

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 861

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 861-After breakfast, Ning Ran and Nan Chen sent their kids to school. Then, the driver dropped Nan Chen off at the office before chauffeuring Ning Ran to meet up with Wang Xiaoou and the rest of the crew.

Nan Chen exited the vehicle and took a few steps before retracing his path. "If anyone dares to bully you during the filming, you can retort no matter who that person is."

Ning Ran was momentarily dazed before she grinned. "What if it's Sir Chen who bullies me? Do I retort too?"

Instead of answering, he merely waved his hand, gesturing at the chauffeur to drive the car away.

Ning Ran mulled over Nan Chen's words along the way, but she couldn't fathom his intention.

Upon meeting up Wang Xiaoou and the rest of the crew, they departed for the airport together.

On the way to the airport, Wang Xiaoou said to Ning Ran solemnly, "I have a few things to clarify to you regarding the work this time."

Wang Xiaoou had always been a serious person, even on regular days. Hence, Ning Ran would feel a sense of foreboding whenever Wang Xiaoou behaved more formally than usual.

"Please, go on, Ou. I'm listening." Ning Ran was a humble person. Even with Nan Chen backing her, she had never put on airs around Wang Xiaoou.

"Firstly, Shi Jie's fans are relatively young, so they are also comparatively immature. Therefore, you may be boycotted since you'll be participating in the filming of his music video."

Ning Ran was well aware of that, so she wasn't surprised.

In fact, not only Shi Jie's teenage fans were irrational, as most celebrities' followers behaved unreasonably.

After all, chances for a truly sensible and well-grounded person to go nuts over a celebrity were extremely slim.

"I got it, Ou. I'll just turn a blind eye if they scold me on Weibo," Ning Ran chirped.

Wang Xiaoou smiled as well. "It is unavoidable for artists to get criticized. Your attitude is commendable. Secondly, Director Xie, the director in charge of filming this music video, is infamous for his ill temper in the entertainment industry. Moreover, he's very picky about the artists' performances. He even berated some celebrities until they cried."

That was something out of Ning Ran's anticipation. "Is he really that scary?"

"Affirmative. However, his skills are undoubtedly top-notch. Let me put it this way. Almost eighty percent of the local A-list celebrities would want him to direct the filming of their music videos. He and his team are specialists in making short music videos. His name itself is a vouch for high-quality products. Although they would have to endure his scolding, many celebrities are still adamant about collaborating with him. Naturally, there were frequent occasions when the artists would argue with him. These celebrities usually badmouthed him on Weibo after they were done filming their music videos, and he would immediately respond by chastising them. Because of this, Xie Dazui is notorious for his harsh remarks and unwillingness to yield."

Ning Ran laughed. "This sounds interesting. Does that mean I'll most probably get scolded by him?"

"Not necessarily. I have faith in your acting skills. However, Xie Dazui does uphold a very stringent set of standards. I heard there were even times he would reshoot the same scene over a hundred times," Wang Xiaoou replied.

"Oh my goodness. Over a hundred times? Is he that crazy?" Cheng Xiangyun, sitting at one side, cried out.

Ning Ran pondered. Nan Chen must've heard about this Xie Dazui's demanding personality, so he deliberately told me I could retort to anyone who bullies me. He's such a scrupulous person. I can't believe he even instructed his men to investigate an insignificant job like this so thoroughly.

"That's all right. Only by maintaining high standards can we produce first-rate products. I'm not afraid," Ning Ran uttered cheerfully.

"Mr. Chen told us he would hold us accountable if someone bullied you during our outstation work. That's why I'm notifying you in advance."

That was Wang Xiaoou's intention in telling Ning Ran all those things. She was worried the latter might be unable to endure Xie Dazui's harsh criticism and ended up complaining to Nan Chen after getting into a conflict with Xie Dazui.

In truth, Ning Ran wasn't someone like that. She thought it was normal for one to feel a bit aggrieved and discontented at work. Even an elite like Nan Chen has to cope with a lot of pressure, isn't it?

“Don’t worry, Ou. I have great endurance, and I’ll do my best to tolerate Xie Dazui no matter how difficult he is.”

The filming location for the first scene of the music video was set at an acting school.

Young students made up most of the celebrities’ fan clubs, especially an artist like Shi Jie, who was primarily supported by teenagers. He was all the more admired and idolized by students from acting schools.

After all, it was every acting school student’s dream to be well-known internationally, indulging in fame and fortune.

The school even announced a special holiday on that day to ensure the filming could proceed smoothly.

Although it was a holiday, most students stayed back at the school when they heard Shi Jie was visiting for filming as they wanted to meet their idol and see him in action.

Thunderous cheers erupted the moment Shi Jie’s car arrived at the school’s entrance.

Even though a large number of security guards were assigned to maintain order, the situation at the scene was still close to getting out of control.

Fortunately, Shi Jie had high emotional intelligence. He requested his assistant to hand him a megaphone and took the initiative to interact with the students.

“Thank you for your fervent support, everyone. I’m here to record my music video today, so I hope everyone can lend me a conducive filming environment. I also wish the ambiance of this school could be better presented in my music video. Thank you, all of you. Please do not surround the filming location. Thank you!”

The students calmed themselves significantly after listening to Shi Jie’s speech.

Xie Dazui’s crew had finished setting everything up at the filming location by the time Shi Jie entered.

That was also the first time Shi Jie collaborated with Xie Dazui, so he approached the latter, bowed politely, and uttered humbly, “Good day, Director Xie.”

“Why did you replace the female lead who was initially selected?” Xie Dazui, a man with a fierce appearance, questioned Shi Jie directly and uncourteously.

Originally, Ning Ran was indeed not the female lead. Instead, the role was filled by an actress who had just graduated from a film academy. Rumor had it Xie Dazui recommended the actress as her temperament was well-suited for the female lead’s role.

Xie Dazui was a man with high standards in the first place. Needless to say, he was enraged when Shi Jie requested for the actress he had nominated to be replaced.

Shi Jie explained patiently, "I became acquainted with Ms. Ding during the previous show's recording, and I felt she's more suitable for the role, so I suggested to the production team to let her take up the role. Ms. Ding also agreed to my proposal with alacrity. Don't worry, Director Xie. I'm confident Ms. Ding will do a superb job."

"Are you adept at shooting music videos? How can you be sure she'll do a splendid job?" Xie Dazui chided.

Shi Jie was rendered speechless. He was indeed clueless, but he was simply fond of Ning Ran's beauty and friendly mien.

Most teenagers would harbor secret affection toward members of the opposite sex who were older than them, including seniors at school, teachers, or even older colleagues.

Shi Jie's music video aimed to deliver that bitter yet genuine emotion ambiguously. In his opinion, Ning Ran epitomized every teenager's fantasy of a beautiful senior.

However, he didn't know how to express his thoughts to Xie Dazui, so he could only flash a wry smile. "Be patient, Director Xie. When Ms. Ding shows up, you'll realize she's the perfect candidate for this role."

"Is that so? But I heard she's just someone with no skills who managed to force her way into the industry by relying on a capitalist's sponsor. She won the affection of a wealthy man, so the man expended a vast amount of resources to support her. I've met countless female celebrities like her. They are incompetent and put up insipid performances. Even after reshooting over ten times, I couldn't even film a scene I'm satisfied with!" Xie Dazui responded sternly.

Shi Jie was displeased by how Xie Dazui was disparaging Ning Ran. However, he didn't dare to snap back at the latter as he knew Ning Ran would suffer more if Xie Dazui were in a foul mood when she arrived.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 862

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 862-Meanwhile, right as Ning Ran reached the entrance, she received a particularly "grand" welcome.

When Shi Jie's fan club received news about the music video, they arranged for a group of die-hard fans to make a white banner protesting against the making of a music video with Ning Ran and Shi Jie in it.

On those banners were words like: Don't let the crone ride Shi's coattails!

Give Shi back! Don't taint him!

Your shamelessness will be your downfall! Get lost, crone!

The banner looked frightening, and anyone would have thought that they were protesting something more serious.

Those people were kept outside the school compound by security, and since they could not see their favorite star, they became even more agitated and loud.

When Ning Ran's car drove past them, they waved their banners and their fists. Some even pointed their middle fingers at the car.

Alas, they were actually unsure which car was Ning Ran's, so they pointed their middle finger at every car that went into the school.

Worried that Ning Ran would be affected by their behavior, Wang Xiaoou quietly consoled her by saying, "Most of Shi Jie's fans are kids. They're minors, so don't take their behavior to heart."

