye stopped by the road, “We are here. It looks like a 5-star hotel? Or is it 4-star? The 500 you took from me won’t be enough for you to stay there for two days, right?”

Zhang Yuanqi did not even lift her head while reading the book, “Help me get a room. I don’t have a purse, nor do I have any identification. Even if I had it, I can’t use it.” Indeed, that was the case. If the Heavenly Queen’s identification card was used at the hotel, a storm would brew. She could wear

sunglasses, but the picture on her identification card couldn't. She was bound to be recognized. Typically, a celebrity at the level of the Heavenly Queen, even when they were out on business trips, would have their managers or assistants book a room for them using their own identification. If the fans knew, they would definitely be surrounded, and that would be trouble.

"Alright." Zhang Ye smacked his lips. He alighted and walked into the hotel lobby, "Hi, I want to get a room."

"Do you have a reservation?", the clerk at the front desk asked.

"No," Zhang Ye shook his head.

The clerk said, "Then I'm very sorry. All our rooms are full."

Zhang Ye was surprised, "They are all full? A suite would do as well."

"Not a single room is available." The clerk explained, "It's already 9, so unless someone checks out now, it is very unlikely."

Zhang Ye could only exit the hotel and return to the car. "There aren't any rooms left."

Zhang Yuanqi frowned, "Keep looking. Other hotels will do."

"Man, I've already become your assistant." Zhang Ye was feeling stifled as he drove around.

After alighting the car and asking a relatively presentable hotel, there were still no rooms. Zhang Ye asked the clerk at the front desk if there were any places he could get nearby. The clerk was pretty good and he secretly pointed across the road. When Zhang Ye looked over, it was a signboard of a motel!

Who cares!

Staying anywhere was the same!

Zhang Ye did not tell Zhang Yuanqi. After driving across the road, he found that the motel was located in a small residential area. It was called Chengfeng Motel. It was very old and it looked very crappy from the exterior.

Entering the motel.

"Is there a room available?" Zhang Ye asked.

The clerk at the front desk checked the computer, "Let me see. Oh, there's one. A room with a normal king sized bed."

Zhang Ye nodded, "I'll take it. Please give it to me." He then took his identification card out and proceeded with the formalities.

The clerk probably did not know Zhang Ye. He had no reaction after seeing the identification card. The room was ready for him.

Zhang Ye did not go up, he first returned to the car and drove towards the small residential area. He stopped at a corner and then indicated to Zhang Yuanqi, "Will this do? I've already gotten a room."

Zhang Yuanqi said indifferently, "What do you think?"

Zhang Ye coughed, "This place is actually not bad. It's not eye-catching, so there's no worry that others will recognize you. Who would think that the Heavenly Queen would stay here? Right? It is a deception. Don't you want two days of peace and quiet, so no one will disturb you? I think that this place is perfectly suitable. It's also cheap." Yes, the key reason was because it was cheap.

The Heavenly Queen did not say a word. He couldn't tell if she was satisfied or not.

Zhang Ye ended up saying, "Let's go. If it won't do, I'll reserve a better hotel for you and change it. There are definitely no rooms available today. It's so late."

Zhang Yuanqi kept the book, "Go."

"I'll be going in first. You join me in 5 minutes. Room 318. Since you don't have any identification, the front desk might check if we are together." Saying that, Zhang Ye first entered the motel.

The room was not big and it was at most 18 square meters.

Zhang Ye looked down from the window and he saw the Heavenly Queen walk towards the motel. This scene made Zhang Ye's blood rush. It felt like he was engaging in an extramarital affair. Suddenly, Zhang Ye looked in the distance not far behind Zhang Yuanqi. Oh? Who are these two people? Why were they pointing at Zhang Yuanqi? They were a couple and they were probably here to get a room. However, they were currently looking at Zhang Yuanqi and were speaking in low voices.

A while later.

Knock, knock.

Zhang Ye quickly and quietly opened the door. Once the Heavenly Queen entered, he closed the door, afraid that people could see through the door's peephole. "The room is a bit small, so make do with it."

Zhang Yuanqi looked around. It was most likely that she had never lived in such a small motel before. However, she did not say a word and she drew the curtains.

Zhang Ye did not have much thoughts back at home, but at a motel, Zhang Ye could not help but fantasize. He felt somewhat embarrassed, "Then I'll be leaving first. Tomorrow, I'll reserve a room at the Jingyuan hotel. It will probably be at noon. I'll come to pick you up in the afternoon. Right, you don't have a cell phone. I'll remember the extension to your room, so I can contact you." Zhang Ye then remembered the number and wore his sunglasses and prepared to head downstairs.

When had the Heavenly Queen not lived in a five-star hotel before?

Yet he had gotten her a motel room? And it was the cheapest place at 108 a day?

Thinking of that, Zhang Ye was slightly amused. As he was on the stairs leading to the lobby, he heard a few people conversing.

"Sorry, we don't have any more rooms."

"No, I'm a reporter. Is Zhang Yuanqi staying here?"

“Ah? Which Zhang Yuanqi? The Heavenly Queen?”

“Yes, someone said he saw her here!”

“Well, I didn’t see her. Why would the Heavenly Queen live in our motel? Hur Hur, you are so humorous. Please leave. Hey, no pictures! Who let you take pictures?”

“Take the pictures. This is big news!”

Hearing this, he did not dare to take another step out. Oh no! The reporters are here!

Chapter 186: Heavenly Queen Zhang Meets Mystery Man Late Into The Night!

Room 318.

Zhang Ye quickly darted back.

Knock, knock, knock. He knocked on the door for a long time.

The door opened and a warm rush of hot air surged out. Clearly, Zhang Yuanqi had turned on the heater in the room. She was wearing very little clothing.

“What’s the matter?” The Heavenly Queen asked nonchalantly.

“Let me in first!” Zhang Ye squeezed into the room and closed the door. “There’s a problem!”

Zhang Yuanqi was very calm because she was battle-hardened, “Speak slowly. What happened?”

Zhang Ye pointed downstairs and said, “There are some reporters here. They’re blocking the motel entrance and asking if you are staying here. I did not dare show myself, but I think I heard two of them, they even kept on taking pictures. Eh, I’m puzzled, we just arrived, how did they even know? Aiyo, I remember now. When you were coming in, wasn’t there a couple who was walking behind you? I saw them pointing at you but I didn’t think much of it. I thought they were just talking about your rather gorgeous dress. This is not good!”

Upon hearing that, Zhang Yuanqi switch off the lights and went to the window. She opened it a little to look downstairs.

One car...

Two cars..

There were more and more people coming!

These people were clearly reporters. It was too obvious. Some of them were even carrying cameras.

Some of them were just ordinary people, maybe they were Heavenly Queen Zhang’s fans. Many people had gathered around the motel by now and some people from the district also came over in their pyjamas.

“Sister Zhang came here?”

“I heard that too. It’s so exciting!”

“Where is she? Where? Why don’t I see her?”

“So many reporters? Holy sh*t, is this going crazy?”

“What’s crazy about it? This is Heavenly Queen Zhang. Every move of hers attracts the attention of others! If you want to talk about crazy, I’m the one going crazy. Does Sister Zhang have a boyfriend? Why would she come to a hotel? Your sister, which son of a bitch managed to woo Sister Zhang!? Don’t tell me! If you do, I’ll fight him to the death!”

“My Sister Zhang! My goddess!

I’m not leaving today, I want to see who it is!”

