

Superstar 851

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 851: A class reunion

On the morning of January 2nd.

Media College's class reunion.

Location: Suburbs of Beijing, Yizhuang.

This was Dong Shanshan's new place, a small two-story terraced villa. Located near a park, the surroundings here was very quiet and secluded. There were few people seen around here in the neighborhood.

Zhang Ye pressed the doorbell.

The door opened, revealing Dong Shanshan's incredibly beautiful face.

When Zhang Ye saw the way she dressed, he remarked, "You're still wearing a skirt in the middle of winter?"

Dong Shanshan who was dressed rather sexily just smiled and said, "It's been a long time since we've had a class reunion, so I must make an effort to dress well. Come on in, it's warmer inside."

Zhang Ye asked, "How many of them have arrived?"

"We're just short of you." Dong Shanshan said, "The others are already here."

Upon passing through the doorway, he came into the living room. Although the area could not be compared with those luxurious villas, it wasn't bad either. The floor space of this villa was not big, but at least it had all the basic facilities that a villa should have. At the front was a small garden that was very eye-catching and would definitely look more attractive when the flowers and plants bloomed in spring.

After walking in through the front door, a few figures appeared in front of him. They were watching television at the moment.

Wang He smiled and stood up. "Yo, look who's here?"

Zhang Ye smiled and returned, "Who do you think is here?!"

Beside Wang He, Ma Xufei laughed and slapped the sofa's arm, then came forward in welcome. "Zhang Ye!"

Zhang Ye saw him and said happily, "Old Ma, you're here too?"

"I've always been in Beijing since our graduation, so why wouldn't I be here?!" Ma Xufei went over and gave Zhang Ye a bear hug and then said, "We haven't seen each other in two years already!"

Zhang Ye asked, "So you've been in Beijing all this while? I thought you'd returned to your hometown! Why didn't you keep in touch?"

Ma Xufei laughed and said, "You are getting so popular now, so who'd try to contact you!"

"Don't wander off topic. Are you blaming me indirectly?" Zhang Ye rolled his eyes.

Dong Shanshan pointed at Ma Xufei and said, "I only managed to contact Old Ma a few days ago. He's really difficult to find as his number has changed several times already."

Ma Xufei laughed heartily at that. "I was busy with work, really busy with work."

At this moment, another person walked over and lightly punched Zhang Ye's chest. Then he said, "Zhang'er, you're really popular now. I see your face on the news so much that I've gotten sick of it!"

Zhang Ye chuckled, "Old He!"

He Kui said, "Great, you still know me?"

Zhang Ye quipped, "If you still didn't show your face, I'd really have forgotten about you!"

"You're the one who hasn't shown his face in forever!" He Kui laughed and added, "During the year we graduated, Shanshan, the others, and I organized a party. We were unable to contact you. And you were the only person who did not join us."

Zhang Ye also lightly punched He Kui's chest and commented, "You still look so fit!"

He Kui replied, "Well, I've been training every day."

From across the room, Yu Yingyi came up to him. She gently tucked her hair behind her ears and asked in a sweet voice, "Zhang Ye, do you know who am I? Can you still remember my name?"

Zhang Ye glanced at her with a smile and said, "I can even write your name out backwards, Classmate Yu Yingyi."

Yu Yingyi blinked. "Not bad, you really still remember my name."

Zhang Ye said, "Our class only had so many people. Do you think I have Alzheimer's? Also, how can I possibly forget a beautiful girl's name? Even if it's after 20 years, I will still remember your name, much less just two years."

Yu Yingyi said in satisfaction, "You really know how to spin things!"

"Have to." Zhang Ye smiled.

Everyone sat together on the couch in the living room.

Dong Shanshan announced, "Everyone is here today, but it's just the six of us, so we can just consider it a mini class reunion. I've tried to contact all the others, but some of them were uncontactable, while most of the others are not in Beijing anymore and therefore could not make it. We will organize another large reunion some other day. As for today's reunion, it's nothing much except for us to catch up on our friendship together, while also having a housewarming for my new home."

Ma Xufei clapped and complimented, "Congratulations, school belle. Best wishes for your new home."

"We must celebrate this for sure." He Kui smiled and said, "Besides, I think we should organize such activities more often since we have a place to hold our reunions now."

Dong Shanshan agreed without hesitation. "Sure, just come to my house whenever we have a reunion."

Zhang Ye looked around and said, "The house looks quite nice. When did you buy it?"

"I bought it a few days ago and moved in immediately. It's a resale," Dong Shanshan answered.

Zhang Ye smirked. "Weren't you asking me to help you look for a house? I've been waiting for your call about it, but I didn't know you already bought it. What a friend you are, Classmate Shanshan."

Dong Shanshan's mouth twitched and she laughed. Then she looked at him and said, "Oh come on, have you even had a moment's free time in these past few days? You've been arguing with people on the Internet every day for how many days now? When I saw the way things were going, I thought I should just forget it and look for a house by myself."

Zhang Ye: "..."

Yu Yingyi laughed loudly. "Zhang Ye is still that temperamental guy from before!"

Dong Shanshan shook her head and said, "His temper is etched into his bones. I don't think he can ever change that in his entire lifetime."

"Stop ridiculing me. I still haven't asked you how much this house costs." Zhang Ye quickly changed the subject.

He Kui guessed, "It looks like it's at least 10 million?"

"Less than that." Dong Shanshan replied, "It's cheaper out here in the suburbs and it only cost several million."

He Kui tutted, "That's still very expensive."

Dong Shanshan smiled and explained, "I got a loan since I could only afford the down payment."

Zhang Ye said enviously, "You sure are rich."

Yu Yingyi glanced at Zhang Ye and said, "As a B-list superstar, you can still say that Shanshan is rich? Aren't you embarrassed?"

"I really don't earn as much money as her," Zhang Ye denied, waving his hands as he admitted honestly.

Ma Xufei said in disbelief, "Who are you trying to bluff? Among all of us, you are supposed to be the richest."

Dong Shanshan said, "I think Zhang Ye is not lying, but it's not that he's poor, it's just that that he doesn't have any intentions to make money. From the time since he debuted until now, he has never accepted any commercial events and he's the only such person in the entertainment industry. His income mainly comes from his endorsement fees, and the fixed salary and bonuses as a host. It would be a wonder if he were rich, but me? My contract with Beijing Television is more flexible since I can accept a commercial event every other day. With each event, I can earn about 100 to 200,000 RMB. That's how I managed to pay off the down payment."

He Kui said, "Wasn't Zhang Ye like this in university too? The way he thinks and does things are always very different from others."

Wang He said, "Anyway, both of you are really popular now. How much viewership did A Bite of China get?"

"The viewership rating for the latest episode is not out yet," Zhang Ye responded.

Yu Yingyi said, "We were watching it just now. It's a really good show."

A Bite of China was currently playing on the television in the living room. It was the rerun of the latest episode. Zhang Ye's deep and magnetic voice was emitting from the TV.

He Kui said, "I feel hungry just from watching this. What are we having for lunch?"

Dong Shanshan pointed to the kitchen and said, "I've already bought the ingredients, so why don't we all whip something up ourselves?"

Yu Yingyi suggested, "Sure, I'll be the main chef then."

"OK, we'll help you out."

"As long as you guys don't cause trouble."

"Damn, are you looking down on us?"

"Among us, I think only Old Ma and I know how to cook. As for the rest, it's still a question mark right now."

Everyone was very excited and could not stop talking since the long-awaited class reunion had begun. Actually, while they were still at university, even though they met and attended classes together every day, they did not talk as much as they were talking now. Instead, it was after graduation that their relationship became much closer.

...

It was bustling in the kitchen.

Yu Yingyi seemingly took it all on and chased the others out of the kitchen.

With some free time, Dong Shanshan called Zhang Ye over to the side and said, "Where's the contract?"

"It's here." Zhang Ye took out the contract from his bag and handed it to her.

Dong Shanshan sat down and started flipping through the pages one by one. This was the contract signed by Zhang Ye with Central TV back then. As the contractual terms were quite complicated, she had to carefully look through it bit by bit.

About 20 minutes later.

Dong Shanshan flicked her finger on the contract in satisfaction and said, "Alright, I've understood it quite clearly. The contractual terms are more or less the same as what our station thinks. Your contract

is more flexible and it definitely won't be a problem for you to appear on Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala."

Zhang Ye grinned. "Great."

Dong Shanshan stated, "It looks like we finally have a chance to perform together on the same stage for once."

"Huh?" Zhang Ye asked, "You're the host?"

Dong Shanshan nodded and said, "The station informed me about it two months ago. They reserved a host spot for me in this year's Spring Festival Gala, so it's considered a very good opportunity."

Zhang Ye exclaimed, "The station seems to be rather supportive of you! You're doing really well then."

Dong Shanshan gave him a haughty, teasing look and replied, "If your temper were better and you didn't offend so many people, you could also do whatever you wanted in any television station. Who wouldn't support you then?"

Zhang Ye threw up hands in resignation and said, "That's the problem. This has always been my character."

Suddenly, Dong Shanshan recalled something and was tickled by it. "Actually, that temperament of yours is also quite a good thing. A few days ago, I attended a commercial event for a big company's anniversary celebrations. After that, there were some issues with the agreed payment and they insisted on paying me 50,000 yuan less. Everyone ended up being unhappy after arguing over the matter for a long time. Later on, I don't know where they got the news that you were my classmate from university, but by the next day, they immediately paid up the rest of the money. From this, you should know just how bad your reputation is in the industry. There aren't many who could stay calm upon mention of your name."

At this moment, the rest of their classmates who came over heard this as well and started teasing Zhang Ye.

"Zhang Ye's name is this useful?"

"Hahahaha!"

"Alrighty then, I'll make good use your name someday."

"Right, the next time I go to a restaurant, I will mention your name and maybe I'll get a discount."

Zhang Ye said, "If you don't mention my name, you would be charged 500 yuan, but if you do mention my name, you would be charged 1000 yuan."

Dong Shanshan was amused by that. "Why do you have so little confidence in yourself?"

Zhang Ye rolled his eyes. "How can I still have any confidence when you're all talking about me this way?"

"Alright, alright, hurry up and deal with the proper matters first." Dong Shanshan said, "Go and confirm with Teacher Yao the proposal. After both of your schedules are confirmed, I will inform the station."

"OK."

Zhang Ye walked away from the others and gave Yao Jiancai a call.

The call connected.

"Old Yao, where are you?"

"I'm at home, what's the matter? Are we going to have a drink together?"

"Maybe some other day, let's discuss the serious matters first. Are you free this Spring Festival?"

"We've already wrapped up filming for the previous movie, so I'm free during Spring Festival."

"That's good then. Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala has sent us an invitation, do you want to go?"

"What act will we perform?"

"It's definitely going to be a crosstalk performance."

"I'll go if you're going. It's been some time since we have worked together!"

"Alright, so it's settled then?"

"It's no problem for me. It's a good thing to appear on a Spring Festival Gala. And besides, Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala has one of the better viewership ratings among the provincial channels, so why wouldn't I go, right? As long as you have a good piece to perform, I'll definitely do it!"

"You don't have to worry about the performance, I'll handle that."

"It's settled then!"

To a celebrity like Yao Jiancai, there was no chance at all for him to appear on Central TV's Spring Festival Gala because he was not popular enough. Old Yao's current popularity was more or less at the level of Dong Shanshan's, but he would surely be overtaken by Dong Shanshan soon. As for the other provincial channels' Spring Festival Galas, they also celebrated it in very grand ways every year. Those celebrities who did well on those Spring Festival Galas could sometimes even attract a similar level of attention to those cast on Central TV's Spring Festival Gala. But Yao Jiancai's key problem was that his main profession was actor, not idol. In addition, he was also quite old and there were hardly any acts he could perform for the gala, so how would he get cast on a Spring Festival Gala? By displaying his acting skills on stage? No one would watch that. Then how about singing? He couldn't sing either. Therefore, there wasn't an invitation for Yao Jiancai to appear in any of the Spring Festival Galas.

It was the same for Zhang Ye. Singing? His singing was not good, but what about his main profession as host? He was still mainly a variety show host and not the type of host who could do hosting for a Spring Festival Gala. Even if he hadn't fell out with Central TV, they were also unlikely to get him to be the host of the Spring Festival Gala, much less get him to do a personal performance. What could he perform? A poem recitation?

However, with Yao Jiancai and Zhang Ye grouped together, the situation has become entirely different!

The crosstalk of this young and old pairing was just too famous!

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 852: Too much to drink!

In the afternoon.

Lunch was ready and the few of them were already starting to drink.

"Yingyi's culinary skill is rather good!"

"I'm just average. Come and have a taste."

"Come, I suggest we toast first."

"Right, it's rare for us classmates to gather together, so we must definitely finish this first toast. There mustn't be a drop left!"

"You guys drink the white wine, while we girls will have the red."

"OK, cheers!"

"Cheers!"

"Let's have parties more often in the future. I really miss all of you a lot!"

After a bite of the food, Ma Xufei lamented, "Back then, our class were full of talent. In the entire school, we had people who were able to do all sorts of things. He Kui had already entered the student council by the second year, while Yu Yingyi's talent stood out since freshmen year. She was able to come up against anyone and surely had a performance lined up for her during the school's New Year Gala. Then, there were also Wang He and Dong Shanshan, both top of the class straight-A students who always either got first or second every year in school. They had already been shortlisted by television stations before they went on to finish their final year of school. Meanwhile, Zhang Ye was already a legendary figure in the school itself. He would always maintain a low profile and didn't mix much with others, but at crunch time, he was someone who would challenge the teachers' decisions. He was constantly criticized by the school authorities and had only managed to stumble towards graduation in the end. That Zhang Ye could successfully graduate with his certificate was in my opinion a real miracle."

Zhang Ye didn't like what he heard. "Was I as bad as how you described me?"

"It can only be worse, not better," Ma Xufei replied with a laugh.

He Kui also said, "I wouldn't have believed it if you told me that after our graduation, Zhang Ye would be the one who is doing the best among us. I thought that this guy would even find it hard to secure a job."

Zhang Ye didn't know how to react. "It was indeed difficult to find a job back then."

Ma Xufei commented, "But you've still made it somehow."

Wang He observed, "Of the students from our class, I suppose it's Zhang Ye who has gone the furthest in his career?"

Yu Yingyi said, "Rather than just talking about our class, even if we include the three classes before us at Media College, it's still just Zhang Ye alone who has gone that far. He's even gone back to our alma mater and gotten appointed as an associate professor there."

Zhang Ye shook his head. "I'm just walking ahead of everyone by a little. It'll be harder to go further in the future. If there are no significant changes, I believe I'll have reached my potential as a top B-list celebrity. With my looks, how can I ever match you guys? I'm too limited by that."

He Kui remarked, "Being the top of the B-list celebrities is already a very high position."

Dong Shanshan asked, "I've only really been in contact with Zhang Ye for the past two years, so what have the rest of you been up to?"