Ning Ran was unbothered, however. In fact, she found their banners and the words amusing. She had heard of many things being the key to someone's downfall, but she rarely came across people criticizing another's shamelessness as the other person's downfall.

There are so many shameless people in this world. Are you saying all those shameless people will end up terrible?

Empty heads, rashness, and childishness were the main features of young people, but Ning Ran did not think of them as anything. People who were still young like them did not need to bear many responsibilities—they merely needed to love and hate in simple terms.

"I don't mind," Ning Ran muttered, smiling and shaking her head. "They have the right to express their opinions. Stars become stars with the support of their fans. I don't think it matters to me that they're going up against me to support Shi."

"Really?" Wang Xiaoou was still worried.

"Yes. They're just children. Why should I take their words to heart?" Ning Ran chuckled.

"That's nice. It's good to have a mindset like yours," Wang Xiaoou said, feeling much more relieved.

As they spoke, they reached the filming site, and the car came to a stop. Shi Jie came over and greeted, "Ms. Ding!"

“Hello, Shi. You’ve grown a little taller since the last time I saw you,” Ning Ran teased.

“You’re messing with me again! But Ms. Ding, you look even prettier than before,” Shi Jie remarked with joy in his eyes.

“I’m serious about you getting taller. Is the director here? I’d like to greet him first.”

“Director Xie is over there, but…” Shi Jie trailed off before smiling.

Ning Ran could see the awkwardness in his smile. On her way to the site, she had heard that Xie Dazui was strict toward artistes, so she guessed he was going to assert his dominance later.

Xie Dazui was talking to a staff member at the side. He had a beard, and he had a fierce look. He looked more like he belonged in the streets as a gang boss than in the art industry.

“Hello, Director Xie. I’m Ding Mi,” Ning Ran carefully greeted as she walked over to him.

“You’re very late for someone who isn’t a big shot,” Xie Dazui instantly criticized as he looked at Ning Ran from head to toe.

Ning Ran glanced at the time and said, “Please don’t say that. There’s still half an hour left before the agreed time. I’m early, not late.”

Xie Dazui only scoffed before falling silent.

His lack of response prompted Ning Ran to sheepishly walk away, but she was annoyed.

It’s not as if I owe you anything. I’d have ignored it if you were just glum, but who are you trying to act cool for? Shi Jie’s the one who invited me to this. I can understand his fans protesting against me being in a work with him, but you, as a director, are doing the same as them?

“Go and prepare yourself. The filming will start in five minutes,” the director then said.

Five minutes? Is he messing with me? I can’t even finish my makeup in five minutes.

Ning Ran usually went around without makeup unless she had filming or unless she was going to attend major social events. Otherwise, she would only put basic skin care.

Hence, she only applied light makeup before leaving the house that day—she did not even use any lipstick.

Wang Xiaou wanted to reason with the director, but Ning Ran stopped her with a look.

They had yet to start filming, and Ning Ran did not wish to have a falling out this early.

However, Shi Jie could not bear watching in silence anymore. “Director Xie, Ms. Ding just arrived, and she hasn’t had any time for preparation. Five minutes wouldn’t be enough for makeup. At the very least, she should have half an hour’s time, right?”

The director took a glimpse at his watch. “The sunlight is suddenly at its perfect brightness. It’ll be too bright if we’re any later. I have my standards in filming, and it’s her problem if she’s late. I won’t give extra time to the actors. You have four minutes left.”

“Director Xie, this is too—”

Shi Jie started protesting, but Ning Ran stopped him. “It’s fine. Let’s not argue about this anymore. Five minutes it is.”

Since Ning Ran only had five minutes, redoing her makeup was out of the question.

Hence, she changed into a white shirt and a pair of black pants before taking off her earrings and necklace. Then, she tied her hair up into a simple ponytail.

When Ning Ran walked toward the camera, she was slow.

She was doing her best to recall the way her teachers carried themselves, moved, smiled, and talked.

It was then everyone realized the expression on Ning Ran’s face changed as the way she carried herself changed as well.

She was an artiste a moment ago, and it was obvious from the way she smiled and acted. There were habits formed from frequent attendance at social events.

However, those habits were fading away as Ning Ran ambled toward the camera. The look in her eyes seemed purer, and the way she walked seemed more solemn.

Xie Dazui noticed Ning Ran’s change, of course. As an experienced director, he knew that Ning Ran was immersing herself in the setting.

All the excellent actors had to immerse themselves before filming to play their roles.

Many actors even remained as their characters throughout the period of filming. They shed away their own selves to ensure that they would stay in character.

Despite that, not many actors could actually immerse themselves fully into the story, especially actors who trended on the internet. They often had empty looks in their eyes,

and their expressions were stiff. They were merely acting for the sake of acting—there was nothing deeper than that.

However, Xie Dazui felt that the woman in front of him was becoming more and more like a middle school teacher.

Every profession had its unique qualities, and the professionals in that field had similarly unique demeanors that could be obvious or subtle.

A middle school teacher had to have a certain degree of somberness, for she could not be all smiles with the students all day. However, she also had to be of a certain degree of friendly, for she, too, could not be grim with them all the time. That would be more like a military instructor than a teacher.

The somberness and friendliness were qualities that everyone could see manifesting on Ning Ran.

Xie Dazui was taken aback. He never thought that Ning Ran would be able to use her expressions and demeanor to display the most important qualities of a middle school teacher.

After the surprise was a wave of excitement. He could foresee the smoothness of the filming that day. He was sure that he would wrap up that scene in less than ten takes.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 863

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 863-It was actually harder to film a music video than a television show.

Both television shows and films had scripts, so even if the actors' non-verbal performances were subpar, they still would have their lines to let the audience know what the actors were trying to show.

Therefore, many mediocre actors who wanted to display anger and sorrow in their performance would resort to screaming their lines.

However, that was not something that would work in music videos, for music videos were short clips. The visuals were only there to support the audio. In other words, the script would not be long.

Furthermore, while some music videos had plots, some did not. Some were only performances of certain emotions, and some were even ambiguous visuals whose meaning was left to the audience to interpret.

Those videos required more from the actors. They would need the actors to know what the director and the song wanted to portray.

Therefore, Ning Ran surprised Xie Dazui. He had not told her anything yet, nor did he hand her any script, but it seemed like she already knew what the concept of the song was and had gone into the role of a middle school teacher.

A white shirt. A pair of simple black pants and shoes. A faint smile. A solemn but kind look. An austere demeanor. A scholarly style.

That was the beautiful teacher that youths would adore. They would have both respect and fear for her, but they would want to see her too. They would want to get closer to her, but they would not have the courage to cross the line because behind the love they had for her was a stronger respect.

Xie Dazui thought, How did this girl know that this is the image I'm looking for? Could it be that she can read minds? Oh, wait, no. It's not that. It's because she's a professional and she's talented.

Talent was what set the upper limit of a person's capabilities in their profession.

A person without the talent of acting could reach the minimum standards of acting through hard work, but talent, or lack thereof, meant they would only go so far. It would be close to impossible for them to become the top actor.

Of course, there were tons of awards nowadays that could be bought with money. Achievements completed via cheating would not count.

Another group of people was the talented people. They lived to act, and even if they did not have any professional training, they could still act perfectly.

With hard work, those talented people would break through others' records and become the top actors and masters of the field.

Xie Dazui was a director who often took on music video jobs, so he came into contact with stars all the time. Yet, there were few who he thought could actually act, and the woman in front of him was one of the rare few.

"Okay, let's start. In the first scene, you'll be walking into the classroom from the outside. You'll look at the empty classroom and pause for a few seconds before leaving," Xie Dazui instructed.

The music video had a simple script, but Xie Dazui had decided there and then to tell Ning Ran what to do instead of giving her the script.

Ning Ran nodded.

The camera started rolling, and Ning Ran came and raked her gaze across the room as the sunlight filtered in through the windows.

Somehow, the simple white shirt on her managed to accentuate her beauty.

The gaze in Ning Ran's eyes was a peaceful one tinged with nostalgia. When she swept her eyes across the empty chairs and tables, a sense of melancholy filled in the air.

It was not sorrow portrayed by tears but by the look in her eyes.

Despite there being no tears in Ning Ran's eyes, everyone at the site could sense her heartache.

Then, when she turned around, her demeanor and the way she walked changed.

"Cut!" Xie Dazui cried out, wrapping up the first scene.

