

## Work Hard 1011

### Chapter 1011: You Just Wait For A Good Show !

“Don’t worry, I can handle tough conditions,” Tangning replied.

“It’s up to me to determine whether you can handle it or not. You Chinese use the term ‘Final Student’. At my age, I was popular once, I hope you don’t disappoint my expectations.”

After he was done talking, Director Jones hung up the phone.

Afterwards, Tangning smiled and looked at Mo Ting, “It’s a success.”

Mo Ting nodded his head and placed a kiss on Tangning’s forehead, “You need to work harder from now on.”

“I know.”

As a result, no one heard from Tangning after she went to the US, but they didn’t expect that she had become the student of a world-class director...

Because no one heard anything about Tangning, there were various versions of rumors. The most popular version was that Tangning had nowhere to turn to; that she was kicked out of Beijing and rejected by England and that she was like an unwanted sewer rat.

No one expected that she was standing at the forefront of the industry because she wanted to produce a high quality sci-fi film. In fact, while she was Jones’ student, she didn’t care about her image at all. To prevent herself from being recognized, she wore a hat and glasses and was willing to do anything...

Meanwhile, Mo Ting continued to travel between the two places. However, Long Jie and the others still had no updates regarding Tangning. Lu Che tried asking Mo Ting indirectly, but he replied, “Why are you asking so much?”

“It’s because the rumors are too bad...” Lu Che explained. But, in reality, it was because Long Jie wanted to know. However, Mo Ting completely saw through his intention.

“Look after yourself! When you have time, go visit Superstar Media more often...”

Mo Ting thought the hint in his words were clear...

If Lu Che didn’t get it, then he didn’t deserve to be his assistant.

“I understand,” Lu Che understood immediately. In reality, he had wanted to help his wife for a long time, but Mo Ting had never given him approval.

But, even with Mo Ting’s approval, he still couldn’t be too obvious, in case he hurt Long Jie’s pride.

...

Tangning's rumors circulated like wildfire through Beijing and caused quite a commotion. Even so, Tangning had no intention of appearing to explain anything. This made Han Xiuche even more certain that Tangning was nothing.

"I would like to see if a cowardly person like you would make an appearance if Superstar Media gets into trouble."

"Young Master Han, I've contacted the fake Tangning, Ma Weiwei. When do you want to meet with her?" the manager asked unwillingly.

"As soon as possible," Han Xiuche replied. "I would like to see how Tangning feels if Superstar Media falls into the hands of this fake Tangning."

"Just a few days ago, you were so concerned about her, but now, you want to go against her. Men are sure hard to predict," Han Xiuche's manager mumbled as she walked out of the apartment with her phone.

She had almost reached her limit. Who wouldn't go crazy when faced with an indecisive artist like Han Xiuche?

But, before that, she still had to fulfill her responsibilities.

The manager arranged for the two to meet at a quiet location. After all, they were both celebrities and their identities were a little inconvenient.

Originally, she thought the fake Tangning, Ma Weiwei, wouldn't appear.

But, with the mention of Tangning's name, she, of course, showed up. After all, she relied on Tangning to get famous. However, it was still a double edged sword. Although she was famous and gained some popularity, the real Tangning was still a threat to her.

She, of course, wanted to replace the real thing...

...instead of being known as a replica.

The two met inside a car while Han Xiuche's manager stood guard outside.

"Speak, what did you call me here for, Mr. Han, the manhua artist!"

Han Xiuche looked at the face that resembled Tangning and smiled, "Are you interested in seizing control of Superstar Media? You must know that Superstar Media is Tangning's blood, sweat and tears, if you successfully take it from her hands, you will be the talk of the town."

Ma Weiwei smiled mockingly after hearing what Han Xiuche said, "Are you planning to betray your agency?"

"Simply tell me if you are interested. I don't want to discuss anything else," Han Xiuche said straightforwardly. "Right now, you are at most, just a face that looks like Tangning. You may be famous, but you have nothing to show, so your foundation isn't stable and you may be abandoned at any time."

"Think about it, if we work together and seize control of Superstar Media..."

“...things would be very different.”

“How are we supposed to gain control of Superstar Media?” Ma Weiwei asked. “Don’t forget, Tangning may not be in charge of Superstar Media, but Long Man isn’t easy to deal with either. Plus, her husband is the assistant of Hai Rui’s CEO.”

“Long Man isn’t hard to deal with,” Han Xiuche said confidently. “You don’t need to do much. I will deliver Superstar Media straight to your hands. You simply need to remember that from now on, if you have anything good, you will think of me first...”

Ma Weiwei thought Han Xiuche was crazy.

“Fine, if you can deliver Superstar Media to my hands, I will be more than happy to accept it!”

Even though she said this, she never expected Han Xiuche to actually succeed.

As a result, she simply treated the meeting as a chance for some fresh air. Sure, she was envious of the fame that Tangning once had, but, Superstar Media...

...she didn’t dare consider that.

It was impossible for a person to be successful overnight, but one day, she was going to be more famous than Tangning.

After their chat, Ma Weiwei left first. Afterwards, Han Xiuche’s manager asked, “What did you and Ma Weiwei agree on?”

“I’m simply making a new friend. What are you so anxious about?”

The manager took a deep breath. She was beginning to feel that Han Xiuche was becoming more and more unreasonable, “If you placed all this energy on your manhua, how good would that be?”

“You would never understand what I’m thinking!”

Han Xiuche chewed some gum as he said to his manager, “I like seeing Tangning fight back and then shrivel up and hide again. What do you think her expression would look like if Superstar Media was taken away?”

“Yes, I don’t understand you, but I do know that if you truly liked Tangning, then everything you’re doing today is hurting her.”

“You’re becoming more and more naggy!” Han Xiuche ignored his manager’s words. “I will do what I want to do. Even my brother can’t control me, let alone you.”

“You just wait for a good show!”

The manager was helpless as she pretended to be oblivious to Han Xiuche’s plans. But, even though she was his manager, she actually hoped that Tangning would appear soon and deal with this young spoilt heir.

**Chapter 1012: Maintain Secrecy**

Meanwhile, Tangning had been following Jones on set for an entire month. There were days when she returned home with patches of sunburn. Although Mo Ting's heart ached for his wife, he felt happy to see that Tangning had achieved so much.

As for the post production of 'The Ant Queen', it was secretly relocated to the US because of Tangning. Tangning improved a lot, especially under the guidance of 'The Father of Sci-fi'.

During the time that Tangning followed Director Jones, a lot of Chinese agencies came looking for the director to partake in the production of their sci-fi films, however, Jones turned them all down.

Some agencies even did all they could to enter the set of 'The Resurrected Specimen', just so they could ask Director Jones for some time. But, Jones completely ignored them. Of course, some of these people noticed a tall woman by Jones' side...

Although she was wearing a hat and sunglasses, the superstar aura that she exuded was apparent and it made her very suspicious.

However, without fully understanding the situation, no one expected that Tangning was actually Director Jones' student!

They could only bravely guess that Tangning was running errands on set because that was all they saw her do.

So, after they returned to Beijing, they began to spread word that they saw Tangning on the set of a particular film, working for the Americans as a lowly errands person.

She had stooped to the lowest level of the industry!

And since Hai Rui did not respond, people began to wonder if Mo Ting had given up on Tangning.

"Tangning was dressed in dirty torn clothes. It's possible that Mo Ting already split with her but they haven't officially announced their divorce yet."

"Does that mean Superstar Media is over?"

"That must be the case. Otherwise, why would Hai Rui not mention a word about Tangning? That's not the way that a person would treat their own wife."

As a result, rumors about Tangning's marriage also began to circulate.

