

Big Shot 441

Chapter 441: The Villager Who Doesn't Appreciate Art?

Gu Pingting felt her face itching.

She wasn't sure if it was because she danced too vigorously, causing sweat from her forehead to drip down to her cheeks, irritating them uncomfortably.

She spun as she danced, using her long sleeves to try to cover her face, then quickly scratched a couple of times.

Whew—

Finally, a bit more comfortable, not as itchy.

The next few moves were quite difficult ones. If she performed well, the director might extend the half-minute audition to three minutes, allowing her to perform the entire "Drunken Immortal Dance" and thoroughly astonish everyone present.

She couldn't help but glance again at Zuzi outside the door, but found that Zuzi wasn't watching her at all, instead fiddling with her smartwatch, checking someone's messages.

Hmph.

Gu Pingting thought disdainfully, a rural person who doesn't understand the appreciation of art!

Such a country girl from a small town doesn't realize that others stand at heights she can't even dream of reaching.

She withdrew her gaze and continued her whirling dance.

Having practiced both ballet and traditional dance from a young age, she had great confidence in her skills.

However.

Just as she was brimming with confidence, ready to flaunt the dance moves her aunt choreographed for her, those she was most proud of.

Director Ma Xiaogang suddenly called out, "Stop!"

Gu Pingting thought she had misheard.

She was dancing so well, and it had only been a few seconds. How could he ask her to stop?

So she continued her dazzling dance.

This time, Ma Xiaogang's tone was a bit harsh and impatient, "I said stop, Gu Pingting!"

Though she might be seen as a rich young lady by others, in the eyes of Ma Xiaogang, she was just another newcomer auditioning, treated equally.

"Director, do you think I've shown enough of my level already?" Gu Pingting still held onto hope.

"Yes, enough."

"Then Director, the role of Nuwa, can it be settled..."

Assistant Director Zhao Jin looked pleased, "I think she's not bad! Director Ma, what do you think?"

Who knew Ma Xiaogang would pour cold water on it: "It's obvious her skills are inadequate for the role."

Zhao Jin: "... This Lao Ma has a temper really like a stone in a latrine: stinky and hard. Didn't you see you almost made the girl cry with your words?

Gu Pingting stood stunned, her eyes reddening, "Director, was my dance not good?"

Ma Xiaogang tersely replied, "It's not the feeling I want for my show."

Gu Pingting inexplicably felt her face itch more, surely because the director had embarrassed her publicly, making her flush!

She tried to advocate for herself, "Director, this Drunken Immortal Dance is what Nuwa performs for her brother, it's supposed to be seductive and alluring. I've really put effort into understanding the character and expression. Where do you think doesn't feel right?"

Ma Xiaogang: "Everything's wrong! Nuwa's costume, expression, appearance, and the dance moves you're doing, even your skin tone. The entire feel is off."

Completely denied!

Gu Pingting stumbled a bit, touching her face.

She ignored other criticisms, but her face was definitely flawless, beautified by cosmetic procedures. She almost fell in love with her own reflection before stepping out.

Moreover, the look Assistant Director Zhao Jin gave her earlier, was clearly a look of interest from a man to a woman. How was she not right or beautiful?

"Bang——"

The glass door was pushed open.

A man in a black hoodie with a cool demeanor walked in, unceremoniously pointing out the details that Ma Xiaogang was too lazy to explain:

"Your dance isn't professional. You mainly studied ballet, right? You've only skimmed the surface of traditional dance, and your movements reflect Western aesthetics, focusing on showcasing female physical traits and so-called sultry curves. These techniques would be fine for a dancer role, but for Nuwa? Sorry, please don't desecrate the noble image of Nuwa as she exists in my heart. You're not suitable."

Chapter 442: Siblings Join Forces, Mixed Doubles, Swelling the Socialite's Face

The dance that Aunt meticulously choreographed for her was criticized as worthless!

Gu Pinting's face was almost turning green.

"Who, who are you? What gives you the right to misinterpret the director's critique of me?"

Xi Langyue glanced at her contemptuously: "Based on my twenty years of dancing experience since I was three. Oh, sorry, for you, it's judging ugliness."

Don't be fooled by Xi Langyue's clumsy doting on his sister; when it comes to snapping back at others, he's like a Little Cannon.

Not to mention the fan club standing behind him, even many female celebrities waiting outside are his staunch fans:

"My brother has been professionally dancing for twenty years. He's danced more steps than you've eaten rice grains, so his critique is definitely authoritative."

"If you don't even know my brother, what are you doing in the entertainment industry?"

"In front of my brother, your dance is just showing off like an amateur and learning to walk in Handan!"

Streams of mocking laughs followed.