There were no failed takes at all.

The staff members quickly shared a look with each other, confused.

This had never happened before. Xie Dazui was a notoriously picky man, and it was a miracle if someone could wrap up a scene in less than ten takes.

However, Ning Ran managed to wrap up the scene with just one take. The staff was gripped with shock.

Even Shi Jie was dumbfounded. Xie Dazui had been disgruntled about the change in actress previously, so he thought that Xie Dazui would make things hard for Ning Ran. Yet, he had let Ning Ran pass after one take.

Did he finally grow a conscience and is now walking toward the light?

Right then, Xie Dazui waved at Ning Ran, gesturing for her to review her scene.

Ning Ran's heartbeat quickened as she wondered if the director was going to start hurling curses at her.

"Did you know what idea I wanted you to perform earlier? What were you thinking when you were doing the scene?" Xie Dazui asked.

Ning Ran became a little flustered. "No one gave me a script, and I heard that you were prone to impromptu performances, so I thought there wasn't a script this time. Did I interpret this wrongly?"

"Just tell me how you understood the scene earlier," Xie Dazui urged.

"The classroom is empty, and I'm walking in from the outside. So that means it's now either the holidays or after-class hours. The teacher must either be transferring or going

on a break if she comes in at this time. Moreover, the absence won't be a short one, so she must be thinking of getting a last look at the place where she and her students spent time together at. Therefore, I understood the scene as a scene of nostalgia and a reluctance to part. If she's changing her job, she might feel sad, but it won't be melancholy."

Once Ning Ran was done saying her piece, she kept her gaze away from Xie Dazui, for she did not know whether or not she was right.

However, Xie Dazui was staring at her with a strange look.

"Director Xie, was she right? We've never filmed a music video before, so please be patient with her if anything isn't quite right," Wang Xiaoou chimed in.

All of a sudden, Xie Dazui laughed.

It came all of a sudden, and no one knew what that meant.

"In that case, we'll shoot two more takes. One will be based on the scenario in which you're leaving the country for further studies, so you won't be coming back. Another would be a transfer to a different school, so you can still come back once in a while. No, that's not enough. I want another. The third would be that you're not transferring—that you're only on a break. You're going to marry, and you'll be leaving for a while. Once your leave is over, you'll be coming back to work. Can you film these three different styles?"

That felt like the director was trying to put Ning Ran in a tight spot. Even though the setting was different, there was no script, and it was going to be the action.

Her skills in performance were truly getting put to the test.

"But didn't you say her first take was fine? Why does she need to shoot three more?" Even Shi Jie felt that Xie Dazui was trying to make things difficult for Ning Ran.

"Don't butt in. It's not your turn yet," the director uttered.

However, Ning Ran did not think that the director was putting her in a tough spot. She felt that the director was testing her limits to find out how well she could act.

Hence, she accepted the challenge. "I'll try it out, then. Please spare me some tips if I don't perform them well."

Xie Dazui waved his hand and said, "Gather up. We're starting now."

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 864

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 864-There were no major movements in the scene either—just walking, lifting the head, and turning around.

The first scene was a scene where Ning Ran's character was departing for either a long time or for good.

This time, Ning Ran walked slower. Every step she took was heavier than the last. When she raised her head to study the room, it felt as if she was bidding the place goodbye with her sad eyes.

However, she left the room quicker than she entered it.

Since she had made the decision to leave, it had to be a decision made with plans. Her mind was made up, and she was not going to hesitate any longer in walking toward a new life.

"Okay. Next!"

Instead of stopping the filming, Xie Dazui said it was okay, and that was a sign of his approval of Ning Ran's performance.

The next scene started, where Ning Ran's character merely changed her work environment. She still had the same profession, just in a different place.

This time, Ning Ran entered as quickly as she left. There was still nostalgia and the reluctance to leave, but there was no hint of solemn farewell because she could still return.

"Very good. There's an obvious secondary idea to this. Continue!"

Xie Dazui had started praising Ning Ran.

The third was the easiest for Ning Ran. Her character was neither leaving the country nor changing a work environment; she was only leaving temporarily. She just came to the classroom to make sure that the careless students had closed the windows.

The look in her eyes was a lighthearted one, devoid of farewell and sorrow. She was going on a break or getting married. The sun was shining in her heart, a smile was on her face, and a skip was in her steps.

To Xie Dazui, it was perfect. They were three scenes with vastly different details despite having the same base movements.

Even the ordinary audience could see the differences in the scenes, let alone the professionals.

After all, the target audience of the television shows was the general public—people who were not in the entertainment industry.

Good works were works that the audience could understand and like.

If the film were meant to show off the skills of those involved, the box office would flop even if the show had the approvals and praises of the professionals.

Some media works aimed to be arthouse films, and there was nothing wrong with it. However, it catered toward a niche market, and it was definitely not one that would rake in profits for the investors.

The perfect performance would be Ning Ran's performance, which would gain the approval of the professionals and the understanding of the general public.

Xie Dazui could barely contain his excitement. "Have you really never filmed a music video before?"

Ning Ran smiled and shook her head. "No, I haven't. I'm a rookie in the industry, and I've only been in a television show and a film. The film isn't in theaters yet."

"You're a Star Entertainment artiste?" Xie Dazui then asked.

The staff members shared another look with each other. It was their first time seeing Xie Dazui talking about something outside of work with an artiste.

Xie Dazui had always been extremely proud of his skills, and he never cared if the artiste he worked with was famous. As a matter of fact, some of the artistes even had to let him do as he pleased.

They would be infuriated during their filming, and they would curse at him once the filming was wrapped up. Xie Dazui would not take it in silence either, so his terrible reputation spread like wildfire.

To everyone's surprise, Xie Dazui seemed to have turned into a completely different person. Not only did he not scowl at Ning Ran, but he was even chatting with her.

"Yes. I'm from Star Entertainment," Ning Ran replied.

"I heard that your boss is your boyfriend." Xie Dazui continued gossiping.

Ning Ran only smiled in silence. That was a question unrelated to work, so Ning Ran had the right not to answer him.

Nevertheless, Xie Dazui remained keen as he continued, "I thought you were just an artiste who's building her way up with money, but it turns out you've got the skills. Dilla

will be coming to the country for a music video filming. Originally, some of the famous local stars will be filming it with her, but I'm going to recommend you to her team."

"Dilla? The internationally famous singer who won the Grapho Awards?"

"That's her. She's releasing an Asian-styled song soon, and apparently, her inspiration was from a Chinese song. Moreover, she's coming to China for her tour, so she's planning to film the new song's music video here as well. There's a role for a fairy in the visuals, and I think you'll be able to play the role perfectly. I'll be recommending you to her team soon," Xie Dazui said.

At that, Ning Ran and Wang Xiaou exchanged a look. They never thought he was going to recommend new jobs to her.

Dilla was a singer of Chinese ethnicity, and she had won many major international awards in the past. Furthermore, many of the theme songs of international films were sung by her, and she was well-known across the globe.

It would certainly be beneficial for Ning Ran to work with someone as prominent as Dilla.

However, Ning Ran was not a singer, and she was nowhere close to the music industry because she was not well-known enough.

A big shot like Dilla might not accept Xie Dazui's suggestion.

"Thank you, but let's talk about this another time," Ning Ran responded, knowing that she was still far from being able to interact with an illustrious star like Dilla.

It was highly likely that Dilla had never even heard of the name Ding Mi.

"Don't worry. I'll do my best to make this happen," Xie Dazui confidently said, however. "All right, we'll be filming Shi Jie now."

Like Ning Ran's scene, Shi Jie had to walk into the classroom as well. He then had to imagine Ning Ran's character appearing in the classroom and smiling at him.

His scene was connected with Ning Ran's. After the teacher's departure, the youth would then return to the classroom to think about his teacher.

The scenes were mostly meant to portray a student-teacher relationship and nostalgia for the past.

However, right as Shi Jie stepped into the room, Xie Dazui called for the cameras to stop rolling.

“You’re a teenager! Why are you walking like an old man? Are you coming back to the school after your sixtieth birthday?” Xie Dazui snapped.

It was harsh but funny, and some of the staff members were trying hard to keep their laughter in.

Ning Ran was holding her laughter back as well. Shi Jie was mimicking her, but his comprehension of the scene was wrong, for the teacher and the student were of different ages and in different stages of life.

Shi Jie’s face turned red for a moment, and he did not speak.

