

Superstar 831

Chapter 831: Seeking Zhang Ye's help!

On his cell phone.

The chat group notifications were going off like crazy.

Chen Guang: "Director Zhang is so popular that he no longer has any friends."

Little Dong (Dongzi): "In the past when they said that Zhang Ye wasn't very sociable, I still gave him the benefit of doubt. So it seems the rumors are true after all, and it's even worse than I expected? Teacher Zhang, I'd really like to know how you've managed to survive for the past two years!"

Fan Wenli: "*laughs*"

Zhang Ye typed out unashamed: "I don't really know, but there are always people who find me unlikeable and keep opposing me. They even try to bully me and that makes me so infuriated!"

Ning Lan was quite speechless at that. "But why does it look like you're the one who is bullying them instead?"

Zhang Ye: "..."

Chen Guang: "Hahahaha!"

Fan Wenli also sent an eye-rolling emoji. "Who can bully you, Director Zhang? Once the people in the industry hear your name, they all avoid you immediately!"

Zhang Ye just replied: "Oh, give me a break."

Liao Henan: "What Wenli says is true. Teacher Little Han from Zhejiang Television is also considered one of the top hosts in the industry, but when I had a chat with her on the phone yesterday, she told me that her new show has been rescheduled. It shifted from the Friday primetime slot to a later time after 9 PM on the same day, all that just to avoid clashing with A Bite of China's broadcast. Even a big satellite station like Zhejiang Television is avoiding your documentary, and it should be the same for the other television stations as well."

Huo Dongfang: "The future is ominous for Old Fan's and my show."

Zhang Ye was also quite embarrassed by this. Although he didn't like Rise to the Dance, and he was also biased against Central TV Department 1 as well as Xu Yipeng and Chen Ye, towards an A-list celebrity like Huo Dongfang, he actually did not have anything against him. Even if they had only met once before, there were no grudges between them.

Fan Wenli: "Old Huo, let's 'get' him next time."

Huo Dongfang laughed: "We must definitely do so."

Naturally, Zhang Ye did not raise any objections to that.

At this moment, Ning Lan said: "Zhang Ye, the next time you have a good show like this, if it's a variety show, remember to save me a spot on your show. I've got a little brother in my management agency, one of the juniors who I get along better with, but he hasn't been able to get a breakthrough all this while."

Zhang Ye thought about it before replying: "Sure, but I don't think I'll be doing any variety shows for a while."

Ning Lan: "There's no rush. It's all in the future. We can always talk about it again later."

Zhang Ye: "Sure."

Suddenly, Dongzi said: "Teacher Zhang, I would like to ask you for a favor too."

Zhang Ye: "What is it?"

Dongzi sent a blushing emoji and asked: "My cousin's son who is around my age is in his third year of high school. He'll be taking the college entrance exam next year and wants to apply for a university in Beijing, specifically Tsinghua or Peking University. I've asked around to see if something could be arranged, but have not heard anything favorable so far. Since you're an associate professor at Peking University, do you think you could help?"

Zhang Ye returned with all seriousness: "What are his results like?"

Dongzi replied: "He has particularly good results, it's just that his household is registered under a city in the northwest. The admissions quota for Tsinghua and Peking University over there is limited and can even be very low, so even if his results are one of the top, he still might not qualify."

Zhang Ye asked again: "Which department does he want to apply to then?"

Dongzi: "Any science departments will do, as long as he can qualify for either of the universities."

Understanding the situation, Zhang Ye replied: "Alright then, as long as he's not picky about the department and he can hit the cutoff score for Peking University next year, I'll put in a word for him. I'll get whichever department has more places to reserve a spot for him. There won't be a need to depend on the provincial quota for admissions that way then."

Dongzi sent a grinning face. "Thank you so much!"

Zhang Ye: "It's nothing."

Dongzi: "It's not nothing. I've asked so many people but none of them could do anything for me."

Zhang Ye: "It will still have to depend on him getting the results to qualify for the cutoff score. Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to help either." If the results didn't hit the cutoff score and there was no subject that the applicant particularly excelled in, then even if Zhang Ye were to make a recommendation, the Peking University admissions board would definitely not want to make a concession.

Zhang Ye did not know Dongzi's real name, but most people called her Dongzi or Dongdong, which was her stage name. She was a female celebrity who was more popular than Zhang Ye and ranked at the top

of the B-list celebrity rankings, quite a few places higher than him. She was around the same age as Zhang Ye, or could be a little older than him, but his impression of her was that she was baby-faced and looked a little young, like she was still in her teens. The group she led was comprised of a trio of girls and was considered one of the more famous idol groups in Chinese entertainment. Their main activities included singing, dancing, making movies, acting in television dramas, taking part in charity events, and many other things. Although their singing, dancing, and acting skills were average, this idol group had the looks, which was enough for them to succeed. Together with their management's relentless marketing, Dongzi's group had become very popular throughout China and also made quite a name for themselves around Asia. Their fan demographics covered almost all of the men. There were also a lot of female fans!

It was always good if you looked pretty!

Zhang Ye was very envious of that. Just look at them, did they have to suffer and slowly climb up the popularity charts like him?

He was envious of these celebrity idols, but little did he realize that many of these celebrity idols were also especially envious of him. For example, those from Dongzi's group knew that even if they continued to work hard and promote themselves, no matter how popular they got, their fans' attitude to them would just stay at the level of idolizing and fan mania. They would never ever be able to earn the deep respect and admiration that Zhang Ye's fans gave to him—and these could never be earned with just their looks and figures!

This was also the reason why Zhang Ye was added to the "Celebrity Goof Group" even though they didn't usually add new members. In certain areas, Zhang Ye had really reached the peak of perfection. Even though most of the chat group participants were more popular than Zhang Ye, none of them dared to underestimate him. Even those celebrities who were the most proud and arrogant had to admit that they couldn't do the things that Zhang Ye had done!

Like forfeiting an award!

Like beating up a leader!

Like suing Central TV!

Like scolding the SARFT!

And in doing so, no one could do anything about his actions, so wouldn't this be considered a skill as well? Moreover, to all the celebrities in the entertainment industry, this ability was extremely heaven defying!

After chatting for about half an hour, Zhang Ye had already blended in with their group and it became easier to freely express himself. From time to time, some chat group lurkers or those who had just come online would join the chat.

An A-list celebrity said: "We have a new member?"

A certain top B-list celebrity: "Isn't that Zhang Ye?"

"Welcome!" It was from a director who was in the B-list rankings.

In this group, there were no ordinary people at all. Not even Chen Ye who was a host of the Spring Festival Gala could join this group, so it would be silly to say that any one of these participants were simple people. For example, this popular director was someone who Zhang Ye had long since heard about. He did not expect that he would actually pop up to welcome him. Usually, a director's job scope was kept to the behind the scenes things. Zhang Ye was also in this occupation, so he understood very well that if a director could climb up into the B-list celebrity rankings, it would mean that he had a very big reputation. Although this director made movies, he would also sometimes take part in the acting by taking on the lead role himself. But without a doubt, his main source of popularity had come from the movies that he directed. In the domestic entertainment industry, he was one of the biggest name directors around, with very strong qualifications. One-fifth of the people in this group had worked with him before and one-tenth of the group were made popular by him.

They were all big shots!

Dongzi: "Teacher Zhang doesn't have a management agency yet, right?"

Zhang Ye: "Not yet."

Dongzi: "Our agency is quite good. Someone got me to ask you if you would like to consider joining us?"

Zhang Ye: "Sorry, but I have no plans at the moment. It's easier to manage on my own. Besides, I doubt any agencies would dare sign me."

Liao Henan: "You don't even have a manager?"

Zhang Ye: "Not for now."

Liao Henan was exasperated by that. "You're really..." He did not complete his thought.

Chen Guang helped him speak up. "He's never done things the usual way anyways. Wenli and I have already gotten used to it."

Dongzi: "Teacher Zhang is really carefree, unlike the group of us. We have the burden of feeding our team and take into account every decision that we make because of them. But Teacher Zhang has no such worries at all. I'm so envious of you."

Zhang Ye: "I might have freedom, but everything is handled by me. I have to look for my own work and sign my own endorsements. When things happen, I still have to handle the emergency PR by myself, unlike you guys who have a company to back you up. There are so many things that I have to do on my own, so I don't really have that much freedom either as compared to you."

Fan Wenli: "The grass is always greener, I guess. But I still suggest that you get yourself a manager to handle matters for you. This wouldn't restrict your freedom anyway. Just get a family member or a friend, as long as it's someone you trust. When I just debuted, I had my younger sister take care of matters for me."

Zhang Ye: "But the main issue is that I have no one in mind. I'll think about it again later."

Manager?

This could be seriously considered since there wouldn't be a management agency involved. As long as the manager was directly employed by Zhang Ye himself, he wouldn't be restricted by anything. However, the question of who to appoint was still a problem. He would first have to get someone he trusted; he couldn't just hire anyone he didn't know. The candidate would have to be capable, have good insight, and also needed to have time on their hands. In his circle of friends, he could only think of Rao Aimin who would fit the bill as only she was free enough to do it. But that Old Rao was such a scammer. Back then, she said that she would entrust Chenchen to him for at most a month, but it had already been fucking half a year now and she was still not back yet. God knew what urgent matter she was dealing with. This made Zhang Ye writhe in anger.

After chatting for a while more, Zhang Ye finally said: "I'll be going off now. There's still an awards ceremony to attend tonight, so I have to go prepare."

"It's that prestigious National Television Awards, right?"

"A Bite of China will definitely win."

"Good luck."

Chapter 832: Lei Feng's famous quote!

At night.

The new episode of A Bite of China started broadcasting.

At the same time, the National Television Awards ceremony was also convened. The most prestigious awards ceremony for television shows was not as grand as those awards ceremonies held for movies and music and it wasn't usually broadcast live either, nor would it be broadcast at all. Therefore, even if the invited guests did dress up for the ceremony, they would not come in full formal dress.

Yan Tianfei arrived together with Zhang Ye, accompanied by Assistant Directors Ha Qiqi and Zhang Zuo. They were all here to represent A Bite of China's production team.

"Old Yan!"

"Hey, Old Yang."

"Your Department 14 has gotten really popular this time!"

"No way, how can we possibly be more popular than your Jiangsu Television?"

"Teacher Zhang Ye, it's been a while. Have you prepared your acceptance speech for the award?"

"Hai, the award is not even confirmed yet."

"Oh, come on. Your show stands the highest chance of winning."

Yan Tianfei started chatting with his old friend.

Zhang Ye was also exchanging a few words with some acquaintances he knew. When he spotted Dong Shanshan and Hu Fei, he went over to talk with them. He said with a smile, "Do You Remember has been nominated too?"

Hu Fei laughed. "It's just a nomination."

Dong Shanshan also smiled and replied, "For us, we're just here to have fun. This is the most prestigious awards ceremony in the TV industry, so it's good enough to just be nominated for the most popular television show award."

Zhang Ye then eyed Xu Yipeng and Chen Ye. The executives of Central TV Department 1, such as Jiang Yuan and the others, did not attend the ceremony. Only the people in charge of the Rise to the Dance program team were in attendance. At this year's awards ceremony, Rise to the Dance was still quite an opponent even though A Bite of China had outshone it. However, as A Bite of China was not a variety show, they did not have to worry that it would compete against them in their award category.

The guests and nominees gradually arrived.

There were people from Central TV and other provincial satellite television stations. This included numerous hosts, directors, and producers. A total of 300-odd people filled up the entire venue.

Everyone got seated.

The opening speech was made.

Following, the ceremony advanced to the announcement of the awards.

The ceremony's host announced with a smile, "Before the awards ceremony begins, let me first introduce our very important guest presenter for today." Referring to the cue cards, the host said, "Let us welcome the Deputy Chief of the SARFT...Madam Wu Zeqing! Welcome, Chief Wu!"

Wu Zeqing?

Old Wu was here?

Zhang Ye could not help but let out a laugh. Heh, this Old Wu did not even tell me that she was attending today's ceremony as the guest presenter!

The audience immediately broke out into enthusiastic applause!

As the applause continued, Wu Zeqing stepped onstage with a smile, in a light-colored long qipao and high heels. She did not move too quickly or too slowly, but just walked at an appropriate pace. Wu Zeqing was naturally not afraid of being on stage. Instead, it was the ceremony host who felt a little nervous at the sight of Wu Zeqing. After all, this was not a supervisor like the others who did not have anything to do with him. This was the SARFT's head, the person who was in charge of all the organizations, associations, and departments in the whole entertainment industry, covering news publishing, movies and TV show approvals, celebrity management, etc. The SARFT had the power to make decisions on any matters covering all those areas!

The audience started to chatter.

“Chief Wu came personally to attend the ceremony?”

“What a high-level guest presenter.”

“Yeah, we’ve never had someone like that in the past ceremonies. At most a division head would be invited.”

“This is the first time I’m seeing this Chief Wu in person.”

Everyone had the same thought when they saw her: How beautiful she is. She was even more beautiful than those female celebrities who depended on their looks for a living. However, they only thought this way but did not dare say it aloud. If they were to praise a celebrity for being pretty, that would just be praise and would be considered a compliment. But if they were to praise a leader of their overseeing agency, then it wouldn’t just be praise anymore. It would inevitably be called out as frivolity. So on an occasion like this where anything could be gossiped about, no one dared to say the wrong things. With Chief Wu’s status, it was also not something they should remark about so casually.

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, “Then I will be announcing the results for the first award.”

Someone came up from offstage and handed her an envelope.

Wu Zeqing read from it. “The 35th National Television Awards, winner of the Most Outstanding Contribution Award: Let the Wild Flowers Bloom!”

This was a television show that broadcast on a provincial satellite station. Although its viewership ratings were only average, in terms of its artistic standards and influence, this show did very well. The key was that this show had broadcast for four full years and only ended its run in the middle of this year. Therefore, the most outstanding contribution award being given to them was no surprise to anyone.

In the audience, a group of people were high-fiving each other and celebrating. One of them represented the group and went onstage to receive the award. “Thank you, thank you leads, thank you Chief Wu, thank you everyone!”

Following that were the next awards.

One...

Two...

Three...

In this world, the awards for television shows and television dramas were separately held. There were many awards ceremonies held for television shows, like the Morning Light Awards and Huahe Awards. Some of them were held annually, while others were not held regularly. However, the awards ceremony that Zhang Ye was attending today was one of the most prestigious awards ceremonies in the industry and also one of the most authoritative. In this prestigious awards ceremony, the awards given out at the beginning were of course not the most important ones. For example, the Most Outstanding Contribution Award was actually just a consolation prize. In the National Television Awards, the most important and coveted awards were only given out closer to the end of the ceremony.

The first coveted award was announced.

Wu Zeqing declared, “And the Best Interview Show winner is—Little He Says!”

A lot of people were surprised at this result.

Meanwhile, the program team of Little He Says was shrieking!

“It’s us?”

“It’s really us?”

“Ah!”

“Teacher He, quickly get on stage!”

“Congratulations, Teacher He!”

This was a show from Shanxi Television. In the aspect of viewership ratings, Shanxi Television was not particularly strong and could be counted as one of the lowest performing stations in the entire country. Therefore, when they were announced as the winner of the first coveted award of the National Television Awards, the program team of Little He Says was in total disbelief!