It was then that Gu Pinting realized that this cool and handsome young man was none other than the current street dance champion, Xi Langyue.

Xi Langyue is her relative, isn't he?

His biological mom is her actual aunt!

This relationship was mentioned by Grandpa at least eighty if not a hundred times last night.

Yet meeting on set today, Xi Langyue actually publicly shamed her?

Gu Pinting angrily looked at Xi Zuzi in the hallway, who was still playing with her smartwatch: it must be this county-town girl who tattled, causing Xi Langyue to be so harsh on her.

She couldn't help but soften her voice: "Brother Lang Yue..."

Who would have thought.

Xi Langyue kept a stern face, frowning: "Who's your brother? Don't forge relationships."

Gu Pinting guessed wrong.

He wasn't snapping at her dance because of Xi Zuzi's complaints; he genuinely thought Gu Pinting danced badly and couldn't help but tell the truth.

"Yeah, don't forge relationships. This is my second brother, not yours!" Xi Rubao poked her head in from outside the door.

She didn't have the audition qualifications to come in, but that didn't stop her from mocking Gu Pinting:

"Oh my, Miss Gu, you call yourself a socialite, yet you can't even afford some decent powder? Your face is peeling in two layers, unable to hide that sallow complexion of yours!"

Gu Pinting, almost collapsing from Xi Rubao's ridicule, was shocked and quickly pulled out her small mirror.

This glance was troubling.

She almost fainted.

Her face, which was supposed to be beautified to a rosy white by the Jade Bracelet, had somehow turned several shades yellower, so much so that the powder couldn't even cover this dreary complexion.

Even worse, right in the middle of her face, the place she had been itching and scratched earlier, two large pimples had emerged!

They stood out like two jokes on display.

No wonder Director Ma criticized her so coldly earlier; her expression, appearance, and even skin tone were all wrong!

How could Nuwa have two huge pimples?

Gu Pinting felt like dying; was this long-anticipated audition opportunity ruined just like that?!

"Director, I, I might have stayed up too late memorizing lines last night, lost sleep all night, which is why I'm not in good shape and broke out. Don't worry, I can fix it; my skin is actually good..."

She explained, unwilling to give up.

Who would have thought.

Ma Xiaogang's gaze was no longer on her.

Instead, it was fixated outside the glass door, on a white shade!

He murmured softly, gradually revealing an ecstatic look: "This is indeed the feeling... just this feeling... My god, I was wondering why Nuwa's image in my mind was so specific and familiar, yet it was her... that gave me the inspiration, and I didn't realize it! Zuzi, you're truly an inspirational Muse!"

At this moment.

Xi Zuzi was lazily leaning against Bao Gucheng's side, her slender fingers swiping on the smartwatch, bored out of her mind waiting for Xi Langyue's audition result.

Chapter 443: Letting the Ancestor Play Himself??? Very Inappropriate...

"What's 'Nius' silk? Cow hair?"

Even though Zuzi didn't look up, she could sense someone staring at her, fussing about some "Nius" silk.

Bao Gucheng shot an annoyed glance at the old man, who was staring at Zuzi without blinking.

Then, languidly said, "Hmm. He's implying your hair looks like shredded beef."

As a tutor, he believed in teaching students based on their individual needs, rather than mechanically explaining that "Muse" means goddess.

The old man wanted to flatter, claiming that my woman was the muse of that old geezer of his?

Ha, in his dreams!

At this moment.

Ma Xiaogang clutched the script, staring at Zuzi. The more he looked, the more he felt the image of Nuwa was vividly coming to life on paper, as if carved from the same mold.

That feeling was spot on, lazy, casual, yet exuding an aura of authority.

The first female Creator God since the dawn of time!

How had he been so foolish before not to consider inviting Zuzi to act?

She was so perfect.

He didn't even need a specially designed costume; Zuzi in that white dress was ethereal, a perfect color, a perfect texture.

At this moment, Ma Xiaogang's eyes didn't even glance at Gu Pinting, who was desperately begging for another chance. Thinking this, he directly stood up and stumbled toward Zuzi.

His steps were unsteady from excitement!

Gu Pinting: "...!"

Damn it, nothing hit her harder than this.

That small-town girl did absolutely nothing and yet caught the attention of an international director?!

What did her years of hard work amount to then?

Her chest rose and fell, tears welling up in her eyes, and her meticulously painted red nails were digging into her palms, nearly breaking the skin.

No, she couldn't just sit and wait for her doom.

Gu Pinting shakily fished out her phone, sending out a message:

"Aunt, help! That small-town girl shamelessly came to steal my audition opportunity, has Director Ma so besotted that he won't even look at me!"