Yu Yingyi suddenly giggled and blinked a few times. Then she glanced at Zhang Ye and said, "Well, I'll likely become Zhang Ye's colleague in a few more days."

"Ah?" Zhang Ye was a little surprised.

Dong Shanshan smiled and inquired, "You're joining Central TV?"

Everyone looked at Yu Yingyi.

Yu Yingyi smiled and answered, "Yes. I've been working at an online video hosting site and doing commentary work for sports. I cover mainly basketball—both the NBA and CBA—while I also did some coverage on soccer a few times. I think I can be considered to have a little fame within the industry and have also gained quite a lot of experience, so I contacted someone over at the Central TV Sports Channel and was given an interview chance last month which I did quite well at. When my contract with the online video hosting site ends next week, I'll be reporting to Central TV Department 1 for my new job, so you guys must tune into Central TV Department 5 more often in the future. I might just be doing the coverage at that time."

Zhang Ye congratulated, "That's great."

Ma Xufei also quickly offered his congratulations. "That's a good thing!"

"The Sports Channel is a good place," Wang He also said with a smile.

Yu Yingyi shrugged and said with a smile, "This job of mine has its pros and cons. The pros are that the competition is not so fierce since I'm a female commentator. In the field of sports commentary, there aren't too many women around. You can count them on your fingers and you would find only a few in the entire country who are considerably more well-known. Therefore, it wasn't difficult for me to find this job as almost every place would want me if I applied. But the cons are equally as much as the pros too. A woman in the sports commentary field has limitations since I am not a professional athlete, so it takes more work for me to learn and research the professional terms used. You guys wouldn't be able to guess how many matches I watch every day. I can't get the names of any of the players and coaches wrong, including the rules as well. If I were to say something wrong, there would be netizens criticizing me the very next day saying things like 'See, I told you that a female commentator wouldn't do. They don't understand sports at all.' So there's a lot of pressure on me. Just like how Zhang Ye mentioned just now, it's very difficult for me to advance any further even if I want to."

Wang He looked at her. "Why did you choose to go into this profession?"

"I guess it's cause I like it." Yu Yingyi threw up her hands.

Dong Shanshan smiled and said, "Yingyi has always liked watching ball games since university. She's always watching the overnight games and drinking beer with the boys, so to have chosen a sports commentary job is in my opinion not strange at all."

Yu Yingyi said happily, "I would have liked to be doing television hosting like you guys too, but the competition there is really too intense and I'm also not as beautiful as Shanshan, so I thought I'd just forget it." Saying that, she raised her glass and said to Zhang Ye, "Come, I will separately give a toast to Zhang'er. Since we'll be working in the same organization soon, let's keep in touch often."

"Sure." Zhang Ye clinked glasses with her and drank up.

Dong Shanshan sarcastically remarked, "Yingyi, I suggest you steer clear of him at work. Almost no one at Central TV has not been offended by Zhang Ye before. Be careful that you get dragged in by him as well."

Yu Yingyi also quipped, "Oh yes, then I better pretend to not know him."

Zhang Ye: "..."

Everyone was laughing along at that.

The lunch party lasted until past 4 in the afternoon, so they just continued on with dinner after that. As there wasn't enough food, Yu Yingyi and Dong Shanshan went about to cook a few more dishes. They were finally done making dinner too.

Wang He had a little much to drink and was speaking with a slur. "Le's 'ave muh! We won't go home 'til we're drunk!"

"Yes, if everyone gets drunk, just stay over at my place tonight." Dong Shanshan had also had quite a lot of red wine and her face was extremely flushed. "I have a lot of rooms at my place here anyway, so feel free to stay over. Those who drove here won't have to drive back home then."

Yu Yingyi suggested, "Why don't we go sing karaoke?"

Zhang Ye agreed without hesitation. "I'm fine with anything."

Dong Shanshan snapped her fingers. "We can sing at my place. My TV has a karaoke function included!"

He Kui and Ma Xufei shouted, "Sing!"

Zhang Ye volunteered himself. "I'll take the first song!"

They drank more alcohol as they sang, this time downing beer instead!

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At 9 PM.

Everyone at the villa was moving around unsteadily from drinking too much.

Wang He had gotten drunk early on and had gone to the bathroom to throw up. He Kui was a little better as he went to pat Wang He on the back as he threw up. But witnessing what Wang He had thrown up grossed him out and He Kui couldn't control himself as he also threw up after Wang He was done.

Ma Xufei was still on the mic, though it was better to describe him as howling rather than singing.

Zhang Ye could no longer stand properly. "I'm tired from the singing."

Dong Shanshan said with a breath laden with the smell of alcohol, "All of you stay over tonight!"

"Sure. Even if you want us to leave, we won't be able to leave," Yu Yingyi replied in a drunken state with many bottles of beer in front of her. She probably had more to drink than any of the men today.

Dong Shanshan divvied up the rooms by saying, "We'll all stay in the rooms upstairs. Where's He Kui and Wang...He?"

Yu Yingyi answered, "In the bathroom throwing up."

"They'll both share a room." Dong Shanshan said, "Zhang Ye and Ma Xufei will share another...room. Yingyi, you sleep together with me. My bed is bigger so we can sleep on it even if we lie down horizontally."

Ma Xufei said, "Let's sing a little while longer!"

Yu Yingyi grabbed a microphone and said, "Alright, I'll sing with you."

Zhang Ye couldn't hold it any longer and hiccupped from drinking too much. He clutched Dong Shanshan and said, "I can't drink any further. I have to sleep now. Is there anywhere I can bathe? I need a bath."

"Is upstairs," Dong Shanshan slurred. "It's in the bath...room upstairs. There isn't one...in the one downstairs."

"Alright. You guys keep going." Zhang Ye stumbled upstairs.

Dong Shanshan told him from behind, "Rest early after you shower. We still have to go to Beijing Television for the Spring Festival Gala dress rehearsal tomorrow."

"It's tomorrow?"

"Yes."

"OK, I understand."

Upstairs.

In the bathroom.

Zhang Ye had just taken off his clothes when Yao Jiancai called.

"The dress rehearsal's tomorrow?" Yao Jiancai proposed, "Then why don't we do some short practice?"

Zhang Ye exclaimed, "Ah? Now?"

Yao Jiancai said, "Are we going to wait till the last minute then?"

Zhang Ye said, "I haven't even prepared what to say yet. I drank a little too much today."

"That's good timing. Alcohol will give you inspiration." Yao Jiancai laughed. "We still have to come up with a routine by tomorrow no matter what anyway, or else we would seem to unprofessional if we were to go for the rehearsal without any preparation, wouldn't we?"

Zhang Ye said helplessly, "Alright then, let me think for a bit."

After talking for more than ten minutes, they hadn't actually come up with anything at all. Zhang Ye was feeling too dizzy at the moment and sometimes didn't even know what he was talking about. After hanging up, Zhang Ye stepped into the bathtub and soaked in it. He applied some body wash and closed his eyes, feeling extremely relaxed.

Outside, Ma Xufei's singing had stopped.

Zhang Ye stood up unsteadily from the bathtub and wash himself clean before drying his hair and body. Then he put on his underwear and stepped out of the bathroom. It was all dark, but he only roughly remembered that he had left the lights on before he went in to bathe, so he didn't care much about this. His eyes were already closing and even the moonlight shining through the windows was spinning around. He slowly made his way to the bed and then flipped open the blanket and snuggled right into bed.

The bed was very soft.

The blanket was also very warm!

Was this a battery-operated electric mattress?

When Zhang Ye's head hit the pillow, he fell almost immediately asleep. After a while, he felt as though the bed was really crowded like there was something on both sides of him. He turned around and put his hand over to the left side and smelled a light fragrance with his nose. It was like somebody was there.

A shoulder jerked and moved around a little. "Cut it out."

Hearing that, Zhang Ye impatiently turned and faced the other way. He placed his legs in a position that he found to be most comfortable and laid down. But there was yet another hint of fragrance that he could smell, a fragrance that was quite different from the left side. The smell of alcohol was heavily mixed into this light scent.

Then he also a voice over on this side.

"Don't push me. I can't drink anymore...I said I can't drink any...more, go find someone...else to drink with you!" This voice kept murmuring over and over again without stopping.

In the end, the sound kept buzzing in Zhang Ye's ears and it irritated him so much that he turned around again, annoyed, preferring to face the left side and sleep instead.

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Chapter 853: What a mess!

The next morning.

Daylight broke. No one knew what time it was. A cell phone had been ringing noisily somewhere, either on a bed or table, for some amount of time.

Ring, ring, ring.

Ring, ring, ring.

Suddenly, a sleepy female voice started mumbling.

"Whose phone is that?"

"Shanshan, Shanshan."

"Your cell phone is ringing."

On the other side of the bed, another female voice replied sleepily, "That's not my cell phone's ring tone. It should be yours. Quickly turn it off. Hu, I want to sleep a bit more."

"It isn't mine either."

"Then whose is it?"

"Just turn it off first."

"Where is the phone?"

The two of them were talking.

Suddenly, another voice sounded from the bed, "Huh? That sounds like my cell phone. Who the hell is calling so early in the morning?!" Zhang Ye lifted up the blanket that was covering his face as he ranted impatiently.

Dong Shanshan shouted beside him, "Hurry up and turn it off. I need to sleep!"

"OK," Zhang Ye replied subconsciously.

Suddenly, the entire room went quiet!

Yu Yingyi was immediately jolted awake at the other side of the bed. She felt shocked as she sat up straight from the bed and looked dumbfounded at Zhang Ye who slept together with her and Dong Shanshan in the same bed.

Dong Shanshan also finally realized what was going on as she looked at Zhang Ye, then rubbed her eyes as though to confirm again.

"Zhang Ye?"

"Zhang Ye?!"

Zhang Ye was the last person to react. He looked shocked at Dong Shanshan to his left and glanced at Yu Yingyi to his right. He was the most startled one among them and nearly fell off the bed in shock. He exclaimed in panic, "Aiyo, my god! Why are the two of you are sleeping in my bed?"

Yu Yingyi nearly fainted. "That's what I should be asking!"

Dong Shanshan looked at Zhang Ye and said, "This is my bed!"

"Didn't you tell me to sleep in this room?" Zhang Ye stared.

Dong Shanshan said in a speechless manner, "Who said you could sleep in this room? Yingyi and I were to sleep in my room. I arranged for you and Ma Xufei to sleep in another room. Didn't you come up first and bathe?"

Zhang Ye said very assured, "Yeah, I crawled into bed right after bathing. How would I know which room was for Ma Xufei and me? I thought this was our room."

Dong Shanshan rubbed her forehead. "You mean you couldn't even feel that there were two human beings in the bed? And you still had the cheek to crawl into the bed?"

Zhang Ye defended. "But neither of you said anything when I crawled into the bed too, right?"

Dong Shanshan returned, "Yingyi and I had too much to drink, so how would we know that someone had crawled into the bed after us?"

"I drank a lot too and didn't know that there were people in the bed either." Zhang Ye countered, "I fell asleep as soon as I hit the bed!"

Yu Yingyi smacked Zhang Ye in annoyance and stated, "Aiyo, you're really great, huh. I really have to give it to you." Then she told Dong Shanshan, "Shanshan, let's stop reasoning with him already. Hurry up and put on our clothes!"

The two of them were not wearing many clothes.

But Zhang Ye had even less on.

Only when Yu Yingyi mentioned it did Zhang Ye start to feel embarrassed. But he still gave a quick glance at the both of them and that set his heart racing, though he quickly curbed it by thinking other thoughts by looking in the direction of the foot of the bed. But there were also some rather inappropriate things that he saw lying over there, like a pair of stockings that were thrown there by someone, as well as red and purple underwear. Some were lying on top of the blanket, some were on the floor, and there was also a piece hanging off the ledge of the foot of the bed. The other clothes were entangled within the blanket where Zhang Ye's feet were. He could feel the clothes there when he wiggled his toes.

Zhang Ye withdrew his legs quickly and sat up to put on his clothes in a hurry. "Where are my clothes?"

However, Dong Shanshan pushed him back down and said, "Stay under the blanket for now and let us get dressed first."

Yu Yingyi was putting her clothes on. However, with Zhang Ye still beside them, she could not stand up straight and wear her clothes in the open. She was grabbing hold of the blanket to cover herself while putting on her clothes with the other hand.

Noticing this situation, Zhang Ye simply covered himself with the blanket and said, "You two go ahead and put on your clothes first."

Initially, he thought that it would be total darkness under the blanket and he would not be able to see anything. This action was also to tell Dong Shanshan and Yu Yingyi: You can put on your clothes without worry of me watching. But when he covered himself with the blanket, he found out that he could still see through it judging by the light rays coming in. Dong Shanshan was sitting at the other side of the bed while Yu Yingyi was in a half-sitting and half-bending position at the other end of the bed. She was still holding onto the blanket but Zhang Ye could still see everything from where he was. It even looked like he could see everything more clearly than before.

Fine, he decided to close his eyes instead.

Zhang Ye had a rather good sense of consciousness this time.

Thinking about it, last night's matter was really too coincidental. Zhang Ye had talked on the phone groggily with Yao Jiancai for a long time before he went to bathe. Dong Shanshan and Yu Yingyi who he reckoned to be drunk as well did not know there was someone else in the bathroom, so they fell asleep after getting into bed. When Zhang Ye came out of the bathroom, he just lifted up the blanket and crawled in without even thinking. At that time, he thought that the warm feeling he had was because it was an electric mattress.

Hai, this was all fated.

Next to him, he heard the two women gossiping about him.

Yu Yingyi remarked, "This rascal is terrible."

Dong Shanshan replied, "I think he did it on purpose."

Yu Yingyi agreed, "Hmph, I think the same as you."

Zhang Ye could no longer bear to listen. "Hey, can you two not be like that?"

Suddenly, the thud of approaching footsteps came from outside the room. Then someone knocked on the door.

Dong, dong, dong.

"Shanshan? Yingyi?" It was Ma Xufei's voice.

Wang He also said, "Are you two awake yet?"

Yu Yingyi was stunned. Then she said to the door, "I just woke up, what's the matter?"

Behind the door, Wang He said, "There's a cell phone downstairs which I think is Shanshan's. It was ringing for a long time, so I had a look at it and saw more than a dozen unanswered calls. I brought it up for Shanshan."

Dong Shanshan immediately said, "Place it outside first. We haven't put on our clothes yet."

Wang He said, "Uh, alright then."

Another set of footsteps could be heard coming upstairs. Then, from outside the door, someone asked, "Where's Zhang Ye?" It was He Kui's voice.

Ma Xufei answered, "I don't know. I don't remember seeing him since last night. I went to bed after singing and didn't see him beside me when I woke up in the morning."

He Kui inquired curiously, "Then where did he go? His car is still parked outside."

Ma Xufei asked, "Shanshan, Yingyi, did the two of you see Zhang Ye?"