Xu Yipeng looked at Chen Ye and said a few words to him.

Chen Ye forced a smile, but appeared to be rather calm yet a little regretful. Before Chen Ye joined Rise to the Dance, he had been involved in an interview show too. This time, Chen Ye actually stood a very good chance of winning the award too, but unfortunately, it was not meant to be.

At this moment, a lot of people were starting to feel very nervous, especially those program teams who had received a nomination. They were beginning to feel unsettled even though they knew beforehand that their shows would definitely not win an award.

Then, the next award was announced!

Wu Zeqing declared, “And the Best Children’s Show winner is—It’s the Holidays!”

Somewhere in the audience, another wave of cheers rang out.

“It’s us!”

“This is so great!”

However, this group did not sound as excited as the previous group, probably because in the children’s show category, It’s the Holidays had done remarkably well this year and had no others who could compete with them for the award.

Finally, it was time for the highlights of the night!

Wu Zeqing announced, “The next award is Best Documentary.”

Yan Tianfei raised his head.

Nervous, Ha Qiqi was clenching her fists.

And heard Wu Zeqing declaring with a smile, “And the winner is—A Bite of China!”

Zhang Zuo got excited at that moment. "We've won it!"

Although Ha Qiqi already knew that this award was in the bag, when she heard Chief Wu announce the results, her eyes still turned red and teary. She sniffed hard and huddled together with Zhang Ye and Zhang Zuo. This was the most prestigious award in the television industry and they had won it. Whether it was the viewership ratings or the award, they were now firmly at the top!

Everyone around them was also applauding and congratulating them. In actual fact, only the group of Ha Qiqi, Zhang Zuo, Zhang Ye, and Yan Tianfei had any worries that this award was safely going to be theirs. Everyone else did not seem to be surprised since this was a documentary that had beaten all the variety shows of the country in the viewership ratings. If you all didn't fucking win the award, then who would? All of the country's TV shows were left kneeling, so you guys basically did not have any competitors, OK?

The host laughed and reminded, "Please come up onstage to receive the award."

Zhang Ye politely said, "Director Yan, please go on our behalf."

Yan Tianfei waved it off and said, "Teacher Zhang, you go, you go."

After several refusals, Zhang Ye still ended up going onstage. When he received the award from Wu Zeqing, he glanced at Old Wu and said, "Thank you, Chief Wu."

Wu Zeqing smiled back politely and said, "You're welcome."

They gave each other a look, but only they themselves knew what it meant.

Zhang Ye carried the trophy and walked over to the microphone. "Thank you to my director, thank you to Central TV Department 14, thank you to my team, and thanks to myself." Some of the event staff suddenly tensed up when he was about to open his mouth again. Zhang Ye just gave them a sort of a smile and waved his hands at them. "Don't worry, I'm done speaking."

He left the stage and returned to his seat.

A roar of laughter reverberated through the venue!

The host was also amused at this. Everyone knew what had just happened.

A year ago at the Silver Microphone Awards, Zhang Ye had used "Dead Water" to scold his leaders to no end. Then at the Shanghai SARFT's press conference, Zhang Ye stood out with "The Answer." There were many other similar situations like that in which whenever there was a camera or he was at an awards ceremony, Zhang Ye would always stir up some incident. He certainly had a far-reaching reputation and was very infamous for his antics, so when the organizers and its staff saw Zhang Ye going on stage, they were prepared for the worse. Everyone was on alert as they feared that this guy would start something again. That was the reason for what had just taken place and why Zhang Ye said those words earlier.

After this minor incident, another two coveted awards were announced.

Surprisingly, Rise to the Dance did not actually win this year's Best Variety Show award. It was pipped to the award by another entertainment show that was more popular than theirs but worse in the viewership ratings; for these types of coveted awards, the viewership ratings were not always everything. What mattered just as much was the artistry of the show.

Afterwards, the final award was announced!

Wu Zeqing opened the final envelope and smiled when she saw the result. Then, she slowly proclaimed the winner word by word, “This year’s National Television Awards Most Popular Television Show Award goes to—The Voice of China!” Among all the coveted awards, this award was of the highest value. This was the award that comprehensively affirmed a show!

Zhang Zuo slapped his thigh and stood up to embrace Zhang Ye. “This is great, Director Zhang!”

“It’s us again!” Ha Qiqi could no longer hold back her grinning!

With two nominations, they had secured two awards. Without a doubt, Zhang Ye and his team were today’s big winners! Some people had predicted that they might only get one award, but as it turned out, they actually won two!

Logically, this most important award of the night should have been Central TV Department 1’s glory, as after all, Central TV Department 1 was the platform that it was broadcast on. However, with the issue between Zhang Ye and Central TV Department 1, their conflict was already at a state where everyone knew about it. No matter how thick-skinned Central TV Department 1’s people were, they wouldn’t dare to go onstage to receive the award for the show.

It was still left to Zhang Ye to go onstage.

Wu Zeqing handed him the trophy. “Give a longer speech this time.”

Zhang Ye laughed, “I don’t want to say too much. Didn’t you see how everyone was wary of me?”

The organizer’s staff were amused by this.

When the organizer’s manager—a middle-aged man—heard this, he also laughed and just waved it off.

The host chuckled and stated, “As the executive director and overall planner of the two shows A Bite of China and The Voice, you’ve already won two of the most coveted awards. Based on what I understand, this is a first in our awards history, so don’t worry about it Teacher Zhang. You should really make a longer acceptance speech this time. We trust you.”

Zhang Ye replied, “The problem here is that I don’t even trust myself.”

The crowd laughed!

“Alright, I’ll speak some then.” Zhang Ye looked at the trophy in his hands then at the audience. He spoke, “These two awards were not earned easily. Behind them were a lot of ups and downs that nobody else knows about. However, me and my bosses as well as my team all know very clearly that during the production phase, we all put in overtime, but not your standard definition of overtime. We literally lived at the office and in the wilderness, giving it our all every day for 24 hours.”

Many people knew about this, but it was the first time that Zhang Ye had talked about it publicly.

A lot of them were silent at this.

Zhang Ye said, “We even had colleagues who rushed to make progress even when they were sick, holding out for entire days without rest, and then finally fainting when they could no longer take it. They

had to be carried away on a stretcher and taken to the hospital by an ambulance. I also know a few female colleagues who went trekking with us into the mountains and ended up with swollen feet so painful that they quietly shed a few tears. They did not complain to me about any of these and did not drop from the team. At that time, I felt that I had to give them some answers; I had to be deserving of the trust they put in me.” He waved the trophy in his hand and looked at the few people from his team. “Are you all satisfied with this answer?”

Yan Tianfei laughed.

Ha Qiqi quietly dried her eyes but was unable to stop herself from crying.

Zhang Zuo excitedly put up his hands and gave a thumbs up over his head!

Satisfied. Of course they were satisfied! Ha Qiqi, Zhang Zuo, and the rest have never regretted their decisions. Now, they felt even more fortunate that they had decided to follow Zhang Ye to Department 14 back then. Other than Zhang Ye, who else could lead them to continuously become the top-rated television show in viewership twice in a row? No one else could it!

Applause was ringing out.

Hu Fei was clapping.

Dong Shanshan was clapping.

How well said. When Zhang Ye was serious, he really could speak well.

The host asked, “Teacher Zhang, you’ve already reached the peak of perfection when it comes to making shows. I believe no one would disagree if I used that to describe you. Just how did you manage to do it? Do you have a secret? Like how you handle things? Or is it your philosophy as a person? Why don’t you share that secret with everyone here?”

Zhang Ye did not even have to think before answering, “Well, the philosophy by which I conduct myself is: We should treat our comrades as warm as the spring, our work with the passion of the summer, individualism like the autumn wind sweeping away fallen leaves, and the enemy...as cruel as the bitter winter!”

This was a famous quote by Comrade Lei Feng which did not exist in this world, but Zhang Ye had casually brought it up here!

Everyone had a shocked expression.

Treat the enemy as cruel as the bitter winter?

Some people looked at Xu Yipeng.

Some people looked at Chen Ye.

Slowly, more and more people started looking at the two of them.

Xu Yipeng nearly cursed aloud at someone’s mother. Chen Ye also nearly vomited blood. Fuck! Why are you all looking at me! Why are you looking at us?

These two bros could even get shot while lying prone!

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 833: The Chinese Academy of Sciences' Invitation?

News of the awards ceremony was revealed on the night itself.

The results were published in many of the media outlets.

"The winners' list is out!"

"Zhang Ye's team has won two of the top honors?"

"They deserved it. Other than them, no one else deserves to win it!"

"Wah, this beautiful exec from the SARFT looks really pretty!"

"Haha, have you all read Zhang Ye's acceptance speech already?"

"Treat our comrades as warm as the spring? He so eloquent using the seasons! There's spring, summer, autumn, and winter in it, so it's hard to believe that it was composed on the spot by Teacher Zhang!"

"I like the last part of Zhang Ye's speech. Treat the enemy as cruel as the bitter winter. Teacher Zhang Ye never behaves himself when giving speeches. Even in his acceptance speech, he must take a swipe at his opponents as well!"

"I heard that Zhang Ye still has a few more award nominations in the next few days."

"I've heard so too. They're for the academic awards and the Golden Microphone Awards?"

"What an excellent year for Zhang Ye. Who knows how many awards he'll win!"

"Last year's preparations were all for this year's harvest. Teacher Zhang has finally exploded onto the scene this year!"

"His popularity has already brought him to the forefront of the B-list rankings! With the way things are going, it's just a matter of time before Teacher Zhang will enter the A-list rankings. Will it happen within the next year? Or the year after next? Anything is possible now!"

Some celebrities had a greater limit to their potentials. At the beginning, many of them might rise quickly and become very popular, but after reaching a certain level, they wouldn't grow any further. A few classic examples would be the two or three celebrities in the current B-list rankings. If there were no special circumstances, it would be impossible for them to advance any further. This would then be their limit and they wouldn't get any more popular no matter how hard they tried. They would still be considered as popular and have a rather fixed fanbase, but they weren't likely to get any more popular than they already were. There were many such celebrities in the industry.

However, the situation for Zhang Ye was entirely different. Even though he had never sung before, never starred in a television drama, and did not act as a leading role in movies, his popularity was already at such a level. That was why Zhang Ye's potential for becoming even more popular was undoubtedly more than the rest of his fellow celebrities. His limit was certainly not just at the B-list rankings!

It should be at least at the level of the A-list rankings!

Of course, this would definitely be a very difficult process. The gap between the A-list and B-list was not that easy to cross.

...

A few days later.

On an afternoon.

An awards ceremony of the academic world was convened.

The venue of this year's awards ceremony was at Tsinghua University's auditorium. There was definitely an obvious difference between the academic field's awards ceremony and the entertainment world's. It was held in a simpler manner and without the spotlight from the media. Seated in the audience were mostly professors, scholars, and some students who were permitted to attend the ceremony.

"Ah, Zhang Ye is here!"

"That's Zhang Ye?"

"He's too far away! I can't see him clearly!"

"Where is he?"

"Over there! He's coming in, he's coming in!"

Many of the Tsinghua University students turned to look at him.

Zhang Ye had arrived together with the Peking University team today. Among them were Dean Pan Yang of the School of Mathematical Sciences, as well as some math professors and teachers. Three people from the Physics Department were here as well since there was also an award nomination for one of the physics professor today, though the hopes of winning were slim.

For the others who came, there were some relevant personnel to welcome and attend to them. But when the Peking University people arrived, no one bothered to welcome them. It was as though they did not see them at all.

Zhang Ye could only find someone to ask, "Bro, may I know where our seats are?"

That Tsinghua University teacher looked at him and then pointed to the front. "Over there, in the third row." Then he walked away.

A young Peking University math teacher felt aggrieved. "What kind of attitude is that? Are they still hosts?"

However, Pan Yang was not bothered by this. He smiled and said, "It's OK. Back during the college student recruitment, Little Zhang smashed quite a number of Tsinghua University's cars and took back more than a dozen good students for Peking University. It's quite normal that they still feel petty about that."

A few of the Peking University professors and teachers didn't know how to react as they looked at Zhang Ye.

On their way in, many of the Tsinghua University teachers gave Zhang Ye and the group the cold shoulder, especially towards Zhang Ye. Some of the Tsinghua University teachers' faces even turned cold when they saw him.

Even Zhang Ye himself was puzzled. Why does this bro always make enemies wherever I go? Have I offended so many people before?

Zhang Ye had indeed offended too many people, so much so that he could not remember most of them clearly.

Shortly after, the awards ceremony began.

Medicine Award.

Biology Award.

Physics Award.

In the eyes of those working in the academic field, today's awards were undoubtedly one of the most prestigious awards in the field. Of course, even if this was one of the most prestigious awards ceremonies to be held, it was still not comparable to those top five categories of awards given out by the State Council at the State Science and Technology Prizes. It was only comparable with the other awards below the level of the State Science and Technology Prizes. But these awards were among the most authoritative ones that were given out and were also essentially the highest honors a normal academic professional could get. As for those people who could win a State Science and Technology Prize, they were naturally not your average academics. They could only be veteran experts who had major contributions in the fields of research like the hydrogen bomb or military aerospace fields and such.

The award winners were unveiled one by one.

Some people were happy while others were sad. However, as they were all in the academic field, they did not act too surprised unlike the entertainment industry's awards ceremonies. Everyone could control their emotions much better here.

Finally, it was the Mathematics Award!

A senior Fellow from the Chinese Academy of Sciences announced, "This year's mathematics Award winner is..." He paused for a very long time before saying, "Peking University Math Department's—Zhang Ye!"

Everyone from Peking University immediately applauded in unison!

"Professor Zhang! Congratulations!"

"I could've guessed it'd be you!"

"This is so great!"

Pan Yang said, "Little Zhang, don't think of taking the trophy away. You must leave it at Peking University, OK? I'll find a good spot to display it in the Hall of Honor!"

Zhang Ye smiled and replied, "You can just take it if you want, but please don't find a good spot for me. Why does it sound like you're going to find a place to hold ashes?!"

The people of Peking University burst out into laughter.

Zhang Ye went onstage to accept the award.

An academic Fellow of the Chinese Academy of Sciences handed the award to him personally. "A young person's abilities must be respected."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I've a lot to learn from the seniors."

That Fellow of the Chinese Academy of Sciences narrowed his eyes and stated, "You are indeed good. Some of the old fogies and I think really highly of you. What do you think? Would you be interested in joining the Chinese Academy of Sciences for your future development?"

Zhang Ye said rather surprised, "Join the Chinese Academy of Sciences?"

The Fellow of the Chinese Academy of Sciences smiled and said, "You can give it some consideration first. Let's talk again when we have a chance in the future."

This kind of awards ceremony did not have a host nor any award acceptance speech. There was only one microphone onstage, so when the Fellow was talking to Zhang Ye, he did not hold the microphone to speak into it. Therefore, no one else heard their conversation and thought that they were only exchanging some niceties.

Offstage.

Pan Yang asked, "What did Fellow Song say to you?"

Zhang Ye replied honestly, "He asked me if I wanted to join the Chinese Academy of Sciences."

"Ah?"