“There’s only one entrance and exit for this motel. As long as we block it, we will know anyone who walks in or out!”

One after another, people arrived. Soon, about a hundred people had gathered in the front yard of the motel. The numbers were continuing to increase with many people joining out of curiosity. Where did the news spread from!?

In the room.

Zhang Yuanqi closed the curtains. “Check the internet!”

Zhang Ye immediately checked his phone’s browser. Without even needing to search thoroughly, he had found the news article. Clicking the link, a page appeared showing a picture of a woman’s back view. Red top, black skirt, red stiletto heels. Above her head was the motel’s signboard. Although it was just the back view and the picture was fuzzy, it was placed beside another clearer picture. This was the picture of Zhang Yuanqi at the premiere of “White Maiden 2”. She was dressed identically in both pictures and they were even captured on the same day!

The headlines was even more exciting!

“Heavenly Queen Zhang’s secret meeting with mysterious man!”

“Zhang Yuanqi and mystery man checks into motel!”

“Has Heavenly Queen’s rumored boyfriend appeared? Who could it be?”

The headlines were getting more and more shocking, but the content was largely the same:

As everyone knows, since Heavenly Queen Zhang started out as a child star, she has never been in a relationship nor had there ever been any news of any relationships. But today, a couple posted a picture on Weibo. The person in the picture is suspected to be Zhang Yuanqi. After comparing the picture with our reporters’ photos, it is 90% confirmed that the person who went into the motel was Zhang Yuanqi. Earlier in the day, she had attended the premiere for “White Maiden 2”. Their figure and clothes are exactly the same. The premiere of “White Maiden 2” ended a few hours earlier and Heavenly Queen Zhang disappeared without even changing. She mysteriously appeared later at a motel in Nancheng wearing the same outfit. The outfit does not have pockets so that would mean she does not have any money or identification on her. The couple who spotted her first said that the Heavenly Queen had taken the elevator up directly and she did not ask for a room at the reception counter. From this, we can

deduce that Heavenly Queen Zhang is not staying there alone. Someone was waiting for her! Manager? Assistant? Or a female friend of the Heavenly Queen? That's not likely, why would a meeting with a female friend not be at home? Or in a big hotel? But instead secretly going to a small district's insignificant motel? There could only be one answer, the other party is a man! To keep the secret, they had to settle for such a place! Who would have thought, the country's famous S-List Heavenly Queen would settle for a motel? The most dangerous place has become the safest place! But unexpectedly, she was spotted by a pair of lovers who took her picture!

After reading this, Zhang Ye nearly fainted. Is this group of reporters working as detectives? Aren't they too good at analytical work!? This and that could be put together!

Zhang Yuanqi had a deadpan look after reading the article.

Zhang Ye knew that this matter had blown up, "Why don't I leave quickly?"

"How can you leave?" Zhang Yuanqi asked, "There's only one doorway here. The motel staff might not recognize you, but do you think the reporters are stupid? You can just get by them with a pair of sunglasses?"

Zhang Ye also knew this was true. He was no longer an unknown person who could walk along the streets without being recognized. The reporters would definitely recognize him. If he went out now, his photos would be taken for sure. If he and Zhang Yuanqi had no dealings previously, they could let it slide. But Zhang Ye had written a song for the Heavenly Queen, so anyone would know that the two of them had met through work before. Two people who knew each other, two public figures, on the same day and checking into a motel at the same time. Even a fool would know that there was something to it, what more, those ultra sensitive reporters. Given the cause and effect of this matter, even Zhang Ye would not believe that he had nothing to do with Heavenly Queen Zhang!

The internet was also putting two and two together, everyone was in disbelief!

"Heavens!"

"My Sister Zhang! No!"

"Who dares to do this to my goddess? I'm furious!"

"They are even doing this at a motel? Oh, my heart! It's bleeding!"

"Bastard! Let go of our goddess!"

"You guys can't say that, Sister Zhang is a normal woman as well. She needs to have relationships, get married and have children too. You can't take away Sister Zhang's basic rights and freedom to love. I support Sister Zhang's freedom to love. Eh, she's been working too hard and getting too tired, Everyday is work, work and work, which of you has ever felt for her?"

"That might be true, but... my heart still feels terrible!"

"I can't accept it too! Who the hell could it be!? That bastard. How could he be so lucky to catch Sister Zhang's eyes? No, I must go and take a look! Ma Jia Bao is not far from where I am!"

"I'm also from Beijing! Let's go together!"

“We need to catch that man and kill him!”

Of course, most of what they said were just in a joking manner. Anyhow, almost all of the netizens had come to join in the fun and discussions. Some were supportive, saying that they were overreacting. Some objected, saying that they will skin the mysterious man alive to ease their hatred!

This was getting big!

Zhang Ye was dazed reading all of it!

This bro had often gotten into trouble before and the internet would often break out in discussions about him. But a scandal with Zhang Yuanqi was on a different level. In the past, the discussions were kept within Beijing. As Zhang Yuanqi was popular throughout the country, this was what you would really call a discussion. Within only half an hour, it had become the headline on Weibo! On Tieba, discussion forums and other major portals, this scandal was all over the place!

Zhang Ye smiled bitterly and poked fun at himself, “Man, credits to you, I have now made the headlines.”

Zhang Yuanqi did not pay attention to him.

What made Zhang Ye not know whether to laugh or cry the most was that his own fans on Tieba were also scolding him.

“Bastard!”

“Heavenly Queen Zhang is my most loved!”

“It’s over, the flowers must be planted on cow dung!”

“@ZhangYe, is Teacher Zhang Ye around? Come over and criticize this shameless act! Heavenly Queen Zhang belongs to everyone! Not to that bastard!”

There were also many fans of Zhang Yuanqi within Zhang Ye’s fans.

Zhang Ye thought — Criticize your sister, shameless act your sister! Why did you @ me for!?

His fans obviously did not know. The mysterious man with Heavenly Queen Zhang now, the one who was creating the scandal, was in fact, their Teacher Zhang Ye!

A lot of netizens did not believe the news either!

“Why would the Heavenly Queen go to a motel?”

“It’s impossible, it might just be a coincidence that they were wearing the same outfit.”

“Right, I don’t believe it either. The Heavenly Queen would not get into a relationship now. Even if she did, she would tell her fans. The Heavenly Queen never hides anything from us fans!”

“Did they get it wrong?”

“It might just be a gimmick. ‘White Maiden 2’ has just started screening and the box office results aren’t out yet. Did someone release this news to bring up the box office sales? That is common behavior!”

Following that, Zhang Yuanqi's management also released a statement!

They were forced to do so, they had to immediately start their crisis PR. The company's official Weibo and Zhang Yuanqi's management Weibo announced at the same time, "On the current rumors, we would like to express our anger. The person in the photo is not Zhang Yuanqi. Please do not spread any more rumors. Sister Zhang is currently at home with a few of her friends celebrating the movie's premiere. How could Sister Zhang appear at some motel?"

In the next moment, Zhang Yuanqi's Weibo also posted something!

A selfie of Zhang Yuanqi wearing pajamas and standing on the balcony of her villa was posted, "Just finished doing my face mask. Friends, why are so many people @-ing me? What happened?"

Following that, another person, who was considered an A-List celebrity, also posted something. It was Ning Lan, a singer that was considered quite close to Zhang Yuanqi, "I'm at Sister Zhang's house, we just finished doing our face masks and we are getting ready for bed. Haha, when did we both teleport to a motel?"