Yu Yingyi thought to herself, Of course we saw him. This guy was sleeping in the same bed as us for the entire night. "We didn't see him."

Dong Shanshan laughed. "I think he took a taxi back home by himself last night."

Ma Xufei acknowledged, "I see. Alright then, what are the two of you going to do then? Shanshan, don't you have something today? I recall that you told Zhang'er that you have a rehearsal today for the Spring Festival Gala?"

Hearing that, Dong Shanshan was startled. "Aiyo, what time is it now?"

Wang He said from the hallway, "It's already 9.30 AM."

"Oh no! Oh no! I'm running late!" Dong Shanshan could no longer be bothered with Zhang Ye's presence as she leaped off the bed. She jogged to the front of the wardrobe and pulled open it. Taking out a random skirt, she immediately slid it over her legs.

When the people outside heard that, they said, "Then you should hurry up. Attending your job is more important. Us guys will just leave first. Let's have another reunion some other day if there's time. We're all in Beijing anyway."

"We're leaving, Shanshan."

"Yingyi, we'll see you again at the next reunion."

The three of them went downstairs and left.

Yu Yingyi knew that Dong Shanshan was in pressed for time as the Spring Festival Gala was the biggest annual event of a television station. It was also the first time that Dong Shanshan got to be the host for a Spring Festival Gala, so no matter what, she must not be delayed any longer. After she put on her pants, she hastily handed some clothes to Dong Shanshan.

"Is this OK?"

"Anything is fine, anything is fine!"

"Don't worry about your hair, I'll help you to comb it."

"Thanks, Yingyi."

"Don't worry about it. Hurry. I hope you can still make it on time."

"I definitely won't make it in time! The rehearsal was scheduled to start at 9 AM!"

While Dong Shanshan was putting on her clothes, she remembered something. She looked at the direction of Zhang Ye who was still covered by the blanket. "Don't just sit there, get up quickly. Don't you have to go to the dress rehearsal too?"

Zhang Ye could only uncover his head as he coughed and quickly started looking for his clothes. In the end, he remembered that he'd left his clothes in the bathroom last night, so quickly went to the bathroom to change. After he put on his clothes and came out, Dong Shanshan and Yu Yingyi were also ready. When the three of them faced each other, Yu Yingyi felt the most embarrassed, followed by Zhang Ye, then Dong Shanshan. As Zhang Ye had slept in the same bed with Dong Shanshan before, even though he had a girlfriend now, it was not that embarrassing between them. However, Yu Yingyi was different. Having spent the night with their faces so close to each other, how could she not feel awkward?

As Yu Yingyi was an easygoing person, after the awkward moment, she said, "Alright, we'll settle the score with Zhang Ye in the future. Both of you hurry up and leave first!"

Dong Shanshan quickly picked up her bag and said, "Alright, let's go!"

"Hurry!" Yu Yingyi urged.

Dong Shanshan's cell phone rang. She rapidly dragged Zhang Ye downstairs while she answered the call. "Hello, Brother Hu."

Hu Fei questioned in a slightly angry manner: "Where are you?"

Dong Shanshan said: "I'm about to arrive. I'm stuck in a traffic jam now because of an accident ahead. The cars aren't even moving."

"The dress rehearsal has started already. Everyone is waiting for you."

"I'm sorry, Brother Hu, I'll be right there!"

"Hurry up, the execs are getting impatient!"

Dong Shanshan really could lie without blinking an eye.

Then, Zhang Ye's cell phone started ringing as well.

The moment he answered the call, the angry voice of Yao Jiancai surged out at him. "Little Zhang, you must have overslept, right? What time is it already? How many times have I called you? Why are you not here yet?"

Zhang Ye used the same excuse as Dong Shanshan and said: "It's a traffic jam....A traffic jam! I'm about to arrive!"

Yao Jiancai shouted: "What do you mean 'about to arrive'? I can hear the sound of your footsteps going down the stairs!"

Zhang Ye said embarrassed, "Help me delay a little bit. I'll be there very soon."

"All the other celebrities and actors have already arrived. It's just you left now. Some of the Beijing Television's execs have already come over to ask me, but I don't even know how to explain to them. Ai, you are making us seem too unprofessional. Besides, we haven't even practiced our lines together, so how are we going to perform later?"

"Let's do it spontaneously."

"Anyway, just hurry up!"

"Sure."

As they had too much to drink last night, they could not possibly drive in their current condition. As a result, Zhang Ye and Dong Shanshan decided to get a taxi and frantically rushed to the television station.

Dong Shanshan was holding up a compact to touch up her makeup in the taxi. She said, "I'm in deep trouble because of you."

"Ah? Why are you blaming me?" Zhang Ye didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

"I will be getting chewed out by them later." Dong Shanshan said worried, "If anything goes wrong, I might just get excluded from hosting the Spring Gala Festival this time."

Zhang Ye also knew that Dong Shanshan's transgression this time was not exactly light. As she was still a newcomer and not a veteran host yet, how could she be late by almost an hour for such a major gala rehearsal? This was really unacceptable. Zhang Ye was fine with it since it wouldn't make a difference to him. He didn't have much of a reputation anyway, so what was the big deal even if he got there late? Furthermore, with his current status and diverse abilities in the industry, Beijing Television would definitely not take it up with him over such a trivial matter. However, it was different for Dong Shanshan. They wouldn't dare reprimand Zhang Ye, but why wouldn't they reprimand her?

Zhang Ye said, "Don't worry about it. I'll help you explain later."

Dong Shanshan looked at him. "And how do you propose to do that?"

"I'll let you know when we get there," Zhang Ye simply said.

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 854: Crosstalk routine I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala!

Later that morning.

News regarding the Spring Festival Gala continued to get published.

The latest rumor online regarding the Central TV Spring Festival Gala show list was leaked. From the looks of the show list, it was rather authentic and unlikely to be made up by netizens. This was most probably the actual show list for this year's Spring Festival Gala.

Songs:

Sun Hang – "Homeland".

Zhang Xia, Li Qixi – "A Taste of Home".

Zhang Yuanqi – "In the Sunlight".

Language Acts:

Gong Qing, Ci Xiufang, Xiaohai – Sketch: "Why is it You Again?"

Tang Dazhang, Li Yan, Guo Binzi (feat. 60 participants) – Crosstalk routine: "A Family Reunion".

The netizens were ridiculing them in the comments section down below.

"Why is it always these familiar names?"

"That's right, the majority of them are the same people."

"Sister Zhang is doing a solo this time? She's not partnering with Grandma Zhang?"

"A 60-person crosstalk routine? I've nothing I can say to that!"

"Pfft, has Tang Dazhang brought his entire Crosstalk Society along to participate in the gala? Is he moving his entire family over?"

"What are they trying to do? 60 people doing a crosstalk together? Are there crosstalks done by so many people at once? Aiyo, why is it so comical!? Was Tang Dazhang driven mad by Zhang Ye last year? I'm not surprised that Tang Dazhang will be appearing on the Gala since he is a regular performer there, but how are they going to perform a crosstalk with 60 people? Are they forcefully trying to come up with something innovative? Is this even innovation? Wouldn't it get messy with so many people performing on stage? Moreover, isn't it meaningless to have so many participants? It's not like we're competing on who has more people!"

"Who knows what Tang Dazhang and his people are thinking."

"Why did the Spring Festival Gala program team even allow this to pass?"

"The Spring Festival Gala is getting weirder and weirder by the year!"

"Where's Zhang Ye's name? Why didn't they include my favorite Zhang Ye?!"

"Hur hur, our Teacher Zhang Ye did not even make it to the list. Central TV's Spring Festival Gala simply must have not approached him. It's too bad that Zhang Ye offended so many people, otherwise he might've really had the chance to appear on the Spring Festival Gala this year."

"A 60-person crosstalk routine will simply be unbearable to watch. Tang Dazhang's crosstalk routines are really not enjoyable to listen to at all. Every year, his opening line is always 'We meet again, my friends' and that totally annoys me! They should have just invited Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai instead. Their crosstalk routines are so fucking fun to watch! I've already listened to 'I Will Reject the Three Vulgarities' ten times!"

"If Zhang Ye is not involved in the Spring Festival Gala, there'll be nothing interesting to look forward to!"

"That's right, there won't be any fights to see anymore."

"Pfft, above posters, you're really amazing."

...

Beijing Television.

At the rehearsal venue, the hall was packed with people. It was quite chaotic. There were lion dancers, people practicing acrobatics such as somersaulting, while some were facing away from the others and doing their vocal warm-ups. There were many familiar faces among them. A lot of them were celebrities who were frequently featured on television, although they were not very popular. The dressing and waiting rooms were all fully occupied!

When Zhang Ye and Dong Shanshan arrived, it was already 10 AM.

Hu Fei and Yao Jiancai anxiously came over to them. "Little Zhang, Little Dong! Aiyo, you two have finally arrived. Hurry up, this way!"

They went to a standalone waiting room.

Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala had invited quite a number of big names this time. Zhang Ye might not be the most popular celebrity among them, but he was definitely one of the more popular ones in this group of guests. With his current status, the television station would definitely not force him and Yao Jiancai to wait in the hall. Instead, they prepared a place for them to practice separately from the others.

Hu Fei was the assistant overall planner for Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala this year. As a result, he had a lot of work to handle at the location and was kept busy the entire morning. Beads of sweat ran down his forehead as he said, "You two are really something to drop the ball at such an important time. Don't bother explaining, the dress rehearsal is starting soon. Hurry up and get prepared!"

Dong Shanshan heaved a sigh of relief. "It hasn't started yet?"

Hu Fei replied, "The equipment needed some additional tuning, so the rehearsal was delayed by an hour. If the two of you came another fifteen minutes later, it would really have started and you wouldn't be able to explain your way out of it."

Zhang Ye laughed. "See, our timing was perfect."

Hu Fei stared daggers at Zhang Ye. "Don't make me angry. Oh right, I informed Teacher Yao a while ago. Considering that we only invited the two of you to appear on the show at the last minute, we understand that time might be a little tight. Therefore, the execs have instructed that you may perform anything for today's rehearsal and say whatever you like. As long as you use up the 11 to 12 minutes allocated to the two of you for the actual Spring Festival Gala performance, there won't be a problem. We still have to confirm the actual duration allocated for it after we calculate the overall time during this rehearsal. Therefore, it's still not too late to go back and fine-tune the crosstalk routine that you two have planned for the actual day."

"They are so trusting of us?" Zhang Ye asked in surprise.

Hu Fei returned, "You're a former employee of our Beijing TV, so how could the station not know what you're capable of? The execs are very assured of your creativity and spontaneity. When the final

performance has been worked out, it won't make a difference regardless of whether the station approves it today or on the actual day. Furthermore, we have to consider that a lot of people from the station are present today and there are also invited guests as well. The crosstalk routine by you and Teacher Yao is the main highlight of our Spring Festival Gala this year, so the station head wishes to keep it under wraps and doesn't want reveal it in advance."

"Alright, I understand." Zhang Ye knew what to do.

Just say whatever we want?

Then today would be an easy day.

At this moment, the back door opened.

"Director Chang."

"Director Chang!"

A middle-aged man led a group of people in from outside. Zhang Ye knew that this person was the executive director of Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala this year—Chang Xiaoliang.

Chang Xiaoliang nodded at Hu Fei first. "Old Hu, have you already informed Teacher Zhang and Teacher Yao?"

"I've told them already," Hu Fei replied.

Chang Xiaoliang greeted Zhang Ye. "Hello, Teacher Zhang."

Zhang Ye smiled and shook hands with him. "Hello, Director Chang. I've heard a lot about you."

"Same here, same here." Chang Xiaoliang explained, "We gave you such late notice this time because we only managed to get an approval from the station at the last minute."

"It's fine. Old Yao and I are only the icing on the cake for this event."

"You two have provided us with timely assistance."

"Please don't put it that way."

The two of them exchanged some pleasantries.

In actuality, Chang Xiaoliang was not speaking without facts. Based on Zhang Ye's present popularity and status, appearing on Central TV's Spring Festival Gala might still be a little difficult, since that would depend on work relationships, censorship rules, and other factors. Like at last year's Spring Festival Gala, even Heavenly Queen Zhang Yuanqi and veteran songstress Zhang Xia had nearly missed out from appearing on it. However, it was not an issue for Zhang Ye to get onto a provincial station's Spring Festival Gala. He could basically choose between any television station's gala to appear on if he wanted. This time, the fact that he had chosen to appear on Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala was naturally helping them out. If you looked at the other provincial stations' Spring Festival Gala, they had to spend a lot of money just to invite some A- or B-list celebrities to join their shows! To show their sincerity, an executive director of a gala had even personally flown to Hong Kong to invite a big name celebrity who was based there. But what about Zhang Ye? He did not even ask about the appearance fee and just

agreed after getting a call. He was basically giving face to Beijing Television Station, so Chang Xiaoliang also treated Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai with great respect.

Likewise, Zhang Ye needed this opportunity. Though he was well qualified to appear on a provincial station's Spring Festival Gala, the key was that no one dared to invite him. They feared that he would stir up trouble or that it would affect their interpersonal relationships in the industry. No matter how popular Zhang Ye was, he still couldn't appear on a provincial station's Spring Festival Gala. Beijing Television had only dared to invite him because they were an old employer of his. Having spent much time working with him before, they had both fought and helped each other along the way. Therefore, the station was willing to put more trust in him than the other television stations since they had a deeper bond so to speak.

As such, this was a win-win situation, with both sides taking what they needed.

In the back, two assistant directors were criticizing Dong Shanshan as they looked at her in anger!

One of them said, "Little Dong, what's the matter with you? How could you drop the ball on such a big occasion? We planned for the rehearsal to open at 9 AM, but look at what time it is now! Do you still have any discipline?"

Dong Shanshan was just about to speak.

However, Zhang Ye, who wasn't too far away from them, interjected, "It was my fault."

The two assistant directors looked at him in a rather stunned manner.

Zhang Ye said in embarrassment, "I went to look for Shanshan this morning to ask her for some updates about the Spring Festival Gala and then had a discussion with her about the shows, so we got delayed as I had forgotten about the time. Actually, we could still make it on time, but because of a car accident that happened, we got stuck in traffic and came late."

"Discussing the shows?" one of them questioned.

Zhang Ye bluffed, "Well, we weren't discussing the crosstalk routine, but just got engrossed in the discussion when we exchanged some views about skits. I thought that Shanshan should be able to perform well in a skit. Don't they always have hosts these days who make guest appearances in a skit? Oh right, Shanshan and I were classmates in university. During our school days, we always liked to discuss such things and couldn't stop once we started talking about it."

Chang Xiaoliang wondered, "Teacher Zhang can write skits too?"

Zhang Ye said lightheartedly, "Just a little. We were just randomly talking about it."

Chang Xiaoliang said excitedly, "I would really look forward to a sketch from you."