"Chinese Academy of Sciences?"

"Fellow Song invited you to join?"

The professors and academics of Peking University were all taken aback!

Pan Yang hurriedly questioned, "Are you sure he said the Chinese Academy of Sciences? Was he referring to one of the research facilities under the Chinese Academy of Sciences instead?"

Zhang Ye was stunned. "I think he was referring to Chinese Academy of Sciences?"

The Peking University people all looked at one another blankly. The Chinese Academy of Sciences had dozens of research facilities and hundreds of research labs. These organizations wouldn't be difficult to get in since they were mainly engaged in research only. However, if Fellow Song really did invite Zhang Ye to join the Chinese Academy of Sciences, then he was obviously not referring to those organizations. In all likelihood, he was inviting Zhang Ye to join the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Math and Physics

Division, one of the core divisions of the academy. Could he really be thinking of directly making Zhang Ye a Fellow?

A 24 year old becoming a Fellow at the Chinese Academy of Sciences?

Damn!

How could that be!?

Thinking of this possibility, the people from Peking University felt a little light-headed!

A young math teacher of Peking University asked anxiously, "Then how did you reply?"

Zhang Ye said, "I didn't say anything."

Pan Yang probed, "Then what do you think?"

Zhang Ye answered without even thinking, "I'm happy being a celebrity. Why would I join the Chinese Academy of Sciences?"

An old math professor of Peking University nearly vomited blood at this. His beard was trembling from anger. "How could a celebrity be compared with a Chinese Academy of Sciences Fellow? Just look at your lowly expectations!"

Zhang Ye did not like hearing that. "As celebrities, we're also serving the people. However, the way of service is different. We aim at the culture and ideology."

That old professor said angrily, "How can this be compared? Which Fellow of the Chinese Academy of Sciences is not respected by many?"

Zhang Ye looked at him and said, "Pick a random person off the street and ask them whether he knows Fellow Song or me."

The old professor: "..."

A female Peking University math teacher didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Professor Zhang, you can't compare it like that. I don't even know what to say anymore."

Pan Yang rolled his eyes in deep disapproval.

Zhang Ye was also not definitive with his words. "Let's talk about it again in the future."

But this conversation with Zhang Ye felt like it had already fallen on deaf ears. Who in the history of the academic field would not get excited when they heard that they were invited to join the Chinese Academy of Sciences? That is the Chinese Academy of Sciences we're talking about! Even Pan Yang as the Dean of Peking University's School of Mathematical Sciences was not qualified for the title of Fellow. Yes, even he was not qualified to apply for it.

Now that there was a chance, you actually say that being a celebrity is better than being a Fellow? What sort of thought is this?

However, when they thought of Zhang Ye's status again, some of the Peking University people shook their heads but remained silent. Some of the others could only sigh as a deep sense of helplessness hit

them. It was a fact that he was a celebrity and had studied as a broadcaster in university. That was his main profession after all. To the Peking University teachers and professors, dealing in academics and education was the main profession for them. This was their life career and goal, but to Zhang Ye, this country's most famous broadcast professional who had graduated from Media College, dabbling in academic research was...clearly more of being in the irrelevant business.

Their positions were different.

Their points of view were different.

Therefore, their considerations would be different as well.

Hai, there were so many people in the world who were willing to fight for all their lives in a mathematics career, but why did it have to be Zhang Ye—someone who only had the desire to become a celebrity—who solved this famous Dale's Conjecture of the global mathematics world!

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 834: The respected teacher of the alma mater

The awards ceremony ended.

The audience dispersed and everyone gradually left the venue.

Zhang Ye had not even walked out of the venue yet, but he was already surrounded by around eight reporters. At the other side, there were some professors who had won awards and were also getting interviewed, but only by a lot less reporters. They were mostly doing one-on-one interviews, as a majority of the other media reporters had focused their attention onto Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye just briefly answered them and then hurriedly squeezed past the crowd. "I'm sorry, I have something to get to. Next time, next time I'll share more." He turned back and said to the Peking University team, "I'll leave first." Saying that, he handed the trophy that he had not even held for long into the hands of Pan Yang. Since Peking University had asked for it, he could not possibly refuse them. Anyway, it was quite useless to keep it at home. In the future, if he wanted to show off, he could still get it back which would be all the same to him.

Pan Yang said, "Why are you in such a hurry?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I have to rush to another awards ceremony."

"There's another one?" a math teacher from Peking University said in surprise.

"It's this year's Golden Microphone Awards, held tonight," Zhang Ye said.

"You're quite busy. Alright then, quickly go." Pan Yang said, "Will there be a broadcast of the awards ceremony later?"

Zhang Ye replied, "It'll be broadcast online."

Pan Yang nodded. "I'll watch it when I get back."

When Zhang Ye made his way out, some of the reporters continued to chase after him.

"Teacher Zhang!"

"Please wait!"

"This is already your third official award this year. Can you share your thoughts with us?!"

"Do you have confidence in winning the Golden Microphone Award?"

"Teacher Zhang Ye, please don't go! We're going to the venue of the Golden Microphone Awards ceremony as well! Let's head there together!"

...

He did not bother to grab dinner and just made his way there. Zhang Ye drove straight to the venue of this year's Golden Microphone Awards ceremony. The reason why he was in such a rush was because the ceremony for the annual National Broadcasting Newcomer Awards, also known as the Silver Microphone Awards, was always held before the Golden Microphone Awards opened. Zhang Ye knew that Dong Shanshan was nominated for one of these awards and had a very high chance of winning it. Naturally, he would like to be there early to support his former classmate.

However, by the time he arrived, the award ceremony for the Silver Microphone Awards had already ended.

He coincidentally bumped into an ex-colleague, Tian Bin, at the entrance.

"Old Tian," Zhang Ye greeted while still a distance away.

A group of people who were having a smoke outside all looked over at him. Zhang Ye?

Tian Bin stubbed out his cigarette and walked toward him. "You only just arrived? Look at the time!"

"I had to attend an academic awards ceremony and it just ended not long ago," Zhang Ye responded.

Tian Bin asked, "Did you win it?"

Zhang Ye smiled. "Yes, I did. How did the Silver Microphone Awards ceremony go?"

Tian Bin knew that he was Dong Shanshan's classmate. "Are you asking about Teacher Shanshan? She got it as well. The Silver Microphone Awards ceremony has just ended and it's intermission right now. They're rearranging the stage and setup while we wait for the Golden Microphone Awards ceremony to start. It will be broadcast live online. You were nominated this time as well, right? Let's go. I'll bring you in to find your seat first."

Zhang Ye asked, "You're not nominated?"

"I'm not capable like you. I only came here to attend the ceremony as an audience member with a ticket." Tian Bin laughed and mentioned, "Oh right, the radio broadcast of Ghost Blows Out the Light finished a long time ago. When you have any more new works, remember to give me the authorizations to them."

"That's for sure, Zhang Ye agreed without any hesitation.

When they entered the venue, it was densely packed with people. This place was a lot bigger than the venues of the two previous award ceremonies he had attended. The upper and lower decks were estimated to be able to hold up to a thousand people. Other than the organizer's staff and fellow broadcasters inside, many others who looked like they were students were attending too.

"Eh, Zhang Ye?"

"Aha, isn't this Teacher Little Zhang?"

He encountered some familiar faces.

Wang Xiaomei: Beijing Radio Station's radio host whom he worked with back then.

Big Sis Cui: A staff member from Beijing Radio Station. She was an editor who worked with Zhang Ye and Tian Bin at the same office in the past.

And there were also a few hosts who Zhang Ye got to know when he worked at the online television station in Shanghai previously.

"Teacher Zhang, long time no see."

"How've you been doing recently?"

"I'm doing fine, but no matter how well I do, I still can't be compared to you."

"Come on, I'm just passing time while pretending to work and messing around."

"You can mess around and still get your program to the number 1 spot in the nationwide viewership ratings?"

When old friends met, it was inevitable that they would be excited, especially Big Sis Cui and some of his old colleagues. They were grabbing hold of Zhang Ye's arm as they happily chatted. Zhang Ye also chatted idly with them for quite a while. In the end, Zhang Ye was finally able to get away after they scheduled to have a meal gathering someday. He looked around for a long time before he found the person he was looking for and walked quickly toward her.

"Shanshan," Zhang Ye greeted.

Seated in a row somewhere in the middle, Dong Shanshan was chatting with her friend. When she heard her name being called, she turned around and stood up while holding the trophy in her hands. "Why are you so late? The Golden Microphone Awards ceremony has already ended."

Zhang Ye was stunned. "The Golden Microphone Awards were already given out?"

"I'm just kidding." Dong Shanshan half-smiled.

"I should have known. You scared me." Zhang Ye looked at the trophy in her hands. A year ago, he won the same trophy. "Congratulations on winning the Broadcasting Newcomer Award."

Dong Shanshan was dressed quite sexily today. "Thank you, it was all thanks to you."

Zhang Ye said happily, "I've still not had dinner yet, so why don't you treat me tonight."

"You're the one who's going to win the Golden Microphone Award and you're asking a winner of a newcomer award to treat you?" Dong Shanshan glared at him while smiling. "Do you think that's appropriate?"

Zhang Ye replied, "Of course it's appropriate. I think my chances of winning are very slim."

"That might not necessarily be true. You should be one of the winners of the most prestigious awards in the hosting world since two of your shows have taken number 1 in the viewership ratings and already broke the records as well." After saying that, Dong Shanshan suddenly remembered something and immediately pulled at Zhang Ye. "Oh right, I nearly forgot. Come with me, I'll bring you to meet someone."

Zhang Ye blinked. "Who is it?"

"You'll know when you see." Dong Shanshan smiled.

Zhang Ye did not know what was happening and could only follow along with her.

After squeezing past by twisting and turning through the crowd, Dong Shanshan brought him to an area near the back rows. He swept his gaze around and saw a group of students with a few middle-aged men and women among them.

The person saw the both of them.

Zhang Ye noticed that person as well.

Su Hongyan smiled gently and pointed at him. "Zhang Ye!"

Zhang Ye was stunned as he declared, "Aiyo, Teacher Su!"

Su Hongyan smiled. "Great, you still know who I am."

"Listen to what you're saying. How can I not know who you are," Zhang Ye replied.

Su Hongyan asked, "Then why didn't you come back to Media College for a visit after you graduated? You did not even give us a call, and to think that some of us teachers were still thinking about you. Look at Shanshan. At least she knows to call us or send a message to us during every Teachers' Day."

Zhang Ye laughed dryly. "I'm not successful yet, so I did not have the face to visit you."

This person was the cultural education teacher who taught Zhang Ye and Dong Shanshan in Media College. Her lectures mainly centered on the introduction to the art of broadcasting. She was also their student counselor for a year. Hence, the teacher who Zhang Ye came in contact with most during his time at university was definitely Teacher Su Hongyan!

A teacher who was in her forties and had a very nice demeanor.

When the students behind Su Hongyan heard that, they looked at Zhang Ye in astonishment. Only then did they know that their famous senior in the entertainment industry was taught by Teacher Su!

Su Hongyan shook her head. "You, stop giving excuses. You're still not successful? Your works have become popular all over the country, especially that poem which was very well written. What was it

called? 'Saying Goodbye to Peking University Again'? Seems to me like your feelings for Peking University are deeper than your alma mater."

"No, that's not true!" Zhang Ye hurriedly waved his hands and said, "I'll compose a piece on 'Saying Goodbye to Media College Again' when I get back tonight! I'll deliver to you tomorrow!"

Su Hongyan smiled and remarked, "Too late for that."

Dong Shanshan laughed.

The students of Media College also laughed.

After a little joking around, Su Hongyan studied Zhang Ye from head to toe for a moment. Then she said, "I've been tracking your performance for the past two years. Since you were my student, I naturally paid more attention to you. To be honest, many of the teachers at Media College who taught you, including me, did not expect all this from you. Quite often, we would talk about you during our break time in the office. We remembered that there were a lot of students who were much better than you. Comparing results, you were always ranked near the bottom of the class. Comparing looks and every other aspect, you were definitely at the bottom of the class. The main problem was that you were too stubborn. I can still remember very clearly that in your freshmen year, when an English teacher made all the students in class come up with an English name, you refused to do so. The English teacher got so angry that he left the class without teaching the lesson. Afterwards, when he complained to the department, you still asserted your stand and refused to apologize. In the end, I had to put in a word for you to persuade him to not take it up with you."

Dong Shanshan related happily, "He still behaves the same way now. When he worked at the online television station in Shanghai, a colleague insisted that he fill in an English name in the job application form. But in the end, Zhang Ye just told that colleague off."

The large group of students from Media College at the back perked their ears up in curiosity. This was the first time they learned about Zhang Ye's happenings from back then. They could not help shuddering with fear when they heard it!

With such a character, he actually managed to graduate?

With such a character, he could even become a celebrity?

Su Hongyan marveled, "That's why I was wondering how come, when there were so many others who were better than you in class, it was you who somehow became the most successful. For so many of the students we had high expectations of, some are still working in radio stations or doing odd jobs like being assistants, while a lot of the others have already left the industry and are no longer in broadcasting anymore. We really can't be certain about some things."

Zhang Ye flattered, "That I'm successful today is all down to your great teaching."

Su Hongyan brushed it off. "Oh come on, hur hur. How can I possibly teach such a bad-tempered student like you? In these two years since your debut, a lot of those industry peers you've offended have come complaining to Media College saying, 'You guys shouldn't have allowed that rascal to graduate,' and other similar words. I've heard no less than five such complaints already, so just think about how many people you must have offended. We thought that you were just being stubborn sometimes when

you were still at school, and that you would slowly change after you entered society and worked. But who could have guessed that after two years, not only has your temperament not been restrained, it has gotten even worse with age!"

Media College was the best institution in the country for a broadcast major. Many of the hosts in the industry were graduates of the school or were inextricably linked to it. As a result, Su Hongyan had plenty of updates from her news sources.

Back then, in front of the teachers, Zhang Ye was still considered to be an obedient student. He would listen to whatever the teachers said. However, whether he followed their teachings or not was a different story.

"OK, you're already a big shot now." Su Hongyan smiled and said, "Although the journey was not too satisfactory, the result is still good enough." She gestured to the students behind her and said, "These are the students who I'm teaching this year. They're all your juniors from Media College."

Zhang Ye smiled and replied, "I saw them. They're all quite spirited."

Following, Su Hongyan motioned toward Zhang Ye while facing her students. "This is your senior."

"Senior!"

"Senior, nice to meet you!"

"Senior, let's exchange our chat IDs!"

"Senior, can you leave us your number?"

The juniors started chattering away. All of them were very excited to meet Zhang Ye here today.

Su Hongyan looked at Zhang Ye and Dong Shanshan and stated, "I introduced Shanshan to them just now. If my students need any help in the future, I'll come looking for the two of you."

Zhang Ye happily said, "Sure, I'll be at your service immediately!"

Su Hongyan smiled and voiced, "Good, I'll remember what you just said."

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 835: A staggering acceptance speech from a different world!

On Weibo.

Someone had posted: Countdown to the Golden Microphone Awards.

"Is it beginning soon?"

"Is there a broadcast for it?"

"There's an online live broadcast and it's going to start soon."

"Give me a link! I'll take a look!"