He had been worried that Ning Ran would be put into a tough spot by Xie Dazui, but Ning Ran ended up finishing her part in one take while the director berated him.

“Again!” Xie Dazui gloomily uttered.

Unfortunately, Shi Jie failed again. “One more time!”

“Again!”

“Do it again!”

Shi Jie filmed the scene dozens of times, but the director was never satisfied.

Xie Dazui became more and more frustrated, and he was starting to show his terrible side again.

In contrast, Shi Jie was getting more and more anxious until he no longer knew what the director wanted from him.

It was just a scene of a teenager walking into the classroom, and Shi Jie frankly could not think of how fancily he was supposed to do it.

“I’m done with this!” Shi Jie snarled.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 865

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 865-As one of the most beloved idols in town, Shi Jie had achieved a level of fame and adoration that most people could only dream of.

Everywhere he went, he was surrounded by a sea of screaming fans, all vying for a chance to get a glimpse of their favorite celebrity. There was no way he was willing to endure the humiliation caused by Xie Dazui.

Before the encounter, Shi Jie had mentally prepared himself for the criticisms from the man with a terrible reputation. His nastiness, however, exceeded Shi Jie's expectations.

It was a norm in the industry for the hottest idols to branch out to acting. Given their subpar acting skills and lack of time or patience to memorize the script, many were not to deliver their lines during the actual filming. The production team would be responsible for adding the voice-over narration during post-editing.

In reality, it did not matter if the idols were talented actors. All they needed was good looks to attract a large and loyal following. As a result, the investors would be able to profit handsomely from the project's huge success.

Shi Jie's ascent to stardom was a relatively effortless journey marked by steady progress and consistent success. All of the acting ventures in which he had participated received favorable ratings and viewership, and the filming process had gone relatively smoothly.

Little did he expect that the filming of a music video would cause him so much agony.

Shi Jie refused to continue acting because he could no longer stand the lashings from Xie Dazui.

The site was filled with an awkward silence.

"What do you mean you quit? Are you giving up on the filming?" Xie Dazui hissed, undeterred by the man's anger.

Having worked with many idols in the past, the man was unfazed by Shi Jie's threats. He knew that such behavior was common in the world of entertainment.

"You're deliberately making things difficult. You're not happy no matter how I act. What exactly do you want?" Shi Jie bellowed.

Taking a puff of a cigarette, Xie Dazui replied, "What do I want? I want to produce a work that's up to my standards. I've nothing to say if you think that I'm doing all these to make your life difficult."

The man was no longer concerned about the smoking ban at the filming location. Since you don't want to continue filming, I'll have a smoke. Let's see what you can do about that.

"Director Xie, Shi is actually—" Before Shi Jie's assistant could finish her sentence, Xie Dazui interrupted, "Shut up! There's no need to speak on his behalf. I don't care if he wants to film or not. You begged me to do this."

Angered by the man's condescending remarks, Shi Jie snapped, "Let's call it quits. We can get another director to film this anyway."

"Sure, you can go ahead and get a lousy director and film a crappy piece of work. It's a pity that a talented lady like Ms. Ding has to be paired up with a useless fool like you. Do you even know how bad your acting is? This collaboration is a disaster! You don't deserve to work with her!" Xie Dazui's nasty remarks left Ning Ran stunned. Xie Dazui is really a critical man who isn't afraid to speak his mind. He's courting trouble by saying that one of the most popular idols in the country is unworthy of working with him. Shi Jie's fans were already against the partnership. They would make Xie Dazui's life a living hell if they had heard his lashings earlier.

In an attempt to ease the situation, Ning Ran said, "Director Xie, there's no need for such harsh words. I'm honored to be able to work with Shi."

Xie Dazui retorted, "Honor? Haha, I know that all of you are scared of his fans, but I'm not. Let me tell you this, Shi Jie. I've dealt with countless famous idols over the years. In the cutthroat world of idol entertainment, it's almost impossible to maintain your popularity beyond three years. While it may be tempting to bask in the adoration of fans, the reality is that only those who are willing to stay humble and perfect their craft will prosper in the profession. Their skills and abilities will carry them through the ups and downs in the industry; those who fail to do so will eventually see fade away."

Xie Dazui was unafraid to speak the truth, even if they were unpopular or controversial. While his words were hurtful, he had good intentions.

As a stickler for perfection, he had to ensure that all his works were of high standards.

Through his unwavering commitment to quality and dedication to his craft, the man earned widespread recognition and respect in the film industry.

Shi Jie was no fool, and he knew what Xie Dazui had said was correct.

In truth, he was feeling exasperated because he did not know how to improve and meet the man's expectations.

"Let's discuss, Shi." Ning Ran gestured for Shi Jie to follow her for a walk. She wanted to give him some tips on how to deliver the performance better.

Everyone knew that the threat to cancel filming was made in a heated moment. It was impossible to simply abort all the hard work that had been done thus far.

Once Shi Jie and Ning Ran walked out of the classroom, the former immediately kicked a chair and complained, "Xie Dazui is a bully! I didn't take acting class, so how am I supposed to know how to act well?"

Ning Ran smiled and asked, "Do you trust me, Shi?"

"Of course, if not, I wouldn't have asked for the collaboration! But I got to admit that you act really well, Ran. I wouldn't need to tolerate those nasty criticisms from Xie Dazui if I could act as well as you," Shi Jie responded with a look of despair.

"I didn't receive professional training in acting either. I only chose to join the entertainment industry because I needed to earn a living. Now, calm down and think back to your school days. Do you recall your time in class, playing ball games, or studying at the library? You were just a typical student, not an idol. A teacher in school treated you really well, and under her encouragement, you kicked off your bad habits. You've deep respect for her. One day, you learned that your teacher was leaving. She's not going to be teaching you anymore. When you run to her office, you find that she's no longer there. Hence, you return to the classroom, wishing she would magically appear. If she's not there, it means that she's gone for good. Given your anxiety, you hurried into the classroom rather than taking your time walking back. When you saw that the classroom was empty, you felt extremely disappointed. Once you've calmed down, you reasoned that your teacher must have left for a better place. You're therefore glad for her. You imagined her looking at you with a wide smile..."

Ning Ran narrated the story in a gentle warm voice so that she could help Shi Jie picture the scene.

The fear and despair in his eyes were no longer present. It seemed that he had a sudden epiphany.

"All right. I want you to run over there and pretend that you are looking for the teacher. When you find her missing, you'll enter the classroom to search for her. Remember that you aren't an idol. You are just a student looking for her teacher," Ning Ran said warmly.

"Okay, I'll try," the man replied calmly.

As Shi Jie ran toward the opposite end of the school, his mind was flooded with images of Ning Ran performing the role of a teacher.

She's gone! Our paths may never cross; I'm never going to see her again! Is she in the classroom? Perhaps, I'll be able to say goodbye or maybe convince her to stay.

Feeling anxious, Shi Jie turned around and rushed to the classroom, beads of sweat streaming down his face.

Xie Dazui was surprised to see that Shi Jie appeared ready for another attempt at filming.

Being a seasoned director, he could tell by the actor's look whether or not he or she was fully absorbed in the part.

Based on the man's expression and gaze, he was certain that Shi Jie was immersed in the role.

Did Ding Mi successfully teach him how to act? Not only is she superb at acting, but she also has potential for directing, too, huh?

"Let's begin!" Xie Dazui instructed the filming crew.

Shi Jie went out of the classroom and hurried back in.

He did not dash with all his might this time, nor did he lower his head. As he scanned the classroom, his eyes were filled with anticipation and worry. He feared that his teacher would never return.

Shi Jie's eyes went from sparkling with anticipation to dull with disappointment.

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 866

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 866-"Cut!" Xie Dazui exclaimed excitedly. "Good job! You passed!"

Shi Jie let out a sigh of relief and punched the air when he heard that. "Yes!"

After that, he turned toward Ning Ran and said, "Thank you for your guidance, Ms. Ding. Otherwise, I wouldn't have known how to act it out."

"I can't take credit. You're a fast learner! The important thing about acting is letting go of yourself. Only then can you fully integrate into the role. Remember that you're not acting. Instead, you're the character in the story." Ning Ran smiled.

"He succeeded right after you gave him some pointers. It seems like you're a better director than me. If you wish to become a director in the future, ring me up. We can work together," Xie Dazui uttered with a smile.

Due to how rarely he smiled, the staff present were weirded out when they saw Xie Dazui smiling.