Zhang Ye, "... "

Zhang Yuanqi sat on the bed calmly.

Zhang Ye was utterly impressed, "Your company and your friends... are really... " Your sister! That was f**king lying without even needing to coordinate! The Heavenly Queen was obviously by his side! And you all of you could say that she was at home without missing a beat? Even a selfie was posted? And even having another A-List celebrity say that they were together doing face masks? Zhang Ye finally understood. He also made a note to himself that he would no longer believe the words of these celebrities. They were full of nonsense!

But many netizens believed it!

"Sure enough!"

"I told you all that it was a rumor!"

"Haha, the Heavenly Queen does not have a partner!"

But there were also the smarter ones amongst these netizens who did not believe it.

"Selfie? Who knows who posted that and when it was taken? Why is the moon in the background so round? Friends from Beijing, can you go verify if the moon tonight is really so round? It's not even the 15th or 16th* yet! This is why the selfie is doubtful!"

"Good point!"

"What you said is pretty true!"

"It's over, my heart is broken. My goddess Zhang has been taken!"

For this picture, everyone started another round of heated discussions. The matter had once again been blown up even further!

*This is going by the Lunar calendar where there is a full moon on the 15th of the month.

Chapter 187: Curtains!

At the motel.

The front desk was clogged with people.

The reporters had their cannons (cameras zooms) ready, with the cameras all set up at the entrance.

“Please leave! Don’t stand around here!” the woman at the front desk said unhappily.

A television station reporter said, “Can you let us see the guest list?”

The front desk staff stared at him, “How is that possible, the guest names are all private!”

Another reporter asked, “Then, did you see a woman go upstairs just now? Which room does she stay in?”

The front desk staff shook her head, “I don’t know, no comments. Are you reporters or policemen? Why are you asking so much? Leave quickly, all of you are affecting our work!” she was utterly annoyed. Zhang Yuanqi? Of course she knew who that was. Would such a famous Heavenly Queen come to such a dilapidated and far off motel that had such poor facilities? Wasn’t this an exaggeration!? Wouldn’t she know what a crappy place this was? Only students who had no means would come to this place. Even those white-collared workers wouldn’t want to come here, the conditions were too bad! And you think a Heavenly Queen would come? Why won’t the Heavenly Queen sleep at a train station instead!?

At this moment, a bunch of people squeezed in from the outside.

“Manager! You are finally here!” the front desk staff nearly cried.

The manager was a middle-aged man, he asked with a straight face, “What happened? What do you all want?” He had found out about the situation over the phone earlier, “Don’t disturb us from our work! Or we will call the police!”

After rambling for a long time, the reporters forcefully agreed to leave the motel. But they stayed around the area watching the motel’s entrance along with over a hundred Zhang Yuanqi fan.

When they left, the female front desk staff complained, “This bunch of people, really!”

The manager also asked puzzledly, “Did the Heavenly Queen really come to our place?”

The front desk staff shook her head, “How could that be? Anyway I didn’t see her. I don’t even know who started the rumor.”

The manager looked outside and pondered, “Let them wait. At least they are giving our motel some publicity, as long as they don’t make trouble.”

The front desk staff bitterly said, “But some of those reporters and fans have already gone upstairs. A dozen or so of them, I couldn’t stop them myself.”

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3rd floor.

Room 318

Zhang Ye was sweating profusely as he saw wave after wave of trouble on the internet. Zhang Yuanqi grabbed his phone and logged on to an account.

There was a message.

It was her manager, Fang Weihong, "Sister Zhang! My dear sister! Can you not cause trouble? Can you not do the disappearing act again? Did you see what's happening online? There's news of your scandal everywhere! Oh my grandaunt! Can you please spare us? Come back quickly! We are already in a big mess!"

Zhang Yuanqi replied with a smiley face emoticon.

Fang Weihong immediately replied, "You finally appeared! My god, how long do you intend to keep this going? Why did you even go to a motel? Who are you with!?"

Zhang Yuanqi sent another smiley face.

Fang Weihong accepted that she could do nothing: Alright, I won't ask about your private matters and I don't want to know who you are with. Just tell me, when will you be back? We have already released a statement and also posted your selfie on Weibo to clarify. And your friend also helped you to lie, but how long can the lie go on for? You have to show yourself quickly for the matter to calm over!

Zhang Yuanqi typed: I can't leave at the moment.

Fang Weihong: You have been surrounded? Then think of a way fast, we can't do much over here. Otherwise, if we go over, the scandal would become true. Forget it, don't think about leaving for now, those reporters are all too bright, you can't lie to them. Just wait a little and find a chance to leave!

Zhang Yuanqi: I'm sorry, Hur Hur, I've given you trouble again.

Fang Weihong: Sigh, this is part of our job, even if it's trouble, we still have to do it. Actually, we are already considered lucky. If it were other celebrities, we would be dealing with scandals like this at least once every month. You are already very professional about your work, only having this happen once in over 20 years. But as your friend, let me remind you Sister Zhang, rumors are easy to handle. They are just groundless accusations. It will cool down after some time!

Zhang Yuanqi did not reply. She logged off the account and returned the phone to Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye coughed, "Ahem! Sister Zhang, why don't I go out and take a look? We will slip away if there's a chance, and then..."

"Shhh! Don't speak!" Zhang Yuanqi looked at the door.

Zhang Ye quickly shut his mouth as he heard some footsteps outside.

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"This is such a rundown place."

“Would the Heavenly Queen stay here?”

“I don’t know either, but there’s a chance that it could be true!”

“Yes, that would be some big news. Go, go, keep looking!”

“I wonder which room it is? So many rooms here, we can’t possibly knock on every door to look for them right? Before we can even find them, the police would have us arrested!”

“Then let’s wait a little, I don’t believe that they won’t come out!”

Redacted part of chapter from here on

Their footsteps and the chatter slowly disappeared.

Zhang Ye said nervously, “The entrance has been blocked, we won’t be able to go out.”

Zhang Yuanqi opened a gap in the curtains and looked outside. There had only been a few dozen people outside earlier, but now, the motel entrance and the area around it had around 200-300 people.

“Did you park in a safe place?” Zhang Yuanqi asked.

Zhang Ye understood what she meant and answered, “It’s safe, it’s a car park and there are so many other cars. It should not attract suspicions.”

Zhang Yuanqi nodded and lowered her head as she took off her heels.

Zhang Ye asked, “What are you doing?”

“Shower.” Zhang Yuanqi said blandly.

Zhang Ye stupidly asked, “And then?”

“Sleep...” Zhang Yuanqi said calmly.

Zhang Ye touched his face, “What about me? Should I find a chance to get out?”

Zhang Yuanqi went into the bathroom without looking back, “There are reporters and my fans outside, are you able to get out?”

“Ah?” Zhang Ye was stunned. “Then I will stay here too?” She did not answer him, but Zhang Ye thought to himself, this wasn’t the first time that they stayed in the same room anyway. But looking at the room’s facilities, it couldn’t be more dilapidated. There was just a large bed and a table attached to the wall, the table was especially narrow too. Besides the bed, there was also a cabinet but other than that, there was nothing else, not even a chair.

How was he to sleep?

Sitting on the bedside cabinet to sleep?

Bedside cabinet? So be it. It was all his fault in handling the matter poorly.