"I heard that Zhang Ye was nominated for the award, so we must definitely watch this."

"This time last year, Zhang Ye received the Silver Microphone Award for newcomers, didn't he? Thinking about that poem 'Dead Water' from back then and the mass boycott of Zhang Ye by his peers, a year has already passed in the blink of an eye."

"Time truly passes by very quickly."

"Does Zhang Ye stand a chance of winning the Golden Microphone Award?"

"It's going to be suspenseful since the guy has offended far too many people!"

"Far too many? You should be asking if there is anyone he hasn't offended yet instead!"

"We'll find out when we watch it. I'm more interested in hearing his acceptance speech!"

"Yeah, it's always his acceptance speech that stirs up trouble. Zhang Ye's speeches have become a highlight to watch in the entertainment circle. It's always earth-shattering!"

Countless netizens turned their attention to this matter and went to the website to wait for the live broadcast to commence.

...

Caishikou.

Zhang Ye's parents' house.

His mother said, "Lower the TV's volume."

"What for?" His father responded unhappily, "I'm watching the news."

His mother humphed. "Our son is in the running for an award today and the live broadcast is starting soon. Why are you still watching the news?"

His father turned off the television. "Is that so? Hurry up then, let's watch the broadcast."

"Chenchen." His mother called out into the room. "Help Grandma find the website that is broadcasting the Golden Microphone Awards. Grandma doesn't know how to do it."

After Chenchen set everything up, the three of them waited for the live broadcast to start.

...

Elsewhere.

At the awards ceremony venue.

Zhang Ye was chatting with his juniors from his alma mater.

"Senior, how can I become a good host?"

"This question is too general. We'd have to talk about it in detail some day when we have more time."

"Senior, please impart your experience to us."

"Me? I've only got experience in offending people."

Su Hongyan looked at her watch. "Let's find a day then; the ceremony is about to begin."

At this moment, a staff member from the organizers found Zhang Ye. "Teacher Zhang, it's about to begin. Let me bring you to your seat. It's over there."

"Sure." Zhang Ye tentatively bid goodbye to Teacher Su and his juniors for now.

Dong Shanshan did not move away but found an empty seat beside Su Hongyan and continued their conversation.

After walking for about ten meters, the organizers' staff member suddenly said in a hushed tone to Zhang Ye, "Teacher Zhang, the bosses told me to inform you that when you go onstage to receive your award, could you please not recite a poem for your acceptance speech?" They were all wary of Zhang Ye by now.

Zhang Ye was stunned. "You mean I'll be receiving an award?"

The organizers' staff member coughed. "I meant that hypothetically."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Sure, I won't do that then."

When that staff member heard him agree to it, he obviously heaved a sigh of relief. "Of course it's not confirmed yet, because we do not have the final winners' list since it's with the judge panel."

When he got to his allocated seat, Zhang Ye was looking forward to the ceremony quite a bit. Regarding the Golden Microphone Award, he was anticipating it much more than the academic award and the coveted television show awards he had received earlier. This was because his main profession was still in the broadcasting field. It was also where his dreams started. A year ago at this place, on this stage, the moment he received the Silver Microphone Award was the same time he officially stepped into the public eye. So for Zhang Ye, the Golden Microphone Award had a very different significance and it mattered a lot to him.

To the right of his seat were two people who looked rather familiar to him. They were a good-looking man and woman who were also the nominated hosts for this year's Golden Microphone Awards. From the looks of it, they were nominated by Central TV just like him.

Zhang Ye looked at the two of them. "Hello, both of you."

The two were chatting when they heard Zhang Ye call out to them and looked at him.

"Mhm," one of them acknowledged.

The woman nodded at him, but did not say anything.

Then the two of them continued chatting with each other again. They did not talk to Zhang Ye and even seemed to be ignoring him on purpose.

Zhang Ye was only thinking that since they all had nothing to do anyway, he might as well try to get to know them. No matter what, they were still in the same organization, but he didn't think that he'd receive the cold shoulder from them. He could only smile and shake his head. Then, he looked at the male host on his left and found him a little familiar looking. If Zhang Ye did not get it wrong, he had seen

this male host during his time at Beijing Television. They didn't have any interaction before, but he roughly remembered his name to be Gao or something like that?

"You're Teacher Gao from Beijing Television, right?" Zhang Ye asked.

Teacher Gao turned out to be much friendlier but also had not expected Zhang Ye to approach him directly. After all, in terms of fame, he was still quite far from Zhang Ye's level. So he was a little surprised before he responded with a slight smile, "Teacher Zhang, you know who I am?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I think we've met before."

"Yes, we met once during a meeting," Teacher Gao replied.

After they exchanged a few words about their time at Beijing Television, Zhang Ye asked, "Who are those two?" He nudged his chin to the right to imply those two sitting there.

Teacher Gao probably overheard their interaction earlier. So he gave a wry smile and said, "They're your colleagues from work, don't you know them?"

Zhang Ye answered honestly, "I've seen them before but I don't know their names."

Teacher Gao didn't know what to say regarding this and just introduced to Zhang Ye about his own colleagues from work. It felt a little odd, but as Teacher Gao knew that Zhang Ye's social ties had never been good, he didn't really find it too weird either. He whispered, "The man is Fang Gang and the woman is Xu Siyu. Both of them are famous hosts at Central TV Department 1, though they can't be compared to you. But if they're compared to a small-time host like me, they're still considerably more popular, especially Fang Gang. I've heard that both he and Chen Ye were considered for the host position of the previous Spring Festival Gala, but in the end, Chen Ye was chosen instead. However, Fang Gang doesn't have low popularity and if there is an additional spot at the upcoming Spring Festival Gala, then he'll be the most likely candidate to take over."

"Oh, is that so?" Zhang Ye had a fuller picture now.

They were also from Central TV Department 1?

No wonder they ignored this bro!

On the stage, the staff were testing the microphones. "Hello, testing. Testing one, two, three." After some adjustments, the staff announced to the entire venue, "Alright, the preparations are complete. We'll be starting the ceremony in one minute. Would everyone cooperate and quiet down please?" Pause. "50 seconds to go."

"Three."

"Two."

"One."

The ceremony began and loud applause rang out!

The host who went on stage was one of the winners of the Golden Microphone Award in the television hosting category from last year.

...

After getting back to Peking University to put away the trophy, Dean Pan did not go home. Instead, he and a few colleagues ordered takeout and stayed behind in the office to watch the live broadcast of the Golden Microphone Awards.

"It's starting?"

"It just started."

"Yes, let's see how Little Zhang does."

"If he wins this again, Professor Zhang will have won four top prizes this year, two for his shows, one in the academic field, and one for his hosting?"

"The Golden Microphone Award would not be that easy to win!"

Zhang Ye's parents and Chenchen were already waiting by the computer.

At home, Ha Qiqi was watching the live broadcast on her phone as she ate.

Yan Tianfei, Zhang Zuo, Little Wang, and a lot of the others from Central TV Department 14 were also similarly watching the live broadcast.

Hu Fei, Xiao Lu, and the others from Beijing Television were also watching the live broadcast online. When Dong Shanshan won the Silver Microphone Award, they were the first ones to learn about the news. But the only thing they wanted to see now was whether Zhang Ye would be able to win the Golden Microphone Award.

...

At the venue.

There were over a thousand people here and the atmosphere was very passionate.

The Golden Microphone Awards of this world were very different from Zhang Ye's previous world. Over here, the Silver Microphone Awards had ten spots each for the television hosting category and radio hosting category. However, the Golden Microphone Awards only had three spots for each category. That meant that only three out of all the television hosts in the entire country stood a chance to win the television hosting category's Golden Microphone Award. This made the value of the award extremely high and it was thus labeled the most coveted award of the television hosting world. There were some famed hosts who still hadn't had a chance to get it as the competition for it was very tough. There just wasn't enough to go around for everyone. As compared to Zhang Ye's previous world, this world's Golden Microphone Awards were much, much tougher to win.

For most of the movie stars in the movie industry, there were all sorts of award ceremonies held in China and Greater China. Even though there were many award ceremonies, most of them were very recognized and of value. Each year, there would be at least seven or eight different best actors and actresses, and this wasn't even including the actors and actresses in the supporting role categories. Moreover, there would also be a slim chance for many of these movie stars to have a shot at some of the international awards like at the Berlin International Film Festival and others similar to it.

But for hosts?

The highest honor for a host would be this—the Golden Microphone Awards!

Each year, there were only three places up for grabs and nothing more!

As a result, for each year's Golden Microphone Award winners, essentially everyone deserved it. The winners were all truly the most outstanding hosts in the industry and only they could ultimately outdo their competition and stand onstage to receive the Golden Microphone Award trophy. To every host, it was the ultimate honor to win it!

Onstage.

One of the winners of the previous year's Golden Microphone Awards gave the opening speech and then proclaimed with a smile, "Well then, without further ado, let's get back to this evening's focal point. Let us now take a look at the Golden Microphone Awards nominees."

The screen flashed, and the names and photos of the nominees were displayed along with their organization.

Central TV Department 1: Fang Gang.

Central TV Department 1: Xu Siyu.

Central TV Department 9: He Jianguo.

Central TV Department 14: Zhang Ye.

Beijing Television: Gao Xiang.

Shanghai Satellite Television: Sun Haili.

And so on.

Central TV was the big brother of all the television stations, so it had a few more nominees than the other television stations.

The screen was huge and was filled with a lot of text, introducing the work history and experience of the nominees.

In the audience, quite a number of people started discussing.

"Look at Zhang Ye's introduction."

"Hur hur, there are so many words."

"Fuck, why is his introduction text so much longer than the other nominees?"

"That's because he has a thick résumé."

"That's still too wordy."

The cameras panned over to him as well.

A lot of people had noticed that Zhang Ye had the longest introduction among the nominees. The others like Xu Siyu and Gao Xiang only had about two lines for their introduction, but Zhang Ye's resume list was 11 lines long. In the list of nominees, his introduction was the most prominent one. Zhang Ye's Talk Show had created a new field within the entertainment programs industry, The Voice had broken seven records, while A Bite of China had broken nine. And with Zhang Ye having worked at four or five different places in the past two years, all of these key accomplishments and experiences had no way of being summarized and displayed, so that was why Zhang Ye's name stood out so prominently on the list.

However, the two Central TV Department 1 hosts beside Zhang Ye did not seem to be bothered by this.

Fang Gang said, "Siyu, you have a pretty good chance of winning."

Xu Siyu waved it off and replied, "It's not possible for me. I'm not qualified enough."

Fang Gang shook his head. "But you've already worked in the industry for five years. Isn't there someone who got nominated all the same even though he has only entered the industry for two years?" Of course when he said this, he did so in a very low voice.

But Zhang Ye still heard him since he was sitting just beside them after all. He glanced over at the two of them.

Seeing that Zhang Ye overheard them, Xu Siyu did not dare carry on the conversation. She knew that Zhang Ye and Fang Gang's program team had an argument online before, so his attitude towards Zhang Ye was naturally more hostile. But she also knew that Zhang Ye was not someone to be trifled with, so she just remarked, "You'll definitely win it this time."

Fang Gang said, "That might not necessarily be true."

Xu Siyu maintained, "You should've gotten it last year, but unexpectedly missed out. So they'll definitely give it to you this year. There's no one else deserving of it."

Fang Gang laughed. "You think I'll get it, and I think you'll get it, hur hur. Let's just wait and see then."

Xu Siyu said humbly, "There'll definitely be one for you."

On the stage, the host was reading out the names from the list of nominees. The members of the judge panel also started going up on stage. The final results were already decided and were sealed in the envelopes in their hands.

After reading out the names, the host smiled and proclaimed, "Who do you think the Golden Microphone Award winners will be? Alright, we'll be announcing this year's Golden Microphone Awards for the radio hosting category. Please welcome our guest presenter from the National Broadcasting Association, Vice President Sun Xi, who will announce the results."

In the audience, a woman stood up and walked up onto the stage with a smile.

Zhang Ye blinked several times and then asked Beijing Television's Gao Xiang who was beside him, "Is there such an association?"

Teacher Gao: "..."

Zhang Ye asked, "I've never heard of it before. Was it just set up recently?"

"—They've already been established for over 30 years," Teacher Gao replied.

Zhang Ye could only respond with an "oh" to that.

Teacher Gao added, "Almost all the radio and television hosts present here today are members of the Broadcasting Association. I also joined it the moment I debuted several years ago."

Zhang Ye was a little embarrassed by now. "I've made a fool of myself, heh. Why didn't I get invited to join?"

This association was actually classified as a non-governmental organization and had no barriers for entry other than requiring you to be working in the industry as a radio or television host. It didn't matter if you had just debuted or if you were already a famous personality. You could still join the association at any point in time and was similar to an overseas entity like the National Association of Broadcasters. However, as one of the most well-known hosts in the country, Zhang Ye had actually never even heard of the name of this association before, so it was a rather curious thing to happen. [1.]

But Teacher Gao was not really surprised by this. He said with extreme resignation, "When you just debuted, didn't you use a poem to scold everyone in the industry by describing it as a bleak pool of dead water? Since you offended everyone back then, do you think that the Association would still want to invite you to join them?"

Hearing this, Zhang Ye laughed. "That's rather true."

Teacher Gao didn't know what to say.

Madam Sun Xi had already received the first envelope. It could be seen very clearly that, in the nominee area, a majority of the radio hosts felt very nervous. Many of the others working in the radio broadcast industry and in the audience also perked up their ears. Sun Xi could be seen slowly opening the envelope and taking out the results. She intentionally exclaimed, "Aiya!"

The host quickly asked, "Who is the first Golden Microphone Award winner?"

Sun Xi laughed, "I didn't have a good look at it yet."

The host said, "Then why did you exclaim out loud just now?"

"That was just a reflexive response," Sun Xi explained. Turning serious, she held the card in front of her and announced, "This year's first Golden Microphone Award winner for the radio hosting category: Li Shuyun!"

A few rows behind where Zhang Ye was seated, a woman pointed at herself in disbelief. "Me?"

Sun Xi smiled and said, "Teacher Little Yun, it's you. Please come onstage to receive your award."

Congratulatory applause immediately resounded throughout the entire venue.

Li Shuyun was so excited that the rims of her eyes became wet. "Heavens!"

A colleague next to her congratulated her. "Teacher Little Yun, go on up to the stage!"

When she went up on the stage, Li Shuyun took the trophy from the guest presenter and grabbed a microphone too. The first thing she said was, "Is it really me? You guys are sure that you didn't get it wrong, right?"

The audience all laughed at this.

Only then did Li Shuyun finally give her acceptance speech. "Thank you to the judges, thank you to my bosses, thank you Chief Li, and thank you to all the fans who have always been supporting me. I'm the radio host for Shanghai News Radio and I was very surprised to be nominated this time. I didn't expect to win at all, so I didn't prepare an acceptance speech. I feel too excited now and a little incoherent, so please forgive me for that. In any case, thank you, thank you to my organization and the higher-ups who have always supported and groomed me."

There was another round of applause.

Li Shuyun kissed her Golden Microphone Award trophy and left the stage excitedly.

Teacher Gao said to Zhang Ye, "Teacher Little Yun is really quite good."