In response, Ning Ran quickly waved dismissively and said, "I wouldn't dare! I'm still learning how to be a better actress. I wouldn't dare to imagine myself being a director!"

"I think you can do it, Ms. Ding. I understood your pointers rather easily. If not for you, I would have so much trouble," Shi Jie uttered emotionally. Evidently, he was voicing his

dissatisfaction toward Xie Dazui. Xie Dazui scolds me all the time instead of guiding me. He's such a bully.

Ning Ran wasn't keen on offending anyone, so she said, "All right. Since you already know what to do, Shi, let's carry on."

Meanwhile, in the headquarters of Nanshi Corporation in Flower City, Jiang Zhe reported to Nan Chen, "Those fans who gathered to protest Ms. Ning and Shi Jie's filming have been persuaded to disperse by the police. Illegal gatherings aren't allowed."

"What's wrong with them voicing their displeasure? Who told you guys to call the police?" Nan Chen frowned.

Jiang Zhe panicked and explained, "I didn't call the police. Those fans started climbing over the wall and throwing stones at the windows. The security guards at the school called the police."

Nan Chen didn't respond to that.

"The staff at the scene told me Ms. Ning's performance had impressed the director. Usually, the director would do a ridiculous amount of retakes. However, Ms. Ning managed to film the scenes with one take," Jiang Zhe uttered.

"He didn't scold Ning Ran, did he?" Nan Chen asked expressionlessly.

"No! Instead, he was singing her praises! I heard that he's even preparing to recommend Ning Ran to shoot for a music video. Our Ms. Ning is incredible, and she's living up to expectations!" Jiang Zhe answered.

"Ours?" Nan Chen wasn't too happy with his choice of words.

"Oh! It was a slip of the tongue. I meant to say Mr. Chen's Ms. Ning!" Jiang Zhe corrected himself.

In order to hide his pettiness, Nan Chen uttered, "She's her own person."

"Yes, Mr. Chen. You're right. Ms. Ning is her own person," Jiang Zhe instantly chimed in.

"If that's all, you can go back to your duties now," Nan Chen ordered with a wave of his hand.

"That's not all. I've received reports saying that a few companies we had good relationships with had decided to stop working with us. Some of these companies were important suppliers for our subsidiaries."

“Why is that?” Nan Chen asked.

“They gave us all sorts of reasons. I got someone to investigate the matter, and we found that all these companies have something in common. They owe Sunshine Bank a lot of money. Apparently, Sunshine Bank is their main financing channel.” Jiang Zhe had always been a competent employee, and he would only report matters to his superior after investigating the matters thoroughly.

“In other words, Sunshine Corporation is forcing them to stop working with us. Am I right?” Nan Chen asked.

“That’s probably it. Those clients are scared of crossing Sunshine Corporation because they need Sunshine Corporation’s financial support.”

Nan Chen fell silent upon hearing that.

After a long while, he asked, “Is Ouyang Qi still the acting CEO of Sunshine Corporation?”

“No. I heard he ran into some trouble when he was on a business trip in Epea. The local police found drugs on him and locked him up. With that, Ouyang Li made a comeback and became the acting CEO,” Jiang Zhe reported.

“Did such a thing happen? Did Ouyang Qi mess up, or did the power struggle cause this?” Nan Chen never liked Ouyang Qi, but Sunshine Corporation had been cooperative ever since Ouyang Qi took charge. In fact, not once did Sunshine Corporation try to give Nanshi Corporation trouble.

What was even more surprising was the fact that Ouyang Qi, a playboy, was able to manage the business quite well. He did so well that Sunshine Corporation was starting to show signs of recovery.

“Based on what I know, it’s true that Ouyang Qi is a playboy, but he was never a drug user. I think he landed in hot water due to the power struggle. There’s a possibility that more people are in favor of seeing Ouyang Li at the helm at Sunshine Corporation,” Jiang Zhe answered.

“Why is that?” Nan Chen asked.

“In terms of management, Ouyang Qi is far more capable than Ouyang Li. Although Ouyang Li is more experienced, she’s a narrow-minded person. She can excel as a senior executive, but she’s obviously not capable of running a company.”

Nan Chen fell silent again after hearing those words.

In order to hide his pettiness, Nan Chen uttered, “She’s her own person.”

“By the way, Mr. Chen, Ouyang Li looked for you through the secretarial department again today,” Jiang Zhe said.

“She looked for me? Again?” Nan Chen raised a brow.

“Yes. She made appointments to see you twice, and the others in the office informed you. However, you said you were busy. I think you’ve been too busy and forgotten about it.”

Nan Chen gave it some thought. Yes. I think that’s the case.

Ever since what happened with Ouyang Qing, Nan Chen grew to dislike the Ouyang family.

Back then, Ouyang Qing would address him nicely, and in return, Nan Chen showed her kindness. By doing that, he even angered Ning Ran on a few occasions.

In the end, however, Ouyang Qing harmed Erbao, and Nan Chen felt betrayed and humiliated.

That was why he refused to see Ouyang Li when she asked to see him a few times after that. Since they were already on bad terms, he didn’t see the need to entertain her.

Another reason was that although Nan Chen never said it out loud, he was actually a man who would treat others based on their looks. Therefore, he would usually only entertain people with good looks.

For someone who looked as ordinary as Ouyang Li, Nan Chen never felt the need to pay attention to her.

With that being said, Nan Chen could hardly be blamed for it. Nan Chen was an incredibly handsome man himself, so he was always surrounded by pretty women. Since he was so used to seeing people with good looks, it was only natural for him to have a high standard for others’ appearances.

Seeing that Nan Chen was keeping mum, Jiang Zhe added, “The appointment she made today isn’t to meet you on her own. It’s actually an invitation to attend a meeting organized by the chamber of commerce. They invited the entrepreneurs in the city to discuss some economic matters in private. It seems like Sunshine Corporation will bear the cost of this conference. In fact, similar conferences are held rather frequently, but the deputy CEO would usually attend them. However, Ouyang Li wrote the invitation personally to invite you this time around.”

“Okay. I’ll go.” Nan Chen nodded.

“I also think you should go today because Rong Yi is also going.” Jiang Zhe only revealed that after Nan Chen accepted the invitation.

“Is that so? Mr. Rong has always been hiding behind the scene, no? Is he finally willing to step forward?” Nan Chen asked.

“Prior to this, Rong Jilin had always been the Rong family’s representative. This time around, however, Rong Jilin injured his leg, so Rong Yi has to step up.”

“Since he’s attending, I guess I ought to check it out.”

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 867

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 867-The one-day event organized by the chamber of commerce was held at a golf resort. The main activities of the event were golf and a banquet.

The people who played golf in the daytime were all entrepreneurs outside of the top ten companies in the ranking. They loved attending such events because they could improve their connections and seek more business opportunities.

For big shots such as Nan Chen, they would also play golf, but they would prefer to have private games instead of playing with a group.

Obviously, regardless of the activity chosen, their primary aim was to talk business.

Those big shots would prefer to talk in a quiet environment rather than a noisy one.

Be that as it may, a lot of those business owners were eager to see Nan Chen. As a matter of fact, their sole purpose for attending the event was to see him.

Nanshi Corporation was the leading company in Flower City, and they had businesses in diverse fields. A lot of small and medium enterprises had either direct or indirect relationships with Nanshi Corporation.

They even worshipped Nan Chen because they regarded him as the best in the business world. They also knew Nan Chen could solve their problems with just a phone call.

Unfortunately for them, they waited for Nan Chen the entire day, but he never appeared.

Apart from the owners of the small and medium enterprises, there was another person who was dying to meet Nan Chen. That person was none other than Ouyang Li.

After hearing that Nan Chen would attend the event, she immediately asked her subordinates to send her three sets of clothes to choose from. She then finally picked out the one she liked the most and got dressed.

Throughout the day, she would touch up her makeup almost every twenty minutes. She was worried that Nan Chen would arrive all of a sudden and see her with her flawed makeup.

Although she hated Nan Chen to the bone, she had the urge to show him the best of herself.

Ouyang Li couldn't figure out why, but she just wanted to see Nan Chen badly and craved his attention.

Prior to that, she thought all the men in the world could only think with the lower halves of their bodies. She once viewed men as unsophisticated and boring creatures, so she never got into a relationship.

Besides, she was always scoffing at the fact that Ouyang Qing was obsessed with Nan Chen and felt he was unworthy.