"Ha, the show lineup has already been fixed, so we'd have to wait for next year," Zhang Ye said.

Chang Xiaoliang nodded. "Sure, there's still plenty of opportunities to work together in the future."

The two assistant directors looked at Dong Shanshan and couldn't say anything more. Zhang Ye had already volunteered to take all the blame, so what else could they say? Surely they couldn't start

reprimanding Zhang Ye, right? He was an associate professor at Beijing University and Media College, had won the highest honor in hosting, and was a popular B-list celebrity. Moreover, Zhang Ye's status as a TV show director would not be any lower than Chang Xiaoliang, a renowned gala director of the industry. Zhang Ye was also the director of the current number 1 viewership rated show in the television industry. He was even someone who could speak directly to the station head of Beijing Television, so how were they qualified to reprimand him? As a result, Dong Shanshan was let off lightly from the big trouble that she had gotten into.

Zhang Ye and Dong Shanshan glanced at each other with a tacit understanding.

Someone came in from outside again.

"Director Chang, we're starting the countdown!"

"Is everything ready?"

"Everything's ready."

"Good, the dress rehearsal will officially begin in ten minutes!"

Then Chang Xiaoliang led his team quickly over to the stage area.

Hu Fei turned around and said, "Teacher Yao, Little Zhang, your show will be scheduled at the beginning, roughly at the seventh or eighth spot. Someone will lead you to the stage later."

Everyone dispersed.

Only Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were left in the waiting room.

Zhang Ye asked, "Shall we practice our lines?"

Yao Jiancai replied, "Didn't they say we can just say whatever?"

"Damn, are you really going to just say whatever?" Zhang Ye chuckled. "No matter what, we should still try to put on a good show."

Looking at his watch, Yao Jiancai said, "It will be our turn to go on stage soon. Do you think we can still make it in time?"

Zhang Ye said, "Then let's just practice briefly."

Yao Jiancai was suddenly amused by something he thought of. "Oh, have you seen Central TV's Spring Festival Gala show list yet? Tang Dazhang is bringing his people from the Crosstalk Society to perform at the Spring Festival Gala."

"What about that?"

"What about that? It's a 60-person crosstalk routine. Have you even heard of something like that before?"

"Pfft! Are you serious?"

"Have a look yourself! They claim that they're being innovative!"

After browsing through the news for a while, Zhang Ye was amused by it for a long time. Zhang Ye suddenly remembered a segment from a classic crosstalk routine from his previous world by Guo Degang.

Zhang Ye looked at Yao Jiancai. "They said that we can say whatever we want for today's rehearsal?"

Yao Jiancai blinked several times. "They said they would be fine with it even if we said whatever we wanted."

Zhang Ye grinned. "I understand then."

"You've thought of a bit?"

"Yes."

"Oh, what is it called?"

"—'I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala!'"

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 855: Dress rehearsal in progress!

Backstage, Zhang Ye told Yao Jiancai that he wanted to rest his eyes momentarily to sort out his thoughts. Instead, he was quietly opening up his game ring to access the Merchant Shop where he bought two Memory Search Capsules. After eating them, he closed his eyes and began sorting out some of Guo Degang's crosstalk segments in his memory.

Frontstage, the dress rehearsal began.

The music drifted all the way to the backstage and the gala hosts' voices followed soon after.

"Happy New Year, everyone!"

"I am Wu Sha."

"I am Da Meng!"

"And I am Dong Shanshan."

"Here's us wishing you a prosperous New Year!"

...

Online.

Other than Central TV's Spring Festival Gala, the other provincial channels' Spring Festival Galas were also garnering much attention. Some provincial channels' Spring Festival Galas were more topical than Central TV's Spring Festival Gala, and had an even more luxurious lineup too.

For example, Mango TV.

"Wow, Mango TV managed to invite Huo Dongfang!"

"Sect Leader Huo is almighty!"

"I heard they spent quite a sum of money on that! How generous!"

"I heard that Central TV's Spring Festival Gala originally wanted to invite him, but who could have expected that Sect Leader Huo would go over to Mango TV instead. Look at the show list, they even managed to get Teacher Big River to come out of his mountain seclusion too!"

"Doing a count, there are three A-list and seven B-list celebrities so far!"

For example, Liaoning Television.

"Aiyo, it's so dazzling that I'm going blind!"

"Is Liaoning TV going all out this year as well?"

"They even invited a Heavenly King? Hasn't this Heavenly King already stopped attending galas since a long time ago?"

"Right, he has been developing his career in Hong Kong all this time. This is going to be the first time that he'll appear on a Spring Festival Gala in the Mainland!"

"Holy shit, the Heavenly King's fans are already getting very excited!"

For example, Beijing Television.

"Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala has begun their rehearsals!"

"Damn, why are Zhang Ye's and Yao Jiancai's names on the show list?"

"What? Are you serious?"

"Why would I lie to you? Go and see for yourself!"

"Ah, it's really true! This pair of seasoned partners were invited to appear on Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala?"

"Hahahaha, I knew that Zhang Ye wouldn't sit idle this year! Even though Central TV's Spring Festival Gala did not invite him, there are still other television stations who will invite him!"

"Isn't Zhang Ye a staff member of Central TV?"

"His contract is flexible, so it shouldn't be an issue!"

"Since Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai are teaming up, they will be definitely be doing a crosstalk routine!"

"I'm really anticipating it!"

"Fuck, I'm definitely going to watch Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala this year!"

"Beijing TV is really awesome for bringing out a weapon of mass destruction like Zhang Ye. It will definitely be very lively at the provincial stations' Spring Festival Galas this year. What an intense and close battle for views!"

"That not necessarily going to be the case. Zhang Ye might be a top B-list celebrity but his popularity is still not comparable to an A-lister."

"Although his popularity cannot be compared to theirs, but the awesome thing about Zhang Ye is his shows. No matter how popular a Heavenly King or Queen and some A-list celebrities are, the most they can do when they're on a Spring Festival Gala is just sing some songs or dance. There's nothing special about those performances since they only depend on their popularity to attract the audience's attention. However, it's different for Zhang Ye since he performs in the most popular segment of the language shows. Who wouldn't want to listen to crosstalks or watch a skit during Chinese New Year? Therefore, on such a special occasion like the Spring Festival Gala, Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai could definitely beat out three or four A-list celebrities. Even the Heavenly Kings and Queens are not their match. This was determined by the environment and atmosphere of the event. The stage of a Spring Festival Gala will forever be ruled by the language shows!"

"Beijing TV has beautiful execution!"

"It's been such a long time since we've heard Old Zhang and Old Yao's crosstalk routines! I'm definitely going to watch it!"

"I wonder what kind of crosstalk the two of them will perform for this year's rehearsal. Is there any great person who is at the rehearsal venue? Can someone do an audio recording of it for us?! Begging for a recording!"

"Ditto!"

"It'll be great if we can listen to it early."

At this moment, a Weibo user suddenly posted: "Shh, I'm at the venue now and the dress rehearsal has already started. The third show is being rehearsed now and it's not too long until Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai's crosstalk. If there's an opportunity, I'll secretly record a part of it and post it. Keep it a secret and don't go spreading this around yet."

"Wow!"

"Thank you so much!"

"My hero, please accept my worship!"

"Be careful not to get found out!"

...

Meanwhile, when the news of Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai performing a crosstalk for Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala was exposed, voices of doubt from the crosstalk world were growing! Then, some of the disciples of the crosstalk world's leading figure, Tang Dazhang, and members of the Crosstalk Society started calling for a boycott. After last year's crosstalk and skit competition organized by Central TV, the denunciations and criticism by the crosstalk world against Zhang Ye had never stopped. It seemed like they were never going to give up doing so.

One of Tang Dazhang's disciples: "Beijing TV has stooped to a new low!"

Tang Dazhang's junior brother: "It's definitely foolish to invite Zhang Ye to perform crosstalk!"

An old artist of the crosstalk world: "Zhang Ye's crosstalk is not innovative at all. It's a degeneration of the art of crosstalk. Why would anyone actually invite him? This year's Spring Festival Gala will surely have to depend on Old Tang's crosstalk routine. Old Tang consulted with me on his routine. I've briefly seen it as well. It's really quite good, so everyone can look forward to it."

The netizens immediately started criticizing in response.

"No matter what Zhang Ye does, you'll always sing a different tune anyway."

"A 60-person crosstalk routine? Forgive me if I'm not looking forward to it!"

One of Tang Dazhang's disciples who was slated to perform in the 60-person crosstalk routine for this year's Spring Festival Gala posted: "Teacher's crosstalk this year will be a really boisterous one. It's also a subversive creation of his. There will even be a collaboration with Jingyun Dagou actresses during the performance. Good or bad, you will know after watching it." [1.]

...

Beijing Television.

It was almost time.

A staffer pushed open the door and said, "Teacher Yao, Teacher Zhang, it almost your turn."

"OK." Yao Jiancai stood up and walked out of the waiting room with Zhang Ye. On the way to the stage, Old Yao handed his cell phone to Zhang Ye to show him the criticism on Weibo. "There's really no end to it between the crosstalk world and you."

Zhang Ye said in a speechless manner, "There's even a Jingyun Dagou performance in Tang Dazhang's crosstalk?"

Yao Jiancai said, "It's even going to with female actresses."

"Alright then." Zhang Ye laughed helplessly. "I guess they've won."

While waiting for their turn behind the stage, the two of them continued practicing their lines. Actually, they were just doing simple practice as Zhang Ye would rarely follow his lines during a crosstalk routine. Sometimes, when he thought of a joke, he would just directly throw it out to Yao Jiancai. As Yao Jiancai was very experienced and had a strong foundation, he would always manage to follow through each time. The two of them matched very well with each other and were truly the seasoned partners they were.

Up front.

On the main stage, it was busy as a large-scale acrobatics performance went on.

Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were going to perform on a different stage that was smaller. As the next act was theirs, two microphones stands were already set up onstage.

Dong Shanshan was also standing by to announce the next act.

Nowadays, many of the Spring Festival Gala events employed two performance stages, a main stage and a secondary stage. As they were all broadcast live, many of the performances required larger props in greater quantities, and with just the brief moment of small talk by the hosts, there wasn't enough time to change the stage setup for the next performance. Therefore, using two stages was definitely more suitable in such cases.

There were quite a few people seated in the audience. Compared with those empty seats, the number of people seated here was definitely not as much. But there were still over a hundred people who came, like those from the approval board, the executives and staff of Beijing Television, and some of the more popular celebrities who had finished their dress rehearsals. They were all seated in the audience to watch the next dress rehearsals.

In the audience, Zhang Ye could see his ex-colleagues like Hu Fei, Xiao Lu, Dafei, Hou Ge, and Hou Di. He also noticed some familiar faces like Executive Director Chang Xiaoliang and a friendly and kind old lady—the current station head of Beijing Television who Zhang Ye had crossed paths with when they worked on the "Quit Smoking" PSA from back then.

Suddenly, the music stopped.

The acrobatics performance on the main stage ended!

The cameras focused over on Dong Shanshan as she started chatting with the male host beside her.

The male host said, "The acrobatics performance just now was really exciting."

Dong Shanshan replied, "That's right, I was shuddering in fear as I watched them. I was really worried for them as they performed their stunts."

The male host remarked, "Haha, they're all professionals, so they definitely won't have any trouble."

Dong Shanshan smiled. "However, our next two performers always seem to get into trouble."

The male host paused for a moment, then said, "If you have to put it that way, I won't refute it."

The station head and staff in the audience were all laughing.

The station head smiled and said, "Who wrote that into the script?"

A deputy station head smiled as he shook his head.

Chang Xiaoliang answered, "They decided on the script themselves. I only scanned through it once."

Xiao Lu whispered to the person beside her, "It's Teacher Zhang's turn!"

Dafei said excitedly, "I've been waiting for this all morning!"

Hou Ge was waving his cell phone around as he laughed and commented, "Look, those crosstalk world people are scolding Teacher Zhang again."

Hou Di said, "I wonder what kind of segment Teacher Zhang will perform this year."

"Today's just a rehearsal to work out the show's lineup duration. To keep the actual performance a secret, we've told them that they can say whatever they want when they go on stage. What they'll be joking about will just be a 'fake performance,'" Hu Fei explained.

Xiao Lu said in surprise, "Then wouldn't it be boring to watch?"

Dafei also lost his excitement and said, "Damn, why is it not the real performance used for the Spring Festival Gala?"

Hu Fei laughed. "If you want something interesting to watch, you have to wait until the actual day of the Spring Festival Gala."

No one had noticed that someone in the audience had secretly placed their hand into their pocket, pressing some buttons blindly to activate the audio recorder. The person did not care whether it was going to be a real or fake performance. As long as it was Zhang Ye's crosstalk, it would definitely be a mistake to not record it.

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 856: You're really saying whatever just because we said you could say whatever?

Onstage.

The spotlights shone. Everyone had their attention on the two who were about to come on stage.

Although it was only a dress rehearsal today, all of the cameras, lights, stage effects, and staff were exactly as they would be for the actual Spring Festival Gala event to be held on the first day of the Spring Festival. Other than the audience being different, everything else was kept as it would be for the event. For Zhang Ye, this was his first time performing crosstalk at such a large-scale gala, so he felt rather awed. It was the same for Yao Jiancai since this would be his first time appearing on a Spring Festival Gala and his first time rehearsing for it. Old Yao even appeared to be rather nervous at all of this.

Applause rang out.

Xiao Lu, Dafei, and the others also made a lot of effort to clap as loud as they could.

Even the station head was smiling as she clapped. The atmosphere at the venue was almost similar to that of the actual day of the Spring Festival Gala.

Only then did Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai step up on stage, walking past Dong Shanshan and the male host. Dong Shanshan even gave him a smile as they passed each other. The earlier delivery of the hosts' lines was not made known to Zhang Ye prior, as they made a subtle jab at Zhang Ye between the two performances.

However, how would someone like Zhang Ye take this lying down just like that? No one had expected it, but he began his counterattack the moment he got on stage.

Yao Jiancai had just positioned himself in front of the microphone and delivered his lines with a wide smile, as per his discussion with Zhang Ye earlier. "Happy New Year, everyone!"

But Zhang Ye's first sentence had already deviated from the script. He looked angrily to the left and the right and said, "Don't be so anxious to do your New Year greetings. Where is the security team? Where's the security team?"

Yao Jiancai was stunned. "Why are you calling security?"

Zhang Ye turned around and faced Dong Shanshan and the other host. "Take them away!"

Everyone watching immediately laughed when they heard this.

Dong Shanshan adorably winked at him several times.

The male host was taken aback a little as he threw his hands up to plead innocence.

Yao Jiancai asked, "What have they done that you want them to be taken away?"

Zhang Ye returned, "What did they mean by saying that 'those two always seem to get into trouble'? Who were they referring to?"

Yao Jiancai laughed. "That's right! We never get in trouble!"