Long Jie was worried by these rumors. So, when she returned home at night, she released her anger on her husband, "Can't you get any information from President Mo? Tangning won't contact us, is it possible that something has actually gone wrong?"

"The President told me not to ask anything, so I'm too afraid to snoop into his private matters," Lu Che replied. "But, do you actually believe that the President's feelings for the Madam would change?"

"It's not a matter of whether I believe or not. The problem is, everyone is saying it, so I have no choice but to believe it."

"I think the Madam is fine, that's why the President told me not to ask."

“Fine my ass! What if Tangning is being bullied, but we keep assuming that she is fine?” Long Jie humphed, “Men are unpredictable.”

“Stop suspecting ridiculous things. How about this? I’ll ask around and see if I can get any information,” Lu Che comforted his wife as he began to contact his private connections. However, Tangning’s relationship with Jones was kept under wraps and no one knew about it.

So, Lu Che returned empty-handed, once again.

“How I wish the Madam could return right now...”

Lu Che wasn’t the only one that noticed Long Jie’s anxiety, Han Xiuche also saw it clearly.

“If Long Jie is worried about Tangning, you should go to the US and look for her. Don’t just sit here anxiously.”

“I would love to do that, but someone needs to watch over Superstar Media,” Long Jie replied. After hearing about Tangning’s rumors, Long Jie was so worried that she couldn’t focus on her newcomers anymore.

“Don’t worry, you still have us.”

Han Xiuche said with a deeper meaning.

Long Jie waved her hand. Her heart was filled with worries and complex emotions.

However, Mo Ting notified Tangning of Long Jie’s worries, so Tangning decided it was time to calm her down. Hence, after a busy day on set, she finally gave Long Jie a phone call, “I heard you’ve been so anxious that it’s driven you crazy...”

“You finally know how to give me a phone call? Did you know that everyone in Beijing is currently bad mouthing you? They’re even saying that you and the President have had a divorce.”

“And you believe them?” Tangning raised an eyebrow. “Don’t worry, I am doing well. You simply need to trust me and keep moving forward...”

“Are you sure? What’s all this talk about you being an errands person for the Americans?”

“People from Beijing came to look for my teacher and happened to see me, so they began to make random assumptions. I am indeed helping out with errands here, but I’m not an “errands person”. You simply need to know that...”

“Teacher?”

“Yes, I am officially a student of Director Jones’ and I am learning how to produce a sci-fi film,” Tangning replied.

“Are you talking about ‘The Father of Sci-fi’?”

“Uh huh,” Tangning nodded.

As soon as Long Jie heard this, she was filled with joy, “Hahaha, I knew you wouldn’t be Tangning unless you did something extraordinary. I never expected that you’d actually find a world-class teacher without saying a word. Hurry and tell me about the interesting things you’ve encountered in the US.”

“I don’t have time to tell you that much. You simply have to trust that I will be back very soon...”

“But, you can’t tell anyone that I am Director Jones’ student; not even Lu Che.”

“I need to maintain secrecy for a good show later.”

Long Jie was so happy that she immediately straightened her legs, “OK, I understand. I guarantee that I won’t tell a soul, not even Lu Che and Lin Qian. I will wait patiently for your return.”

“Since you’re not worried anymore, focus on training the people at Superstar Media!” Tangning instructed. “Without me around, you can’t let others find an opportunity to take advantage of the agency.”

“I understand.”

After talking to Tangning, Long Jie felt a load had been taken off her shoulders. Not only was Tangning not in a pitiful state, she had even become the student of a master in his field. Simply this identity was enough to blind everyone.

She was going to wait for Tangning’s return!

As a result, her attitude towards Superstar Media changed.

This made Han Xiuche slightly suspicious.

“Long Jie, aren’t you worried about Tangning anymore? Why do you seem extra motivated at work these last few days?”

Long Jie lifted her head. As soon as she saw Han Xiuche, she replied, “Because I’ve decided that no matter what Tangning does overseas, it is her choice. I have no right to question it. Since I’ve taken over Superstar Media, I have the responsibility to help it progress. So, I need to focus on making all of you into Superstars.”

“I thought you contacted Tangning and confirmed that she’d be returning. I knew that wouldn’t be the case. The news about her is so bad that I knew she wouldn’t want to show her face around here.”

“The news is just a past time, don’t take it too seriously. Let’s not talk about Tangning anymore. You’ve been preparing your new manhua for so long, is it ready yet?” Long Jie asked. “I’ve been anticipating it.”

“Then keep on anticipating. I guarantee that it will be amazing!” Han Xiuche replied.

As for how amazing, Long Jie would have to wait and see. She was bound to be surprised.

### **Chapter 1013: I’m Afraid You Won’t Be Able To Handle It !**

As she was pregnant, Lin Qian did not go into the agency as often. But, according to her pregnant woman instincts, she could tell that there was something wrong with Han Xiuche.

"I just saw Han Xiuche exit your office. You should be cautious of him," Lin Qian suggested. "He went missing out of nowhere and went to England to look for Tangning, then suddenly returned again. His actions are very suspicious."

Long Jie thought about it and nodded her head, "I haven't had many people to talk to lately, so I've been talking to him a little."

"I know you've been struggling to keep the agency going and you're unsure of Tangning's current state."

"While we're on this topic, Han Xiuche suggested that I sign the fake Tangning, Ma Weiwei. He said it would create a lot of hype!"

"When you first signed this guy, I already sensed something was wrong. Now that I look at it, he is indeed as expected," Lin Qian said to Long Jie. "Hong Jie has just made it on the fashion scene and Xing Lan and Luo Sheng have both gone to Hai Rui, so it's even more important for you to sign someone new to counter balance Han Xiuche."

"I will think of a way to find someone new. You should take care of yourself. If anything happens, I can't handle the responsibility!"

After hearing Long Jie's warning, Lin Qian nodded her head gently, "Don't push yourself too hard. If there are any issues, you can discuss them with me."

"I know," Long Jie walked Lin Qian out of the agency and watched as she boarded her car to go home before she relaxed.

Now that Superstar Media no longer had Tangning and there was a Ma Weiwei constantly pressuring them, Long Jie felt so stressed that she could hardly breathe...

...

At that very moment, inside a waiting room, Ma Weiwei was getting her makeup done. Meanwhile, her manager sat by her side and opened her phone.

"Hey, Weiwei, it's been a while since you spoke to Han Xiuche. Do you think he was joking with you?"

"Are you referring to his attempt to seize Superstar Media for me?" Ma Weiwei humphed. "Even if the current Superstar Media is given to me, I may not necessarily accept it. Look at what Long Man's done after Tangning left."

"She's witty, but she's not very competent, she needs someone to lead the way for her to produce results."

"So, look at the current Superstar Media, who would want to join it?"

"Others may not want to join, that's no big deal, but you're different. Because of your relation to Tangning, you require Superstar Media, you need to trample over them sooner or later..."

After hearing what her manager said, Ma Weiwei put down the eyelash curler in her hand and contemplated seriously.

“Tangning is currently hiding in the US, too afraid to face anyone. Even if I take Superstar Media away right now, it won’t bring me much pleasure.”

“You’re right, she’s not in China right now, but she’s bound to return one day!” The manager was highly interested in taking control of Superstar Media. “Why don’t I talk to Young Master Han?”

“You can go if you want!”

Ma Weiwei did not stop her manager. After she had her makeup done, she sat quietly in her spot and waited. However, Luo Yinghong’s fashion programme was being recorded next door and her waiting room was on the other side of the wall.

Ma Weiwei wasn’t aware of this until the staff called her and she happened to see Luo Yinghong step out from next door.