Ever since Nan Chen appeared before her eyes, however, she finally knew how alluring and tempting Nan Chen was. Her heart would even race wildly as she thought of him.

Although it had been an embarrassing and confusing experience for her, she felt she was losing control of herself, and she was finding it hard to stop herself from feeling that way.

At six that evening, Nan Chen arrived at the golf resort in his Rolls-Royce before the banquet started.

Since it was a business-related social event, Nan Chen had to use the most official-looking car.

In fact, he was hoping he could drive his Lamborghini to the event. However, that would make him seem less mature. Hence, he had no choice but to take the slightly old-fashioned Rolls-Royce.

Most of the time, Nan Chen couldn't do as he wished. Although no one could restrict him from doing or saying certain things, he had to set those restrictions himself due to his status in society.

The moment the owners of the small and medium enterprises saw Nan Chen's car, they recognized it right away and swarmed toward it to greet him.

It was safe to say everyone in Flower City could recognize Nan Chen's car.

Before Nan Chen even opened the car door, his car was already surrounded by people.

Qiao Zhan got out of the car first to urge the people to take a few steps back.

Having worked for the Nan family for years, Qiao Zhan was used to such a scene.

That evening, as usual, Nan Chen was dressed in black. Since it was a resort, he wore sportswear instead of a suit. Consequently, he looked cool and fresh.

“Sir Chen is here!”

“Hi, Mr. Chen! It’s been a while!”

“We’ve been waiting for you the entire day! You still look as dashing as ever, Mr. Chen!”

Too many people were greeting Nan Chen at once, and he didn’t want to shake hands with all of them. Hence, he merely waved and walked in. Seeing that, everyone else followed suit.

Ouyang Li heard about Nan Chen’s arrival, and she instantly touched up her makeup once more. However, she didn’t go up to him to greet him. I’m the host, so the guest should come and greet me instead.

Unfortunately for her, Nan Chen became the center of attention as soon as he arrived. Upon his arrival, everyone disregarded her.

Ouyang Li was disgusted when she saw everyone surrounding Nan Chen and buttering him up. Those lightweights were just fawning over me in the daytime. After Nan Chen arrived, however, they had all forgotten about me.

With that in mind, Ouyang Li clenched her fists in anger. At the same time, her hatred toward Nan Chen grew.

While everyone was buttering Nan Chen up, Ouyang Li merely stood nearby and watched how expressionless Nan Chen was when he was exchanging pleasantries with the others.

Although it had been an embarrassing and confusing experience for her, she felt she was losing control of herself, and she was finding it hard to stop herself from feeling that way.

Obviously, those businessmen she considered lightweights were all billionaires. Otherwise, they wouldn’t have been invited to the event.

Compared to the commoners, those lightweights were still considered very successful businessmen.

Ouyang Li stood there and watched Nan Chen for over two minutes. She noticed how cold Nan Chen was when he was exchanging pleasantries with the others. He's not even smiling! Even so, those lightweights are still flattering him just so that they can have a conversation with him. Well, he definitely stands out from all his peers. Compared to those unsophisticated and chubby businessmen, he's handsome, majestic, and elegant.

Holding that thought, Ouyang Li suddenly felt her heart skip a beat before it started racing. She was even feeling the urge to approach him and talk to him. Wait! My initial plan was to give him the cold shoulder. I've already forced those companies to stop working with Nanshi Corporation. If they were to extend their contracts with Nanshi Corporation, I would cut their loans. Now that the economy is doing badly, a lot of companies are struggling financially. If I stop supporting them financially, they're going to go belly up.

Indeed, those companies had to stop working with Nanshi Corporation and look for other companies to work with after getting pressured by Ouyang Li. Although they didn't want to cross Nan Chen, they had to find ways to survive.

After Ouyang Li did that, she was thrilled because she thought she had somehow affected him. She knew that Nan Chen had been under a lot of pressure recently due to financial fraud. Therefore, she thought she could kick him when he was down and dampen his spirit.

On top of that, she even thought Nan Chen would take the initiative to beg her for mercy and offer to work together.

If Nan Chen had done that, she planned to act high and mighty to force him into submission before agreeing to help him. That's why I sponsored this event. I wanted to give him a chance to give in to me. Yet, not only is he not doing that, but he has also attracted all the attention after he arrives. It's as if he's the only person that matters! I can't accept this! I must do something!

Ouyang Li bit her lip and strode toward Nan Chen.

Nan Chen saw Ouyang Li approaching from the corners of his eyes, but he was unperturbed. I don't care about Ouyang Li. I'm just waiting for Rong Yi. When is he going to show up?

Read Novel Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 868

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 868-Ouyang Li approached Nan Chen, intending to humiliate him.

"Why are you here, Nan Chen? Who sent you here?" was what she had planned to ask.

Ouyang Li knew that if she said that in front of so many people, Nan Chen would surely be utterly embarrassed. Even if he immediately got angry and walked away, I would still have the upper hand.

However, when she was only a few meters away from Nan Chen, he turned his head in her direction somewhat intentionally, and his eyes briefly met hers.

In that split second, Ouyang Li felt defeated.

His piercing gaze, which seemed as if it could see through her, made her instantly lose the courage to say what she had planned to.

She had a feeling that if she dared to offend Nan Chen on that occasion, most of the people there would opt to support and follow him.

When that happens, I would be the one humiliated, not him.

As a result, Ouyang Li left those words unspoken. Just as she was about to nod a greeting to him, he had already turned his head away and stopped looking at her.

She was instantly at a loss, not knowing what to do.

This Nan Chen is truly infuriating!

Fortunately, someone arrived at that moment. Rong Yi, who looked dashing while clad in white sportswear, also entered.

His outfit formed a stark contrast with Nan Chen's black attire.

Both men appeared equally handsome despite the stark differences in their clothing colors, but interestingly, they were of two completely different demeanors.

One appeared fierce and standoffish, while the other seemed warm and approachable.

No one could compare to them as they were the leading representatives of those two categories.

Out of the blue, Ouyang Li came up with the peculiar idea of using Rong Yi to oppose Nan Chen.

You think you're so handsome and stand out from the crowd, don't you? Now that there's someone here who is just as attractive, what's there to be arrogant about?

With that in mind, Ouyang Li went over to Rong Yi. "Mr. Rong, you're finally here!"

Although all the executives present looked toward Rong Yi when they heard Ouyang Li's greeting, most of them did not know who he was and even looked confused.

Rong Yi was, in actuality, a well-known figure, but not in the corporate world. He was popular in the music industry as a renowned pianist.

However, those executives rarely had the time to appreciate piano music because they usually only cared about stocks and political trends.

Some of them had pianos in their homes and had employed skilled piano instructors to teach their kids how to play the instrument. Yet, they were unaware that the gentleman before them was an accomplished pianist.

Rong Yi was not disturbed by the fact that he was not recognized by anyone since he was mentally prepared for it.

After all, he attended the event that day so that he could gradually introduce himself to the business community of Flower City.

Rong Yi extended his hand to Ouyang Li. "Thank you for the invitation, Ms. Li."

After that, he turned to look at Nan Chen, and they nodded slightly at one another in greeting.

Being prominent people, they still had to maintain basic etiquette in public despite the fact that they couldn't get along with each other in private.

As for the executives in attendance, they found the scene rather peculiar. Is Ouyang Li out of her mind? Why did she choose to welcome a random guy when someone as important as Nan Chen is right here?

After Rong Yi's arrival, the banquet officially began.

Despite being a small-scale banquet, it was equivalent to a slightly larger-scale dinner appointment.

Such dinners had seating arrangements, with the person of the highest status seated in the middle.

Even though the table was circular, there was still a main seat—the one situated in the middle that faced the private room door.

On the other hand, those facing away from the door were regarded as secondary seats and were used to signal the waiters to provide services.

Everyone was waiting for the person in the main seat to take their seat before they took their own.

Naturally, Nan Chen had the highest status in that group, to which everyone agreed except for Ouyang Li.

However, since she seldom participated in social gatherings previously and did not know that a circular table had main and secondary seating, she started ushering everyone, "Go ahead. Sit wherever you want."

Yet, no one did as she said as they were all looking at Nan Chen.

They would only take their respective seats after Nan Chen had occupied the main seat.

Ouyang Li started wondering if those people were fools when she saw that. Do you even need to get Nan Chen's permission before sitting? Will you all remain standing the entire night if he doesn't sit?

At that thought, she could not care less about it and plopped right down on one of the chairs.