Zhang Ye nodded. "I know her, I've heard her reporting the news before."

Teacher Gao said, "A host of Central TV's News Simulcast will be retiring in a few years' time. I've heard that Central TV might be interested in inviting Teacher Little Yun over to groom her for the role. If it really works out, Teacher Little Yun might really have the chance to take over at News Simulcast."

Following that, the second winner of the Golden Microphone Award for the radio hosting category was announced. It was another female radio host, a weather segment host from Central Radio Station. Prior to the awards, she was already one of the favorites to win, and it turned out to be true.

The third winner of the Golden Microphone Award for the radio hosting category was given to a host from another radio station. He was 45 years old and could be considered a veteran in the field of broadcasting. He had waited ten years to win this award and finally got his wish. Onstage, he choked up with happiness several times as he gave a traditional acceptance speech thanking his leaders and organization.

By now, three radio hosting Golden Microphone Awards had been given out!

Up next were the anticipated Golden Microphone Awards for the television hosting category!

The host introduced a different guest presenter for this category. It was also a big shot who had groomed many of the famous hosts in the industry.

Teacher Gao's palms were sweating. "It's time." Although he knew that he didn't have much of a chance of winning an award, who wouldn't anticipate that an upset could happen when the time came for the announcement?

Fang Gang's expression was fixed.

Xu Siyu's arms tensed up.

After the guest presenter got onstage, he gave a speech for two minutes without mentioning anything about the awards. A lot of the nominees were so nervous that they were unable to hold it in anymore. Then, the guest presenter suddenly opened the envelope without warning and directly announced the first winner. "I hereby announce the first winner of this year's Golden Microphone Award for the television hosting category—Han Shaokai!"

The applause was enthusiastic!

The winner came up onto the stage very quickly and looked very excited!

Central TV Department 1's Fang Gang looked a little disappointed at this.

Xu Siyu and the other nominees also let out a sigh and then quickly offered their congratulatory applause.

Regarding Han Shaokai's win, no one was really surprised by it. He was already a regular nominee of the Golden Microphone Awards, appearing on the list almost every year but always missing out every time. But now, he had finally won. It showed just how hard he had been working and how much effort he had put in. How many hosts in the industry could work for 365 days a year without taking a rest? Han Shaokai was the only one. His improvisation skills on TV shows was also one of the best in the industry.

Han Shaokai collected his trophy. "Thank you. I'm so excited to be standing here that I don't know what to say. Is this real?" Then he laughed and continued, "It looks like it's real."

Everyone graciously laughed along with that.

Han Shaokai gave his acceptance speech in a very detailed manner. He read out all the names of the people he wanted to thank one by one, but as it was a live broadcast, there was also a time limit for the speech. At the end of his speech, Han Shaokai did not know what else to say anymore and just bowed before leaving the stage.

Everyone applauded again and then stared back at the guest presenter nervously.

The guest presenter went back to the podium and flipped open the next envelope. "Oh, this person is really great. He's been an old friend of mine for more than a decade now, so I'm really happy to be able to read out his name here." He intentionally paused for a while before announcing, "The second winner is—Xiao Hang!"

It was another veteran!

In fact, it was a veteran host with 20 years of experience!

Xiao Hang who was almost 50 years old still appeared to be in great shape. He did not look to be old and walked very healthily onto the stage. He looked like he couldn't really control his emotions and gave a very emotional acceptance speech. "When I first debuted 20 years ago, the TV shows back then were not as fanciful as what we have now..."

Fang Gang couldn't sit still any longer.

Xu Siyu looked at him and whispered, "The next one is definitely going to be you."

Teacher Gao threw up his hands in resignation and said with a laugh, "There's only one spot left, but I know it's not going to be me. Teacher Zhang, I think that it will either be you or Fang Gang." Knowing that he no longer stood a chance, Teacher Gao started to feel much more relaxed.

Zhang Ye did not say anything. The higher the expectations, the greater the disappointment. So he decided to just wait for the result to be announced.

When Xiao Hang left the stage, the entire venue fell silent.

It was finally ending!

There was only one winner left to be announced!

Who could it be?

No one could predict it as they watched eagerly.

Some people had their cell phones out as they browsed the Internet to check on Weibo and some forums. Those places were also very lively with discussions at the moment.

"There's only one more to go!"

"Why hasn't Zhang Ye's name been called out yet?"

"It has to be Teacher Fang Gang for sure!"

"Of all these nominated hosts here, other than Zhang Ye, Fang Gang has the most fame and popularity. Zhang Ye has offended too many people on this stage before, and since it's still the same judge panel as the last time, would they let him win the award?"

"If Zhang Ye does not win it, the people will surely curse them to death. They will know that it's a clear act of revenge!"

"Yeah, Teacher Zhang's achievements are dazzling, so even if the judges don't like him, they would have to consider that for a moment!"

"Who knows how the judge panel will think. Anyone could still win it!"

"Why didn't anyone mention our Teacher Xu Siyu? She'll definitely be the one who gets it!"

The heated discussion online and offline was reaching a peak.

The guest presenter had already opened the envelope and taken out the result card in it. Then he blinked at the result. Even the host who caught a glimpse of it wore a complicated expression as he also blinked several times.

The entire venue was quiet.

The guest presenter raised his microphone and announced, "The third and final winner of the Golden Microphone Award for the television hosting category is—Zhang Ye!"

When his name was revealed, a lot of the nominees looked at each other!

Zhang Ye?

They really gave it to Zhang Ye?

The Golden Microphone Award was really given to the most unpopular person in the entertainment industry?

Fang Gang's mood immediately hit rock bottom!

Xu Siyu's expression was also rather complicated as she glanced to her side.

When the entire venue could finally react, applause sparsely sounded. A lot of people who were in view of the cameras were seemingly clapping their hands, but the strange thing was that the applause was not loud at all. Compared to the earlier award winners, it was a complete 180. They did not give this winner the same response as they did for the others. It could be heard from the sparse applause. In the field of hosting, Zhang Ye had offended too many people before. There were also a lot of others who did not like him.

However, some clapped very loudly, for instance Dong Shanshan, Su Hongyan, and Zhang Ye's juniors from Media College.

Dong Shanshan muttered to herself with a laugh, "Well done, old classmate!"

Su Hongyan was clapping her hardest. "He's really won it!"

"Senior, you're terrific!"

"Yes!"

"I'm impressed that he can even win after offending so many people!"

"Our senior is indeed the best!"

"Eh, where's the applause? Why aren't the others clapping?"

"They're not respecting him at all!"

Beijing Television's Teacher Gao looked very happy too. It looked like he was even happier than Zhang Ye himself, as he clapped hard and said, "Teacher Zhang, it's you!" Then, when he realized that everyone else did not seem too enthusiastic about the result and noticed that the applause around him was quite scattered with most of the volume originating from him, Teacher Gao suddenly felt embarrassed by his own reaction. He turned to look around and didn't know how to react to Zhang Ye's poor popularity.

Zhang Ye just smiled and stood up.

The applause gradually came to a stop as a lot of them were only clapping perfunctorily; they looked like they were clapping but there was simply no sound.

Zhang Ye took everything in. Under the watchful gaze of everyone, he slowly strolled up onto the stage.

That guest presenter handed the trophy to him and said, "Congratulations."

"Thank you." Zhang Ye took it and then peered deeply into the shape of the glimmering golden trophy in the shape of a microphone. It felt rather heavy as he held it in his hand.

The host also noticed the tepid atmosphere and quickly tried to warm it up by saying, "Teacher Zhang, you're really doing well lately with A Bite of China sweeping across the country. I believe that a lot of people, like me, are especially looking forward to hearing your acceptance speech."

Unlike the others, Zhang Ye hadn't at all prepared an acceptance speech in advance. He has always been this way, rarely doing anything for matters that were not certain. Since he was not confirmed for the award yet, why would he make the effort to write a speech? Even though he was a little difficult to deal with, but wasn't that just how Zhang Ye was? He always did such things without due preparation and spoke whatever came to his mind.

The host and guest presenter stepped back a little and handed the stage over to Zhang Ye.

Holding the microphone, he looked out into the audience and into the cameras. Zhang Ye was instantaneously filled with a myriad of thoughts. He knew that at this moment, other than the guests at the venue, there were also a lot of people watching the live broadcast. His parents, the program team of A Bite of China, Peking University's staff, his group of a few friends, and even his former classmates and teachers were watching him.

What should he say then?

Suddenly, he remembered Graham Moore, the screenwriter for the winner of the Best Adapted Screenplay for The Imitation Game at the 87th Academy Awards. His acceptance speech was still fresh in Zhang Ye's mind. It was an extremely touching speech!

With a smile, Zhang Ye looked over to the nominees' area and opened his mouth. With that action alone, the staff from the organizers and judge panel broke out in cold sweat. "Fang Gang did not get to come on stage, Xu Siyu also did not get to come on stage, yet I could. This feels a little unfair!"

At that instant, countless people looked over at them. Even the cameras panned over to them!

Xu Siyu was dumbfounded!

Fang Gang also nearly vomited blood!

Damn! Why did you mention us? Why did you mention us?

Teacher Gao nearly revealed his amusement at this. This Zhang Ye was really too wicked. Those two only ignored you just now, but you're taking it up with them in this way? No wonder you could offend so many people! How could you possibly not!?

Su Hongyan: "..."

His juniors of Media College: "..."

A lot of people were speechless right then and there.

"Indeed!"

"This is totally the style of Zhang Ye's speeches!"

"Fuck, this is the part I like to watch the most!"

"When did Fang Gang and Xu Siyu offend Teacher Zhang? My sympathies to them!"

"Shut up and listen!"

Zhang Ye smiled again and said into the camera to everyone, "A lot of people feel that I do not deserve this award. They feel that I do not belong and that I do not fit in, that I am uncompromising and am not qualified to earn this highest award for a host. Just by listening to this tepid response, we all know how everyone feels about this!"

Some people in the audience started mumbling to themselves.

You only realized it now?

A person like you should never win the Golden Microphone Award!

A person with a temper like yours, it was already a miracle that you could survive for so long in the entertainment industry and in society. But you even won the award now? And it's even the most prestigious award for a host? Has the judging panel gone mad?

Zhang Ye composed himself and held the microphone even more tightly. "In this brief time here, I would like to say this. When I was in university, I went through a very confusing period of time. Because I felt weird and I felt different and I was stubborn. And I felt like I did not belong! I could feel that everyone was ostracizing me!" Saying that, he pointed to the podium at his feet and said in a voice that was getting louder, "And now I'm standing here, so I would like for this moment to be for that person out there who feels like they're weird, or they're different, or that they should be a little more flexible, that they should compromise, that they don't fit in anywhere."

Everyone in the audience became even more quiet!

A lot of them were staring at him in astonishment!

Su Hongyan looked at that student of hers who was not like the others. Some tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably in heartache.

Zhang Ye pointed outward as his smile became even stronger. "Yes, you do. I promise you do. You do. Don't be afraid, don't be confused. Stay weird. Stay different. Stay stubborn and never give up!" He waved the trophy in his hand and proclaimed, "And then when it's your turn, and you are standing on this stage, please pass the same message to the next person who comes along!"

He turned around.

And left the stage.

He was still that different!

He was still that unique!

But on the faces of all the guests present, deeply shocked expressions were already hanging from their faces. A lot of them felt as though that sharp but stubborn voice of Zhang Ye had nailed them right in their core!

With that speech, he had shocked the entire audience!

This was Zhang Ye!

The ever uncompromising Zhang Ye!

One second...

Two seconds...

The applause suddenly rang out!

One person!

Ten people!

A hundred people!

A thousand people!

The thunderous applause had drowned out the entire venue!

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 836: Reactions!

The applause continued without end!

When Zhang Ye walked off the stage, the applause was still going on. More and more people were starting to applaud!

Many people from the upper and lower decks at the venue even stood up slowly from their seats to applaud Zhang Ye!

Su Hongyan wiped away some tears from the corners of her eyes. "This Zhang Ye!"

A female student from Media College also cried out, "Senior, nicely done! Nicely done!"

All his other juniors from Media College could also feel their blood boiling with excitement. After hearing Zhang Ye's acceptance speech, the blood in their bodies was surging with emotions, seemingly trying to break out of their bodies!

Their senior was too cool!

He was really too cool!

Everyone who was present had their eyes turn red.

A famous female host seated in the nominees' area could not hold back her tears. She quickly turned her head to the side to face away from the camera and wiped away the tears in her eyes. Thinking back, she was also a high-spirited and energetic person, carrying her own ideals and pursuit of a dream. But somewhere along the way, giving in and compromising had seemingly become a part of her daily life. It had become her go-to response to survive in this industry. Only this way would it seemingly show that one had matured. It was the correct way to behave. However, Zhang Ye's speech told her that there was another type of person in this world. There was actually someone who could travel that difficult path

and climb to the highest stage full of battle scars to receive an award of the highest honor. All this without compromising or giving in!

Zhang Ye did it!

Moreover, in the near future, there would probably be other hosts as uncompromising as Zhang Ye who would walk up to this stage holding a Golden Microphone Award and spreading those words to pass down Zhang Ye's ideals and persistence!

On the stage today, Zhang Ye was looking gloriously radiant!

This was the acceptance speech of a host!

This was a cry of his convictions!

...

At Zhang Ye's parents' house.

His mother posted on Weibo excitedly: "Look! This is my son!"

This was the son who she had taught as he grew up. At this moment, his parents were full of joy and pride!

...

At Peking University.

A math teacher who was watching the online broadcast marveled, "This Zhang Ye, just what kind of a person is he?"

Pan Yang smiled and replied, "Him? He is an incredible person."

Han Henian sighed. "A person who can say those words is indeed someone very incredible."

...

At Beijing Television.

Xiao Lu wiped her tears away as she cried. "It hasn't been easy for Teacher Zhang in the past two years! It really hasn't been easy for him! Although he did not mention anything about it, all of us know how much pressure Teacher Zhang had to deal with and how many hopeless situations he faced in the past. It's been too hard on him!"

Hu Fei smiled and said, "But Little Zhang has still managed to get through it all! He's really amazing!"

Hou Ge remarked excitedly, "That's right! Teacher Zhang is the best!"

...

Celebrity Goof Group.

Fan Wenli posted a link of the online video to the group chat.

Ning Lan said: "This is what a host is all about! A true host!"

Chen Guang also appeared. "It's rare to see a host like him in the country."

Dongzi: "There isn't any outside of the country like him either! This speech has really moved me!"

Fan Wenli was touched by it as well and mentioned: "I listened to Zhang Ye's speech four times over. I don't even know why my tears started falling. Old Chen who's beside me had a hard time trying to dry my tears for me. I can't explain why, but it's really overwhelming!"

....

At a district in Beijing.

In a completely normal family's house.

An 18-year-old high school student was watching the broadcast with his parents. After a long silence, he suddenly turned around and looked at his parents. "Dad, Mom, I've decided that I want to apply for Media College!"

The mother was stunned. "Media College?"

The boy nodded with determination. "Yes."

His parents gazed at him. "You've decided?"

The boy acknowledged and pointed at Zhang Ye on the computer screen. "I have a goal now. I want to be a cool host like him!"

The father smiled and said, "That's good. No matter what you want to do, your mom and I will support you."

