

Superstar 41

Chapter 41: Zhang Ye's Troll Fan Army!

Eight o'clock in the evening.

Four hours before the essay competition ended.

"The next day, Mommy Bunny went into the forest to pick some mushrooms. The Little Bunnies locked up the door and waited for their mommy to return. After a while, the Big Bad Wolf came again. He knocked at the door while holding his nose, "Little Bunnies be good, open the door. Come open quickly; I want to come in."

"No, no! That's not Mommy's voice."

"No, no! It's not Mommy; it's the Big Bad Wolf!"

"Not opening, not opening. We're not opening. Mommy hasn't returned yet. We won't open it for anyone!"

The fairy tale was simple, but to the point. The Big Bad Wolf mimicked Mommy Bunny's song to trick the Little Bunnies. Little Red Eyes and Stumpy Tail were tricked and wanted to open the door, but Long Ears knew better. So it peeked through the cracks in the door and saw that it was not Mommy Bunny. They tricked the Big Bad Wolf into putting his tail in through the doorway and slammed the door shut. The Big Bad Wolf was trapped and when Mommy Bunny came home, she chased the Big Bad Wolf back to the mountains, with his broken tail between his feet.

A message simplified.

Something so simple, but yet the message was clear.

After posting, Zhang Ye didn't give it further thought. He went to the bathroom and had a warm shower. After drying up and blow-drying his hair, he went off to the landlady's place. He pressed the bell many times, but no one opened the door. Rao Aimin must not be around. Giving it some thought, Zhang Ye finally took out his wallet and counted last month's rent and supply debts, together with this month's rent, before slipping it underneath the doorway. He followed up with a note to explain.

At this moment, the opposite door opened and a couple came out of their rented home.

"What shall we eat?"

"Anything's fine. Oh, I just read a fairy tale and found it to be really good."

"The ones from the Education Ministry's essay competition to the children?"

"Yes, it's called "Little Bunnies Be Good". It's so well-written, even though it's just a paragraph of words to tell children not to open doors to strangers. The words seem rubbish at first glance, but in fact none of the words in there can be considered rubbish; it's even interesting. Too bad there is no music to accompany the song portion. I'm really looking forward to seeing how the song should be sung."

"Is it that good?"

“You would know if you read it. The story has only been posted for less than an hour. There’s already a few thousand votes for it, and it is doing better than most submissions that were sent in a week ago.”

“So ruthless? Which Teacher wrote it?”

“I don’t know. I did not pay attention to that.”

The person relating it had less interest than the listener. Zhang Ye gazed at the two of them walking further and further away. He rushed back to his room and quickly went online to check his ranking!

9th place!

“Little Bunnies Be Good” Total votes: 7,861 votes!

The discussion and comments below were also explosive!

#1: Which master’s work of art is this? The story is too awesome!

#2: Zhang Ye? I have never heard of him. Master, don’t put on an act anymore. You must be a fairy tale author. Please tell us your true identity. You can’t bluff me!

#3: Such depth!

#75: It’s almost reaching 8,000 votes. How long has it been up?

#80: Who is Zhang Ye? Those must be manipulated votes, right?

#81: You still ask who he is? Isn’t there a verification behind his name?

#82: Verification details cannot be believed. A ghost story writer coming to write a fairy tale? And he wrote so well?

#90: As a kindergarten teacher, I find this story to be absolutely perfect! I have already recommended it to my colleagues. I have also posted it on Weibo for my students’ parents. Everyone, help vote for “Little Bunnies Be Good”. Help promote it. This is first place in my heart!

#99: I read this story to my child, and he really liked it. And he actually understood it. He kept saying how he would never open the door for the Big Bad Wolf! I’m so thankful to Teacher Zhang Ye. With so many abducting incidents happening this month, as a couple, we were very worried. We kept instilling in our child that he should not open the door to strangers, but he could not understand. But now after listening to this story, without us needing to say much, the child himself has understood. In the past, I really did not believe in fairy tales or so-called children’s literature. I was thinking, ‘What about them? Could children really understand that?’ At most, it would be a joy reading it. But today, I understood that it is not that children’s literature is unreliable, it is that our country lacks good stories! I have already activated several parents to help vote. We must keep voting for it to the end!

#130: Can it not be so dramatic!? Why are there so many votes? Haha, however, one of those votes is mine. There’s nothing else to say about the story. It’s absolutely great!

Zhang Ye watched with his own eyes as the votes soared. He, too, was shocked. He had not expected much from this essay competition, as he could not compare to people who had been canvassing for votes for a week. He never expected that everyone gave it its due recognition!

10:30 P.M. The votes had reached 10,000!

11 P.M. The votes had already exceeded 20,000!

At 11:30 P.M., “Little Bunnies Be Good” had already climbed to second place. It was only losing to first place, Teacher Little Red Mushroom’s story, by a few hundred votes!

Having been uploaded for four hours! Votes reaching 29,000 votes!

This was almost a miracle! Many people turned silly seeing this!

As the saying goes, “problems happen to people when they turn famous; the bird which takes the lead gets shot.” For a layperson like Zhang Ye to catch up with the top masters in the field, especially in a sure-kill momentum all the way up, there were naturally people who couldn’t stand watching this. Fans of Little Red Mushroom immediately came attacking!

The comments section on “Little Bunnies Be Good” had exploded!

“Definitely manipulated votes!”

“Do you even have a heart? To manipulate like this?”

“How can you have more votes than Teacher Tao Xueru!?”

“Summoning! All fans of Teacher Little Red Mushroom, take notice! Regardless if they are manipulating votes, we must help Teacher Little Red Mushroom to push hers to the top. Every IP is limited to one vote, but I can teach you a simple way. Disconnect and connect again. Typically, your internet connection will change its IP. If that doesn’t work, clear your cookies, then carry on voting. Everyone, let’s go!”

“Right! Come and help!”

“We cannot let Teacher Little Red Mushroom get suppressed!”

“We must get first place! Regardless of who stands in our way!”

“Haha, aren’t we a bit of a bully? He is a newcomer and must not have seen the power of such a huge fanclub. He’s probably scared by now!”

“The point is to scare him to death!”

“That’s right; we must let him know who is the boss in the industry!”

“Ah, Teacher Little Red Mushroom has posted on Weibo, asking everyone to vote for her!”

“Supporting Teacher Mushroom. How dare a layperson be this arrogant? Let’s tell him why flowers are so red!* However, do it with mercy; don’t scare a newcomer!”

The moment Little Red Mushroom made the call to arms, her massive fanbase gathered together. Initially, they were leading by a few hundred votes. But in just ten minutes, they had pulled away from Zhang Ye by more than 5000 votes!

Her fans had even gone into Zhang Ye’s story commenting section to ridicule.

“Oho, you are going down now, right?”

“We’ll let you try to catch up. Looking down on our Mushroom fanclub?”

“Everyone show some mercy. I’m guessing that this newcomer Zhang Ye is already dazed from fright. Haha!”

Many onlookers could not stand watching this any further. What sort of people were the Mushroom fanclub? How could they be so insolent? “Little Bunnies Be Good” was in itself a very good story; how could you claim that they had manipulated votes? And the bunch of you ended up manipulating votes? And even trampled on him!? Laughing at how he was a newcomer without any fans!? This made many uncomfortable. So what if he was a newcomer? So what if he did not have fans? Who made the rule that newcomers could not write good stories? The onlooking parents and kindergarten teachers wanted to help Zhang Ye, but their strength was limited. They could only give him another 1,000 votes.

There was another ten minutes before the polls closed!

There was only ten minutes left to midnight!

At this moment, everyone knew that Zhang Ye had no hopes of being first. He was forcefully suppressed by the local pecking order. Zhang Ye felt the same way, too!

However, there were always surprises that lay in wait!

A miracle that no one had expected happened!

...

On Weibo, a post appeared out of nowhere!

ZhangYeNumber1Fan howled, “Are there any brothers who have not slept? Quickly come out! Urgent! Urgent! Teacher Zhang Ye has posted a children’s fairy tale on the “Fairytale Essays Collection for Not Opening the Door to Strangers”! It’s a new piece of work! It was about to get first place! But it was suppressed by Little Red Mushroom’s fanclub! They even cursed by saying Teacher Zhang Ye is a newcomer and doesn’t have the power of fans. They even flooded the screen with mocking words. Let me show you a screenshot!”

He immediately uploaded a screenshot, which included the mockery and ridicule the Mushroom fanclub had posted. Some morally bankrupt fans even cursed at Zhang Ye using vulgarities for no apparent reason!

“Holy shit!”

“Immediate anger!”

“Something has happened again?”

“They dare to scold Teacher Zhang Ye? Haha! Expecting a tragedy from them!”

“They sure are overly bold. Really too bold. They clearly do not know what the result of scolding Great God Zhang is. I’m really worried about their intellect!”

"I can only admire their courage!"

"Right, anyone who knows about the war of words would never dare to blatantly curse at Teacher Zhang Ye. This is purely the prelude to courting death!"

Those members of the troll army who had participated or watched in that day's war of words forwarded the Weibo post!

ZhangYeNumber1Fan's growled angrily, "Can you bear it anymore? I can't! F**k! Who told them that Teacher Zhang Ye doesn't have a fanclub? Who told them that Teacher Zhang Ye is a newcomer? I'll blind their dog eyes! To think they didn't find out about Great God Zhang's awesomeness! Comrades! The time when we are needed has come! We cannot let Teacher Zhang fight alone! All those brothers who had participated in the war of words, gather! Those who had previously fought with Teacher Zhang Ye in arms, gather! All of us, go vote for Teacher Zhang Ye! Let that Mushroom fanclub know the power of our troll army! Let's see who will let who know how the f**k the flowers are this red!" I have "@" a bunch of people below!

...

At almost the same moment, the appearance of the troll army had flooded into the comment section of "Little Bunnies Be Good"!

"I'm here!"

"Responding to the call, vote has been cast!"

"I bought a watch last year! F**k the Mushroom fanclub to death!"

"I don't read children's fairy tales, but I unconditionally support Great God Zhang!"

"Ditto!"

"Ditto+110!"

"Ditto+119!"

"Teacher Zhang Ye, we are here!"

"When trouble occurs at one spot, help comes from all quarters!"

"Following Teacher Zhang Ye gives you meat to eat and girls to meet!"

"Today, Teacher Zhang is too refined. To think that he did not fight against them... So we shall do it!"

"Who told them that Teacher Zhang Ye doesn't have a fanclub? We, the troll army, will forever be the strongest supporters of Teacher Zhang Ye! We will fight wherever Teacher Zhang points to!"

"Brothers, let's fight!"

"The Mushroom fanclub is nothing but a fart! Seeing who has more people? When have we been afraid!?"

“To be able to fight alongside Great God Zhang Ye! I feel my warm blood boiling! My large saber can no longer endure the thirst! Brothers, attack!”

Zhang Ye’s fans began their war cries, as if they were on stimulants!

1,000 votes!

5,000 votes!

10,000 votes!

In just ten minutes!

To be accurate, it was in just nine and a half minutes!

“Little Bunnies Be Good” had suddenly jumped to take the number one spot in the essay competition! 45,000+ votes! It far exceeded second place’s Little Red Mushroom by nearly 10,000 votes!

In this miraculous instant, everyone turned silent. They were dumbfounded from the shock!

The 1,000+ people from the Mushroom fanclub gasped. They could not believe their own eyes! What was the matter? What had happened? Your granduncle! Where did these people suddenly jump out from!?

The onlooking neutral crowd also became overjoyed. They then realized that Teacher Zhang Ye, who had been scolded for being a newcomer by the Mushroom fanclub all day, was no newcomer. He, too, had his fanclub... and the numbers were more than the Mushroom fanclub’s by a few dozen times!

This smacking of the face was too ruthless!

The Mushroom fanclub fell silent. Teacher Little Red Mushroom also did not speak a single word!

This was because, at this moment, a large question mark had simultaneously appeared in their minds. Your sister! Who is this Zhang Ye? How does he have such powerful charisma!?

Chapter 42: Deserving of First Place!

The clock struck midnight.

The votes were finalized. Zhang Ye’s story got first place.

Needless to say, members of the Mushroom fanclub and onlookers were shocked. Other long-time authors of fairy tales were dumbfounded. Even Zhang Ye did not immediately come to believe it. He only had one thought; that it was impossible. When did this bro gain so many die hard fans?

He knew his own worth. Indeed, he had written a few poems and created a supernatural novel. But he was not that great; he still had some ways to go. Compared to Andy Lau’s works, if anyone saw them, their first reaction would be, ““Oh, this is a Heavenly King’s movie”, “Oh, this is an Andy Lau song”. There were also works produced by others which were very famous, too. However, if you were to ask who the author was, a lot of them would not remember. Zhang Ye was in a similar situation. Even when many people had seen those works of his, they would only remember the title of the work. Only a small number of people knew his name as the author!

Then how did this huge fan support come about?

With the blink of an eye, they had annihilated the Mushroom fanclub who had declared war? And it was destroying them to the point of them being unable to respond?

This essay competition was their cultural domain! That was the fanclub of one of the top children's fairy tale authors! However, why did it now seem that this battle was in Zhang Ye's territory instead?

This should not be, there must be a reason!