“Hong Jie, right? I’ve heard a lot about you. Why don’t you even have an assistant by your side?” Ma Weiwei asked, pointing out the obvious.

“Because I don’t need one,” Luo Yinghong replied with a smile. “However, I think you may need to hire a few more. After all, you are walking in Tangning’s footsteps, so you are bound to make a lot of enemies. I’m afraid you won’t be able to handle it.”

Ma Weiwei’s face swelled up and turned slightly red, “Hong Jie, I respect that you are a senior, but...”

“I already heard the conversation between you and your manager. Unfortunately, the rooms aren’t very soundproof,” Luo Yinghong sneered. “Although Tangning has gone overseas, don’t you think that your dream of surpassing her is a bit ridiculous?”

“Tangning is but an outdated artist, what’s the point of protecting her? Don’t you know that times have changed?” Ma Weiwei’s manager said as she shielded her artist. “The current Tangning isn’t even worthy of carrying shoes for Weiwei.”

As soon as she heard these words, Luo Yinghong stormed over to Ma Weiwei and grabbed onto her collar, “Didn’t you get famous from making yourself look like Tangning? Although you want to deny it, I’m sure you know how much you’ve gained from this resemblance.”

“No matter how famous and how much of a hit you currently are, you will never be able to get rid of the fact that you relied on Tangning.”

“So, even if Tangning is no longer famous, other people are allowed to look down on her, but you aren’t!” Luo Yinghong said as she pushed Ma Weiwei away.

“Remember what I’ve said today. Don’t take things too far.”

Ma Weiwei clenched her fists. She had obviously reached her limit.

After all, Luo Yinghong’s every word directly stepped on her where it hurt. So, it was impossible not to be furious.

Afterwards, Luo Yinghong left. But, Ma Weiwei said to her manager, “Weren’t you about to ask Han Xiuche when he’s taking over Superstar Media?”



“Weiwei, don’t be angry, I’ll go ask him right now,” her manager immediately replied.

After hearing Luo Yinghong’s words, Ma Weiwei was like a furious creature that was being held by its tail.

“Old woman, I’m going to let you see what Tangning’s worth. In the end, the entire Beijing will only recognize me, Ma Weiwei!”

“You just wait and see!”

...

As a result, Han Xiuche was a little surprised when he received a phone call from Ma Weiwei’s manager.

“I thought Weiwei didn’t care.”

“She didn’t care until she was insulted by one of Superstar Media’s artists,” the manager replied, “So, Young Master Han, can you confirm what you will do and when you will do it?”

“Soon! Wait for the good news.”

“In that case, hurry...”

They may not have been in rush before, but they now learned to be impatient because they finally appreciated the taste of power and understood the frustration of being suppressed.

Up until this point, Han Xiuche had been wary of Lin Qian because she was very observant. Therefore, he was waiting until Lin Qian reached the later stages of her pregnancy and Long Jie was truly on her own.

He knew that Lin Qian had negative views of him, but he didn’t want to provoke the wife of a military general; Li Jin wasn’t someone he could afford to offend.

So, he was waiting for the right time.

Lin Qian was beginning to frequent the agency a lot less and her conversations with Long Jie had also decreased. So, Han Xiuche believed that Long Jie would breakdown very soon.

The more she tried to produce results, the more she couldn’t produce them.

Long Jie desperately looked everywhere for artists to sign.

But, without Tangning, who would want to join Superstar Media?

Superstar Media’s glory days were gone...

So, Han Xiuche suggested to Long Jie, “Long Jie, I know you have a plan to create some superstars. I am familiar with a few new artists, do you want me to introduce them to you?”

#### **Chapter 1014: Rejected Offer !**

“What type of new artist?” Long Jie asked. “You need to know that I have very high expectations.”

“You’ll know once you see them,” Han Xiuche deliberately kept Long Jie guessing, but left her with a slither of hope.

Long Jie remembered Lin Qian’s warning, but she had no choice. As long as there was the slightest chance of improvement for Superstar Media, she was willing to give it a try.

“In that case, arrange for us to meet.”

“OK.”

Han Xiuche’s overly passionate response made Long Jie wary, but she still couldn’t resist temptation.

In the end, Long Jie did not discuss the matter with Lin Qian because she knew that Lin Qian was a long way into her pregnancy and couldn’t be overly stressed.

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A few days later, Han Xiuche brought a few newcomers to Superstar Media. As soon as Long Jie looked at them and realized that they were a group, she lit up and was tempted.

Their appearance, presence, background and other points weren’t bad, so Long Jie predicted they’d be a hit if she fixed their image a little.

“What do you think? Are you satisfied?” Han Xiuche smiled. “My juniors from art school aren’t bad. That’s why I introduced them to you.”

“Not bad, indeed...” Long Jie nodded. “I’ll have to depend on them to help Superstar Media back on its feet.”

“Don’t worry, they are honestly really good.”

However, this wasn’t something that Han Xiuche could determine on his own.

Long Jie had her methods and her connections, so it wasn’t hard for her to investigate further into something. Luckily, the group that Han Xiuche introduced to her, had clean backgrounds.

“I would like to thank you for doing all this,” Long Jie thanked Han Xiuche.

“We are all a part of Superstar Media, there’s no need to be polite,” Han Xiuche acted modest, but as soon as he turned around, the smile on his face was filled with a deeper meaning.

“I will manage this group personally...”

“I trust in your abilities.”

Long Jie decided to personally manage the group because she had her suspicions. Besides, keeping an eye on a group was relatively more difficult.

So, as soon as she signed a contract with the group, she immediately started their training.

However, she never expected that this would be the start of her misfortunes.

...

Tangning learned a lot on the set of 'The Resurrected Specimen' and Jones was very patient with her. Because he could tell that she was truly talented, he couldn't wait to pass on everything he knew to her so she could produce some results in the world of sci-fi.

As a result, the people on set gradually realized that Tangning wasn't a simple errands person. She was Jones' student!

The majority of them began to feel a little nasty for judging her in the past.

During this time, the most important thing that Tangning got from the experience was that she got to witness the professionalism of Western actors. For the sake of a role, they were willing to gain weight at any time; get dirty at any time; crawl, roll and even fight at any time. This willingness was something that the East was lacking.

"Tangning, I've come in contact with many Chinese in the past. But, whether they were from the industry or not, it was rare to come across someone that was diligent, earnest and willing to put their identities aside. The Chinese are particularly prideful."

This was something that the producer of 'The Resurrected Specimen' said to Tangning while he was visiting on set. "After seeing the hardwork you've put into learning how to produce a good film and seeing you make guest appearances here and there, I've been tempted to ask if you'd like to pursue a career in Hollywood?"

"I've looked into your incidences in China and don't believe you should have received the treatment that you did. I've also watched your films. To be honest, I think it's a shame for you to produce a film, rather than act in a film."

"So, even though I know you may reject me, I still want to ask if you'd like to come to Hollywood and take on a role with me?"

"I was originally planning to go to China this weekend to recruit an actress. If you're willing to work with me, I won't have to make this trip."

After hearing what the producer had to say, Tangning smiled and said apologetically, "I'm sorry, I made a vow that I would never act again and I would like to stick to that promise."

"Besides, I put in so much effort to learn how to produce a good sci-fi film because I want to fulfill a friend's dream."

"So, I'm sorry...but I need to turn down your offer."

The man nodded his head in a defeated manner, "Fine, I guess I have no choice but to make this trip to China."

"I wish you all the best."

The man did not pressure Tangning. He felt she had a lot of personality and was persistent. So, he believed that she deserved respect. That's why he didn't understand why a talent like Tangning was hurt so much in China...

