

Genius 197

Chapter 197 Magic_1

"When is your act scheduled?"

Qin Fang casually asked Xiao Muxue. He had only glanced at the program list and hadn't really noticed Xiao Muxue's act.

"It's after yours..."

Xiao Muxue glared at Qin Fang with irritation, clearly dissatisfied with his inattentiveness. Qin Fang could only offer a helpless wry smile in response; his focus was on dealing with Li Feng, and he had not been paying much attention to anything else.

However, after this brief exchange between them, they seemed to recall something that had happened earlier; Xiao Muxue's face turned red, and she lowered her head, no longer speaking. Qin Fang did the same, and both fell silent, not even paying attention to the performance on stage.

"The next act is a solo on the Erhu brought to you by Qin Fang from the School of Economics..."

As the female host finished speaking, it was as if it marked the start of Qin Fang's performance.

"It's your turn!"

With a radiant smile on her face, Xiao Muxue said, "I'm looking forward to your performance, it will definitely be lively!"

"Keep your eyes peeled!"

Qin Fang nodded with a smile and, carrying his Erhu, stepped onto the stage. On the other side of the stage, he could clearly see Li Feng smiling broadly at him, his attention particularly focused on the Erhu in Qin Fang's hands, his smile growing even brighter.

"Go Qin Fang! Go Qin Fang..."

As Qin Fang took the stage, his friends from below immediately stood up, shouting loudly, and even Tang Feifei was no exception. Although she had never been so unrestrained in yelling and screaming, she was genuinely doing so now for Qin Fang's sake.

The chair was positioned, the microphone was set up, everything was ready for Qin Fang to start his performance.

Truth be told, as an instrument with a long heritage, the Erhu didn't hold much status in the hearts of the young. Most would rather learn guitar than Erhu, so when Qin Fang took the stage with an Erhu, it left quite a few people feeling rather unenthusiastic, even evoking some snickers of disapproval.

"Actually, the act I've brought for you all today is not an Erhu solo..."

But as soon as Qin Fang began to speak, it made everyone slightly surprised, including the audience, Qin Fang's friends, Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, and even Li Feng and Director Qiu remained stunned.

"Student Qin, if it's not an Erhu solo, then what do you plan to perform?"

The beautiful female host asked with a bit of embarrassment, as what Qin Fang said seemed to imply a mistake in the program arrangement, or that she herself had announced it incorrectly.

"What I have for everyone today is... magic!" Qin Fang said calmly, although addressing the audience below.

"Magic?"

"Magic?"

"Magic..."

When everyone heard this, they couldn't help but pause momentarily.

Actually, magic wasn't unfamiliar to everyone. Starting from a certain year, the Spring Festival Gala included magic acts and even made several magicians famous.

But those were very professional magicians who had practiced for a very long time, whereas the present audience were just students. Maybe some had learned a trick or two, but performing in front of so many people was another story.

"Student Qin, are you sure you want to perform magic?"

The female host still seemed somewhat incredulous, as Qin Fang's attire was really too simple, and he had no props at all; it was indeed hard to imagine he was there to perform magic.

"Of course I'm sure!"

Qin Fang smiled, "First, let me show everyone a very simple magic trick..."

As he spoke, Qin Fang took a one-yuan coin out from his pocket, "This is a coin, everyone see it clearly now, a very ordinary coin. Now, I'll bring my palms together, pressing the coin between them, and then hold it in the palm of one hand. Now guess, which hand is the coin in?"

"The left hand!"

"The right hand!"

"Neither hand has it!"

This was a very simple trick, and many people had seen it before. However, to actually perform it live on stage was a different matter, and everyone still trusted their own judgment.

"Looks like opinions vary, why not let the beautiful hostess decide? Everyone keep your eyes wide open... I'll keep my hands like this, and once I open my palm, the coin will drop."

Qin Fang, with both fists held out and palms facing down, then called the female host over.

"Hmm, the left hand then!"

The female host, who arguably had the clearest view, immediately pointed to Qin Fang's left hand with some certainty.

"The left hand? Are you sure it's the left hand? Then I'll open it!"

As Qin Fang spoke, his laughs accompanying his words, he opened his palm, but... there was nothing. "Unfortunately, our lovely hostess has guessed wrong; the coin isn't in the left hand... could it be in the right hand, then?"

Qin Fang then opened his right hand, but still, nothing fell out, "It seems it's not in the right hand either, so where could it be?"