Looking at the comments.....

Checking Weibo.....

Soon, Zhang Ye found the reason. The majority of the voters could not be considered his fans; at least 80% were not. Most of them had not even heard of "Ghost Blows Out the Light", nor read Zhang Ye's poems. The common point was that they had participated in or witnessed the "CurseGate" scandal from a few days ago. Still, there were some of Zhang Ye's hardcore fans among them; for example, the one who gathered all the support, "ZhangYeNumber1Fan". The others were internet trolls who participated because they had nothing else to do. When there was some excitement gathered over here, all of them had quickly gathered around to mess things up. These were people who were not afraid of anything, as they were bored out of their wits. Coupled with the fact that "CurseGate" was only a few days ago and Zhang Ye had an astounding victory then, the internet trolls were in awe. Therefore, many of them had crazily voted after being alerted by some of Zhang Ye's hardcore fans. It was similar to his world's "Helping Wang Feng hit the headlines"*, creating issues for the sake of creating it!

After achieving victory, the trolls went about boasting of their victory!

"First place!"

"Good one, bros!"

"Haha! Everyone was f**king awesome!"

"10,000 votes, 10,000! Can we not be so crazy!?"

"Where's the people from Mushroom fanclub? Where? Weren't you clamoring to scare us? Why does it look like all of you are scared instead?"

"Know how many fans Great God Zhang has now? Dare to look down on us?"

"You should be well aware, Mushroom fanclub, that you are too naive!"

"Claiming that Teacher Zhang Ye manipulated the votes? Yet you people kept on manipulating? That's funny! Does Teacher Zhang Ye even need to manipulate? Do we need to manipulate? We just voted once each! We do not need to manipulate any votes to destroy you! With our friends, we share good meat and wine, towards our enemies, we will take them on anytime and are never careless! Today, we will gift every one of you the famous phrase of Teacher Zhang Ye — I bought a watch last year!"

"This is a memorable battle! Let us record down this historic moment! Let's follow Teacher Zhang Ye again to create another miracle!"

“So fun! So exciting!”

“Is Teacher Zhang Ye still around?”

“We have captured the enemy’s walls. We have sounded the trumpets of victory. Teacher Zhang, please say a few words to us bros!”

Zhang Ye did not know whether to laugh or to cry. He did not expect that so many people would come and help him. In his heart, he was also very touched. He immediately left a message on the “Little Bunnies Be Good” comments section. Everyone had been so supportive towards him, so he had to leave a message, “Thank you everyone for your help. My comrades, you have worked hard!”

The replies were very orderly!

“To serve the people!”

“To serve the people +1!”

“To serve the people +723!”

A thread that had over 800 replies, all of which were the same!

What was this battle formation? What was this momentum? A lot of neutrals watching felt their adrenaline rushing. A troll army like that was enough to rule the world..... *Cough* Except that this army was too not up to par. At the end of it all, the onlookers still had no idea who Zhang Ye was; how did he have such a large troll army helping out?

ZhangYeNumber1Fan dispersed the crowds, “Mission accomplished! Troll army pull back! Thank you for the help, bros!”

They gathered quickly, and they also dispersed quickly. This group of trolls were like a nest of wasps, attacking whoever they disliked. They came and went as they wished!

Seeing the dispersal of the troll army, the Mushroom fanclub members reappeared. They went to the website’s report section to complain about Zhang Ye’s fairy tale.

Mushroom Gang Warrior: “Reported! “Little Bunnies Be Good” vote manipulation!”

Mushroom Gang 77: “More than forty thousands votes in four hours! Impossible! The manipulation is too obvious!”

QWYUE33: “In my opinion, it looks manipulated, too. The others only had tens of thousands of votes in seven days. Furthermore, they were professional authors. He’s only a radio host who writes ghost stories. How could he have written such a good fairy tale? And to have so many people vote for him? It’s not realistic!”

Suddenly, Little Red Mushroom’s account message also appeared in the reporting section. She had taken it upon herself, obviously unhappy with the result of second place. Because this essay competition only had one winner; second and third place did not matter. There would be no prize money, nor any trophies. Only the first placed essay would be selected by the Beijing Education Ministry to be promoted to kindergartens and primary schools; second place would receive nothing!

Little Red Mushroom posted “Did anyone check the authenticity of the votes? I believe many of the authors in the professional circle will not accept this result. The votes for “Little Bunnies Be Good” seem to be abnormal!”

Once the top author of children’s books spoke, several professional authors who took part in the essay competition followed up with their replies regarding Zhang Ye’s votes’ authenticity!

“Did the technical team go off duty?”

“Such obvious vote manipulation, yet nobody realizes it?”

“Are there still fair rules and a transparent system?”

A website staff member replied, “The technical team is handling the complaint. Please wait; if there are manipulated votes, they will be invalidated!”

After about 10 minutes, the results were out!

Essay Competition 1st Place: “Little Bunnies Be Good”.

Author: Zhang Ye.

Total Votes: 45,871!

Zhang Ye’s total votes remain unchanged; it was exactly the same as when voting closed. Rather, it was second place Little Red Mushroom’s story whose votes dropped from 37,212 to 35,399! Around 2,000 votes were invalidated!

After the results were released, there was silence!

There really was no fake votes! This story really defied logic! It really managed to gain more than 40,000 votes in four hours?

Everyone was surprised, but no one questioned the authenticity of Zhang Ye’s votes. Even without the troll army’s support near the end, subtracting the votes manipulated by Little Red Mushroom’s fans, Zhang Ye would have still obtained first place. There were no qualms about that!

Of course, one could not say that, as well. If the troll army did not push Zhang Ye to the top and, as second place, Zhang Ye’s report of Little Red Mushroom manipulating votes might not even be heeded by the website.

The cute troll army had given Zhang Ye a huge favor!

Zhang Ye was moved for a while, before he suddenly recalled what really mattered. He immediately added another sentence to his story’s introduction, “This version of the story is a silent text edition. It is not the full ‘Little Bunnies Be Good’ version. Tomorrow, at noon on Beijing Radio Station’s Literature Channel’s ‘Old and Young Story Club’, the complete audio version will be promptly broadcast for everyone. The song in the story will be presented to everyone then; please listen to it.”

“There’s really a song? I thought it was just text!”

“I’ve remembered the time. I will definitely listen to it punctually!”

“Haha. I was waiting for the song. I will tell my colleagues, too.”

“I’m still feeling pissed. Some people just don’t like to see people in a better off state? If you are inferior to others, you are inferior to others. To claim others were manipulating votes? Who set the rule that only professionals can write a good story? Who set the rule that a ghost story’s author cannot write a good children’s fairy tale? I suggest that those so-called Teachers who had reported Teacher Zhang Ye should look at “Little Bunnies Be Good” with a patient and learning attitude. Don’t use the perspective and moral of looking at a stranger’s work. Teacher Zhang’s fairy tale completely beat all of you. He deserves it fully! My child is now beside me, pestering me to memorize “Little Bunnies Be Good” and narrate it to her daily! The children have already given their answer!”

“The previous poster said it well!”

“Hai, whenever a newcomer makes new waves, his legitimacy will always be questioned!”

“I can’t watch this any further. It was already quite irritating when the Mushroom fan club first started screaming and declaring war. Were they thinking of using their numbers to bully others? Ha! In the end, their faces got smacked terribly! Zhang Ye? This Teacher is interesting. I have already fan-ed his Weibo. I really like his fairy tale.”

“Handshake!”

“I like Zhang Ye’s story! Passer-by transforming into a fan!”

Zhang Ye’s popularity had a small amount of growth. Even more people got to know his story and him as a person through this incident!

*Wang Feng – a celebrity whose news was often overshadowed by other celebrities’ news that happened at the same time.

Chapter 43: An Insane Listenership Count!

Friday.

As Zhang Ye had woken up early, there was plenty of time. Zhang Ye was not in a hurry to take the subway to work. He stopped by a kiosk for some time as he browsed through the morning’s papers. He wanted to see if “Little Bunnies Be Good” would be reported.

Beijing Times? None!

Beijing Morning Post? None!

Other tabloids in the capital? Also none!

Zhang Ye was depressed. Could it be because the polls ended too late yesterday? These newspapers probably had to begin printing at 4 A.M., so they could not publish it in time? That would be bad.

He was planning to use this to pull up his listenership rates. Without any promotion, how was he going to pull it up?

Hai, I’ll leave it in God’s hands.

What could be done had been done by Zhang Ye. He had put in his best efforts. Today, he needed to see if the listenership rates would still be at the bottom for “Old and Young Story Club”. Just rising up a bit to the 19th or 20th spot would be good; at least, it wouldn’t be so embarrassing. Only then could Zhang Ye carry on thinking of a method to pull the segment up. There was not much time left.

This time, Zhang Ye was really placing all his hopes and bets on the Education Ministry’s official Essay Competition event. “Old and Young Story Club” depended on this bet to be revived!

Zhang Ye’s goal now was very simple and that was to use his fastest speed to do the segment on his hands well. By obtaining the best newcomer broadcasting host award in the shortest time possible, especially one that was quite authoritative, then he could say goodbye to this screwed up unit. This place was just a springboard for Zhang Ye. It was a pit stop before he went to an even higher stage. After obtaining the experience and qualifications, Zhang Ye would be like a free bird. Just using a niche late-night program like “Ghost Blows Out the Light” was insufficient for buffing up his resume!

From today onwards, he wanted to develop towards being a television host. That was a place that required good looks. Their looks and height requirements were many times higher than a radio station’s for a broadcasting host. How was he to convince the Leaders, Directors or Program Producers to ignore his appearance, so as to get them to hire him? He was a newcomer with average looks and height, and he did not have any background or connections.

Women could rely on makeup if they did not have a pretty face. Without makeup, they could use their bodyline!

What about men? What could men with poor looks rely on? There were only three things that they could rely on.

First: Fake it to make it!

Second: Being good at faking it to make it!

Third: Must be able to be good at faking it to make it!

Alright, let’s be serious. Actually, for a person like him who was lacking, he needed ability and records of service!

Zhang Ye was currently not lacking in ability. The only thing he lacked was his record of service. He had to cause a segment’s listenership to explode, so as to establish his foundation!

...

The unit.

It was business as usual.

He had reached the office on the dot. The moment he arrived, Jia Yan had already begun announcing the listenership ratings rankings. Zhang Ye already knew that his segment was still last in place yesterday, so he did not give any face by listening to the ratings. He did not listen to it at all, as he went to the recording studio to record the day’s program.

"Hello, children. Recently, there have been many heinous cases of people abducting children and burglarizing the house when parents are not around in Beijing. Hence, I'll be telling everyone a short story. Its name is "Little Bunnies Be Good". I hope everyone will not open the door to strangers from today onwards!"

"Mommy Bunny had three children. One was called Little Red Eyes, one was called Long Ears, and one was called Stumpy Tail."

"Little Bunnies be good; open the door."

"Come open quickly; I want to come in."

In terms of singing ability, Zhang Ye was like an ordinary person. He had no foundation, but neither was it too bad. After all, he was a student of the Broadcasting major. In terms of volume control, voice control and lung capacity, Zhang Ye was not that bad. It was actually pleasing to the ear when he sang the children's song.

"Not opening, not opening. We're not opening!"

"Mommy hasn't returned yet. We won't open it for anyone!"

After singing it a few times and having re-recorded it a few times, Zhang Ye was finally satisfied. He called Assistant Xiaofang to help him arrange the recording tape.

The moment Xiaofang came in, she stammered, "Teacher Zhang, your...your segment's rating..."

"It was last, right? I knew about it yesterday. It's alright." Zhang Ye did not make a fuss.

Xiaofang was even more worried than him as she said, "But tomorrow and the day after, it will be finished over the weekend. 'Old and Young Story Club' will be taken off-air; then, you would not have any segments after that!"

Zhang Ye said, "Isn't there another two days? No one will know what the outcome would be until the end."

At noon, the program was broadcast. Zhang Ye did not go to lunch, as he was worried over his listenership rating. However, Zhao Guozhou and two other Leaders of the channel did not come to work, as they seemed to be having a meeting somewhere. It was apparently for the Mid-Autumn Festival's Poem Meet next week, organized by the Beijing's Writers Association and the Beijing Radio Station. It was even going to be broadcasted live. Since the Mid-Autumn Festival was approaching, everyone was busy preparing for it. As such, Zhang Ye had no way of knowing the rating beforehand. As there was no news of the promotion of "Little Bunnies Be Good", both on the television and the newspapers, Zhang Ye felt a chill in his heart.

...

The next day, Saturday.

Today, most of the colleagues had come, as they collectively worked overtime.

"Teacher Jia, have you finished recording the first episode?"

"I've finished recording the first two episodes. What do you think?"

"It was very good. The quality was very high. I think it can enter the top ten."

"Teacher Jia, you sure are awesome. The station will belong to you young people from now on."

The moment Zhang Ye came to the office, he saw Jia Yan mingling with his colleagues. He was in the middle, being complimented. Jia Yan seemed to enjoy that feeling.

Jia Yan suddenly saw Zhang Ye as he smirked, "Hey, Teacher Zhang is here? I was just looking for you. We should have a transition for our programs."

Zhang Ye put down his stuff as he sat down, without giving him a look.