Soon, the producer arrived in Beijing. As soon as he stepped out of the airport, he saw a commercial featuring Ma Weiwei. He was shocked that the woman resembled Tangning so much.

As he liked Tangning a lot, he asked his assistant to do some research into Ma Weiwei.

But, after he understood her a little better, he was extremely disappointed, "This woman, Ma Weiwei, deliberately did plastic surgery to look like Tangning so she could be famous."

"Then she's just a thief that's trying to take credit for someone else's hard work..."

"Since that's the case, let's make an open call for auditions. What do you think?"

"OK," the producer nodded.

"What if Ma Weiwei also turns up?"

"Then, let's see her perform; let's wait and see how far she is from Tangning," the producer replied. "By the way, don't let anyone know that Tangning is currently learning from Director Jones. It doesn't seem like anyone in Beijing knows yet. Don't be a loose-lipped person. We should keep this to ourselves."

"I originally wanted to work with Tangning, so don't do something that makes her dislike us."

"I understand."

Tangning did not ask to be treated that way, but she received the respect that she deserved. No, to be exact, she was treated well because she was the student of Jones.

As expected, a top producer recruiting for Hollywood was a highly attractive opportunity...

As a newcomer in the industry, Ma Weiwei, of course, dreamed of securing the deal.

So, she immediately asked her management agency to make arrangements. But, if she was to discover how much the producer admired Tangning, would her face be swollen from the faceslap?

Up until this point, she had yet to play any outstanding roles – because she couldn't act!

This was something that couldn't be replicated even if she was rebuilt from scratch!

### **Chapter 1015: A Replica Is Just A Replica**

"Weiwei, the agency told me you have the opportunity for an audition," Ma Weiwei's manager said excitedly after she contacted the American producer. She knew deep in her heart that even if Ma Weiwei was a popular topic of discussion right now, she still couldn't compare to the versatile Tangning, so she never imagined that Ma Weiwei would receive an opportunity for an audition.

"That's because I'm luckier than Tangning," Ma Weiwei said calmly to her manager. "You just wait and see, I definitely won't be defeated in everything I do like Tangning."

"Of course not, our Weiwei is amazing..."

She was indeed amazing – amazing at getting plastic surgery and creating hype.

Unfortunately, Ma Weiwei had no idea that the producer gave her the audition opportunity simply because he wanted to see how bad she was compared to Tangning.

...

Meanwhile, Long Jie was training her newly signed group, S.A.J. The group was perfectly balanced with two boys and two girls and their voices were all decent.

However, this new group couldn't be like Xing Lan, they couldn't participate in a singing competition like she did. Their debut relied on Long Jie's plans to create exposure, so she was putting them through a strict training regime.

From their clothes to the way they talked to their individual personalities, Long Jie designed each aspect carefully.

Seeing Long Jie immersed in her plan, Han Xiuche was extremely pleased. This meant he was one step closer to his goal.

Of course, Lin Qian eventually caught wind of such a big matter. Seeing that Long Jie was working so hard to train new artists, she felt guilty for not being of any help.

"At the moment, the group is performing well. When they finally debut in 2-3 months time, you will be ready to give birth. By the time that you return to work, we can start on another plan."

"So, you don't need to worry. Even if Tangning isn't around, I will still do all I can to make Superstar Media shine."

Lin Qian supported her stomach and smiled, "I have no doubt that your abilities are better than mine, but there's still one thing that you need to be cautious of: Han Xiuche. I have a bad feeling about that guy."

"But, Han Xiuche helped a lot this time..." Long Jie replied. "Don't worry, I know what I'm doing."

"That better be the case."

However, Long Jie had no idea that Han Xiuche had dug a huge trap for her to fall into. He didn't care about the time and money invested, nor the consequences.

So, how could Long Jie guard against this? Not only did she not have her guard up, she even interacted with Han Xiuche more when Lin Qian wasn't around.

Upon returning to the agency and hearing about Long Jie's close relationship with Han Xiuche, Luo Yinghong remembered the conversation she overheard between Ma Weiwei and her manager. So, she was suspicious of Han Xiuche.

As a part of the agency, she believed it was only right for her to warn Long Jie.

Therefore, she waited until Han Xiuche wasn't around before she knocked on Long Jie's office door.

"Hong Jie? What's the matter?"

"I noticed you've been getting really close to Han Xiuche lately, so I wanted to remind you to be cautious of him," Luo Yinghong said. "A while ago, when I was filming a programme, I came across Ma Weiwei and overheard her conversation with her manager. It sounded like her relationship with Han Xiuche isn't simple."

After Long Jie heard this, she was a bit surprised.

"Really?"

"I have no grudges against Han Xiuche, so there's no reason for me to slander him. Either way, you should be wary of him."

As it was a kind-hearted warning, Long Jie naturally took note and nodded her head, "Don't worry, Hong Jie. I know what I'm doing."

"That's good." After she was done talking, Luo Yinghong turned and left the office.

But, right outside the door, Han Xiuche approached excitedly with something to discuss.

"Hong Jie..."

This polite young man looked completely harmless, but no one expected that he was hiding a malicious intent.

Either way, Luo Yinghong did not have a good feeling about him.

So, she simply nodded her head at Han Xiuche.

Han Xiuche immediately sensed the coldness. It seemed everyone at Superstar Media, except for Long Jie, had their guard up against him.

But, it didn't matter because Long Jie was already knee deep in his trap...

...

9 days later, the auditions for the American producer were to be held.

Ma Weiwei arrived dressed in fancy clothes and makeup, like she was certain she'd be picked by the producer.

However, people within the industry didn't seem convinced by her.

Even if Tangning appeared at the auditions, they wouldn't be 100% sure that she'd succeed, let alone a fake replica. Apart from using Tangning's name to get famous, what else could she do?

Act?

Could she do that?

Not everyone in the world was born with the talent to act like Tangning.

Ma Weiwei understood where she stood, but if she looked down on herself as well, who would give her the respect that she wanted?

To everyone's confusion, Ma Weiwei was scheduled to audition first. But, the producer's motive was simple: he wanted to quickly see her perform and quickly send her away if she wasn't up to standard. That way he wouldn't treat others unfairly while waiting for her.

"Weiwei, you can do it! Go ahead!" Ma Weiwei's manager cheered.

However, everyone knew that Ma Weiwei wouldn't have any acting skills to show.

Ma Weiwei saw through everyone's disdain. But, even so, she continued to believe that she could do anything that Tangning could do.

So, she was filled with confidence as she entered the audition.

When she walked around like a superstar, she did indeed look like Tangning from certain angles. But, as soon as she stepped into the audition hall, the producer immediately knew that it was all a facade.

"You can start," the producer said with perfect English. "Act out a role or scene that you are most confident with."

The other staff in the room were filled with anticipation.

After all, they had all witnessed Tangning's mesmerizing acting skills.

But...

...even though Ma Weiwei was smart enough to know that crying scenes and arguing scenes easily triggered people's emotions...

...the producer felt her acting was completely incomprehensible.

"Miss Ma, I'm sorry to tell you that your acting is so bad that you probably wouldn't even qualify to play a corpse."

"Exactly as expected, a replica is just a replica...you don't even have the slightest bit of Tangning's charms..."

"I shouldn't have wasted my time," the producer said as he lowered his head. "That's enough, next person please."

Ma Weiwei stood awkwardly in place...

She never expected to receive such a blow for the first time.

"Get out. Do you know why you even qualified for the auditions? It's because you look similar to Tangning that the producer decided to give you a chance for Tangning's sake. But, reality has proven that giving you this chance was the biggest form of insult for Tangning," the staff accompanying the producer said.