Zhang Ye understood that if he had not chosen the motel, all of this would not have happened. He could have driven further to look for a five star hotel. Even if Zhang Yuanqi was recognized, it wouldn’t be a

problem. Such celebrities often spend a huge chunk of their time in hotels anyway. But a single room at a motel that cost less than 200 was too attention seeking. This was obviously not for work, it looked like something that was meant to be secretive. And with the highly imaginative minds of the masses, they would definitely link this to something else. This led to the current situation they were in. So in the end, Zhang Ye had some responsibility in this whole matter. He did not take all of that into consideration before he booked the room. But from a different perspective, Zhang Yuanqi did not bring any money or identification and she even came to look for him this late at night. Many of the big hotels wouldn't have any rooms available, so a large part of the responsibility was hers too.

Splish.

Splash.

As he was thinking, the sounds came from the bathroom.

Zhang Ye, who was sitting on the bed, raised his head up and saw Zhang Yuanqi in the bathroom. There was no helping it, this was a motel room and the bathroom was separated by a glass door, there was nothing else blocking it.

"Little Zhang."

"Yeah, what's the matter?"

"Come here."

Zhang Ye went into the bathroom.

The Heavenly Queen was fumbling with the curtain in her hands, "How do I pull it down?"

Zhang Ye went over to take a look, it was a drawstring type of curtain to block off the view from the bathroom and the room. But no matter how much he tried to get it to work, it didn't work. In the end, even the ring broke. He was full of sweat by now, so he stepped on a chair and tinkered with it for a long time before saying, "Uh, this curtain is spoilt, you can't pull it down anymore."

It was a small motel, it was normal for the facilities to be lousy.

Zhang Yuanqi looked at him, "Then tell me, how can I shower?"

Zhang Ye coughed, "Why don't you not shower?"

"I've been busy the entire day. If I don't shower, I can't sleep," said Zhang Yuanqi.

Zhang Ye did not dare to call the front desk staff. If they came up, everything would be exposed. There wouldn't be any rooms available to change anyway, the motel was fully booked. Zhang Ye looked around hoping for something when he spotted a long towel. He took it and stood on the chair and hung the towel. He squeezed it in and he managed to put up the towel in place of the damaged curtain.

Zhang Yuanqi said indifferently, "That doesn't block well."

"I know, but that's all I can do." Zhang Ye blinked, "Don't worry, I will face my back towards you. I won't look, alright?"

Zhang Yuanqi kept silent for a while, "You can go outside."

Zhang Ye went out of the bathroom and closed the door. He went back to the bed not knowing if the Heavenly Queen would shower or not. He turned his head to take a look. The cursory glance did not matter, but Zhang Ye's nose turned warm as blood rushed to it. That towel was obviously a little short and narrow. Hanging there, it covered only about half of the glass. Both ends of the glass could be seen through, the bottom of the glass also could be seen through for the length of an arm. He could clearly see Zhang Yuanqi's legs in stockings. Her lower body could not be seen, but from that angle, he could see that she was bending her body a little.

Bada, the skirt came off.

A pair of hands was also exposed on the other side of the unblocked piece of glass. Following that, he could see her hands moving downwards to her legs as she took off her stockings.

Seeing her fair legs, Zhang Ye was now in a daze. For the moment, he had forgotten about his promise. Words like I won't look, that was all bullsh*t.

Her skirt was hung up.

The stockings were also sorted by a pair of hands and placed on a hanger.

The skirt could not be seen anymore, but the stockings could be seen around the unblocked parts of the glass. They were on a hanger and they looked like they were playing on a swing.

Chapter 188: In the Same Bed!

This was too tempting!

It's killing me!

Her legs were revealed!

Zhang Ye was acting like he was sitting on a cushion of needles. He watched without wanting to blink his eyes. The tiny skirt and the stockings, and finally even her panties were taken off Queen. However, of all things, this item had to be blocked by the towel hanging on the glass. Zhang Ye only saw a glimpse and he barely saw its color. It was brown. He did not see the floral patterns as it had moved too quickly. However, it looked like a translucent style and material. As the bathroom's lights were shining towards Zhang Ye, when the Heavenly Queen took her panties off, the light had shone through, revealing the panties. Hence, it could not be too thick. It could even be hollow.

Behind the glass.

Zhang Yuanqi was still moving and changing.

This time she was most likely taking her top and bra off. However, the angle was hidden.

Suddenly, hair appeared!

Zhang Ye was actually constantly tensed and on high alert. The moment he saw a bit of hair appear, which was not that far from her head, he would quickly turn his head and pretend to be staring at the window curtains in a daze. Zhang Ye was afraid that Zhang Yuanqi was "spot-checking" him. This fellow

had been training himself with running, and he had done an uncountable number of push-ups and sit-ups as he had nothing to do at home. Hence, his body had clearly improved, resulting in very fast reactions.

Five seconds...

Ten seconds...

Hua Hua. The sound of water flowing sounded out.

Only then would Zhang Ye dare to turn back again. The Heavenly Queen's hair could no longer be seen. He could see the two beautiful legs situated behind the glass. The towel covering the glass only hid Zhang Yuanqi's upper body, and as well as the middle portion of her body, but her thighs could not be covered. The towel was not long enough.

There was no need to mention those legs!

The Heavenly Queen was that slim. Her body was very balanced and it was a perfect S-shape.

Zhang Ye stared unblinkingly. He could even see the sweat pores on the Heavenly Queen's thighs. This scene no doubt engorged his blood vessels!

After washing her hair, she began to use body wash.

White foam rolled down her legs, past her knees, to her calves, ankles and finally into the drain. The scene was so beautiful that he didn't dare to carry on looking!

Forget it, I'll carry on looking.

Zhang Ye was feasting his eyes!

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After a while.

The sound of the water stopped. The Heavenly Queen began using a second towel to dry herself.

Zhang Ye no longer dared to take the risk. He had seen almost all there was to be seen. He quickly turned around and maintained the previous posture of looking at the curtains.

After a while.

Bada Bada. The sound of slippers stepping on water could be heard.

"Are you done showering?" Zhang Ye said without turning back.

"Yup." Zhang Yuanqi only said that.

Only then did Zhang Ye turn around. He thought that the Heavenly Queen would not be wearing any clothes such as wearing the bathrobe over her underwear, but who knew that she was completely dressed. Other than not wearing her stockings, she was no different from before she showered. She wore her red top and tiny black skirt. However, after some thought, he understood. Wearing just a

bathrobe would be too revealing, and as for things like bathrobes... this crappy motel did not have such a provision!

Zhang Ye stood up, "Please sleep. I'll be showering now." He had not showered yesterday as he was too tired, so he had to shower today, or it would be too outrageous.

Zhang Yuanqi ignored him, lifted her leg and went onto the bed.

Zhang Ye kept feeling nervous. A small motel and them being alone in it kept giving him nefarious thoughts.

After entering the bathroom, Zhang Ye was initially somewhat awkward. After taking off his clothes, he peeped past the towel that was being used as a temporary blockage. The Heavenly Queen's back was facing him. She was reading Zhang Ye's literary compilation. Clearly, she was in no way interested in Zhang Ye's shower. Zhang Ye was relieved. Indeed, he might have not been able to curb his desire to watch the Heavenly Queen showering, but with the roles switched, how could the Heavenly Queen want to peep!?

Time to shower then.

Zhang Ye became more relaxed. He washed his hair and then, he lathered on body shampoo.

After showering, Zhang Ye realized that there was a problem. There were only two towels in the room. One was being hung on the glass, and the other one had been used by Zhang Yuanqi. After a long hesitation, Zhang Ye grabbed the towel that was thrown on the wash basin by the Heavenly Queen. He then dried himself.