Zhang Ye spoke in a serious tone, "When we get introduced in the future, please remove the words 'seem to'!"

"Ah? That means we always get into trouble?" Yao Jiancai sighed.

Dong Shanshan giggled!

The male host couldn't hold in his laughter either!

Everyone in the audience also laughed.

Chang Xiaoliang knew that this couldn't have been prearranged and was definitely a spontaneous reaction from the two crosstalk comedians. He couldn't refrain from offering his praise. "His reaction was too quick, dropping those jokes on the spot onstage!"

The assistant director added, "Teacher Yao also took the joke well. They're indeed seasoned partners, so understanding of each other."

Xiao Lu clapped excitedly!

After such an opening, Yao Jiancai finally became more relaxed and was no longer as tense. He had been brought into performance mode by Zhang Ye's joke, which made him feel a little ashamed of himself. He might be much older than Zhang Ye, but when they were onstage, he still had to depend on Zhang Ye to dictate their rhythm.

Offstage.

Someone from the approval board said, "Look at Weibo, there are people criticizing Zhang Ye right now."

Another staff member said, "Yeah, even our Beijing TV was dragged in and criticized as well."

"It's that group of people who are siding with Tang Dazhang again."

"Some people from the Central TV Spring Festival Gala program team have also joined in."

"Those people really don't know when to stop, do they?"

"What does all this have to do with them? Does it affect them so much who we invite onto our show? Why do they care so much?"

A lot of people knew in advance that today was just going to be a dress rehearsal, so Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were just going to put on a "fake performance" and just randomly say anything they wanted. Even if they stood onstage and said nothing to just pass the time, or if they performed an old crosstalk they'd done before, all of it would be fine. The intention of the rehearsal was just to let them get a feel of the venue and duration of their performance, so there was no need to get all serious about it. As such, most of the people did not take this seriously either, with some of them checking their cell phones and others whispering to discuss Zhang Ye's denouncement by the people from Central TV and the crosstalk world.

But very quickly, everyone's attention was pulled back to the stage. This was due to them realizing that Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were actually doing a new crosstalk performance in all seriousness!

Yao Jiancai reminded, "Don't get distracted by other things and let's give the audience our New Year greetings first."

But Zhang Ye wore a listless look. "OK."

Yao Jiancai looked at him and said, "Your greetings?"

Zhang Ye mulled over it for a bit. "Mmm."

"Are you still sleeping or what? So many people have already performed already and they were so exciting to watch too. Why do you still look so listless?"

Zhang Ye smirked and then nudged his chin toward backstage. "You're referring to the acrobatics from earlier?"

"Yes, it was a really good performance."

"What's so good about that acrobatics performance? It's only child's play! I saw an acrobatics performance on Central TV's Spring Festival Gala before. That's what you call a performance!"

Central TV's Spring Festival Gala?

Why are you bringing up Central TV's Spring Festival Gala?

Everyone was stunned.

Yao Jiancai asked, "What did they perform?"

Zhang Ye gestured wildly. "There was a girl who led a tiger around on stage. Then she held a piece of candy between her lips and the tiger came over with its mouth wide open to peck the candy away from her!"

Yao Jiancai was shocked. "Ah? A tiger? Peck a piece of candy away?"

"Yes."

"Isn't that really exciting to watch then?"

Zhang Ye snorted. "What's so exciting about it?"

"But it should be really exciting to watch!"

Zhang Ye cut him off. "What's so exciting about that? I can do it too!"

Yao Jiancai was taken aback by this claim. "You can do it too?"

"Yes, I can do it too!"

"Then why don't you do it and show us?"

"I'll do it if you insist." Zhang Ye raised his hand and beckoned for someone to come over. "Someone, please lead that tiger away!"

The crowd was stunned.

Yao Jiancai finally reacted and said, "Nonsense! I can also perform with that girl!"

Zhang Ye quickly said, "I called dibs, so I get to do it first!"

Yao Jiancai said, "Who's arguing with you?!"

Everyone in the audience all burst out laughing at this moment. "Hahahahaha!"

So you were actually referring to yourself pecking the candy away!?

Hou Ge and Hou Di were slapping their thighs as they laughed!

Executive Director Chang Xiaoliang was also keeled over in laughter.

The station head and several station executives also laughed so hard that they couldn't open their eyes!

Yao Jiancai declared, "I think I get it. Have you been in a bad mood recently?"

Zhang Ye chuckled. "It would be a wonder if my mood was good. Things have always been rough for me since I was young. I've never succeeded in anything I did."

Yao Jiancai said, "It takes time to become successful."

Zhang Ye gestured. "I've always been learning since I was young, always reading books."

"That's a good thing."

"The ancients said it well. A book holds a face as smooth as jade."

Yao Jiancai exclaimed, "Ah? What about the houses of gold?"

Zhang Ye gave him a look. "What are the houses of gold?"

"A book holds a house of gold."

Zhang Ye nodded. "Oh, what you're saying makes sense too. Without a house of gold, where would the ladies stay?"

Yao Jiancai blurted, "Were you only aiming to get the ladies when you were reading your books?"

Zhang Ye looked at him as if he were a fool. "Of course, why else would anyone read?"

Yao Jiancai was almost speechless by now. "Hey oh, so you were only reading because of that? Just what sort of books have you been reading!"

"I'll return them to you later."

"When did I lend you any books?"

Quite a number of people in the audience were having a great time!

"Pfft...hahahaha!"

"Don't talk to me, let me laugh it off for the next ten minutes!"

"Aiyo, how amusing!"

Weren't they just supposed to be saying whatever?

Wasn't it supposed to be a "fake performance"?

Why did these two churn out a new crosstalk performance then!?

Dafei was furiously whistling in the audience, ignoring whoever was giving him looks!

Zhang Ye sighed. "I wasn't successful when I was young, but even after growing up, I still wasn't successful."

"What happened after you grew up?"

"I'm not as capable and can't compete with others. Just look at that one crosstalk comedian who managed to get onto Central TV's Spring Festival Gala." Zhang Ye then became more careful with his words. "But let's not mention any names or say who he is."

Yao Jiancai nodded. "Right, there's no need to mention names."

Zhang Ye stated, "It's that Tang Dade who is about 1.8 meters tall and can fill up a box and a half with his ashes, 47 years old, male, and born on June 2nd. His citizen ID card number is 330..."

Yao Jiancai jumped in shock. "Whoa! Didn't you say not to mention any names? But you've even read out his citizen ID card number!"

Aiyo! Everyone was cramping up with laughter!

Tang Dade?

Tang Dazhang?

Pfft! It's starting again! Zhang Ye the Trickster was at it again!

Zhang Ye said, "Just look at how famous that person is. He has fame and can earn money so easily. When he goes to the countryside to perform, he only needs to say a few words."

"A few words?"

"Yes, just a few words. For example, if he goes to Taiyuan, he only needs to sing 'Taiyuan, oh, Taiyuan, my hometown,' then bow before getting off the stage and that's it. But he's actually not a Taiyuan native at all. So when he goes to Jinan, it's the same thing as well. He sings 'Jinan, oh, Jinan, my hometown,' then bows before getting off the stage again. He only needs to do that and he receives his payment. How easy can it get!"

Yao Jiancai blinked and asked, "Then what if he goes to Jiamusi?"

"It will be the same. 'Jiamusi, oh, Jiamusi, my hometown.'"

"If he goes to Ürümqi?"

Zhang Ye sang, "Ürümqi, oh, Ürümqi, my hometown."

Yao Jiancai pondered for a moment before trying to trick him. "What if he goes to Buenos Aires?"

There were already some audience members starting to laugh!

Zhang Ye was a little startled before he began to sing, "Bueno...Bue...Ahem..." Then, with a wave of his hands, he smirked and said, "Don't worry, a comedian like him won't be able to go international!"

Yao Jiancai laughed. "That's true. It's not possible with a crosstalk routine like that."

"Don't you look down on him. With that crosstalk routine of his, if he were to say it over and over for all of his life, do you know how many people would have already heard of it? Do you know how many prostate disease sufferers he has already cured?"

"Ah? Prostate disease sufferers?"

"When he's performing crosstalk, he's actually healing the sick. With that mouth of his, all prostate disease sufferers immediately piss their pants from laughing."

"Ah?"

"That's why I don't go and listen to Tang Dade's live crosstalk routines."

"Why not?"

Zhang Ye spelled out, "Because I can't swim! I would definitely drown on the spot!"

At this moment, everyone in the audience realized that Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai must have seen those Weibo posts before they got up on stage!

Xiao Lu laughed, "Wahahahaha!"

Several of the cameramen were also laughing so hard that they nearly cried!

Hu Fei didn't know whether to laugh or cry. When I told you and Yao Jiancai to say whatever you wanted, that wasn't what I meant! It was just a figure of speech!

But you're really taking it seriously now?

You're really fucking saying whatever you want!?

Zhang Ye was really letting himself loose this time. Since it was going to be a fake performance, then it wouldn't matter what he said. As a result, he didn't have to hold back. And frankly, he was just here to have fun today. He only needed to satisfy himself by saying whatever he wanted. On the day of Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala, he would surely not be allowed to perform such a crosstalk, but if it were a private affair like now, who would care?

However, unknown to everyone else at the venue, there was someone who was recording the whole thing.

That person was trembling with excitement as he stood in the corner. He could never have expected that a fake performance during a dress rehearsal would actually be so full of content. He could no longer hold back and immediately posted the audio recording secretly onto the Internet!

[I'm Really a Superstar](#)

Chapter 857: Splendid!

On Weibo.

A lot of people from the crosstalk world were still criticizing Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai. The ones who were doing most of the criticizing were a few of the veteran comedians from the crosstalk world and the people from Tang Dazhang's Crosstalk Society.

An old crosstalk actor: "The crosstalk world will never acknowledge him!"

The people who supported Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai came out to return the criticism.

Suddenly, someone exclaimed, "Ah, an audio recording!"

"What audio recording?"

"What's happening?"

"Someone has posted an audio recording! It's from Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala rehearsal!"

"Oh, it really is! Damn, this is an audio recording of Teacher Zhang and Teacher Yao's crosstalk!"

"Aiyo, which hero posted it?"

"Well done! I'll go and listen to it now!"

"Link please! Where did you guys get it?"

"Hahaha, I found it too. I'm listening to it right now!"

...

Those who were at the dress rehearsal hall did not know about the leak.

The crosstalk routine was still going on.

Zhang Ye calmly continued, "That's why people say that crosstalk is a cure for all diseases. It was especially effective for those prostate disease sufferers."

Yao Jiancai sighed, "Hai."

"But for those who are interested in going and watching his crosstalk live, please take caution. As long as it is a venue hosting Teacher Tang's crosstalk performance, there will usually be a sign at the entrance written in bold red letters: Nonmembers of the Swimming Association, please be extremely careful."

Yao Jiancai chuckled. "This is the first time I'm hearing that you'd need to learn swimming first if you want to listen to a crosstalk routine!"

Zhang Ye nodded his head seriously and replied, "Right, just like the high entry barriers to get into this industry, the entry barriers to listen to it are also very high. Crosstalk is an art that carries a high risk of danger." Some of the jokes were directly retrieved from his memory using the Memory Search Capsules while some of them were adapted and changed for use on the spot.

Everyone in the audience was cramping up with laughter!

"Hahahaha!"

Yao Jiancai shook his head and remarked, "That mouth of yours is too wicked."

Zhang Ye said, "But his popularity is still very high."

Yao Jiancai sighed. "With this kind of standard, how popular can he be?"

"But he is. Previously, there was a woman who recovered from her prostate disease after listening to his crosstalk and presented a silk banner to Teacher Tang."

"A woman? How can a woman suffer from such a disease?!"

"Why not?"

"Women don't suffer from such a disease."

"Anyway, she still got Teacher Tang a silk banner."

"What kind of a silk banner?"

"There were two big words written on it—Kinky Hands!"

The entire audience laughed even louder!

Yao Jiancai quickly corrected, "You mean Healing Hands!"

Zhang Ye gave a long "oh" before saying, "Perhaps I remembered wrong then. I'm sorry that my knowledge is limited, but I just feel really envious of him."

"Is that so?"

"Yeah, he can use crosstalk to earn money."

"Really?"

"Moreover, this industry is really good too since the people in it are very united!"

The crosstalk world was united?

When everyone in the audience heard that, they started howling!

"Yi!"

"Yi!"

"Yi!"

Although it was only a dress rehearsal, the staff and people from the approval board for the Spring Festival Gala were all very supportive. They truly enjoyed it and couldn't help but shout out their feelings before bursting into laughter!

...

In the outside world.

Tang Dazhang's home.

Tang Dazhang had been rehearsing for his performance for the past few days at home. His house had quite a lot of people streaming in and out every day, as they all made the final sprint for the Spring Festival Gala performance.

At this moment, an industry peer from the crosstalk world called.

"Old Tang!"

"Hur hur, Old Sun."

"Get online quickly!"

"I was just rehearsing with my disciple, what's the matter?"

"Zhang Ye's crosstalk routine on Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala has been leaked!"

"Ah?"

"That bastard is scolding people again!"

"What?"

After Tang Dazhang hung up, his disciple and some colleagues who were with him also heard about the news. They all had sunken expressions as they went online to search for the audio recording. They wanted to know what exactly Zhang Ye had said at Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala dress rehearsal. Scolding? A Spring Festival Gala was a live broadcast event. How would he have the courage to scold people on it?

How was that possible!

At a different location.

At the homes of several crosstalk world veterans, their telephones were also ringing.

"M-Master Xu, Zhang Ye is stirring up trouble!"

"What did he do?"

"Go online and take a look!"

...

At the venue of the performance.

Yao Jiancai was laughing. "Heh."

Zhang Ye stated, "The industry's people are also kindhearted, always out performing good deeds!"

"Performing what kinds of good deeds?"

"For example, some years ago during that earthquake, the crosstalk world went out together to make a donation. Several veteran crosstalk comedians brought their disciples and grand-disciples amounting to over a hundred people to the Red Cross. The leading veteran comedian said, 'Even though we earn money very quickly and easily through our crosstalk, we are also limited by our earnings that cannot be compared to the tycoons who are worth millions and billions.'"

Yao Jiancai nodded. "Indeed, that is very true."

"If we're expected to donate 300 to 500 million, we really don't have such money to speak of."

Yao Jiancai waved his hands. "There's no need for that much. It's the thought that counts."

"Right, three to five yuan is also a thought. We can't compare to others."

Yao Jiancai nodded. "That's right, and there's no need to compare others."

"Here, take this. This is the three yuan from me. Then another veteran comedian followed behind saying, 'And here is my three yuan as well.' Everyone was rushing to donate."

Yao Jiancai was dumbfounded. "They really donated three yuan?"

It was about the crosstalk world again!

He was scolding the crosstalk world again!

A lot of people below the stage suddenly jolted, especially Xiao Lu, Dafei, and the others who were most livened up, laughing the loudest!