Jia Yan's expression sank, "On Monday, my program will be broadcast. Tell the listeners over the weekend about this and also promote my program. Is that alright?" After some hesitation, he said, "Teacher Zhang, I know what you are thinking and you have your views. You can't accept the outcome of the segment being axed, but this was already decided long ago by the station. If a segment always sits at the bottom in terms of listenership ratings, then the station would do their adjustments to the segments or even axe them according to reality. Today, programs with fairy tale stories are at an all-time low. This is the underlying trend. Every radio and television station have begun their adjustments to children's programs. No one can save them, so I hope you would consider the bigger picture and make way for my segment."

Zhang Ye glanced at him, "I do not need a rookie like you to tell me what is the big picture. Just do your own things well. When was it your place to meddle in my affairs?"

"Are you picking a fight?" Jia Yan turned angry.

Zhang Ye laughed, "I come to work to do my job and do my work. Here you come, trying to educate me, so who is the one picking a fight?"

"Little Zhang, what sort of attitude is that?" Wu Datao, who had a grudge with Zhang Ye, shouted, "Why is there so much malice in your words?"

Zhang Ye looked at him and said, "This is my attitude. In the past and in the future, it will always be like this. I do not need someone teaching me how I should be. I still have the same words to say, 'Old and Young Story Club' will carry on broadcasting. This segment is being hosted by me and my segment doesn't need people telling me what to do! You want to take over the Literature Channel's afternoon show? Alright, wait until your segment really goes on air before talking!"

Jia Yan took up his challenge, "Alright! Let's wait and see!"

Tian Bin laughed, "Zhang Ye, you did not see yesterday's listenership ratings, right?"

An old anchorman in the channel said, "Little Zhang, I have listened to Old Feng's segment all these years. Although I do not want it to end, but reality shows that it cannot keep up with the times. The quantity of children's fairy tales is too low, and the quality of the works are too poor as well. It is the trend."

Teacher Feng, who was sitting beside Zhang Ye, also let out a long sigh.

Another middle-aged editor said, "We can understand how you want to make your segment do well, but one needs to face the facts. You should begin preparing for the end of the segment."

There were people who kicked him while he was down, while others took a schadenfreude attitude. Everyone began chiming in to "educate" Zhang Ye.

Hearing all the chatter, Wang Xiaomei also got irritated. She said, "The segment will definitely end, but how Teacher Little Zhang wants it to end, he definitely has his own opinion. So there's no need for everyone to keep chiming in, right? Can't you mind your own business?"

The old anchorman frowned, "Xiaomei, can't us few comrades say something to a newcomer? Can't we advise him when his thoughts are problematic?"

Zhang Ye laughed, "I surely do not think my thoughts are problematic. I want to use a positive attitude to do my segment well. Is that thought problematic?"

Tian Bin snorted, "But can you do it well?"

Jia Yan waved his hand, "Let's not say anymore. It's not like he will listen."

Wu Datao shook his head and said, "Trying to chase up by to one or two spots higher is a positive attitude. To let it go from the bottom to the top ten? Then that is reaching beyond one's grasp! Indulging in fantasy!"

Someone came in from outside!

"Who will take the ratings table?" It was a staff member from the Statistics department.

"Give it to me." Jia Yan pretended like he was the Leader. He slowly walked over to take the form. After the Statistics department staff left, he did not take a look and just said to everyone, "I'll announce the ratings for yesterday." This feeling was quite wonderful. He had high expectations for his future. He also thought highly of his own segment. Just thinking of his segment's rating increasing day by day, and then getting a position in the station through his connections, he will then definitely fix that Zhang!

Everyone was inattentive. Few cared, as it was pointless. The station's ratings were pretty much fixed. It was almost the same every day, as it was difficult to have any change.

Teacher Feng also did not pay attention. It could be said that he didn't even want to hear it.

"First place..." Jia Yan announced, "Teacher Wang Xiaomei's 'Talk About the World'. Listenership 3.87%."

Back then when Wang Xiaomei's rating broke four, it was due to abnormal circumstances. However, even though it never broke four again, "Talk About the World" had gained an increase in listeners after the university student's suicide matter. As such, its ratings were much higher than before.

Everyone gave a token round of applause before they lowered their heads to busy themselves with work.

"Second..." Upon seeing this, Jia Yan's hands suddenly trembled. It was as if he had seen a ghost as his eyes widened, "This!"

“What’s the matter?”

“Teacher Jia?”

“Why aren’t you reading it?”

Everyone felt something was amiss as they all looked over.

Wu Datao laughed, “Why? Did my ‘Entertainment Daily’ rating increase again?”

“Entertainment Daily” always took second spot in the Literature Channel. Due to the special nature of the segment, the broadcasting host would take turns. It was usually a man and woman duo. Now, it was Wu Datao and a female host who took over the hosting. The week’s ratings had been good, as they had steadily increased.

Jia Yan did not reply.

Wu Datao was dazed. What? I’m not second?

Everyone was shocked, too. It was impossible! “Entertainment Daily” was a news segment! This type of program had never dropped below second place!

Then who was it?

‘Late-night Ghost Stories’? Impossible! A late-night segment did not have such an audience base!

With everyone paying attention, Jia Yan paused for a long while before vaguely saying, “Second place is... ‘Old and Young Story Club’. Listenership 2.40%!”

Chapter 44: Will it really not be axed?

Holy sh*t!

Second place?

“Old and Young Story Club”’s rating actually managed to get second place?

The entire Literature Channel’s office exploded into an uproar! Impossible! Absolutely impossible. This was what everyone thought by default! What sort of segment was “Old and Young Story Club”? This was a pathetic segment that had been lining the bottom or the second from the bottom of the rankings over the years. Even “Late-night Ghost Stories”, which was even worse, could jump up to a ranking of around ten on the first day of a new novel. However, “Old and Young Story Club” had never managed to do so before. It’s best result was 18th place! This was also because of an “explosive” special program on Children’s Day five years ago!

Second? Listenership rates of 2.40%? And it had even exceeded a news-related program like “Entertainment Daily”? No one believed what they had just heard!

Wu Datao got angry for no reason, “Did you read it wrongly?”

Jia Yan also wished he had wrongly, “It’s written...like this.”

"Impossible." Tian Bin also did not believe. "Going from last place to second? It's obvious that such a thing is impossible!"

Jia Yan nodded. He looked at the ratings report and said, "I'm sure Statistics made a mistake. There's no point announcing further. The rankings after this would all not be accurate. I'll go up and find someone from Statistics!"

Upon hearing this, Zhang Ye exploded, "What do you mean by this? Eh? When my listenership rating is at the bottom, you think it's normal and take it for granted. Now that my listenership rating has turned for the better, you say Statistics made a mistake? Everything follows what you say? Everything you say must be the truth?" Zhang Ye coldly stared at everyone who doubted him, "I want to ask you! When has the station ever made a mistake with the statistics? Has there ever been once? Oh, so you having good results is justified? While me having good results is an error? What sort of people are you!"

Jia Yan knew his words were a bit over the top, but he insisted, "Everyone is questioning the statistics. We must first check it. After all, the jump is too great of an exaggeration!"

Zhang Ye quipped, "Sure, you can check. Then... what will happen if there's nothing wrong? Will you take responsibility for the words you just said?"

Jia Yan looked at him and was sure that there was a mistake, so he said, "If the statistics are free of errors, I can apologize to you."

"Alright, go check it." Zhang Ye was confident. This confidence came from trusting his story. Although he, too, did not know how the rating had suddenly jumped up by so much, he knew that this story was an impeccable classical masterpiece from his world. It could not be bad!

Jia Yan left, while others began to whisper.

"Is that true?"

"I'm pretty sure it's a mistake."

"I think so, too. If not, it would be too great of an exaggeration."

"Right. Teacher Feng has been at it for so many years, yet his ratings have always been at the bottom. How could the rating explode in just three days' time when in Zhang Ye's hands?"

"Wait and see. Little Jia should be back soon."

Teacher Feng quickly pulled Zhang Ye over, "What's going on?"

Zhang Ye said, "Don't worry. The rating is definitely normal."

Teacher Feng rolled his eyes, "You can still call this normal? This is too abnormal. If you got 19th or 20th, I could definitely believe it, but 2nd? It's not that I don't believe you, Little Zhang. It's just that... Do you think our unpopular program can get a better listenership rating than a news-related program like 'Entertainment Daily'?"

Zhang Ye blinked, "Why not?"

Teacher Feng said, "What do you mean, 'why not?' It's like on television... Have you seen a program have higher ratings than the Central TV's news broadcast?"

Actually, for this, Zhang Ye had actually seen such a case in his world!

"Forget it. Let's wait for the outcome, before we speak further." Teacher Feng's mind was in a mess, too.

Over there, Jia Yan came back. Checking such a thing could be done very quickly.

Tian Bin and Wu Datao asked, "Was it written wrongly? The names were messed up, right?"

Jia Yan remained silent as he looked with an ashen face at Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye also smiled back at him. He stretched out his right hand and, with a snap of his fingers, he did a very complicated motion.

Jia Yan blinked his eyes, before holding in his temper, "Sorry, Teacher Zhang, for doubting your results. Statistics had counted it once again... There was no mistake!"

What?

It was the real listenership rating?

Wu Datao and Tian Bin stared, agape!

Zhang Ye accepted his apology and said with an educative tone, "There is no program that can't do well forever. In the future, your first reaction to a person's program having a good rating should not be of doubts and rejection!" Following that, he looked towards Wu Datao and Tian Bin, who had been the first to point out the error in the statistics. "Do you have nothing to say?"

Tian Bin naturally would not apologize. He pretended not to hear.

Wu Datao also did his own things, having lost all of his momentum.

Zhang Ye did not spare them as he said to them, "By my own efforts, I made the program do better and better. I did everything in an orthodox fashion. Based on what did you say that my listenership rating was fake? Or wrong?"

An elder in the station tried to smooth things over, "Forget it, Teacher Little Zhang. It is not that everyone is targeting you."

At this moment, Li Si suddenly shouted, "Quick, look at the news! Beijing's Education Ministry had issued a document earlier this morning! It required every junior kindergarten and all elementary schools in Beijing to have access to the children's fairy tale, 'Little Bunnies Be Good'. They have even sent a 'Letter to the Parents' to let the story, 'Little Bunnies Be Good' be completely immersed in both school and family. They have suggested that parents learn and teach it to their children, so as to strengthen the educative need to never open the door to strangers!"

Jia Yan was somewhat aware of this. He had also heard about the Essay Competition on the news, "It's that Essay Competition event held by the Education Ministry? So what about it?"

An editor said, "What's the fuss?"

Li Si smiled bitterly and did not say a word.

A woman beside Li Si looked at his screen and immediately turned dumbfounded. After swallowing a mouthful of saliva, she exclaimed, "For this Essay Competition, the first place was 'Little Bunnies Be Good'...Heavens! It's written by our Teacher Zhang Ye! He had obtained first place after suppressing good Teachers like Tao Xueru and Little Red Mushroom!"

Zhang Ye added on, "Yesterday, that was the story that was broadcasted at noon!" When he heard this, he, too, understood. So this was what had happened. No wonder his listenership rating had gone so high. Previously, he believed that the newspapers had not advertised for him, but who knew that the Education Ministry had issued a direct order. How many kindergartens were there in Beijing? How many elementary schools were there? How many of them were young students? It was nearly uncountable! Having disseminated to the students by the schools, wouldn't the teachers have to listen to it, too? The students had to listen, right? Even more parents had to listen to it, too, right? That was why the listenership rating had such a miraculous leap! This was like textbooks. You don't like them? You still need to read them, even if you didn't like them! It was like mandatory education! Everyone had to learn!

The woman quickly followed up, "My son and I have heard of 'Little Bunnies Be Good'. His kindergarten even printed brochures about it. Teacher Little Zhang, so that story was written by you?"

Zhang Ye said, "Yes, Big Sis Zhou. That day, I saw the Essay Competition and decided to do something for the children. With some inspiration, I wrote a piece."

The woman praised, "You wrote very well. My son really loves it."

Wang Xiaomei looked at Zhang Ye, "The children's fairy tales for the past few days of 'Old and Young Story Club' were also written by you?"

Zhang Ye acknowledged and said in a low-key manner, "Yes. I just wrote it haphazardly."

Teacher Feng exclaimed, "You did not use the story scripts that I gave you? You really wrote the stories yourself?" Zhang Ye had told him that if the fairy tales industry was low in quality, then he would write his own fairy tales. However, Teacher Feng never expected Zhang Ye to really write them. He thought that he was joking!

Zhang Ye was at a loss of whether to laugh or cry, "Teacher Feng, could it be that you haven't been listening to my program over the past few days? This is a segment that you have been broadcasting for so many years, and you didn't listen?"

"I didn't. *cough* I did not dare to listen." Teacher Feng's face was a little red. It was not right for him to not listen to it at all.

Zhang Ye explained, "The few stories were all written by me. I have some experience and talent in writing after all. Sorry for incurring the ridicule of everyone."

Incurring the ridicule?

Many people could sense the sarcasm in Zhang Ye's words!

After they put down the things on their hands, everyone searched on the internet. All they saw were praises and discussions on the internet message boards!

"The story is too awesome!"