...

Outside Beijing.

At a second-tier city. [1.]

The cold wind was whistling at the side of an office building. The lights inside were still on. Many people were working overtime. The office was filled with the noise of keyboard typing and the mechanical sound of the photocopier.

"Just another half an hour to go and we can leave work!"

"Let's work harder and finish up this proposal, everyone!"

"Old Xu, has it been finished yet?"

"It's almost done. It'll be ready soon."

"Old He, it's all up to you over there."

"Supervisor Wang? Supervisor Wang?"

This was just a very typical overtime day, but there was one person in the office who was incongruous to the rest. He wasn't doing anything but staring straight at the computer screen and watching Zhang Ye give his speech on stage.

"Yes, you do. I promise you do. You do.

"Don't be afraid, don't be confused. Stay weird. Stay different. Stay stubborn and never give up! And then when it's your turn, and you are standing on this stage, please pass the same message to the next person who comes along!"

Wang He listened to it quietly without paying attention to the colleagues beside him who were calling out to him.

"Supervisor Wang?" That person hesitated for a moment and then whispered to the person beside him, "What's wrong with the supervisor today?"

That female colleague also looked at him in wonder. Then she replied in a low voice, "I don't know. He just became like this. I think he's watching the live broadcast of the Golden Microphone Awards?"

To them, Wang He was a very serious person when it came to work. His work abilities were very strong. He was also a very eloquent person. It was rumored that he had studied broadcasting before, which was why even though Wang He was still young and had only graduated for two years, he had already become the third-in-command of this small company with an annual salary of around 500,000 RMB. No matter whether it was his family or friends, or even his colleagues, they all considered him a successful person with a promising future!

At this moment, the online broadcast ended.

Someone gathered up his courage and stepped up. "Supervisor? Are...you fine?"

Wang He closed the web browser, then turned around and looked at that person. "I'm good."

That person smiled and said, "Do you like Teacher Zhang Ye as well?"

Do I like him? Suddenly, Wang He laughed. "I don't like him at all. We were already on unfriendly terms while we were studying at university. I disliked him and he disliked me as well."

Everyone was shocked to hear that. "Studying at university? You know him personally?"

"He was my classmate," Wang He revealed calmly.

"Ah?"

"Really?"

"You and Zhang Ye were classmates?"

"Aiya! You were from Media College as well?"

His colleagues were very surprised as this was the first time they learned of it.

Wang He suddenly said, "Alright, everyone do well at your jobs." He thought for a moment before declaring, "In the future, you guys must work hard. Thank you to all of you for taking care of me all this while."

Work hard in the future?

Thanks for our care?

Everyone was stunned. What was the meaning of that?

Following, under the dumbfounded looks on everyone, Wang He lowered his head to write something short. Then he knocked on his boss's office door and went in to place his resignation letter on the table.

The boss was also stunned. "What's the matter, Little Wang?"

Wang He said in all seriousness, "Boss, thank you for all your guidance."

His boss said, "This is too sudden. Why do you want to resign? Are you not satisfied with the salary?"

"It's not that," Wang He replied.

The boss said, "Then is it because work is not smooth sailing for you?"

"It isn't that either." Wang He shook his head.

The boss asked, "Then why are you doing this?"

Wang He hesitated for a moment and then seemingly muttered to himself, "When I was still in university, my results were always among the best, whereas there was a person who was always ranked at the bottom of the class. However, that person said something today that suddenly woke me up. When I offended someone at the television station last year and got fired, I used it as an excuse to avoid going back to becoming a host again. I packed my bags and returned to my hometown dejected, but fortunately earned your appreciation and got back to work, seemingly leading a better life than others. However, I'm actually not excited about it and did not feel any sense of accomplishment!"

His boss stayed silent.

Wang He smiled and continued, "But today, that person's words have instantly filled me with life again! He withstood such tremendous pressure and offended so many people, yet he could still be successful today. So then, why can't I do the same?! Based on what can I not do the same? I only found out now that my heart isn't dead yet! That my blood hasn't turned cold yet!"

After hearing that, his boss gazed at him and smiled. "Do whatever you want to do. If you can't survive anymore out there, you're welcome to come back here again."

"Thank you." Wang He sincerely repeated, "Thank you."

...

At the awards ceremony venue.

The trophy presentation was completed after Zhang Ye had taken his award. However, the atmosphere at the locale was still immersed in the acceptance speech from earlier.

Everyone began streaming out of the venue.

Dong Shanshan went to look for Su Hongyan first.

After his speech, Zhang Ye had squeezed past the surrounding reporters. When he saw Teacher Su and Dong Shanshan, he walked with large strides to their side. "Did you drive here, Teacher Su? Shall I send you home?"

Su Hongyan was about to say something when her cell phone buzzed. She received a message. The sender stunned Su Hongyan for a while. It was from one of her former students whom she had the greatest hopes for but also the one who turned out the most regretful!

Wang He: "Teacher Su, how are you doing?"

Su Hongyan: "I'm fine. I heard that you have already become a top-level executive back at your hometown? And your salary is also many times more than mine? Not bad, you're doing well."

Wang He: "I've resigned."

Su Hongyan was taken aback. "Huh?"

Wang He: "I don't have Zhang Ye's number, so if you see him, please help me thank him."

Su Hongyan suddenly thought of something. "Are you..."

Wang He: "I've booked a plane ticket to go back to Beijing on the day after tomorrow."

Su Hongyan: "Are you?"

Wang He: "I really would like to give another shot at a hosting career!"

Pocketing her cell phone, Su Hongyan beamed with joy.

Dong Shanshan was puzzled by this and asked, "Teacher Su, why are you smiling so happily?"

Su Hongyan smiled and said, "Wang He is coming back!"

"Wang He? That Wang He from our class?" Zhang Ye looked at her strangely. "I heard from Shanshan that that guy went back to his hometown, didn't he? And he's white-collar now too?"

Su Hongyan laughed and replied, "He just resigned a few minutes ago and has already booked a plane ticket back to Beijing. He wants me to thank you on his behalf."

Zhang Ye blinked. "Why is he thanking me?"

Su Hongyan said, "Your acceptance speech has ignited many people's passion. I think he made the decision after listening to your speech. Hur hur, I knew that Wang He would not just give up on hosting so easily like that! In the future, you two will have another peer again."

Zhang Ye smiled happily. "That's good. I'll be waiting for him."

Zhang Ye's speech had touched countless people!

At the same time, it had also changed and affected the destinies and decisions of many people!

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 837: 10 million followers on Weibo!

That night, it was all over the news!

Great Wall Daily News: "Golden Microphone Awards Announced".

—Han Shaokai, Xiao Hang and Zhang Ye were awarded the Golden Microphone Awards!

Southern Entertainment News: "A Shocking Acceptance Speech".

—Zhang Ye wins the most coveted award in the television hosting field this year. An acceptance speech that shocked the entire venue. Applause continued for a full minute as the situation spiraled out of control, leaving many in tears!

News Online: "The Beloved and Hated Zhang Ye".

—At the Golden Microphone Awards, Zhang Ye made such a strong and uncompromising speech that it touched many of the people at the venue. It made many of the audience realize that even without using a poem, he could still give an earth-shattering speech. At the same time, Zhang Ye was still the same as before, as the first line was already enough to roast Fang Gang and Xu Siyu, two famous hosts of Central TV Department 1. A camera even happened to coincidentally capture both their expressions at that moment. As such, Zhang Ye could be said to have offended yet more people again this time. Upon seeing this, we also didn't know how to react and could not help but recall a saying: "It's not difficult to offend someone in a day. The difficulty lies in offending someone every day." Zhang Ye is undoubtedly the type of celebrity who can make us love, hate, cry, and laugh about him!

"A Straight-Shooting Host"!

"Zhang Ye's Acceptance Speech: Never Give Up"!

"To like Zhang Ye, there's no need for a reason"!

"The most tragic scene in history! Xu Siyu and Fang Gang get roasted out of nowhere"!

"Staffer of a television station: 'I still don't like Zhang Ye, but his speech left me with no choice but to give him my applause'"!

The news reports were in full swing!

It reached a state of adding fuel to the fire on the Internet and was stirred up very early!

"Teacher Zhang, you were really too fucking cool today!"

"This speech is so freaking cool!"

"I've listened to it for ten times! Ten times!"

"I cried from listening to it! It's just so touching!"

"Teacher Zhang, thank you! I've always liked you, your poems, and the things you say. It always gives me energy and courage every time! You're really awesome!"

Zhang Ye's fan club leader, Big Saber Bro, led a group of people to forward the speech like crazy and flood the Internet with it. Very soon, the video clip of Zhang Ye's speech was bumped up to the front page!

Top ten trending topics...

Top five trending topics...

Until it had reached the top spot for the day on Weibo!

Many of the netizens who were not interested in the Golden Microphone Awards also noticed this and clicked on the video to watch it. It was only after they saw the speech that they knew that such a thing had happened at the Golden Microphone Awards ceremony, and that they had actually missed the live broadcast!

"Ah, how regretful!"

"Dammit, I didn't manage to watch the live broadcast!"

"I'm going to chop off my hands! Why did I watch the basketball match earlier?!"

"If I knew the Golden Microphone Awards would be so exciting, I would not have fucking gone out to watch a movie! Even if I had to face getting cursed to death by my wife, I would still have gone home to catch the live broadcast!"

"I get the same vibes even from watching the video clip now! It seems like Zhang Ye has already surpassed the gods!"

"This is what it means to be a celebrity! This is what it means to be a host!"

"I'm a hater turned neutral. Today, I'm here to give a Like to Zhang Ye!"

"Currently turning from neutral to a fan now..."

"Currently turning from fan to hardcore fan now..."

The number of Zhang Ye's Weibo followers made another breakthrough as well. With the fan accumulation gained by the long-term popularity of A Bite of China, Zhang Ye's Weibo followers had now risen to an astonishing 10 million!

10 million!

In just a few months, it was already growing at an exponential rate!

Some A-list celebrities only had slightly more than 10 million Weibo followers! Although the overall popularity of a celebrity should not just be based off the ranking on a single platform, it was still one of the criteria to be considered for popularity and would be calculated and taken into account for the overall celebrity rankings!

Without a doubt, after today, there would likely be some changes to Zhang Ye's celebrity ranking again!

...

On the street.

Zhang Ye was driving Dong Shanshan home.

His cell phone rang. It was a call from his parents' home.

"Little Ye." His mother said excitedly: "When are you coming home?"

Zhang Ye laughed: "I'll be back soon."

His mother asked: "Are you coming back to eat?"

Zhang Ye said: "Yes, of course. I'm very hungry, but let me send Shanshan home first."

His mother said: "Shanshan? That classmate of yours? Why are you sending her home? Ask her to come to our place for dinner. Your dad and I have already made dinner. Invite her over as well."

"Sure, I'll ask her." After hanging up, Zhang Ye looked in the direction of the front passenger seat. He could not control himself from stealing a glance at Dong Shanshan's clothes tight against the seat belt. Then he asked, "My mom is asking you to come over to our place for dinner. You wanna join us? It's not far from here. Otherwise, you'll be eating alone at home."

Dong Shanshan smiled and said, "How do you know that I'm alone at home?"

"Ah? There's someone else at home?" Zhang Ye replied.

Dong Shanshan asked, "How do you know that there's someone else at my home?"

Zhang Ye knew that her mouth didn't speak much truth, so he just rolled his eyes and said, "Forget it, I should just drop you off on the roadside and let you walk back home by yourself."

"Don't you dare." Dong Shanshan laughed and suggested, "Let's go to your place for dinner. Since Auntie has already invited me, if I don't give her any face, that would be very ungracious of me."

Very quickly, they reached his parents' home.

When they went upstairs, they saw his mother already waiting at the door. The door was opened long ago, probably because she was searching for Zhang Ye's car from the window.

"Dad, Mom," Zhang Ye greeted.

When Dong Shanshan entered the house, she also smiled sweetly. "Auntie, Uncle."

His mother stared at her for a long time. "Shanshan, you still look the same as you were in school. You're still as pretty as ever."

When Zhang Ye was in university, using the Beijing dialect to describe it, he was rather "short-fused." As his parents were often called to the school, his mother went there a few times. It was there that she met Dong Shanshan twice. Likewise, Dong Shanshan also had some impression of Zhang Ye's mother whereas she had never met his father in person before. Probably because face mattered more for his father, he would never go to this sort of school meeting even if he was called to school by a teacher.

His father also smiled and said, "Wash your hands and we can eat dinner."

Dong Shanshan said, "Yes, Uncle."

"Where's that Chenchen?" Zhang Ye looked around.

His father pointed to the master bedroom. "She already went to bed after eating dinner."

Zhang Ye grunted, "Lazybones!"

His mother smiled and said, "Chenchen got really tired. While your dad and I were making dinner, Chenchen answered seven or eight calls made to our home. You didn't say, but Chenchen is really clever. She could repeat to us who the callers were and what they said. There was a call from your grandmother, two from your younger girl cousins, one from your elder girl cousin, and one from someone who was probably a reporter. I don't know how that person got our home number, but Chenchen said that the person tried to trick and sound her out for a long time, only for her to hang up on them directly."

His father also nodded in agreement. "The kid is smarter than most adults."

Zhang Ye quickly said, "Oh c'mon, both of you. Don't keep praising her. Who knows if that little kid will get big-headed again and go out on the streets to catch some criminals. If that happens, we'll be in trouble."

However, his mother liked Chenchen a lot and she did not like hearing that. "She doesn't cause as much trouble as you do!"

They started dining.

Zhang Ye was stuffing food into his mouth.

Dong Shanshan ate in a very reserved manner. She chatted as she ate, because Zhang Ye's mother did not give her a spare moment to eat her food. She would ask a question every now and then.

His mother asked, "Shanshan, how is your family doing?"

Dong Shanshan said, "They're doing pretty good."

His mother asked, "You live in Inner Mongolia, right?"

Dong Shanshan replied, "Yes."

His mother asked, "Do you have a boyfriend yet?"

Dong Shanshan said, "Hur hur, not yet."

His mother stated, "Mm, it's good that you don't have one. In your profession, you should be careful when looking for a partner since the industry is a little more complicated. It would be good if you could find someone working in the same industry as you, so that you'd have common topics to talk about."

Even his father couldn't stand watching. "Can you talk a little less? Let her eat in peace."

Dong Shanshan smiled brightly. "It's fine."

It seemed that his mother rather liked Dong Shanshan. After they finished eating dinner, his mother started to chat with her again.

Finally, Zhang Ye came up with an excuse and got Dong Shanshan to go to his room.

He disclosed, "That's how my mom is. She's a very talkative person."

"Auntie is quite interesting." Dong Shanshan smiled.

Zhang Ye gestured around his bedroom. "Make yourself at home."

Dong Shanshan pushed aside the blanket that was not folded at the bed's end and saw male underwear underneath it. It seemed like it was worn before, but she did not say anything. She casually picked it up with her index finger and thumb and threw it aside.

Zhang Ye felt his face flush and said in exasperation, "Don't just throw my things around." He quickly went to pick it up.

Dong Shanshan crossed her legs and looked around. "I'm quite surprised about your place. It doesn't look like the bedroom of a celebrity of your status at all."