**Chapter 1016: Group Ridicule**

Ma Weiwei opened her mouth with the intention to argue back, but she quickly remembered her identity. She could never publicly defy the American producer unless, of course, she wanted to no longer survive in the entertainment industry.

So, even though she was humiliated, all she could do was take it. At the same time, she continued to hold her chest high in confidence as she left the audition room.

Her manager immediately ran over and asked excitedly, "How did you go?"

Everyone around them propped up their ears with looks of ridicule. They all knew that if Ma Weiwei was actually accepted, the American film would go backwards by thirty years.

But, Ma Weiwei needed to keep her pride...

"The director said I was not bad..."

Not bad...Ma Weiwei managed to lie with a straight face. So, after her manager heard her response, her smile grew even wider, "I knew you could do it, Weiwei! You're a genius..."

"Haha...I'm not hearing things, am I? If the producer actually said that Ma Weiwei was not bad, then everyone else is going to Hollywood for sure..." an artist ridiculed.

Ma Weiwei humphed before she left with her manager.

After arriving downstairs, Ma Weiwei stopped in her tracks and turned to look at her manager, "Why did you make me come to this audition?"

"Huh?" the manager was taken aback, "What's wrong?"

"They were trying to test my limits because I looked like Tangning...In the end..." Ma Weiwei couldn't continue. If other people found out about this, they would definitely treat her like a joke.

"Forget about it..."

Her manager was clearly confused, not quite understanding what Ma Weiwei was trying to say. But, later, when news of the audition appeared online, she finally understood.

[Ma Weiwei tries to compare herself to Tangning at auditions: video exposed!]

[Ma Weiwei's first audition: frightens away American producer!]

When Tangning was around, people often caused trouble for her. So, they weren't going to let go of the fake Tangning either. When it came to slandering people, there was always someone in the industry that was willing to do it.

Especially since the video of Ma Weiwei's audition was a complete joke.

The public was filled with ridicule.

"Reality has proven that no matter how much she resembles Tangning, she should know the limit of her capabilities."



“She’s so embarrassing that she even embarrassed herself in front of a foreigner. When it comes to acting, where did her confidence come from?”

“I need to watch Tangning’s films a dozen times to clean my eyes.”

“While we’re on this topic, ever since Tangning stopped acting, there hasn’t been another good film! What a shame...”

Because of what happened, fans began to sigh about how good Tangning was. No matter how she was like offscreen, at least her films lived up to her identity and did the audience justice.

Afterwards, the entertainment news reported on an interview with the producer. The reporter mentioned Ma Weiwei’s audition and said that they thought she’d be different from expectation because she made it to the auditions.

The producer responded with regret.

“I must admit that Miss Ma resembles the actress Tangning. That’s why I had high expectations for her. Unfortunately, reality has proven that Tangning is amazing because of her uniqueness. Her acting and professionalism isn’t something that others can replicate...”

“Since you are familiar with Tangning, you must have heard that she retreated from the industry...and that she had a lot of scandals in Beijing.”

“I think your nation has a huge misunderstanding towards Tangning. To be honest, before I came here, I had actually sent Tangning an invite, but she, unfortunately, rejected me...”

As soon as the producer said this, the reporters were shocked. So, there was actually more to the story; Tangning was actually in reach of Hollywood. Unlike someone like Ma Weiwei who was so embarrassing yet she still tried to compete with others.

This was the difference between the two women. Things that Tangning didn’t want...were exactly the things that Ma Weiwei wanted. But, no matter how much she wanted it, it was no use.

“Because of work-related reasons, Tangning and I have had some contact. She is an extremely charming Oriental woman. I think it would be very difficult to find another person like her.”

The producer’s high evaluation of Tangning directly opposed the rumors that Tangning was a cheap errands person for the Americans.

“In that case, can you tell us what Tangning’s been getting up to?”

“I think you will need to wait for her to reveal it when she feels like making an appearance.”

The producer answered perfectly; it was just enough to keep everyone hanging. After all, for Tangning to reject such a famous producer, it had to mean that everyone had misunderstood her.

“Besides, Tangning is from Beijing. Why are you guys asking me instead?”

The reporters looked at each other awkwardly. After all, Tangning’s retreat had a lot to do with them.

Plus, they had no idea what Tangning was doing overseas because their misunderstanding stemmed from the deliberate manipulation of others. In fact...everyone thought Tangning was just an outdated actress that would eventually be replaced and forgotten with the passing of time.

No one expected that Tangning would become a topic of discussion once again.

Meanwhile, Ma Weiwei was treated as a joke and all she could do was hope for the phase to pass.

...

The next time that Ma Weiwei and Han Xiuche met, it was initiated by Ma Weiwei.

“Didn’t you say that you were going to make a move on Superstar Media? Why haven’t you done anything yet?”

“Ma Weiwei, do you think the people at Superstar Media are easy to deal with? You haven’t had to do a thing, you simply need to sit and wait. What right do you have to request anything of me?”

Ma Weiwei calmed down and looked at Han Xiuche, “You must have seen the recent news, right? You’ve seen how I’ve been treated like a joke, right?”

“Did you think that I wanted to do plastic surgery? I did it because my agency told me it would make me famous! Otherwise, who would willingly want to become known as fake Tangning? Don’t you think it disgusts me to have the same face as hers? I have to put up with people comparing us all day long...”

“I think you should calm down. No one forced you to do this...You did it willingly.”

Ma Weiwei turned around and glared at Han Xiuche.

“That’s enough, stop complaining to me...The result is near. Wait for the good news.”

“I have a question. Why are you so determined to go against Tangning and her agency? From what I know, you weren’t familiar with Tangning before.”

“To be honest...I was in love with her for a while, obsessively in love...But, I realized she’s too fake and is nothing like she appears. So, it made me angry!” Han Xiuche replied.

“Tangning must have dug my ancestors’ graves in her last life!”<sup>1</sup> Ma Weiwei laughed. “Forget it, I’ll just wait for your good news...”

These two were simply a couple of people that were asking for their own humiliation. Tangning didn’t necessarily know or even remember them. For example, Tangning knew of the existence of Ma Weiwei, but...

...she didn’t even consider her as a possible threat.

Ma Weiwei was a little evil, but she wasn’t something to be concerned about.

As for the question that everyone in Beijing had on their minds about what Tangning was doing, she was going to give them a shocking answer very soon.

**Chapter 1017: I Dream About It Everyday!**

In the meantime, the most important thing for Long Jie, was training S.A.J.

After a series of training sessions and after Long Jie was confident that every single group member was ready to face the world, it was time to commence the next stage of their promotional activities.

The new group had no popularity nor fame; they had nothing. If they couldn't even stir up conversations, then they would be a complete waste of resources.

Not to mention, Long Jie had invested all her heart and soul into them.

Without Tangning around, Superstar Media experienced more doubt than ever before. This made Long Jie's stress levels increase, but she did not retreat. Instead, she used the resources she had to record a dance video for the group of four and placed it online with the caption, 'New dancing quartet: ready for a challenge!'

As it had a sense of provocation, a lot of people clicked into the video wanting to ridicule them. They wanted to see who was so brave as to post up a video like this. But, as soon as they started watching it, their anger subsided because of the good looking young men and women on their screens.

With the added fact that they were actually talented, the results from the video exceeded expectations.

After a quick warm up, Long Jie decided to take advantage of the hype by paying a few famous social media accounts to promote the video by mocking it. Her aim was to create conversations, even though it resulted in arguments amongst fans. But, this boosted S.A.J.'s public image.

Slowly, people began to take notice of them and discover that they were Superstar Media's newly formed group.