"Aunt, the Drunken Immortal Dance you choreographed for me is so beautiful, obviously even the assistant director said my dance was stunning, but Director Ma just snubbed it, refused to relent, and suddenly Xi Langyue appeared to criticize me, I'm indignant!"

"Aunt, you said you know the producer, didn't you? You said we could join with financial backing, right? Aunt, help me, how much investment does this show need, my mom is willing to give..."

==

Ma Xiaogang staggered ungracefully in front of Zuzi.

Afraid that if he was a second late, she'd vanish.

"Zuzi, could you consider joining my crew?"

"I'll arrange a dedicated nanny van for you, and all your schedules will be according to your preferences, nothing too tiring, I promise!"

"Feel free to state any other requirements! Please consider, alright?"

An international director, pleading so humbly.

Watching from the doorway, several female stars nearly dropped their surgically enhanced chins!

They assumed Gu Pinting, flaunting her status as the Gu family's young mistress, had already impressive resources, but this unknown... Zuzi? Was actually more formidable than Gu Pinting?!

Wait, the tall and strong man beside this girl, why did he look so familiar? That commanding presence that could kill with a glance... was enough to make one's legs go weak!

Just when everyone was shocked, afraid, and trembling, Zuzi finally lifted her head from the smartwatch screen and smiled sweetly:

"Xiao Ma, for an ancestor to play herself, is quite improper."

Chapter 444: For the Sake of Having the Little Ancestor as the Female Lead, Who Needs a Face!

Ancestor?

Little Ma?

The female celebrities had never seen any actress dare to speak to a big director like this.

So freaking bold.

She's probably going to get scolded to death by the director.

Who knew.

Not only did Ma Xiaogang not scold, but he rubbed his hands together, smiling very warmly and humbly: "Zuzi, your natural performance is just perfect. Your aura is like a little ancestor, which matches my imagined Nuwa very well, especially when you play the Snow Phoenix Zither and Black Jade Flute!"

The female celebrities: "..."

Come on, director, have some self-respect, will you?

Don't think we female celebrities are uneducated. Things like the Snow Phoenix Zither and Black Jade Flute are mythical stuff; how could this little girl possibly play them!

Keep bragging!

Ma Xiaogang persistently continued: "Little ancestor, I've put quite a lot of effort into researching this drama. Just the history books alone fill half my study, not to mention the cabinet of antiques borrowed from Lao Feng... I swear, I'm going to make a masterpiece drama, something that will be remembered in history! You have to be the leading actress!"

Hearing such imploring persuasion, the female celebrities wished they could turn into Xi Zuzi and agree for her.

Director Ma is definitely aiming for the "Golden Throne Award" with this!

Whoever plays the female lead could become famous across the entire Empire, and even gain international recognition.

Yet.

Xi Zuzi listened seriously for a while and only politely replied with a few words: "Wait a sec, I'll text Xiao Sha back."

The female celebrities: "..."

Damn!

So damn arrogant.

Such a big opportunity dangling in front of her, yet the girl is... busy texting? What could be so urgent? Just agree with the director and text later.

They were feeling helpless, like a servant more anxious than the master.

But Xi Zuzi, completely unfazed, left Ma Xiaogang hanging and first focused on replying to Gu Qiusha's message: "Got the drawings, I'll take a look first."

Gu Qiusha, filled with joy: "Haha, my darling Zuzi is so sweet. Always knows how to make her mom happy."

Gu Qiusha was very concerned about how she was eating and sleeping warmly in the capital.

Hearing that Xi Zuzi went to the Gu Family last night, she was even more worried, afraid the Gu Family would bully her daughter, and couldn't sleep as a result.

To ease her anxiety, Xi Zuzi asked her to send a few recent drawings for her to see.

Ever since the divorce, Gu Qiusha picked back up on her old hobby—comic creation.

Back in university, she actually studied film, and Ma Xiaogang was her direct senior, always thinking it was a pity she didn't act, at least she could have been a female director.

Who knew, not only did Gu Qiusha not act or direct, she also became fascinated with drawing comics.

Drawing comics was fine, at least there were chances to make animated films and gain fame.

Who would have thought she suddenly got married when her career was at its peak, just shy of winning the Empire's comic award.

This withdrawal lasted over twenty years.

She no longer held any status in the comic world.

However, now fully separated from Xi Yuanshan, Gu Qiusha awoke from this long dream and returned to what she loved most, feeling especially good.

She didn't even think about winning awards; she was content to just draw a few and be happy.

Xi Zuzi looked at the drawings sent by Gu Qiusha, their style was grand, with an imagination far beyond that of ordinary people.

So she really wasn't just sweet-talking Gu Qiusha to make her happy.

The little ancestor genuinely thought Gu Qiusha's drawings were excellent; with such skill, they could be engraved as mural art!