It was fragrant and it was moist.

He could smell The Heavenly Queen's mature fragrance.

Zhang Ye was a bit in a fantasy as he wiped himself. Then, he wore his clothes but he did not put on a jacket. "There are no more towels. I used the one you used."

Zhang Yuanqi remained silent as she carried on reading.

Zhang Ye looked at his watch, "It's past ten. Are you sleeping?"

"Not tired," Zhang Yuanqi said nonchalantly.

"No problem. You sleep as and when you please. I'll make do with the table." He knew that the Heavenly Queen might find it inconvenient, so he went to the table by the end of the bed. He had to have gentlemanly manners after all. Women first, right? Then, he tried to lie on the table. It wouldn't do. The table creaked and nearly collapsed. As it was a simple table connected to the wall, the supporting legs beneath him were not very strong, so it was unable to support Zhang Ye's weight. Besides, the table was too narrow, and it had insufficient area for him to lie down. Zhang Ye could only sit on the table with his feet on the ground, as he leaned on the wall.

Only then did Zhang Yuanqi look at him. With a raise of her hand, she switched off the lights.

In the darkness, the Heavenly Queen seemed to throw the book and slip into the bed.

Zhang Ye also closed his eyes in an attempt to sleep. Since it was definitely impossible for him to leave, he had to make do with spending the night here.

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After an unknown period of time.

There were shouts that woke Zhang Ye up.

“Zhang Yuanqi!”

“Sister Zhang! I love you!”

“Sister Zhang, don’t you fall in love!”

“That asshole! Remove your stinky hands! Don’t touch my Sister Zhang!”

So it was the Heavenly Queen’s fans. There were still people staying behind despite it being so late!

But with Zhang Ye waking up, he lost his balance and slammed to the ground. It was so painful that it took a while before he got over it, “Sh*t!”

Zhang Yuanqi had also gotten up. However, she looked like she had not slept. Her eyes were still very awake. She ignored Zhang Ye and first went to the window and pulled the curtain slightly apart to peep downstairs. She then went over to Zhang Ye, “How are you?”

Zhang Ye said in pain, “It’s okay. Sis, it was just a painful fall!” After he slowly got up, “How many people are there outside? Those shouts gave me a fright.”

Zhang Yuanqi said coldly, “There are still about thirty to forty people.”

When he saw what time it was, Zhang Ye turned speechless, “It’s already 1 in the morning!”

The Heavenly Queen’s fans could be said to be fanatical. Zhang Ye was incomparable.

Seeing that Zhang Ye was fine, Zhang Yuanqi went back onto the bed. However, this time she lay closer to the edge. Then she looked at him, “Sleep on the bed.”

Zhang Ye exclaimed, “That’s inappropriate, right?”

Zhang Yuanqi said impolitely, “Up to you.”

“Hey, don’t. I’ll sleep, I’ll sleep.” Zhang Ye was just being polite. It was too uncomfortable sleeping in a sitting position. His back was hurting and he had nearly fallen off. Since the Heavenly Queen had allowed him to sleep on the bed, why would Zhang Ye reject her? He was dying to sleep on the same bed with Zhang Yuanqi.

With an excited mood, Zhang Ye dragged his slippers and moved over. After lifting the blanket, he slipped under it.

When the blanket was lifted, a fragrant smell from the Heavenly Queen came surging towards him. There was only one blanket on the bed, and there were no barriers underneath the blanket.

Zhang Yuanqi was lying flat on the northern end of the bed.

Zhang Ye was lying on the southern end. There was quite a distance separating the two of them, but it was not that great either. After all, the bed was only that big, there was no way for them to be spaced far apart.

It was quiet in the night.

No one shouted from downstairs anymore.

Zhang Ye heard his heart beating. Putong Putong. It sounded even louder than the shouts from the fans. Then, the sounds of the Heavenly Queen's rhythmic breathing could be heard.

"Sister Zhang, have you fallen asleep?"

"What's the matter?"

"You aren't asleep? I can't sleep too. I fell hard just now."

"I can sleep."

"Man, then wait and hear me out. The results of 'Wishing We Last Forever' wasn't too bad, right? This week, it has also been ranked first on several boards?"

"What do you want to say?"

"That song of mine was snatched by you. You said you owe me one. Then, help me look for a movie to act in. I do not need to be the main lead. I definitely won't do being the main lead. Whatever side characters would be fine, as long as there are lines. Or if you are acting in any show, I'll make a guest appearance. Anyway, it's for me to gain some popularity. I don't have any works these days, so my popularity has fallen."

Zhang Ye's thoughts were that the poetry compilation was not enough. He had to work harder and expose himself to the masses more. And the other main reason was that he still had not decided on what to do next.

"Are you planning on going down the filming route in the future?"

"Not really. I just want to be a temporary guest and give it a try."

"Oh."

"Can you?"

"Wait for my news."

"Alright, then I'll thank you first."

Although Zhang Yuanqi said wait for her news, Zhang Ye knew that her saying that meant there were no problems. Others might not have the power, but she did. Actually, Zhang Ye did not plan on developing as an actor this year, nor did he plan on singing, let alone directing. People who majored in acting might not turn out good, let alone Zhang Ye. He did not know a sh*t about acting. For singing, Zhang Ye did not have any singing ability either. Part of singing was learned while the other part was honed through practice, but he was far from passable. His singing wasn't pleasurable to the ears. There was no need to

talk about directing. Ignoring directing a movie, even if a camera was given to Zhang Ye now, he would have no idea how to use it. He did not know a thing!

These jobs were things Zhang Ye had to do, but it was not the right time. It was because he lacked the strength and ability. Unfortunately, despite Zhang Ye having extremely good broadcasting abilities, no television station dared to hire him. He was currently depressed and he had no future goals. Hence, he could only put up with second best, by first acting in a guest role. At least, he could ensure his popularity would not diminish. He needed to first maintain his popularity before deciding on the future.

With proper matters discussed, the atmosphere in the room turned silent.

This was the same bed he and the Heavenly Queen was sleeping in!

After a while, Zhang Yuanqi might have fallen asleep. As she rolled over, she threw the blanket away. She was wearing her clothes to sleep, so it was definitely hot.

In the end, Zhang Ye's eyes had a feast. His eyes had gotten used to the dark and he could see very clearly. With this roll of the Heavenly Queen, she was facing Zhang Ye, and she was much closer to him instantaneously. One of Zhang Yuanqi's beautiful legs was bent in front of her. Her short black skirt was not long to begin with, so with her legs bent, a large gap in her skirt opened up. Inside the black skirt, a brown fabric appeared. She had exposed herself!

Zhang Ye's mind was perturbed as he focused his gaze into the black skirt.

Then, Zhang Yuanqi, who was sleeping, adjusted her body's posture. At that moment, her red top was squeezed. The opening to her blouse revealed a deep cleavage. A crevice appeared near the buttons on her chest, revealing a bit of her brown bra.

Momentarily, he recalled a phrase of Shakespeare's.

To touch?

Or not to touch?

That is the question!

Chapter 189: Caught by a bunch of reporters?

The next morning.

Around 9 – 10 o'clock.

Zhang Ye mockingly laughed, "You're awake?"

"Yes." the Heavenly Queen answered coldly.

"You didn't sleep well? I can see your dark eye circles." Zhang Ye said.

"I will make do with it." the Heavenly Queen commanded, "Go see if there are still people downstairs."