Afterwards, Long Jie placed the focus of her promotional efforts on youngsters and students. She knew exactly where the group stood. Since they were marketing them as a youthful group, they of course focused on their good looks.

Gradually, fan clubs for S.A.J. began to form within the school grounds and they had regular fans that followed them around.

So, after reaping some benefits, the group believed in Long Jie's abilities a lot more. But, there was often a weird vibe in the group. A vibe that Long Jie didn't notice because she was so focused on booking activities.

When Xing Lan saw how much Long Jie was struggling, she naturally wanted to provide some help. So, she decided to promote the group a little. Since she was about to start her concert tour and her first stop was Beijing, inviting S.A.J. to be her guests seemed quite reasonable.

However, Xing Lan belonged to Hai Rui and their interests weren't connected to Superstar Media, so her manager did not approve of her decision. The number one reason was because Hai Rui didn't know anything about the background of this group formed by Long Jie.

It wasn't easy for Xing Lan to get to where she was, so they couldn't let anything go wrong.

Therefore, the manager did not allow Xing Lan to promote S.A.J..

Long Jie understood the worries of Xing Lan's manager. To be honest, she never considered getting help from anyone anyway, whether it was Luo Sheng, Xing Lan or Luo Yinghong.

"Long Jie, I'll speak to my manager about this matter. I am personally inviting S.A.J. as my guests."

"Make sure they are prepared, the concert will be at the end of this month."

On the phone, Xing Lan was extremely serious and sincere, "Although we are no longer legally bound, Superstar Media will always be my home. That's why I am happy to do this favor. Especially since I've watched their video and have confirmed that they are indeed talented."

Long Jie considered the situation, if she let Xing Lan provide assistance, she could avoid going in circles. But, this was exactly the reason why she wasn't willing to accept it.

"You are currently a rising star in Hai Rui. Your every move is a direct representation of Hai Rui. S.A.J. hasn't established itself yet and there are certain terms in your contract that you need to abide by. You shouldn't go against your agency because of me. I will find a way to deal with S.A.J.'s matter."

Xing Lan spent all night trying to convince Long Jie, but in the end, Long Jie still refused her help.

It was lucky that she didn't agree. Otherwise, Long Jie would have felt extremely guilty for implicating Xing Lan if something actually went wrong.

"You may be unwilling to accept help from Xing Lan, but what about me, your husband?" Lu Che asked as he stood up and looked at his wife. "I know you want to produce some results to prove yourself, but you shouldn't draw such a fine line between us."

After hearing Lu Che's words, Long Jie shook her head, "Trust me, Lu Che, it's not that I don't want to ask for your help, but I haven't truly understood the members of the group yet. As you know, both Lin Qian and Long Jie have warned me about Han Xiuche. In order not to implicate anyone, I need to be cautious. That's why I rejected Xing Lan...Did you think I'd be against the idea of directly making these four famous? I dream about it everyday!"

After Lu Che heard this, he took a deep breath and nodded his head, "You've become a lot more understanding and mature."

"That's because I often try to see things from Tangning's point of view: if she was here, what would she do?"

"OK, in that case, let me know once you've confirmed what you are going to do. And if you can't hold on anymore, let me know as well," Lu Che said as he drew Long Jie into his arms. "Although I'm not capable of everything like the President, I still have the ability to protect my woman, OK?"

Long Jie closed her eyes and enjoyed Lu Che's scent. Marrying this man was indeed the best decision she had made in her life.

...

Han Xiuche watched as Long Jie committed everything to S.A.J. and revealed a dark smile. S.A.J.'s partially debuted state proved that Long Jie was indeed capable. Unfortunately...her relationship with Tangning...

"Long Jie, I'm quite familiar with Lin Weisen, do you want me to contact him to see if I can secure some fashion-related jobs for S.A.J.?"

Long Jie shook her head at the enthusiastic gesture, "Don't put yourself in debt. Even if you secure a job, it's of no use to the group. You need to understand that as soon as they become famous, jobs will automatically deliver themselves into their hands."

"You're right..."

"What they're currently missing is an opportunity to perform..."

"When they get the opportunity, does that mean they will officially debut?"

Long Jie nodded her head. The video was currently being put to good use and the group was being promoted to more and more people. "I will try my best to help them create a good image. Afterwards, I will schedule some jobs for them..."

"Let me know if you need my help!" Han Xiuche smiled as he nodded.

"You've already helped enough by introducing them to me. I haven't even thanked you for that," Long Jie thanked sincerely.

Long Jie hoped to receive Han Xiuche's sincerity in return.

### **Chapter 1018: First Performance**

"I just so happened to know them. These college juniors of mine are very talented," Han Xiuche replied. "That's why I should thank you instead for noticing their talents and guiding them."

Long Jie looked directly into Han Xiuche's eyes when her phone suddenly rang. It was an old acquaintance.

"Long Jie, thanks to the help you provided in the past, I was able to survive in the industry. I heard you've been trying to promote a group of new artists, so I immediately tried to contact you. The university is currently holding a music festival and I think your group should perform there."

"The top singer, Qin Qin will be making an appearance on the stage as well, so you could consider it as a free ride."

"What do you think?"

At a time like this, anyone willing to offer a helping hand could be considered as a true friend. So, Long Jie replied, "I will forever remember what you've done for me today."

"You're being too serious. I simply have a feeling that Tangning will return to Beijing, so I want to prepare a path for myself."

Long Jie understood the mutual benefit involved. Since this person helped her, she was going to remember them.

“Don’t worry.”

“OK, in that case, focus on training your new artists.”

Han Xiuche listened to Long Jie’s conversation on the phone and confirmed that S.A.J. would be making their debut performance. He never expected that his chance would arrive so casually.

It happened so soon...

Han Xiuche thought that Long Jie should, at least, enjoy the feelings of success that these four people created for her.

No, to be exact, he felt that she should enjoy it while she still could...

Afterwards, Long Jie notified S.A.J. of the arrangements she made and told them, “I know you’ve performed a lot during your university days. I’ve checked your stage presence and you are all fine. But, you are now leaving the university to face the entire entertainment industry. So, you need to have a serious attitude. If your first performance fails, you will be immediately destroyed.”

After receiving Long Jie’s guidance, the group viewed their performance seriously.

After all, this performance was their official debut!

“We understand. We will definitely give our all...” the group replied excitedly.

...

Meanwhile, far away in the US, Tangning heard from Mo Ting that Long Jie was trying to debut some newcomers. She was sincerely pleased with this news, “During the years that we spent at Tianyi, Long Jie did a lot to lay out a path for me. She’s actually very capable...”

With the mention of Tianyi, Mo Ting looked at Tangning and did not say a word. After quite some time, he finally said, “She’s still insisting that she doesn’t need Lu Che’s help.”

“She’ll be fine,” Tangning replied as she comforted Yan Er in her arms.

“What about you? When are you planning to return to China?”

“Are you trying to say that Ma Weiwei is going overboard?” Tangning asked, “I’ve heard about the drama she caused in Beijing...”

“Ma Weiwei has never been of any concern to you. I am trying to ask you when you’ll have the courage to face yourself?” Mo Ting received Yan Er from her arms and looked straight into Tangning’s eyes. It was like he was trying to see through her. “I heard you made changes to ‘The Ant Queen’s’ post production.”

“I learned a lot during this time in the US. I’ve also gained an understanding of the difference between Chinese sci-fi and Western sci-fi. I don’t think I have the ability to undertake the task on my own. Ting,

Qiao Sen's wish was to create a sci-fi film that's on par with the Westerners, but, our creativity and quality is so basic..."

"Don't give yourself too much pressure, just do what you can. Besides, the East and the West have always had their differences; things that work for the West may not necessarily work for the East."