The mother and daughter were chatting.

Ma Xiaogang patiently waited on the side.

Suddenly.

The assistant director's voice came from the interview room: "Director Ma, there's a call from the scriptwriter, could you please take it."

Ma Xiaogang, eager for the little ancestor to agree to play Nuwa, responded without turning his head: "No time!"

The assistant director's lips twitched: "Director Ma, it's not just anyone, it's Shen Ying! She's asking specifically for you!"

In an original drama like this, the scriptwriter's status is very high.

Especially someone like Shen Ying, who holds significant weight in the industry; she's not someone you want to offend!

Otherwise, the drama won't proceed smoothly.

Chapter 445: Not Asking Your Opinion, Just Informing You of the Decision!

A call from the great Shen Ying?

Ma Xiaogang frowned.

This original author, Shen Ying, true to her name, is very mysterious, rarely showing her face and keeping herself well hidden.

But in the past couple of years, she's created a few quite popular works and has a lot of loyal readers. Nowadays, TV series, movies, and web series all like to hire her as a screenwriter, and it's said that any project she writes for will inevitably become a hit. Thus, she has quickly risen to be a top figure in the screenwriting circle.

"Nuwa and Fu Xi" is no exception.

This story involves investors buying partial rights to Shen Ying's short story and then adapting and reworking it.

Therefore, Shen Ying has a certain amount of say in the casting of the TV series.

Ma Xiaogang was in a hurry to convince Zuzi to join the crew, not wanting any distractions, but due to Shen Ying's status, he had to give her some respect.

He answered the phone, intending to keep it brief: "Miss Shen Ying, if you have any new ideas, we can set up a time to meet with the crew."

The woman on the phone had a somewhat ethereal voice, as if she were in a particularly vast place, her words almost echoing: "No meeting. Just one thing, I'm recommending a candidate for the female lead to you."

So mechanical, so impersonal, she's truly a lofty screenwriter bigwig.

Ma Xiaogang patiently said, "What a coincidence, I also found an excellent candidate for the female lead today, and I wanted to discuss it with you. But she hasn't agreed yet, and I'm working hard on it."

Shen Ying chuckled mechanically: "I'm not discussing with you; I'm informing you."

Ma Xiaogang: "...". He considered her a female author, always polite and agreeable, but this attitude was a bit disrespectful, wasn't it?

Ma Xiaogang had a rather bad temper, almost about to explode: "Then tell me, who do you have in mind?"

If it were Zuzi, he would decide to forgive this female author's rudeness.

Shen Ying: "Gu Pingting. Someone just sent me a video of her performing the Drunken Immortal Dance on site, and it's exactly the aesthetic I envisioned. It has to be her."

What?!

The pretentious and clueless novice, Gu Pingting?

Ma Xiaogang was practically laughing.

"You just haven't seen better girls, capable of playing unique ancient music."

"Nuwa doesn't need to play an instrument. Being able to dance is enough."

"Are you sure? Shen Ying, I doubt if you truly researched Nuwa's history? You're telling me Nuwa doesn't understand music? Are you joking? Do you have any professionalism?"

"Who is the original author, you or me?"

"It's your book, but you can't ignore history, make things up, and disrespect Nuwa."

"Enough nonsense, for the female lead I wrote, I only acknowledge Gu Pingting."

"You're interfering with my casting! As an author, you should just focus on writing the script; it's my job to handle the actors."

"You're wrong, the investors entrusted me with the whole production."

"Damn!"

Ma Xiaogang ended up smashing the phone.

As a renowned director, he's known for being strict and short-tempered, so much so that when he works, he doesn't recognize anyone. However, smashing a phone—this was the first time for his team to see.

Assistant Director Zhao Jin had a loud voice just now, so everyone knew the call that the director smashed was from the great Shen Ying, causing their hearts to skip a beat.

Oh my.

The director and the screenwriter clashed over the female lead!

The great Shen Ying is quite the formidable figure, since she keeps such a low profile, who knows which big shot she really is in real life.

Although Director Ma is an international director, offending Shen Ying could make it tough to survive in the industry in the future.

Not to mention that he probably won't be able to get hold of any hit scripts!

What about making an epic masterpiece that could win the Golden Throne Award?

Chapter 446: Boss of Ma Jia is Really Arrogant and Cool!

The actresses and staff were all nervous about Ma Xiaogang's fiery and straightforward temperament, and even more worried about their auditions today.

If Zuzi pushed out Gu Pinting and took the lead female role, making Shen Ying unhappy, then their roles as second, third, and fourth female roles would also be in jeopardy.

Therefore, each of them began to praise Gu Pinting insincerely or tried advising Ma Xiaogang:

"Director, actually Miss Gu's dance just now was pretty good. Of course, there's still a gap compared to Brother Lang Yue's professional level, but for acting, it's enough."