Zhang Ye laughed, "That's right. This bro is even poorer than you now. I heard that you have accepted an endorsement deal? And quite a number of commercial performances too? Beijing Television is quite good. They don't enforce too many limitations on hosts unlike Central TV."

Dong Shanshan mentioned, "That's why I'm planning to buy a house soon."

"Alright, I'll go bum at your place sometime then," Zhang Ye offhandedly remarked.

Dong Shanshan laughed. "Sure. You can stay over if you aren't afraid of the paparazzi."

Amused, Zhang Ye chuckled. "Then I better forget it."

"Oh, right." Dong Shanshan told him, "Tomorrow is Christmas Eve. I arranged a dinner party with a lot of my friends in the circle. I think there isn't anyone in the group who is your enemy. There are men and women in it, so do you want to join us?"

Zhang Ye puckered his lips. He sat down and said earnestly, "If you have that kind of time, why don't you do something serious instead? Why are you celebrating a foreign festival? Come, Shanshan, let me expand your knowledge on the history of Christmas Day. A long, long time ago in the foreign lands, there was—"

Dong Shanshan was almost rendered speechless by this. She interrupted, "That's enough, I don't want to talk about this with such a nationalistic person like you. Forget it, I knew that you would not want to join anyway, so take it as if I did not mention it to you." As she said that, she also giggled. "You're still the same old you as back then. You'll take it up with whomever mentions a foreign festival to you."

Zhang Ye said with a grin, "I just can't bear having grit in my eyes."

Dong Shanshan sighed. "Of all our classmates back then, who would have thought that you would be the one who's the most successful in the end. You even won the highest honor for a host this time. Do you still remember back then? When we did that survey as a joke, the greatest ambition of 90% of our class

was earning the glory of winning the Golden Microphone Award after our graduation. No one would have guessed that you would be the first person to achieve that. And you even did it in less than two years after graduation!"

Zhang Ye softly said, "I was just lucky, I mean it."

Dong Shanshan brought up, "Now that I suddenly thought of our classmates, I wonder how they're all doing, and what they're doing. We should have a reunion someday."

"Sure." Zhang Ye nodded as he also began reminiscing.

The world had changed.

Were those old classmates of his still the same as before?

Chapter 838: Appointed as the examiner?

Saturday.

When Zhang Ye checked the Celebrity Rankings Index in the morning, his name had changed again as expected. He had quietly moved ahead by 1 spot as he slowly crept to the front of the B-list rankings. The rise this time did not come easy and he only jumped a spot up as a fraction of the popularity score was gained from the popularity of A Bite of China, while the larger part of it had come from yesterday's awards and that acceptance speech which had already been spread around the entire country.

Zhang Ye's popularity score was recently surging up due to the attention given to him by the media and the citizens. It was precisely because of moments like this that Zhang Ye could gain a great increase in his popularity score with everything that he did. By just adding a little fuel, the fire would burn brighter, so he took advantage of this rare opportunity to push his popularity further up. This was just like how the stock market functioned. Once a stock gathered enough momentum, its market capital would become greater. When its market capital got greater, the market perception would further drive the stock price higher. But if the stock price stopped rising, or even dropped, it would be extremely difficult to gather back that momentum to push it back up again. It was similar in the entertainment circle as well. Many of those celebrities who became popular overnight was based on this same concept, so that was why this current opportunity that Zhang Ye had was very rare.

His fans were accumulating!

His popularity score had gone up another level! It was getting higher and higher!

Zhang Ye was in a good mood as he hummed a little tune while on his way to work. "O-o-o-o-h. Yalasuo-o-o-o-o. That is the famous Qingzang Pla—" [1.]

Oh alright.

It doesn't seem like he could go that high with his pitch!

...

At Central TV.

When Zhang Ye's car arrived, a lot of staff from the other channels started commenting.

"Zhang Ye is here!"

"I really didn't expect that he would win this year's Golden Microphone Award!"

"Yeah, it's just his first nomination and he's won it despite all the pressure and doubt against him? I really thought that the judge panel would not give the award to such a controversial host no matter what."

"But don't you think that acceptance speech really made your blood course with excitement!?"

"Haha, I heard that after the awards ceremony ended, Central TV Department 1's Teacher Fang Gang was left cursing his mother! Teacher Zhang Ye really is too 'naughty!'"

"So what if he cursed his mother? Even the station heads could not suppress Zhang Ye, even the SARFT could not do anything about him, so what can Teacher Fang Gang and Teacher Xu Siyu do? At the most, they can curse at him under their breaths. They can only submit to their humiliation since they were unlucky enough to meet with this reckless character!"

"Pfft, those two were really unlucky."

"They must have said something bad and offended Zhang Ye when they were seated together earlier. Our department has loaned some HD video cameras and equipment to Zhang Ye before, so I've talked to him a few times before. I kinda know him and didn't find his temper to be bad at all. He was quite polite and didn't put on any airs either, so I found him to be quite well-mannered. But if you offend him, then he wouldn't be that easy to talk to anymore."

"Yeah, I've also come into contact with him once and had quite a good impression. Actually, he's not really as much of a troublemaker as they make him out to be. One time, I was in the elevator and saw Zhang Ye coming toward it from several meters away. I held the door for him. He quickened his pace and even thanked me after that. After speaking to him, I didn't find him to be a bad-tempered person. Instead, I thought that he was someone who's rather humorous and easy to get along with."

Upstairs.

Department 14's office.

Zhang Ye was still humming the little tune as he walked into his program team's office. He was just about to greet his colleagues when he suddenly realized that there was no one around at Section 3. The computers were on and there were a lot of documents on the table too, but there was no one here.

Where is everyone?

Isn't it already time to start working?

Could it be that I got here too early?

When he just thought of that, he suddenly heard the shuffling of feet coming from behind him. More than 30 colleagues of Department 14 came rushing up to him with Little Wang and Huang Dandan

leading the pack. The two of them were holding a rather large cake in their hands as everyone sang a cheerful tune together.

Ha Qiqi was there.

Yan Tianfei also joined in.

Zhang Ye was overwhelmed. "Whoa, I didn't even know that it was my birthday." He didn't usually celebrate his birthdays, but it wasn't his birthday today anyway.

"Director Zhang!"

"This is a surprise!"

"Haha, congratulations on winning the Golden Microphone Award!"

"We're also celebrating the winning of the two coveted television show awards for A Bite of China and The Voice!"

"Surprise!"

So it was for that. Zhang Ye only just realized what was going on. "Thank you, thank you."

Yan Tianfei said with a smile, "We didn't get to celebrate before this, but since everything came together, hur hur, they just spontaneously organized it. Since it is such a happy event, I definitely had to come and join in the fun as well. Teacher Little Zhang, the Golden Microphone Award that you have won this time has also brought a lot of pride to us at Department 14! In the future, when we introduce our department or have a recruitment drive, we can finally say that our department has a host who was awarded the highest honor in the industry!"

Zhang Ye sighed. "I could only achieve this because of your guidance."

"Oh come on, we're a family yet you're still saying such polite words." Yan Tianfei roared with laughter. "Come, come, come. Slice the cake!"

Everyone had discussed in secret to buy the cake and organize the surprise party for Zhang Ye, making him feel rather touched.

After slicing the cake, everyone stood around and enjoyed it while chatting and laughing.

After the surprise celebration, everyone got back to work and continued with whatever they were doing.

It was already coming up to the new year. By the previously arranged work schedule, A Bite of China's program team did not have much to do. It was also the last working day of the year before everyone went on a break for around seven days. By the time they needed to come back to work, it would already be January of the new year. This was the break that Zhang Ye had asked the department to give them.

Ha Qiqi smiled and said, "Director Zhang, where will you go during your break?"

"I don't know, probably just stay at home?" Zhang Ye replied.

Zhang Zuo suggested, "It's the new year soon. Why don't we hold a celebration with just our program team tonight?"

Zhang Ye nodded. "Sure, why don't you guys organize something? I'll sponsor the event."

Little Wang exclaimed, "Director Zhang is so generous in aiding a worthy cause!"

Zhang Ye patted his pockets and said, "I've only got a hundred yuan left anyway, so it's fine as long as it doesn't exceed that amount."

"Yi!"

"Psh!"

His colleagues laughed and booed at him!

Ring ring ring. A phone call came in.

Zhang Ye read the caller ID and blinked several times before hurriedly saying, "You guys keep working. My teacher is calling." Then he went back into his office and answered the call.

It was Su Hongyan's voice on the other end. "Little Zhang, what are you busy with?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "I'm working overtime today, Teacher Su."

Su Hongyan cheerfully laughed along. "There's something I'm calling you about."

"Please do tell."

"It's our Media College Entrance Exam. It has been brought forward by a bit. Are you going to be free? Come back to your alma mater and make a contribution."

"What can I contribute to?"

"If we offer to make you an examiner, would you want to come back?"

"Examiner? Me?"

"That's right."

"Whoa, am I even qualified?"

"You've won the Golden Microphone Award. Why are you still afraid that you're not qualified?"

"I'm just afraid that I would hold up the examinees."

"There are always alumni members who come back as examiners or even as a teacher for the freshmen courses. There are many who are given the title of a teacher, so it's no big deal in your case. This has been a tradition of our school since a long time ago. No matter how experienced we teachers are, it's only in the area of academics and education. We have our limitations, so there are times where we need hosts like you who fight at the front lines to add your valuable experience here."

"Sure, I understand."

“Then it’s settled. Come by early tomorrow as there will be some other things to talk about when we meet.”

Chapter 839: Appointed as Associate Professor at Media College?

On a cloudy Sunday.

When he opened the windows in the morning, it was very smoggy outside.

Smelling the unpleasant air, Zhang Ye coughed a few times and turned around to ask, “Mom, where’s my face mask? Help me find it please. I have an appointment in the morning and will need to go out for a bit.”

His mother replied, “I forgot where I put it.”

“Help me look for it please,” Zhang Ye requested.

“You’re a man. Why do you need to wear a face mask?” his mother mumbled.

“The air is polluted.” Zhang Ye said helplessly, “Don’t believe what the news is saying about Beijing experiencing a heavy fog today. That’s not fog but smog. When you and Dad go out later, remember to put on your face masks too. You must do it, alright?” He then looked at Chenchen who had just crawled out of bed and walked out of the room. “You too, did you get that?”

Chenchen pouted. “Zhang Ye, you’re so slow.”

His mother grunted, “Your uncle’s behaving like a lady.”

Zhang Ye: “...”

His father said, “Just listen to our son. The weather outside isn’t good.”

“See that? It’s still a veteran party member like my dad who is more conscious of his surroundings!” Zhang Ye pointed out.

After putting on the face mask and a pair of sunglasses, Zhang Ye went downstairs and drove straight to Media College.

Media College, whose actual name was the Communication University of China, was previously known as Beijing Broadcasting Institute. Thus, there were people who called it Broadcasting College or CUC, but were nonetheless still referring to it as Media College.

As the leading institute for media education in China, Media College’s entrance exam would naturally attract many interested applicants each year. Moreover, this was not limited to only the broadcaster profession but also included broadcast editing, acting, and other related media professions. Every year, the number of applicants would number several tens of thousands. As such, the interviews could not possibly be completed within just a few days. It would take up to half a month to complete by conducting the examination in batches. Today was the first day of the entrance exam and also the busiest day.

At Media College.

The main entrance.

When he arrived, he immediately saw the place crowded with people. The examinees were there but a greater number of them were actually the examinees' parents. Some female examinees were even accompanied by five or six relatives. A lot of those who had their parents with them were female examinees from the provinces outside of Beijing. As their parents were worried about their pretty daughters coming to Beijing alone to attend the entrance exam, most of them decided to come along as well.

Zhang Ye slowed his car down hoping to take a look at the bevy of beautiful girls. Since they were here to attend the Media College Entrance Examination, how bad could they possibly look? However, when Zhang Ye tried to see, he could only quietly retract his eyes.

Your sister!

The smog was so heavy that he couldn't see shit!

"Hey, look at that?"

"Who is that person?"

"It's Zhang Ye!"

"It's really Teacher Zhang Ye!"

"Wow, why is he here today?"

After parking his car, as he was walking on campus, someone recognized Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye was strolling as he marveled at and reminisced about the changes back here at his alma mater. Then, when he realized that the surrounding examinees were all staring at him, he smiled and nodded at them.

A girl was crouched on the ground and hastily trying to put on some makeup.

When Zhang Ye passed by her, he said, "Don't bother doing that. You'd still have to remove your makeup when you go in there."

The girl was taken aback by this. "Ah?"

Zhang Ye said, "Didn't you read the requirements stated for the first round of examination?"

The girl hurriedly asked, "We can't even have light makeup on?"

Zhang Ye smiled and replied, "Put on your makeup when it's time for the second round instead." Then he walked off.

The girl shouted from afar, "Thank you, thank you, Teacher Zhang, for the reminder!" She excitedly pulled at her friend who came along with her for the entrance exam. "Did you see that? Did you? Zhang Ye spoke to me!"

The examinees were discussing intensely.

“What is Zhang Ye doing here?”

“And he’s here during the entrance exam period too?”

“I don’t know.”

“Maybe he came back to visit his teachers?”

“Surely not, right? They would be exceptionally busy today!”

There were quite a number of media reporters who had been standing by on campus since 5 o’clock in the morning. They all saw Zhang Ye walking over, and perhaps due to their job nature, they also had a keener sense of awareness.

“Zhang Ye is the examiner!” a female reporter from Beijing Times reflexively shouted!

Everyone was in an uproar!

“Examiner?”

“Is that really true!?”

“Zhang Ye will be proctoring the exam?”

“Damn, why wasn’t this important news reported in advance!?”

“Media College has invited Zhang Ye over?”

“Aiyo, Teacher Zhang, wait up!”

“Teacher Zhang!”

All of a sudden, around six reporters were chasing after him!

Seeing this, Zhang Ye knew that it wouldn’t be easy for him to get away if he got surrounded. He quickly turned and ran off, but when the reporters saw this, they pursued even harder. Seeing this, Zhang Ye ran even faster, and when those reporters saw this, they chased even harder. Seeing this, Zhang Ye ran even faster, and when those reporters saw this...

Oh alright.

Enough baloney.

Su Hongyan had received a call from Zhang Ye earlier and was waiting for him at the entrance of a teaching block with a few colleagues. In the end, she witnessed a scene she found both amusing and awkward.

“Hey, Teacher Su!” Zhang Ye ran over, panting hard.

Su Hongyan laughed. “You’re really popular, aren’t you?”

Zhang Ye waved it off. “Don’t mention it. The way I’m being trained here is even harder than training for a marathon. If and when the entertainment industry has enough of me, I’ll go and be a professional athlete so that I can continue serving the people.”

A few of the reporters who had caught up heard this and were amused!

“Hur hur, cut the crap.” Su Hongyan motioned with her head. “Come on in, we’re just waiting for you.”

Zhang Ye turned around and told those reporters, “Sorry, bros and sisses, let’s do the interview at a later date.”

“Sure.”

“Go on and work hard first.”

“Remember to give me an exclusive interview later!”

“You ran really fast, Director Zhang!”

“Aiyo, I’m exhausted from chasing after you!”