Tangning looked at Mo Ting as her gaze softened, "I won't disappoint you."

"By the way, you need to tell Lu Che to help Long Jie more..."

Tangning had high expectations for herself, so she also had high expectations for 'The Ant Queen'. Hence, she requested for the post production to be even more refined and detailed.

But, no matter what changes she made, she still maintained the original feel of the story. Even though two directors were involved, she wasn't about to waste Qiao Sen's efforts.

As a result, 'The Ant Queen' would not be seen by audiences until even later...

...

A few days later, the music festival was held at one of the top universities in the nation.

As a famous singer was to perform, the festival was very popular.

Not only students, but also people from the public would be squeezing into the 5000-people-capacity gymnasium.

The famous singer only had two songs and would be leaving right after her performance, so she didn't care that there were newcomers trying to leech off her popularity.

In order to perform while the audience was most focused, Long Jie arranged for her artists to perform right before the famous singer.

This was the best way to ensure the highest number of viewers.

Long Jie was pleased with her arrangements. After Xia Hanmo died and Tangning left, Superstar Media had become too weak to put up a fight. To revive it, was not an easy task to achieve. After all, so many big stars wanted to join Superstar Media in the past to become an artist under Tangning.

But, now...?

After a week of training, S.A.J. was well prepared. But, when they heard the cheers and screams from the stage, they were still nervous.

After all, this was not some kind of graduation ceremony with a few hundred people – it was a music festival with a few thousand people.

"You don't need to be nervous. I applied pressure to you guys before so you wouldn't waste time. But now, it's already too late to turn back. So, relax and give your all. As long as you do your best, even if the results aren't great, I won't blame you," Long Jie comforted.

"But, of course, I do hope that I receive calls tomorrow with job opportunities for all of you."

The group members controlled their breathing as they let go of their burdens...

“Go go! Good luck! It’s almost your turn!”

Long Jie put all her hope on these four people...She assumed the results wouldn’t be too bad. But, don’t forget, Han Xiuche was lurking in the shadows.

He had led Long Jie one step at a time into his trap and was waiting for the right moment to pull the trigger.

Obviously, this was not the time to destroy Long Jie yet. At least, he wanted to let her enjoy the success of her hard work for a little bit. Otherwise, he would be too cruel, right?

Faced with such a huge platform, Long Jie waited patiently in the backstage.

Although S.A.J. were newcomers, they were young, hip and good looking. Plus, they could pull off extremely cool and difficult dance moves...

So, underneath the stage lights, the group successfully created a small wave of hype. Even though the audience didn’t necessarily know who they were, they knew they were cool and had a lot of character...

For Long Jie, attracting attention was already halfway to success...

These four members were indeed talented...

However, Long Jie would not be feeling this way for long.

### **Chapter 1019: Isn’t It Time You Consider Returning To China ?**

As they stepped off the music festival stage, the group of four were out of breath. But from the happy look on their faces, it was clear to see that tonight would be the start to their path of stardom.

Long Jie knew exactly how saturated the singing industry was. Since there were so many singing competitions and singers of all different levels, it was hard for the audience to process them all. If one did not have something unique to offer and wanted to advance simply based on singing skills, it was much too difficult.

So, Long Jie specifically hired a dance instructor from South Korea to help make up for the lack of dancing skills in China.

As a result, after the music festival was finished, Long Jie managed to open the doors to a variety of resources and finally breathed a sigh of relief. She then applied a stricter training regime to the group.

When Tangning was still around, Superstar Media was a professional agency that specialized in rediscovering forgotten artists. Now that Tangning was gone, Long Jie planned to turn Superstar Media into a breeding ground for newcomers; a place where young groups could be fostered. Superstar Media was about to be known for being ‘Young and Stylish’.



After seeing the results produced by Long Jie, Han Xiuche's manager sighed. The people at Superstar Media were indeed capable. Although Long Jie didn't have as many ideas and methods as Tangning, she was still very impressive.

As the manager knew that Han Xiuche was the one that introduced S.A.J. to Superstar Media, she was happy to see them succeed.

"You know, apart from drawing manhua, you could go be a talent scout!"

As Han Xiuche stood in front of his drawing tablet and heard his manager's words of praise, he sneered.

"I didn't introduce these four to Superstar Media because I want them to be famous...Did you think that I would that nice?"

"Can't you do something good for once?" the manager turned and glared at Han Xiuche.

"No I can't!"

Actually, the manager knew exactly what Han Xiuche was thinking. On the surface, he said that he hated Tangning, but in reality, he simply wanted to lure Tangning out so he could witness her response. He was interested by her, but he was too stubborn to admit it. Plus, he had never learned proper social interaction.

"Even if Tangning provoked you, it's her bad luck. But, what about Long Jie? Long Jie placed so much trust in you, why must you hurt her?"

"Do you know why a psychopathic killer kills?" Han Xiuche asked as he put down his pen.

"Why?"

"Because he enjoys it...Long Jie means nothing to me, so why should I care about her feelings?"

There were some people in this world who did things for no apparent reason.

Some people couldn't differentiate between good and bad; they simply did what they enjoyed.

Han Xiuche was dumbfounded as she stood up angrily, "I'm not going to bother with you anymore. You can do whatever you want!"

Han Xiuche was proud and arrogant because no one could do anything about him. He could do whatever he wanted.

What was the entertainment industry? It was a place to eat, drink and play. At least, that's what Han Xiuche saw it as.

Was he really waiting to see Tangning's response?

Tangning was just a woman with a mask, why would he be obsessed with her? Everything he did was simply so he could see Tangning in pain?

...

Meanwhile, in the US, the filming for Jones' film, 'The Resurrected Specimen', was nearing its final stages. There were only 2-3 months left before the remainder of the film was to be handed over to post production. This was thanks to the capabilities of American special effects; something Tangning couldn't easily learn.

During the final stages of filming, Jones was worried that Tangning wouldn't understand what was going on, so he began to explain things in more detail. This was exactly what Tangning had hoped for. Previously, in England, she felt as though her classes were just a waste of time. No matter how many films she watched and how much theory she studied, it was nothing compared to Jones' experience.

"We haven't had much time together, but everything I've taught you is based on useful experience and filming techniques I've used."

"Tangning, filming is an art. An art where expressing your own style is a difficult thing to do. This is something you may need to spend a lifetime to discover..."

"From today onwards, you will need to experiment with this on your own..."

"I know you are currently working on a film. I've seen the proposal written by you and the late director...I'm looking forward to seeing the finished product."

Jones did not have any opinion towards Tangning's film because he knew Qiao Sen's story.

Even though Tangning had learned so much, she did not change the main plot of her film because she wanted to cherish the hard work of the deceased director. This was the reason why Jones was willing to teach Tangning: she was loyal and righteous.

"I'm also aware that your husband participated in this film."

"I have reason to believe that a film that consists of so many people's combined efforts, can't possibly turn out bad. You need to believe in yourself."

Tangning felt a little emotional. After all, as 'The Father of Sci-fi', Jones had already done and taught all he could.

Their time together may have been short, but this was their fate.

She couldn't possibly treat the set like a school and Jones like a professor and expect him to systematically teach her everything.

On the last day of filming, Jones got drunk because he knew he'd be announcing his retirement after this last film.

At the same time, Tangning already began to miss this generous old man, "I hope, in future, I can still visit you."

"You are my one and only student, it is your right to do that. You are always welcome..." Jones laughed. "Tangning, you are my student, don't disappoint me."

"I won't," Tangning nodded.

"I have faith in you..."

That night, Tangning and Jones chatted for a long time, almost like they were father and daughter. Jones also gave Tangning a lot of advice.