"Yeah, yeah, this drama is mainly about love anyway. Let's just shoot a sweet love story."

"Director, you're an international director, and Shen Ying is a great scriptwriter. Only with your strong collaboration can you produce a masterpiece. Don't ruin your collaboration and relationship over irrelevant outsiders."

"Director..."

Ma Xiaogang, fed up: "Everyone, shut up!"

These folks are swayed by the wind, each disregarding basic facts just for a bit of self-interest.

Gu Pinting's messy dancing, can that even be called dancing?

Shen Ying not knowing Nuwa's instrument, can that even be called a boss?

Then again, staying silent overnight cannot be tolerated!

"My mind is made up, only if Zuzi plays the lead female role will I shoot!" Ma Xiaogang solemnly declared, looking at the girl still texting with Gu Qiusha.

Everyone followed his gaze: "..."

Oh my god, is a troubled girl engrossed in electronic devices worth such strong support?

Gu Pinting tidied up her messy makeup in the restroom, pricked her finger to let a good deal of blood onto her bracelet, before managing to restore her fair skin, covered the two huge pimples on her face with a large amount of concealer, and walked out, pale.

At first, she was ecstatic to hear that her aunt really contacted the original author to back her up.

But in the next second, upon hearing Ma Xiaogang's decisive statement preferring only Zuzi, her joy turned to sorrow!

Even a bigwig like her aunt with deep connections couldn't change Director Ma's mind?

Would her dream role as Nuwa really slip away?

Seeing Zuzi still leaning in Bao Gucheng's arms casually chatting on her smartwatch as if nothing concerned her, it was simply infuriating!

A country bumpkin who knows nothing, just relying on support from a big director?

With a face full of disappointment and sarcasm, she walked over: "Zuzi, are you happy now that you've taken away what's mine? I'm telling you, I'll expose your true colors in front of grandpa! You're just like what my mom said, just like Gu Qiusha, a cheap person who can't stand us direct Gu Family members having good fortune..."

Before finishing, a sharp pain struck her forehead.

Touching it, ah, another huge pimple emerged! She was about to go crazy!

Zuzi's red lips curled slightly, responding to Gu Qiusha on her smartwatch: "Xiao Sha, keep it up, can't wait to see your next slow comic, uh, it'd be great if you could speed it up..."

After replying, she finally raised her head unhurriedly, scanning the furious Gu Pintong with a half-smile: "Heard your mom also invested in this drama, planning to bring investment into the crew and make a big fortune?"

Gu Pintong gritted her teeth: "So this lead role should have been mine!"

Zuzi shook her head: "Then your mom might end up losing everything."

Gu Pintong: "... Snatching my lead role and cursing my mom?! These country people are revolting!

Just as Gu Pinting was about to explode with anger.

Suddenly.

Assistant Director Zhao Jin rushed out, incoherent: "Gu Pinting, no need to argue with her, the lead role... it's yours!"

Gu Pinting was stunned, as if in a dream: "What, what did you say?"

"The investor just called personally, he supports Shen Ying's view and has appointed you as the lead actress!"

"Rea, really? Then Director Ma..."

Ma Xiaogang is notoriously hot-tempered, and Gu Pinting still had lingering fear.

The assistant director sneered: "Shen Ying said if the director doesn't choose you, then they'll replace the director!"

Everyone present gasped collectively.

Shen Ying truly deserved to be the badass boss wearing a mask, so wild, so arrogant!

Chapter 447: The Treatment of the Female Protagonist in a Refreshing Novel, Truly Exciting!

Gu Pinting was in a daze for several seconds before digesting the fact that she was about to be the female lead.

Not Xi Zuzi, not some seasoned actress, but her, Gu Pinting, playing the role of Nuwa.

If Director Ma doesn't want her, then change the director!

Aunt is indeed the most amazing aunt in the world, handling both the original author and the investors.

A rush of satisfaction surged straight to her head; for the first time in her life, thanks to Gu Shiyin, she experienced the treatment of a protagonist in a feel-good story.

Damn, it was exhilarating!

She couldn't help but express to Zhao Jin and the other staff and actresses, "Thank you all, thank you Director Zhao. It turns out, heaven is fair. My looks, dance, effort, and sweat have finally been appreciated. I will definitely perform well and make this show a hit, making everyone who dislikes me regret it! Thank you all for your support just now!"

Seeing Gu Pinting's smug look, Xi Rubao felt a wave of irritation and couldn't resist pouring cold water on her: "Ha, give it up. Without Director Ma, this show has no soul. I'll vote with my feet and won't watch your show!"

Gu Pinting glared at her: "Who cares if you watch!"