"Little Bunnies be good; open the door. Haha, Teacher Zhang Ye really sang it well!"

"That's right. This children's song is marvellous. And it's very simple. You can learn it instantaneously."

"My daughter has already learned this song, but she still wants me to tell the story every day. I've no way out. From today onwards, I will have to listen to Teacher Zhang Ye's program at noon."

"There's no need for today onwards. Check the past two episodes."

"There are more in the previous two episodes? I'm already sick of listening to those children's fairy tales."

"No, the previous two episodes were also original fairy tales written by Teacher Zhang Ye. One of them is "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves", and another is "The Emperor's New Clothes". They are extremely good stories and have a moral behind them. From a literary perspective, it is even better than 'Little Bunnies Be Good'!"

"Really? Then I'm going to take a listen!"

"I've heard it. Now, I'm really astounded by Teacher Zhang Ye!"

"I've decided that as long as Teacher Zhang Ye is around, I will not miss a single episode of 'Old and Young Story Club'. After listening to it, I can tell it to my twins at night!"

"Hey, did you notice it? The Beijing Radio Station's website has a notice of programs going off-air. Why is the name 'Old and Young Story Club' inside it? How can such a good program be taken off-air?"

"It can't be?"

"Really. I'll send you the link!"

"Ah? It's really true? It's being taken off-air?"

"Holy sh*t! Is the radio station dumb? How can such a good program be taken off-air?"

"Hai, maybe there won't be many episodes left. Everyone hear as many as you can. There will be one fewer episode after every listen."

"It can't go off-air. If it does, I'll send complaints. What the heck! Do they even have any aesthetic taste?"

Over there, Xiaofang had brought the letters from the readers. Knowing that Zhang Ye had obtained second place, pushing Wu Datao's news program down, Xiaofang was extremely overjoyed. The amount of letters in her hands was nearly half the height of a person. She nearly could not bring them over by herself. "Teacher Zhang, your letters."

Zhang Ye stood up and took them over, "Which stack is mine?"

Xiaofang said happily, "All of them. The other Teacher's letters are still in the mail room. I couldn't bring them over."

Ah? These are all mine?

There must be a thousand letters here, right?

Teacher Feng marveled, "This number of letters must have broken a record, right? Our channel has never had more than a thousand letters sent from listeners!"

Xiaofang smiled gently, "That's right. The rest of the letters received today, when added up, aren't as many as this."

Zhang Ye wiped the sweat from his forehead. He lifted the letters over and began reading. They were mostly written by parents. There were tens of them which were written by children. It was easy to see at a glance, as the characters were all crooked. They looked very innocent.

Everyone looked at each other, for they no longer had words to describe their current feelings. Back then, Zhang Ye had made the bold statement that "Old and Young Story Club" would not be taken off-air. They had not believed it, nor did they take it to heart. However, now, Zhang Ye had used his abilities and his program's rating to make everyone shut up. Everyone even had a thought that they had never thought of before!

It's already in second place!

Will "Old and Young Story Club" really not be axed?

Chapter 45: The Serialization of "The Wizard of Oz"!

Afternoon.

The atmosphere in the office was very awkward.

Tian Bin was full of envy. Jia Yan, normally proud and full of confidence, also felt like he was now sitting on a cushion full of needles. He felt uncomfortable and had an ominous feeling. The breakout of "Old and Young Story Club" has given them significant stress. Wu Datao was annoyed about how "Entertainment Daily" had suffered an unprecedented slip from 2nd place, never before seen in its history!

Zhao Guozhou did not appear in the office for the whole day. Everyone was sure that he knew about Zhang Ye's results, but no one made a sound, as they all simultaneously chose to remain silent. No one could tell what the other was thinking about. In accordance with regulations, a program's last broadcast could only be decided by its ratings. Programs which placed badly for a long period of time were cut. But never had a program scheduled to be cut had its ratings increase so explosively. How should this situation be handled? Stop broadcasting? Continue broadcasting? The leader was silent about this and no one could really answer this either. But silence could also be a sign!

Xiaofang called out, "Teacher Zhang, the recording studio is ready."

"Okay. Thanks for the hard work. I will head over immediately." Zhang Ye switched off his monitor.

When he got up, Teacher Feng, whom he shared a table with, gave him a thumbs up. "Come on; write another good story. Failure or success will depend on these two days." Teacher Feng had become hopeful now; perhaps the young Little Zhang could really create a miracle this time!

"I understand." Zhang Ye replied.

As everyone watched on, Zhang Ye went to the recording studio.

As for the Leader's thoughts, Zhang Ye had his own assumptions. Jia Yan was Deputy Station Head Jia's relative; he would surely be well taken care of. But Zhang Ye was just a rootless duckweed and had even offended the Station Leader before. He would surely not be preferentially treated. It could then be said that if Saturday and Sunday's ratings had a tremendous drop, the Leader would not hesitate to axe "Old and Young Story Club". But if the ratings could maintain at 2.40% or even higher, then the situation would not necessarily be fixed. With the results placed in front of them, they could not move him even if they wanted to!

So how was he to keep the ratings consistent?

Zhang Ye did not rush to record his program, but pondered in the recording studio for a long time. The situation was to his advantage now. Through the promotion of "Little Bunnies Be Good" and through the official announcement of the Education Ministry, many parents had already become audience members of his program. Zhang Ye had to make these people stay on and not let them leave after the fad was over. He also had to make some plans for his program!

Got it!

A serial!

In this world, a serialized fairy tale might seem unfamiliar. To the people, a story is a story. It ends after it has been read to the end. But in Zhang Ye's new world, this was more common. There were uncountable famous stories which were serialized.

Why did he choose a serialization?

Firstly, Zhang Ye planned to gather popularity through serialization. For example, some sitcoms may have episodes which could stand on their own. There was not much continuity, therefore viewers were less enthusiastic towards it; even if they skipped an episode, it would not affect them much, as every story was independent. But serialization was different; a story that was read daily for 18 days would be affected if you missed a part in the middle. So listeners would be more enthusiastic about listening in to every episode. Secondly, since the station had sent out the notice that the segment would be axed after Sunday, by using a serialization, it was impossible to finish narrating it on Sunday. It was clear that he did not want to hand it over, and this would also give the station a problem. Since you can play dirty with me, am I not allowed to play dirty as well!?

This method was quite wicked, but Zhang Ye did not care. If others were good to him, he would return it without question. However, when others kept gunning for him again and again, then Zhang Ye did not care anything about professional ethics!

What story to choose?

Zhang Ye's eyes rolled and, with a flash, he opened the game ring and saw that he still had quite a lot of Reputation points. He then went into the Merchant Shop to buy a "Memory Search Capsule". These days, the Reputation gained from the accumulation of "Late-night Ghost Stories" and the result at the Essay Competition with "Little Bunnies Be Good" had increased Zhang Ye's Reputation to 200,000, as tallied by the game ring. "Late-night Ghost Stories" would give 20-30,000 Reputation points on a daily basis, which was not a lot. The main reason was the fame gained from the Essay Competition. So he did not feel the pinch from spending 100,000 Reputation points to buy the capsule. After eating it, Zhang Ye immediately recalled a complete, full-length children's fairy tale.

It's this!

He began recording!

"Chapter 1: The Cyclone. Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife. Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles. There were four walls, a floor and a roof, which made one room. And this room contained a rusty-looking cookstove, a cupboard for the dishes, a table, three or four chairs and the beds."

That's right. The children's fairy tale that Zhang Ye had chosen was "The Wizard of Oz"!

Why did he choose it? This was because Zhang Ye had read this growing up. Although the translated names could cause some reading difficulty, history had told Zhang Ye that it would not be a problem. Children could perfectly accept it. There was no need to say how classic this children's fairy tale was. Not many people in Zhang Ye's world were ignorant of its existence. And one of the reasons Zhang Ye chose "The Wizard of Oz" was because this story was different from "Little Bunnies Be Good" or "The Emperor's New Clothes". It was not limited to an audience below the age of twelve. "The Wizard of Oz" was a fairy tale that was suitable for all ages!

Boys? Girls?

Adults? Old people?

It covered all age groups! This was extremely rare among children's fairy tales!

Zhang Ye still remembered when he had just become a freshman. He had watched the animation and television drama version of "The Wizard of Oz", together with his parents. His parents had also liked it a lot.

Wouldn't some people say that "Snow White" was the same? Actually, it's not the same. "Snow White" was also a work that managed to wipe out all age groups. It had many animations and movies, but the point was that they were adapted. For example, "Snow White and the Huntsman", "Snow White and the Magic Mirror", etc. These had changed almost everything beyond recognition from the original version's foundation. And, to put it bluntly, even "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" itself was not the original version. The original version sure was bloody, so let's not talk about it.

From this angle, for "The Wizard of Oz" to cater to all ages was a very rare exception!

If there was a flaw that could be picked, it was that “The Wizard of Oz” first came out as a live-action version, and not as a children’s fairytale. So this might make it seem risky, but he still needed to take the risk, even if it was risky.

Zhang Ye knew very well that if “Old and Young Story Club” only depended on the listenership ratings from children, then it was not enough. For example, for yesterday’s program, most of the listeners were parents. If the parents were listening in, so as to read stories to their children, then it would be too passive. One or two days may work, but problems would surface down the road. Hence, Zhang Ye had a great idea. This fellow decided to pull the children’s parents in as the fans of his story. By telling them a story that they would also like, this would further secure his segment’s listenership ratings!

“Chapter 2: The Council with the Munchkins”

“She was awakened by a shock, so sudden and severe that if Dorothy had not been lying on the soft bed, she might have been hurt. As it was, the jar made her catch her breath and wonder what had happened.”

...

At noon, the program was broadcast.

Many colleagues, who were having their lunch break, began to listen in to “Old and Young Story Club”, while having lunch in the office. Previously, they had not paid attention to this segment. But now, due to Zhang Ye’s thunder, and it also being placed first in the Essay Competition and it also being promoted by the Education Ministry, who was not curious after he had obtained that terrifying listenership rating? Of course, everyone paid attention to it. They wanted to know what was so good about Zhang Ye’s fairy tales. Why was it so sought after by so many people? Wasn’t it just a children’s fairy tale? Why would it be different from other children’s fairy tales authors? Those fairy tale masters, who had been working in the industry for so many years, could not save the industry as it deteriorated by the day. But... Why did it work when it was you?

However, upon listening, almost everyone cheered. They finally understood why Zhang Ye had managed to obtain first place in the Education Ministry’s Essay Competition!

“It’s too good!”

“This Little Zhang has turned divine!”

“Is this a children’s fairy tale? Why do I like it so much?”

“The Wizard of Oz? Is this another original work of Teacher Little Zhang? I really do not know how his brain works. He’s good at poems, good at supernatural stories, but even his fairy tales are so good?”

A few female colleagues began chiming in.

After they discussed for a long while, a woman sought out Zhang Ye, who was eating his lunch from a lunch box, “Teacher Little Zhang, what happens next in “The Wizard of Oz”? Tell us what will happen first.”

Zhang Ye dryly laughed, “Don’t be like that, Big Sis Zhou. You can hear it tomorrow.”

Big Sis Zhou said, "We can't wait any further. My daughter knows that you are my colleague. The moment she finished listening to the program, she gave me a call and asked me to find out what happens later. If you don't give it to me, I really can't face my daughter. Hehe. What do you think, kid?"

Zhang Ye scratched his head, "Big Sis Zhou, I really can't do it. Actually, I haven't thought of it yet. You know that I never have a script and I just narrate as it comes to my head. I haven't planned it well for what happens later. Listen to it tomorrow." After finding an excuse, he finally managed to drive them away by deluding them.

Some praised, while others shook their heads.

Jia Yan was one of those who did not believe it would do well. When he went downstairs for lunch, he had secretly listened to Zhang Ye's program. The story was still alright, but... it was a serial? You actually made a children's fairy tale a serial? Are you joking!? Even the two fairy tale masters, Tao Xueru and Little Red Mushrooms, did not dare attempt this! Do you think children are as patient as adults? Would children follow the story, just because it could not be finished in a day? Is it possible? Children were creatures with short attention spans. The way you think is too simple!

However, Jia Yan was happy about this. The more errors Zhang Ye made, the more beneficial it was for him. Of course, he could not let his program be unaired. The time had already been fixed!

Teacher Feng came back from lunch, "Little Zhang, why did you do a serialized broadcast?"

Zhang Ye winked, "It's a serial. I don't think there's a problem?"

"It's too risky." Teacher Feng was a professional who had done "Old and Young Story Club" for years. He commented, "You must know the top master, Tao Xueru, in the industry, right?"

Zhang Ye said, "I know."

"Teacher Tao had previously tried a serial, but it was not a broadcast type, but a published serial. One book was split into three separate children's books. And the result? The sales for each book were each worse than the last. The situation where children do not recognize serials is due to their patience. Children may suddenly have the idea of reading a story today and might feel anxious about not knowing how the story ends. But after a period of time, the children will forget it. It is like with toys. They have not settled on their personalities. If Teacher Tao couldn't succeed, why are you trying to outdo her?" Teacher Feng initially had some hope, but with Zhang Ye's act, he naturally had to criticize bluntly.

A few office ladies stood up for Zhang Ye, "Not really. I think it's very good?"