"It's on you!"

"You're holding it between your fingers!"

"It's in your sleeve..."

Seeing that there truly was no coin in Qin Fang's hand, the audience immediately erupted into a commotion, with all kinds of guesses being thrown around.

"Now, don't wrong me, folks, I'm wearing a T-shirt—where would I even have sleeves..." Qin Fang protested playfully with a wave.

"Woosh~~~"

With just such a light joke, Qin Fang had the audience roaring with laughter.

Then Qin Fang carefully spread his five fingers apart, allowing the audience below and the hostess next to him to check his hand thoroughly; there really was nothing.

"Alright, I'll reveal the secret. Actually, the coin isn't on me at all, but on our beautiful hostess. Would you believe that?"

By this point in the performance, Qin Fang's face radiated confidence. He'd even managed to stir up the emotions of the audience so adeptly that even the hostess, watching from the closest vantage point, was brimming with curiosity to learn the solution, prompting Qin Fang to announce it with a chuckle.

"On me?"

The hostess appeared extremely surprised. She hadn't even been standing that close to Qin Fang, something the audience could see very clearly as well.

"Of course, it's on you. Let me show it to you..." Qin Fang nodded solemnly and reached out to gently touch the hostess's hair. As he withdrew his hand, a coin was wedged between his fingers.

Woosh~~~

A wave of intense applause burst from the audience. Even though many found Qin Fang's magic a bit too far-fetched, they still couldn't spot any flaw in his performance.

"Qin Fang, Qin Fang, Qin Fang, Qin Fang..."

Not only that, but the brothers in the audience even began chanting Qin Fang's name. Those who recognized Qin Fang from the same floor or were in the same class joined in the commotion, quickly sending his popularity soaring.

"The first magic act might have been a bit simple, and you may think that a coin is too small and easy to hide, so this time, I'll go for something bigger, like... this erhu, what do you think?"

After performing the first magic trick, Qin Fang immediately started the second one; he spoke while gesturing with the erhu in hand, obviously intending to make it disappear, which was certainly no simple feat.

"Alright, let's use the erhu!"

"Use the erhu..."

The moment the audience heard this, they sensed an exciting performance ahead, for the erhu was much larger. Making it vanish would truly showcase the level of a magician's skill.

"Then let's use the erhu! But I'll need a friend to lend a hand, just a small favor..."

Qin Fang immediately nodded and proceeded with his request. Upon hearing this, the audience members grew eager and began shouting out, with cries of "Me, me, me, me" filling the air.

"The audience is so enthusiastic, it's hard for me to choose. I'll just pick someone at random... Yes, you there, Student—I did listen to your song just now, and it was fantastic, Prince of Love Songs..."

While speaking, Qin Fang scanned the crowd and soon focused his gaze on Li Feng, who was pale as iron. Without giving Li Feng a chance to respond, Qin Fang half-pulled him onto the stage.

"Prince of Love Songs..."

"Prince of Love Songs!"

When the audience saw it was Li Feng, the Prince of Love Songs who had made quite an impression earlier, those lovestruck girls instantly called out.

"Fellow student, don't you want to give this erhu a try to see if it's the real deal?"

With a smiling face, Qin Fang looked at Li Feng and firmly pushed the erhu into his hands, readying the bow to draw across the strings.

Li Feng's face almost turned green in an instant. He was all too aware of the issue with this erhu. Seeing Qin Fang's intentions, he knew that if the bow were actually drawn, the strings would surely snap, and the sharpened strings would swiftly slice through his throat, leading to an untimely death.

"No... no need..."

Yet, under the watchful eyes of three thousand people, Li Feng almost couldn't help but drop the erhu and run away. However, Qin Fang's palm was pressing down on Li Feng's shoulder, as firm as steel, leaving him utterly powerless to even twitch.

As the bow drew closer to the strings and was about to make contact, Li Feng's face had turned deathly pale, his body trembling uncontrollably, his legs shaking violently.

"Ah... no please!"

When Qin Fang's bow finally touched the strings, Li Feng's psychological defenses collapsed in an instant, and he let out a piercing scream, almost sobbing, as he ran from the stage. Li Feng himself hadn't noticed when the pressure of Qin Fang's hand had vanished.

The audience was utterly baffled; Qin Fang had only asked Li Feng to test the authenticity of the erhu. Yet the Prince of Love Songs, Li Feng, had reacted as if he'd seen a ghost, crying and running away on the spot.