She quickly restrained her arrogance, put on a gentle face, and reached out to tug on Xi Langyue's sleeve sweetly:

"Brother Lang Yue, let's work together without holding grudges, okay? Fortune-tellers say I'm a blessing to husbands; I can definitely make you even more popular..."

Before she could finish speaking.

Xi Langyue shook her off disdainfully: "Sorry, bless whoever you want; I need to avoid you. Without Director Ma maintaining quality, I won't participate in this show."

Gu Pinting, unexpectedly slapped in the face, became flustered and embarrassed: "But this is Shen Ying's popular script!"

Xi Langyue: "I don't care what Shen Ying or ghostly shadow it is; choosing you as the lead must mean she's blind. Zuzi, let's go. I refuse to act in this drama."

Agent: "...!" Second Master, you're going furious for your sister's sake.

Gu Pinting: "...!" Are you crazy, Xi Langyue? You're not taking up this money-making hit show because Xi Zuzi hexed you?

All the actresses: "...!" If Brother Lang Yue won't act in this, is there any point in fighting for supporting roles?

In an instant, people scattered.

Assistant Director Zhao Jin came over: "Pinting, don't panic. The investor said they want me to take over as director. From now on, I'll watch over you. It's better if Xi Langyue doesn't act. I'll find you a young hunk as a supporting actor, making you stand out even more as the leading lady. Tonight, let's start by studying Shen Ying's script..."

Gu Pinting was stirred up with excitement: "Mm-hmm!"

She was the feel-good story's leading lady, and the kind with the most screen time!

When this show becomes a hit, she won't have to worry about Grandpa denying her the position of the Gu Family's female heir.

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Xi Zuzi accompanied Xi Langyue downstairs to leave.

"Xiao Yueyue, are you upset about losing this job?" Xi Zuzi patted Xi Langyue's shoulder, like an elder caring for the younger.

Xi Langyue's lips twitched: "No, I have so much work now I can barely handle it; I don't lack this one. Those Gu Family people haven't respected us for twenty years, and their faces annoy me."

Bao Gucheng, who was behind Xi Zuzi, discreetly stepped between the two, reminding Xi Zuzi, "The one who might regret it is Director Ma."

Although those old men pestering Xi Zuzi all the time were quite annoying, with Xi Langyue, who spoils his sister excessively, he'd rather Xi Zuzi focus on Ma Xiaogang.

Chapter 448: Wrong, wrong, wrong, you guessed it all wrong! Ancestor saving the day!

Sure enough.

Xi Zuzi noticed the despondent Ma Xiaogang after being reminded.

"Xiao Ma, are you okay? Is there anything your Ancestor can help you with? Why don't you sincerely ask for help?"

Ma Xiaogang, lacking energy, didn't even notice that Xi Zuzi's words were somewhat creepy and defied logic.

He was lost in his disappointment, a faint fatigue showing on his aged face:

"Sorry, Zuzi, I originally wanted you to be the leading lady, but things didn't go as planned..."

Today, for the first time in his life, this great director was fired by an investor!

So humiliating.

He couldn't even compete with a screenwriter who hadn't shown up in person.

Who knows what kind of sweet-talking this screenwriter did in front of the investor that led them to foolishly believe Gu Pinting could handle the leading role?

Did they think they were making a comedy?

He initially heard that when he joined this project and secured investments, the investors were highly interested in Nuwa and aimed to make an epic-scale biographical film about her.

How could investors flush with money be so lacking in sense?!

Xi Zuzi smiled slightly: "Xiao Ma, do you really want to make this show?"

Ma Xiaogang: "Yes, young people today know too little about the history of Nuwa's creation. Apart from the phrase 'Nuwa mends the sky,' they probably know nothing. Some don't even know Fu Xi was Nuwa's brother. So I think this show is very meaningful for cultural heritage."

Xi Zuzi gently raised an eyebrow, her eyes flickering slightly: "For the sake of heritage... then let's keep shooting."

Ma Xiaogang was stunned: "But investors have already kicked me, the director, out."

Xi Zuzi chuckled, her words particularly captivating: "Wrong. We kicked out that arrogant investor."

"Zuzi, do you mean... we continue shooting the show, just with a different investor? Wait, it's impossible, you saw the attitude of the original scriptwriter just now, Shen Ying, only wants to promote Gu Pinting, there's no way we can use her script."

"Wrong. Who says we have to use her script?"

"But... only Shen Ying has written a popular story about Nuwa..."

"Wrong. Her writing is completely wrong, there's no need to use it."

Ma Xiaogang: "..."

The thinking of little Ancestor is truly beyond the reach of ordinary people, no matter how fast they gallop.

He was wrong three times in a row!