"Me too. I'm especially looking forward to tomorrow's story." another woman said.

Teacher Feng said, "That's because you are adults; but, children are not the same."

"Teacher Feng." Zhang Ye made a bold claim, "Teacher Tao not succeeding does not mean I can't succeed. I shall say something disrespectful. The reason why my essay got first, while Teacher Tao only got third, is because of a problem with the story. Maybe my story is more suitable and is better at grabbing attention than Teacher Tao's. As long as it's a good story, a good story that can grab the attention of children, then there would not be a problem serializing it!"

Tian Bin happened to walk past. He maintained a two-meter “safe distance” from Zhang Ye and said mockingly, “Let’s see the listenership ratings tomorrow!”

Jia Yan also had similar thoughts. The reason for the explosive ratings was due to special circumstances. The Education Ministry had given an order, so it was no wonder that the ratings were high. However, today was different. One would know if it was a mule or a horse, just from the ratings. Don’t be happy too soon; we shall see your true form tomorrow!

In Zhang Ye’s mind, he was thinking, “Bring it on. Let’s see what happens tomorrow!”

Chapter 46: Another Crazy Surge in the Listenership Rating!

Sunday.

According to the notification, today was the last broadcast of “Old and Young Story Club”. It was also the end of an old program that had experienced many years.

The message boards were made very active by listeners.

“This program cannot end!”

“Right; it cannot be taken off-air. Hear that!?”

“My entire family of eight is waiting to hear it!”

“If you end Story Club, do you believe I will smash your radio station’s glass, bastards!?”

The letters Zhang Ye received from the listeners in the morning all showed their strong desire. However, Zhang Ye did not reply. He had no way of responding, as everything depended on Heaven’s wishes.

Teacher Feng was holding a bunch of things as he came in. They were all procedural documents.

Wang Xiaomei said politely, “Uncle Feng, have you settled your retirement?”

“I just finished settling it.” Teacher Feng also sighed, “I really can’t bear to.”

Another old editor who had as much experience as Teacher Feng said, “Old Feng, let’s have a last meal in the evening.”

However, Teacher Feng waved his hands, “There’s no need. I don’t plan on leaving for the time being. Hehe, I still want to stay behind for another two days, to help Teacher Little Zhang cruise this ship until its end.”

Everyone understood that it wasn’t as simple as helping steer the ship. Although Zhang Ye’s personality was not likable, no matter how bad his social popularity was, Zhang Ye’s ability and capacity was not questioned by anyone. Be it “Late-night Ghost Stories” or yesterday’s “Old and Young Story Club”, they had all been brought to even higher heights by Zhang Ye. Such a talented man of God did not need Teacher Feng’s help in steering the ship, so it was clear that Old Feng was still upset with the program he had worked on for so many years ending. He wanted to stay behind to see if “Old and Young Story Club” could carry on existing under the hands of Zhang Ye!

“Are the listenership ratings out?” Teacher Feng asked.

Zhang Ye volunteered to help Teacher Feng carry his things, "It's not out yet. I'm not sure, too."

Xiaofang had also come in early, "You still need to wait for a while. The entire Statistics department was basically resting yesterday, so it will be slower. It should be out soon."

Teacher Feng sighed, "I hope the rating won't drop too much."

Zhang Ye said jokingly, "You have so little confidence in me."

"It's not that I don't believe in you." Teacher Feng looked at him, "If I didn't have any confidence in you, would I have handed the last few days of my segment to you? The reason is because using a serialization yesterday was too sudden. For such a long story to be split into two days is very dangerous. Children might change frequencies midway."

Split into two days?

Yes, everyone thought that Zhang Ye's story only had two parts. Finishing the serialized story over the course of two days was perfect for the closing.

Zhang Ye smiled without speaking. He did not dare tell everyone that the novel, "The Wizard of Oz", was actually... 24 chapters long. That is to say, this story needed at least another ten days to finish it! Two days? Less than half the main characters had been introduced, so how could it finish!?

Everyone was too naive. They never expected Zhang Ye to so brazenly leave a hanging serialized story without an ending for Jia Yan to take over. Most people would not do something so wicked!

Tian Bin chuckled as he looked at Zhang Ye from a distance.

Jia Yan, who was busy planning his new segment, was also looking forward to this move of Zhang Ye's causing a drop in his rating. He estimated that he would be somewhere beyond tenth place. There was no need to give an explanation. Well... Forget it; I'll say it. The Education Ministry had only made "Little Bunnies Be Good" compulsory. People may endorse that story, but it did not mean that they would endorse his other stories. Secondly, having a serialized fairy tale itself was a mistake.

Waiting to the left, waiting to the right.

Waiting to the top, waiting to the bottom.

Waiting to the front, waiting...alright, not doing this already.

Someone came in. He was Zhao Guozhou, who had not appeared for two days. He was holding an A4-sized sheet. Clearly, it was the table of yesterday's listenership ratings.

Jia Yan quickly stood up, "Director."

Zhao Guozhou pressed his hand down, "Sit. I'll announce the ratings today."

"Oh, alright." Jia Yan sat down awkwardly.

Following that, Zhao Guozhou glanced at Zhang Ye. He had not interacted with Zhang Ye in public for a very long time. In fact, he had not even looked at Zhang Ye in front of others for the past few days.

However, for some unknown reason today, Zhao Guozhou had looked at him. His eyes were filled with a complex and deep meaning.

Zhang Ye was not sure if it was an illusion. He seemed to see joy and pleasure in Zhao Guozhou's eyes. Zhao Guozhou was the person who brought him in. He was his Bole. That day he had spoken with Zhao Guozhou privately that he would never forget this for life. But to say that he was not angry would be a lie. It was not the truth. Even though Director Zhao had repressed him due to pressure from the station's management, Zhang Ye still could not accept it emotionally. However, now that he saw the pleasure in Zhao Guozhou's eyes, Zhang Ye lost all of his anger. He nodded back at him.

There was a poem that was most appropriate for this.

We remain brothers despite all the vicissitudes and to have an unfaithful wife appearing... Hai, that's not right. It's: let's forgo our grudges by smiling when we meet again!

At this moment, Zhang Ye was even more curious about his listenership rating yesterday. Why would Director Zhao change so much today?

"First place, Wang Xiaomei. 'Talk About the World'." Zhao Guozhou spoke, "Listenership 3.66%. It has dropped compared to the past few days. Teacher Xiaomei, you might need to add something interesting to the segment. It can't be too dry. I heard the program yesterday; it seemed like you were resting on your laurels."

Wang Xiaomei nodded, "I'll improve on it today."

Zhao Guozhou laughed, "Actually this result is already very good. You are a pillar of our channel, so everyone naturally expects more from you."

"I understand." Wang Xiaomei remained humble.

"Next, second place." Zhao Guozhou shook the form in his hands.

At this moment, many people swallowed their saliva. For example, Jia Yan, Zhang Ye and Teacher Feng were extremely nervous.

"Entertainment Daily." Zhao Guozhou said.

A smile immediately beamed on Wu Datao's face. He had finally returned to second place. He had redeemed his previous disgrace! Tian Bin and Jia Yan also heaved a sigh of relief happily!

However, before a second of their happiness could pass, Zhao Guozhou's tone had a 180 degree turn. "Entertainment Daily, I want to criticize your segment team. Especially Wu Datao and Song Yan. You are the two hosting it these days, but the results are dropping every day. Your listenership rating was only 2.21%. Look at all the entertainment news articles you have been doing the past few days. What were they? Can it be more interesting? Is there any news that people are concerned about? Even if there is, it's all stuff that are scraps after other people have reported it comprehensively. Nothing in the news program shines. How are the reporters for your segment team gathering news leads? How are you announcers reporting it? There were slip-ups during the live broadcast. Do you still want to carry on in this business?"

Wu Datao immediately turned silent!

Zhao Guozhou said, "With today, your segment has been pushed out of second place for two consecutive days. Today, second place is not yours!"

It's not "Entertainment Daily"?

Then who was it? Whose program?

Everyone's eyes stared widely!

Zhao Guozhou announced, "Second place. Zhang Ye's 'Old and Young Story Club'. Listenership 2.45%!"

"Ah?"

"Aiyah!"

"It's 'Old and Young Story Club' again?"

"It's higher than yesterday's rating by 0.05%?"

"Is this going crazy? This segment is going into a craze!"

There were exclamations everywhere. Tian Bin and Jia Yan were both dumbfounded!

Teacher Feng also gave a disbelieving expression. It can't be! It can't be! Yesterday, it was due to the Education Ministry's promotion that caused the explosive increase! How did the listenership rating increase again today? Furthermore, it was a serialized fairy tale that no one thought was likely to succeed! Didn't all those predecessors and masters of children's fairy tales prove that fairy tales could not be serialized? Why could Zhang Ye manage it? Why was it possible when he did it?

Why?

No one understood!

Only Zhang Ye clenched his fists. It was like a heavy rock had been removed from his chest. Great! Not only did the listenership rating not drop, it had actually increased? Zhang Ye was quite surprised, but he knew the reason behind it. The power of "Little Bunnies Be Good" only showed its effect today. The second day's explosive increase was actually in the early stages. Only a tiny portion of people had surged it. However, yesterday and today was the climax of the promotion from the Education Ministry. The newspapers and television stations had reported on it. So although Zhang Ye's program was not mentioned, information on the internet easily obtainable and a search would allow everyone to know. Hence, when yesterday's new story was broadcast, a portion of audience who had just listened in for 'Little Bunnies Be Good' would have definitely left. However, at the same time, a surge of parents had appeared, attracted by the fame. This had caused the listenership rating to increase, instead of decreasing!

Of course, the most important reason was because of the story!

Zhang Ye did not make a wrong bet. "The Wizard of Oz", a story well-liked by all ages, had shown its miraculous effects. It had managed to hold on to many parents!

Zhao Guozhou lowered his hand, "Everyone, quiet down. I will first praise Teacher Little Zhang here. Back then, when he first took over 'Late-night Ghost Stories', we all knew that it was the worst segment

in our channel. It had always been first from the back. However, the first day Teacher Little Zhang took it over, the segment was pulled up to third place. It had created history among late-night programs. Later on, 'Old and Young Story Club' became the channel's worst segment. There was no improvement shown in its ratings over the years. And this time, with Little Zhang taking it over, the results are open for all to see. Second place. He went from the bottom to second place! Maybe 'Old and Young Story Club' will be taken off-air after today, but I think Teacher Little Zhang's diligent spirit is something worthy of learning! I wish to say something to everyone! Something that Teacher Little Zhang has taught us! He has used real action to prove it to us – there is no program that can't do well forever!"

Clasping the A4 paper, Zhao Guozhou took the lead to clap!

Bba Bba Bba. Teacher Feng was extremely exhilarated. His eyes were a bit wet as he clapped for Zhang Ye with all his strength. His hands turned red from clapping!

What a formidable rookie!

At this moment, many colleagues who had their reservations about Zhang Ye were completely convinced.

However, Jia Yan was in trouble. He was in a predicament. Why did the Leader's attitude change? What did this mean? To even publicly applaud Zhang Ye? To publicly praise Zhang Ye? Although Zhao Guozhou had previously said that "Old and Young Story Club" would end today, one had to take note that Zhao Guozhou's words were prefaced with the word "maybe". Maybe it would end today; then, could it also mean that it would not end?

The ratings were announced one after another.

As Zhao Guozhou was about to leave, Jia Yan rushed out into the corridor, "Director, then my program on Monday..."

Zhao Guozhou remained kindly to him, "Hehe, Little Jia. Let's talk about it tomorrow. I'm still busy over preparations for the Mid-Autumn Festival's Poetry Meet. I need to thoroughly supervise it. If there's anything you need, look for Old Xu." With that, Zhao Guozhou left while making a phone call on his cellphone.

Jia Yan stood alone in the corridor, clearly feeling a bit lonely.

Chapter 47: The Parents Are Revolting!

Recording studio #4.

Since there was no part where the audience called in, Zhang Ye did not get his assistant, Xiaofang, to help. He began to record his program for Sunday.

"Chapter 3: How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow."

"Dorothy leaned her chin upon her hand and gazed thoughtfully at the Scarecrow. Its head was a small sack stuffed with straw, with eyes, nose, and mouth painted on it to represent a face. An old, pointed blue hat that had belonged to some Munchkin was perched on his head, and the rest of the figure was a blue suit of clothes, worn and faded, which had also been stuffed with straw."

“Chapter 4: The Road Through the Forest.”

“So the Scarecrow led her through the trees until they reached the cottage. Dorothy entered and found a bed of dried leaves in one corner. She lay down at once and, with Toto beside her, soon fell into a sound sleep. The Scarecrow, who was never tired, stood up in another corner and waited patiently until morning came.”

After finishing the story for today, Zhang Ye looked at the time. He had reserved two minutes, so he quickly did the ending which did not seem like an ending. There was no other way out. Since the station did not give him any notice and the Leader did not say anything, Zhang Ye could only follow the original instructions to end his segment. “Children and our friends in the audience, that will be all for today’s segment. ‘Old and Young Story Club’ will also end today. This segment has gone on for many years. Here, I’ll thank everyone on behalf of Teacher Feng for the ongoing support. Although I have only taken over this segment for five episodes, I have extremely deep feelings for ‘Old and Young Story Club’. I have so many things I want to say in my heart that are so complex. Forget it, I won’t say it. Next week, there will be a new segment taking over, called ‘Soaring Youth’. Please support it.”