Zhang Ye got off the bed and he went over, pulling the curtain slightly apart. He said impatiently, "There are still several dozens of people. It looks like the reporters have changed shifts. Looks like we won't be leaving today either?"

"Let's eat first," Zhang Yuanqi said.

Zhang Ye was hungry too, "Order take away? Sure, let me see."

He checked online and made a few calls. In the end, none of the eateries were willing to deliver take away as the area was too isolated. Even fast food restaurants were not willing to deliver here. Out of desperation, Zhang Ye called the motel front desk, "Hello, what can we eat over here? Bread? Instant noodles? Biscuits? OK, please give me 2 sets of everything. I want a bottle of cola and a bottle of mineral water too... please deliver it to my room, thank you."

The Heavenly Queen put on her sunglasses, "Don't let anyone come in."

"I know." Zhang Ye put on his coat and walked to the door to wait.

Momentarily, the cleaning lady came to deliver the food. When the door was opened, she handed the things over, "The money will be deducted from the deposit. Oh yes, are you checking out today?"

Zhang Ye messed up his hair on purpose so that no one would recognize him. But it was obviously unnecessary, as even if his face was not covered, the cleaning lady would still not be able to recognize him. Zhang Ye thought for a while, then said, "I won't be checking out today, I will stay another day."

The cleaning lady said, "Then you need to go downstairs to hand over the money."

Zhang Ye said quickly said, "I'm too lazy to go down, I will hand the money to you."

"Alright then." the cleaning took the money and counted it, "Do you need housekeeping?"

"No need, no need." Zhang Ye did not dare to let anyone into the room, "Oh yes, why is the thermostat turned off? It's pretty cold and rather gloomy. The temperature's turning cold."

The cleaning lady explained, "The thermostat is externally controlled. There's only electricity after 9PM." It was obviously to save power and after explaining, the cleaner went downstairs.

Back in the room, Zhang Ye put the food onto the bed, "What do you want to eat?"

Zhang Yuanqi took a look and pointed to the instant noodles. She did not even say a word.

Zhang Ye glanced at her, then went to boil some water. He prepared the instant noodles and placed them at the dressing table in front of the bed. He took some bread for himself and he had some hot water to go along with, "I think today won't be the day too, we won't be able to find a chance to slip away. If you have something on today, you can call your manager with my phone?"

The Heavenly Queen was eating her instant noodles with a not too happy expression. She still ate it anyway, "Use your phone to call? And tell her that I am with you at the motel?"

Zhang Ye realized that her manager had his number. A call would reveal everything. This was not something that they could let anyone know even if there was nothing between the two of them.

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After the meal.

It was almost noon.

The two of them were doing nothing, there was basically nothing to do at all.

Zhang Ye switched the old CRT television on. There were only about 20 channels, but every channel was only showing static. The reception was probably terrible, so there was no way to watch anything. The Heavenly Queen lay in bed under her blanket. She had already read Zhang Ye's compilation twice. There weren't many words to begin with anyway, so she didn't bother to read it again. Zhang Ye switched the television off. It was getting cold as it looked to be almost raining outside. He rubbed his hands together to keep warm. He did not wear much as he came out in a rush last night.

"Phone." the Heavenly Queen said.

"What's the matter?" Zhang Ye blinked.

Zhang Yuanqi did not explain, but repeated, "Phone."

"Here." Zhang Ye uttered as he threw it to her.

Zhang Yuanqi began dialing some numbers, after recalling for a long while, the call finally connected. The expression on her face changed to one of a smiling one, "Hello, is this Director Jiang?"

It was a young man's voice on the other side, "Yo, it's Sister Zhang?"

"Great, you can still recognize my voice. Hur Hur!" Zhang Yuanqi said.

Director Jiang said, "I listened to your songs growing up, how could I not know? Oh yes, there's news of you being at a motel that's spreading online now, is this true?"

Zhang Yuanqi laughed, "It's just the company doing some publicity. I'm at home but because too many people are calling me, I switched my phone off. I borrowed a friend's phone to call you, there's something I need your help with. The movie that you are directing, isn't it almost done? I heard that there are a few scenes that you need to reshoot? Do you need an actor? I would like to recommend someone, Zhang Ye. I don't know if you know him, but he has a little bit of fame in Beijing."

"Zhang Ye? The one who wrote a song for you, that Zhang Ye?" Director Jiang remembered, "I know who he is, I have some impression. I think he's really good at writing poetry?"

Zhang Yuanqi said, "Yes, you can give him a supporting role."

Director Jiang hesitated and said, "I'm directing a wuxia movie, the roles..."

"I still owe him one for that song, I don't care whether it's wuxia or not. You need to help me repay him this favor, Hur Hur. That's settled then?" Zhang Yuanqi said laughingly.

Director Jiang laughed bitterly, "Alright then, since Sister Zhang has spoken, we will have some discussions first. When the time comes..."

Zhang Yuanqi said, "Don't wait until the time comes, I will ask him to report for filming tomorrow. That settles it, if you have another movie in the future, I will do a cameo role for you."

"Haha, then that will be great. It's done, settled!" Director Jiang did not have any complaints with that.

After hanging up, she threw the phone back to Zhang Ye who caught it. He immediately said, "Thanks, Sister Zhang." He had not expected it to be done so quickly.

With the call ended, Zhang Yuanqi's amicable expression had changed back to the usual cold-faced expression. She hugged her own shoulders before saying, "We need to find a way out by tonight. I have some activities in Hong Kong and Taiwan tomorrow, it's an afternoon flight. I can't cancel them!"

Zhang Ye wondered, "How do we leave?"

"You think of a way." after saying, Zhang Yuanqi laid down and had her afternoon nap.

Zhang Ye also lay down to think, but as he cracked his brains, he fell asleep.

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At night.

It was 1AM.

Zhang Ye wore his clothes properly and Zhang Yuanqi also wore her heels. The 2 of them had something to eat before Zhang Ye pulled the curtains aside to take a look outside. There were much fewer people now. The fans were almost all gone since they did not have the time to keep waiting aimlessly. The others left were those reporters with nothing to do, either from the television station or the newspapers. They had shifts of two or three people waiting there without moving. Some were hidden from view, like in the car or the staircase landings. They were holding on to their cameras and waiting patiently for things to happen.

Going out through the main entrance — impossible.

Zhang Ye breathed in deeply, "You wait for me here, I will go take a look."

"What's the plan?" Zhang Yuanqi asked.

"One step at a time." Zhang Ye already had a plan, but he did not dare tell the Heavenly Queen. He was afraid that the Heavenly Queen would not take him seriously, so he went ahead to scout first.

To be safe, Zhang Ye waited for the Heavenly Queen to not pay attention before he took out a "Save Crystal" from the inventory of his game ring. 2 Save Crystals and 1 Lucky Bread. This was all inside Zhang Ye's inventory. He had gotten them some time ago through the Lottery. Zhang Ye knew the importance of the matter, so he didn't dare be careless. He crushed the Save crystal with his hands.

It took effect!

[Progress Saved!] [Save Record Retains 30 Minutes!]

Zhang Ye pulled the door open and walked out without making a sound. It was already midnight. There was no one in the corridor so Zhang Ye relaxed his senses a little. He quickly walked towards the escape stairway as the elevator was definitely a no go. It was too enclosed and there were too many factors to consider. But just as he was approaching the escape stairway, the room beside it opened without a warning. The person who opened it was a middle-aged man holding a camera, there were still three or four youths in the room. They were obviously reporters!