He stopped in his tracks, deciding to listen attentively: "Please, Zuzi, enlighten me."

Xi Zuzi: "Investment, we don't lack money, right, Xiao Cheng?"

Bao Gucheng, being @ mentioned, of course immediately responded: "Money isn't an issue, as much as you need."

Xi Zuzi: "Xiao Ma, did you hear? For the amount of money you need, find Xiao Cheng."

What?

Mr. Bo himself will be the investor?

This time not only was Ma Xiaogang shocked, but even Xi Langyue stopped in his tracks, regretting how he was a second too slow; he should have acknowledged the investment himself just now.

He let that pig snatch away the cabbage without any opportunity to show off!

Xi Zuzi continued to ponder: "As for the scriptwriter, I have a suitable candidate here. Let her write it for you in the next two days."

What?

The script issue is also resolved by little Ancestor?

The color on Ma Xiaogang's face seemed to rise from the dead, a rosy glow returning: "Little Ancestor, then will you agree to play the leading lady and support our show?"

Who would have thought.

He guessed wrong once again.

Xi Zuzi's red lips curled slightly: "Well, I also have a suitable candidate in mind. I'll bring her to see you in a couple of days."

Ma Xiaogang: "...!"

In less than a minute.

Xi Zuzi had meticulously thought things through, and without hesitation, directly assembled a new team for him to shoot a genuine Nuwa biographical film.

"What, Xiao Ma doesn't dare to take on the challenge? Afraid it won't be as impressive as others' works?"

"No, little Ancestor! I just want to start filming immediately! To show that reclusive woman at Shen Ying; to plaster her face on the wall and let her see what true art is."

Xi Zuzi smiled slightly: "Very well."

Chapter 449: Competing with a Pig for Cabbages!

"Xiao Ma, you go ahead and prepare for the new production team. I'll let you know about the screenwriter and the leading actress." Zuzi said decisively.

Listening from the side, Xi Langyue was really impressed with this sister he was meeting for the first time. How could he not like someone who handled everything with such calmness?

"Zuzi, count me in for the play with Director Ma. I'm willing to play the male lead!"

"Hmm, Director Ma, what do you think?"

"Very good, Lang Yue was someone I had my eye on from the start. He has a rugged, cool image with solid dance skills and is hardworking. For many of the song and dance sequences and battle scenes in the play, he doesn't even need a stunt double; he can go straight on. He's perfect for the role of Fu Xi."

"Thank you, Director, for the acknowledgment. Thank you, sister, for the support!"

Xi Langyue was expressing his gratitude when a soft voice came to his ear:

"As the investor and producer, I haven't even nodded yet. Why are you in such a hurry to thank everyone?" Bao Gucheng said dismissively, casting a cold glance at Xi Langyue.

Out of the frying pan into the fire.

Inadvertently, this sister-protective guy found another excuse to get close to his little woman.

He couldn't trust this guy, wondering if he could maintain the proper boundary between brother and sister!

Xi Langyue: "For this play, my sister has the final say. If she wants me to act, I'll act. What, are you questioning my sister's decision?"

The male version of Little Cannon sure has some firepower.

Bao Gucheng, unfazed, responded calmly: "Once she sees the actor I recommend, she won't choose you."

The entertainment industry is full of naive young actors too scared to hold hand with actresses, or who like guys and absolutely won't touch girls. Grandpa thinks you can't handle them?

Xi Langyue was practically beside himself with anger at this unreasonable man.

The only fortress in his cannonball career he couldn't breach has appeared.

Looks like the two were about to clash for the umpteenth time.

Zuzi gently looped her hand around Bao Gucheng's arm: "Xiao Cheng, didn't you say you were going to take me to see the campus, huh? The male dormitory you used to live in?"

Bao Gucheng pursed his lips, finally shifting his attention away from Xi Langyue: "Okay."

Xi Langyue: "Zuzi, I want to go too!"

Bao Gucheng's gaze instantly shot out, piercing enough to kill!

Even Xi Rubao, standing behind them, could feel the aftershock of the attack, shivering involuntarily.

Oh my, big brother, if you keep digging your own grave, I can't save you.

Zuzi smiled slightly: "Xiao Yueyue, don't go. You should take the time to discuss the costume design and schedule with the director."

Xi Langyue felt a bit disappointed upon hearing he wasn't allowed to go, but quickly realized it was his sister speaking for him, subtly agreeing to let him be in the new play.

No doubt about it, she's his real sister!

No matter how the outside pigs might push against her, the cabbage is still his own!

Xi Langyue happily agreed: "Okay, I'll follow my sister's arrangements."

Bao Gucheng, being pulled by the arm along with Zuzi: "..."

Did the little woman just use her charms to trap him?