...

Office area.

Zhang Ye returned.

“You’ve wrapped it up?” Teacher Feng lamented.

Zhang Ye responded, “Wrapped up.”

Teacher Feng patted him on the shoulder, “It’s been tough on you.”

“It’s been tough on you, Teacher Little Zhang.” Big Sis Zhou, who did editing, gave him a thumbs up.

Xiaofang also looked towards him, “Teacher Zhang, you’ve worked hard. Teacher Feng, you’ve worked hard.”

This was customary. Every time a segment ended, everyone would say this. It was a form of farewell and was also to show respect for the long-term efforts of the Teachers.

Wang Xiaomei and others also said the same words to Teacher Feng and Zhang Ye.

Only Jia Yan did not say it. He couldn’t care less, as he was busy with his new segment. Although he had recorded the first two episodes for his program, he had not done the opening and ending. He was secretly writing a script. Why did he write a script secretly? Maybe it was because Zhang Ye never used a script. This was no secret in the entire Beijing Radio Station. Zhang Ye’s “feat” was often talked about. Zhang Ye was a newcomer and so was Jia Yan; hence, he did not want to lose to Zhang Ye psychologically. He was competitive!

Afternoon.

The last episode of “Old and Young Story Club” was broadcast.

Many office ladies were listening in to Zhang Ye's program. It seemed to have turned into a rule since yesterday. They all had children, but as parents, they would never find a good children's fairy tale that could educate their children excessive.

"The Scarecrow, who was never tired, stood up in another corner and waited patiently until morning came." This was the last sentence for today's "The Wizard of Oz".

When everyone heard this, they exclaimed.

"It can't be? It ended just like that?"

"The story ended? It hasn't! Isn't it finished!?"

"Isn't it a serialized four-chapter story that was to be broadcast over two days? Why did it end up like that? This can't be an ending. A new character has just appeared. Having saved the Scarecrow, the plot has not even developed!"

"F**k! There's still more?"

"There must be more stories that come after! It's not only four chapters long!"

Everyone finally understood it as they nearly fainted!

It was unknown who told Jia Yan. He immediately rushed back to the office when he was eating at the cafeteria. He angrily looked for Zhang Ye, "Teacher Zhang! What happened?"

Zhang Ye feigned ignorance, "What do you mean, 'what happened?'"

"What do you think!?" Jia Yan was flustered, "Why hasn't your program ended?"

Zhang Ye blinked, "It's already over. I even said the ending and even introduced your program."

"That's not the problem. I'm saying why are there more parts to the serialized story at the back!" Jia Yan was really furious.

Zhang Ye said, "I can't care about that. My story is that long. To speak the truth, not even today, it won't even be finished next week. There's a total of 20 more chapters in the series. How can I finish it today? Little Jia, I also want to tell a story that could be finished in two days, but unfortunately, I do not have one. I only came up with 'The Wizard of Oz' recently. There's no other way around it. After all, I independently created it. Short fairy tale stories aren't so easily created. Creating a work is not easy."

Not easy?

When you composed poems, when has it ever not been done in an impromptu fashion?

When you told ghost stories, when was it not done on the spot?

Original works may be very difficult for others, but it was definitely nothing for you!

Everyone knew Zhang Ye was doing it on purpose. He was wicked! It was too wicked! To leave such a good fairy tale story on a cliffhanger, how was Jia Yan to take over the slot!? Even if he could take it over, wouldn't he be cursed to death by the loyal listeners of "Old and Young Story Club"? Listeners were originally already unhappy about the ending of the Story Club, with many people saying they

would complain or smash windows. Well, maybe they were just speaking nonsense. If Zhang Ye had really finished his story for Story Club, then the end was the end. There was nothing much to it, as time could solve everything. However, now, Zhang Ye had not finished his story. It was a neutered state; wouldn't this be like blue balls? Wouldn't this incite the emotions of the listeners? There was nothing more wicked than this!

Zhang Ye's simple response had pushed it back at Jia Yan.

Jia Yan turned and left, "I'm not speaking to you, I'll go to the Leader!"

The moment he left, Teacher Feng felt both angry and happy, as he pointed towards Zhang Ye and whispered, "You kid, you sure are something." He laughed at the end.

Zhang Ye did not care about this. Were you going to bite me if I wanted to tell the story in such a manner?

After some time, Jia Yan returned. He had clearly not found the Leader, as he went back to his seat with a sulking face.

The situation had turned more complex. With the Leader not around and him remaining neutral, this matter was completely in a state of limbo. Furthermore, there were listeners of "Old and Young Story Club" already leaving curses on the Radio Station's official website. The broadcast of today's episode had caused quite a commotion!

"Holy shit! This is too damaging!"

"It's been neutered? It became neutered just like that?"

"Do not end it! This will take the lives of people!"

"My child has just heard four chapters! If I do not continue telling him the story tomorrow, the child will be rolling on the ground screaming! Teacher Zhang Ye, quickly carry on! Do not stop the broadcast!"

"What is the radio station doing!?"

"Teacher Zhang is so bad! He left an unfinished story for us?"

"What 'Soaring Youth'? We don't want to listen to it! Return to us our 'Old and Young Story Club'!"

"Right, return to us our 'Old and Young Story Club'! We only want to listen to this!"

"Let that 'Soaring Youth' die! Soaring, your sister! With 'The Wizard of Oz' not finished and stuck in the middle! What fart is it soaring!?"

"Soar, just jump off the building and you can fly!"

"Right, I really feel like jumping off a building! I'm not telling it to my children, as I'm not married yet. It's because I really love the story!"

There were even children who left messages. Now, children got into contact with advanced technology at a younger age. Thinking back, Zhang Ye only had a computer in high school. Now, children would already have access to that during elementary school. "Uncle Zhang Ye, don't leave. Please do not end it.

I want to hear the later parts of 'The Wizard of Oz'. This fairy tale is too good. Our school has even left homework for us to listen to your story!"

The response of the crowd was very "loud".

Not to mention others, even a few older ladies in the office could not accept it. Three ladies discussed before surrounding Zhang Ye's desk, "Little Zhang, you are too immoral. It's fine if your program is ending, but you must at least write out the later parts of the story for us. There's still another 20 more chapters, right? Quickly write. We are waiting!"

Zhang Ye smiled bitterly, "I'll try my best, sisters."

Big Sis Zhou said, "You can't try your best. You must write it well, or it's too aggravating!"

Suddenly, some parent had left a message on the radio station's website's comment section. It was titled, "Do not let the story end. Everyone come in and support." The content was, "Comrades, parents. Everyone probably knows that the Story Club is ending. The power of the masses is the greatest. Let us show our voice and let the radio station see it. Let 'Old and Young Story Club'" carry on with its broadcasting!"

There was a sea of responses beneath it!

"Support!"

"Support+1000!"

"Boycott 'Soaring Youth'!"

"Return the blue skies to the children!"

"Nowadays, there are already so few children's fairy tales. The only remaining children's program on the radio are the Beijing Radio Station's 'Old and Young Story Club'. We must not let the program end. The children still need this segment! The children need Teacher Zhang Ye's story! Prop it up!"

There were a countless number of messages. There were also many supporters.

It was just 2 P.M., which meant that in an hour, there were more than 1,500 messages left on the boards!

Radio, which was part of the old media, had already been largely replaced by new media. It had lost its glory days and did not have much of an audience. However, the controversy caused by this matter could make anyone, who looked at the radio station's website, mistakenly believe that they had returned to the 80's or 90's, when the radio was still having its absolute reign. The Big Brother status seemed to return. And the technology and equipment were not prepared for this. The large crowd that flocked to the Beijing Radio Station's website to show their support or curse had caused the website's server to nearly crash!

This was a big deal!

Zhang Ye and many colleagues never expected this. They all jumped from fright!

Chapter 48: The Program Won't Be Axed!

Monday.

Today was an important day. Zhang Ye woke up at 5 A.M. and could not return back to sleep. After tossing and turning, he reached the unit early. The office was still empty. There was not a single person. Editor Zhang who opened the doors had not arrived, so Zhang Ye had to go downstairs to the lobby to get the key to the Literature Channel, before he managed to enter the room.

He watched the news.

He checked his name.

He searched for comments for his program.

These were the three things Zhang Ye did every morning. A glance at the morning news was sufficient. The comments were mostly similar to those of yesterday. Either they were cursing that Zhang Ye was without morals by neutering the story, or they shouted to not have “Old and Young Story Club” end. Zhang Ye was mainly searching for his name and he was surprised to find out that in a day’s time, the number of searches for his name had reached a total of 16,000 times on the country’s biggest search engine website. Although it could not be compared to those A-list celebrities who had hundreds of thousands to millions of searches, it was still a sharp rise. Note that this was not the search numbers of Zhang Ye’s segments. It was also not for his fairy tales or novels, but the two words “Zhang Ye”.

“Ghost Blows Out the Light” having 10,000+ was no surprise, as there was nearly ten thousand searches every day!

The search numbers for “Little Bunnies Be Good” exceeding 10,000 was also no surprise. In fact, it had exceeded 110,000 the day before!

They were all searches, but the value of Zhang Ye’s name being searched was completely different. This meant that many listeners who had tuned into the programs had noticed the voice behind the radio, Zhang Ye. This was a mark of his growth in popularity. Zhang Ye’s ambition was to become this world’s greatest and most famous celebrity in the world. He knew how things worked in the industry. Following a particular work was just the beginning stages. It was just popularity on the surface and wasn’t as reliable. This was because once a piece of work “expired”, people will forget with time. Then this popularity on the surface would also dissipate, and not much popularity would be left. However, if people paid attention to a person, it was different. This had a much deeper meaning in terms of popularity than paying attention to a piece of work.

Once his popularity rose, even if it was negative, that was also considered fame. Zhang Ye could feel his dreams taking its initial steps, but it did not stop one bit. He was developing towards his goal with every second.

However, even though it was a good thing, he still could not feel happy.

This was because the fate of “Old and Young Story Club” was still unknown. If the program was axed, then he would not have a platform for him to disseminate his works. As such, he would not be able to carry on increasing his popularity using high-quality works. The little amount of popularity he had would not be able to be maintained for long before turning to naught in the end.

“Eh, Little Zhang, you’ve come?”

“Teacher Zhang, why are you so early today?”

At around 8 A.M., colleagues began reaching the unit.

Teacher Feng had also arrived early. After seeing Zhang Ye, their gazes crossed and after a greeting, no one said anything more. The both of them were aware. Teacher Feng was also waiting for a result. He wanted to see if Zhang Ye was able to create another historical miracle!

Quite a number of people were also discussing about this.

“Do you think the station will cancel the axing of ‘Old and Young Story Club’?”

“I’m pretty sure that won’t happen. Little Jia is, after all, a relative of Deputy Station Head Jia. Have you forgotten?”

“But now Teacher Little Zhang has made his program perform so well with listenership ratings in second place. If the station did not revoke the notification from before, how much pressure would they need to withstand?”

“That’s right. The listeners paralyzed our station’s official website with all the cursing!”

“That doesn’t mean that it won’t be axed. There has never been such a precedent.”

“Precedent? A late-night program had never reached the top three in the ratings. A children’s fairy tales segment has never reached second place in the ratings. Precedents are meant to be broken!”

“How would we know what the Leader is thinking? Let’s just wait and see.”

At this moment, Tian Bin had arrived. Jia Yan had also arrived. So no one carried on discussing this topic.

The office turned silent, as if everyone was watching Zhang Ye and Jia Yan. Everyone knew that this day belonged to them. It was the day of their battle!

At 9 A.M., Zhao Guozhou arrived punctually. It was clear that he had just arrived at the unit. His hand was still holding a bag. He did not return to his own office first and instead came to announce yesterday’s listenership ratings, “Almost everyone is here, right? Alright, then stop for a while. I’ll announce the listenership ratings.”

Everyone was very serious. Many people were curious about the listenership rating for yesterday’s “Old and Young Story Club”. Although Zhang Ye had succeeded in taking the risk of a serialization on his first day, it was not necessarily the case on the second day. Maybe the listeners did not realize that the story was a series, so they finished listening to it without a second thought. Maybe they would lose their patience on the second day when they realized that it was a serialization? These were all possible. So the rating was clearly crucial for the battle between Zhang Ye and Jia Yan today.

“First place. ‘Talk About the World’ listenership 3.81%.” Zhao Guozhou gave a very pleased look at Wang Xiaomei, “Teacher Xiaomei, well done. After telling you off that day, there was a significant improvement in the program yesterday. There were many new things. Hehe, I really liked that part about eating watermelons. Was that something you did on the spot?”

Wang Xiaomei smiled. “Yes.”

“Well said. Carry on maintaining it. I think breaking four percent on your listenership rating will not be too far off.” After Zhao Guozhou gave his praises, he looked down at the table, “Second place...”

It was unknown if it was intentional as he paused for a long time.

As everyone was looking, hoping to see through the form, Zhao Guozhou said, “Second place. ‘Old and Young Story Club’ listenership...” Again he stretched it out. “2.78%!”