Zhang Ye pretended to grab something. "After making their donations, these people grabbed a dozen or so candles to light up and hold in their hands. They would give a fist pump to whomever they came across and shout 'stay strong' to them."

"Whoa, they donated three yuan and grabbed over a dozen candles? How can a person hold a dozen of those anyway?"

Zhang Ye gave Yao Jiancai a strange look. "Not all of them were lighted. They only lighted one. They stowed the rest in their pockets."

"Ah? They took them? Aren't they making a profit then?!"

A flurry of laughs rang out!

At this moment, a staff member came running to look for Executive Director Chang Xiaoliang to inform him about the preparations made for the next performance on the main stage.

"Director Chang, the preparations over there—"

Before he could finish, Chang Xiaoliang cut him off without even looking at him. He raised a hand and said without looking at him, "If there's anything you want to tell me, do it later. Let's finish watching this performance first!"

That person could only stand there and listen to the crosstalk performance as well.

Zhang Ye said, "After a short while, a group of laborers came along and donated a thousand yuan each."

"Whoa, that much?"

"Those people from the crosstalk world gave a fist pump to them and shouted, 'Stay strong!'"

Yao Jiancai sighed, "Hai."

"Following that, a form teacher brought a group of elementary school students over and each of them donated 5000 yuan each!"

"The elementary school students donated 5000 yuan?"

"The crosstalk world people raised their candles and stood on both sides of them saying, 'Stay strong!'"

Yao Jiancai rolled his eyes. "It wasn't necessary for them to say all that."

"Finally, a group of women came. They were special service staff from a cabaret and every one of them was dressed very beautifully."

"Which profession is that!"

"Each of them donated 50,000 yuan to the cause!"

Yao Jiancai exclaimed, "They donated that much?"

"However, the staff of the Red Cross showed them a disdainful look. They said right there, 'Take it back, we don't want such dirty money!'"

The people in the audience were listening earnestly, not sure what the gag was about.

Zhang Ye followed up with, "In the end, those veteran crosstalk comedians raged and shouted, 'What do you mean "dirty money"! That's all our hard-earned money!'"

When the punchline was delivered, everyone in the audience laughed madly!

"Pfft!"

"Hard-earned money?"

"Hahahaha!"

"Aiyo! I can't breathe! Can't breathe!"

"Hahahahaha!"

Yao Jiancai also supported the performance very well. "Oh, so they donated the majority of their money over there instead!" 30% teasing, 70% supporting—this golden rule of the crosstalk world was not to say that the fall-guy was more important than the leading role, nor that the role of the fall guy was more difficult to perform than the lead. What it expressed was that whether a gag could achieve its maximum potential depended on the support given by the fall guy. It took up a greater proportion of the formula for success. The better it was supported, the greater the effect of the gag!

When everyone heard that, they laughed even harder!

Over on the side, a few Beijing Television staff who were working and not watching the performance from the audience but could hear it were also clutching their stomachs, unable to control themselves from laughing. They dropped all the work they were doing and just looked over to the secondary stage area and listened to Zhang Ye's scolding.

Dong Shanshan and the male host were both roaring with laughter!

There were staff below the stage giving time cues to indicate that they still had 5 minutes to perform.

Zhang Ye was actually constantly watching the clock and counting down. He would adjust his bits according to the time. "Therefore, I also learned and took up crosstalk."

Yao Jiancai smiled. "You also started doing crosstalk?"

Zhang Ye said depressing, "However, it was only when I started that I realized how difficult it was to perform crosstalk. The competition in this industry was too intense and if you were to just go on stage with two people to perform a down-to-earth crosstalk, you certainly couldn't outdo others."

Yao Jiancai asked, "Why not?"

"They're full of tricks and surprises. Some crosstalk comedian even invited a bunch of Jingyun Dagou actresses to go on stage with them and accompany them."

Yao Jiancai: "Ah? There's even such a form of crosstalk?"

Jingyun Dagou?

Actresses?

Immediately, everyone was reminded of Tang Dazhang's Spring Festival Gala crosstalk routine!

"All those actresses would be dressed in qipaos." Zhang Ye pointed to his own armpits. "And they are surely going to be very airy with the side slits opening up all the way to the armpits!"

Yao Jiancai said in surprise, "Oh boy, then isn't that the same as draping curtains over yourself and coming out?"

Zhang Ye clicked his tongue and pointed out in wonder, "I don't know why, but it seemed like the tickets to the side stands sold particularly well!"

"Hahaha!"

"Yi!"

"Yi!"

The crowd once again howled with laughter!

Yao Jiancai smacked his lips and replied, "Heh, I wonder if they're there to see the Jingyun Dagu performance or see a show of thighs!"

"Aiyo!"

"Hahahaha!"

Some people even got tired from laughing too much but could not stop at all!

Zhang Ye sighed and spoke, "Later, a friend of mine told me that I couldn't keep going on like this. If I wanted to become popular and famous, then I would have to at least get on Central TV's Spring Festival Gala! Once I get onto their Spring Festival Gala, I will shoot to fame overnight!"

Central TV's Spring Festival Gala?

Hu Fei was stunned!

Yao Jiancai agreed, "Indeed."

"He has a lot of connections and knew the director of Central TV's Spring Festival Gala, so he introduced me to the director. But when the director saw me, he said that the show list had already been fully scheduled and that there was no place for me anymore. So I was told to take on some work for the time being and do some cleaning or deliver box lunches. He even asked me to walk his dog! See, I even have to walk his dog now, how degrading!"

"That is considered standard crew work."

"I had to walk his dog every day, but the lousy dog would always stop after a few steps before going again. I was then led to a watch shop where I asked a watchmaker to have a look at why it stopped every few steps. I asked why it was happening. But the watchmaker said that it would be fine and to just apply some grease on it."

"Hey! What does that have anything to do with applying grease!?"

"After I got it fixed, the director was so happy. Hur, no one could fix that dog all this while, yet I managed to get it fixed. I was now his trusted aide and was told to stay close to him."

Yao Jiancai replied, "That's great."

"So I waited and pondered over and over about which performance I could take. Heh, it seemed that there was a 400-person crosstalk routine I could take part in."

"What? 400 persons?"

This was clearly a swipe at Tang Dazhang's Spring Festival Gala crosstalk routine!

At once, everyone in the audience was getting more and more excited!

Xiao Lu laughed loudly while slapping her thigh!

Dafei kept shouting, "What a wonderful performance this is! It's splendid! Hahahaha!"

Zhang Ye answered, "Yes, 400 persons."

Yao Jiancai shook his head. "Impossible, there's no such crosstalk at all."

Zhang Ye looked at him. "Why not? What do you call a crosstalk performed by one person?"

"Stand-up."

"What about by two persons?"

"Crosstalk."

"And three persons?"

"Group crosstalk."

Zhang Ye said, "So then, what do you call a crosstalk between 400 persons?"

Yao Jiancai asked, "What?"

Zhang Ye answered, "It's called a Spring Festival Gala crosstalk."

"Is that so?"

"Only Central TV's Spring Festival Gala would have such a performance."

Yao Jiancai sighed, "Hai."

A Spring Festival Gala crosstalk?

Everyone's mouths were stiff from laughing. Aiyo, he was even making fun of Central TV now!

Zhang Ye explained, "A 400-person mass crosstalk performance will gather crosstalk comedians from all over the country in one location. The stage setup will consist of a mockup of a mountain on this side, a stream over here, with a pool over there. Then a helicopter in the sky will scatter 100 of those crosstalk comedians, each of them wearing a parachute. When they land they will wave at the audience. While another 100 of them will emerge from the waters here. Finally, a rickshaw will pull in with the lead standing in it. The first thing he says will be: 'We meet again, my friends!'"

Wasn't that Tang Dazhang's catchphrase?

Hu Fei was constantly smiling wryly. He did not know what he could say anymore. All he knew was that no matter what, he must never offend someone like Zhang Ye. This guy's mouth was simply too harsh!

"As the performance starts, everyone gets into their position. Then the lead of the crosstalk says, 'Please repeat this after me backwards. Year New happy a everyone wish to happy very are we.' Everyone will say together after him, 'We are very happy to wish everyone a happy New Year!' And with a bow, the crosstalk performance will finish."

Yao Jiancai was stunned. "That's it?"

Zhang Ye excitedly slapped his thigh. "I believe that I could do a performance like that too because even those dimwits could handle it!"

Yao Jiancai replied, "That's right."

"Hahaha!"

"Even those dimwits could handle it? Pfft!"

"This is cracking me up!"

Zhang Ye said excitedly, "I'll do it, I'll join this performance. Then the director told me that I couldn't join the performance yet as all those 400 people had supporters. But if anyone quit, I could replace them. So I kept waiting and waiting, waiting for the opportunity that someone would quit so I could take their place. There were so many things going on at the venue and I had to deliver the boxed lunches every day. One day at a rehearsal, attended by several thousand people, a woman had to give birth and created such a big commotion. If you were about to give birth, you should have just stayed at home, why are you here attending the rehearsal with several thousand others?"

"Right."

"So I called for an ambulance and brought her out to the ambulance after the baby was born. When it was done, I came back and handled everything, including clearing up the place. In the end, my chance came on that day."

"What chance?"

"The 400-person crosstalk routine of course. Didn't I mention that there were 100 crosstalk comedians parachuting out of a plane? One of their parachutes failed to open!"

Yao Jiancai was startled. "Aiyo!"

"Snap! But luckily..."

"He was fine?"

"—He died!"

Yao Jiancai reeled. "Why would you say luckily if he died?"

Yet another wave of laughter roared through the hall!

Zhang Ye hastily said, "Seeing that it was really happening, I turned around and went to look for the director. I told him, 'Let me replace him, let me do it!' But the director told me, 'You're too late, the person who pushed him out of the plane has already replaced him!'"

Yao Jiancai exclaimed, "That's too cruel!"

"Aren't they really cruel? They totally didn't give me a chance, so I went to look for my friend to rant. I told him that this wasn't working out, that all I have been doing every day was toiling for them. I even had to take care of the woman giving birth, yet they didn't give me a chance at all! In the end, my friend told me, 'You're not thick-skinned enough. If you want to become famous and get on the Spring Festival Gala, then you ought to be more thick-skinned. You have to be shameless, you know?'"

Yao Jiancai replied, "Ah?"

To get on the Spring Festival Gala?

Have to be shameless?

"Yi!"

The reaction of the audience was sounding again! There was wild laughter coming from all directions!

The station head had to facepalm as she laughed. "That Little Zhang!"

A deputy station head was also cramping up from laughing beside her. It was full of references to the internal affairs behind Central TV's Spring Festival Gala that were already quite an open secret in the industry. Zhang Ye's remarks had completely triggered their laughter!

Only to hear Zhang Ye ponder aloud onstage, "If I'm not shameless, how can I learn? When I think about it, it seems that I should learn from the woman who gave birth at the rehearsal hall. Hey, with thousands of people watching her give birth, I'm sure she has thick enough skin, right?"

Yao Jiancai was taken aback but then started laughing. "Oh right, she's thick-skinned enough."

Zhang Ye fist pumped. "Right, I'll go find her then! After asking around, I went straight to the hospital. When I got there, I found her sitting on her hospital bed crying. 'Aiya, sob sob, there were thousands of people who saw me at the Spring Festival Gala rehearsal giving birth!'"

Yao Jiancai laughed. "Eh, so she knows to be embarrassed too?"

Zhang Ye chuckled. "So I hurriedly tried to console her and tell her it wasn't a big deal. I told her that there was someone who gave birth to a child in front of 20,000 people in Tiananmen Square during the celebration of the successful Olympic bid!"

Yao Jiancai was amused. "Yeah."

"But in the end, when the woman heard that, she cried even harder and said, 'Aiya, that was me too!'"

Yao Jiancai was dumbfounded. "Ah? It was also her?!"

"Hahahahaha!"

Time's up!

The ending came at just the right time!

Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai bowed to the audience while beaming!

Suddenly, a flood of applause and laughter rang out and filled the entire hall!

"Great!"

"Well said!"

"Hahahaha!"

"That's so awesome!"

"Aiyo, I nearly died from laughing!"

"Well scolded!"

The station head shook her head, not knowing if she should clap for him.

Chang Xiaoliang stood up applauding!

Hou Ge, Hou Ge, Xiao Lu, and the others were even screaming as they clapped!

This crosstalk did not let anyone who was listening to it have a lapse in concentration. The entire act was full of laughing points!

Zhang Ye exited the stage.

Music started playing over at the main stage area as the secondary stage for the language performances was temporarily emptied.

As they walked past each other, the male host quickly asked, "Teacher Zhang, Teacher Yao, what is the title of your crosstalk?"

Zhang Ye answered with a smile, "I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala!"

The male host immediately gave him a thumbs up. "I really have to give it to you!"

"What a good title!" Dong Shanshan also laughed when she heard it and gave Zhang Ye a thumbs up as well. "If this crosstalk of yours were to be broadcast, you'd surely make quite a few people from the crosstalk world die from anger!"

Zhang Ye blinked at that. "Then would that count as me ridding the world of evil?"

Yao Jiancai gave him a light push and laughed. "Rid what evil, you! In the eyes of everyone, you're the truly evil one!"

The performance was complete.

Everyone was left wanting more!

Although the people of Beijing Television knew it was only a rehearsal that would definitely not pass for the live broadcast on the actual day of the Spring Festival Gala, they still gave their most enthusiastic applause. This applause was dedicated to the exquisite art of crosstalk and also a sign of respect to the two teachers Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai!

Splendid!

It was really wonderful!

This art form has totally been revived by Zhang Ye!

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 858: No one's ever been a match when it comes to scolding!

On the way to the backstage.

Yao Jiancai laughed and said, "I got such a kick out of performing that segment."

Zhang Ye was also tickled. "Yeah, it was a rare opportunity for us to say whatever we we liked. It's been so long since we have scolded the Crosstalk Society. I got such a kick out of scolding them this time."

"It's a pity that it can't get broadcast," Yao Jiancai said regrettably.

Zhang Ye replied, "It's no big deal even if it gets broadcast."

Yao Jiancai rolled his eyes. "No big deal, my ass. If that got broadcast, our troubles would get even bigger. Remember what happened after we scolded the crosstalk world during the Crosstalk and Skit Competition with our three performances? That group of people kept criticizing us for an entire year because of it. If our performance today gets broadcast, do you think the furor it would cause would be small? Besides, who would willingly broadcast a crosstalk like that for us? It's something that we could only say behind closed doors at today's venue."

Zhang Ye seethed, "Even if we stopped performing crosstalk, do you think they would stop scolding us?"

"Mmm, that's true." Yao Jiancai shook his head and laughed. "I think the nickname of 'public enemy of the Chinese crosstalk world' belongs to the both of us and we'll never be able to clear ourselves of it in this lifetime."