Male dormitory of the Astronomy College.

Zuzi curiously looked at the iron frame bunk bed: "Xiao Cheng, were you on top or bottom?"

Bao Gucheng was still a bit upset about Xi Langyue joining the new production crew: "I took both."

"Huh? You occupied both the top and bottom bunk by yourself, brother-in-law? How extravagant!" Xi Rubao exclaimed goofily.

Zuzi touched the schedule carved into the wall at the head of the bed: "Up at five for training, running five kilometers with weights—Xiao Cheng, you're amazing. You must have been in great shape when you were in school?"

Bao Gucheng: "A million times stronger than Xi Langyue, that bean sprout."

Zuzi chuckled softly, then turned her bright face to seriously look at Bao Gucheng: "Xiao Cheng, you don't like Xiao Yueyue?"

Chapter 450: Like Grandpa's Robustness, Hm?

Bao Gucheng said in a deep voice, "He's not even qualified for me to judge if I like him or not."

Zuzi thought for a moment and suddenly asked, "Does Xiao Cheng think he's unsuitable to play Fu Xi?"

Bao Gucheng: "Not masculine enough!"

Zuzi propped her chin and considered seriously: "Actually, he does remind me a bit of him, especially when he dances, he has a lot of energy. But if his arms were as strong as Xiao Cheng's, he'd resemble him more..."

Her delicate fingers brushed lightly over Bao Gucheng's arm, where he had rolled up the sleeve of his shirt, causing tiny tremors.

Bao Gucheng's thoughts were momentarily scattered.

He forgot what he was arguing with her about, his breaths were deep and long: "Do you like my strength? Hmm?"

Zuzi rose on tiptoe and gave a quick peck on his cheek like a dragonfly skimming the water: "Yes."

Bao Gucheng's Adam's apple tightened, and he stood frozen.

Xi Rubao was just three meters away, looking through the boys' dormitory's collection of books with great interest.

The little woman actually didn't mind and kissed him on the spot!

What a... demon.

"Xiao Cheng, do let Xiao Yueyue try it out once," Zuzi finished kissing and persuaded with a laugh.

Bao Gucheng: "..."

So the little demon was pleading for Xi Langyue?

Does she think I'm such a person without principles, clearly believing Xi Langyue is unsuitable for Fu Xi, yet still giving her a chance to act?

Seeing the man tightly holding his expressionless face, Zuzi chuckled lightly and stood on tiptoe again to kiss him on the other cheek: "Just one chance, hmm? How about it, Xiao Cheng?"

Bao Gucheng grabbed her slender waist that he could easily hold: "Okay."

Just when he was about to turn the tables and press her onto his old dorm room bed for a rough kiss, Xi Rubao suddenly bounced over holding two or three books like treasured finds: "Sis, brother-in-law, look what I found? Haha, I didn't expect brother-in-law and the others to read '108 Ways to Chase a Girl Like a Good Guy' and 'How to Cook for a Woman to Win Her Heart' and 'The Road to a Woman's Love is Through Her XX'. They're all bestsellers, haha!"

Zuzi took them with great interest and flipped through: "Xiao Cheng can cook?"

Bao Gucheng's face turned steel blue as he spat out: "Those... those are books bought by the junior students who lived here afterward."

Then, after a pause, he added: "I can cook for Zuzi."

Zuzi asked curiously, "Hey, what does this 'The Road to a Woman's Love' mean by that?"

Bao Gucheng's mouth twitched as he grabbed the book: "Let's check out other schools."

These juniors, what kind of trashy books are they reading!

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In one day, Bao Gucheng took Zuzi and the others to visit three or four top-ranking institutions like Imperial University and Imperial Royal College.

By the time they returned to the hotel, it was already late.

Zuzi took out some crafts she hadn't finished in the morning and continued to sew, all while eagerly watching TV.

"Sis, what are you sewing? A little dress, maybe, since it's so wide and large?"

"No. Well, maybe in a way."

"Sis, you keep changing the channel, I can't even make out what's on."

"Eh, the Ancestor is checking out what's up with the TV dramas."

"Sis, let me find you a dedicated TV drama channel..."

Thanks to Xi Rubao's help, Zuzi figured out the differences between "Ancient costume TV series," "urban TV series," "Fantasy Martial Arts Drama," "Fantasy Series," and other TV drama styles.

She paused for a moment: "Director Ma wants to shoot a Fantasy Martial Arts Drama, right?"

"Yeah, sis!"

"Then she's perfect for writing the script."

"Sis, who are you going to get for the writing? I'm so curious, is it a famous bestselling author?"

"Not writing, drawing." Zuzi smiled as she dialed a number, "Xiao Sha, there's a good story, could you draw a comic for the Ancestor?"