Still, embarrassing enough, no one took their seat. Even Rong Yi remained standing.

"Sit, everyone. Why are you still standing? Food will be served soon," Ouyang Li ushered everyone again.

Despite her words, no one sat down. Their gazes remained fixed on Nan Chen.

The latter also wanted her to understand who had the authority in that room.

However, due to having very little experience with business dinners, Ouyang Li failed to get the message even after a long time.

Nan Chen then made a gesture of invitation, signaling everyone to sit down, but he did not take the main seat.

He might be conceited, but he still knew his manners.

After all, he attended the event that day so that he could gradually introduce himself to the business community of Flower City.

Since everyone was acting courteously, his behavior would have been seen as disrespectful rather than arrogant if he had taken that seat without hesitation.

However, if he did not, who would dare occupy the seat in the middle?

As a result, everyone scrambled to take the other chairs, leaving the last person who was slow to take a seat standing there helplessly, unsure of what to do.

He did not dare to take the middle seat even though there were no other seats left.

Ouyang Li cast a glance at him. "Why aren't you sitting?"

Not knowing what to do, that person could only beg for Nan Chen's help, "Sir Chen, I think it's best we change seats. Please sit over there."

The latter leaned back on his chair. "No need. Just sit wherever you like."

The man still refused to take the main seat. "That won't do. With you here, I wouldn't dare to sit there. Please take that seat."

Ouyang Li frowned at that. Why are they being so courteous? It's not as if that seat is gilded in gold!

"I'll switch with you then. I'll take that seat while you sit here." Ouyang Li then stood up and sat in the middle seat.

Silence ensued in the room. No one spoke a word, thinking that she was crazy. Sir Chen is present, and yet she, a woman, is going to sit in the middle seat?

Nan Chen was unbothered by it. He even found it very interesting that Ouyang Li went to take that seat. After all, he had always been the one who took the main seat on various occasions, and he was long tired of sitting there.

Even though Ouyang Li sensed that the atmosphere was off, she did not regret what she had done. I want to steal Nan Chen's spotlight, and it would be wonderful if I could make him look bad as well. That'll be so satisfying!

What angered her the most was that she had spent a long time dressing up, picking out her clothes, and retouching her makeup countless times. Yet, Nan Chen barely even looked at her, his gaze not lingering on her for more than three seconds.

Hatred raged within her. What's so great about you, Nan Chen? How dare you ignore me like that! I'll make you regret it!

Everyone turned to gaze at Nan Chen after the waiter had finished pouring the wine.

After all, the most significant individual had to propose a toast for the first glass, and it was also ideal for them to say a short speech.

However, since Ouyang Li was the host on that occasion, Nan Chen did not wish to steal the limelight, so he remained seated.

The situation became awkward. Since Nan Chen refused to budge, no one dared to do anything either.

Ouyang Li wanted to take the lead in toasting despite being aware that the most influential person always did so. She stood up and raised her glass. "Welcome, everyone! Let's start with a drink!"

Read Novel **Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 869**

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 869-The atmosphere turned awkward again. Everyone was looking at Nan Chen, and since he did not move, no one did as well.

Ouyang Li almost exploded with anger. Are these people deliberately embarrassing me? I'm footing the bill today, so why are they all looking at Nan Chen?

Nan Chen noticed that everyone was looking at him, and since he did not wish to humiliate Ouyang Li too much, he raised his glass.

Only then did everyone follow suit.

Rong Yi watched everything unfold and noted quietly that the Nanshi Corporation's foundation in Flower City was deeper than he had anticipated.

With Nanshi Corporation being embroiled in a fraudulent accounting scandal, logically, these snobbish businessmen, who've always seized the opportunity to attack a person who has lost power, should be staying away from the Nan family. However, they don't seem to have even the slightest intention to distance themselves from Nan Chen. On the contrary, they lavished him with all of their attention. This can only mean one thing. They have faith in the Nan family and know that the negative news won't have a significant effect on the company.

It was easy for a company to have confidence in itself but difficult for most of its corporate peers or competitors to do the same. It required absolute capability, a solid foundation, and an edge in the competitive market that no one could compete with.

Ouyang Li had always thought she could drive the Nan family out of Flower City and even bring down Nanshi Corporation if she teamed up with Prosperity Holdings.

For a while, Rong Yi was convinced that was possible too, but given the current circumstances, it was clear that neither Prosperity Holdings, which had returned to Flower City, nor Sunshine Corporation, which had been secretly operating in the city, could effectively compete with Nanshi Corporation.

No one will believe that Nanshi Company will collapse or that Nan Chen will lose. This kind of influence is simply terrifying.

“Please say a few words, Sir Chen,” someone suggested.

Nan Chen did not wish to steal the spotlight, for he only came to meet Rong Yi.

Since these people insisted that I say a few words, it'll be too insensitive of me to keep silent. If I did, however, I'd be upstaging Ouyang Li and putting her in an awkward situation again. She's already very embarrassed. If I made her look bad again, it'd seem like I was bullying her.

Despite not caring about bullying others, he still felt that bullying a woman was a little demeaning.

Hence, Nan Chen raised his glass and stood up. “Thank you, Ms. Li, for your hospitality, and thank you all. I wish everyone well.”

Instead of wishing them all success in their businesses, he merely conveyed his best wishes.

He did not utter a word of nonsense, which was typical of him. Only when everyone was well would all be well.

The word “well” encompassed everything. One could interpret it as only when everyone was well would all be well. In other words, if anyone harmed him or Nanshi Corporation, he would ensure that nothing good would come to them.

Ouyang Li was initially irritated, but as soon as she heard Nan Chen address her, her heart began to race.

This is the first time Nan Chen mentioned me. The first time!

She felt a sweet, illusory sense of bliss that thrilled her despite how artificial it seemed.

As such, she was so overjoyed that she continued holding her wine glass up as everyone drank, gazing at Nan Chen longingly in a daze.

Everyone witnessed the scene and laughed silently to themselves. Sir Chen's charm is truly problematic. Every woman who sees him wants nothing more than to throw themselves at him.

Rong Yi also noticed that something was off with Ouyang Li and could not bear to see it, so he gave a light cough before saying, “A toast to you, Ms. Li. Thank you for the hospitality.”

While saying that, he raised his glass and took the initiative to clink glasses with her. The clink of the glass finally woke Ouyang Li from her stupor.

Ouyang Li had never been smitten with anyone. She had never even been in love. Yet, when a person like her, who did not easily invest in emotions, fell in love, it was like an uncontrollable tide.

She was also shocked by it. Feeling ashamed and regretful for her behavior, she smiled awkwardly, tilted her head, and downed the entire glass of red wine.

Then, after sitting down, she pinched her leg hard, trying to let the pain clear her head.

She suddenly felt that Nan Chen was truly scary. He's an attractive devil who can seduce people's souls without leaving a trace.

The dinner was finally on the right track. After three rounds of drinking, everyone gradually relaxed and began chatting enthusiastically.

Nan Chen never liked talking excessively. Other than occasionally replying out of politeness, he never took the initiative to ask questions.

Hence, he was still sober and silent when everyone was a little drunk. On the pretext of feeling unwell, he told everyone to carry on while he went out for a walk.

There was a golf course outside. Nan Chen was itching to play as he had been too busy recently to do so.

Even though the golf course had lighting so one could play at night, he resisted the impulse to play after having imbibed.

He looked behind him after walking a few steps, and sure enough, Rong Yi followed him out.

Clever people would understand one another even if they were rivals.

Although Nan Chen did not summon him along, Rong Yi knew that the reason the former came out was to speak with him.

The word "well" encompassed everything. One could interpret it as only when everyone was well would all be well. In other words, if anyone harmed him or Nanshi Corporation, he would ensure that nothing good would come to them.

At Nan Chen's nod, Rong Yi took a few quick steps and caught up with him.

"I heard that you're good at playing golf, Mr. Chen. Want to compete?" the latter asked with a smile.

"No. Exercising after drinking is bad for your health. Let's compete later," Nan Chen replied lightly.

“You’ve never lost, right?” Rong Yi was implying something with his words.

“Never.” Similarly, Nan Chen also did not give in.

“Those who have never lost can’t afford to lose,” Rong Yi said with a smile.

Nan Chen’s gaze turned cold. “What makes you so sure, Mr. Rong, that I can’t afford to lose?” he asked.

“Your actions say it all. I can’t believe that you kidnapped the whistleblower’s wife and kid to escape accountability for financial fraud. You’re utterly despicable. Frankly, I’m very disappointed.” Hatred was evident in Rong Yi’s tone as he spoke.