Zhang Ye kept walking, he was numb. So, they had laid an ambush.

The middle-aged man had come out due to hearing a noise. He wanted to know who was passing by. These reporters had been waiting outside in the day, but at noon, many people had checked out. Naturally, they could get a room and gain entry into the building. He did not expect to see headline news the moment he opened the door. After a momentary shock, he found the person familiar. Then after some recollection, he got excited, "It's Zhang Ye! Teacher Zhang, what are you doing here? Are you with the Heavenly Queen?"

He chased after him.

Zhang Ye kept going.

The man was busily taking photos. Kacha, kacha!

Upon hearing that, several other reporters who were in the room also realized that this was big news! The Heavenly Queen and Zhang Ye had worked together before, the two of them had now appeared at this motel? This was definitely unusual!

They gave chase!

Zhang Ye had already gone to the second floor through the escape stairway. On the second floor, there was another reporter. He was probably not part of the group from upstairs but he was probably just having a smoke along the corridor. But Zhang Ye did not see him as he did not have a line of sight to the corridor. When he heard no commotion, he went outside into the corridor. In the end, he had direct eye contact with that reporter in the distance.

"Ah! Zhang Ye!" said the thin reporter excitedly!

Zhang Ye turned his head and continued walking down the stairs, but there were even more people on the first floor. Some were seated on the staircase reading newspapers, some were leaning against the wall and napping. This route had been sealed off. The elevator was probably the same too, there would probably be people keeping watch.

The bunch of people also saw Zhang Ye now, many of them did not recognize him but there were some who did. Once they shouted his name, everyone's eyes lighted up!

Zhang Ye turned back to the second floor. The reporters from upstairs had now chased after him down the stairs while those from the first floor chased after him up the stairs. But Zhang Ye totally ignored them. No matter how they took his pictures and asked questions, Zhang Ye just continued walking coldly. He turned the corner at the second floor. Firstly, he wanted to know the locations of all the reporters. Secondly, he wanted to check the route.

About 20 minutes later.

A bunch of the reporters had surrounded Zhang Ye by now. They were joined by the others from the yard, this included a number of Zhang Yuanqi's fans. After a day and a night, many of her fans had already left. But there were still some hardcore fans who had nothing better to do who stayed on.

"Teacher Zhang Ye?"

“Why is it you!?”

“Teacher Zhang, why are you here?”

“What’s going on between you and Sister Zhang!?”

“Where is the Heavenly Queen? Is she in your room? Can you please explain?”

“What the f**k!? The Heavenly Queen came to the motel to meet you? This... this... when did the two of you start?”

“Teacher Zhang, please answer us!”

The flashes kept going off. It was no different from a press conference!

Everyone was either questioning or taking pictures. This was already a mess now, many of the people who had seen Zhang Ye appear were in disbelief!

Zhang Ye and Zhang Yuanqi?

How can it be!? That was such a terrible match!

Zhang Ye knew that he couldn’t explain himself but he also knew that he did not need to explain. He gave a smile and looked around at all the reporters. He then said something very puzzling, “Even if I told you, all of you wouldn’t know anything the next moment.”

“Eh?”

“What did that mean?”

“Teacher Zhang, please answer straightforwardly!”

“What are you and the Heavenly Queen doing here? There’s no such coincidences!”

Zhang Ye was not nervous at all. He was extraordinarily calm. He did not bother himself with these people and he lowered his head to open the game screen up. When the virtual game screen came up, he lightly tapped onto a button — Load file!

Chapter 190: Prophetic Escape!

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It turned fuzzy all around him!

The chattering noise from the reporters had disappeared suddenly!

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Room 318

When Zhang Ye came back to his senses, the dizziness had gone away. He looked left and right, and he found himself back in the familiar room. It was back to the point when he had saved!

“Still not leaving?” Zhang Yuanqi said behind him.

Zhang Ye looked behind and said, "Let's go together."

Zhang Yuanqi frowned, "Didn't you say that you were going to scout ahead?"

"No need for that, let's go. The faster the better!" Zhang Ye had already scouted. But he did so at a time that the Heavenly Queen and anyone else would never know of.

Zhang Yuanqi didn't say a word but she followed along.

"Your heels." Zhang Ye lowered his head to look at the pair of beautiful red stiletto heels, "You can't wear them, it will be too loud. Hold it in your hands?"

Zhang Yuanqi bent down and removed her high heels.

"Don't move after I have opened the door. Follow my gestures accordingly." saying that, Zhang Ye proceeded to open the door but he did not step out. He took a coin out of his pocket and flicked it outside with his finger. Ta, ta, the coin landed on the corridor's carpet and made a sound. It sounded like footstep sounds.

The Heavenly Queen was about to open her mouth to ask, not knowing what was going on.

The next moment, a door beside the escape stairway slammed open — It was the middle-aged reporter who had discovered Zhang Ye previously. He came outside and looked around but he saw no one. Wondering aloud, he could only go back inside and shut the door.

The soundproofing was not too good as they heard the conversation in the room.

"What's the matter, Brother Shao?"

"Nothing, I thought there was someone there."

"It's already the middle of the night. There's definitely nothing to expect anymore."

"Right, I think the Heavenly Queen isn't here, the chances are too slim."

"Even if there's a low probability, we have to keep watch. What if we really discover them, wouldn't that be big news?"

Making use of the time they were chatting, Zhang Ye signaled to the Heavenly Queen to move out into the corridor. Zhang Ye gestured for her to keep her head low as there were peep holes on the doors. It was safer to stay low.

1 step.....

10 steps.....

The two of them made it to the stairway and walked down quietly.

The Heavenly Queen holding her shoes asked, "How did you know that there were reporters in that room?"

Zhang Ye quickly gestured, "Shh!"

Zhang Yuanqi had a doubtful expression but she remained quiet.

Zhang Ye did not say a word. He just quietly stayed at the second floor's stairway and waited. He did not show himself or intend to walk forward.

After about a minute.

There was a sudden sound on the second floor's corridor. It was the sound of someone stepping on a cigarette butt to extinguish it. A cough from a youth could be heard. Bang, the sound of the door closing, then silence.

Zhang Yuanqi looked at Zhang Ye in surprise. She did not understand how Zhang Ye knew that there was someone there.

Zhang Ye of course did not answer. When he saw that the Heavenly Queen wanted to go down the stairs, he grabbed her arm and shook his head. That wasn't the right place to go, it was full of people. Zhang Ye led the way in front as they walked onto the second floor's corridor. Zhang Yuanqi looked on but she could only follow along.

On the left were the rooms, the elevator and the entrance area.

But on the right? There was only one room. The sign on it said that it was a staff room, a place for the staff. Placed outside of it was a broom and some unwashed bed linen sheets.

"Why are we here?" the Heavenly Queen whispered softly.

Zhang Ye said, "Open the door."

"How do I open it?" the Heavenly Queen asked.

"Just follow my instructions." Zhang Ye said.

Zhang Ye walked to the side window. The windows here were the old metal wire grille type. He easily removed a few strands of wire from of it. After fiddling with it a bit with some fast hand movements, he made the wire into the length he wanted and proceeded to slot it into the staff room's lock. Zhang Ye had eaten several of the lockpicking skill experience books before. It had really become of good use, it was really a case of having more skills without additional burden. It was unexpected that he could use this skill in such a critical moment. The motel's other rooms were all unlocked with swipe cards. They were more high tech, the locks were operated digitally too. With Zhang Ye's lockpicking skills, he wouldn't be able to open those kinds of locks. But for the workers' rooms, they were had the traditional locksets. Maybe it was more convenient for the staff to use a traditional lock and key.