Wow!

Everyone went into an uproar!

2.78%? What the f***!

You must be going mad! Is there anyone that can stop it?

One had to know that “Old and Young Story Club” only had zero point something listenership ratings a few days before. Even yesterday’s and the day before’s ratings were around 2.4%. Today, it had increased by slightly more than 0.3%? Didn’t this development mean that it was trending to break three? Holy ****! This was too amazing!

Many people drew in a mouthful of air!

According to the situation’s development, it would be very hard for “Entertainment Daily” to catch up with “Old and Young Story Club”. It would be a dream for the previous set-in-stone second place to regain the second spot. Uh, it could not be said that way either. This was because the Story Club was going to go off-air today. Without the program, there would not be a listenership rating. Thus, “Entertainment Daily” would regain its second spot without a fight...

Teacher Feng was the happiest. He grabbed Zhang Ye’s arm and clutched him tightly.

Zhang Ye was already mentally prepared for today’s listenership rating. The day before yesterday was “The Wizard of Oz”’s first day of serialization. He had carefully selected a fairy tale that would appeal to all ages, so as to retain many of the listeners who had come for “Little Bunnies Be Good”. The facts had proven that Zhang Ye had managed to do it. Not only had he done it, he had excelled, nearly achieving perfection. Yesterday was the second day of the serialization. Zhang Ye’s goal was not as simple as retaining the audience. Under the premise of creating a new audience base, his goal was to create a habit for people to listen in. By letting them wait for ‘Old and Young Story Club’ every day for the serialization, there was no way of catching up if one episode was missed. This was also a forceful method of making people accept the serialization of a fairy tale. Now, looking at the listenership ratings, Zhang Ye knew he had managed to do it!

As long as “Old and Young Story Club” was not axed, Zhang Ye had every reason to believe that the listenership ratings of “The Wizard of Oz” would keep increasing!

This was the benefit of a serialization!

This was the advantage of a serialization!

Zhao Guozhou did not praise Zhang Ye like yesterday. He said it in passing before announcing the rest of the listenership ratings. This ambiguous attitude made everyone even more baffled.

After he finished announcing, Zhao Guozhou did what he did yesterday. He left after turning around.

Jia Yan was also dazed. He was still thinking that Zhao Guozhou would say something. However, in the end, there was nothing. Like yesterday, he ran out to chase after him.

“Director!”

“Little Jia?”

“I want to talk to you. Do you have some time?”

“Sure. Follow me to my office.”

Once they left, Big Sis Zhou worried for Zhang Ye, “Little Zhang, you should go, too!”

“That’s right, that’s right!” Another person, Aunt Wang, chimed in, “You should quickly try to grasp an opportunity. Say something nice. Who knows if the Leader might change his mind!”

Previously, Zhang Ye was not popular with his colleagues. Firstly, he had offended the Leader. Secondly, he was new, so he hadn’t had much interaction with others. He did not know many people, which resulted in his poor social popularity. Now, through his fairy tale stories, Zhang Ye had at least managed to gain the liking of the five to six women in the office.

Furthermore, with Jia Yan being young and so aggressive that he did not show any respect for Teacher Feng on his first day, there were many older people who did not like him. As such, they slowly leaned towards Zhang Ye. They did not care that Zhang Ye cursed as he had back when he and Tian Bin cursed at each other on the internet. Tian Bin was a person who usually spoke badly of people behind their backs and since he was the person who first instigated the dispute and Zhang Ye was just reacting to it, it was understandable due to the extenuating circumstances.

Furthermore, no matter how much a jerk Zhang Ye was, he had never been disrespectful to the older people in the station. When had he never been polite when he met them? Just from this point, Zhang Ye was already in a much better position than Jia Yan in the hearts of the older people!

“There’s no need.” Zhang Ye did not go.

“You care about your face too much. Will lowering your head kill you?” Aunt Wang felt exasperated.

Zhang Ye was very clear of the situation, “I have done my things well. I have already put in my greatest efforts into it. The Leader’s decision was likely already decided some time ago. I also won’t be able to change it.”

Although he said so, the process was quite a torment.

Two hours passed since Jia Yan left, but still, he was not seen.

Zhang Ye repeatedly looked at his watch. He also went to the Leader’s office, but there was no one there. He returned to the office and asked an old editor, “Editor Xu, the afternoon’s program is about to begin soon. The Leader isn’t around either. What’s going on? What about today’s program?”

Editor Xu was also unsure what to do. He could not reach Director Zhao on the phone!

Finally as it was approaching noon, Zhang Ye asked, "What's going to happen?"

Editor Xu slapped his forehead, "Little Zhang, why don't you record it first?"

"It can't be recorded anymore. It can only be broadcast live since it's this late." Zhang Ye pointed to his watch.

Editor Xu bit his tongue, "Then let's do a live broadcast. You take the reins. We'll speak after the live broadcast is over!"

Zhang Ye agreed and immediately called for his assistant, "Xiaofang, quickly reserve a live broadcast studio. The faster, the better." He picked up a bottle of mineral water to moisten his throat before setting off.

...

12 o'clock.

Zhang Ye pushed the volume button, "Hello listeners. Due to some special reasons and circumstances, today's program will still be 'Old and Young Story Club'. Let me tell everyone the fifth chapter of "The Wizard of Oz", The Rescue of the Tin Woodman."

...

Zhang Ye managed to finally finish his program's live broadcast. He returned to the office from the live broadcasting studio at 1 P.M. Only then did he see Jia Yan, who was silent.

When Jia Yan saw Zhang Ye, he had raised his head, but then quickly bowed his head to carry on typing on the computer. He no longer had the aggressive air that he had on his first day.

Zhang Ye roughly understood what had happened. He walked towards Teacher Feng, "Our program won't be axed?"

Teacher Feng whispered, "No talk about not axing, but Director Zhao did not say a word despite knowing you were broadcasting live. His intention is to let us carry on broadcasting. The station has not mentioned anything about axing the program anymore."

Zhang Ye heaved a sigh of relief, as if a burden had been lifted, "Teacher Feng, I finally did not disappoint you. I managed to keep the program!"

Teacher Feng squeezed his shoulder, "I won't be coming to the unit tomorrow. You have given me a big gift before I leave! Thank you!"

"To think you have to say that. It's what should have happened. I also do not wish for the program to end." Zhang Ye said.

Tian Bin was secretly burning with anger. How could it be!? The Leader really tolerated him?

Wu Datao could not accept it. The station really did not axe the program? They really were letting Zhang Ye do what was deemed an impossible task?

Everyone saw this and felt mixed emotions. The past few days were too dramatic.

Thinking back to the day when Zhang Ye declared his bold words, saying that “Old and Young Story Club” would not be axed, none of them had believed him. No one treated him seriously. But by giving Zhang Ye five days, just five days of programming was enough for Zhang Ye to complete a startling reversal. He had managed to change a segment that was dead last to a legendary myth in terms of ratings. The results were so stunning that the station’s management could not say anything!

A young person’s abilities must be respected!

A new generation was replacing the old!

This made people begin to realize that maybe one needed to bow one’s head or compromise at work, but in front of absolute ability and results, many intrinsic beliefs appeared laughable. Jia Yan was an example. So what if he was the Station’s Leader’s relative? A segment that was decided on could still fail to go on air! It similarly could not replace Zhang Ye’s segment. Jia Yan had to queue up obediently in the station! Why? This was because Zhang Ye had handed in a result that no one else could hand in! “Old and Young Story Club” had received second place in the Literature Channel! Its rating was at the tenth place in the entire Beijing Radio Station! Coupled with “Late-night Ghost Stories” being fourth in the Literature Channel and 19th in the entire station! There was no one who could move Zhang Ye’s position in the radio station!

This time, Zhang Ye had really rooted himself. He had laid a deep foundation through his hard work and determination!

Chapter 49

As he had applied for leave, he was taking a day off today.

He had recorded one additional episode yesterday, so with the crisis alleviated, Zhang Ye remained at home to sleep.

He remained lazing in bed, even when it was already 10 o’clock. He began watching television in bed, switching to one channel after another. Suddenly, Zhang Ye’s hand stopped, as he quickly adjusted the television’s volume. It seemed to be scenes recorded from last night. It was a press conference of a new movie release. The name was familiar; it was called “White Maiden 2”. He remembered the day that the game ring had changed his world; one of the first things he had seen on the television’s news were the words “White Maiden”. It was produced by one of the more famous directors, Wu Bang, in this world. Its box office sales were very high and now its sequel was being released.

Why was Zhang Ye so concerned about it?

There was only one reason. The movie’s female lead was too beautiful!

When Zhang Ye’s eyes swept across the television, his eyes had remained fixated on her. This world also had many superstar Heavenly Queens. This person was probably the prettiest celebrity Zhang Ye had seen in this world. Right, maybe it should be said that she was most fitting to what he considered the aesthetic of a beautiful celebrity.

Wang Xiaomei?

Tian Bin’s wife?

None of them could compare with her beauty!

The only person who could compare was probably Rao Aimin. If the landlady had worn something more fashionable, then the two might be comparable.

On the screen, the press conference had ended. Zhang Yuanqi* was surrounded by reporters. Even the famous director, Wu Bang, did not stir up such a fuss.

“Sis Zhang, what are your expectations of the box office sales?”

“Teacher Zhang, I heard that you were injured during the filming process?”

“Can you tell us the plot of the new movie? Has there been any changes with the prequel?”

“Sis Zhang, your new song has had unsatisfactory results once again. Are you planning not to develop in the music industry from now on? To focus on your movie career?”

The journalists began rattling off their questions like a machine gun.

The onscreen Zhang Yuanqi smiled very amiably. She did not seem to have any airs, “Ask one by one; I will definitely answer them. Well, I definitely hope so! The higher the box office sales, the better, but I will need everyone’s support. I can’t reveal the plot, or else it’s pointless for everyone to watch. Hurhur. As for my injury, sorry for worrying everyone. Thank you very much. It’s already alright. It was just a superficial wound. A bandage healed it the second day after being wounded. It was just exaggerated when the news spread out. It’s not considered an injury.”

“Teacher Zhang!”

“Do you have any plans for a new film this year?”

“I’ve heard that you will be one of the judges for the upcoming Golden and Silver Microphone Broadcaster Choice Awards?”

Zhang Yuanqi said in a pleasant manner, “There might be a new film being recorded at the end of the year. As for being a judge... You sure keep abreast with the news. I’ve indeed been invited. My manager is still checking my schedule; if there is no event that cannot be postponed, I will definitely be there.”

The journalists carried on their siege, as they tailed her from behind.

Zhang Ye was not sure of Zhang Yuanqi’s age. She looked like she was about thirty years old. She was this world’s Heavenly Queen and was also an S-list superstar. She had won the country’s most authoritative Best Female Lead and Best Supporting Actress awards more than once. A few of her previous songs had even received the Golden Melody Award. She was a celebrity that was involved in several lines of work. If one compared fame and popularity, Zhang Yuanqi was probably ranked in the top five in the country. She would be described as a Heavenly Queen figure amongst Heavenly Queens. Although she was not considered very old, she had a lot of experience. She had debuted very early. In the entertainment industry, Zhang Yuanqi was considered a Big Sister. According to hierarchy, many newcomers would have to address her as Master Aunt. Zhang Yuanqi was pretty and famous. What was most critical was that she was easygoing and elegant. Hence, her position in the entertainment circle was extremely high. She was also very well-liked.

Look at her looks!

Look at her achievements!

Look at her temperament!

Zhang Ye knew that he could not envy her. He did not have her looks, so he could only rely on his hard work. And his hard work was based on what? The game ring was the greatest reliance he had!

Noon.

Zhang Ye ate instant noodles again. He opened the game ring on his finger to check his overall Reputation. There was a total of 230,000 points. Firstly, some of these were accumulated from some time ago. Secondly, some of the Reputation points were earned from the past two days of "Late-night Ghost Stories" and "Old and Young Story Club". Although "Old and Young Story Club" was not that much higher than "Late-night Ghost Stories" in terms of listenership ratings, the former still brought more than double the Reputation points to Zhang Ye than the latter. After all, a late-night program was now a mainstream program, while "Old and Young Story Club" had already become Zhang Ye's center of attention.

He could draw at the Lottery again.

Zhang Ye was only prepared to draw at it once. He needed to leave some Reputation points in reserve, so as to allow him to buy a "Memory Search Capsule" in the event of an unexpected turn of events. After taking this into consideration, Zhang Ye opened the Lottery interface!

He spent 100,000 Reputation points!

The Lottery began! The needle spun!

This time, Zhang Ye was still looking forward to drawing something from the Stats Category or the Skills Category. His luck was too terrible; he had not drawn from either of them, not even once. Of course, it would be even better if he got something from the Special Category.

Skills Category...

Stats Category...

Consumption Category...

The needle slipped past one category after another!

One time around! Five times around! Ten times around!

Zhang Ye began chanting, "Skills! Skills!" Suddenly, he shouted again, "Aiyah, why did it go past! It missed by just a bit!"

Bada!

He had hit the Consumption Category once again!

Zhang Ye let it be. Since it was a Consumption Category, then so be it. After all, this category took up half the area of the Lottery. Besides, the previous Consumption Category items had helped him a lot.