Zhang Ye said indifferently, "So what if we're their public enemy. It's just a small thing."

Yao Jiancai laughed loudly. "You don't feel it's a big deal because you're already used to all this."

Suddenly, they overheard the voices of several staff members who were walking toward them. They sounded rather panicked, as if something had happened.

Zhang Ye narrowed his eyes. "What's the matter?"

"Looks like something has happened?" Yao Jiancai also wondered, curious.

However, when the two of them listened carefully, they realized that those people were actually discussing about the two of them.

"Shit!"

"It's blown up this time!"

"Why would it be leaked and get uploaded onto the Internet?"

"Who the hell posted it?! Isn't this stirring the pot?"

"The netizens are already making a ruckus over it! I heard that they're going to start with the scolding soon!"

"Nonsense, how could they possibly not be scolding? I watched Teacher Zhang and Teacher Yao's crosstalk backstage onscreen just now and they insulted both Central TV's Spring Festival Gala and the crosstalk world's people at once!"

The few of them rushed past without noticing that Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were there.

Zhang Ye was surprised for moment, "What? It got posted online?"

Yao Jiancai exclaimed loudly, "Who posted it?"

The two of them and everyone at Beijing Television did not expect such a thing to occur!

Over at the stage.

Someone who had found out about the problem rushed to report it to the executives!

Upon hearing that, an assistant director of Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala broke out in cold sweat. "What?"

Hu Fei was also stunned. "How did it get leaked?"

Chang Xiaoliang was furious. "Who was the one who recorded the audio with their phone in here? Go and find out who it is!"

Everyone started looking around trying to find that person, but how was that possible?

Xiao Lu hesitated for a moment.

Dafei blinked several times as he became worried for Zhang Ye.

A deputy director of the Spring Festival Gala said, "If this crosstalk gets exposed to the public, even if people know that it won't be broadcast on our Spring Festival Gala, there will still be a feud formed between the program teams of our Spring Festival Gala and Central TV's Spring Festival Gala!"

"Station Head."

"Station Head! What do we do now?"

Everyone looked at the station head for directions.

The old lady appeared very calm as she looked at everyone. "Didn't we already expect that such a thing would happen? Wasn't that why we got Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai to give a fake performance? Wasn't all of this done to prevent the real performance from being revealed beforehand? Since we were already prepared, what's there to panic about? It's not even the real performance."

The rehearsals continued.

The next performances gradually started.

When the other station heads and staff heard that, they could only return to their seats while still feeling anxious. Some of them were watching the next performance, while some others were on their cell phones browsing Weibo to get immediate updates on the development of events!

...

Online.

Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai's new crosstalk routine was already getting a lot of traffic! It was like many of the netizens were on stimulants. As they listened to the crosstalk, they were shouting out in excitement. And as they shouted out in excitement, they posted their comments online!

"Hahahaha!"

"I can't take it anymore! I'm dying of laughter!"

"Even the prostate disease sufferers peed their pants?"

"That was all our hard-earned money? Aiyo! Please let me laugh a little longer! Hahahaha!"

"How could it be so funny!"

"Zhang Ye, Old Yao, I like the both of you so much!"

"They're indeed the best matched duo in the crosstalk world!"

"Dammit, I've never heard such a comical crosstalk before!"

"That's right. After listening to Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai's crosstalk, I won't be able to laugh anymore when I listen to the other crosstalk comedians' jokes! The standard of their crosstalk is leading the art by years!"

"Tang Dazhang has been shot again!"

"This isn't just a gunshot. He was hit by an intercontinental ballistic missile!"

"Pfft! I suppose Tang Dazhang has fainted at home by now!"

"The scolding was too awesome! The scolding made me feel really good!"

"Central TV's Spring Festival Gala has also suffered Zhang Ye's 'violent treachery'!"

"Zhang Ye's mouth is really the most sarcastic mouth in the entire country! Those who have offended him must have had all the bad luck from their past eight lifetimes befall on them all at once! They would be scolded until they vomit blood!"

"Aiyo, this is too funny!"

"With just one of his works, he has already shown who is better. That group of people from the crosstalk world only know how to scold Zhang Ye online, and their scolding is not even that great. They are constantly using the same old lines in different ways to say that 'we will not acknowledge you.' But just look at how Teacher Zhang effortlessly produced a routine to return the scolding straight at them. Not

only did he use it to scold them, he even littered it with so many jokes that the audience was laughing throughout its delivery. This is what being high level is about!"

"Haha, speaking of scolding people, Zhang Ye is the grandmaster of it!"

"Yeah, are there any people in the country who could outscold him? This bunch of crosstalk world members keep choosing to forget their lessons! They were already scolded by Zhang Ye like they were dogs in the crosstalk competition previously, what about this time? You people still wish to provoke him? When have you ever seen Zhang Ye eat humble pie?!"

"Damn, is Zhang Ye really going to say this at Beijing Television's Spring Festival Gala?"

"Will they allow this to be broadcast? Surely not, right?"

"They would definitely not because this is definitely the fucking fake performance!"

"Right, it must be a fake performance!"

"Teacher Zhang just randomly gave a fake performance and it was more than enough to savage the crosstalk world!"

"Hahaha, I'll have to listen to it again!"

"Me too, I can't get enough of listening to it!"

"I've already heard it three times! This really fucking vents all my anger!"

"Zhang Ye is right, there's hardly anyone who is a good person in the domestic crosstalk world!"

"Scold! Scold! Scold! Scold! Come on!"

This crosstalk routine had caused a very big stir on the Internet!

...

At Tang Dazhang's home.

The group of crosstalk actors who were rehearsing and studying for their Central TV's Spring Festival Gala performance all looked furious. Some of their faces had turned white, some had turned black, and there was even some that had turned green!

A crosstalk comedian banged his hand on the table and shouted, "This is too much!"

One of Tang Dazhang's disciple said angrily, "They have no regard for the rules!" No regard for the rules!"

Tang Dazhang muttered two names tersely. "Zhang Ye! Yao Jiancai!"

"We can't just let this go!" Someone said, "They're standing over our heads and shitting on us!"

Someone echoed, "Right, we have yet to settle the score with them! It's definitely not settled yet!"

Everyone was exploding with anger!

They were not afraid. This crosstalk has given them too much of a scolding!

But as for how they were going to settle the score with Zhang Ye, no one could give a definite answer!

In the past, it was not like there were no one who would challenge them by publicly questioning and criticizing the crosstalk world, but under the lead of a few highly qualified veteran comedians of the crosstalk world, those crosstalk organizations under them would just do as they were told. They would resort to boycotting, banning, or reporting a crosstalk comedian to ensure that they wouldn't survive in the art, because this world was basically dictated by just a few veteran comedians. Being one of the leaders in the current crosstalk world, Tang Dazhang was now one of those who could call the shots!

However, it was different for Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai!

Yao Jiancai was an actor and it was not possible to control him!

Zhang Ye was also the same. He did not need to perform in a small theater and neither did he attend any large-scale commercial events. His main profession was host, director and producer of shows, author, song composer, and even teacher. Even if all the people in their crosstalk world were to jointly report and boycott him, there wouldn't be any significant impact. This outcome had already been proven at last year's crosstalk competition. They had no means whatsoever to deal with Zhang Ye!

A crosstalk comedian suggested, "By saying 'that was all our hard-earned money,' it constitutes slander! If we really want to blow up the matter, we can sue him!"

"That's right!"

"Sue him!"

"This is definitely slander!"

The group was whipped up into a frenzy.

Then, an 18-year-old disciple of Tang Dazhang's nervously made a sudden and untimely remark. "Isn't Zhang Ye a lawyer himself too?"

The group of people looked at him at once.

"So what if he's a lawyer?"

"We can still sue him!"

"This bastard is such a hooligan!"

But as they talked about it, everyone's confidence grew weaker. Finally, no one mentioned fighting a lawsuit with Zhang Ye anymore. Why? Because even Central TV had fucking lost a lawsuit against Zhang Ye! Even if they felt that they were superior to other people, they definitely did not think that they were more capable than Central TV's professional team of lawyers! The results of that fellow's National Judicial Examination had shocked the law world by securing the first ever perfect score in the history of the examination!

Tang Dazhang banged his hand on the table angrily. "How absurd! Is there no way we can deal with him?"

After everyone brooded over it, they suddenly felt very frustrated. They really could not think of any way to subdue Zhang Ye! There were no ideas whatsoever!

That young disciple of Tang Dazhang, the same 18-year-old who had just newly debuted as a crosstalk comedian, was feeling extremely anguished. He really wanted to give a suggestion at this moment. Can we not fight Zhang Ye anymore? Even Central TV was not able to do anything to him and the SARFT was also unable to subdue him. For such a hooligan and shit stirrer of the entertainment industry, why can't we just avoid him some and let everything be fine? Must we really fight it out with him? If we can't afford to mess with him, then we can just avoid him, right?! The crucial point was that even if the entire crosstalk world were to band together, they would still be unable to do anything about him!

So what was the point of fighting?

There's no way we can fight him!

...

Very quickly, the news had spread everywhere!

"Zhang Ye invited to Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala!"

"Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai's crosstalk causes a controversy again!"

"Zhang Ye's new routine for the Spring Festival Gala: 'I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala'?"

"A complete denouncement by the crosstalk world!"

"Zhang Ye mocks Central TV's Spring Festival Gala and the Chinese crosstalk world!"

"Absolute comedy! Crosstalk at Beijing TV's Spring Festival Gala dress rehearsal leaked!"

"Zhang Ye's crosstalk style shows up again!"

"A massacre caused by a crosstalk! Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai declare war on the crosstalk world again!"

The tabloids were collectively expressing and reporting about this "massacre." The reports were also quite similar in content: Zhang Ye has once again proven with his actions that no one has ever been a match for him when it comes to scolding!

[**I'm Really a Superstar**](#)

Chapter 859: Voting for the most popular celebrity!

Later that afternoon.

The rehearsal ended successfully.

The Spring Festival Gala's production team held a meeting and began to analyze some of the issues that cropped up in the rehearsal.

Chang Xiaoliang also went to look for Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai immediately.

Yao Jiancai asked with concern, "Director Chang, is everything going to be alright since our crosstalk earlier was posted online by someone?"

"The Station Head said it would be fine." Chang Xiaoliang smiled.

Yao Jiancai laughed and said, "Then that's great. Little Zhang and I were afraid we would cause trouble for the TV station because of this problem. If we knew that someone would record our performance, then we wouldn't have said all that."

Chang Xiaoliang asked, "Are you two prepared for the actual performance yet?"

Zhang Ye said, "I'll have to go back and think over it, but I guarantee there won't be any problems."

"I hope the subject won't be as sensitive as today's performance." Chang Xiaoliang coughed and said, "Of course, the both of you are professionals, so I think you will know what to do without me telling you."

Zhang Ye reassured him, "Don't worry, we definitely won't speak irresponsibly."

Chang Xiaoliang nodded. "Alright then, I'll be looking forward to your actual routine. When the performance is ready, you can contact me so that our production team can go through it once."

When Zhang Ye left the television station, there were already reporters blocking the entrance.

Originally, there were quite a number of reporters interviewing some of the celebrities and performing groups who had just exited the venue, but when they saw Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai, every one of them abandoned their current interviews and piled toward the two!

"Zhang Ye has come out!"

"It's Yao Jiancai and Zhang Ye!"

"Teacher Zhang, I'm from Huabei Entertainment Magazine!"

"Teacher Zhang, can I ask a few questions?"

"What's the actual routine that you will be performing at the Spring Festival Gala?"

"What was the reason for your attack on the crosstalk world again?"

"Is your performance titled 'I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala'? Are you mocking Central TV's Spring Festival Gala because they did not invite you? This year's most popular celebrity poll organized by the official Weibo site is starting soon, how do you think you will be ranked?"

"Teacher Zhang, please don't go!"

"Teacher Yao!"

The reporters were hounding them like crazy!

Zhang Ye dodged the questions. "No comment, no comment for now."

Yao Jiancai squeezed past the crowd as he said, "We have an agreement and a lot details can't be revealed yet. If you want to know what the actual routine is, you can just tune in to Beijing TV when the time comes! We definitely won't disappoint anyone!"

After a great struggle, the two of them finally got into a car.

Yao Jiancai panted, "Where did you park?"

Zhang Ye sighed. "I drank too much yesterday, so I didn't dare drive here this morning."

After starting the car, Yao Jiancai laughed loudly. "Since it's still early, let's go over to my house. It's been a long time since we've had a drink together. Shall we have a round then?"

"Let's go!" Zhang Ye gestured.

...

At the Yao household.

In a small bedroom.

Yao Mi had invited some of her old high school classmates to her house for lunch. At this moment, the several of them were crying out in excitement as though they were injected with adrenaline.

"Zhang Ye is so cool!"

"Mimi, your dad is awesome too!"

"That crosstalk was so funny! Let's listen to it again!"

"But we've listened to it three times!"

Yao Mi checked through the news online and let out a curse. "Damn, my dad and Uncle Zhang have really caused an outrage this time. There are so many industry peers criticizing them that it looks like it's getting out of hand!"

Little Ling interrupted, "You make it sound like your dad and Zhang Ye have never caused an outrage before."

Little Yu laughed and said, "Yeah, as long as it's a crosstalk performed by Zhang Ye and your dad, when have they not angered the masses? There were people denouncing, scolding, and reporting it!"

Little Qing yelled, "I like Zhang Ye a ton!"

Little Ling blinked. "Mimi, are we friends?"

"Nonsense, what do you think?" Yao Mi laughed as she rolled her eyes.

Little Ling immediately said, "If we are friends, then you should arrange for us to meet Zhang Ye someday!"

"Right, right!"

"Haha, that's a good suggestion!"

Her old classmates all appeared to be anticipating it.

Yao Mi equivocated, "It's difficult for me to meet Uncle Zhang as he hasn't been coming to Peking University to teach lately."

At this moment, they heard someone knocking on the door.

"Eh?" Little Ling's ears perked up.

"My dad is back!" Yao Mi stood up.

The house door opened.

Yao Jiancai's wife had opened the door. "You're back? Eh?"

Zhang Ye who was standing beside Old Yao smiled and said, "Sister, I'm here to visit you."

Yao Jiancai's wife beamed at once. "Come in, come in. Heh, this Old Yao sure doesn't know how to be treat his guests. He should have informed me that you were coming over so that I could've made dinner."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Sister, it's fine as long as there's alcohol."

Yao Jiancai asked, "Where is Mimi?"

"She is chatting with her old classmates in the bedroom," Yao Jiancai's wife replied.

From there, the bedroom door of Yao Jiancai's daughter was suddenly opened by someone from inside!

Then, a loud scream sounded!

Followed by a second and third scream!

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

"Zhang Ye!"

"It's him in person!"

Yao Mi's old classmates were so excited that their faces were flushed. Zhang Ye got scared from those ridiculously high decibel screams, thinking that someone's foot had been stepped on!