Nan Chen was taken aback by his words. “Kidnap?”

The other man shot him a disdainful look. “Don’t play dumb. The whistleblower’s child is studying in elementary school in Xyperia. You had someone kidnap his child to force him to retract his statement. Are you still trying to deny it?”

Nan Chen remained silent after hearing that. Did Qiao Zhan organize it? Although I did provide instructions to try to contact the family members of the finance personnel, my subordinates informed me that they had only been able to get in touch with the man’s parents in the country, with no mention of his wife and kids. Besides, Qiao Zhan’s men did nothing to his parents. They merely inquired about the situation to get his parents to call their son and convince him not to go against Nanshi Corporation. Even though Qiao Zhan has the Nan family’s security team at his disposal and could mobilize some external resources of Nanshi Corporation, he would never consider kidnapping.

He knew very well that Qiao Zhan would have told him in advance even if he had actually done that.

If Qiao Zhan didn’t do it, who did? The culprit even committed the crime abroad. It would require some capability to seek out someone’s wife and child worldwide.

A person appeared in Nan Chen’s mind. Could it be him again? Why would he meddle in Nanshi Corporation’s affairs, too?

“It looks like you truly don’t dare to admit it, Mr. Chen. Fine then. Although everyone claims that Nanshi Corporation has always acted with integrity, it appears that your company is everything but,” Rong Yi remarked mockingly.

Nan Chen let out a cold snort. “If you firmly believe that I did it, I can’t be bothered to explain myself.”

“Are you admitting to it?” Rong Yi pressed on.

Nan Chen merely scoffed in response.

Read Novel *Celebrity Girl Is My Wife* Chapter 870

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 870-One of the reasons Nan Chen attended the dinner was to see what Rong Yi would say.

He was curious why the so-called whistleblower who exposed Nanshi Corporation for fabricating its financial report decided to change his mind.

Rong Yi claimed that Nanshi Corporation had abducted his family.

That must be true to a certain extent. The culprit must have threatened the whistleblower with the lives of his wife and child. Otherwise, he would not have changed his testimony.

Of course, under such circumstances, the public would generally think the Nans were behind the abduction, and the whistleblower would do anything to protect his family. All in all, Nanshi Corporation would benefit from it the most.

“Nanshi Corporation has always presented itself as a company with integrity, and I believe that. But holding women and children hostage contradicts that image,” Rong Yi said with a smile.

Rong Yi was not a harsh person, but his contemptuous tone made Nan Chen uncomfortable.

Initially, Nan Chen was unwilling to argue, as he disliked verbal disputes. However, he regarded Rong Yi as a worthy opponent and disliked being underestimated by the latter.

He retorted, “The person who exposed Nanshi Corporation for fabricating its financial report was a spy working for Prosperity Holdings, right?”

“Yes,” Rong Yi admitted right away. “Sending spies to the other companies is nothing new. I bet Nanshi Corporation must have done the same too.”

“You didn’t protect your spy, yet you’re taking it out on me? Do you expect me to protect the spy you placed in my company?” Nan Chen asked.

“That’s because I thought you would have figured out hundreds of ways to defeat Prosperity Holdings. I didn’t expect the Nan family would stoop so low as to abduct a child,” Rong Yi rebutted.

Nan Chen was becoming hot under the collar.

He had never ordered anyone to abduct the person's wife and his child. He would never resort to such underhanded tactics.

Nan Chen turned to Rong Yi and said indifferently, "I thought you were one of my few worthy opponents, but turns out you're not. You're right; I have a thousand ways to defeat Prosperity Holdings without resorting to such despicable tactics. I don't need to explain myself, but since you insist, I'll tell you that the Nans did not do it!"

Nan Chen's gaze turned cold, and his demeanor was chilling.

Rong Yi remained smiling as he was not the least bit afraid of Nan Chen like others were.

For some reason, he did not find Nan Chen intimidating.

Surprisingly, he believed Nan Chen.

He believed Nan Chen did not order the abduction of that person's wife and child. Considering what a proud man Nan Chen is, he wouldn't have denied it had he given that order.

Rong Yi could relate to Nan Chen's pride as he, too, was a dignified person who would not make up stories when confronting their opponents.

That was why he believed in Nan Chen as much as how he believed in himself.

"Okay," Rong Yi replied with just one word.

Nan Chen looked at him. "Do you not believe me?"

"I do." Rong Yi gave another brief answer. "So you didn't send someone to injure my brother?"

"No," Nan Chen replied succinctly.

"Why did you admit to it last time?"

"If you still think I was the culprit, I can admit it now," Nan Chen uttered icily. "If you really think I did it, I'll admit it. What can you do to me?"

Rong Yi nodded. "I have a secret. Do you want to know?"

"No." Nan Chen outright declined.

"Why not?" Rong Yi did not expect him to respond that way.

"I don't want to owe you anything. The secret you want to tell me must be beneficial to me. Otherwise, what's the point of telling me?" Nan Chen deduced.

Rong Yi nodded. He's indeed a man with a clear mind.

"That makes sense. Then why don't you tell me a secret too? Let's trade. That way, we can call it quits. How about it?" Rong Yi smiled.

Nan Chen fell silent, seemingly considering.

"Are you worried I might take advantage of you, Mr. Chen? I'm surprised by your pettiness. Are you worried that if you reveal a secret to me, I won't reciprocate?" Rong Yi chuckled.

"I'm not. I'll start first." Nan Chen was known for his calm demeanor, but Rong Yi had successfully stirred him up this time.

"Okay, you go first then." Rong Yi looked at Nan Chen.

"There's a person in M Nation called Ruan Anxi, nicknamed Doctor, and he was the one who injured Rong Jilin's foot. That person is not my friend, and what he did has nothing to do with me," Nan Chen said slowly.

Rong Yi nodded almost without any doubt. "I believe that, and I'll remember what you said."

Nan Chen kept mum, waiting for Rong Yi to tell him his secret.

He wanted to know what Rong Yi would tell him because he knew Rong Yi would never speak without careful consideration. Therefore, whatever Rong Yi was about to reveal must hold great significance.

"Someone in your company did falsify the accounts. My spy exposed the truth, and he didn't tarnish Nanshi Corporation's reputation out of spite. While it's true that the corporation's share price was affected, the fact remains that someone manipulated information in the accounts. How could you allow such a thing to happen? I don't understand," Rong Yi said.

He believed Nan Chen did not order the abduction of that person's wife and child. Considering what a proud man Nan Chen is, he wouldn't have denied it had he given that order.

The look in Nan Chen's dark eyes turned grim as he stared sharply at Rong Yi.

Rong Yi shrugged and spread out his hands. "You can choose not to believe in me."

“I believe you. And I will investigate thoroughly,” Nan Chen responded.

“That’s none of my business.” Rong Yi smiled.

Rong Yi’s words had indeed left Nan Chen dumbfounded. He could not believe his company overseas really did falsify the accounts!

Nan Chen might be a capable person, but Nanshi Corporation was a mega-conglomerate. Even with a professional audit department and outsourcing auditing tasks to a third-party firm, they were bound to overlook some irregularities.

It would be impossible for Nan Chen to scrutinize the financial situation of every subsidiary under the corporation.

Undoubtedly, there was room for false accounting. But for what purpose? Was it an attempt to embezzle company funds or to manipulate the financial records? Moreover, who was responsible for this fraudulent activity? Was it the executives or the management team of the subsidiary?

Nan Chen was determined to investigate the case thoroughly, even though it would not be a walk in the park.

Regardless of the reason, the consequences were significant.

As an international conglomerate, Nanshi Corporation’s reputation was of paramount importance. The falsification of documents by one subsidiary would tarnish the entire corporation’s reputation, potentially incurring substantial losses for the organization.

Furthermore, if the magnitude of false accounting was extensive, it could lead to the securities regulatory department mandating the delisting of Nanshi Corporation. The ramifications of such an outcome would be catastrophic.

Hence, it was imperative for Rong Yi to update Nan Chen about this.

Despite the potential embarrassment it might cause, it served as a warning to Nan Chen, reminding him that the issue within his company required urgent investigation. Failure to act promptly could result in severe consequences.

Nan Chen understood Rong Yi’s intention. He wanted to express gratitude, but words caught in his throat.

It was clear that Rong Yi was a respected adversary, and Nan Chen was glad he did not misjudge him.