“Before we say goodbye, I’ll give you a gift. I hope you like it.”

These were the last words that Jones said before he returned to his home. Tangning didn’t know what Jones was referring to until a variety of American film companies began to contact her a few days later. That’s when she realized that Jones had recommended her to a lot of big names in the industry.

To keep hold of Jones’ student, the biggest film agency in the US offered Tangning some very attractive conditions.

But, Tangning rejected their offer because she knew where her real stage belonged...

Besides, she knew she didn’t truly qualify to work with them, they simply approached her out of respect for her teacher.

...

“Isn’t it time you consider returning to China?” Mo Ting asked as he strolled hand-in-hand down the street with Tangning. “You need to eventually return to where you came from.”

Tangning smiled and shook her head, “I’m in no rush. We will continue to refine our skills here in the US, until I’m satisfied with ‘The Ant Queen’s’ post production. I promised that I’d return to China with a completed film, but it’s only half done.”

“Fine then, Director Tang. After all, you’re quite the topic of discussion amongst the directors here in the US...”

“Are you teasing me?” Tangning asked as she leaned into Mo Ting’s embrace.

“I am praising you!” Mo Ting laughed. “Let’s go, Yan Er should be waking up soon...”

“Oh, that’s right, how’s our sons doing?”

“What do you think? Zixi is fine, but Zichen...”

Tangning understood without Mo Ting having to explain in detail.

“Didn’t you say you were going to do a test on Zichen?” Tangning asked. “If this kid turns out to be a genius, then we’ve made a huge benefit!”

## **Chapter 1020: I’ll Be Waiting !**

It wasn’t unreasonable for a pair of smart parents to give birth to a genius.

But, apart from being smart, Mo Zichen was a little weird...

“After you return to Beijing, we’ll take him for some tests together.”

“OK,” Tangning nodded. Apart from matters related to the entertainment industry, the three kids were currently the center of the couple’s world.

However, the fact that their daughter was becoming more and more adorable, tormented Mo Ting. As a man, he was famous for being ruthless and tough, yet, whenever he looked at his daughter, he would have the urge to get close to her.

It seemed, he was going to spoil this child like crazy.

...

Tangning continued to stay in the US, while S.A.J. made sound progress. They received more activities and each one was more fulfilling than the one before it.

However, Long Jie was in no rush to get the group onto multiple stages because she cared more about quality than quantity; exposure had to be just right.

Plus, she had learned from Tangning to not follow convention. After all, didn't the audience enjoy things that were different?

At that moment, while Long Jie was focused on securing some high exposure appearances, Han Xiuche was monitoring her every move. However, he was much too patient, he even helped Long Jie by helping her strategize. This made Lin Qian and Luo Yinghong slowly let down their guard. If there was actually something wrong with this guy, would he have endured for so many months without making a move?

But, Han Xiuche was just extra cautious. In fact, in the past few months, he had actually met with Ma Weiwei on various occasions.

Ever since the incident with her audition, Ma Weiwei reflected on her experience and quietly practiced her acting away from the public eye.

Although, with her current fame, it wasn't necessary for her to have acting skills, she still felt she should plan for the future after remembering the humiliation she suffered from the Americans. Acting was something that one needed to have, if even just a little.

The two were colluding together and Han Xiuche made sure that Ma Weiwei knew about Long Jie's every move.

When she heard about Long Jie's efforts at training S.A.J., Ma Weiwei couldn't help but sigh, "If I had been signed with Superstar Media from the start rather than taken to get plastic surgery, my life would not be so painful...I would not be constantly compared to Tangning and my life would not revolve around her."

"Sometimes, I feel quite envious of the new group that Long Jie's training."

"Unfortunately for you, you will always be opposing Tangning," Han Xiuche highlighted. "Tangning is just hiding in the US at the moment, unwilling to make an appearance."

"Find a chance to make a move. I can't wait any longer," Ma Weiwei said to Han Xiuche, "I don't want to be her shadow anymore."

"You just sit back and wait for a good show."

Ma Weiwei was extremely curious about Han Xiuche's methods.

After all, Long Jie wasn't easy to deal with. How was he going to take Superstar Media from her?

"In that case, I'll be waiting!"

Han Xiuche watched as Ma Weiwei left and leaned back in a relaxed manner.

The only reason why he was so confident was because he had the four newcomers within his grasp. To be exact, even these newcomers were unaware that he had evidence of them sniffing cocaine. He had already discovered it during their university days and specifically introduced them to Long Jie because he knew that her efforts would go to waste as soon as their secret was exposed. Worst of all, Superstar Media would also be implicated.

This was Han Xiuche's plan.

It seemed, the four newcomers had realized that following Long Jie was an easy path to take, so they tried quitting their drug addiction. But, unfortunately, there were some things that one couldn't turn back from.

And the only reason why Long Jie hadn't discovered anything was because they covered for each other. After all, they had experience at keeping this secret from their student days.

Soon, S.A.J. were to partake in a big reality TV show overseas, where they'd get the chance to relax a little...

However, a good show was about to start!

...

Meanwhile, Tangning was in the US with her post production team, slowly refining their skills and placing 100% of their focus on 'The Ant Queen'. Although their special effects still couldn't compare to the Americans, Tangning was already very satisfied.

Recognizing the limits of their current capabilities was also an important part of growing up.

"Miss Tang, according to the newest adjustments that we made, our production time can be split in half," the post production manager said.

"Don't lose focus. Don't become sloppy because you want to save time."

"Don't worry, I personally watched Director Qiao Sen draw out his plans, so I'm also hoping to produce high quality results. You need to have faith that we learned a lot from the Americans during this time."

Tangning was aware that the manager's wife was about to give birth.

As a mother of three, Tangning understood the helplessness of not having one's husband by their side during Labor, so she smiled and nodded at the manager, "If you are confident enough, let's move the team back to Beijing. I'm beginning to feel a little homesick as well."

"OK, Miss Tang."

Originally, they predicted things to take another 6 months to complete, but now, it didn't seem necessary.

That night, Tangning gave Long Jie a phone call to tell her the good news, "I will be returning to Beijing soon. Do you want to come pick me up?"

"I'm a very busy woman these days!" Long Jie joked.

"I heard you've been doing really well with your new group," Tangning chuckled. "Fine then, since you are so busy, I guess I'll have to come look for you instead..."

"You must be joking. How could I let the student of a big sci-fi master personally come look for me? When are you flying back?"

"I'll let you know as soon as I book my tickets."

"OK. But, you need to know that I'll be going overseas in a couple days. My new artists are partaking in some filming overseas, I need to keep an eye on them," Long Jie notified. "It's not easy to manage this group. I can't make any mistakes."

Now that Tangning was coming home, who would be the happiest? Of course Long Jie and Lin Qian.

Tangning missed them a lot too. On top of that, it had been a long time since she saw Chen Xingyan and Huo Jingjing as well.

"But, is 'The Ant Queen' completed?"

"We've already passed the most difficult stage. It shouldn't take much longer..." Tangning replied.

"That's great. Although you faced many difficulties, you've finally got something new to show. Director Tang, I'm waiting for you to surprise everyone. When you return, don't let others bully you again...and don't ever leave again!"

Tangning understood Long Jie's hint: it was time to put an end to Ma Weiwei without showing any mercy.

Moreover, she shouldn't retreat from the industry again because of the public's opinion.

In the past, she was held back because she was pregnant or because she wanted to improve, but now, she was already strong enough.

"Don't worry, don't you understand me well?"

Tangning was always someone that gave an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth!

However, Long Jie may not be able to hold on until Tangning's return...