The Consumption Category's Treasure Chest (Small) automatically entered his inventory. Zhang Ye took it out and placed it on the desk. Then he opened the lid! The chest opened! The familiar gold beams flashed! A pink-colored sachet appeared in the Treasure Chest!

[Cupid Sachet] : Effective once it is worn. Increases the player's luck with the opposite s*x for five minutes!

Luck with the opposite sex?

There was an item that actually increased luck with the opposite sex?

Zhang Ye was quite happy. Unfortunately, it was a one-time expendable item. If he could obtain the rights through the Special Category to buy it in the Merchant Shop, then it would be excellent. He could buy an unlimited number of these. Then with it, would he need to worry about having a wife? Wouldn't buying it and having an uninterrupted 24-hour period of using the Cupid Sachet be so good? Hai, but that was just a thought. Furthermore, he still did not know how the item worked. Zhang Ye understood what the word Cupid meant, but he did not know its actual effects.

He hung the sachet around his neck!

Ping. Item has been used. Countdown Begins!

Seeing the virtual game interface's effective time countdown, Zhang Ye sat in his seat waiting. However, nothing had happened!

Where was his luck with females?

Why was there no reaction?

Only when there were two minutes left remaining did Zhang Ye realize what was going on. Oh no, he was too naive! It was similar to the Unlucky Halo. If no one had offended him to trigger the Unlucky Halo's effects after it was activated, then the Unlucky Halo would not do a thing. Similarly, the Cupid Sachet probably was the same. Now that he was alone at home with not even a female around, how was he to have good luck with females? He had to at least first meet a female. Would waiting at home have a girl send herself to his doorstep?

Ke La!

There were the sounds of keys coming from outside!

Dong. Ka. It seemed like someone was stabbing keys into Zhang Ye's door. But no matter what, the person could not open the door. The person outside seemed angry, as that person began kicking on the door!

"Who is it!" Zhang Ye went over with a darkened expression.

The person outside did not speak, as the person carried on inserting the key.

Zhang Ye opened the door, "Stop screwing around! Who is it?"

The moment the door opened, the smell of alcohol came surging over. It nearly caused Zhang Ye to topple backwards. It was too strong. Looking up, it was a woman. She was wearing a pair of wide aviator

sunglasses. She looked somewhat familiar, but he could not recall where he had seen her. Zhang Ye only knew that this drunken woman was someone he did not know. The woman clearly had drunk too much. She was still stabbing the empty air with her keys, despite Zhang Ye having opened the door. She was not standing firmly, while wearing her nude-colored heels!

Eh?

Could this be the good luck with females?

Ha! The Cupid Sachet had really sent a woman to his doorstep?

"Have you gotten the wrong door?" However, Zhang Ye did not dare to accept this good fortune in love. She was drunk and he was still not clear what was going on.

The woman dizzily stared at him, "Who are you? What.. are you doing in my house?"

Zhang Ye was at a loss as to whether to laugh or cry, "Big Sis, this is my house. Where do you live? I'll send you home." However, the moment he saw the key in the woman's hand, Zhang Ye turned speechless. The keys looked very complicated and it was easy to tell at a glance that it was for a high-grade door lock. There was even an access card, so clearly she did not live in his district.

The woman squeezed into the room without standing on ceremony. She also did not listen to Zhang Ye's words, "You.. are my mom's.. cleaner, right? Got.. it!"

You are the cleaner!

Your whole damned family are cleaners!*

She nearly stumbled as she missed her footing.

Zhang Ye quickly rushed to hold her, "Look carefully; this is really my house! Who are you?"

The woman sneered, "I.. You don't.. know?" As she spoke, she took off her sunglasses. She didn't manage to do so on her first attempt. It took her a second attempt before succeeding.

However, with the sunglasses removed, Zhang Ye was so shocked that his jaw nearly dropped off. Only then did he realize why he found the girl very familiar, even though she was someone that he did not know. Behind the sunglasses was a flawless face. That earth-shattering beauty immediately made Zhang Ye recall!

Zhang Yuanqi!

Wasn't this the Zhang Yuanqi that he had been watching all morning on television!?

Zhang Ye was dumbfounded about how she had managed to make the mistake of coming to his house. Only then did he realize that this was definitely the magical effect of the Cupid Sachet. Or else, how could this be a coincidence? The top S-list big shot in the country had managed to reach his home in a drunken stupor? Even novels weren't that ridiculous! However, with the sachet's effect, it had managed to happen! Zhang Ye did not know what to feel!

Are all the items in the game ring so powerful?

* Zhang Yuanqi's surname, Zhang is different from Zhang Ye's Zhang.

* This is a popular Chinese slang in the form "You're the one XXX! Your whole damned family XXX!". It came from "My Own Swordsman" character, Mo Xiaobei. The original text goes along the lines of someone saying to Mo Xiaobei, "Mo Xiaobei, you are a child who matured early!", before Mo Xiaobei replies "You're the one who is maturing early! Your whole damned family is maturing early!"

Chapter 50: The Heavenly Queen's Personality Can't Be That Bad!

Afternoon.

Zhang Ye's house was in a mess.

"Give me.. water."

"Getting me to get water for you?"

"...Thirsty!"

"Alright, wait...Hai! Don't vomit on the floor!"

Zhang Ye was in a panic and felt grossed out. He quickly dragged Zhang Yuanqi, who had just vomited, to the bathroom. Opening the toilet lid, the reeling Zhang Yuanqi vomited inside.

As she vomited, Zhang Yuanqi's body slumped to the ground. Even her clothes had some vomit!

Zhang Ye said loudly, "Big Sis? Big Sis?"

Zhang Yuanqi did not make a sound. She had fallen soundly asleep.

Noticing the situation, Zhang Ye had no other way but to endure the grossness as he bent down and lifted up the dirty Zhang Yuanqi into the room.

At this moment, the Cupid Sachet's effective time was up!

Zhang Ye felt like crying. That was the five minutes he got with good luck with the females?

He did not have the opportunity to complain. The smell in the room was terrible. Zhang Ye opened the windows to ventilate the room, as he pinched his nose and entered the bathroom to get a mop to wipe the floor. Then he cleaned the vomit in the bathroom.

What should he do?

Zhang Ye smacked himself in the forehead. He went to the landlady's house, but no matter how long he knocked on the door, no one came out. Rao Aimin had not seemed to be at home for the past few days. Finding a female neighbor? That wouldn't do. The rooms here were all rented. The people that lived here were a bit unruly; and what sort of status and fame did Zhang Yuanqi have? If this was made known, her popularity would definitely take a hit. The Heavenly Queen always appeared so graceful on television, so this was not to be made known to others!

Returning home.

Zhang Ye poured a glass of warm water and brought it to her, "Sis, drink some. Didn't you say you were thirsty? Here, open your mouth."

It was unknown if Zhang Yuanqi heard it as she moved her mouth.

Zhang Ye took the opportunity to pour the water in. There was some water that spilled onto the bed. Hai.

After suffering till 4 P.M., Zhang Ye managed to tidy up the room. Finally, the gross smell was gone. He was tired enough, as he fell asleep on the chair.

One hour...

Three hours...

When Zhang Ye opened his eyes, the sky was already dark. Looking at his watch, it was already 10 P.M.!

Ring, Ring, Ring. The Heavenly Queen's cellphone kept ringing. So it was her phone that had woken him up.

Then Zhang Yuanqi's body also moved. She let out a very long tone as she rubbed her eyes. Suddenly she sat up, "Oh?"

Zhang Ye immediately stood up while rubbing his eyes, "You have finally woken up!"

Zhang Yuanqi's beautiful eyes looked coldly at the room's environment, before staring right into Zhang Ye's eyes. Her tone was blunt, "Who are you?"

Zhang Ye said, "My name is Zhang Ye, I'm..."

Zhang Yuanqi abruptly interrupted, "Why am I here?" Checking her clothes, she looked up, "I'm giving you a minute to explain!"

Your sister!

To think you are angry?

Zhang Ye said, "Big Sis, shouldn't I be asking you this? I was in my room, minding my own business, but there you were using your key to stab my door. After you entered, you threw up on my floor. It took me two hours to clean up the mess!"

Zhang Yuanqi frowned, "What did I say in the afternoon to you?"

"It was all nonsense. Then you fell asleep." Zhang Ye said.

Zhang Yuanqi asked again, "Do you recognize me?"

"Zhang Yuanqi, right? I've seen you on television." Zhang Ye said honestly.

After about ten minutes, Zhang Ye managed to explain the situation to her. She had gone to the wrong house in her drunken stupor.

"What happened in the afternoon should only be known by you. Don't tell anyone, alright?" Zhang Yuanqi said without explaining herself.

Zhang Ye nodded, "Sure. I'm not a gossip person. Then, now you should..."

Zhang Yuanqi lowered her head and sniffed her clothes. Her eyebrows knitted and her expression turned sullen, "Give me some female clothes; I'll leave once I change."

Zhang Ye said helplessly, "Why would there be female clothes in my house?"

Zhang Yuanqi said impolitely, "You can buy it outside."

"It's almost 11 P.M. Which mall is still open?" Zhang Ye rummaged through a closet and threw her a pair of pajamas. "This should get you through."

Zhang Yuanqi's eyebrows ticked.

"I'm going to the bathroom. You change here." Zhang Ye went into the bathroom and hid himself there. After a few minutes, he asked, "Are you done changing?"

"Yes!" A lukewarm response sounded.

Zhang Ye came out and saw the clothes that she had taken off had been placed on the bed. "Shall I wash it for you?"

Zhang Yuanqi said yes with a deadpan expression, "Leave it in the dryer for a while to dry it faster."

Zhang Ye was thinking how much she did not stand on ceremony. "I don't have a dryer, but I can try using a hairdryer." After he went through the motions of blowing on it with the hairdryer, he hung up her clothes.

Coming out, her majesty Zhang Yuanqi was sitting on a small sofa, with her legs crossed in an elegant fashion. "Little Zhang, right? Get me something to eat. I'm a bit hungry."

Zhang Ye, "..."

"Alright?" Zhang Yuanqi exhorted.

Hai, forget it. She was, after all, a superstar!

Zhang Ye took out the last egg in his house, "I'll make a poached egg for you." This was a studio, so the kitchen was also in the house. Zhang Ye expertly turned on the fire, poured oil and sprinkled green onions. After the oil heated up, he cracked the egg into it. Knowing that the Heavenly Queen was waiting for her meal, Zhang Ye did not resist. He did it proudly. He was a man, after all. To be able to show off in front of a woman tends to give them a sense of accomplishment.

The egg was done!

Zhang Ye presented the plate, "It's done!"

Zhang Yuanqi looked at the plate, "Are you sure that you can cook?"

"Of course. You sure are funny. If I don't know how to cook, who can?" Zhang Ye said mockingly.

Zhang Yuanqi asked, "Then tell me why the color of the egg on the plate is this color? Also, why am I smelling a burnt smell?"

Zhang Ye waved his finger with confidence and dragged the plate towards her. "That's because you don't understand. One glance and I know you can't cook. This is a new method of cooking. I did it on purpose. This is to fully express the flavor of the egg and to extract the fragrance of the egg to its fullest extent. The fire needs to be big, hence resulting in this color. Hai, you won't understand. Such a superstar like you must have never eaten authentic street-side chicken eggs!"

Zhang Yuanqi looked at him silently.

Zhang Ye coughed and finally threw the egg into the rubbish bin dejectedly, "Alright, I messed up!" How could this rascal know how to cook!?

Zhang Yuanqi continued sending short messages with a deadpan expression.

"My house only has instant noodles. I'm also hungry. Do you want to eat it with me?" Zhang Ye asked for her opinion.

"...Do I have any other choices?" Zhang Yuanqi said in a lukewarm manner.

Hei, you sure are a big shot, to be picky with your meals! Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. He began boiling water to make the instant noodles. Each person had a bowl of noodles.

"I'm not going to care about you. I'll eat first." Zhang Ye was extremely hungry.

Zhang Yuanqi put down her cellphone and looked very unhappily at the bowl of instant noodles. Finally, she picked it up and frowned as she ate it.

Zhang Ye was having a good time eating, "It's delicious, right?"

Zhang Yuanqi, "...Have never eaten anything else?"

"It's not delicious? Uh, then you'll have to make do. Other than instant noodles, my house has nothing else." Zhang Ye said.

"When will my clothes dry?"

"The weather isn't very hot now. It will probably take four to five hours?"

"Then I still need to live in your house tonight?"

"You can wear my pajamas and leave."

"Were you joking with me? I don't find it funny at all!"

Zhang Ye also did not find it funny. What good luck with females? He had seen through it. There was all sorts of bad luck befalling him today. What good luck with females? Clearly an Empress Dowager had arrived! Thinking of the Zhang Yuanqi on television, she was so elegant and gentle. She was kind and warm to others. She remained patient and answered all the journalists who surrounded her. She was unusually friendly with her fans!

But now, what had happened?

Can someone tell me what had happened?

Who is this person? Why has her personality changed by 180 degrees!?

Zhang Ye's impression of the female goddess, Zhang Yuanqi, in his mind was shattered. My Heavenly Queen's personality can't be that bad! Something was definitely wrong!