Having reached his current status, Zhang Ye had already met many reporters of the industry by now. As long as they were entertainment reporters based in Beijing, Zhang Ye would almost definitely have come across them before. Even for those who were not entertainment reporters, Zhang Ye had seen a lot of them before, like those academic or literary journalists who Zhang Ye was very familiar with by now. Having met so many times by now, a lot of these reporters weren’t interviewing or surrounding Zhang Ye for the first time. Occasionally, they would even joke around with Zhang Ye a little to help improve their relations with each other. They were already rather close in a way.

Upstairs.

As the entrance examination was scheduled for later, Su Hongyan decided to introduce to Zhang Ye the other examiners who were also taking charge of this broadcasting examination. The examinations for the other courses like television or directing were held on another floor.

Su Hongyan said, “Little Zhang, this is Professor Qu Heng.

Zhang Ye quickly put out his hand and greeted very humbly, “Professor Qu.”

Professor Qu laughed and said, “Hello, Professor Zhang.”

Zhang Ye replied, “Please, just call me Little Zhang. I dare not be addressed as a professor in front of you teachers.”

Professor Qu uttered, “Don’t stand on ceremony with us.”

Most of those present were professors and teachers during Zhang Ye’s time at the university. Even though some of them did not teach his class, it was all the same to Zhang Ye as he did not dare to act too full of himself in front of them.

However, Professor Qu still insisted on addressing Zhang Ye as Professor Zhang as he had a very traditional mindset. Since Zhang Ye was a lecturer at Peking University and an associate professor of its Math Department, then in Professor Qu’s opinion, even if Zhang Ye used to be a student of Media College, he was already standing at the same level as them now. Those who could serve would do so as teachers. It didn’t matter whether you were young or old. That was the reason why he wanted to address him properly.

Su Hongyan introduced them one by one. "This is Teacher Xue, my colleague and a voice teacher. When you were still attending university, Teacher Xue wasn't around yet, so you would not have met before."

Zhang Ye stepped forward and held out his hand, "Teacher Xue."

Teacher Xue was somewhat more casual. "Don't mind me if I address you as Teacher Little Zhang."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Being addressed as teacher or professor by all of you is really making me feel awkward. I really don't deserve this at all. Since I'm back at my alma mater, I should be considered a student again."

Su Hongyan laughed pleasantly and pointed at Zhang Ye. "This kid here will always act humble, so everyone, you don't need to be overly polite with him. It will do if you just call him Little Zhang." When she finished introducing everyone, Su Hongyan said, "Even though I believe that everyone already knows him, I'll still do this the proper way. This is Zhang Ye, a student I taught in the past." Pondering for a moment, she added, "He's the most disobedient and worrisome student I've ever had!"

Zhang Ye: "..."

Everyone broke out into laughter. Seeing what Zhang Ye was like, they could already imagine his temper while he was still in school. It wouldn't be surprising if he was a difficult student to handle, so it must have been really hard on Teacher Su.

Finally, Su Hongyan briefed Zhang Ye on his responsibilities and purview as an examiner of the entrance examination.

Zhang Ye browsed through the examinees' information charts as he listened very carefully and seriously to the briefing. There were times when Zhang Ye liked to goof around, but for some matters, Zhang Ye could be very serious as well. When it came to something as important as an entrance examination which could implicate the future of an examinee, Zhang Ye would never joke about it. This was because he has been through the same path before. For those applying for the broadcast hosting course, there was a requirement to fulfill: Male examinees must not be shorter than 175 cm. Back then, Zhang Ye's height was clearly not enough to qualify him, but they had somehow made a one-off exception at that time, and it had forever changed his destiny. Therefore, now that he had become an examinee, Zhang Ye would not make light of the job either.

After understanding the procedures, the few examiners started chatting. Su Hongyan was also involved this time and her role was mainly to assess the cultural score of the applicants.

It was half an hour to the start of the interview round.

Su Hongyan suddenly called Zhang Ye over to the side.

Zhang Ye was startled and asked, "What's the matter, Teacher Su?"

Su Hongyan said, "When I called you, I mentioned that there was something else. Since we have time now, let me talk to you about it."

"What is it?" Zhang Ye asked curiously.

Su Hongyan said, "What is your job scope over at Peking University?"

Zhang Ye replied, "It's just what you'd expect for both the Chinese and Math Departments. But I'm still in the middle of resuming my duties after my suspension was lifted, so I haven't been given any classes yet."

Su Hongyan voiced her understanding. "We had a meeting at the university yesterday to discuss you. This included inviting you to be the examiner as well as another thing, which the president wants me to discuss with you and seek your opinion on. What would you say if the School of Broadcasting wants to offer you a position as a visiting associate professor?"

Zhang Ye was dumbfounded, "Associate Professor? Me?"

Su Hongyan said, "It's the position of visiting professor, so it doesn't clash with your role at Peking University. It's just a title for a temporary position. You can come and give a lecture or two when there's a need. Any other matters need not be handled by you. But even if you have no time to come, you can just hold the title and that's fine too."

Zhang Ye was stunned. "I'm just a student here, so how can I..."

Su Hongyan said, "Don't keep harping on your past student status. You've already won the highest honor for a host and are now one of the most excellent hosts in the industry. In the past, when those alumni members who graduated and also won the Golden Microphone Award, they came back and held the title of professor. But since you're still young, we decided on giving you the title of associate professor instead. As for you, don't be too stressed. The university has already discussed this in the meeting, so as long as you agree to it, the matter is settled. It's just your decision now."

Zhang Ye was still in disbelief. "Why me?"

"Because you're the most suitable candidate." Su Hongyan said with a laugh, "Our Media College is the top-ranked institute for the broadcasting major, that's without a doubt. But the other schools and faculties are rather mediocre. For example, the School of Acting? It's not even comparable to the Central Academy of Drama, Shanghai Theater Academy, or Beijing Film Academy. What about the School of Directing? The School of Music and Recording Arts? There are also better institutes than us in those majors. We're always losing out in the student admissions every year. But if you join us, the entire situation would surely become better. Not only are you a host, you're also a TV director with two shows under your belt and have won the highest awards in the industry. In terms of entertainment shows and documentaries, who other than you would dare claim that they're the best? You've also acted and composed music, so your image and accomplishments are the most suited to Media College. The decision to invite you to join us was made by our School of Broadcasting. But if you agree to join us, the School of Directing and School of Music and Recording Arts would definitely not object to you giving lectures for them. Even if you don't wish to do that, it's entirely up to you."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "This is a good thing and my honor as well. How can I not agree to it? I'm only afraid of giving more trouble to my alma mater, since you know that I'm rather unpopular with a lot of people."

"That's not much trouble at all. Do you think the school wouldn't be able to protect you from that?" After Su Hongyan said that, she was muted by her own words. "Alright, it's true that the trouble you get into can be rather messy at times."

Zhang Ye smiled sheepishly.

Su Hongyan declared, "It's settled then. I'll inform the university about this."

Zhang Ye thanked, "Sure, it's my pleasure."

Since Teacher Su had made this request, Zhang Ye had no reason to reject her. If he could accept the offer from Peking University and take on the position of an associate professor there, how could he possibly reject his alma mater's approach to make him a visiting associate professor here? There was basically no reason to reject them! And it was a good thing no matter how he looked at it!

Associate Professor at Media College?

He had gained yet another professorship now!

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 840: Fun at the exam hall

Later that morning.

The Media College Entrance Examination began.

The so-called first round of exams was actually previously known as the primary exam round. The examiners would give a score according to the examinees' appearance, height, vocalization, recitation, etc. They would then select half of the examinees to enter the next round of evaluation. A long time ago, many of the student admissions at the art institutions only held the primary and secondary rounds for the entrance exam. But later, as the applicant numbers rose, the requirements became stricter and the scope of evaluation also increased. That was the reason why there were the first, second, and third rounds of exams these days, with some institutions even implementing a fourth round of examination.

At the third floor, the location of the broadcasting major exam.

A Media College staff was calling out names in the corridor.

"Examinee 001, Zhang Jiapei."

"Teacher, I'm here."

"Let me verify your exam admission pass."

"Here you are."

"OK, you may enter. You are the first examinee."

The first examinee entered.

Other than Zhang Ye, all the other interviewers were considerably more experienced. After they glimpsed that person, Su Hongyan and an examiner beside her had already started grading him or commenting on the examinee form that was on the table.

That male examinee was a bit nervous. "Good morning, Teachers. My name is Zhang Jiapei and I'm 18 years old. I studied at Hunan No.17 High School and I live in—"

Professor Qu interrupted, "We already have all your particulars here, so you don't have to introduce yourself. Just briefly tell us why you wanted to apply for the broadcasting major?"

The male examinee immediately replied, "It's because I really like languages and the arts. This has always been my dream and I don't want to give up on it so easily. This profession not only makes me like it quite a lot, I've had this feeling for a long time..." He only finished after talking for a long time.

Teacher Xue asked, "Which host do you admire the most? Let's hear why you feel that way."

The male examinee immediately answered, "The host I admire most is Teacher Zhang Ye."

Zhang Ye smiled.

Su Hongyan glanced at him.

The male examinee said, "The reason why I admire Teacher Zhang Ye is because he has the best personality among all the current hosts. I like his coolness, his calmness when dealing with matters, his courage to speak his mind, his mental fortitude that lets him stay unaffected even if the sky is about to collapse. All of those qualities are worthy of learning from!"

A while later, the interview ended.

The teachers wrote down the scores and made notes on their forms.

Then the second examinee entered.

"Good morning, Teachers!" It was a female examinee who looked very spirited and pretty.

A young examiner who looked to be about five or six years older than Zhang Ye said, "Good morning. Please tell us what overall qualities you think a host should possess."

The female examinee replied excitedly without even thinking, "I think that as a host, as an outstanding host, one should possess similar qualities to Teacher Zhang, who has a quick talking ability where he can rattle off five or six words a second without blinking, have strong mental fortitude, and regardless of whether it is a recorded or live broadcast, will still be brave enough to step up without a script. Also, they must be talented, and when faced with anyone in any environment or location, should have a mouth that can dominate the masses. They must not fear authority, have their own persistence and bottom line, while risking fighting it out with an unhealthy corporate culture. Also, they have to..."

After she had finished speaking, Zhang Ye could not help chuckling. "I'm not as extraordinary as you're making me out to be."

However, the female examinee said, "But that's the impression I have of you. I've always set very high standards for myself and you are my final goal!"

Soon after, it was time for the third examinee.

It was another girl, but she did not look as pretty as the previous examinee, though she was still quite good-looking and had a standout point with her height of 173 cm. Her first words of "good morning, Teachers" made Su Hongyan nod unconsciously. Her voice was quite good and sounded very clear and pure.

It was Zhang Ye who posed the first question. "Student, let's hear a recitation from you so that we can hear the specialty of your voice and the control of your language and sentences."

"Yes, Teacher." The tall girl cleared her throat and recited loudly, "Up above the sea's grey flatland, wind is gathering the clouds. In between the sea and clouds proudly soaring the Petrel, reminiscent of black lightning. Glancing a wave with his wingtip, like an arrow dashing cloudward, he cries out and the clouds hear his joy in the bird's cry of courage. In this cry—"

It was "The Song of the Stormy Petrel."

Zhang Ye smiled wryly at this.

The other examiners also looked helpless at this, but they still attentively finished listening to her recital. After they asked a few more interview questions, they started to give their scores.

Next up was the fourth examinee. This person was very young and from the birthdate written on the résumé, he was only 16 years old.

Su Hongyan welcomed, "Hello."

That youth said in a serious tone, "Hello, Teacher!"

Su Hongyan asked, "If you become a broadcaster in the future, what would be your goal? Is there any position that you would like to reach? Or perhaps a deeper pursuit into the arts?"

That youth thought for a moment and said high-spiritedly, "Yes, there is. My goal is to win the highest honor as a host. I want to stand coolly onstage like Teacher Zhang Ye at the Golden Microphone Awards and let everyone in the country hear my voice!"

Zhang Ye again?

Yet another mention of Zhang Ye?

After his interview, the teachers had a quick round of discussion.

Teacher Xue smiled and asked, "Teacher Zhang, it's already the fourth examinee, but they're all your fans?"

Zhang Ye quickly waved it off. "It's only because they saw me sitting here that they said that. It's just a coincidence that it happened this way."

Su Hongyan shook her head and just continued writing down her comments.

Professor Qu suggested, "Let's change the way we ask them later."

"OK. It's better that you ask the questions," Zhang Ye said.

The fifth examinee entered under the examiners' watchful eyes—an average-looking teen, but his features were all in proportion.

"Dear Teachers, I'm Examinee 005, Sun Bonan," the examinee introduced.

Professor Qu nodded. "Tell us briefly, um, other than Professor Zhang Ye here, which host do you like the most? And why?"

The examinee was obviously taken aback. "Other than Teacher Zhang?"

Professor Qu said, "Yes."

The examiners were all thinking that surely this would be it.

But in the end, they simply did not expect that this examinee was even more ruthless than them. "Other than Teacher Zhang Ye, I do not like anyone else! It's because I think that only Teacher Zhang Ye can be considered a real host who is truly professional and above material interests!"

Professor Qu: "..."

Teacher Xue: "..."

Su Hongyan: "..."

The other examiners: "..."

After that examinee's interview, Su Hongyan pouted and said, "Is there any meaning to all this?"

Teacher Xue also laughed. "If that's what the examinees feel, you can't possibly make them say otherwise, right? You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink."

...

Outside.

A few of the examinees who had finished with their first round of exams were already walking out of the college gates.

"Eh, aren't you guys the examinees behind me?"

"That's right, how did you do just now?"

"I don't know, are you guys done with the interview too? What did they ask you?"

"There was a question where they asked me which host I liked."

"How did you answer that?"

"Of course I said it was Zhang Ye!"

"Man, I also said it was Zhang Ye. Back when someone saw Zhang Ye appearing on campus and how some reporters were chasing after him, they guessed that Zhang Ye would be one of the interviewers of this entrance exam for the broadcasting major. So I was already prepared when I entered the exam hall and saw him. If I did not say that I liked him, then who else would I say? Would I have said that I like Chen Ye? It's not like I'm an idiot!"

"What about you guys? Did you get asked the same question too?"

"Yes!"

"The questions are all similar."

At this moment, an examinee who had just finished his interview walked up to them. "My question was not the same. The examiners asked me which host I liked the most other than Zhang Ye."

"Ah?"

"They can even ask that?"

"Then how did you answer that?"

That person smiled shamelessly. "I said that other than Zhang Ye, I do not like anyone else!"

Everyone dropped to their knees at that!

"Holy fuck!"

"Pfft!"

"Bro, you're really thick-skinned!"

"You can even answer it that way?"

Of course, these were just some small incidents that occurred on the first day of the entrance examination. The examinees who followed came in all sorts of variations. Some of them performed outstandingly, some were so nervous to the point that they could not say anything properly, and some even said straight to Zhang Ye that they did not like his manner of hosting.

To Zhang Ye, whether they were sucking up to him or said that they did not like his artistic style, he still looked at everyone impartially. He graded them according to their personal qualities and conditions, and couldn't possibly give them a good score just because they praised him.

In his position as an examiner, Zhang Ye still handled the situation very responsibly.