Ka-cha.

The door was unlocked without much effort.

The room was dark and of course, he did not switch on the lights. Staying hidden was of utmost priority.

Zhang Ye had considered the layout and he knew that there wasn't anyone in this room. It was a storeroom. He led Zhang Yuanqi with familiarity inside, then, he closed the door gently.

Zhang Yuanqi looked at him, "That was pretty nifty."

Zhang Ye said nervously, "I'm not that good."

Zhang Yuanqi said, "I don't think that this is your first time doing such things."

"Hur Hur, I'm a man of many talents, you know that." Zhang Ye changed the subject and walked to the bed and pulled the curtains aside, "Let's go."

Zhang Yuanqi narrowed her eyes and asked, "How?"

Only at this moment did Zhang Ye inform her of the plan, "We will not go to the first floor. There are many reporters waiting by the stairway. The entrance is out of the question too. There will be people at the elevator too. If we want to leave this place, we will have to jump out of the window. This is the second floor, it's not that high up. We are at the staff room and this side of the windows goes out to the back of the motel. That side is blocked by a metal fence, so no reporter can get in. If we go out from here, it would be the safest option. Moreover, no one has thought of going to the back to keep watch, because no one would be expecting that the famous Heavenly Queen to escape from the windows. In their minds, this is something that would never happen."

Zhang Yuanqi frowned, "Jump through the window?"

Zhang Ye assured her, "Don't worry, it won't be dangerous. I will go down first and catch you. You can slowly climb down, I will take care of your safety."

Zhang Yuanqi shook her head without saying anything.

"Quickly, if we don't leave now, there won't be another chance. Who cares about face now!?" Zhang Ye encouraged her, "I will definitely catch you!"

Zhang Yuanqi gave him a skeptical look.

Actually, Zhang Ye did not have any confidence too. The Heavenly Queen was not plump, but neither was she very light. She was rather tall so her weight couldn't be that light. Zhang Ye thought about his arm strength which was rather lousy. But in this situation, this was the only way.

Zhang Ye tugged at the windows, and did not wait for the Heavenly Queen's agreement. Jumping onto the window sill, he stood there. Looking at the ground that wasn't that far off, he flipped around and squatted down. With his hands against the window sill, he lowered himself bit by bit, before letting his body extend fully. He then let go.

Smash!

He landed on the ground!

Zhang Ye did not manage to balance himself and fell down. His legs were hurting. He only managed to stand up after a long while, looking embarrassed with a red face.

Seeing Zhang Ye in this pathetic state, Zhang Yuanqi froze at the side of the window. She could only muster a cold laugh and muttered something along the lines of — A guy like you already took so much effort just to jump down, what do you expect from a female comrade like me?

Zhang Ye whispered and signaled, "Hurry! I will catch you!"

The Heavenly Queen said, "Think of another way."

Zhang Ye pondered a little. To ask a woman to jump like this was indeed asking too much of her. She did not have the strength nor courage to do it. She was the Heavenly Queen after all, not a brute like Zhang Ye who could take a fall. After some thinking, Zhang Ye had an idea. He looked at the staff room on the first floor and with a lift, he stood on the window of the first floor. The window was not locked, so it allowed Zhang Ye to grab onto it. Then he looked up and faced the Heavenly Queen, saying, "Sister Zhang, you come down bit by bit. I'll hold you, so there certainly won't be any problems."

There was a few seconds of hesitation from the top.

Finally, Zhang Yuanqi's figure appeared. Clearly, she had made up her mind. Her hand stretched out from the second floor's window and handed her pair of high heels to Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye tiptoed and after trying very hard, he grabbed the high heels. He then lowered his head and kept them properly.

Zhang Yuanqi was already on the window sill. Her motions were not as smooth as Zhang Ye, but as a woman, it was already pretty fast. Without any hesitation, Zhang Yuanqi did the same motions Zhang Ye did.

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Behind the motel was the perimeter of a small district. It was also an out-of-the-way garden, filled with grass.

Zhang Ye did not need to pick the lock. A glance was enough to tell that the lock had rusted due to years of disuse. With a hard push, the rusty lock fell apart.

"You go first. I'll circle around the district and drive the car to pick you up."

After saying that, he wore his sunglasses. After he circled around and entered the small district, he noticed that there were still many people waiting by the motel's entrance. They did not notice that someone had come in from behind. They clearly didn't realize that the Heavenly Queen would escape from the windows. Besides, Zhang Ye had even used a "Save" item in order to prevent any mishaps. Carry on waiting, guys. Zhang Ye ignored them. He went to the parking lot to pick his car up and drove off. He did not attract the attention of others. Even if others saw his car, they would not have recognized him. After all, Zhang Ye was not as famous as Zhang Yuanqi. It was not at the level where he was placed under a microscope.

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Outside.

It was already midnight, the roads were deserted.

Zhang Ye drove over to the trees where Zhang Yuanqi was waiting. After pulling over, the Heavenly Queen quickly got into the car and closed the door.

Whew!

They were finally out!

Zhang Ye breathed a sigh of relief, "Are you hurt?"

"I'm okay."

"Where are you going?"

"Beicheng, just stop me at the Lishui Bridge. Someone will come and fetch me."

Zhang Yuanqi was probably tired as she shut her eyes for a nap. The past two days had taken its toll on her and Zhang Ye.

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They reached the venue.

The Heavenly Queen took Zhang Ye's almost flat phone and contacted her management through the internet. The car stopped and she got off. She sat on a bench at the roadside to wait.

Zhang Ye did not leave. Instead, he parked at a distance and waited for her to leave safely. Otherwise, he wouldn't be at ease.

A few minutes later, a luxury car that Zhang Ye had seen before but could not put a name to stopped in front of Zhang Yuanqi. The Heavenly Queen stood up and got into the car. Looking through the glass, there were two women in the car. Upon seeing the Heavenly Queen, they began their chattering, one looking like she was at a loss whether to laugh or cry, another looking like she was bearing a grudge. They looked super anxious. Whereas Zhang Yuanqi's face was full of smiles, she spoke very calmly with them.

He couldn't hear them, so he did not know what they were talking about.

But when Zhang Ye was preparing to drive off, he suddenly noticed that Zhang Yuanqi had raised her hand while in the luxury car's back seat. She did not turn her head but it was obvious that her hands were waving. In the end, she put it down without attracting the attention of her assistants.

Was she saying goodbye to me?

Zhang Ye smiled. He felt that the relationship between him and Zhang Yuanqi had become even more complicated. It could be said that they had become closer, at least, they could now be considered friends.

They were stuck together, in the same room, and slept on the same bed together. They escaped together and he gave her a shoulder ride. They even nearly created a scandal together.

All these images floated in front of Zhang Ye. After the storm passed, a feeling of warmth took over. Especially that last wave from Zhang Yuanqi. It was like a farewell gesture between two soldiers-in-arms who had battled for two days. It made Zhang Ye feel that the Heavenly Queen's indifferent bad temper to be not as irritating as before.

Good temper?

Bad temper?

A lot of people who hated Zhang Ye scolded him, saying that his temper was as bad as a hooligan's. But those who really knew and understood Zhang Ye did not feel that his temper was bad at all.

It was just a matter of perception.