Yao Mi felt a bit embarrassed and smiled sheepishly. "Uncle Zhang."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Hi. Who are these friends of yours?"

Without waiting for Yao Mi to reply, Little Ling was the first to step forward. "Teacher Zhang, we are Mimi's old high school classmates! Oh, Teacher Zhang! You're my idol!"

Little Qing also came over quickly. "We've just listened to your and Uncle Yao's crosstalk! It's really fantastic!"

Little Yu said loudly, "Teacher Zhang, you're really awesome. Can you teach me how to scold and curse people?!"

Little Ling said right away, "I wanna learn too! Teach me!"

Yao Jiancai was amused.

Zhang Ye didn't whether to laugh or cry as he had mixed feelings about this request. Consider the requests other superstars would get when their fans saw them. There would be requests for hugs, taking pictures together, asking to be in a relationship, and so on. But when fans saw this bro, their request was to learn how to scold and curse people? What the hell?

Yao Mi nearly fainted. "Can you guys learn something proper instead?"

Little Yu giggled. "What do you mean by calling it improper? Scolding and cursing is also a type of talent and ability. If the English and Japanese languages can be categorized into grades, then Teacher Zhang will definitely be ranked at the highest grade of ten if scolding and cursing also has a grading!"

Little Ling directly bestowed a title on Zhang Ye by saying, "That's true. Teacher Zhang Ye is definitely The Top Reviler of China! He will scold whomever comes at him, whether it's one person or an entire group!"

Zhang Ye asked exasperated, "Just why would you guys have such a terrible impression of me?"

Yao Jiancai remarked, "Did you think otherwise?"

Everyone in the house laughed.

At night, dinner was ready.

Yao Mi's old classmates had originally come over for lunch at noon and were supposed to go home after that, but when they saw that Zhang Ye had come to visit, they decided to stay. Even though Yao Mi kept pressing them to leave for the longest time, her old classmates simply feigned ignorance and clowned about in a bid to stay. In the end, against this shamelessness of theirs, Yao Mi could do nothing.

Yao Jiancai's wife served the dishes. "Try some of these, try them."

Zhang Ye quickly said, "Sister, it's been hard on you."

"What are you standing on ceremony for? It's been some time since you have come over." Yao Jiancai's wife smiled at him.

Zhang Ye said, "Hai, Old Yao is always doing movie shoots outside of Beijing and there's only a few days when he's back at Beijing. Our timing always clashes, otherwise I would have come over sooner."

Yao Jiancai smirked. "How can I be busier than you?"

Zhang Ye said, "What can I be busy with? I've just been idle every day."

"You haven't been busy with the serious matters," Yao Jiancai said, "But you have been busy with scolding people every day. Didn't you just finish fighting with Central TV Department 1 a while ago?"

Yao Mi suddenly recalled something. She slapped her thigh and exclaimed, "Oh right! This year's most popular celebrity poll on Weibo is starting soon."

Yao Jiancai wondered, "Why is it so early this year?"

Yao Mi said, "It has happened around the Spring Festival every year."

Zhang Ye also knew about this poll. It was a rankings list that was organized by the official Weibo platform. In the many years of holding it, this rankings list had become a traditional affair for all Weibo users to satisfy their self-entertainment needs. During last year's poll, Zhang Ye also got onto the Weibo's most popular celebrity rankings, but his result was just average and he had barely broken into the top 100 of the poll. However, there was another poll for the most unpopular celebrity rankings in which Zhang Ye dominated the list. He scored an overwhelming victory with an unbelievable amount of votes and won the most unpopular celebrity award. At that time, this news had even caused quite a stir.

This year's poll was going to begin again?

Little Ling said immediately, "Uncle Yao, will you be pulling for votes?"

"Count me out." Yao Jiancai smiled and said, "This poll was meant for the celebrity idols. I'm just a middle-aged old man and can't possibly beat the others."

Little Ling asked, "How about you, Teacher Zhang?"

Zhang Ye dismissed, "I'd rather drink."

"Come, let's toast again." Yao Jiancai clinked glasses with him.

Little Ling laughed and said, "I'll just give my votes to the two of you first."

Little Yu said excitedly, "I'll go and have a look too. It looks like it has already started?"

Little Qing replied, "Yes, it started at 6 PM today and ends tomorrow at 6 PM too."

...

Online.

The annual polls on Weibo had been placed on the website's homepage for some time and had already been promoted for many days. At exactly 6 PM, the voting window officially opened!

The Weibo users swarmed in!

"It has begun!"

"I'm here!"

Holy shit, Huo Dongfang already has 1,000 votes? So awesome?"

"Sect Leader Huo has been canvassing for votes since long ago!"

"Haha, I will still vote for my Big Qi!"

"Supporting Sister Zhang without hesitation!"

"It's not necessary for Sister Zhang to compete in this, so I will give my vote to Sect Leader Huo. Rise to the Dance was so terribly beaten by A Bite of China and the viewership ratings has already dropped below 0.6%. A while ago, a domestic best actor award was also won by someone else with Sect Leader Huo missing out. I should give him a vote because I think he's been really unlucky lately."

The competition for the most popular celebrity rankings poll was too intense!

One moment, Zhang Yuanqi was in the first place, then the next moment, Huo Dongfang's votes would increase explosively, then another moment later, two Heavenly Kings were occupying the top two positions, and yet another moment later, a famous Korean drama star who had come to Mainland China to develop his career was dominating everyone else. With the rankings going up and down, the vote count was very close with no way to determine who was winning at the moment.

Yao Jiancai did not get into the top 100, while Dong Shanshan was currently ranked at 97th place. She had strong momentum in the poll, but was unsure if she could maintain her position.

"How nail-bitingly close!"

"The fans are amazing!"

"Quickly vote for the Heavenly King! He's going to get overtaken!"

"Who dares to fight with my oppa for the top spot?"

"Damn you, we will definitely fight for it! Give all our votes to Sister Zhang!"

"Bring it on, who's afraid of who! Fuck!"

"Haha, Sister Zhang has 500,000 votes now!"

"Awesome!"

"Ah, the Korean has 510,000 votes! Did they manipulate the votes? How could it increase by 10,000 votes in the blink of an eye? That fast? Even the Heavenly King and Queen have been overtaken by him!"

"He's at 520,000 votes already!"

The fans were also starting to fight and neither could get the upper hand!

However, when they clicked on the most unpopular celebrity rankings poll, many netizens were stunned by what they saw. Then everyone burst out laughing!

"Hahahaha!"

"What the hell!"

"Pfft, I already knew that would happen!"

"As expected, there's no suspense in this poll at all!"

"This guy's reputation is too terrible!"

Zhang Ye's name appeared impressively at the top of the most unpopular celebrity rankings. With a current vote count of—2.75 million votes!

As for second place?

Second place only had 21,000 votes!

Zhang Ye's votes were over a hundred times more than the second place votes! And it was also five times more votes than that Korean celebrity who was currently at the top of the most popular celebrity rankings had.

There was no suspense to the outcome at all!

It was a completely overwhelming lead!

When all the netizens saw the poll rankings, they were left "kneeling" to Zhang Ye!

Chapter 860: Winning again!

At Old Yao's house.

When Yao Mi and her classmates saw that on Weibo, they couldn't help but clutch their stomachs and laugh nonstop at it.

"Pfft!"

"Hahahaha!"

"I knew it! I just knew it!"

Yao Jiancai's wife asked curiously, "What are you all laughing at?"

Yao Jiancai put down his glass and looked over. "What's the matter?"

"Dad, Mom, guess what our Uncle Zhang's ranking is?" Yao Mi giggled.

Yao Jiancai's wife laughed and said, "For which poll?"

Yao Mi said, "For the most unpopular celebrity rankings poll, of course!"

Yao Jiancai's wife glanced at Zhang Ye and replied with a laugh, "He must be in the first place, am I right?"

Zhang Ye: "..."

Yao Mi slapped her thigh and laughed loudly. "Mom, you are so smart!"

Yao Jiancai couldn't help but laugh. "How is your mom smart? For the most unpopular person in the domestic entertainment industry, who else could it be if it's not Zhang Ye? Who else can be compared to him?!"

Little Yu said, "Moreover, the vote numbers don't just differ by a small margin, he has steamrolled his way to the top spot! 2.75 million...no, it's already at 2.9 million votes! And it's still increasing!"

Zhang Ye was speechless. Then he seethed, "Is there any meaning to this lousy poll? There's totally no purpose to it."

Yao Jiancai disagreed, "Haha, how is there no purpose? This is the voice of the people. I for one think that this annual rankings poll organized by Weibo is a very authoritative one."

Suddenly, Little Ling shouted, “Wow, Uncle Yao, your vote count is also increasing in the most unpopular celebrity rankings poll. It’s even increasing so rapidly that you...you are already at third place!”

Yao Jiancai was stunned and immediately let out a curse. “What lousy poll is this! There’s totally no purpose to it.”

Yao Jiancai’s wife quipped, “Old Yao, that’s not what you claimed just now!”

Yao Jiancai said depressed, “I was only dragged into this mess because of Little Zhang today!”

Everyone was amused!

Actually, Yao Jiancai should not have appeared on this rankings poll. Be it the most popular rankings or the most unpopular rankings, it all depended on the number of followers and the popularity of the celebrity’s Weibo account. Yao Jiancai’s popularity on Weibo was just average and in normal circumstances, this would be none of his business. However, when that performance of “I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala” was leaked by someone in the morning, Zhang Ye and Yao Jiancai were suddenly pushed to the heart of many discussions. They were criticized by many people as well as the mainstream crosstalk world members. With that, Yao Jiancai’s also appeared on this dishonorable rankings poll!

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Online.

As the competition for the polls got more intense, a lot of celebrities also posted onto Weibo.

Dong Shanshan: “Pulling for votes, pulling for votes, friends who are online, please give me your votes. Let’s see if I am able to enter the top 100 of Weibo’s annual most popular celebrity rankings. As for the most unpopular rankings poll, you may ignore it for my case. That’s Teacher Zhang Ye’s territory, so I won’t be fighting with him for it, haha.”

Dong Shanshan’s fans were also delighted to see that post.

“Teacher Shanshan, is it alright for you to say that?”

“Haha, you have conveniently made fun of your old classmate at the same time!”

“This is what classmates’ friendship is about!”

“I’m cramping up from laughing!”

The leader of China’s most famous idol trio, Dongzi: “Pulling for votes in the most popular celebrity poll. Everyone, please vote for me, as well as for Teacher Zhang Ye. I asked for a favor from Teacher Zhang in the past, and to repay him, I hope that everyone can give your votes to Teacher Zhang, so don’t waste your most unpopular celebrity polling votes!”

Dongzi’s fans were also very active.

“Hahaha, Dongdong is so bad!”

“Dongdong also came to add insult to injury! LOL!”

“Eh, I just realized for the first time that Teacher Dongdong knows Zhang Ye as well!”

“Teacher Zhang Ye has helped Teacher Dongdong before? So it turns out that Zhang Ye is loyal to his friends. I must definitely vote for him then!”

“Man, I always thought that Zhang Ye did not have any friends in the entertainment industry, but he actually knows Teacher Dongdong!”

Dongzi was one of the members in the Celebrity Goof Group chat that Zhang Ye had joined. Her relative wanted to apply to enter Peking University this year and she had asked Zhang Ye for a favor, which was how they got to know each other.

Chen Guang: “Man, is Zhang Ye going to be first again this year? Amazing!”

Chen Guang’s wife, Fan Wenli: “The annual most unpopular celebrity rankings poll on Weibo has already been reserved for Teacher Little Zhang. From now onward, I don’t think there will be anyone else who can get first place in this rankings poll! Congratulations! Congratulations!”

Zhang Ye’s celebrity friends from everywhere also joined in the fun.

When the netizens saw Zhang Ye’s friends behaving so comically, they also laughed madly at it!

“Just look at Zhang Ye’s relationships!”

“Pfft, even his friends are making fun of him! Hahaha!”

“He has gotten first place again! Teacher Zhang, just how terrible can your reputation get?!”

“Teacher Fan Wenli is right. This rankings poll will be occupied by Teacher Zhang Ye for a long time to come. And if there are no surprises this year, Zhang Ye should be the first person in Weibo history to retain the crown of the annual most unpopular celebrity award! Teacher Zhang has broken yet another record!”

“This is so fun!”

“I’ll also go and vote for Zhang Ye!”

“Haha, count me in. I’d like to see how many votes Teacher Zhang can get in total!”

“Pfft, it’s already 3 million votes!”

“How awesome! This is too amazing!”

“The universe can no longer hold Zhang Ye back!”

“Everyone, let’s vote together! So be it if it’s the most unpopular award. Our Teacher Zhang has always walked off the beaten path anyway! If he wants to be a celebrity, then he’ll be the most unique celebrity in the entertainment industry! Even if he were to walk the antagonist’s path, he would be the most brilliant of antagonists! Who gives a fuck who your mother is!”

“Well said!”

“Haha, let’s start voting!”

“It wouldn’t affect me to just watch the commotion, I’m joining in too!”

Many of those who disliked Zhang Ye nearly vomited blood when they saw this. Most of the people who voted for Zhang Ye really disliked him and had really wanted to criticize him. But with the antics of these celebrities and Zhang Ye’s fans, the entire atmosphere of the situation had somehow changed. It was obviously for the most unpopular poll, but Zhang Ye’s fans made it seem like it was a very honorable achievement instead! Everyone was proud of it, instead of being ashamed! No wonder! How the fans turned out depended on which celebrity they followed. These bunch of fans were the same as that Zhang guy. They just wanted to see the world burn!

The votes reached 3.5 million!

The votes reached 4 million!

The votes reached 5 million!

Towards the end, the vote count was getting totally lopsided.

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At midnight, the latest official Celebrity Rankings Index was updated too!

The latest rankings showed that there were no changes on the S- and A-list rankings, but there was a fluctuation on the B-list rankings!

Zhang Ye had moved up another spot in the B-list rankings again!

He was already fourth place on the B-list rankings!

All the accumulated popularity was from the recent episodes of A Bite of China and the leaked crosstalk performance from today, “I Want to Get on the Spring Festival Gala.” Furthermore, the annual celebrity polls on Weibo helped him gain all sorts of popularity. With the recent large increase in his popularity, coupled with today’s jump, he had advanced a spot again and was getting closer and closer to the A-list celebrity rankings!

The fans cheered!

“Quickly go and take a look!”

“Teacher Zhang is so impressive!”

“Damn, he’s about to enter the top three of the B-list rankings!”

“Awesome!”

“Zhang Ye’s popularity has risen again!”

“When A Bite of China has finished broadcasting, he really won’t be far off from the A-list rankings anymore!”

“The people of Beijing send their congratulations!”

“The people of Guangxi send their congratulations!”

Who would have thought this would happen!

The popularity that Zhang Ye gained was basically earned from all his “scolding”!